

# Daily The Spokesman

A Leading National Daily



فرمان رسول ﷺ  
ابن عباس رضی اللہ عنہما نے بیان کیا کہ میں نے نبی کریم صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم کو سواٹھوا شہداء کے دن کے اور اس کے بعد رمضان کے مہینے کے اور کسی دن کو دوسرے دنوں سے افضل جان کر خاص طور سے قصد کر کے روزہ رکھنے نہیں دیکھا۔  
(صحیح بخاری، حدیث نمبر 1834)

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## Saudi govt deploys extensive air surveillance system for security of pilgrims: Ambassador

Saudi Ambassador to Pakistan Nawaf bin Said Al-Malki on Sunday said the Saudi government had deployed an extensive air surveillance system to ensure the safety and security of all the faithful preparing to embark on the annual Hajj pilgrimage to the Kingdom. (Details on Page 5)



## Pak-Uzbek trade volume reaches over \$250m: Envoy

Ambassador of Uzbekistan to Pakistan, Oybek Arif Usmanov has said that bilateral trade volume between Pakistan and Uzbekistan had reached over \$250 million by the end of 2022 and both countries were focusing on exploring more avenues of trade and investments in multiple sectors to enhance trade. (Details on Page 5)

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## Protest

HYDERABAD: Workers of Sindh Tarraqi Passand Party hold a protest rally to arrest the murderers of Shaheed Professor Dr Ajmal Sawand, in City.



Photo: Online

## PM greets Christian community on Easter



News Desk

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Sunday felicitated the Christian community around the world, particularly the Pakistani Christian brothers and sisters on celebrating Easter.

On his Twitter handle, the prime minister wished a very happy Easter to the Christian community.

"Let us all vow to do our bit in making the world a peaceful place where communities

can live in harmony & build a tomorrow of hope," he further added.

In a separate press release of PM Office Media Wing, the prime minister reiterated that the government was committed to protecting the basic rights, lives and properties of all the religious communities of the country.

Felicitating the Christian community, he observed that the occasion reflected upon mutual affection and respect as there was need of unity and interfaith harmony.

# Constitution reflects country's national agenda, binds units of federation: Bilawal

Spokesman Report

KARACHI: Chairman Pakistan Peoples Party and Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari on Sunday said that the 1973 Constitution was the reflection of the country's national agenda and instrumental in binding the units of the Federation.

In his message on the Golden Jubilee of the 1973 Constitution, the PPP Chairman also extended the heartiest congratulations to the entire nation on the occasion.

He said that the Constitution of 1973 was the gift and trust of the first elected prime minister of the country Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto.

The foreign minister saluted all the political leaders who played their role in creating a unanimous Constitution for the nation, adding that after August 14, 1947,



the second most important day in our national history was April 10, 1973.

Bilawal Bhutto Zardari said that the Constitution of 1973 is a true

reflection of Pakistan's identity.

"As Pakistan is a federal state, our Constitution links all the units of the federation together. Our country is an Islamic coun-

try, so the spirit of our constitution is Islamic teachings. We are a country founded on democratic principles, the Constitution is the reflection of that, and is the guar-

antee of our national solidarity and unity," he added.

The PPP Chairman said that ever since the Constitution was made it had come under attack continuously. He castigated some elements for not giving the people their due rights enshrined in the Constitution.

He said that the history of the PPP in terms of making and safeguarding the Constitution was unparalleled. Shaheed Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto and Asif Ali Zardari restored the 1973 Constitution to its original form by successfully "removing dictatorial pollution" (referring to constitutional amendments) enacted by dictators Zia-ul-Haq, Pervez Musharraf.

The Chairman PPP said that the party stands resolutely against the elements that consider the Constitution as just a "piece of paper".

## PTI Decides to oppose Judicial Reforms Bill in Parliament

News Desk

LAHORE: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) has decided to oppose Supreme Court (Practice and Procedure) Bill 2023, which aims to curtail the suo motu powers of office of the chief justice of Pakistan (CJP), in joint session of Parliament.

Sources told ARY News that PTI Chairman Imran Khan has instructed his party Senators to attend the joint session of Parliament.

Meanwhile, a meeting of PTI's parliamentary party has been summoned at 3pm tomorrow (Monday). The meeting will be chaired by Senator Shehbaz Wasim.

The meeting - which will be attended by members of both house of Parliament - will prepare a strategy regarding the joint session.

A day earlier, President Arif Alvi returned the Supreme Court (Practice and Procedure), Bill 2023 limiting the chief justice's suo motu powers in an individual capacity.

The president returned the bill for reconsideration to the parliament as per the provisions of the Article 75 of the Constitution days after it was sent to him for approval after it sailed through the National Assembly and Senate amid noisy protests by the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf

(PTI) legislators.

Arif Alvi stated that the Bill prima-facie travels beyond the competence of the Parliament and can be assailed as colourable legislation.

The President said that he thought it fit and proper to return the Bill, in accordance with the Constitution, with the request for reconsideration in order to meet the scrutiny about its validity (if assailed in the Court of Law).

Later, the government decided to summon a joint sitting of parliament on April 10 to table Supreme Court (Practice and Procedure), Bill 2023 limiting the chief justice's suo motu powers in an individual capacity.

If the Supreme Court (Practice and Procedure) Bill, 2023, is approved by the joint session of parliament with majority, it will be presented to the president again for his assent. If the president does not give his nod to it within 10 days, the approval is deemed to have been given.

**The bill**

Under the new legislation, the decision for suo motu notice will be taken by three senior judges of the Supreme Court (SC).

Moreover, the bill also includes a clause regarding the right to appeal against the decision, which could be filed within 30 days and fixed for a hearing in two weeks.

## Judges' Appointments: Heads of coalition parties held consultations

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The heads of the coalition parties held an important telephonic conversation to discuss the appointments of the judges in the top court.

Sources told ARY News that Nawaz Sharif, Asif Ali Zardari and Maulana Fazlur Rehman held a telephonic conversation to discuss the appointments of the judges in the top court. It was suggested that the judges' appointments should be finalised through a parliamentary committee.

Sources added that they also held consultations regarding the legal and constitutional amendments for the judicial commission. They exchanged views on further empowering the concerned parliamentary committee.

## Macro-economic indicators start improving after eight-month corrective measures: Bilal

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Coordinator to the Prime Minister on Economy and Energy Bilal Azhar Kayani on Sunday said that due to hectic efforts by the incumbent government during the last 08 months, the micro-economic indicators of the national economy had started improving gradually.

Addressing a press conference here, he said at the imposition of Imran government in 2018, the economy was on the path of sustainable economic growth with 6 percent GDP and less than 4 percent inflation. He said that work on energy production projects under China-Pakistan Economic Corridor Project was also initiated to produce about 12,000 MW energy.

Besides, a programme with International Monetary Fund (IMF) was completed and an operation against terrorism was launched to eradicate the menace of terrorism from the country.



He said the PML-N government in 2013-18 led by Muhammad Nawaz Sharif, pulled the country out of darkness and put it on a fast track for economic development, creating over 6 million job opportunities.

Then, he said Imran Khan was imposed and during four years of his government, inflation continuously increased, four finance ministers were changed in four consecutive years, adding that over 20 million people were pushed below the poverty line.

Bilal Azhar Kayani said the debt grew by 70 percent from Rs 2, 500 billion to Rs 4,400 billion in four years, which was the highest in the history of Pakistan. He said the

debt taken during Pakistan Muslim League-N tenure was spent on the constitution of motorways, CPEC and maintaining peace and security in the country.

He said that it was a matter of grave concern that the people who had destroyed the economy during the last 4 years were now delivering lectures on the economy.

He said the government, which came into power with a motto to reduce expenses, gave four budgets with a fiscal deficit.

He said for the first time in the history of Pakistan after 1952, the national GDP witnessed negative growth, adding that electricity circular debt soared from Rs 11,00 billion to Rs 2,500 billion and the current account deficit was recorded at Rs 1,700 billion. He said all the hardships, which were being faced by the people in the country were the result of the IMF program that was initiated by Shaukat Tareen under the directives of Imran Khan.

## Mushahid Hussain sees 'national dialogue' only way out of crisis

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) Senator Mushahid Hussain Syed on Sunday expressed concern over current political state of affairs, suggesting a 'grand national dialogue' for all political parties to ease the situation.

"The political mercury which has touched the new heights of confrontation needed to be brought down through table talks", he expressed these views while talking to a private news channel.

The best forum for mutual consultations among politicians was the parliament but unfortunately, the PTI has already tendered resignations from this platform, he said.



## Inaugurations

Federal Minister for Parliamentary Affairs, Mr. Murtaza Javed Abbasi addressing the inauguration ceremony of gas supply to village Banseri, Mihal, Soban Gali and Bunj Gali at Soban Gali, district Abbottabad on Sunday.



Photo: PID

## President directs FOSPAH to afford hearing opportunity in alleged harassment case

## Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi has directed the Federal Ombudsman for Protection against Harassment of Women at Workplace (FOSPAH) to decide the matter of alleged sexual harassment at Air University, Islamabad afresh by affording opportunity of hearing to both the parties.

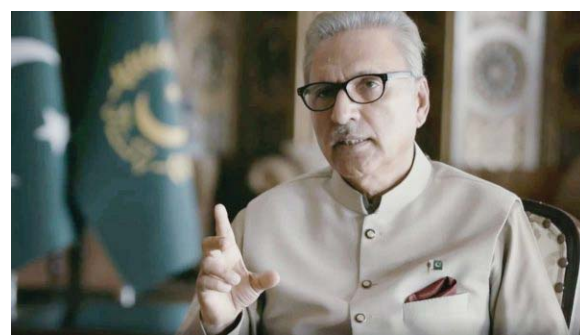
The president noted that the Ombudsman had previously not given an opportunity to the parties, including the opportunity to produce evidence and had rejected the complaint of the woman complainant in a slipshod manner, President Secretariat Press Wing said in a press release on Sunday.

The president gave these remarks while deciding on a case where a woman employee of the Air University had filed a complaint before

FOSPAH that she faced workplace harassment at the hands of a senior university official in 2019 when she reported a serious matter of MBBS students using drugs in the college premises and their involvement in immoral activities. FOSPAH had rejected her complaint by stating that the complainant had failed to prove her case beyond reasonable doubt and that the complainant had leveled allegations of general nature.

Feeling aggrieved, the complainant filed a representation with the president.

The president said that the denial to afford opportunity of producing evidence was violation of Article 10-A as enshrined in the Constitution, provisions of the Protection Against Harassment of Women at the Workplace Act, 2010 and the principles



of natural justice.

He, therefore, set aside the order of FOSPAH and remitted the matter to the ombudsman to decide it afresh by affording opportunity of hearing to the parties.

The president further said that the allegations narrated by the complainant against that accused were of serious nature which needed appropriate probe and evidence to reach the right conclusion.

He noted that that the

ombudsman, instead of following the procedure, had drawn the conclusion on the basis of contents of the complaint by observing that "the complainant has levelled allegations of general nature against the administration, and that a representative of the organization appeared and told that none of the complaints had been ever filed and he belied the stance of the complainant."

The president observed that the ombudsman had

placed reliance solely on the contents of the complaint and the statement of representative of the organization and as a sequel rejected the complaint.

No opportunity of producing evidence or cross examining the representative had been afforded to the complainant despite the fact that in the preliminary order, the learned ombudsman had observed that the allegations leveled by the complainant were of grave nature which required evidence, but subsequently with utter disregard of this preliminary order, no evidence was recorded and the complaint was rejected in a slipshod manner, he added.

The president concluded that in view of the gravity of allegations, full opportunity of hearing to the parties should have been afforded including opportunity to produce respective evidence.

