



UN adviser slams genocide denial in Bosnia, says its preventing reconciliation

The UN Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide, Alice Wairimu Nderitu, has said that genocide denial and the glorification of war criminals continue to present a "serious challenge" to reconciliation efforts in Bosnia and Herzegovina.



Operation Swift Retort: Pakistan marks 4th anniversary of befitting response to India

Pakistan is marking the 4th anniversary of Operation Swift Retort, popularly known as Surprise day in the country when country's armed forces gave a befitting response to Indian misadventures, the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) said on Monday. (Report on Page 8)

Simultaneously published from Islamabad, Lahore and Multan

Relief measure

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue, Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar chaired the first meeting of monitoring Committee to oversee the implementation of austerity measures, at Finance Division on Monday.



Photo: PID

'Cyber strength' vital to counter India's nefarious disinformation campaign: President

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi on Monday said India's disinformation campaign against Pakistan was in full swing, which needed to be countered by acquiring 'cyber strength'.

India had not learnt a lesson even after the EU Disinfo Lab had exposed its anti-Pakistan nefarious propaganda, however, Pakistan should 'intellectually' counter it by acquiring 'cyber strength', besides using other conventional modes of security, he said speaking here at the 10th convocation ceremony of Air University.

President Alvi highlighted the need for the world's fifth most populous nation to gain knowledge in contemporary fields, particularly artificial intelligence, cyberspace, and data-driven technology.

He said though Pakistan had achieved professional prowess in traditional and conventional defence such as nuclear deterrence, gaining a strong foothold in cyberspace was also vital for its survival.

He pointed out that in the last year's global cyber ranking,

Pakistan was placed nowhere on the list. The situation, he said, demanded an overhaul in choices of career pathways, besides a major shift in the retrogressive mindset.

He said cyber knowledge was one of the best tools to equip the country's big youth bulge with contemporary skills.

He mentioned that a huge quantum of data based on pattern recognition was available in the world that needed the skill of artificial intelligence to quantify and analyze it.

He awarded degrees to the graduating students and appreciated their efforts in various disciplines.

About 1,300 bright graduates from the undergraduate, as well as MS and PhD programmes, received medals and degrees in various disciplines, including Mechanical, Mechatronics, Electrical, Aerospace & Aeronautical Engineering, Business Administration, Accounting & Finance, Aviation Management, Literature & Linguistics, Mathematics, Physics, Strategic Studies, Computer Science and Cyber Security.

PM Shehbaz orders action against profiteers ahead of Ramazan

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister (PM) Shehbaz Sharif on Monday directed strict action against those indulging in profiteering, hoarding and overcharging ahead of holy month of Ramazan.

The prime minister issued the directives while chairing a meeting here to review the availability of essential edible items during Ramazan and look into steps to ensure the stability of prices.

A free hand was given to the district administration and law enforcement agencies at the federal and provincial levels to deal with profiteers and hoarders. The prime minister ordered a clean-up operation at the warehouses, shops and markets before Ramazan.

PM Shehbaz said those who



would charge the people already facing economic difficulties due to floods, more than the rates fixed by the administration should be dealt with iron hands.

The prime minister gave the Federal Government and the chief ministers the task to

ensure the availability of goods and control of prices.

Elements, who would be creating difficulties for those fasting in Ramazan, should be taught a lesson with the force of the law, he ordered.

PM Shehbaz categorically stat-

ed that if any problem arose in the demand and supply of goods and prices, action would be taken against the officer concerned in the area. There was no shortage of edible items, including wheat, anywhere in the country, he noted.

The premier inquired about the rise in the price of chicken when its feed was readily available. He reiterated that no leniency should be shown to those causing trouble for the public during Ramazan and said unscrupulous elements should be taken to task.

The profiteers who were burdening people with price hikes should be dealt with strictly according to law, he added.

He said the quality of items should be ensured at the Utility Stores in the country. In the holy month of Ramazan, mobile Utility Stores should be established for the benefit of people.

He directed that "Sasta Ramazan Bazars" should be set up in the Federal Capital and provinces, where modern technology should be used to keep prices under control.

Dar urges for immediate implementation of austerity measures

Commerce Report

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar, here on Monday stressed all the concerned to ensure and expedite implementation of austerity measures with sincerity and devotion in their ranks without any exception.

Chaired the first meeting of monitoring Committee to oversee the implementation of austerity measures, the minister highlighted the challenging economic situation in the country, according to press statement issued by finance ministry.

According to the press release, the committee reviewed the implementation of the decisions of the Cabinet on austerity measures.

On the occasion, Secretary Finance gave a presentation on the decisions and their implementation status.

The committee was informed that Ministries/Divisions were already working on these measures and instructions have been issued for immedi-

ate compliance and reporting of any exemption and violation of these decisions.

The committee directed all Principal Accounting Officers (PAOs) to implement 15% cut in their current budgets, the statement added. It was decided that use of teleconferences must be encouraged for all meetings to save time and expenditure.

The Committee conveyed that decision to withdraw use of luxury vehicles by the Cabinet members and government officials be implemented with no exemption in any case.

Among others, the meeting was attended by Federal Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training, Rana Tanveer Hussain, Federal Minister for National Food Security and Research, Tariq Bashir Cheema; Federal Minister for Law and Justice, Azam Nazeer Tarar; Advisor PM on Kashmir Affairs and Gilgit-Baltistan, Qamar Zaman Kaira; Special Assistant to Prime Minister on Finance, Tariq Bajwa, federal secretaries and senior officers..

60th Anniversary of the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations between Pakistan and Kuwait

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: This year, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and the State of Kuwait are celebrating the 60th Anniversary of the establishment of Diplomatic Relations between both the countries. A joint inaugural event is being held in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on 28 February 2023 to commemorate this historic and deep-rooted relationship.

Pakistan and Kuwait enjoy cordial relations covering diverse areas of common interest. The 60th Anniversary celebrations would include a number of high-level events and exchanges throughout the year, and would provide impetus in further cementing the brotherly bilateral relations.

Elections date: CJP Bandial lends his weight behind president's prerogative

City Reporter

ISLAMABAD: Chief Justice Umar Ata Bandial on Monday, while hearing the suo motu case related to the delay in the Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa elections said the president could announce the election date as parliament had clearly written it in the Elections Act 2017.

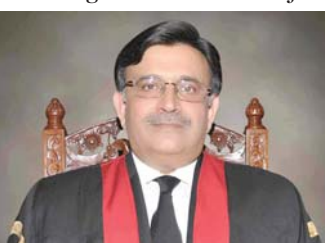
Five judges of the nine-member bench of the Supreme Court resumed hearing on a suo motu case related to delay in the Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa elections after four others dissociated themselves from the case.

The bench originally comprised Chief Justice Umar Ata Bandial, Justice Ijazul Ahsan, Justice Munib Akhtar, Justice Syed Mazhar Ali Akbar Naqvi, Justice Syed Mansoor Ali Shah, Justice Jamal Khan Mandokhail, Justice Yahya Afridi, Justice Athar Minallah and Justice Muhammad Ali Mazhar.

Last week, Justice Mandokhail, Justice Shah, Justice Afridi and Justice Minallah wrote additional notes in the Feb 23 decision, raising objection to the constitution of the

bench citing various reasons. CJP Bandial, Justice Shah, Justice Mandokhail, Justice Akhtar and Justice Mazhar are currently hearing the case which has been adjourned till 4pm.

Justice Ahsan and Justice Naqvi have refused to hear the case after the ruling coalition raised objec-



tion against them. It is recalled that Justice Mandokhail in the first hearing of the case called the suo motu action of the top judge unjustified.

At the outset of Monday's hearing, CJP Bandial remarked that the four judges had shown grace and distanced themselves from the bench. He said the remaining members of the bench would continue to hear the case for the interpretation of the Constitution.

The CJP said the court would again hear the suo motu case at 9:30am tomorrow (Tuesday) and try to wrap it up. Talking about the leak of Justice Mandokhail's note to social media, he said precautionary measures would be taken to avoid such incidents.

At one point during the hearing, Barrister Ali Zafar said the elections in the provinces should be held within 90 days after the dissolution of the assemblies as per the Constitution. He said the Lahore High Court (LHC) had ordered the ECP to hold a meeting with governor to decide a date for elections but that meeting ended without any outcome. Later, the president unilaterally announced the date after the electoral body refused to attend the meeting called by him on the matter.

In the previous hearing, the PML-N, the PPP, the JUI-F and other parties raised objection against two judges of the nine-member bench of the apex court, saying a full bench should be made to hear the case. The ruling coalition has also submitted an application seeking formation of the full bench case.

Two soldiers embrace martyrdom as many terrorists killed in North Waziristan



Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Two soldiers of Pakistan Army have embraced martyrdom in a fire exchange that took place between terrorists and the Army troops on February 26 in general area Spinwam, North Waziristan District.

According to the Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR) news release, the Pakistan Army troops effectively engaged the terrorists' location.

During the clash, two terrorists got killed, while two terrorists were apprehended by the troops. Moreover, weapons and ammunition were also recovered from the terrorists who remained actively involved in terrorist activities against security forces and killing of innocent citizens.

Justice first, elections later, Maryam addresses PML-N convention in Sahiwal

Correspondent

SAHIWAL: Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) senior vice president and chief organiser Maryam Nawaz said on Monday elections would be held after former prime minister Nawaz Sharif's sentence is annulled and bringing Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chairman Imran Khan to justice.

Addressing an organisational convention in Sahiwal, she linked the conduct of elections with end of Nawaz Sharif's case and said the country's development was stopped when Panama case was used to dethrone Nawaz Sharif.

The PML-N senior vice pres-

ident said her party saved the country from becoming another Sri Lanka by putting national interests above its politics. She went on to say that the price of roti during Nawaz Sharif's reign was Rs2, while sugar, flour and ghee were sold at Rs50/kg, 35/kg and 140/kg respectively, whereas the power tariff was Rs11 per unit and petrol was sold at Rs65 per litre.

"Nawaz Sharif got 22-hour mass rid of over 22-hour long power outages while not burdening the public," PML-N chief organiser said and added the former prime minister built motorways and CPEC in the country.

Convocation

ISLAMABAD: President Dr. Arif Alvi in a group photo with the faculty and graduating students in the 10th Convocation ceremony of Air University on Monday.



Photo: PID

PM directs sending of 50,000 winter tents to Turkiye by March 23

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif Monday directed that the manufacturing and supply of the remaining 50,000 winter tents to Turkiye should be completed by March 23 and the delivery should be made by air.

He was chairing a meeting here to review the ongoing assistance activities of Pakistan for the earthquake affectees of Turkiye and Syria. He said while maintaining quality, the new tents should be manufactured at a low cost and third-party validation should be ensured to assess their standard.

He directed the Customs authorities to make special arrangements for an immediate supply of humanitarian assistance to Turkiye.

He said Pakistan was providing assistance to the earthquake affectees in Syria on a humanitarian basis.

He ordered that fund-raising



for the earthquake affectees of Turkiye and Syria in the educational institutions should be stepped up.

The meeting was informed in detail about the assistance sent to the victims of the natural disaster in the two countries.

It was told that Pakistan had so far sent a total of more than 8,000 winter tents and over 37,000 blankets for the earthquake victims.

About eight to 15 tonnes of humanitarian assistance was being sent on a daily basis to Turkiye and Syria on the flights of Pakistan Interna-

tional Airlines. The participants were told that a ship of the Pakistan Navy carrying 1000 tonnes of assistance goods for the two countries would depart on February 28. The assistance would include generators, dry rations and medicines for the victims in Syria, and winter tents and blankets for the affectees in Turkiye.

