ملیاللّٰدعلیه وسلم نے فرمایا،جبرات اس

لرف(مشرق) ہے آئےاور دن ادھر فرب میں چلاجائے کہ سورج ڈوب جائے وروزه کے افطار کاوقت آگیا۔

Barkat Rice Mills

ECP proposes amendments to Election Act 2017

ECP proposed amendments to Section 57 and Section 58 of the Election Act 2017, granting the commission more flexibility in announcing the date and amending the election program for general elections. In a letter to NA Speaker Raja Pervez Ashraf on Monday, ECP Chief Sikandar Sultan Raja requested Parliament's approval for the proposed amendments. (Details on Page 8)

Census: Population count extended for second time in select metropolitan cities

Simultaneously published from Islamabad, Lahore and Multan

Ramazan-ul-Mubarak 20, Tuesday, April 11, 2023



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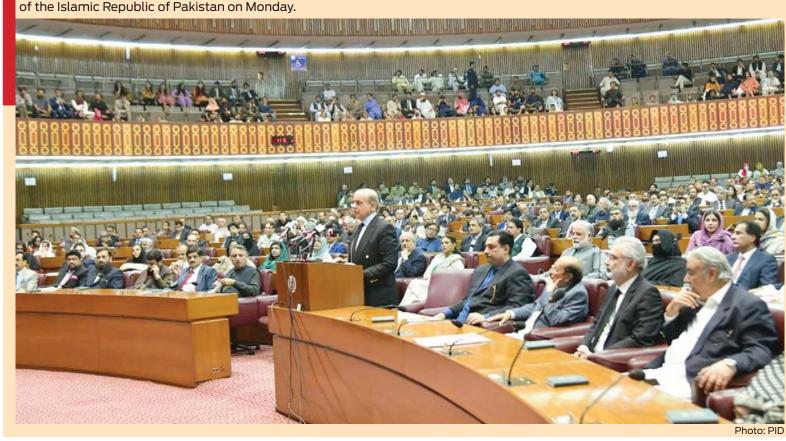


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PM address

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif addresses a Convention to mark to Golden Jubilee of 1973 Constitution



Parliament's joint sitting passes SC Bill clipping CJP's suo motu power

ISLAMABAD: Amid strong protests by Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf(PTI) lawmakers, the Joint Sitting of Parliament on Monday passed the Supreme Court (Practice and Procedure) Bill 2023, which aims to curtail the suo motu powers of office of the chief justice of Pakistan (CJP.

Minister for Law and Justice Azam Nazeer Tarar moved the Supreme Court (Practice and Procedure) Bill, 2023 which was passed by the Parliament.

It is to mention that President Dr Arif Alvi had returned the 'judicial reforms' bill for reconsideration to the Parliament as per the provisions of Article 75 of the Constitution.

The minister read out the message of the President who returned the bill for reconsideration. He said that bill was discussed in detail in National Assembly and it was also approved by the Senate.

The minister responded to the objections to the bill and said the will bring more clarity to the judi-

Naveed Ahmad Khan words while returning this bill and used a biased approach". He said that he should think "as the President rather than a political worker".

> Azam Nazeer Tarar said it was the demand of the bar associations and councils to introduce the bill and they had supported the bill. This bill, he said, was an old demand of the Bar Council which said that the indiscriminate use of 184(3) should be

The joint sitting of Parliament reconsidered it and passed the legislative proposal. Former Minister for Law and Justice and Senator Farooq H. Naek and JUI-F Senator Kamran Murtaza spoke on the various sections of the bill and were of the view that was the right time of legislation which would ensure reforms in judicial affairs.

MNA Ms. Shaza Fatima Khawaia moved amendments in the bill and the Minister for Law and Justice did not oppose them. He said that these amendments



ency while forming bench. However, the amendments moved by JI Senator Mushtaq

Ahmed were rejected. President's assent

It is mentioned that the President shall give his assent within ten days, failing which such assent shall be deemed to have been given.

Sub-Article 2 of Article 75 of the Constitution of Pakistan states "When the President has returned a Bill to the Majlis-e-Shoora (Parliament), it shall be reconsidered by the Majlise-Shoora (Parliament) in joint sitting and, if it is again passed, with or without amendment,

ment), by the votes of the majority of the members of both Houses present and voting; it shall be deemed for the purposes of the Constitution to have been passed by both Houses and shall be presented to the President, and the President shall give his assent within ten days, failing which such assent shall be deemed to

have been given. The bill

The passed bill - the Supreme Court (Practice and Procedure) Bill, 2023 - aims at giving the power of taking suo motu notice to a three-member committee comprising senior judges including Chief Justice. It also aims to

the apex court and includes the

right to appeal. Regarding the constitution of benches, the bill states that every cause, matter or appeal before the apex court would be heard and disposed of by a bench constituted by a committee comprising the CJP and the two seniormost judges. It added that the decisions of the committee would

be taken by a majority. Regarding exercising the apex court's original jurisdiction, the bill said that any matter invoking the use of Article 184(3) would first be placed before the above mentioned committee.