## Golden jubilee celebrations of 1973 Constitution to start tomorrow

## City Desk

ISLAMABAD: A comprehensive one month long celebrations in connection with the Golden Jubilee of the 1973 Constitution will formally start on April 10, 2023 (Monday).

A committee comprising Senators and Members of National Assembly (MNAs) under the chairmanship of Senator Mian Raza Rabbani has prepared an elaborate program following which one-month celebrations are

being organized throughout the country in this connection.

Speaker National Assembly Raja Pervaiz Ashraf will lay the foundation stone of the Constitution of Pakistan 1973 Memorial on the commencement of the Golden Jubilee celebrations at D-Chowk in front of the Parliament House and Parliament Lodges.

Speaker National Assembly along with the Members of Parliament will visit the memorial of Martyrs of Democracy in the garden of



the Parliament House.

Later, Speaker Raja Pervaiz Ashraf and Members of Parliament will visit at an exhibition to see photos taken at the time

of approval of the 1973 Constitution in the National Assembly. They will review the draft Constitution of Pakistan in detail in front of the National Assembly Hall.

A national constitutional convention has been also organized in the National Assembly. Different segments of the society including constitutional heads of the provinces, vice chancellors of universities, women, social and political workers and students have been invited to attend the

convention.

Members of the National Assembly, especially the Ministers and Opposition members have also been invited to ensure their presence in the event.

Speaker National Assembly Raja Pervaiz Ashraf said we have to give a message to the youth on this day that while rising above our differences, we have the capabilities to celebrate our successes and national festivals in a befitting manner.

## Justice Minhallah commits gross impropriety



## Justice (Retd) Markandey Katju

By issuing a detailed 26 page note attacking his Chief Justice in connection with the postponement of elections in Punjab and KP, Justice Athar Minhallah of the Pakistan Supreme Court has committed gross impropriety and indiscipline.

It is a long-standing, well-established, unwritten convention in the judiciary that sitting judges should only speak through their judgments, and not go into the public domain. By issuing this note Justice Minhallah has flagrantly violated that convention, and shown lack of the self-restraint expected of judges of a superior court.

In this connection, one may mention

an incident in judicial history.

Lord Atkins, a judge of the British House of Lords, wrote a famous dissenting judgment in *Liversidge vs Anderson* (1942) A.C.206. One of his brother judges on the bench, Lord Maugham, issued a press note criticising Lord Atkins' judgment. For this undignified behavior, Lord Maugham was severely criticised and not given any further judicial assignment in England.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/Lords/1941-11-19/debates/70676fb5-399a-4e6a-99b0-6385e73e325/LiversidgeVAndersonLordMaughamSLetter>

Justice Minhallah in his note has said that political disputes should be left to be decided by Parliament, and the judiciary should not hear such cases. What he forgets is that some disputes are not purely political but are politico-legal in nature, and these latter have to be decided by the court. The case before the Pakistan Supreme Court was of the latter kind. It sought enforcement of Article 224(2) of the Pakistan Constitution, which says that elections to a Provincial Assembly must be held within 90 days of dissolution of the Assembly. The Punjab Assembly had been dissolved on 18th January, and therefore elections

should have been held by 18th April, but the Election Commission of Pakistan, obviously under some pressure, had postponed them to 8th October, a clear transgression of Article 224(2).

Should the Court not have enforced Article 224(2) and stood silent? Justice Minhallah's logic is that since this is a political matter it should have been left to Parliament to resolve. But the Pakistan Parliament is dominated by the ruling PDM which does not want early elections, since it would be routed by Imran Khan's PTI (as all opinion polls indicate). Hence without the intervention of the court Article 224(2) would have remained unenforced.

Justice Minhallah says by giving such a judgment the court is a loser. But how? Does the court become a loser by enforcing the Constitution? On the contrary, in my opinion, its prestige goes up.

Justice Minhallah has delivered sermons and homilies in his note e.g. that one should not have ego. In fact he reveals his own inflated ego and lack of any sense of propriety by publicly attacking his own Chief Justice, just because he was not kept in the 5 member bench. I too have been a judge (of the Allahabad High Court and Supreme Court of India), but I never objected to being

placed on any particular bench by the Chief Justice, or not being placed on any particular bench.

Justice Minhallah says that the Full Court of the Supreme Court (i.e. all judges sitting together) should have heard the case. Surely he is senior enough to know that the constitution of benches is the sole prerogative of the Chief Justice, who is master of the roster. The Chief Justice alone decides which judge will sit on which bench, and how many judges will be on a particular bench.

While delivering a lecture in his note that judges should not dabble in politics (which the 3 judge bench did not do, but only enforced a constitutional provision), he himself dabbled in politics by saying in his note that Imran Khan and PTI members should not have resigned from Parliament, Imran Khan should not have dissolved the Punjab and KP Assemblies, etc. etc.

I regret to say this, but Justice Minhallah has displayed his total lack of fitness to be a judge.

*Justice Markandey Katju is a former Judge, Supreme Court of India, and former Chairman, Press Council of India. The views expressed are his own with the courtesy of Indica News)*

## Two TTP terrorists involved in extortion, traders' killing arrested in Karachi

## Raja Furqan Ahmed

KARACHI: In a joint intelligence-based operation in Karachi, the Sindh Rangers and police arrested two terrorists of the outlawed Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) involved in extortion and target killing of businessmen in the provincial capital.

According to the Rangers' spokesperson, the Sindh Rangers and police in a joint operation conducted on the basis of intelligence arrested two terrorists of the proscribed Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan.

The terrorists were identified as Muhammad Kamal Khan and Abudul Qadir. They were involved in extortion and cases of target killings of traders in different areas of Karachi including Sadr, Mangopir and Banaras areas.

Arrested terrorist Muhammad Kamal Khan is the leader of the group. According to the spokesperson, a businessman from Karachi had lodged a complaint that he was being called from different numbers in Afghanistan and Pakistan and

the callers were demanding extortion money from him.

The accused who were involved in extortion and target killings, they used to get instructions from a TTP terrorist, Afsar Khan alias Arshad, who is in Afghanistan. The arrested terrorists would share the mobile numbers of local businessmen of Karachi with Afsar Khan in Afghanistan.

The spokesperson further revealed that when the accused would receive extortion money from the traders, they sent the money to Afghanistan. If a trader refused to give money, they would either injure him or kill him, he added.

During the initial investigation, the accused confessed to share mobile numbers of Karachi's five businessmen with their boss in Afghanistan. They also confessed to giving extortion slips and killing two businessmen for non-payment of extortion money.

The spokesperson said that the terrorists have been handed over to police which would take further action against them.

## Ukraine President attends Iftar with Muslim soldiers



## Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelensky attended an iftar dinner with the Muslim soldiers, beginning a new tradition of organising official state iftar during the holy month of Ramadan.

Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelensky on Friday criticised Russia's treatment of the Muslim-minority Tatar community in Kremlin-controlled Crimea and vowed to recapture the peninsula from Russia during a first official state iftar.

Russia wrested control of the Black Sea territory from Ukraine in 2014 and pushed through a referendum on the annexation that was condemned as fraudulent and illegitimate by Ukraine and its Western allies.

"Russia's attempt to enslave Ukraine ... began exactly with the occupation of Crimea, exactly with repressions against Crimean, Ukrainian and Crimean Tatar freedom and of Crimean Muslims," he told Ukrainian Muslim leaders and ambassadors from Muslim countries.

The Tatar community, which accounted for 12-15 percent of the two million Crimea residents, largely boycotted the 2014 vote.

Moscow then banned the Mejlis — the traditional assembly of the

Tatar Muslim minority in Crimea — declaring it an extremist organisation and has jailed members of the community since, citing security concerns.

"There is no alternative for Ukraine, or for the world, other than the de-occupation of Crimea. We will return to Crimea," Zelensky said, before handing out awards to several Muslim Ukrainian servicemen.

Zelensky, speaking at a mosque outside the centre of the capital, announced that Ukraine was beginning a new tradition of hosting an official iftar, the meal breaking the daily fast during the holy month of Ramadan.

"Ukraine is grateful to the Muslims of our country and to everyone in the Muslim community of the world who, like us, longs for peace and protection from evil," he added.

Several Muslim-majority countries, including Turkey and Saudi Arabia, have positioned themselves as mediators in the conflict in Ukraine, brokering agreements between Kyiv and Moscow on grain exports or prisoner exchanges.

Russia has a large Muslim minority from southern regions, including Chechnya and Dagestan, many of whom are fighting for Moscow in Ukraine.

## Fawad says 'fascist' govt will last for few weeks only

## News Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader Fawad Chaudhry said on Sunday that fascist government's days had been numbered.

Using his Twitter handle, Fawad likened one year of the PDM coalition government with that of a long black night which was imposed on people to blacken the bright future of Pakistan.

The PTI leader said people's struggle against that dark night was a metaphor of brightness. He said God willing this dark night will see its end in just a few weeks and the power will be transferred to masses.

Earlier on Thursday while addressing a press conference, PTI senior leader Fawad Chaudhry had claimed that Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) senior vice president Maryam Nawaz Sharif wanted to see Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif getting disqualified.



Mr Chaudhry lambasted the incumbent government for tabling the resolution against the Supreme Court's (SC) ruling, saying that by tabling the resolution in the National Assembly against the apex court's verdict, the decision will not be changed.

Firing a broadside at the coalition government for "not being willing to contest elections", Mr Chaudhry said, "The constitution states that elections should be held within 90 days after the dissolution of assembly. But the government is not following the constitution of the country. The rulers believe they should take away the right of the people to vote."



# Jl staged a protest against the expected military operation in Waziristan

Adam Khan Wazir

WANA: Under the supervision of Lower South Waziristan Jamaat-e-Islami staged a protest in Wana Bazar against the resumption of military operations in the tribal districts, but also NSC decision rejected and a rally was also held, they will raise their voices at every forum against starting military operations again, We don't need a war of dollars anymore. Speakers say. It should be remembered that in the 41st National Security Council (NSC) meeting held two days ago under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif, the security forces have been approved for military operations to crush the banned organization TTP in the tribal areas.



lami district of Lower South Waziristan staged a protest in Wana Bazar on Sunday, and also took out a rally, the protest demonstration was led by local

President Jamaat-e-Islami Mohammad Nadeem Wazir, GS Asad Ullah, Saif Ur Rehman, Mumtaz Khalil and Umar Wazir.

Apart from this, Ayaz Waz from ANP, Ahmed Khan from PPP, Imran Nazir from NDM and Khyal Mohammad from Pakhtunkhwa MAP also expressed their views from other political parties.

Speakers said that the government had made tribals the fuel of tribal wars before, and now again the government's intentions are not right

If the National Security Council approves the military operation in Lower Waziristan,

So we not only strongly condemn it, but we will strongly resist it when the time comes.

The speakers said that this time they cannot allow the military operation in any case, and they will not vacate the area in the name of military operation.

The army and the government should stop the operations; the same operations have led the country to bankruptcy.

The speakers said that this time the nation and the residents are awake,

## Dr. Nizahat Pasha, Consultant Radiologist, achieves top spot in UK

Asim Tanveer

MULTAN: Dr. Nizahat Pasha, Consultant Radiologist, Center Registrar, Children's Hospital Complex, Multan, has secured a prominent position in the examination organized by FRC Arfio Royal College of Radiology, London. I succeeded and got the honor of being the youngest radiologist lady doctor in South Punjab which is a great honor for Multan.