Besides that, a caravan of 21 trucks of the National Logistics Cell (NLC) reached the city of Malatya in Turkiye on February 25. National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) Chairman Lt General Inam Haider Malik informed the meeting about the manufacturing of winter tents.

While giving details of the countrywide humanitarian campaign, it was told that the assistance gathered by different philanthropic and humanitarian organizations at collection centers of NDMA was being sent to Turkiye and Syria through land and air routes.

The prime minister was told about the details of the rations sent to the affected countries.

Independent reports, including high-resolution satellite images reviewed by Reuters, also contradicted the Indian claims. Pakistan Air Force (PAF) jets on the other day crossed the LoC in a tit-for-tat move to Indian territory, and in a dogfight, an Indian MiG-21 was shot down on the Pakistani side of the border.

Major General Ahmed Sharif Chaudhry said, Operation Swift Retort February 27, 2019, is a memorable day for Pakistan as Pakistan Air Force (PAF) shattered Indian dream of invincibility and military supremacy by shooting down two Indian aircraft and above all capturing an IAF pilot.

Indian fighter jets crossed the Line of Control in the last week of February and the country's military claimed to have conducted a "surgical strike" in Balakot area in Pakistan.

New Delhi also claimed to destroy a terrorist camp with 300-350 casualties in the attack. Pakistan denied the claim, saying neither was there any camp nor any casualty.

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Operation Swift Retort: Pakistan marks 4th anniversary of befitting response to India

Spokesman Report

RAWALPINDI: Pakistan is marking the 4th anniversary of Operation Swift Retort, popularly known as Surprise day in the country when country's armed forces gave a befitting response to Indian misadventures, the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) said on Monday.

In a statement on the fourth anniversary of Operation Swift Retort, the Director-General of ISPR Major General Ahmed Sharif Chaudhry the daring, resolute and measured response from Pakistan thwarted Indian nefarious designs on February 27, 2019. Let this day be a reminder that while being a peace-loving nation, Pakistan Armed Forces are ever ready, not only to defend every inch of the motherland.

"CJCS, Services Chiefs & AFs of Pak pay tribute to the resilience of nation & resolve of AFs displayed during Operation Swift Retort. Under the pretext of false flag Pulwama attack, India stage managed a cowardly attack on a fictitious target,"

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We will fight every tactic of the tobacco industry to kill the youth: Sanaullah Ghumman

Spokesman Report

SWAT: He said this while addressing a seminar organized by Pakistan National Heart Association (PANAHA) at a local hotel in Swat, in which President of National Union of Journalists Afzal Butt, former head of Tobacco Control Cell Dr. Ziauddin Islam, Mr. Tayyab of Chromatic, Program Manager of SPARC Khalil Dogar and President of Rawalpindi Press Club Abid Abbasi were present.

Director Panah Sanaullah Ghumman performed the hosting duties. He thanked the participants and said that the media played an excel-



lent role in raising voice at every forum to save the young generation and people from toxic addictions like smoking, for which we are grateful to them.

He emphasized on the media representatives and said that the industry is

using innovative methods to attract the new generation towards smoking, from heating products to the trend of brands like e-cigarettes. Steps need to be taken at the government level to control them.

He further said that the

same way we have fought against smoking, we will go to any extent against heating products and heating tobacco products of the government reject the decision to legalize. We request the government to withdraw this decision. Other tobacco activists also rejected this decision of the government. Journalist leader Afzal Butt said that the media will play its role in this as always and we are with the cause.

The former director of the tobacco control cell said that the government is influenced by the tobacco companies. The participants of the workshop also reiterated to do their best to control tobacco.

Sanaullah sees Nawaz's return vital for economic well-being

Correspondent

SAHIWAL: Interior Minister Rana Sanaullah claimed on Monday that Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) supremo Nawaz Sharif will take the country out of the economic woes after the latter's return from London.

Mr Sanaullah, speaking at a convention, slammed Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan, saying, "Imran's Jail Bharo Movement has been denounced by the masses." Mr Sanaullah blamed Mr Khan for several crises, saying the deposed premier had been busy staging protests, the long march, and the "Jail Bharo Movement" for the past eight months.

He believed the country was suffering not only from an economic but also from a constitutional crisis.

Mr Sanaullah, who lavished praise on PML-N senior vice president Maryam Nawaz, stated that Ms Nawaz's role will be important in getting rid of Mr Khan.

Recounting the contributions made by former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, Mr Sanaullah said, "Even now, the only solution to all the problems facing the country is the leadership of Nawaz Sharif."

Meanwhile, PML senior vice president Maryam Nawaz said the elections will be held after former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif's sentence was annulled and bringing PTI chairman Imran Khan to justice.

Elections to be held as per schedule after fulfilling all formalities: Tarar

City Reporter

ISLAMABAD: Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Interior and Legal Affairs (SAPM) Attaullah Tarar on Monday said that elections should be held in the country as per schedule after fulfilling all legal formalities.

Speaking here at a press conference, he said that two provincial assemblies were dissolved prematurely to satisfy a person's ego.

SAPM said that establishing caretaker government is constitutional requirement for conduct of general elections and there are different stakeholders including Ministries of Interior and Finance and others in this process which should be consulted for conduct of elections.

He said that Article 224 of the Constitution is related to time of election and all the constitutional formalities should be fulfilled for conduct of

elections. "It is a legal discussion and should be conducted at appropriate forum," he maintained.

Attaullah Tarar said that four judges recused themselves from hearing the case related to the elections in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Punjab. He said that two judges separated themselves from the nine-member larger bench and two others expressed their reservations over it and their valid points should be answered.

He said that remaining five judges in the bench would decide about the maintainability and jurisdiction of the case as two higher courts had been already hearing the similar cases before suo motu.

He said economic condition does not allow the country to hold elections separately and a huge amount of money is required to conduct elections in two provinces.

آسان طریقہ کار

مردم شماری میں شمار

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ویں خانہ و مردم شماری

پاکستان کی تاریخ میں پہلی بار خود شماری (Self-enumeration) کی سہولت کے ساتھ

20 فروری تا 03 مارچ 2023 کے دوران

خود شماری کیلئے پورٹل وزٹ کریں

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چھ آسان طریقہ کار کے ساتھ خود کریں اپنا شمار

01	Self-enumeration پورٹل پر بذریعہ رجسٹرڈ موبائل لاگ ان کریں
02	آپ کے موبائل نمبر آپ کے PBS / 9727 کی طرف سے ایک کوڈ (OTP) موصول ہوگا
03	مردم شماری نام پر اپنی معلومات کا اندراج کریں اور مکمل کردہ معلومات Submit کریں
04	آپ کے موبائل نمبر پر ایک کوڈ (UTN) بھیجا جائے گا جس کو اپنے پاس محفوظ کر لیں
05	تیار مارچ سے کیا پرل کے درمیان گھر گھر آنے والے شمار کنندگان کو تصدیق کوڈ UTN فراہم کریں
06	شمار کنندگان بذریعہ Electronic Devices آپ کی خود شماری پورٹل پر فراہم کردہ معلومات کی تصدیق کریں گے

خود شماری ایک سہولت ہے جس کے ذریعے آپ 20 فروری سے 03 مارچ 2023 تک بذریعہ پورٹل معلومات کا اندراج کر سکتے ہیں تاہم ہمارا شمار کنندہ کیمرہ سے کیا پرل 2023 کے دوران آپ کے گھر معلومات حاصل کرنے کے لیے ضروری ہے۔

یاد رکھیں

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PM AJK congratulates Pakistan Air force for the brave strike against India

Abdul Majeed Tahir

ISLAMABAD : Azad Jammu and Kashmir Prime Minister Sardar Tanveer Ilyas Khan had said that February 27 will remain a nightmare for India and congratulated the Pakistan Air Force for the best counter-attack to India.

On February 27, the Shaheens of the Pakistan Air Force showed their professionalism to crush India's pride. February 27 is Victory Day for every Pakistani and is proud. The flight of the Shaheens of the Pakistan Air Force strike fear into the enemy because its basis is



will happen on its land, India should not think of any adventure now, on February 27, Shaheens of Pakistan Air Force crushed the dirty ambitions of the Indian Army.

India wanted to demoralize our nation through surgical strikes for a few years but it failed. On 27th Febru-

ary, India carried out an operation on a dry tree in Hazara Division. Indian planes were also targeted by demonstrating, and Indian pilots were also made a lesson. He said that no one could defeat the Air Force trained by Air Marshal Asghar Khan and Air Marshal Noor Khan.

The nation celebrated Victory Day with a renewed resolve that Pakistanis will not hesitate to make the greatest sacrifice for the defence of the homeland. Congratulation to the Pakistan Air Force for downing two Indian fighter jets on this date and crushing Modi's pride.

As long as Abhinandan is alive, India will continue to lick its wounds. PM AJK paid tribute to the Shaheens of the Pakistan Air Force for this great achievement. People raised their heads with pride.

February 27 proved that wars were fought with courage, bravery and wisdom and not with force. People living on both sides of the Line of Control loved Pakistan Army. If India used as much force as it wanted, it is destined to be defeated by Pakistan Army in Kashmir.

The nation has full confidence in its armed forces, which had kept the green crescent flag aloft at all times.



Leader of Muslim League (N), former candidate of Provincial Assembly Chaudhry Muhammad Naseer Abbas Sidh met with Prime Minister Mian Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif, discussed party matters.

Muslim Conference approves U.K. organization for period 2023 to 2026

Spokesman Report

RAWALPINDI : President of All Jammu and Kashmir Muslim Conference, former Prime Minister of Azad Kashmir Sardar Attique Ahmed Khan, using the powers granted under the Constitution, approved the organization of the United Kingdom for the period 2023 to 2026.

According to the notification issued by the Secretary General of the Muslim Conference, Mrs. Mehru-Nisaa, the officials approved by the President of the Muslim Conference for the United Kingdom organization include Chaudhry Muhammad Bashir Ratti, Manchester, Patron-in-Chief, Raja Muhammad Ishaq Saber, Birmingham, President, Chaudhry Mohammad Zayat Hussain, Southampton, Senior Vice President, Professor Mumtaz Butt, Luton, General Secretary, Raja Zaheer Kayani, Birdfood, Organizer, Raja Riaz Badalvi, Bolton, Additional General Secretary, Chaudhry Muhammad Abid Advocate, Peter Bra, Deputy General Secretary, Raja Muhammad Yaqub Khan, Luton-Salar, Malik Azad Nikyalvi, Luton-Deputy Organizer, Raja Irfan Ishaq-London-Information Secretary, Javed Akhtar Abbasi, Nottingham, Secretary Finance and Chaudhry Muhammad Ashfaq, Birmingham, Relationship Secretary while Sheikh Sarfraz, Bolton, Sardar Arshad, London, Raja Abbas Khan, Southhamton, Azhar Gilani, Birmingham, Sardar Shakeel Ahmed Khan Vice President respectively.

ZEAL Future Enablement Program launched at Ziauddin University

Spokesman Report

LAHORE : Z2C Limited, a venture accelerator that invests in and launches MarTech start-ups, has taken yet another step towards increasing the quality and quantity of advertising industry talent in Pakistan. Through its Publicis Groupe Delivery (PGD) affiliated export-first digital agency Activ8, the accelerator has partnered with digital agency East River and the media science department of Ziauddin University to launch fast-track courses.

Pakistan's services industry generates under \$2 billion annually in aggregate export revenue, while the academic side of the equation produces roughly 10,000 graduates annually. Across the border, India's services industry generates over \$100 billion annually in aggregate exports, and the academic space produces over 500,000 graduates annually. LinkedIn data clearly reflects that the quality of Indian engineers and marketers is so high that Fortune 500 technology companies set up back offices in the second-most populous country in the world.