The bill says that if the committee is of the view that a question of public importance with reference to the enforcement of any of the fundamental rights conferred by Chapter I of Part II of the Constitution is involved, it shall constitute a bench comprising not less than three judges of the Supreme Court of Pakistan which may also include the members of the committee, for adjudication of

PM vows to ensure sanctity of Constitution by making country economically independent

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Monday vowed to ensure the sanctity of the Constitution by making Pakistan economically developed and independent and by facilitating common people.

"Constitution is the protector and guiding principle of Pakistan and we can sacrifice our lives to protect it," he said in his message to the nation.

The prime minister felicitated the nation on the completion of 50 years of the 1973 Constitution of the country.

He also paid tributes to all the political parties, leaders, and parliamentarians who formulated the constitution

"We pay tribute to all the respected personalities who elevated the sanctity of the Constitution and continue to play role in its strength during the last 50 years," he added.

Constitution of Pakistan 1973 added.

was the extract of the vision of Quaid-i-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah, Allama Muhammad Iqbal, and other founders of Pakistan.

He said the Constitution of Pakistan kept the nation united. Terming it the mother of all state institutions, he said Constitution is a unanimously agreed upon civil agreement among all the stakeholders living in Pakistan.

The prime minister said despite untoward incidents and conspiracies that happened in the past, the Constitution maintained its existence in the country.

He said Zulfikar Ali Bhutto was not only the architect of the Constitution but also the one to sacrifice his own life for its sanctity.

"I particularly salute Benazir Bhutto and Muhammad Nawaz Sharif who played a historic role in promoting, saving, and upholding the PM Shehbaz said the Constitution of Pakistan," he

Senate passes resolution for sameday elections

跨 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Senate of Pakistan on Monday passed a resolution to hold simultaneous elections in the National and four provincial assemblies by majority.

Supreme Court in its April 4 verdict, ordered the finance ministry to release Rs21 billion to the Election Commission of Pakistan for the Punjab elec-

The resolution was tabled by Senator Tahir Bizenjo in the Senate session chaired by its chairman Sadiq Sanjrani.

According to the resolution, political stability is essential for economic stability in the country, for which elections in NA and provincial assemblies must be held on the same day.

The resolution said that elections in Punjab alone

would have a negative impact on other provinces while holding elections in centre and provinces at the same time would strengthen the federation.

Senator Tahir Bizenjo further said in the resolution that Pakistan could not afford further political instability. We need to work for national stability instead of confrontation, he added.

The resolution was passed with a majority, while opposition members protested and surrounded the chair of the Senate chairman.

Earlier in the day, Finance Minister Ishaq Dar presented Election Charge Expenditure Bill 2023 before National Assembly (NA), which was moved by speaker Raja Pervaiz Ashraf to a concerned commit-

Ishaq Dar presents election "President used inappropriate cial affairs and ensure transpar- by the Majlis-e-Shoora (Parlia- have transparent proceedings in the matter. charge expenditure bill 2023 in NA Bilawal for following trichotomy of power principle to bring Pakistan out of problems Punjab Election: Finance ministry Commerce Desk

$vehicle \, collides$ with trawler, four dead

Commissioner's

Kalat

Spokesman Report

QUETTA: At least four Levies personnel were killed and two others sustained iniuries when the squad of Kalat Commissioner suffered an accident in Balochistan's Surab district

on Monday. According to details, the incident took place when the squad Kalat Commissioner Dawood Khan Khilji collided with a trawler coming from the opposite direction, killing four Levies personnel.

Meanwhile, Commissioner Khilji remained unharmed in the accident. The deceased and injured Levies personnel were shifted to Civil Hospital, Surab.

Mews Desk

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Foreign Affairs Bilawal Bhutto Zardari while underlining the need for unity among political and democratic forces on Monday said all institutions should work in their constitutional ambit to bring Pakistan out of various problems including economic, inflation, unemployment and terrorism being confronted by the country.

connection with the golden jubilee celebrations of the 1973 constitution, he said the undemocratic forces always took advantage of differences among the politicians and political parties in the past. It was the right time to forge unity and work jointly for political and economic stability in

the country, he added. The minister said the National

Security Committee in its meeting gave the country a way forward to has decided to launch operations against terrorists and defeated them again like in the past.

He said the 1973 constitution which was unanimously passed by this august house and kept intact all the provinces of the country.