## Security forces kill two terrorists in North, South Waziristan

Raja Furqan Ahmed

RAWALPINDI: Two terrorists were killed in an intense exchange of fire with the security forces in two different incidents of terrorism yesterday. According to ISPR, a fire exchange took place between own troops and terrorists in the Razmak area of the North Waziristan District killing one of the militants. Weapons and ammunition were also recovered from the killed terrorist. In another fierce encounter between own troops and terrorists in the Karama area of South Waziristan, own troops effectively engaged terrorists' location, killing one terrorist. However, during an intense exchange of fire, Naik Fazal Janan having fought gallantly embraced martyrdom. Sanitization of the area is being carried out to eliminate any other terrorists found in the area. The ISPR further said that Pakistan's Security Forces are determined to eliminate the menace of terrorism and such sacrifices of our brave soldiers further strengthen our resolve.

## AC Wana inaugurated the 'Polio Free Pakistan' campaign

Adam Khan Wazir



WANA: In the Lower South Waziristan tribal District, Assistant Commissioner Wana Yasir Salman Kundi formally inaugurated yesterday the five-day anti-polio-free Pakistan campaign from April 14 to April 18, 2023.

On this occasion DSO Dr Riaz and DHCSO Aamir were also present in the opening ceremony.

A five-day anti-polio campaign will be formally launched from April 14 to April 18, 2023 in the tribal district of South Waziristan Lower.

A five-day anti-polio campaign is being launched in 36 union councils of the tribal district of Lower South Waziristan, which will continue from April 14 to April 18.

On the occasion of the inauguration, Assistant Commissioner Wana Yasir Salman Kundi has urged all sections of the society to give polio drops to children to save their children's future.

So that their children can avoid lifelong disabilities and contribute to building a healthy and productive society in their country.

Assistant Commissioner Wana emphasized that all people should actively participate in this polio campaign, and play their full role in "Polio Free Pakistan"

## Patrolling police trying day and night for supremacy of law: Huma Naseeb

Asim Tanveer

MULTAN: Patrolling police is trying day and night for supremacy of law. SP Punjab Highway Patrol Police. Superintendent of Patrol Police Miss Hama naseeb while talking to the media said that in March (2023) the performance of Punjab Highway Patrol Region Multan has been outstanding from all other regions of Punjab. 267 cases of various nature have been registered. Hundreds of suspects were arrested and cases were registered. 47 cases were registered against liquor and drug dealers.

K02 Kalashnikov, 01 gun, 01 pump action, 10 pistol and 48 bullets were recovered. 438 persons traveling on highways were provided various kinds of help, 92 persons including 90 of B Katgiri and 02 of A Katgiri, 05 of A Katgiri and 60 criminals of B Katgiri among the fugitives of justice. Arrested, 131 cases were registered against the drivers for speeding and careless driving. Among the stolen goods, a motorcycle, 10 items worth Rs. 453,500 were stolen, meat was stolen

## Free flour distribution calculated in four distinct of Faisalabad Division

Mian Rashid Asghar

FAISALABAD: As many as 4.233 million bags comprising one bag of 10- Kg flour have been distributed in the four districts of Faisalabad division during 21 days. The Commissioner Ms. Silwat Saeed said during the briefing that 1.760 bags were distributed in Faisalabad district under the Ramazan special package. 0.692 million in Toba Tek Singh, 1.212 million in Jhang and 0.5 million bags have been distributed in Chinot district. She pointed out that standard services are being provided to men and women at the centers while the divisional and district officers are continuously checking the arrangements at the free flour distribution points.



## District Administration Crack Down against Fraud mafia: DC

Asim Tanveer

MULTAN: On the direction of Deputy Commissioner Umar Jahangir, strict monitoring is being carried out by the district administration against the Fraud mafia at flour sale points. The identity cards were recovered. The accused were trying to collect the identity cards of the citizens and receive flour through fake receipts.

Deputy Commissioner Umar Jahangir said that the accused were found involved in embezzlement of government flour by preparing fake and tampered receipts. Cases have been registered against more than 35 recruits in 10 days. The Deputy Commissioner said that so far more than 40 people involved in flour smuggling have been arrested from the centres, while cases of fake identity cards and recruits have also been registered. Umar Jahangir said that the system of double checking of receipts has been explained at all centers

## Press Conference

ISLAMABAD: Special Representative to PM on Interfaith Harmony and Middle East, and Chairman Pakistan Ulema Council Hafiz Muhammad Tahir Mahmood Ashrafi addressing a joint Press Conference on Sunday.



Photo: PID

# Faisalabad will be very soon free from drugs and fake medicines: Sheikh Naseer

Bureau Repot

FAISALABAD: According to the details he pointed out that Drug use is a cause of destruction and ruin for any civilized nation. President of Anjuman Tajran Cloth Board Etihad Group Pakistan Alhaji Sheikh Naseer Yousaf Vohra, Senior Photojournalist Abdul Majid, Special Judge Drug Court. Faisalabad and Sargodha further elaborated on the occasion of the appointment in drug court of Syed Khalid Bukhari. Syed Khalid Bukhari has been a senior lawyer from Multan who has recently been appointed to the Drug Court Faisalabad.

On the request of his childhood friend Asim Tanveer, a



senior photojournalist of the Associated Press of America from Multan, Abdul Majid, a senior photojournalist from Faisalabad & Mr Vohra welcomed Khalid Bukhari with a bouquet of flowers. On this occasion, Abdul Majid assured Mr. Syed Khalid Bukhari of his cooperation in Faisalabad and said that Asim Tanveer has been the best friend for mutual humanity services, and the community of Faisalabad would fully cooperate in eliminating drug abuse. we are with you, they ensured. Alhaji Sheikh Naseer Yousaf Vohra highlighted the drug related problems of Faisalabad city, on which Syed Khalid Bukhari assured to solve their problems.

# All available resources will be utilized to solve people's problems: President AJK

Abdul Majeed Tahir

MIRPUR: President Azad Jammu and Kashmir Barrister Sultan Mehmood Chaudhry, while reiterating his commitment to serve the people, has said that all available resources would be utilized to solve the problems being faced by the people of Azad Kashmir. Speaking at an Iftar dinner hosted in his honor by Mayor Municipal Corporation Mirpur Chaudhry Usman Ali Khalid, the president said that solving the problems of Mirpur was his first and foremost priority. He said that the issue of subfamilies and their resettlement would be resolved within a month.

He said that remaining work on Rathoa Hariyam bridge will be completed soon and water supply problems in Mirpur city would be addressed

on priority basis. Referring to several development projects initiated during his tenure as the prime minister of Azad Kashmir, Barrister Chaudhry said that he rid Lakeview city of the menace of encroachment and widened the roads within the city. He said that construction of the bus stand, vegetable market, Public Parks, and Library named after renowned Sufi poet Mian Muhammad Baksh have made the city more attractive and clean. He said that conducting local body elections in the region was one of the promises he had made while taking the oath of office.

He said that after the peaceful conduct of the polls, power has been transferred to the grassroots level. He said that the local government system and the relevant government institutions would be made strengthened so



that the process of construction and development in society could be accelerated. Stressing the need for effective and across-the-board accountability, the president said that sustainable development and progress was not possible without the elimination of corruption from the state. "In today's democratic era, no society can prosper sans justice and fairness", he said, adding that a transparent accountability process was imperative to root

out corruption from society. He said that steps were being taken to eliminate corruption.

"We all have to move forward together for the prosperity and development of the people of Azad Kashmir", he added. The president also thanked the newly elected Mayor Chaudhry Usman Khalid for hosting a grand iftar dinner in his honour. On this occasion, Minister for Energy and Water Resources Chaudhry Arshad Hussain, Minister for Physical Planning and Housing Chaudhry Yasir Sultan, DG Mangala Dam Housing Authority Chaudhry Muhammad Mansha Naqshbandi, Chairman District Council Raja Naveed Akhtar Goga, Mayor Municipal Corporation Usman Ali Khalid, Deputy Mayor Muhammad Ramzan Chaghtai and others were present.





Islamabad  
15° - 23° Clear

SERVICES

Namaz Timings

Fajr ..... 4: 20 am  
Zohr ..... 12: 10 pm  
Asr ..... 4: 44 pm  
Maghrib ..... 6: 34 pm  
Isha ..... 8: 00 pm

EMERGENCY

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

Women Police Stations

Islamabad ..... 9222596  
Rawalpindi ..... 9270601-20

ENQUIRY

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

HOSPITALS

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

DEPARTMENTS

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

Renowned poet Munir Niazi remembered

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Renowned Urdu and Punjabi poet, Munir Niazi was remembered on his birth anniversary on Sunday.

Munir Ahmed Niazi was born on April 9, 1928 in a village near Hoshiarpur, India. After partition, he moved to Pakistan.

Munir Niazi proved himself as one of Pakistan's famous movie songwriters. He also wrote a number of pieces for newspapers and radio.

He launched a weekly 'Saat Rang' from Sahiwal in 1949. He also established a publication institute Al-Misal in 1960 and remained associated with Lahore Television and lived in Lahore until his death. His poetry influenced an entire generation of young writers and poets. His works include Dushmanon Key Darmiyan, Mah-e-Munir, Aghaz-e-Zamastan Main Dohara and Aik Musalsal.

Munir Niazi deeply influenced his contemporaries and later generations of poets and is respected by the reading public. His works have been translated into many other languages.

For his literary achievements, Niazi was awarded Kamal-e-Funn Award for the year 2002 by Pakistan Academy of Letters and the President's Award for Pride of Performance in 1992 and Sitara-e-Imtiaz in 1998.

He passed away due to respiratory illness on December 26, 2006 in Lahore.

# NA Speaker and Deputy Speaker felicitates Christian Community on the eve of Easter

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Speaker National Assembly Raja Pervez Ashraf and Deputy Speaker Zahid Akram Durrani have extended warm felicitations to the Christian Members of the Parliament and the Christian community on the auspicious occasion of Easter.

The Speaker said that Jesus Christ (Peace Be Upon Him) was ordained by Almighty Allah to preach love, peace, tolerance and brotherhood. He inculcated spiritual values among his followers to work for the Divine pleasure. His eternal message of love for humanity and for members of all communities and fraternities still holds strength to ensure harmony



and peace in today's world. He said that in the day of turbulence in the country, we should forge unity to counter the nefarious designs of the enemies.

Speaker said that the rights and privileges enjoyed by all minorities in Pakistan must be fully safeguarded by the

government according to the Constitution of Pakistan and guiding principles of the Father of the Nation, Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah. He also extended his appreciation to the Christian community for their deep sense of patriotism and dedicated services for

the progress and prosperity of the country. Their unmatched contribution in the process of nation building, especially in the field of health and education was a glowing chapter of our national history, he added.

Deputy Speaker National Assembly Zahid Akram Durrani has also extended greetings on his fellow Christian colleagues on the auspicious occasion of Easter. He said that Islam gives equal rights to the minority community and teaches them to be moderate. He said that constitution of Pakistan grant minority's equal participation in all walks of life. He stressed upon the minority community to play their productive role in progress and prosperity of the country.

## Easter

RAWALPINDI: Members of the Christen Community busy in their religious rituals early in the morning before sun rise at St. Joseph's Catholic Church on the eve of "Easter" which is a Christian festival and cultural holiday commemorating the resurrection of Jesus from the death.



Photo: Online

# Al-Shifa screens record number of 2.5 lakh children for eye diseases in one year

Spokesman Report

RAWALPINDI: Al-Shifa Eye Trust has set a new record of treating half a million eye patients in rural and remote areas of the country during the last year through its 1500 free eye camps to reduce avoidable vision impairment.

The patients included around two hundred and fifty thousand children who were provided best possible treatment.

Maj Gen (R) Rehmat Khan, President of Al-Shifa Trust, said this while briefing media persons about the outreach program achievements in 2022-23.