"We are pleased to partner with East River Digital, Z2C Limited, and Activ8 to provide our students with an opportunity to gain hands-on



experience and develop critical skills in digital media; we believe that this program will equip the next generation of digital leaders with the knowledge and skills they need to succeed in their careers," said Dr. Nida Hussain, Pro-chancellor of Ziauddin University.

The first batch of the ZEAL Future Enablement Program at Ziauddin University will occur four times in 2023 and will enroll up to 50 participants in each cohort to develop critical skills in digital media planning, social

media, Google Ads, business commu-

nication, branding, and search engine optimization.

"Launching a training academy has been a passion project of mine because it can change the destiny of our country," said Faizan S. Syed, the CEO of East River. "By training and enabling our talent to serve global markets, we create a new set of digital marketing resources that can serve the world from Pakistan and bring much-needed foreign investment to this country."

The ZEAL program will be delivered by expert trainers from East

River, Z2C Limited, and Activ8, with additional support from Ziauddin University. Classes will be conducted every Saturday till 19th May 2023 at both Ziauddin University Clifton and North sites.

"As technology pushes deeper into the business, the business pushes deeper into technology," said Raihan Merchant, CEO of Z2C Limited, at the launch ceremony of the ZEAL Future Enablement Program. "All businesses and executives need to be upskilled in digital marketing and creative strategy in order to improve the effectiveness of customer lifetime value initiatives. To take Pakistan to the next level, we need to increase the quality and quantity of talent that will shift the country to a services industry model."

"Executives worldwide need training on platforms and tools that make their roles easier," said Saadi Gouse, the director of digital transformation at Publicis Groupe in Pakistan. "The data-literate executive will replace the executive that refuses to upskill & adapt. The most significant disruption data and AI create is eliminating the walls between technology and business. They are becoming indistinguishable. Companies must adapt by making technical and non-technical roles indistinguishable."

Pakistan's first Artificial Intelligence Summit concluded in Islamabad

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: 10Pearls, a leading end-to-end digital services company, hosted AI Summit 2023, Pakistan's pioneering conference on Artificial Intelligence, at the Pak-China Friendship Center, Islamabad. The event was a massive success, with more than 1500 registrations, comprising professionals, students, enthusiasts and entrepreneurs.

The AI Summit, first launched in 2019, aims to 'explore the transformative world of AI' - share the latest developments in AI, recognize innovations by emerging AI entrepreneurs, power conversations with leading international and local AI experts, and provide hands-on knowledge about various AI tools, technologies, and techniques.

The 2023 edition of AI Summit, held at the ITCN Asia, featured 30-plus eminent speakers who conducted enlightening tech talks, stimulating panel discussions, and engaging fireside chats. The Summit also hosted hands-on workshops and showcased demos of new innovations by emerging AI startups.

According to Syeda Sana Hussain, Senior Director, People & Programs, 10Pearls, "The AI Summit 2023 was a huge success! It garnered massive footfall; both the conference track and workshops were fully packed with super-charged and enthusiastic audience. All the emerging AI startups who showcased their products received phenomenal response, attracting the interest of potential investors and the public alike.



This incredible success of AI Summit 2023 shows the transformative role AI can play in addressing the complex chal-

lenges of today's world, and 10Pearls is thrilled to be at the forefront of leading in innovation."

Tehreek-e-Labaik Pakistan hold a nationwide shutdown strike

Mian Rashid Asghar

FAISALABAD: Tehreek-e-Labaik Pakistan hold a nationwide shutdown strike on today Monday on the call of Ameer Allama Saad Hussain Rizvi.

In Faisalabad also, the markets remained completely close and shuttered in all the eight bazaars of the city and adjoining bazaars also.

The workers under the leadership of divisional and district leaders raised slogans in various markets and listened to the speeches of their leaders in a very orderly and peaceful manner throughout the day in the city on the occasion of shutdown strike.

In their speeches, the local leaders thanked the district administration, business organizations, lawyers and media representatives and expressed that according to its manifesto, Pakistan Tehreek-e-Labaik stood with the



people and will continue to stand by for the rights of the people.

The government should not indulge

more and create the mega problems for the common man and give relief to the people by ending their own luxuries.

If the government does not reduce the sky-high inflation and petrol prices, the movement will announce its next course of action till ensuring the relief.

The local leadership announced that we should take steps from the platform of this movement very soon to solve the problems of the business community in the city.

They further said that the general robbery of the rights of the people will not be allowed and taking away the rights of the people is nothing but a sort of terrorism. This inflation has created fear and panic among the people and people are badly facing hunger and poverty. People are committing suicides by this economic anarchy.

In this Manchester of Pakistan approximately 250,000 shops were closed in and around the clock tower of Faisalabad and there were protests against this back-breaking inflation.

Roadside bomb exploded in Daza Ghondai



Adam Khan Wazir

WANA: One child was killed and two children were seriously injured when a roadside bomb exploded in Daza Gondai area of Wana South Waziristan's Lower tribal district.

According to the rescue, there was a report of a bomb explosion on the road at Daza Ghondai, Wana area due to unknown reasons, in which three children were victims of the accident. In the accident, one child died on the spot and two were seriously injured. The injured children were shifted to DHQ Hospital for medical treatment.

According to the doctors, if the condition of the children was critical, Rescue 1122 shifted them to DI Khan by ambulance.

On the other hand, fear and panic spread among the people of the area and expressed serious concern about the incident.

Israel's slaughter of Palestinians in Gaza is unacceptable: Allama Tahir

Mian Rashid Asghar

FAISALABAD: The whole world is concerned about the daily atrocities of Israel on the Palestinians and the United Nations should make special arrangements and policy to deal with these worldwide challenges faced by the suppressed communities. It is a very sad reaction of politicians in Pakistan to gain political objectives by making judges controversial. No one can use a neutral institution for political purposes. The survival of Pakistan lies in the fact that all religious and political institutions might take concrete measures to protect the country.

Allama Tahir-ul-Hassan expressed these views in his special statement and added that the Israeli army's bombing attack on oppressed Palestinian protesters in Gaza is an open terrorism violating humanitarian laws. Bomb attacks and atrocities on Palestinians from day to day are extremely unacceptable & it is an inhuman act on which the world is silent.

He further said that the entire international community should focus & stop the violation of human rights in Kashmir and Palestine and wherever human rights are being violated under international laws. The powerful countries of the world should play their role.

He further elaborated that human rights' violations should be strictly noticed and should be noted that the increasing atrocities and bombings on the oppressed people is not a solution to any problem and for this, dialogue is the best way to bridge the gaps between the people. United Nations must come one step ahead in preventing inhumane treatment by observing its responsibilities.

He said & expressing deep sorrows that Pakistani politics has become a hallmark of criticism and confrontation, and political parties use institutions for their own purposes for the sake of their power, and judges of the judiciary are also being criticized, and the doors of justice are being closed.

Day and night handing over the key of power to such politics made encouragement, if it had the same judiciary provided justice to the poor people of Pakistan, politicians would not have openly criticized it. Undoubtedly still the judiciary of Pakistan is a respectable and concrete institution to whom the nation relays whole heartedly.



Islamabad
15° - 23° Clear

SERVICES

Namaz Timings

Fajr 5:17 am
Zohr 12:21 pm
Asr 4:22 pm
Maghrib 6:02 pm
Isha 7:25 pm

EMERGENCY

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

Women Police Stations

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Rawalpindi 9270601-20

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PIMS 9261170-79
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RDA 5555864
TMA 5770886
Cantonment Board 9270151-3
Islamabad Metropolitan
Corporation 9209224
Potohar Town 9209224
Rawal Town 5773343

COMPLAINTS

Water Tanker Service
E-7, F-10 & F-11 9204654
G-5, G-6, G-7, G-8 9203883
G-9, G-10, G-11, G-12, H-8 9266316

AIOU offers 2nd phase of spring admissions

ISLAMABAD: Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU) has announced schedule of admissions of the second phase of Spring semester, 2023 in different academic programs.

These admissions will start from tomorrow (March 01) across the country. The educational programs offered in the second phase include Associate Degree (B.A, B.Com, BBA), BS (ODL Mode), B.Ed, Postgraduate diplomas and certificate courses. Admission forms and prospectuses will be available on the university's website www.aiou.edu.pk from March 1.

As per the instructions of the Vice-Chancellor, AIOU, Prof. Dr. Nasir Mahmood, Student's Facilitation desks are being established in all regional campuses to provide information, guidance and support to the students regarding admissions.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas, 1) Sana Farooq w/o Hammad Mudassir Chema 2) Salma Farooq w/o Mubeen Shaukat 3) Sophia Farooq d/o Tariq Farooq Malik 4) Saika Hussain w/o Abid Hussain d/o Tariq Farooq Malik 5) Sonia Farooq d/o Tariq Farooq Malik 6) Tanzeela Farooq d/o Tariq Farooq Malik transferee allottee of plot No.45-D Area Development Scheme-I Gujjar Khan have appointed General Power Attorneys to their real mother Mst. Rehana Farooq wd/o Tariq Farooq Malik vide registered deed No.132/4 dated 23/02/2023 from Sub Registrar Gujjar Khan.

Now General Power Attorney wish to transfer their shares along with own share to m/s1) Muhammad Yamin Malik 2) Muhammad Yasin Malik sons Abdul Majeed.

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

Deputy Director Punjab Housing & Town Planning Agency Sub Region Rawalpindi

Interest rate hike by two percent will be too much

Tariq Khattak

ISLAMABAD: Former Vice President of FPCCI Atif Ikram Sheikh on Sunday said interest rate hike by 200bps on IMF demand will be too much.

The move will increase cost of doing business and bankrupt many businesses but it will also reduce inflation and strengthen rupee, he said.

Pakistan has assured the IMF it will raise its policy rate by two percentage points in order to meet the conditions set by the lender to revive the loan programme, he added.

Atif Ikram Sheikh who has also served as Chairman PVMA said in a statement that the virtual negotiations between both sides continued and details regarding reforms in the power sector are being finalised which will lead to a staff-level agreement.

The dysfunctional power sector has become one of the major stumbling blocks between Pakistan and the IMF.



Pakistan has also briefed the lender in detail on external financing till June, the sources said, adding that the IMF was also holding talks with the concerned countries for assurance.

Our authorities have been negotiating with the IMF since early February over policy framework issues and are hoping to sign a staff-level agreement that will

pave the way for more inflows from other bilateral and multilateral lenders.

Once the deal is signed, the lender will disburse a tranche of more than \$1 billion from the \$6.5 billion bailout agreed to in 2019.

Pakistan has already taken a string of measures, including adopting a market-based exchange rate, hike in fuel and power tariffs, withdrawal of subsidies and more taxation to generate revenue to bridge the fiscal deficit.

The strict measures are likely to further cool the economy and stoke inflation, which stood at 27.50% in January.

Pakistan's economy has been in turmoil and desperately needs external financing, with its foreign exchange reserves dipping to around \$3 billion, barely enough for three weeks' worth of imports.

Long-time ally China this week announced refinancing of \$700 million which was a relief in the current situation.

Special Persons

ISLAMABAD: First Lady Begum Samina Arif Alvi in a group photo with diploma holder students with disabilities, who completed their vocational training from the National Training Center for Special Persons on Monday.