He said April 10 was a historical day and this day should be a part of the syllabus to teach in schools to the new generation about the importance Speaking at a convention held in of the constitutional day like August 14, 1947. It was a historical day as the country got its unanimous constitution on April 10, 1974, he added.

He said April 10 was the foundation day of our 50 years of political struggle. Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto united the broken and scattered country through a unanimous constitution in 1973, he added.

He said the Constitution of 1973

tread the path of progress and constitutionalism.

He went on to say that Shaheed Benazir Bhutto and Nawaz Sharif inked a charter of democracy (CoD) in 2006 as the undemocratic forces always took benefit of differences and communication gaps among the political forces in the past. Pakistan People's Party (PPP) not only restored the 1973 constitution in letter and spirit but also provided rights to the provinces besides giving them their identity, he added.

However, the minister said undemocratic forces started conspiracies against CoD and imposed a selected prime minister aimed at abrogating the unanimous constitution of 1973 and cleared the way for setting up of One Unit again in the country.

prepares report regarding funds

跨 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Finance ministry on Monday prepared a summary for the federal cabinet and Parliament regarding the provision of funds for Punjab elections.

The sources said the summary finalised by the finance ministry mentioned difficulties in the availability of large sums of money for elections separately.

Sources having knowledge of the matter said that no money was kept in the budget for the elections and now it is difficult to take out Rs21 billion for the Punjab elections. The report further stated that every pool has its budget and expenses if anyone of them is disturbed, there will be financial prob-



ISLAMABAD: Finance Minis-

ter Ishaq Dar on Monday presented Election Charge Expenditure Bill 2023 before National Assembly (NA). Supreme Court in its April

4 verdict, ordered the finance ministry to release Rs21 billion to the Election Commission of Pakistan for the Punjab elec-

The National Assembly will discuss the bill on Thursday as speaker Raja Pervaiz Ashraf has forwarded the bill to the concerned committee.

Speaking on the floor of the National Assembly, Ishaq Dar said Pakistan was heading toward prosperity and became the world's 24th-largest economy during Nawaz Sharif's tenure.

But he was disqualified in Panama Papers and Imran Khan was 'imposed' on Paki-

stan in 2018, he added. Foreign reserves were \$24 billion and the growth rate



was ousted, Ishaq Dar said and held Imran Khan responsible for the economic turmoil. "Incumbent govt inherited

ill-economy." Ishaq Dar said the PDM parties put their politics on stake for the survival of the state. Citing the current econom-

ic situation, Ishaq Dar said immediate elections are not in favour of Pakistan. Finance Ministry's report

Finance ministry has prepared a summary for the federal cabinet and Parliament regarding the provision of funds for Punjab elections, said sources.

The Spokesman

Paigham-e-Islam Confeence

ISLAMABAD: President Dr. Arif Alvi addressing the 5th Paigham-e-Islam Conference on Monday.



President exhorts political leadership to sit together for country's future

跨 Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi on Monday emphasized that the entire political leadership of the country should show magnanimity by burying their bitterness and come forward for the country's progress and prosperity.

Pakistan was once a fast-developing country in the region, but now other countries were leading the path which required serious retrospection, he

The president was addressing at the Paigham-e-Islam Conference as a chief guest.

uight the Muslims of the qual- (HOJK) and Palestine. ity of forgiveness, therefore, all

the political leadership of the lurking over the Muslims ic values to the coming generquality in the face of prevailing challenges faced by the country,

The president said considering the current challenges faced by the Muslim Ummah, it was imperative to draw strength from the Islamic values and qualities.

He said besides focusing on economic stability, the Muslim countries should also concentrate on seeking the knowledge, enabling them to address the contemporary challenges.

The president said he was The event was attended by a appalled at the spectacles large number of ambassadors, of macabre aggression and The holy month of Ramazan Occupied Jammu and Kashmir ance to the human beings.

A danger of genocide was the teaching of certain Islam-

country should emulate that in India as the mosques were being demolished with suppressed religious identity and freedom, he added.

> He said it was indeed a difficult time for the Muslim Ummah, but he was optimistic that through collective efforts. cooperation and unity, they would overcome all the chal-

> The president further regretted that from human history, it was evident that mankind had not learnt from its bitter experiences of wrangling and tussles. The human race had witnessed large-scale massacres.

He said the teachings of the Ulema, parliamentarians and violence unleashed on the inno- Holy Quran were eternal in cent people of Indian Illegally nature which provided guid-

The president stressed

had been working closely to ations, including the supreme quality of forgiveness. The Holy Prophet (Peace Be Upon Him) was an embodiment of

tormentors. President Alvi also lauded the role of leadership of Saudi Arabia for resuming ties with

that quality who forgave all his

Earlier, Ambassador of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to Pakistan, Nawaf bin Said Al-Malki highlighted the significance of fraternal, historic and brotherly ties between Saudi Arabia and

He said the close and warm ties were rooted deeply and shaped by shared mutual interests, adding the people of Kingdom and the Muslim countries held Pakistan in high esteem.

further strengthen their mutual cooperation in diverse fields, including trade and investment.