Pak Army has helped the trust in arranging free eye camps in different remote areas including Waziristan, Malakand, Pasni, Gawader, Zhob, Jiwani and far-flung areas of Gilgit-Baltis-



tan, and Chitral, he added.

He said that through these camps we aim to reduce the cases of avoidable vision impairment, alleviate the suffering of underprivileged patients, especially in deprived areas, improve the eye health of the community, raise health awareness and reduce the level of poverty associated with visual impairment.

He said that free eye camps were held in the underprivileged areas including Loralai, Chaman, Skardu, Chitral, North

and South Waziristan and Malakand where we received a very positive response.

About 250000 children were screened for different eye diseases in girls' and boys' schools and surgical camps were established conducting 12000 surgeries, in rural areas of Pakistan, he said.

Rehmat Khan said that Pak Army ensured foolproof security, transport and other facilities for teams of doctors conducting camps in difficult terrains.

In some areas of South and North Waziristan, Army personnel provided food and accommodation and arranged all other things paving the way for treatment and surgeries for the people.

Recently Al-Shifa Trust Eye Hospital established a 2-day free Surgical and School Screening eye camp in Zhob which was generously sponsored by the 29

Brigade Pakistan Army, he said.

The complicated cases from remote areas are referred to Al-Shifa Trust Eye Hospital, Rawalpindi, he said, adding that the trust started an outreach program in 1992 and its free eye camps are covering the entire country.

Giving details, he said that Al-Shifa Centre for Community Ophthalmology delivers quality eye care at the doorstep of rural and underserved populations.

Dr Tariq Usman, General Manager of the Al-Shifa Centre for Community Ophthalmology, said at the occasion that the trust runs one of the widest spread outreach programmes to prevent blindness. We are increasing the number of free eye camps in remote areas where the patients lack access to resources for quality medical facilities.

## UK-based Pakistani family distributes over £500K of provisions



City Desk

ISLAMABAD: In a heartwarming act of generosity, a United Kingdom-based Pakistani family has quietly distributed over £500,000 in the last five years to white-collar destitute individuals in Pakistan sans hurting their self-esteem.

The family, comprises Abid Hussain, the father, Rukhsana Shaheen, the mother and two daughters, carries out the gigantic task of locating the needy by themselves, with utmost sensitivity and respect, has left a lasting impact on those who have received their support, serving as a testament to the power of empathy and generosity, and a much-needed reminder of the good in humanity during times of need.

"We take one month leave from our respective jobs in the UK once or twice a year and travel across Pakistan to personally locate white-collar destitute individuals who are unable to beg for their pressing needs. It is a hundred donation policy on all projects.

We provide them with whatever is missing, including groceries, medical aid, wheelchairs, assistance in establishing businesses, paying defaulted rent, operation expenditures, and other facilities, all at their doorstep.

Abid Hussain and Rukhsana Shaheen, a Pakistani couple who migrated from Rawalpindi district to Bradford 35 years ago, have made it their mission to bring solace to those in need and to show that one act of kindness can make a lasting impact on a person's life."

The family has installed more than 600 Tubewells in water-scarce areas of Pakistan, constructed a mosque worth over £30,000 in Yemen, and established religious seminaries in Africa, Syria, and Lebanon.

Currently, they are searching for land to establish a large shelter home in federal capital Islamabad with all the necessary facilities.

Despite receiving offers from various charity organizations to join them, the family prefers to work independently. In the UK, they distribute groceries and other necessities to the homeless and unemployed, while in Pakistan, they distribute flour, cash, prayer mats, and Qurans among deserving domestic workers in Media Town, Islamabad.

## Launching Ceremony of Heaven Agro Farms



News Desk

ISLAMABAD: Suddozai Builders, a renowned name in the real estate industry, successfully held the launching ceremony of their latest project, Heaven Agro Farms (Overseas Block), at the prestigious Shamadan Hall Serena Hotel in Islamabad on April 7th, 2023. The event was attended by over 450 investors, dealers, and entrepreneurs from Peshawar, Islamabad, and Rawalpindi, who showed great interest in the project.

The launching ceremony was graced by the presence of esteemed guests, including Sardar Tahir Mehmood, President of Islamabad Estate Agent Association, who was the Chief Guest of the event. Other key speakers at the event included Sardar Yasir Ilyas, CEO of Centaurus; Zummurud Khan, Chairman of Pakistan Sweet Home; and Sardar Shazib Shabbir, Vice Chairman of Gulf Empire. The project was introduced in detail by Sardar Haider, Director Sales of Heaven Agro Farms (Overseas Block).

During the event, Sardar Khurshid Ahmad, Chairman of Suddozai Builders and Heaven Agro Farms Overseas Block, delivered keynotes and expressed his gratitude to the attendees for their overwhelming response to the project.

He highlighted the unique features and benefits of Heaven Agro Farms (Overseas Block) and expressed confidence in its success in the real estate market.

Heaven Agro Farms (Overseas Block) is a prestigious project by Suddozai Builders, located in Neela Dulha.

It offers modern agro farms with state-of-the-art facilities, including advanced irrigation systems, modern farm management, and security measures.

The project aims to provide an unparalleled experience to investors who are looking for a unique and profitable investment opportunity in the real estate sector.

# Market of Storytellers

Munaza Kazmi

Peshawar "Oldest Living City" of South Asia dating back 539 BC, keeping alive centuries old rituals of culture, music, cuisine and traditions. One of Peshawar's oldest and magnetizing aspects are the markets crisscrossing its various gates, passing enchanting Mughal Era architectural building, where merchants come from around the continent vending merchandise and leaving behind their stories.

Kabuli Gate is where Khyber Bazaar becomes QissaKhawani, the old 'Market of Storytellers'. Peshawar's most famous bazaar, that served as an encampment for caravans visiting from

Sub-Continent, Afghanistan and Central Asian countries. The market is said to be as old as the city itself, framing several tales of culture, bravery, and love. In the daylight the traders were as busy as bee, exchanging the delicacies they took from different lands however, when the night sets veil on to the sun, they all gather around, sitting beside the fire, tasting tea and sharing the stories of their lands, their friends and the countries they travel around. It's believed from there the market took its name.

The market was of much grandeur that, a visitor can buy an ordinary item of household to exquisite and rarest products, let's say varieties of spices, dry fruits, food items of different regions, sweets, leather commodities, exclusive breeds

of birds, perfumes, finest clothes including silk and hand-woven rugs, metals including brass and copper, besides precious stones and jewels etc.

Visiting QissaKhawani Bazaar the Urdu name of it, yet today is as functional as in the past, it never disappoints its traveler, always welcoming with delicious foods, fascinating sights of historic building, marvelous delicacies and that principle aroma of tea. Beside this, the market gave birth to the stars we love to watch on TV, let's say the legendry Dilip Kumar, Raj Kapoor and family of Shahrukh Khan, their houses are among the fascinating tourist attraction of bazaar.

Food rooted strongly itself in the old alleys, hence when you are done with all the shopping

and sight-seeing, food is the priority. Old style cafes, playing the folk music, with the luxury of live cooking, serving appetizing foods like Chappal Kebab cooked into perfection by adding spices into fresh meat and then fried till it becomes golden brown, Mutton Karahi that is mutton cooked with yogurt and black pepper, Kabuli Pulao a rich combination of rice cooked with meat and garnish with carrots and raisin, Fried Fish and Charcoal Chicken covered with delicious flavors, lip smacking Kulfi Falooda that is a lush mix of ice-cream, vermicelli, dry fruits and sauces and their aromatic tea, however there's a speciality of QissaKhawani you must try locally known as 'Sheen Da Payo', milk green tea.

It's considered that, there's



little memory left of the traders and travelers that would gather here to swap tales, however in my opinion it's still meeting place for the travelers and merchants, since they still gather there, on the pretext of selling or buying

and in some ways, they still sharing their tales and their journeys. Well, it's true that most of bazaar-old teashops have given way to clothes and electrical shops, what used to be the old bird market have transformed into brass and

copperware, the historic Mughal architectural buildings and gates are in miserable condition, that needs dire attention, the fashion and culture changed, but still the aroma of tea and spices carry a visitor to that ancient enterprise.



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# Let Neutral be Neutral

The 62-year-old General Qamar Javed Bajwa had been at the helm of the 600,000-strong nuclear-armed military from 2016 to 2022. He was granted an extension of three years in August 2019 by then-Prime Minister Imran Khan. He was retired in last year.

Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif announced General Asim Munir as his successor. Pakistan's outgoing army chief, General Qamar Javed Bajwa said before leaving the office that the military has unlawfully meddled in politics for decades and it will no longer do so. In his last address as army chief, General Bajwa defended the country's most powerful institution, which has come in for criticism, particularly from former Prime Minister Imran Khan, who has accused the army of a role in his removal in April last year. Speaking at an event at army headquarters in the eastern city of Rawalpindi, the Ex-Army Chief general wondered why the army in neighbouring India was not criticized by the public. "In my opinion, the reason for this is the constant meddling by the army in politics for the last 70 years, which is unconstitutional," he said. "That is why, since February last year, the military has decided they will not interfere in any political matter." He added that the military has started its "catharsis" and expressed hope that political parties will also "introspect their behaviour." "The reality is that in Pakistan, institutions, political parties and civil society - they have all made mistakes," Bajwa said. "It is time we learn from them and move forward."

Bajwa also highlighted Pakistan's precarious economic situation and called on all stakeholders to put aside their egos, work in tandem and learn to accept their victories and losses.

In a speech lasting roughly 10 minutes, General Bajwa spent considerable time on the subject of politics and condemned the outpouring of negativity and harsh criticism towards the military, which has run the country for more than half the time since its independence in 1947. General Bajwa admitted that criticism on the institution that no one should seek the military from political parties and their assistance and support for their

that there are limits to this patience," he said. "I want to overlook this aggressive criticism towards myself and my army because Pakistan is most paramount for all of us."

Our current Army Chief General Asim Munir and ISPR has also said on number of occasions that institution will be no more biased and will remain neutral in political matters. Body language, speeches and actions of Army Chief General Asim Munir also resembles the firm stance of the institution that no one should seek their assistance and support for their

influence in deciding the South Asian country's policy on foreign affairs and national security. It's also a reality that no prime minister has ever completed his tenure which itself speaks that how weak the roots of our democracy are.

It's our irony that when an institution admits its past mistakes and decides to stay neutral in future then these are our political leaders which don't admit it. They are dying to raise third empire's figure in their favor. These intentions clearly show that our democracy and political parties are not strong enough. Also they have failed to gain Public's favor and sympathies that's why they can't go to public with confidence on basis of their performances and without favor of strong powers.

Political Parties should have such a strong manifesto and track record of serving the people so that they can go to people easily and with full confidence.

Political parties in our country have lot of weaknesses and they just want to hide their weaknesses behind the umbrella of Establishment which is not good feature of a healthy democracy.

Pak Army is an institution which is protecting our long and complex borders and also tackling in internal fronts. It's not good for such a great institution to drag them into the politics when they decided to stay out of such controversies. Pak Army is a professional institution and these intentions from few sides might effect on their morale and performance. Politicizing Pak Army is not a good sign in larger interests of the country and this act should be crushed with iron hands.



Abdul Basit Alvi

## Khunjerab reopening to further bolster cross-border trade

The reopening of Khunjerab Pass, a major land port on the Pakistan-China border in northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, would further bolster bilateral trade between the two brotherly countries, besides strengthening people-to-people contacts, a senior official said.

The pass connecting officially resumed the entry and exit of passengers this week after a closure of three years in wake of Covid-19 restrictions.