Photo: PID

Experts identify key skills to prepare students at Cambridge Principals Forums

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Cambridge International has held Cambridge Principals Forums in Karachi, Lahore and Islamabad for educators in Pakistan this month for the first time since the Covid-19 pandemic. More than 509 leaders and educators from 411 Cambridge schools came together at the events in three cities to discuss the theme 'Ready for the World'.

Dr. Mark Winterbottom, Professor of Education at the Faculty of Education, University of Cambridge delivered the keynote session on "Positive classrooms, positive students: creating a positive learning environment". Participants discussed key topics such as creating student and teaching autonomy, how it helps students in developing world-ready skills and how it encour-



ages teachers to create a positive learning environment for students in classrooms.

The keynote was followed by an informative panel discussion titled "Building Better Futures: developing world-ready skills in students".

The diverse panels in all three cities included education thought leaders, industry experts as well as students from top universities who shared their perspectives on the skills students need to develop to

navigate future challenges, and how education can help develop these skills.

"As our world rapidly changes, we must equip our students with essential skills that transcend academic achievements and prepare them for real-life experiences," said, Uzma Yousuf, Country Director, Pakistan at Cambridge International. "By instilling these skills early on in a student's education journey, we are empowering them to traverse and solve

the challenges of the future with confidence and resilience. Now, more than ever, we must prioritise the development of these skills in our students", she added.

Highlighting the importance of such events, one participant noted, "By gathering at events like this, we have the opportunity to share our experiences and perspectives, and to learn from one another about how we can best prepare our students for success in the real world."

Gender changed: from a girl to a boy

Abdul Majeed Tahir

HATTIAN BALA : The charm of nature of the 3th class student studying in Red Foundation School Chanari changed from a girl to a boy.

According to the details, Syeda Laila Batool, the nine-year-old daughter of Syed Intizar Hussain Shah, a resident of Bandi Syedan, village adjacent to Chinari in the Jhelum Valley district of Azad Kashmir, who was studying in the 3th class in the Red foundation School Chinari, suddenly changed her gender and became a boy. Speaking to the journalists, the child who became a boy by nature said that before I was a girl, I had long hair, it has been a few days that I have become a boy and I have also cut my hair. I am very happy to be a boy, now I am a boy.

The child's father, Syed Intizar Hussain Shah, told reporters that earlier my nine-year-old daughter had a stomach ache, so we got her checked up at Chinari. We took her to Muzaffarabad, but even there no one could tell about the girl's illness, after which we took her to Rawal Pindi. Now, by the grace of Allah, my daughter has become a boy. Till now, there is no name for the child who will become a son will suggest his name till now since he has not been sent to school now after joining the annual exams My son still has to undergo an operation after which his other studies will continue.

He added that according to NADRA records and Form B, the date of birth of Laila Batool is 15th January 2015. After clearing the other matters, he will be given a new name and registered in Form B. Remember that the news of a girl becoming a boy has spread like wildfire in the entire Jhelum Valley. Everyone is in awe of God's power.

Gender equity must for sustainable development



News Desk

ISLAMABAD: Achieving gender equality and women's empowerment is integral to each of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The implementation of SDGs ensures that women and girls will receive justice and inclusion in economies that work for all.

Pakistan with a population of 107 million women, has been reported as the second-worst country in terms of gender parity. Focusing on the issue of gender equality is not only a necessity but also should be taken as a priority Pakistan has been ranked 145 out of 156 countries for economic participation and opportunity by the Global Gender Gap Index Report 2022. The missing elements in the country profile of gender statistics and the recognition of the need to fill critical gaps in data coverage have increased exponentially for Pakistan.

Islamabad Women's Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Cyntax Health Projects have collaborated to focus on developing solutions for providing women with equal access to education, entrepreneurial opportunities, health care, decent work, and representation in political and economic decision-making processes for social cohesion and prosperity.

The chief guest on the soft launch of the IWCCI Gender Equity Hub was Federal Ombudsman FOSPAH, Madam Kashmala Khan.

She appreciated the efforts of both organizations and highlighted the need of creating awareness of gender rights and opportunities for women available in the country through the use of digital media. The event was attended by members of the embassies of Italy and Egypt, representatives of the State Bank of Pakistan, and women entrepreneurs.

Zain Qureshi elder son of Shah Mahmood Qureshi while visited District Jail Attock

Raza Naqvi

ATTOCK : Central leader of Pakistan Tehreek Insaf Mr. Zain Qureshi elder son of detained Vice Chairman PTI Shah Mahmood Qureshi while visiting District Jail Attock on Monday has reaffirmed the commitment of PTI Leader Imran Khan to fight against the anti-democratic powers of the country till the rule of law, justice and restoration of real democracy through conduct of impartial and free elections in the country. These views he expressed while addressing the media at the Al-Murtaza House Attock. Among others, he was also extended warm welcome by the former provincial minister Punjab Syed Yawar Bokhari, PTI District President Attock expected candidate MPA Attock Qazi Ahmed Akbar, General Secretary, PTI Attock Mr. Ahmed Nawaz along with PTI workers came across the district. Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Zain Qureshi also expressed this thanks giving remarks to all the PTI activists with the hope that the jail filling movement of PTI workers launched by Imran Khan will be continued till getting its goals.

He also appreciated the offer of court arrest by PTI leader candidate MNA-50 Attock Syed Zulfikar Abbas Bokhari (Zulfi Bokhari) hailing from Attock. Mr. Zain Qureshi further said that his father was arrested from Lahore and they were being refused to see him under one pretext or the other despite their repeated attempts but they would never leg behind from the ongoing movement till its conclusion. He said that the political detainees were being targeted who were even scattered at different jails away from their home towns depriving their families from inquiring their health.

Mr. Zain Qureshi said that the jail filing movement of Imran Khan

Public health role crucial in fighting blindness, says Al-Shifa Trust

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD : President Al-Shifa Trust Maj. Gen. (R) Rehmat Khan on Monday said vision impairment and eye disease are major problems and proper public health interventions can reduce the prevalence of blindness in Pakistan.

The current annual cost of vision impairment and eye disease in the world runs in hundreds of billions of dollars which include the impact of lost productivity, diminished quality of life, increased depression, etc., he said.

Addressing the first international conference on Public Health, Maj. Gen. (R) Rehmat Khan said that Public Health great tool for fighting blindness which must be utilized optimally. He said that professionals in

Public Health can educate the masses on the importance of eye care and ways to maintain good eye health.

This education can include information on proper nutrition, the importance of regular eye checkups, and ways to protect the eyes from injury.

Research by Public Health professionals about the prevalence of eye diseases and conditions in the population can help eye hospitals and NGOs in developing prevention and treatment strategies, he said.

Dean of PIO, Prof. Dr. Wajid Ali Khan, Advisor to the HEC Chairman Awais Ahmed, Dr. Zahid A. Butt from the University of Waterloo, Canada, Prof. Tokie Anne from Tsukuba University Japan, Babar Tanseem Sheikh, Director of John Snow Interna-

tional, Mrs. Tahira Ammad, Chairperson of Special Pakistan. Dr. Ayesha Babar Kawish, HOD of Al-Shifa School of Public Health, (ASOPH), Dr. Ahmed Abdullah, Associate Professor at ASOPH, Dr. Quratulain Waheed, Senior Lecturer at ASOPH Dr. Ammara Ajmal, Assistant Professor at ASOPH contributing their expertise to the discussions.

The conference provided a unique opportunity for participants to engage with experts from diverse fields within public health. Attendees included faculty and students from the Al-Shifa School of Public Health, higher management of Al-Shifa Trust, and other public health professionals. Through a series of presentations, discussions, and networking events, the conference succeeded in fostering collabora-



tion and knowledge-sharing among experts, paving the way for future advancements in public health research and practice. The 1st International Public

Health Conference provided a platform for experts in public health to come together and exchange ideas, experiences, and knowledge. The conference was

attended by an impressive list of speakers and participants from around the world, making it an unforgettable experience for all involved.

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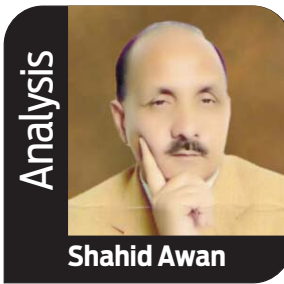
Pakistani Educationist in America

Many people give examples of great figures to illustrate their point, examples of great personalities are courted to make the arguments as strong as possible to explain a theory, but it is worth noting that the examples are numerous but the ideal people are very few. Intellectuals extract deep pearls of wisdom from the experiences and thoughts of others and the common man goes into anonymity due to his domestic issues, living difficulties and other obstacles of life. It is said that raindrops fall equally everywhere, if a raindrop falls in a pond it becomes part of a pond; if a drop falls in an ocean it becomes an ocean; if it falls on a barren land the land remains barren. On the other hand, if a lucky drop falls on the fertile land the fields start to waver, and if this drop goes into the mouth of an oyster it becomes a pearl. Rain is the same, water is also the same but the good result after observe the rain water is its own destiny. Today, every young man goes around with big dreams in life and forgets that dreams alone do not make everything. Rather, it is said that the price of great success has two parts and both parts have to be paid in advance: one is strong desire or passion of success, and the other is hard work.

In the beginning, the great person who is to be the subject of writing is my idol, being from the same village, I could never meet him because he went to America with a scholarship before I was born. He did his PhD and after completing his PhD he came back to his country. The name of this person is Malik Shahbaz Khan. He was born on 02 November 1934 in a remote village of Talagang, 'Khoian'. He was the first graduate of the village, the first ever PhD, and also Talagang's first PhD Doctor. After returning to his native land, he took up a job as a professor in Punjab University Lahore. Before that, when he graduated from Gordon College, he also served in Pichnand Middle School, village of his tehsil, which was mentioned by late Allahyar Khan Awan as well. When he started teaching in Punjab University, then in 1963 he started research in the University. The students were so interested in teaching that within a few years, he became the star of the students' eyes. Seeing his interests, some envious people raised fronts against him, while he was worried about the future of the youth of his country. He was not greedy for any position, nor was he involved in any politics. He was always on the lookout for the promotion of the University. A young scholar from a small anonymous village did not like the Lahoris and started conspiracies against him which made him sad and heartbroken so he returned to America in 1967. He left for the purpose of teaching in Michigan University.

Malik Shahbaz Khan has five siblings, while two children of his siblings were also educated by him. His daughter, Ms. Naseem Malik, who is a school teacher in America, who gave me the above such important information. According to her, during the days of Punjab University, his father kept hundreds of students as much as possible, apart from financial matters, the students from far away places who could not go to their native homes on the eid occasion, kept them in his house and not letting them even realize it. He considered all the students as his own children without discrimination. Naseem Malik said that I don't even remember if I want to count my brothers and sisters, it is not possible for me because apart from our beloved country Pakistan my father's students from all over the world contact and proud of the fact that Dr. Shahbaz Khan

is behind their success, if he did not support us in difficult times we would never have been able to achieve the desired educational goals. Dr. Shahbaz proved by providing necessary facilities to thousands of students for the promotion of education and being the ambassador of Pakistan in America. He worked day and night for the promotion of education, where now his sons and daughters are following in the footsteps of their father's mission. He is running a welfare organization in his native village Khoian called "Ittehad Welfare Society", today every youth of Talagang district is active in the welfare of their respective areas following his example. With own help, the village streets have been paved, houses have been built for the entitled people, additional rooms have been constructed in the Government High School, a computer lab is being built, the clean and green scheme has been started in the village and above all, youths have been encouraged from unhealthy activities, they are kept active for the welfare of humanity. The youth of Khoian keep busy for the people of their village by organizing events every month. In Ramadan, special food items are provided for the poor and privileged families in a dignified manner. During Corona, when there was wide spread unemployment everywhere, food items were delivered door to door by the IWS. Malik Shahbaz Khan's family is engaged in the service of their villagers every moment even while living in America to help and guide the youth of the village. Dr. Shahbaz Khan planted the seed of universal education in his life now in the form of big tree, his third generation is now following this path. He is undoubtedly a living metaphor of Pakistaniness in America. He has proved by his actions that no matter how far you are from your homeland, if your passions are true and your intention is pure and you want to help people sincerely, even if you are thousands and millions of miles away, you can help our countrymen. Dr. Shahbaz Khan spent most of his life in America, he is like a shade tree to his family as well as others. Nowadays, he is living in America with his children, he is sick due to old age. A large number of his students come to America to pay tribute to their teacher, whose accomplishments give them heart-felt satisfaction. The noble work Dr. Shabaz's family has done by raising the name of their country while living in America is a source of pride and honor for the people of Khoian in particular and for the people of the country in general. May Allah grant Dr. Shahbaz Malik a healthy and safe life.