The port authorities on the Chinese side were instructed to take all necessary measures regarding Covid-19 pandemic before the start of the arrival of goods from Pakistan.

Similarly, Pakistani border authorities were also instructed to take all measures regarding Covid-19, ensuring the containment of the disease.

At present, in wake of cold weather and lack of oxygen in the high altitude, Khunjerab Pass generally opens from April 1 to November 30 every year and remains closed from December 1 to March 31 of the following year.

However, Pakistan Ambassador to China, Moin ul Haque in a statement said that the resumption of operations via Khunjerab Pass would serve to further bolster trade and people-to-people linkage between Pakistan and China.

He also informed that the two sides were now working to keep the border crossing open all year round.

"It was also another good omen that the two sides were now working to keep the border crossing open round the year," Coordinator to Federal Tax Ombudsman Mehr Kashif Younis said while talking to a delegation of industrialists and traders.

The reopening was expected to witness a huge growth of cross-border trade and transportation this year. A major turnaround for Pakistani producers was expected in the wake of the relaxation of COVID-19-related restrictions.

He said that cherry had been allowed to be exported to China and this would open up a market of up to USD 2 billion. Similarly, sesame seed export to China had also increased, he added.

The textiles, rice, cherry, mangoes and other food items could be exported to Beijing, which would be another effective way of increasing foreign reserves, he added.

Talking to media during his recent visit to Beijing, Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiative, Ahsan Iqbal termed the reopening of pass a very positive development after three years and expressed confidence that the trade between Pakistan and China would resume through land route.

He hoped that the Khunjerab border facility would be upgraded by both sides so that it could remain open for 12 months and it becomes an all-weather facility.

He said that particularly people in Gilgit-Baltistan would greatly benefit from local trade through this border post.

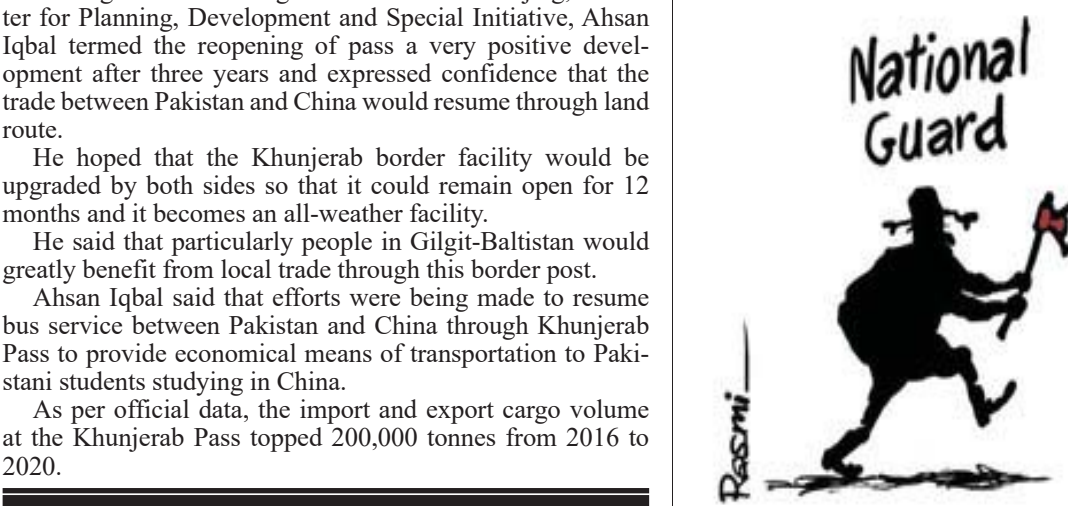
Ahsan Iqbal said that efforts were being made to resume bus service between Pakistan and China through Khunjerab Pass to provide economical means of transportation to Pakistani students studying in China.

As per official data, the import and export cargo volume at the Khunjerab Pass topped 200,000 tonnes from 2016 to 2020.

It's our irony that when an institution admits its past mistakes and decides to stay neutral in future then these are our political leaders which don't admit it. They are dying to raise third empire's figure in their favor. These intentions clearly show that our democracy and political parties are not strong enough. Also they have failed to gain Public's favor and sympathies that's why they can't go to public with confidence on basis of their performances and without favor of strong powers.

public is their right but warned against the use of undignified words against the army. "Everybody should keep ... in mind

political benefits. Readers, The army has major stakes in the economy and yields considerable



Rasmi

Amjad Rasmi

## A Courtesy Court' decision favours the flavour of the people's expectations - II

These nasty fishes need to be thrown out which have made the whole pond dirty, stinky, muddy and smelly. It is not a matter of one institution, but some institutions have been defaming the dignity of respectful institutions for their self & own purposes. Supreme Court is the Court of the people's voice and always works in the largest interests of the people.

Same way the press club is a national property and national heritage, it is the responsibility of the whole society to change it from a club to a press club.

Like in the bar room, only respected lawyers can become members, clerks, photostat holders, bar attendants cannot become members. No matter how persistently I come, how much information I have gathered.

Lawyers have to come forward and become parties on this principle, it is the immediate responsibility of lawyers.

Just as one cannot be called a writer by copying a cut, one cannot become a poet by stealing a rhyme, similarly one cannot become a journalist by stealing a column. Poets and writers have to be a part of Jirga on this principle.

Hence there is dire need to thoroughly study the style of our politics so that politicians may also have a code of conduct specific for public interests.

The civil society wants people who

have a pulse for reform and welfare, but those who want to kill themselves in the rooms of former members, and those who want to take and take jobs, positions and posts.

Civil society has to come forward for the sake of journalism like other institutions too.

Those journalists who are ashamed that they don't know who has infiltrated them, they will have to come forward bravely.

The common man should not be allowed to make money in the name of journalism. We need such an institution and people who can talk about it. He has to come forward for his right.

Today in Pakistan, unfortunately, Press Clubs are the name of very

The district administration should impartially catch with iron hands all mafias ruining the society, so that these such men or outlaw elements stop invading people's personal life and social life as a whole.

without any outlaw pressures whatsoever ban the speeches or talks Which might be outlaw.

The entire society has a respon-

sibility and the dire situation of the Press Club has to be taken seriously.

Only the most respected and qualified journalists should be allowed to enter here to work for social reform & every institution needs confidence of the public.

The district administration should impartially catch with iron hands all mafias ruining the society, so that these such men or outlaw elements stop invading people's personal life and social life as a whole. PEMRA will have to make all social media channels liberal under the rules

without any pressure whether it is induced by any powerful institution. Where PEMRA gives rules and block or ban the channels without license there it must impartially, honestly

without any outlaw pressures whatsoever ban the speeches or talks Which might be outlaw.

Institutions are requested to

review the norms by taking notice and guide them in the best interests of the people.

It is the duty of trusted and internationally ranked journalist organizations established at the national and provincial levels to immediately frame the permanent formulas before registering of the Press Club and formulate a constitution in the light of the international charter, national journalistic values, in which the membership The method should be clear and this right should be with real working journalists, who are aware of the socialization.

Don't ignore it by closing your eyes, shrugging your shoulders, being indifferent, calling it a personal war of a few journalists, otherwise the society is suffering collective losses and individuals are reaping the benefits, but one day, ignoring the society in this way will make you cry.

Those who frame the laws and regulations of merit, they themselves break its backbone, then where you would go for its redressal except the higher courts.

All lame excuses have no room because such outlaw explanations are away from public interests so Justice is the red line for our society whom all and sundry must obey otherwise you are breaking the law means demolishing the walls of your House with your own hands.

Concluded

## Gaps in Prosecution Rate in Pakistan

Over the past 2 decades, Pakistan has suffered huge losses due to terrorist attacks. However, despite terrorist attacks, the judicial procedure & activeness remain negligent with respect to terrorists' prosecution

**Terrorism-Related Deaths:**

According to GoP and SATP data since 2000 more than 30,000 terrorism related incidents resulted in more than 80,000 casualties (both killed and injured). Alone security forces have suffered more than 6000 shahadats and 20,000 injured.

**Financial Loss:**

According to GoP, Pakistan has suffered 152 billion USD in losses due to terrorism.

However, where all segments of state have put up a resilient fight to defeat this menace, on the judicial front, ironically, Pakistan records one of the lowest conviction rates in the world. Despite repeatedly experiencing offenses through acquitted terrorists, we continue to make the same mistake over and over again. As per PPRC research, of the 17 "high profile" terrorist acts in Pakistan (e.g. Marriot Bombing 2008), all suspects (without exceptions) have either been acquitted

or released on bail. In addition, terrorist suspects who had earlier been apprehended by security agencies and produced before the court of law and later released by the court on some pretext were later found involved in several key terrorist attacks. Examples in this regard include: -

Terrorist attacks in Quetta 2016-17

Chinese Consulate attack 2018 Data Darbar attack 2019

Pakistan, despite being frontline state in the War on Terror over the past two decades, has seen one of the lowest comparative conviction rates in cases pertaining to terrorism.

According to independent figures of US Institute for Peace (USIP), the conviction rate for casualties registered under the Anti-Terrorism Act (1997) across Pak has been only 8.7%, while the states like UK, China & Japan recorded the rates at 88.0%, 99.0% & 99.9% respectively.

Despite untiring efforts and sacrifices, security agencies share the most burden of the blame for security situation, whereas a major fraction of the problem rests with the way the law and its application treat the terrorists.



Adam Khan Wazir



# Saudi govt deploys extensive air surveillance system for security of pilgrims: Ambassador

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Saudi Ambassador to Pakistan Nawaf bin Said Al-Malki on Sunday said the Saudi government had deployed an extensive air surveillance system to ensure the safety and security of all the faithful preparing to embark on the annual Hajj pilgrimage to the Kingdom.

He, in an exclusive interview with APP, informed that the system was comprised of advanced aircraft and unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) to monitor the movements of the pilgrims and identify any potential security threats from the air.

Ambassador Al-Malki said the aircraft was equipped with cutting-edge technology, including high-definition cameras, thermal imaging devices, and advanced sensors, enabling the detection of any suspicious activities in real time.

The small and maneuverable UAVs, meanwhile, monitored the crowds and areas inaccessible to the aircraft, he said adding that this air surveillance system provided a comprehensive view of the entire pilgrimage area, enabling security forces to identify any potential security risks and responding quickly to any emergencies that may arise.

His Excellency emphasized that the Saudi government had invested



heavily in the air surveillance system to ensure the safety and security of pilgrims during the Hajj season, as part of a broader security framework, which included ground surveillance, communications networks, and advanced technologies.

The deployment of thousands of security personnel, the use of advanced technology such as facial recognition systems, and the implementation of health and safety protocols to prevent the spread of COVID-19 were other measures taken by the Saudi government to ensure the safety and security of pilgrims during the Hajj season, he added.

He underscored the importance of the Hajj pilgrimage as a significant event for Muslims worldwide, and the Saudi government's investment in advanced security technology demonstrated its commitment to providing a safe and secure environment for all pilgrims.

He stated that the air surveillance system provided an additional layer of security for pilgrims, ensuring that they could perform their religious duties without fear or apprehension. The Saudi government's continued investment in advanced security technology highlighted its dedication to improving the Hajj pilgrimage experience

for pilgrims coming from all over the world, he maintained.

On the other hand, Saudi press attaché Dr. Naif Alotaibi, in a recent tweet, shared a video clip detailing the unique experience of the country's security personnel during Ramadan.

The clip showcases these personnel breaking their fast while in the air, conducting air surveillance as pilgrims perform their Salah and Umrah in complete peace and order on the earth.

The video captures an enabling environment in which the pilgrims carry out their religious duties, with the security personnel ensuring their safety from above.

Dr. Naif's tweet has garnered significant attention on the social media, with many commending the dedication and commitment of the security personnel to their duty, even during the holy month of Ramadan.

As the annual pilgrimage to Makkah approaches, the video serves as a reminder of the meticulous planning and coordination that goes into ensuring the safety and well-being of the millions of pilgrims who make the journey each year.

Dr. Naif's tweet sheds light on the behind-the-scenes efforts of the security personnel, who work tirelessly to make this sacred journey as safe and peaceful as possible.

## Raja Najabat host Iftar



Arif Chodhry

MANCHESTER: Kashmir Self Determination Movement International team led by Founder Chairman Raja Najabat Hussain Sitara I Pakistan organized a special advisory meeting and Aftari in Manchester on Saturday 8th April with Shadow Minister Andrew Gwynne MP Chairman Labour Friends of Kashmir UK, Deputy Lord Mayor of Manchester Councillor Yasmine Dar Chairperson JKSDMIUK, Amjid Hussain Mughal Vice Chairman JKSDMIUK, Former Lord Mayor of Manchester Councillor Abid Latif Chohan, Councillor Naila Shareef Chairperson JKSDMI North of England, Harry Boota Administration Director JKSDMI, Pamela Ashraf Malik Chairperson Cultural Wing JKSDMI-UK, Farzana Afzal CEO CMM Media Group, Noreen Shehzad, Naina Khan, Neghat Ahisha, Sabra Chaudhary, Rubina Iqbal, Shabana Sami, Nasrin Kausar, Sadaf Dr Mohammad Younas Perwaz, Chaudhary Nasar Iqbal, Tariq Lodhi and other members of the Community.

JKSDMI Chairman Raja Najabat Hussain announced the future activities planned in this month as well as in May all over the UK and Pakistan. All the participants assured the team JKSDMI for their full support for Kashmir Campaign for raising the voice of suffering people of Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir. They all condemned the Human Right Violations by the Indian security forces in the Kashmir Valley.

## Pakistan welcomes more than 2,800 Sikh delegates joining Baisakhi celebrations



News Desk

ISLAMABAD: More than 2,800 Sikh pilgrims from India reached Lahore via Wagah border to attend the annual Baisakhi festival starting from Sunday (today).

According to details, Sikh pilgrims from India will participate in the main event at Gurdwara Panja Sahib Hasan Abdal on April 14. During the visit, pilgrims will visit Dera Sahib, Panja Sahib, Nankana Sahib and Kartarpur Sahib.

The Additional Secretary of Evacuee Trust Property Board Rana Shahid while talking to a private news channel, has welcomed the Sikh brothers and said all arrangements related to clean drinking water, clean washrooms, trains, sitting arrangements and security have been made available for the Sikh yatrees. After attending the main ceremony at the Gurdwara Panja Sahib (Hasanabdal), the pilgrims would also visit Nankana Sahib and other places, he added.

## Indian troops launch CASO in Poonch

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Indian troops have launched a complete cordon off and search operation (CASO) in the Poonch district of Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK). The troops launched the CASO in Shahpur area of the district, Kashmir Media Service reported.

The whole area has been cordoned off and a massive search operation was going on till the receiving of the last reports from Kashmir Valley.

## DC inspects inter provincial check posts to check smuggling of wheat, sugar

Raza Naqvi

ATTOCK: Deputy Commissioner Attock Rao Atif Raza during his surprise inspection of inter provincial bordering check posts as directed the surveillance officials to remain vigilant over smuggling of wheat, flour and sugar from Punjab failing which sheer negligence on their part will never be tolerated besides fixing responsibility on the delinquents. The Deputy Commissioner Attock accompanied by Additional Deputy Commissioner Revenue Mr. Waqas Aslam has thoroughly reviewed the overall process at food checking points include Attock Khurd, Jhari Kas, Hazro motorway interchange in the odd hours. He also examined the attendance register. Later on, DC Attock also took a round of Asfanyar Bokhari District Headquarters Hospital Attock with the direction to the MS Dr. Jawad Elahi for extending maximum relief to the indoor and out door patients to save the precious lives utilizing all available resources. He was also briefed about the cleanliness of the hospital, provision of life saving drugs in the emergency, attendance of doctors, para medical staff, referral cases.

# UN recognised Pakistan's Indus Delta for global convention

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: The shrinking delta of Mighty River Indus of Pakistan has emerged on the United Nations radar after it accepted to create a global convention on all deltas of the world to ensure its protection against rising climate change impacts casting serious impact on its nature and habitat.

The development occurred after a strong international civil society nexus of experts, academicians, policy makers and stakeholders unanimously raised their voice for an international UN Convention for the Conservation River Delta (UN-CCRD) on the sequel of its UN Human Rights Declaration, UN Geneva Pact and many others to ensure that all the major deltas of the world were dying due to adverse impacts of climate change and environmental degradation namely sea intrusion, sea level rise, droughts, depleting water flows, shrinking creeks and others.

The African Centre for Climate Actions and Rural Development Initiative (ACCARD) in collaboration with the Nigeria's Bayelsa State Government, the Institute for Environmental Diplomacy and Security at the University of Vermont, the Consortium for Capacity Building at the University of Colorado, Transboundary Water In-Cooperation Network (TWIN), Water Environment Forum-Pakistan, Center for the Advancement of Public Action (CAPA) Bennington College; Vietnam National University, Hanoi, Vietnam and Center for Envi-



ronment and Sustainable Livelihood Projects (CESLP), among others hosted a side event at the UN Water conference titled "Integrative Highland to Ocean (H2O) Action for Disappearing Deltas: Towards a UN Convention on Conserving River Deltas."

Former Senator and federal minister for information and broadcasting and Chairman World Environment Forum, a civil society organization working to protect water resources and environment participated virtually to represent Pakistan

in the sideline event whereas Freeman Elohoro Oluwo of ACCARD and Prof. Dr. Asim Zia, Director, Institute for Environmental Diplomacy, Vermont physically participated in the session.

The global convention would help in achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to be achieved by 2030 namely SDG-6 demanding "Clean Water", SDG-13 "Climate Action", and SDG-14 "Conserving and sustainably using the oceans, seas and marine resources".

The announcement has come after successful campaign of the above mentioned coalition of non-governmental and civil society organizations who started the drive for a global convention of UN to protect deltas.

The speakers, and experts discussed deltas starting from Nigerian Niger Delta, Indus Delta of Pakistan, Mekong River, Colorado, Nile and St. Lawrence transboundary river basins.

Each of these deltas possessed varying risks owing

to spiking up sea level rise and salt water intrusion from the oceans, and rapidly melting glaciers, increasing dams and shifting rainfall patterns in the highlands.

The UN had accepted that all the world deltas were under threat and sea level rise and intrusion was causing damage to soil and water ecosystems.

It is not only nature but rather the communities, the livelihood opportunities and human lives that were diminishing and demanded the world to respond for their protection.

There will be various activities in Delta countries towards achieving the UN Convention for the Conservation River Delta.

As per the UN SDGs website, the United Nations Convention for the Conservation River Deltas (UN-CCRD) objectives are to strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity among delta communities and water stakeholders to climate-related hazards and natural disasters through increased knowledge sharing, partnerships, global attention, UN recognition, and community participation.

It also aims to build a regional to global stakeholder's dialogue not only to identify but to also proffer integrative Highlands to Oceans (H2O) solutions to growing water-related challenges particularly those potentiated by climate change. Moreover, to enhance the local capacity of countries through training and capacity building including on community data gathering and community-based context sensitive solutions to these complex problems.

# Pak-Uzbek trade volume reaches over \$250m: Envoy

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Uzbekistan to Pakistan, Oybek Arif Usmanov has said that bilateral trade volume between Pakistan and Uzbekistan had reached over \$250 million by the end of 2022 and both countries were focusing on exploring more avenues of trade and investments in multiple sectors to enhance trade.

He said that the implementation of the Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA) between Pakistan and Uzbekistan and the recently signed nine Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs), would further increase trade volume to \$1 billion between both countries.

The Ambassador made these remarks while talking to APP during an Iftar dinner hosted by the Embassy of Uzbekistan for journalists and experts.

Managing Director of Asso-



ciated Press of Pakistan (APP), Muhammad Asim Khichi was the chief guest of the event.

The Ambassador welcomed all the guests and said that the Pak-Uzbekistan friendship had reached new heights.

Both the countries have very

cordial relations and their leadership is playing role in deepening bilateral ties and cooperation.

Explaining the trade turnover between Uzbekistan and Pakistan, the Ambassador said that the trade volume in 2014 was amounted to \$36 million,



in 2018 it became \$ 98 million, in 2020 amounted around \$120 million and in 2021 it reached \$180 million and now in 2022, it reached to \$250 million, he added. He said that these figures

show that Uzbek-Pak trade volume is increasing rapidly.

Now, Uzbekistan is a largest trade partner of Pakistan in Central Asia and Pakistan has been listed among the top 10 main

foreign trade partners for Uzbekistan, he added.

The envoy further stated that the Pakistani importers were interested in Uzbek textile, petrochemical products, foodstuff, pure

Uzbek silk products and agricultural machinery. "The Uzbek importers are receiving Pakistani textile and leather garments, pharmaceutical products, chemicals, food items and agricultural products".

The Government of Uzbekistan, he told has created a favorable and attractive investment environment for the Pakistani business community and around 207 joint venture companies are successfully operating in Uzbekistan.

Moreover, the two sides have started to work out the joint manufacturing for agricultural machinery and home appliances products with Uzbek investments in Pakistan.

The implementation of these projects in Pakistan can help the mechanization and modernization of the agricultural sector and decrease the prices for electronic products within the country, he concluded.



**Roshan Digital Account inflows surpass \$6bn mark in April**



**Web Desk**

KARACHI: Total inflows through Roshan Digital Account (RDA) from overseas Pakistanis surpassed the \$6 billion mark in the first week of April, figures released by the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) reveal. Cumulative inflows of RDA deposit reached \$6.005 billion as of April 7, 2023. "Roshan Digital Account has reached a new milestone as the total inflows have crossed \$6 billion," the SBP said on its official Twitter handle and thanked overseas Pakistanis for their continuous trust in making the SBP's RDA a huge success. "Roshan Digital Account has reached a new milestone as the total inflows have crossed \$6bn. We thank our Overseas Pakistanis for their continuous trust in making #SBP's #RoshanDigitalAccount a huge success. For Details: <https://t.co/bZHwNnSNXic> [twitter.com/apCF-wH8AAf](https://twitter.com/apCF-wH8AAf)

Inflows of foreign currency through RDA improved during the last two months as the SBP revised rates of the Naya Pakistan Certificate (NPC) to make them more competitive.

Approximately, some 60-65 per cent RDA deposits were received in NPC as investment.

**LCCI urges SBP to withdraw 'anti-exports' circular forthwith**

**Commerce Desk**

LAHORE: The Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI) has urged the State Bank of Pakistan to do away with anti-exports laws, fearing the country's exports will suffer badly.

The chamber's representatives say the central bank is passing anti-export laws that have the potential to reduce the country's exports to at least half of their potential level.

In a statement, LCCI president Kashif Anwar noted that the SBP's assertion that exporters are stashing their money abroad is entirely incorrect and that this false assumption is having an impact on the policies being formed.

The exporters from different sectors including meat, carpet, auto, agriculture, leather and textile sector, led by former president LCCI Shahid Hassan Sheikh, met the LCCI president and showed their serious concerns over the notification issued by the SBP.

The State Bank was urged to withdraw recently issued Circular No. 02 of 2023 on March 31, 2023 regarding the realisation of export proceeds.