Analysis

Shahid Awan

Reports indicate that at least 170 people were on board the small vessel, including children and families. The UN refugee agency said that information received shows that there may be as many as 80 survivors. Some of them have been hospitalized for treatment.

It is unacceptable to witness such horrors, with families and children entrusted to unseaworthy boats," said Chiara Cardoletti, the UNHCR representative for Italy, the Holy See and San Marino. "This tragedy must prompt us to act and act now."

The boat had left Turkey, with many passengers coming from Afghanistan and Pakistan, the UN said in a press release. In 2022, people from Turkey accounted for around 15 per cent of total arrivals by sea in Italy, UNHCR said, noting that nearly half of the people arriving along this route were people fleeing Afghanistan.

The agencies said European Union mechanisms for rescue operations are "urgently needed".

To avoid tragedies like this, Ms. Cardoletti said, it is "more necessary than ever before to strengthen the rescue capacity, which is still insufficient".

Laurence Hart, director of the IOM Coordination Office for the Mediterranean, said this shipwreck demonstrates how the phenomenon of migration by sea must be tackled by all European nations.

This requires humanitarian support and adopting an approach that considers the multiple drivers that are causing people to flee, she said.

The IOM Missing Migrants Project reports that at least 220 people, including those who perished on Sunday, have died or gone missing along the central Mediterranean route in 2023.

There were times when Pakistan was the most successful team in World Cups, Olympics and Champions Trophy with winning four World Cups in 1971, 1978, 1982 and 1994. Pakistan also has three gold medals in Olympic Games field hockey tournaments in Rome 1960, Mexico City 1968 and Los Angeles 1984.

Then its downfall started with its respective heads failing to maintain the momentum of past Pakistan and an always-winning team that played all World Cup editions, could not qualify for 2014 and 2023 Hockey World Cups.

Hockey Team's non-qualifying for the World Cup and Olympics never meant that it could not rise from slumber once again. But, only after a consensus is reached among the stakeholders to bring it back on track through strict measures from the grassroots to the top level.

Speaking on revival of the national game, Olympian Shahbaz Ahmed Sr emphasised proper education of players as he deems that an illiterate cannot carry on in international sports without education.

"There is also a need to build four to five hockey centers in the country directly operated under the federation," he added. "Youth must be spotted from grassroots, educated and fed properly and trained at these centers according to international standards."

Shahbaz further pleaded that the PHF must have a proper annual budget and the federation should itself manage its affairs. "Every time we have to request the govern-

ment for grants to participate in national and international championships or preparation of training camps abroad."

He said, "if a proper budget is allocated for PHF, we can manage the game by ourselves. Young players must also be offered regular jobs as was happening during our times when all players had jobs in different departments."

Shahbaz advocated organizing Pakistan Hockey League (PHL) as he believes it would prove a key step towards reviving the national game. "Besides providing financial support to PHF, the league will help explore new talent for regaining our lost glory."

The green shirts were also one of the most successful national teams in the Asian Games with eight gold medals in 1958, 1962, 1970, 1974, 1978, 1982, 1990 and 2010, the highest number of times a country has come first and the only Asian team to have won the prestigious Champions' Trophy with three championships in 1978, 1980 and 1994.

Once an unbeaten center-forward and a star Olympian Shahnaz Shaikh pleads to blend young players with experienced hands for forming a squad that owns the potential to beat any team in the world.

"Players need to improve their movements and points marking in the D area. They should avoid counterattacks and improve the conversion of penalty corners. If we get three to four penalty corners at least two must be utilized," Shahnaz said.

"We need to strongly work on all these things if we want to improve our game. Our players must play with unity and avoid individual point scoring in any game," he commented.

Further suggesting measures for improvement, he said, there were around 28 Education Boards in the country with hundreds of schools affiliated with each Board. "Therefore, if each government school is allowed to participate in tournaments, the total number of participating teams would be in hundreds.

This practice would be a sort of talent hunt bringing new players to the national squad."

He also suggested designated hockey fields to promote the game as he recalled, "in our times plentiful of national and district tournaments were held annually for improvement of players mental and physical strength."

"Then there were different departments, offering jobs to players. But, rapid changes in the hockey setup affected the game badly," he said.

He said this year the Hockey World Cup was held in India in January and it was the second time when Pakistan failed to qualify for the tournament after also missing out in the 2014 World Cup. "At present, the Pakistan national hockey team holds 16th spot in International Hockey Federation (FIH) rankings, that is painful."

Olympian Rana Mujahid Ali also complained of inadequate facilities in even major cities to promote hockey. "Faisalabad has always been a hub for hockey contributing more players to national hockey team than any other city."

He said that out of four World Cups won by Pakistan, in World Cups of 1971, 1982 and 1994, the team leaders Khalid Mehmood, Akhtar Rasool and Shahbaz Senior, hailed from Faisalabad. Tariq Aziz, the captain of the Olympic gold medal-winning team in 1968, also hailed from Faisalabad.

"Even today, there is no shortage of hockey players in Faisalabad, but they lack facilities and face difficulties in improving their game," he said.

"Faisalabad Hockey Stadium was the only place in the city where an Astro turf was available, but it was destroyed many years ago and a new turf has yet to be laid."

Since hockey is our national game and its deterioration is paining everybody, therefore it is direly needed to revive this game once again for winning the laurel for the nation.

That is why the crisis in Palestine is not about data.

The new generals...

Amjad Rasmi

Hockey – Regaining the lost glory

Saba Niazi

Once glittering on global sports horizons by securing all international titles, Pakistan's hockey started witnessing continuous deterioration after the tenure of Air Marshal Noor Khan. There were times when Pakistan was the most successful team in World Cups, Olympics and Champions Trophy with winning four World Cups in 1971, 1978, 1982 and 1994. Pakistan also has three gold medals in Olympic Games field hockey tournaments in Rome 1960, Mexico City 1968 and Los Angeles 1984. Then its downfall started with its respective heads failing to maintain the momentum of past Pakistan and an always-winning team that played all World Cup editions, could not qualify for 2014 and 2023 Hockey World Cups. Hockey Team's non-qualifying for the World Cup and Olympics never meant that it could not rise from slumber once again. But, only after a consensus is reached among the stakeholders to bring it back on track through strict measures from the grassroots to the top level. Speaking on revival of the national game, Olympian Shahbaz Ahmed Sr emphasised proper education of players as he deems that an illiterate cannot carry on in international sports without education. "There is also a need to build four to five hockey centers in the country directly operated under the federation," he added. "Youth must be spotted from grassroots, educated and fed properly and trained at these centers according to international standards." Shahbaz further pleaded that the PHF must have a proper annual budget and the federation should itself manage its affairs. "Every time we have to request the govern-

Condolences-I

Spokesman Report

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates, Dr. Riad Malki, at the Human Rights Council, expressed the Palestinian people's sincere condolences to the Syrian and Turkish peoples who have endured a natural disaster of overwhelming proportions. We stand with Turkiye and Syria as they recover from the horrific aftermath of the earthquakes and endeavor to provide recovery and humanitarian assistance to the millions affected. When disaster struck Syria and Turkiye, people and governments sprung to action because rhetorical statements of solidarity and sympathy were of no use to the victims; had solidarity stopped at statements rather than translate into assistance, no matter how humble, they would have only added insult to injury. Despite the limitations, survivors will remember that their humanity was the focus of efforts by thousands of rescuers. Not their nationality, their religion, or the color of their skin. Their humanity. The brutal components of the Palestinian people's reality under Israel's illegal colonial occupation and apartheid regime is known to all. Every detail of Palestinian suffering; every dimension of the injustice; every feature of the brutality – they are all thoroughly documented by UN bodies, and international, Israeli, and Palestinian human rights organizations. The crisis in Palestine is not due to a lack of information. Every country knows well what is happening and have read the reports and analysis. You have seen the horrific pictures of a full onslaught by Israeli settlers against defenseless Palestinian communities in Huwara, Burin, and others last night. You know that these terrorist settler attacks that cost Palestinian lives and livelihoods are done under the protection of Israeli forces and that this is not the first terror campaign and it will not be the last and that Palestinians need protection but refuse to offer it. That is why the crisis in Palestine is not about data.

It is the result of a chronic failure to act and an uncanny attachment to rhetorical statements and an insistence to refrain from any action aligned with statements. The crisis in Palestine is that the Palestinian people have been left under a mounting pile of injustice while they claw themselves out without help or recourse. Instead, oxygen tanks are occasionally extended to our people so that they may endure this crushing reality, while they listen to iterates about commitment to human rights and global solidarity. And as the Palestinian people hear those hollow statements, they hear news of the world moving heaven and earth to show solidarity with others facing a humanitarian and justice crisis. The truth is, our entire international system that is predicated on universal respect for human rights, and international law, including international human rights law and humanitarian law, is crumbling before our very eyes because of hypocrisy and double standards. Accountability is sought for political expediency and fought against with as much fervor when the culprit is politically favored. That is the textbook definition of hypocrisy. Israel, the occupying Power, is granted an indefensible status of exceptional treatment that allows it to continue committing crimes with complete and abject impunity. Meanwhile, the Palestinian people are asked to act restrained, to have patience that is humanly unfaithful, and worst of all, they are expected to refrain from seeking a way out. This past year, Israel killed more Palestinians in the occupied West Bank than it has in sixteen years, demolished more homes, and displaced more Palestinians than it has done in years. Since this year began, Israeli occupation forces have killed and maimed hundreds of Palestinians, demolished dozens of homes, laid siege to cities and refugee camps; punished dozens of innocent families and deprived Palestinian prisoners and detainees of basic rights including proper access to water and food.

To be concluded

Pakistan pavilion marks significance in UAE Defence Show IDEX 2023

Amjad Mehmood

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan is making its huge presence in the 16th edition of UAE Defence Show IDEX 2023 gearing up from 20 Feb 2023 at ADNEC, Abu Dhabi. IDEX 2023 is a biggest defense show in the region hosting multiple numbers of exhibitors from across the globe covering all continents of the world. Pakistan's senior-level delegation including the Minister of Defense Production and other delegates from Pakistan Defense Forces has participated in the show.