The LCCI president announced a committee led by former president Shahid Hassan Sheikh and consists of representatives of different exporting sectors. The committee will formulate suggestions including budget proposals and suggestions for the State Bank and different other departments related to exports. The LCCI then will take these suggestions to high levels having expert opinion.

Kashif Anwar said that every exporting sector has its own specifications, e.g. some are highly value added and have long shelf life like carpets and others are dealing in perishable items. In light of their product diversification, shelf life and other factors, the export proceed time should be determined after thorough consultation with those sectors who are dealing in time bounding items.

**ICCI donates Rs.20 million to PSH**

*Ahsan Bakhtawari also announced to give 50 kanal land to Pakistan Sweet Homes*

**Tariq Khattak**

ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry hosted a Barkat-e-Schar program in collaboration with Serena Hotels, Islamabad and collected donations of around Rs.20 million for Pakistan Sweet Homes. Prominent traders and industrialists of the city attended the program.

Addressing the event, Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari, President Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry announced to give 50 kanal land in Chakwal to Pakistan Sweet Homes (PSH) for constructing its branch in that area. He paid tributes to the services of Zamrud Khan, Patron in Chief of Pakistan Sweet Homes, who has dedicated his life for the welfare of orphans. He said that Zamrud Khan was grooming and educating orphans like a father which was commendable. He urged the members of the business community to fully cooperate with Pakistan Sweet Homes so that this institution could continue to provide better care to the orphans and enable them to become productive citizens of the country.

Speaking on the occasion, Zamurrad Khan Patron in Chief, Pakistan Sweet Homes thanked ICCI members for contributing to the welfare of angels and fairies of Pakistan Sweet Homes. He also thanked Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari, President ICCI for announcing 50 Kanal land for PSH and said that soon, the construction of



a center of PHS would be built on that land. He said that with the blessings of Allah the Almighty and the cooperation of philanthropists, PSH has been making good progress day by day and has set up many centres across the country.

He said that with the help of philanthropists, the first cadet college in the history of the world has been set up on an area of 80 kanals

for orphans on GT Road in Sohawa in which hundreds of students are currently studying.

Zafar Bakhtawari, Secretary General UBG said that Zamurrad Khan has brought a revolution in serving the orphan children as he has built many centres for them. He said that Zamurrad Khan has been given Hilal-e-Imtiaz in recognition of his services for orphans and hoped that a day will come when he will

be given the Nobel Prize that would make him pride of Pakistan.

Faad Waheed Senior Vice President, Engr. Azhar ul Islam Zafar Vice President ICCI, Sheikh Baser Daud, Ch. Javed Iqbal, Akhtar Hussain, Dr. Usman, Humayun Kabir, Muhammad Naveed Malik, Khalid Chaudhry, Faheem Khan and others were present at the occasion.

**Increasing poverty results in an alarming rise in crimes**

**Tariq Khattak**

ISLAMABAD: Former Vice President of FPCCI Atif Ikram Sheikh on increasing poverty in the country resulting in an alarming rise in crimes particularly in urban centres such as Islamabad, Karachi, and Lahore.

Growing poverty, unemployment and hunger are damaging our society as the promotion of the powerful elite continues, he said.

Atif Ikram Sheikh who has also served as President ICCI and Chairman PVMA said in a statement issued here today that Karachi which is the centre of trade and industry is suffering from lawlessness.

Karachi is witnessing an alarming increase in street crime and people are shot dead by desperate robbers for putting up resistance, he added.

He said that the business commu-



nity was already worried due to the deteriorating economy and now the law-and-order situation is hurting them.

The plight of people in other urban centres, including Punjab's capital Lahore, is equally thoughtful as streets

are ruled by robbers and gangsters while our leaders are occupied with politics.

He noted with concern that with the unprecedented rise in inflation, large-scale unemployment and growing hopelessness many are left with no option but to beg and steal.

The situation is also stoking car and bike snatchings, drug dealings, abductions for ransom, and prostitution as the national political failure has intensified.

Many politicians have been claiming that their political parties will steer Pakistan out of crisis and undertake massive uplift programs and put Pakistan on the road of progress and prosperity but it seems not the case, he observed.

Authorities should go into the causes that have created this demon as no amount of cash support or other such programmes can be more useful than putting the national economy back on its firm footing.

**Volatile rupee, constant jump in markup destroying trade, industry: BMP**



**Commerce Desk**

LAHORE: The Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce & Industry's Businessmen Panel (BMP) stressed need for a revisit of government policies, as the local currency continued to witness the intense fall while the key policy rate has constantly been escalated by the central bank to the record historic level, which will destroy the trade and industry completely.

FPCCI former president and BMP Chairman Mian Anjum Nisar said that volatile exchange rate, unprecedented hike in markup rate, repeated increases in electricity rates, gas shortage, price spiral, mismanagement and bad governance have now become the hallmarks of the govt. He observed the negative economic indicators and uncertainty over resumption of the International Monetary Fund program continued to push the rupee towards a new historic low against the US dollar. He said that massive fall of rupee value continued to damage the economy, as the rupee witnessed a huge depreciation; one of the highest devaluations of local currency in Pakistan's history.

Mian Anjum urged the policy makers to concentrate on increasing tax-to-GDP

ratio which was the lowest in Pakistan in the region. The BMP leader warned if the government failed to take appropriate measures for economic revival, the trade and industry will face a complete shutdown, asking the government to convene a conference, taking the business community onboard.

The rupee during the week closed at 287.29, a loss of Rs2.25 or 0.8%, which is the lowest level for the Pakistani rupee since it hit 285.02 against the greenback in March this year, as the uncertainty pertaining to the IMF program is causing pressure on the Pakistani rupee while the country's foreign exchange reserves have also declined, which is another source of concern for investors, he said. He added that the SBP's latest move to impose fines on exporters delaying receipt of payments would prove ineffective. While demanding a clear roadmap for the revival of economy, the BMP Chairman termed the present financial crisis as a nerve-shattering for trade and industry. There was a consensus among the business community that there was a lack of coherence in the government policies and things on economic front went shakily instead of moving for the last several months.

**Eid purchasing**

MUZAFERABAD: A man is buying unstitched clothes from road side trader as due to the extra ordinary prices, people are avoiding to visit branded shops in the Capital of Azad Jammu and Kashmir.



Photo: Online

**S.M. Tanveer elected as Patron-in-Chief of UBG**

**Spokesman Report**

ISLAMABAD: The caretaker Minister for Industries and Energy of Punjab and leading industrialist S.M. Tanveer has been elected unopposed as the Patron-in-Chief of the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry's United Business Group.

A meeting of the Central Core Committee of UBG was held here today under the Chairmanship of Shahzad Ali Malik to elect a new group patron-in-Chief with consensus that had fallen vacant after the demise of veteran industrialist and octogenarian trade leader S.M. Muneer.

After marathon deliberations by the Core Committee, S.M. Tanveer, elder son of deceased S.M. Munir was elected as the new Patron-in-Chief of UBG. His name was proposed by Khalid Tawab, President of UBG Sindh. Ghazanfar Bilour President UBG KPK, Daru Khan President UBG Balochistan, Abdul Rauf Alam President UBG Islamabad and Amir Atta Bajwa Senior Vice President UBG Punjab fully supported the name of S.M. Tanveer as

Patron-in-Chief UBG.

All the participants paid glowing tributes to late SM Muneer for rendering lifelong meritorious services for the promotion of trade and industry.

Speaking on the occasion, the newly elected Patron-in-Chief of UBG and Punjab's Minister for Industries S.M. Tanveer expressed his highest degree of gratitude to the participants drawn from all over the country for reposing full confidence on him and assured that he would make out efforts to help resolve the genuine issues being confronted by the business community. He said that he would take all stakeholders into confidence in the policy making process

for achieving sustainable economic growth of the country.

Shahzad Ali Malik, Chairman UBG congratulated S.M. Tanveer and hoped that he would act as a bridge between the government and public-private sectors and advocate the cause of the business community at all levels to put the country on the road to progress, development and prosperity.

Zubair Tufail, President UBG said that the election of S.M. Tanveer as Patron-in-Chief of UBG was the best choice as he is a dynamic business leader. He hoped that S.M. Tanveer would take UBG to new heights of glory. Zafar Bakhtawari, Secretary General

UBG said that the election of S.M. Tanveer to lead UBG was a due recognition of the valuable services of his late Father S.M. Munir for the business community of the country. He hoped that S.M. Tanveer would set new precedents of rendering excellent services to the business community.

Dr. Gohar Ejaz, Patron-in-Chief APTMA stressed for unity among the business community. He said that APTMA is serving the cause of its members with unity and reiterated that UBG would be made a stronger group to play an effective role in the policymaking process of the country.

Sheikh Riya ud Din, Hanif Gohar, Atif Ikram, Nauman Butt, Ahmed Chinoy, Amir Atta Bajwa, Qazi Akbar, Zahid Iqbal Chaudhry, Manzoor Malik, Malik Sohail Hussain, Ch. Rashid Hameed, Muhammad Amjad Chaudhry, Mian Rehman Aziz Chan, Syed Jawad Hussain Kazmi, Mian Zahid Hussain, Mumtaz Sheikh, Haji Atta ur Rehman, Mian Zafar Iqbal, Rauf Mukhtiar, Pir Nazim Hussain Shah, Momen Ali Malik and others were present at the occasion.



**RCCI to organize BUILD 2023 Expo on May 19-21**

**Commerce Desk**

ISLAMABAD: The Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI) is going to organize the third BUILD 2023 Expo in the third week of May.

The president of the Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce Saqib Rafiq in a statement has said that with an aim of empowering businesses, Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI) always endeavored to promote and strengthen the industry by organizing multitude of events on both National and International level including various conferences

and exhibitions. Previously, RCCI had successfully organized premium events of the sector: Build-2021 Construction Trade Fair and ICEE. Subsequent to that success and in view of the strategic importance of this sector, RCCI is organizing Build Expo 2023 on May 19th-21st 2023 at Topi Rakh Complex, Rawalpindi. He further informed that the exhibition will have stalls based on various products including Property, Builders Developers, Construction and allied industry related materials, ceramics, tiles, electric cables, interior, paint and hardware.



# Islamabad Police to provide 'world-class' security during New Zealand tour

By A Sports -

ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad police on Sunday said that it was "fully equipped" to provide end-to-end "fool-proof and world-class" to the New Zealand cricket team during their upcoming visit to Pakistan.

The Black Caps are scheduled to arrive in Pakistan on April 9 (today) for the ODI and T20I series set to begin on April 14 in Lahore.

On Saturday, sources in the police department had told ARY News that the federal capital police had refused to provide security to New Zealand cricket team for limited-overs series.

The sources said that the federal police were busy in providing security to 'ongoing census and flour distribution', adding that the provision of resources and expenses was the responsibility of Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB).

However, Inspector General of Police Dr Akbar Nasir Khan in a statement released by ICT police today stated that



capital police had "flawlessly" provided the highest level of security during the visit of the English cricket team and

the eighth edition of the Pakistan Super League. "ICTP shall be playing a key role for

provision of flawless security in collaboration with other stakeholders in Islamabad and Rawalpindi," he assured.

# Ali Naqvi and Chris Broad to lead playing control teams during Pakistan-New Zealand series

Asim Tanveer

LAHORE: Former Test cricketers and respected match referees Ali Naqvi and Chris Broad will lead the playing control teams in the T20 International and One-Day International series between Pakistan and New Zealand from 14 April till 7 May.

Ali Naqvi will be the match referee in the five T20Is - spread over Lahore and Rawalpindi - in which Ahsan Raza, Aleem Dar, Asif Yaqoob, Faisal Afridi, Rashid Riaz will take up on-field umpiring duties.