Continuing its strong relations with UAE, Pakistan has joined the world's biggest defense show in a multi-facet way. The participation includes the establishment of Pakistan by Defence Export Promotion Organization (DEPO) under the patronage of the Pakistan Ministry of Defense Production (MoDP) with a display of four major state-owned enterprises and two members from



the private sector. In the show, Heavy Industries Taxila (HIT) is displaying main battle tanks, armored personnel carriers, and personnel protection equipment, while another manufacturing enterprise Global Industrial & Defense Solution (GIDS) has surpassed its own previous participation by displaying flagship products like UAV Shahpar-II, Air-to-Ground Cruise

missile, Fateh-1 MLRS, Thermal Sights, and Laser guided Bomb kits. The participation from Pakistani manufacturers further includes the National Radio & Telecom Corporation (NRTC) state-of-the-art software-defined radios (SDRs), military communication systems, VVIP Security jamming solutions, Anti Drone systems, and Battle Management Systems (BMS), while the lead-

ing ordnance enterprise (Pakistan Ordnance Factories-POF) has displayed a range of conventional / non-conventional small arms and other solutions.

Along with the state-owned enterprise, two private sector firms have also made their way toward defense products by displaying hi-tech Thermal Imaging Sights of Shibli Electronics which is a very amazing product of a developing nation like Pakistan. The representative of Pakistan Pavilion Organizer, Lt. Colonel Ejaz Ahmed, while talking about the specialties of Pakistan said, Pakistan offers technically competitive as well as time-tested defense products to friendly countries at very affordable prices.

Adding more colors to UAE's defense show, Pakistan Navy Ship YARMOOK also arrived in Abu Dhabi on 19th February 2023 to participate in the defense show, while, Faisal Niaz Tirmizi, Ambassador of Pakistan to the United Arab Emir-



ates, received the ship at ADNEC Marina on its arrival. The visit is aimed to strengthen the bonds of friendship between Pakistan and UAE. IDEX continues to

benefit an increasing number of international decision-makers from within the defense-industry, government, armed forces, and military personnel. Pakistan's

unprecedented participation was observed by various other governments and international organizations with significant admiration.

UNIDO Cluster Development Agents Training Programme concludes

Bureau Report

KARACHI: The United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO) concluded an extensive six-week training programme under the Poverty Alleviation and Inclusive Development Across Rural Sindh (PAIDAR) programme funded by the European Union (EU).

The training concluded with a certificate distribution ceremony held at NED University Karachi and was chaired by Special Secretary Planning and Development Department Mr. Khair Muhammad Kalwar, Development Advisor EU mission Carlo De Rosa, National Programme Coordinator Mr. Badar Ul Islam, UNIDO Lead trainer Mr. Peter Hurst and Pro Vice Chancellor NED Dr. Muhammad Tufail Johkio. Moreover, Mr. Nima Bahramalian, Industrial Development Expert from UNIDO headquarters attended the



ceremony online. After an extensive on-field and classroom training programme, the trainees from the five selected districts of Sindh province, namely: Thatta, Sujawal, Larkana, Tharparkar, and Badin, presented business ideas that can be piloted by the community members. Going forward, the PAIDAR programme will support business development, creating employment and economic activity at a local level.

While addressing the ceremony, the Special Secretary Planning and Development Department Mr.

Khair Muhammad Kalwar said that the Sindh government is committed to poverty alleviation measures, and partnerships with development agencies on this agenda will help the government to improve the lives of many. He appreciated the ideas presented by the participants and the support PAIDAR provides for empowering rural communities.

Mr. Carlo De Rosa from the EU reiterated the support of the EU for development in Sindh province and said that he was impressed by the quality of ideas presented which reflects the deep insight and

thought process that went into the UNIDO training by local and international experts. Furthermore, Mr. Nima Bahramalian from UNIDO thanked the EU and the Government of Sindh for their enormous support in implementing the PAIDAR programme.

The participants appreciated the training programme that focuses on indigenous practices and solutions. They termed the good mix of theoretical and practical tools to identify solutions and support innovation as very useful for their understanding and professional development.

One killed in new Turkey quake, 69 injured as buildings collapse

ISTANBUL: An earthquake shook southeast Turkey on Monday, killing one person, injuring 69 and causing some buildings to collapse, Turkish authorities said.

It hit three weeks after a massive quake that killed more than 50,000 people in Turkey and Syria.

Yunus Sezer, head of Turkey's Disaster and Emergency Management Authority (AFAD) told a news conference that search and rescue teams had been deployed to five buildings.

The quake, which struck the southeastern province of Malatya, was measured by the European-Mediterranean Seismological Centre at a magnitude of 5.2. AFAD put it at 5.6.

It struck at a depth of 5 km (3 miles), said EMSC.

Media reports said two people were believed to be trapped in the rubble of one building. Turkey has arrested 184 people suspected of complicity in the collapse of buildings in this month's earthquakes and investigations are widening, a minister said on Saturday.

Trafficking in persons is a centuries old problem: Speakers

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: In an effort to reduce trafficking in persons and increase direct referrals of victims for services or rehabilitation and advocating for prevention and prosecution of Trafficking in Persons, Sustainable Social Development Organization (SSDO) in collaboration with US Embassy and Pakistan US Alumni Network (PUAN) organized a two-day international conference in Islamabad on the 27th and 28th of February. The conference's objective was to strengthen institutional capacity and collaboration of various stakeholders primarily for the implementation of legal frameworks.

The conference initiated with speeches from notable figures of the above-mentioned organizations and was attended by government, private and development sector institutions from both Pakistan and the United States. Participants included senior officials from federal and provincial government departments, Parliamentarians, senior police and FIA representatives, ambassadors, national and international NGOs, and media.

Guest of Honor, Mr. Donald Blome, US Ambassador to Pakistan reminded that trafficking in persons is a centuries old problem that requires everyone to play a role and create innovative approaches to combat perpetrators who remain a threat due to continuous development of new trafficking techniques. His message was further addressed by Chief Guest, Ms. Shehla Raza, Deputy Speaker of Sindh Provincial Assembly by adding that human trafficking is a disaster of its own kind which severely impacts women and children in particular. There is a law-and-order imbalance, alongside poverty and illiteracy, which makes trafficking in persons easier to execute. Ms. Raza stated that her ministry is working on legal aid and provision of rehabilitation for victims.

Mr. Syed Kausar Abbas, Executive Director SSDO emphasized the necessity of judiciary training to sensitize towards and mainstream the issue of trafficking in persons. Pakistan's geographic location makes it as a destination, transit, and source country for trafficking in persons (TIP). Since 2015, Pakistan appeared five times in the Tier II Watchlist countries in the US Department of State's annual report on TIP.

Latter sessions included breakout working groups for relevant stakeholders to collectively prepare recommendations for parliamentarians, policy makers, law enforcement agencies and judiciary to effective control on internal and external human trafficking.

Israeli death penalty bill 'barbaric' and in violation of int'l law

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: The State of Palestine condemns in the strongest terms Israel's continued racial terror and open-war against the Palestinian people on all levels, including the barbaric re-enactment of the death penalty as a pretext to legitimize its annexation and entrench its apartheid regime, in violation of its obligation under international law.

The death penalty violates the fundamental rights of the Palestinian people to life, non-discrimination, and self-determination. It is a cruel, barbaric, and inhumane bill rooted in Jewish supremacy and precisely aimed to deny the Palestinian people their right to exist and their humanity.

As Israel continues to disproportionately and willfully kill Palestinians, now, it will arbitrarily and ceremonially put them on death rows.

The State of Palestine warns against the dangerous repercussions of the death penalty bill and holds Israel fully responsible for its criminal policies and laws.

The State of Palestine urgently calls on the international community to not only condemn but take concrete actions to pressure Israel to rescind its bill. We call on the UN and its different agencies and human rights bodies, as well as international organizations, to take necessary measures needed to ensure the protection of the Palestinian people, expose Israel's crimes, and hold it accountable for this grave miscarriage of justice.

Mushaal laments world silence over Indian regime's barbarism, cruelty in IIOJK

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Chairperson of Peace and Culture Organization, Mushaal Hussein Mullick lashed out at the hindutva fascist regime for unleashing a wave of terrorism and world's worst human rights violation in the Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) and vowed that brave Kashmiri would break the shackles of Indian slavery at all costs.

Speaking at a seminar titled Humanitarian Tragedies in OIC geography, which was attended by Ambassador of Azerbaijan as a chief guests, Mushaal thanked Azerbaijan for its continued and unwavering support of Kashmiri freedom fight against Indian unlawful subjugation.

Mushaal, a wife of incarcerated hurriyat leader Yasin Malik, stated that



people and government of Azerbaijan also supported and backed Kashmiris people in their just fight for the right to self-determination.

She stated that people of the occupied valley always reciprocated in the same fashion and strongly condemned Armenian armed forces aggression against Azerbaijan and especially the tragic Khojaly genocide, which was one of the bloodiest pages of the policy of ethnic cleansing and genocide carried out by Armenian nationalists against Azerbaijanis.

The hurriyat leader stated that like Armenian forces, the fascist Indian forces continued with their brutal police of mass murder and slaughter the civilian Kashmiri population with unprecedented cruelty.

Mushaal stated that the supremacist Indian forces made life a hell for Kashmiri people, as they crossed all limits of barbarism and inhuman acts; however she added that ironically the human right organisations and world powers adopted a callous approach toward the brewing human crisis in the IIOJK and did not take any action against Hindutva regime.

The Chairperson stated that inhuman forces neither spared Kashmiri leaders nor women and children, as they subjected to their brutalities all and sundry with their planned nefarious plan to spread fear in the valley

to silent the dissenting voices but no such policy of barbarity worked rather it further fanned the fire.

She urged the muslim world especially the OIC to play their proactive role to resolve Kashmir dispute as per the aspirations of the people of the valley.

Speaking on the occasion, Ambassador of Azerbaijan said that Azerbaijan fully supported and backed the Kashmiri right to self-determination.

The ambassador said that the government of Azerbaijan strongly condemned the Indian forces continued brutalities and terrorism unleashed in the occupied valley.

Ambassador of Azerbaijan urged the need for resolution of Kashmir conflict as per the wishes and aspirations of Kashmiri people. On the occupation, a souvenir was presented to the chief guest.

Pakistan's oilseed industry to bloom under China-Pakistan agriculture cooperation

Xinhua

GUJRANWALA: On a sunny February morning, the air in a small village in Pakistan's east Gujranwala district carried the sweet scent of canola flowers, which were dancing gently in the breeze.

Bees whirling on the profuse yellow blossom beaming with lush green pods were not only a view to behold, but also heralded the beginning of a new chapter in the lives of local businesspeople and farmers, who are shifting to a Chinese hybrid variety of canola seeds to reap higher yields and produce cooking oil at home.

"We sowed the new variety on 100 acres of land because of their potential to produce higher yields and more oil as compared to other oilseeds including mustard and rapeseed, which we previously used to cultivate," Intisar Ahmad Chattha, the farm's manager told Xinhua while carefully watching the pods.

Pakistan's annual consumption of cooking oil is around 5 million tons, but due to the low economic potential of oilseeds in the local market, they are not preferred by the farmers. The country has to import about 89 percent of oil to meet the

demand, spending 3.6 billion U.S. dollars annually.

To help the country meet its edible oil demand and support its foreign exchange reserves, Chinese company Wuhan Qingfa Hesheng and a Pakistani company Eyyol group jointly provide high-quality hybrid seeds to Pakistani farmers.

Ghazanfar Ali, head of marketing in Eyyol group told Xinhua it took them 10 years to produce a variety that is compatible with the local climate, produces a good yield and is good for human health.

The crop provides an increased profit for the farm-

ers as its standard 2 kg pack is enough to cultivate 2 acres of land, and the farmer can get 1.5 tons of yield out of it, which is over 10 percent more than the yield from other varieties currently available in Pakistan, he said, when talking about the potential of the crop.

Zhou Xusheng, director of the international business department of Wuhan Qingfa Hesheng Seed company, told Xinhua that his company is working on transferring technology to Pakistan to make it efficient in smart agriculture.

"Through this project, we want to transfer the harvesting



technology through which the farmers can use some attach-

ments on the harvesters they already have and reduce the

wastage," he said.

His company also wants to introduce processing units across the country, through which even in villages people can install them and produce processed oil for themselves and sell it to others, Zhou added.

He said that the seed is suitable for the environment across Pakistan, and this year they sold 11 tons of seeds across the country, which will be cultivated on 20,000 acres, and their target for next year is 100 tons, which will bring a great change to Pakistan by helping the country become self-sufficient in edible oil production.

Bull & Bears
PSX 100-Share
Index Fluctuation

Pakistan: PSX 100-Share Index

Current	Prev. Close
40,784.13	40,707.76
Day's High	Day's Low:
40,820.09	40,616.60
Index Value	Change
5,138,694,152	+76.37
Percentage	Time
+0.19%	27 Feb, 2023 5:00 pm

Europe: FTSE 100 Index

Index Value	Change
7,935.47	+56.81
Percentage	Time
+0.72%	27 Feb, 4:29 pm GMT

USA: Dow Jones Industrial Average

Index Value	Change
32,912.34	+95.42
Percentage	Time
+0.29%	27 Feb, 11:30 am GMT-5

Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Average

Index Value	Change
27,423.96	-29.52
Percentage	Time
-0.11%	27 Feb, 3:15 pm GMT+9

Open Market Forex Rates

Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	173	175.4
Bahrain Dinar	691.71	699.71
Canadian Dollar	192	194.2
China Yuan	37.54	37.94
Danish Krone	36.85	37.25
Euro	274.5	277.3
Hong Kong Dollar	33.45	33.8
Indian Rupee	3.14	3.25
Japanese Yen	2.06	2.11
Kuwaiti Dinar	845.57	854.57
Malaysian Ringgit	59.33	59.93
New Zealand \$	163.68	165.68
Norwegians Krone	25.01	25.31
Omani Riyal	677.48	685.48
Qatari Riyal	71.89	72.59
Saudi Riyal	69.3	70
Singapore Dollar	192.5	194.5
Swedish Korona	25.32	25.62
Swiss Franc	276.52	279.02
Thai Bhat	7.61	7.76
U.A.E Dirham	73.75	74.5
UK Pound Sterling	312.8	316
US Dollar	263.2	265.9

Society and politics collapse before economic meltdown, says Mian Zahid Hussain

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 Monday said resources flow top down in developed countries but the direction of capital in Pakistan is bottom up.

Almost 80% of the tax revenue comes from indirect taxes in Pakistan making the rich richer and the poor poorer resulting in inflation, poverty, and anxiety, he said.

Mian Zahid Hussain said that the tax potential in Pakistan is eleven thousand billion annually while the collection is around 7 thousand billion.

Talking to the business community, the veter-



an business leader said that here some people have a lot of wealth while many lack food.

Tens of millions have to choose between health, water, electricity, children's education, or bread which is unfair, he added.

Mian Zahid Hussain said that the elite usually uses imported luxury goods which increases the burden on the country while the middle class and the poor prefer locally manufactured goods which boosts the economy and generates employment.

In societies where elites are sucking wealth, people take other paths for a good life instead of effort and ability, due to which the country begins to collapse.

The business leader noted that before the destruction of the country's economy, the moral values and politics turn ugly, while in countries where elites are kept within limits, the people develop through education and hard work.

Mian Zahid Hussain said that the fate of

land reforms in Pakistan is no different from the so-called reforms in other sectors.

The wealth creation model followed in Pakistan is a collection of failures compounded by decades of misguided policies. Education is a very good tool to ensure equality, but our policymakers do not pay much attention to it.

Investment in local government schools and the provision of world-class educational facilities should be ensured. The children of the elite and the common man should be educated in the same schools.

If the system of class education is abolished, the fate of the nation will change. If the economic model of Pakistan is not changed and losses of billions of rupees are not stopped, the employment opportunities for the people will decrease day by day, which will increase the anxiety which can result in riots, he warned.

Mayor assures to play role to increase Pak-UK Bilateral Trade

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD :Yasser Iqbal, Mayor of Pendle of Lancashire County said that he would play a role to further increase bilateral trade ties between Pakistan and UK as both countries have good potential to do trade in many items for mutual benefit. He said this while exchanging views with Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari, President, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry during his visit to the Chamber. Ch. Iftikhar, Khalid and Raja Azhar also accompanied him at the occasion.

Yasser Iqbal said that the Pakistani diaspora in the UK is keen to invest in Pakistan as they want to see Pakistan as a strong economy. He said that a further conducive business environment would attract more investment from overseas Pakistanis settled in the UK and other countries. He invited the ICCI delegation to visit the UK to explore business collaboration with British counterparts and assured that he would cooperate in making their visit successful.

Speaking at the occasion Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari, President, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry said that the UK is an important trading partner of Pakistan and we want to further enhance



trade and exports with the UK. He said that bilateral trade between Pakistan and the UK is still less than US\$ 3 billion and stressed the need of developing strong business linkages between the private sectors of both countries to take bilateral trade to higher levels. He said that the Chinese and Indian diaspora has played an important role in making the economies of their home countries better and stressed that the Pakistani diaspora should also come forward to steer Pakistan out of the current economic turmoil. He said that the UK

has already invested in Pakistan in many sectors including financial services, oil & gas exploration, petroleum refining, electricity generation, pharmaceutical, publishing, industrial chemicals & cement and stressed that Pakistani diaspora in UK should transfer technology and explore JVs and investment in Pakistan.

Khalid Iqbal Malik, Zafar Bakhtawari and others also spoke at the occasion and shared useful ideas for further improving bilateral trade and economic relations between Pakistan and UK

ZEM Builders' Success in Property Expo: A Testament to Quality and Expertise



News Desk

PESHAWAR: ZEM Builders, a leading player in the real estate industry, has emerged as a top performer and awarded a Toyota REVO to a respected client in the recently concluded Peshawar International Property Expo & Convention held from 17th to 19th February 2023 at Marbella Cave Marquee, Warsak Road - Peshawar. The expo is attended by thousands of visitors and brought together business elite, senior members of prestigious companies, and social personalities associations, business groups and individuals. The annual expo served as a platform for builders and develop-

ers to showcase their latest projects, services, and products to potential customers and partners.

ZEM builders, the winner of PAEI Best Builder & Real Estate Company for their impressive lineup of contemporary residential and commercial properties, stood out for their commitment to quality, innovation, timely delivery and customer satisfaction. The company's representatives were on hand to answer questions, provide guidance, and assist visitors with their property search. Their commitment to transparency, honesty, and fairness was evident in all their interactions, making them a trusted partner for buyers and investors.

Making Gur

Workers are boiling sugarcane juice for making traditional sweet 'Gur'.



Almoiz Group bags six prestigious awards at the NFEH Annual CSR Summit 2023

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: Almoiz Group of Industries, a leading conglomerate with diversified businesses in sugar, steel, power, food, and animal feed, has recently won six awards at the National Forum on Environment and Health (NFEH) Annual CSR Summit 2023. The event took place at Serena Hotel, Islamabad, and was attended by representatives of various industries that have excelled in various areas of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) in their respective industries. These awards were presented to companies who performed outstandingly in the year 2022.

Almoiz Industries competed in six categories this year for the first time, including Communi-



ty Development and Services, CSR Projects, Education and Scholarships, Green Energy and Initiatives, Social Impact and Sustainability, and Waste Management and Recycle. The company made a significant contribution during the

COVID-19 pandemic and recent floods, and it also invested significantly in various other CSR projects throughout the year.

Almoiz Industries was able to win awards in all six categories, making it the compa-

ny that bagged the highest number of awards in the competition compared to all the participating companies. The awards were distributed by Mr. Ahsan Iqbal, the Federal Minister for Planning and Development, Government of Pakistan, who was the chief guest at the event.

While speaking about this achievement, Mr. Nauman Khan, Managing Director of Almoiz Group said, "We are proud to receive these awards and are committed to continue our contribution towards corporate social responsibility in the future as well. We thank NFEH for organizing this event, patronizing CSR and recognizing the efforts of various organizations that strive to make a healthy impact on our society."

Nestlé Pakistan reports uptick in sales for the year 2022

Spokesman Report

LAHORE : Nestlé Pakistan reported its full year results for 2022, recording an increase of 21.9% in its revenue as compared to the same period last year.

The results were shared at the end of the Company's Board of Directors' meeting at its Head Office.

This growth was achieved despite external challenges of high inflation, limited foreign exchange availability to pay for imports and devastating floods. Relentless focus on

ensuring product availability, innovation and renovation initiatives, supported by investments behind the brands, helped to offset the headwinds mentioned above.

The operating profit also improved, as a result of sales growth, favorable product mix, pricing management and tighter control on fixed costs.

The Company maintains a cautious outlook for 2023 due to external challenges e.g. restriction on imports, low foreign exchange availability, pressure on the local currency, and an increase in taxes.

PSL 8 Rawalpindi leg to begin from March 1

Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD : The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) on Monday announced the training and media opportunities for the Rawalpindi leg of the HBL Pakistan Super League (PSL) 8 beginning March 1 at Pindi Stadium.

On Monday, the Karachi Kings practiced at the Islamabad Cricket Club. Meanwhile, Karachi Kings and Peshawar Zalmi would practice at the Islamabad Cricket Club on Tuesday. Beforehand, both the captains would hold pre-match media conferences.

On March 1, Karachi Kings would take on Peshawar Zalmi with the toss to take place at 6:30 pm. Therefore there would be post-match media conferences,



which will be live-streamed on the HBL PSL YouTube Channel.

A member of the losing side will attend the presser first, followed by a member of the winning side.

Islamabad United and Karachi Kings would practice at the Islamabad Cricket Club on March 2. Islamabad United captain Shadab Khan would hold the pre-match media conference.

While from March 3 to 12, there would be post-match media conferences. A member of the losing side would attend the presser first, followed by a member of the winning side.

The schedule of women's teams' training and media opportunities would be shared closer to time. The three matches would be played on March 8, 10 and 11.

Meanwhile, the cricket fans of the twin cities (Islamabad & Rawalpindi) would have a lot to cheer, when PSL 8 begins at Pindi Stadium, hosting 14 matches of the tournament from March 1 to 12.

The cricket matches in Rawalpindi would begin with the 17th game of the league with Peshawar Zalmi facing Karachi Kings on March 1. The Rawalpindi leg would see three women's exhibition matches in place for the league.

Rawalpindi matches schedule - March 2: Lahore Qalandars vs Quetta Gladiators; March 3: Islamabad United vs Karachi Kings; March 5: Islamabad United vs Quetta Gladiators; March 6: Quetta Gladiators vs Karachi Kings; March 7: Peshawar Zalmi vs Lahore Qalandars & Islamabad United vs Multan Sultans; March 8: Women Exhibition match & Peshawar Zalmi vs Quetta Gladiators; March 9: Islamabad United vs Lahore Qalandars; March 10: Women Exhibition match & Peshawar Zalmi vs Multan Sultans; March 11: Women Exhibition match & Quetta Gladiators vs Multan Sultans; March 12: Islamabad United vs Peshawar Zalmi.

Pakistan Yoga day celebrated at Minar-e-Pakistan

Tahir Amin Malik

LAHORE: Pakistan Yoga day was celebrated at the historical place of Minar-e-Pakistan. Which was organized by The Wonderful Club (TWC). In this historical Yoga Day event large number of Yoga Lovers participated. On this occasion different Yoga Club Owners presented the performance on Yoga in front of huge Yoga lovers which was much appreciated and they enjoyed to do that.