Chris Broad, member of ICC Elite Panel of Match Referees, will return to Pakistan for the first time in 14 years to officiate the five ODIs to be played in Rawalpindi and Karachi.

In these five ODIs, Ahsan Raza, Aleem Dar, Asif Yaqoob, Faisal Afridi, Langton Rusere, Joel Wilson, Rashid Riaz will carry out the on-field umpiring duties. Amongst the umpires to officiate in the two series, Ahsan Raza and Joel Wilson are the members of the ICC Elite Panel of Umpires, while others are members of ICC International Panel of Umpires.

Detailed appointments: 14 Apr - First T20I, Lahore. Ahsan Raza and Faisal Afridi (on-field), Asif Yaqoob (third umpire), Rashid Riaz (fourth umpire); Ali Naqvi (match referee)

15 Apr - Second T20I, Lahore. Asif Yaqoob and Rashid Riaz (on-field), Ahsan Raza (third umpire), Faisal Afridi (fourth

umpire); Ali Naqvi (match referee)

17 Apr - Third T20I, Lahore. Faisal Afridi and Ahsan Raza (on-field), Aleem Dar (third umpire), Rashid Riaz (fourth umpire); Ali Naqvi (match referee)

20 Apr - Fourth T20I, Rawalpindi. Aleem Dar and Rashid Riaz (on-field), Faisal Afridi (third umpire), Asif Yaqoob (fourth umpire); Ali Naqvi (match referee)

24 Apr - Fifth T20I, Rawalpindi. Aleem Dar and Asif Yaqoob (on-field), Rashid Riaz (third umpire), Faisal Afridi (fourth umpire); Ali Naqvi (match referee)

27 Apr - First ODI, Rawalpindi. Aleem Dar and Ahsan Raza (on-field), Rashid Riaz (third umpire), Faisal Afridi (fourth

umpire); Chris Broad (match referee)

29 Apr - Second ODI, Rawalpindi. Aleem Dar and Rashid Riaz (on-field), Ahsan Raza (third umpire), Asif Yaqoob (fourth umpire); Chris Broad (match referee)

3 May - Third ODI, Karachi. Langton Rusere and Faisal Afridi (on-field), Joel Wilson (third umpire), Rashid Riaz (fourth umpire); Chris Broad (match referee)

5 May - Fourth ODI, Karachi. Joel Wilson and Asif Yaqoob (on-field), Langton Rusere (third umpire), Faisal Afridi (fourth umpire); Chris Broad (match referee)

7 May - Fifth ODI, Karachi. Langton Rusere and Rashid Riaz (on-field), Joel Wilson (third umpire), Asif Yaqoob (fourth umpire); Chris Broad (match referee)

# ICT clinches inter-departmental cricket tournament organized by CDA

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: In a thrilling two-day event organized by the Capital Development Authority (CDA), the Islamabad Capital Territory Administration emerged victorious in the first-ever inter-departmental, floodlight cricket tournament.

The tournament witnessed fierce competition between the teams of CDA, Islamabad Police, ICT, and the Ministry of Interior, with each team putting up a tough fight.

In the final match against Islamabad Police, the ICT showed great sportsmanship and perseverance, successfully chasing down a total of 86 runs with ease.

The star of the match was none other than Chief Commissioner Islamabad Noorul-Amin, who scored a remarkable 37 runs innings, leading the team to victory.

The tournament brought together some of the best players from various departments, showcasing their exceptional cricketing skills and prowess on the field.

# 2nd Satellite Squash Tournament final won by Abdullah Nawaz



Tahir Amin Malik

LAHORE: The 2nd Satellite Squash Tournament final won by Abdullah Nawaz of Khyber Pakhtun Khawa after defeated Shoaib Hassan, Shoaib won the first set easily by 3-11 but in remaining three set Abdullah dominated on the game and won the remaining 3 set by 6-11, 9-11, and 9-11. Sadaqat Latif, Chief Engineer, Irrigation Punjab who distributed the prizes among the players. Speaking on the occasion Sadaqat said that Punjab Squash Association hold such a fabulous squash event which is positive sign for the restoration of Squash, he further said that to due to the establish the state of the art Squash Complex the game of Squash will more better and PSA took a great initiative to hold the 2nd Satellite Squash tournament in Lahore.

# Faisalabad shooter Mohsin earns prestigious NRA classification in US



Sports Desk

Faisalabad's Mohsin Nawaz achieved an incredible milestone in the world of International F class shooting as he became the first Pakistani shooter to complete 400 shots in international matches, earning him the prestigious National Rifle Association (NRA) USA classification.

Mohsin has completed these shots by participating in two International competitions, Rocky Mountain at Montana and NRA US Nationals.

The Pakistani shooter has also won multiple championships around the world and has made his country proud several times, not just internationally but also nationally. He has won an incredible 25 medals on his home ground.

This achievement is a true testament to the skill, dedication, and hard work that Mohsin has put into his sport.

According to Nawaz, his goal is to discover and cultivate talent in Pakistan, particularly in the area of F-class long-range shooting. He aims to train students to compete in international championships and bring accolades for the country.

# Dottin's all-round exploits help Barmy Army beat Warriors in FairBreak

By A Sports -

KOWLOON: Deandra Dottin scored an excellent 69 before taking two wickets to steer Barmy Army to a comfortable 17-run win over table-toppers Warriors in the 11th match of FairBreak Invitational 2023 on Sunday.

West Indies' Dottin smashed seven sixes and three fours during her sensational 48-ball knock to help her side reach 163 for 6 after they were put into bat. In return, the Warriors were bowled out for 146 thanks to a collective effort by the Barmy Army bowlers.

Deandra Dottin and Tara Norris bagged two wickets each while Fatima Sana, Rumana Ahmed, Rubina Chhetry and Kavisha Egoogade had a scalp each.

Barmy Army faced a setback early on when their skipper Lauren Winfield-Hill retired hurt after facing three balls while South Africa's Laura Wolvaardt and Kavisha Egoogade were dismissed cheaply as the side stuck at 26/2 after 5 overs.

Dottin held the fort afterwards and raised a match-defining partnership with Rumana Ahmed for the third wicket. The two gathered 99 runs before Dottin fell prey to Kathryn Bryce.

Rumana, on the other hand, contributed 37 from 28 balls to take her side on top.

In reply, apart from Bryce's late cameo of 26-ball 45, the Warriors' batting lineup struggled greatly throughout the chase as they kept losing wickets at regular intervals.

# Top cricket stars play hockey in Ramazan Sports Series

Tahir Amin Malik

LAHORE: A great rather exciting development was witnessed in First Ramzan Sports Series 2023 on Saturday night when members of national cricket team along with Adviser to CM Punjab on Sports Wahab Riaz amused the large crowd with their hockey skills in an exhibition hockey match at Mini Hockey Stadium.

Director Youth Affairs Syed Umair Hasan, Director Sports Nadeem Qaiser and others were also present on this occasion.

Vice-captain national cricket team Shadab Khan, all-rounder Faheem Ashraf, pacer Haris Rauf and opening batsman Imamul Haq and Wahab Riaz took part in exhibition hockey match with great passion and received huge appreciation from hockey lovers and guests of honour



present at the venue. National cricket stars took part in the exhibition hockey match in a bid to encourage the participating players in the Ramzan Sports Series Hockey Championship. The cricket stars attacked the goal post several times during the match.

Talking to media, members of national cricket team said that the Punjab government has taken a very good step for the revival of hockey by holding this event. "Sports Board Punjab has made excellent arrangements but still a lot of work is needed to be done for the revival of hockey."

Shadab Khan said that several new potential players will emerge from First Ramzan Sports Series Hockey Championship. "It is very effective tournament and it will motivate the young hockey players of the country."

Pacer Haris Rauf said that the hockey championship is a very good initiative. "Hockey is our national game and this kind of events will help a lot in the promotion of hockey in Pakistan". Faheem Ashraf said that the Ramzan Sports Series hockey championship will definitely prove to be very useful tournament for the growth and revival of hockey in the country.

Imamul Haq said that Punjab govt and Adviser to Chief Minister Punjab on Sports and Youth Affairs Wahab Riaz took a nice step by organizing Ramzan Sports Series Hockey Championship. "All stakeholders must play their due role for the revival of hockey in the country."

# First Ramzan Sports Series 2023 were continued at different venues

Sports Desk

LAHORE: The competitions of the First Ramzan Sports Series 2023 were continued at different venues of Nishtar Park Sports Complex on the second day on the instructions of Caretaker Chief Minister Punjab Mohsin Naqvi.

Adviser to Chief Minister Punjab on Sports and Youth Affairs Wahab Riaz, Commissioner Lahore Muhammad Ali Randhawa, Director General Sports Punjab Dr Asif Tufail also watched the exciting competitions and encouraged the players on Saturday night.



According to the results, the teams of Lahore, Gujranwala, Faisalabad and Sahiwal divisions reached the semi-finals of the Kabaddi Championship. Lahore's Kalsoom and Pernia Khan reached the table tennis women's singles final. Lahore City Blue and Raiwind Green teams

reached the final of Ramzan Sports Series Cricket Tape Ball Tournament.

Ramzan Sports Series kabaddi matches were played at Punjab Stadium where Sahiwal Division beat Sargodha Division 20-18, Gujranwala Division defeated Bahawalpur Division by 52-36, Faisalabad beat DG

Khan by 38-12.

Commissioner Lahore Muhammad Ali Randhawa was the chief guest of the Kabaddi matches. Secretary Pakistan Kabaddi Federation Rana Sarwar, Secretary Pakistan Wrestling Federation Arshad Sattar, Director Youth Affairs Syed Umair Hassan, Director Sports Nadeem Qaiser and Deputy Director Tariq Wattoo were also present on this occasion.

The first semi-final of Kabaddi event will be played between Lahore and Sahiwal while the second semi-final will be played between Gujranwala and Faisalabad on April 10 at Punjab Stadium.

# 'I want to take wicket of every world-class batter' Ihsanullah

Sports Desk

LAHORE: Young pace sensation Ihsanullah expressed his desire to take the wickets of every world-class batter as he is poised to represent Pakistan in the home T20I and ODI series against New Zealand.

The 20-year-old, who impressed everyone with his express pace during the Pakistan Super League season 8, said it was an honour for him to be compared with Shoaib Akhtar, often dubbed as "Rawalpindi Express".

"Shoaib Akhtar is our legend and no one can break his record," he said in a press conference on Saturday after the team's training session at National Cricket Academy.

"I feel happy when people use to peg my name with Shoaib Akhtar."



Player of the PSL 8, Ihsanullah received his maiden call-up to the national ODI squad after making his T20I debut last month against Afghanistan. He took six scalps to finish as the leading wicket-getter in the three-match series. The right-arter disclosed that he was working on yorker deliveries besides his lethal bouncers for the forthcoming series.

"I will try to bowl according to my own strengths and win matches for my

team," he said. "Along with short-pitch deliveries, I am working on yorkers too. My aim is to take a wicket of every world-class batter"

He added, "I've learned a lot from the bowlers like Shaheen and Haris after sharing the dressing room with them."

Ihsanullah caught the limelight when he forced Najibullah Zadran to retire hurt during Pakistan's third T20I against Afghanistan, hitting him just below the grill of his helmet on a dangerous 147.5 kph bouncer.

"I went to him and said sorry to him in Pushto," he disclosed.

It is pertinent to mention here that Ihsanullah will be featuring alongside fast bowling mainstays Shaheen Afridi and Haris Rauf for the first time if he gets a chance in the forthcoming T20I and ODI series against New Zealand.