The Wonderful Club (TWC) who organized such fabulous Yoga event with the management team and the Trainers. On this occasion Athar Khan Operational Head (TWC) Punjab, Khalid Umar Qureshi, Deputy Operational Head, (TWC) Punjab, Aqeel Ahmed and Azam Bukhari, Media organizer and Trainer of Yoga, Haji Ashfaq, Khalid Zaidi, Farooq Ahmed, Shafiqat, M. Sultan, Babar Malik, Saeed Nawaz, Muhammad Bukash, Amin Gujar, Saeed Qadri, Afzal Goraya, Shabbir Bajwa, were present.

The Chief Patron of (TWC) Pakistan Engineer Muhammad Azam who is Ireland on online he addressed to the Yoga Lovers on Pakistan Yoga Day he said that on the tensions and for maintain the fitness level Yoga can played vital role for honorary man and for this no many need only time required to do the Yoga. Azam who is Mechanical Engineer in Oil Company and has also done many courses on Yoga and Nutrition and he is certified Yoga Teacher (YTCC 500) from Yoga Alliance said that we have over 200 Yoga Club across the country he said our mission Let's start with TWC Pakistan for your health which is real health. He said media awareness can played vital role for honorary man who want to come to join Yoga exercise and can change the life of honorary man.

The 8th Lakson Investments SOP Unified Marathon was held



News Desk

KARACHI: The 8th Lakson Investments SOP Unified Marathon under Special Olympics Pakistan was organized at DHA Phase-8 near the beach in which a 21km marathon, 10 and 5km races and 1km unified walk took place in which a large number of men, women, seniors, artists, athletes also participated alongside special athletes. People from different walks of life, representatives of educational, social, charitable, and business institutions and organizations, dignitaries and foreign diplomats participated, while the wheelchair walk of special people was the focus of special attention of the participants.

Special children including the dumb, deaf and mentally challenged special people also made their presence felt in the marathon. The purpose of the marathon was to show solidarity with the special people.

SOP ambassador Sarwat Geelani and musician Faisal Kapadia also participated.

In the opening ceremony of the marathon, Iqbal Lakhani was the chief guest, while in the closing ceremony, Faisal Bank President and CEO Yusuf Hussain was the chief guest, along with the chairperson of Special Olympics Pakistan, Ronak Lakhani, who distributed prizes among the successful participants and distributed medals and cash prizes of Rs 15,000 to the first position winners, Rs 10,000 to the second position and Rs 5,000 to the third position winners.

On this occasion, Faisal Hussain announced the sponsorship of five national team players by Faysal Bank for the Special Olympic World Games to be played in Berlin, Germany from 17 to 25 June this year.

Speaking on the occasion, Iqbal Lakhani said that special athletes who have won laurels for the country are role models for all, their abilities are not less than others, but they are differently-abled.

The chairperson of the event, Ronak Lakhani, also expressed her gratitude to the participants and organizers of the marathon and vowed to organize the marathon next year with more enthusiasm.

Karachi Kings' squad reaches Islamabad for second leg of PSL 8

A Sports -

ISLAMABAD: Karachi Kings' squad on Monday reached here to play their last four matches before the playoffs during the Rawalpindi-Lahore leg of the ongoing Pakistan Super League (PSL) season 8.

According to the details, the Kings' squad checked in at the Islamabad International Airport before reporting at the team hotel here on Monday evening, ahead of their clash with Babar Azam-led Peshawar Zalmi.

Following their arrival, captains of both sides will hold pre-match press conferences ahead of their anticipated clash, scheduled on Wednesday.

PSL

LAHORE: Cricket fans arriving at Gaddafi Cricket Stadium for watching Pakistan Super League (PSL) T20 match between Lahore Qalandars' and Islamabad United, in Provincial Capital.



Photo: Online

Christopher grabs Poligras Magic Skill Award



Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD : Christopher Ruhr of Germany has bagged the Poligras Magic Skill Award, as voted for by hockey fans the world over.

Following the conclusion of FIH Odisa Hockey Men's World Cup 2023 Bhubaneswar-Rourkela, the International Hockey Federation (FIH) revealed the winner of the Poligras Magic Skill Award, said a press release.

From February 8 to 15, fans have voted to pick a moment that really captured the magic of the game in this award, presented by FIH Global Supplier Polytan.

The shortlist for the Poligras Magic Skill Award featured six wonderful flashes of brilliance that graced the turf during the fiercely competitive World Cup, ranging from Korea's brilliant penalty corner routine to Krishan Pathak's last minute save, which can be found here.

However, there could be only one winner, with the Poligras Magic Skill Award going to Christopher Ruhr for putting finishing touches to a fantastic counter-attacking move by Germany, by rounding the keeper, spinning back and scoring from a tight angle, while falling over.

The success in the Poligras Magic Skill Award was a cherry on top of the cake for Christopher, as he was among the best players for Germany as they won their third FIH Hockey Men's World Cup title, staging remarkable comebacks from 2-goal deficits in the quarterfinals, semi-finals and the finals.

PSL 2023: What does Zainab Abbas think about working in IPL?



Fan-favourite Pakistani presenter Zainab Abbas, who has gained much acclaim over the past few years, has said she would love to work in the Indian Premier League (IPL) if the opportunity arises.

Speaking during an interview on a YouTube channel, Zainab — who is currently presenting at the ongoing season of the Pakistan Super League (PSL) — maintained that work relations between India and Pakistan should resume.

"I don't think politics should dominate work relations between India and Pakistan, especially in sports," she said.

"Sports bridge the gap between us," opined one of the finest presenters in world cricket right now.

The presenter said further said: "There shouldn't be any hindrance in sports activities between the two countries. We only interact in global events like ICC tournaments or Asia Cup. We need to keep politics aside."

J.A.Zaman Memorial Open Golf Championship

Tahir Amin Malik

LAHORE: The 9th edition of the J.A.Zaman Memorial Open Golf Championship backed by the J.A.Zaman Family became an agreeable and appealing golfing championship contested at the Lahore Gymkhana Golf Course. Top professionals fought it out for lucrative cash prizes and also in the run for cash were senior professionals, junior professionals while other categories of golfers like amateurs, senior amateurs, lady amateurs and juniors competed for honors. Final concluding round on Sunday became a match play contest between the young Ahmed Baig who stands recognized as the hope of national golf and the experienced Matloob Ahmed of Lahore Garrison who is the number two ranked golf player of the country.

That Ahmed Baig carried the day in the end at the conclusion of the Championship was due to his effective golf playing genius and remarkable application of golfing skills. His shot making was classy and in particular absolutely distinctive was his control over the concluding nine holes of play. His senior adversary lost the race on the par-3, ninth hole which he double bogeyed and from there on Ahmed Baig controlled the run of



play. Early in the morning when the final round started Matloob Ahmed was placed at a score of 209, one stroke ahead of Ahmed Baig. As the competition progressed, Ahmed Baig gained advantage through superb play. At the end of first nine holes Ahmed gained a one stroke advantage over Matloob. The fighting battle continued till Ahmed managed two consecutive birdies on holes 14 and 15 and the margin in favor of this triumphant one became a reality and he ended up winning the title and the championship.

The top ten professionals in this championship are ; Ahmed Baig (Royal Palm)278; Matloob Ahmed (Lahore Garrison)280; Shabbir Iqbal (Islamabad)282; Waheed Baloch (Karachi)284; Muhammad Munir (Rawalpindi)285; Shahid Javed Khan (Gymkhana)287; Muhammad Alam (Garrison)287; Taimoor Khan (Peshawar)287; Sunny Masih (Gymkhana)288; Akbar Mehroz (Gymkhana)290; A.Rehman Mani of Royal Palm was the lucky golf professional as he won the Hole in One Car by hitting a hole in one on the 12th hole.

In the race for honors in Amateur Category Mohsen Zafar (Gymkhana) won the first gross with a score of 225. Second gross went to Damil Ataullah (Garrison)228; Third gross winner was Hussain Hamid (Royal Palm)230; Net section winner was Nauman Asghar followed by Rao Usman and third net was M.Shoaib.

Veterans section gross winner was Dr Tariq Habib Malik who had travelled all the way from Canada to

take part in this championship and be at the Lahore Gymkhana Golf Course. Veterans net was won by M.Ismail Qureshi; Senior Ladies Gross Winner was Ayesha Hamid and Ladies Gross was won by Rimsha Ijaz. Senior amateur gross winner was Sardar Murad and Senior Professionals winner was Muhammad Tariq. Junior Professional winner was Rehan Babar.

At the conclusion of the 9th J.A.Zaman Memorial Open Golf Championship the prizes were distributed to the performers by Zaman Family comprising Hamid Zaman, Omer Zaman and along with Mian Misbah, Former Chairman Lahore Gymkhana and Sarmad Nadeem, Convenor Golf, Dr Ali Razaq, Mian Waqar in the presence of participating golfers and families.

Following his dismissal, Abdullah Shafique put on a crucial partnership with Sam Billings and made sure that their side stay on track of amassing a big total as the pair added 71 runs in just 38 deliveries amid their stand before the former fell victim to Tom Curran.

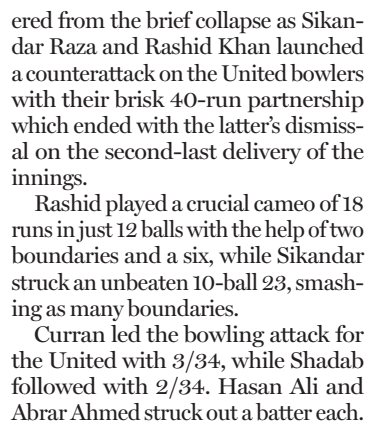
The right-handed batter top-scored for the Qalandars with his sensational 24-ball 45, which featured four boundaries and two sixes.

The hosts then lost three quick wickets in the middle overs as Hussain Talat (6), Sam Billings (33) and David Wiese (12) fell in the space of just 11 deliveries.

The Qalandars, however, soon recovered from the brief collapse as Sikandar Raza and Rashid Khan launched a counterattack on the United bowlers with their brisk 40-run partnership which ended with the latter's dismissal on the second-last delivery of the innings.

Rashid played a crucial cameo of 18 runs in just 12 balls with the help of two boundaries and a six, while Sikandar struck an unbeaten 10-ball 23, smashing as many boundaries.

Curran led the bowling attack for the United with 3/34, while Shadab followed with 2/34. Hasan Ali and Abrar Ahmed struck out a batter each.



Dominant Qalandars thrash United to capture top spot in PSL 8 standings

A Sports -

LAHORE: Lahore Qalandars put on a dominant all-round performance to thrash Islamabad United by a massive 110-run margin to go on top of the Pakistan Super League (PSL) eight standings.

Opting to bat first, the Qalandars' batters carried on their form as they post their second successive 200-plus total in the ongoing extravaganza.

The home side finished at a massive 200/7 in the allotted 20 overs, thanks to significant contributions by the majority of their batting lineup.

Earlier, openers Fakhar Zaman and Tahir Baig scripted a solid start for their side as the duo raised a 58-run partnership before United skipper Shadab Khan dismissed the latter in his first over to get a much-needed breakthrough for his side.

Tahir could score 20 off 17 deliveries, laced up with two boundaries and a six.

Fakhar soon followed his opening partner in the next over as Tom Curran castled the in-form batter to bring United back in the hunt as Qalandars slipped to 62/2 in 7.2 overs. He scored 36 off 23 balls, hitting five boundaries and a six.