He reiterated that Saudi Arabia would continue extending its support to the people of Pakistan through different development initiatives.

Ambassador of Palestine to Pakistan, Ahmed Rabei conveyed his gratitude on behalf of the Palestinian people for the solidarity and support shown to the Palestinian cause by the Pakistani people, government and political leadership.

He also highlighted the recent surge of brutalities by the occupation Israeli forces in the holy month of Ramazan.

Senator Mushahid Hussain Syed, Hafiz Tahir Mehmood Ashrafi and other speakers als Malki said both the countries spoke on the occasion.

Golden Jubilee Convention urges state organs to implement 1973 Constitution, protect people's rights



ISLAMABAD: The Golden Jubilee Convention of the 1973 Constitution on Monday, pledging to "preserve, protect and defend" the Constitution in letter and spirit, called upon the state organs to take all necessary measures to ensure its full implementation and safeguard the rights and interests of the people of Pakistan.

The resolution presented by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and unanimously adopted by the Convention held here at the National Assembly Hall, emphasized the importance of upholding the principles of federalism as one of the fundamental tenets

framers of the 1973 Constitution who

set aside their political differences and got united for sake of the country - an achievement to be remembered forever.

Calling April 10, 1973 an important day in the country's history, he said despite multiple amendments made from time to time, the Constitution was still a living document.

Attended by the parliamentarians from both Houses of the parliament, legal and constitutional experts, educationists, and prominent figures from different fields of life, the Convention also declared April 10, 2023, as the National Constitution Day, "to be celebrated each year to commemorate the adoption of the Constitution of 1973 and to educate Before reading out the resolution, the people of Pakistan about the the prime minister paid tribute to the Constitution and its significance for

Vice Chief of Naval Staff calls on Finance Minister



News Desk

ISLAMABAD: Vice Admiral Naveed Ashraf, Vice Chief of Naval Staff here on Monday called on Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar.

The meeting discussed the prevailing economic and security situation of the country, said a press release.

The minister commended the

safeguarding the maritime boundaries and extended the government's full support to Pakistan Navy.

ing the country's sea frontiers and

Ishaq Dar further expressed confi-

dence on the role of Pakistan Navy in

maritime interests of Pakistan.

The Vice Chief of Naval Staff thanked the Finance Minister for his support and appreciation.

ECP proposes amendments to Election Act 2017

ISLAMABAD: The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) proposed amendments to Section 57 and Section 58 of the Election Act 2017, granting the commission more flexibility in announcing the date and amending the election program for general elections.

In a letter to National Assembly Speaker Raja Pervez Ashraf on Monday, ECP Chief Sikandar Sultan Raja requested Parliament's approval for the proposed amendments, which would allow the election commission to change the election schedule even after the issuance of the notification.

Under the proposed amendments, the ECP would announce the date of the general elections and would be able to amend the election program announced at different

The commission could issue a new election and streamline the election process.



program and give a new date as necessary. However, the commission would be required to provide its opinion and reasons for changing the election schedule in writing.

The secretary election commission wrote letters to the secretary of parliamentary affairs and the principal secretary to the prime minister, suggesting that they amend the Election Act accordingly.

The proposed amendments would grant more autonomy to the election commission

ECP releases data of registered voters across country

跨 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) on Monday released the latest data of registered voters across the country. According to the ECP data,

the total registered voters till March 2023 has crossed the mark of 125.6 million. The number of male voters

is 67.8 million and the number of women voters is 57.7 The ratio between the male

and female voters in Pakistan is 54 per cent and 46 per cent The electoral watchdog also

per cent of the voters are in the age group of 26 to 35 years.

According to the report, the number of voters in Punjab is 71.5 million, while the number of voters in Sindh is 26.3 million. The number of voters in

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa is 21.4 million, the number of voters in Baluchistan is 5.2 million and the number of voters in Islamabad is 1.2 million. The total number of voters

in terms of provinces and terri-

Sindh: 26,396,053. Punjab: 71,565,168. Balochistan: 5,228,729.

released the data in terms of age 21,415,490. according to which at least 26 Islamabad: 1,020,953.

Imran Khan summoned by police for investigation in 9 Cases

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: police have summoned former prime minister and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf chief Imran Khan for an investigation into nine cases registered against him.

As per details, Islamabad police summoned the PTI chief on April 11 (tomorrow) for an investigation into two cases, while the former premier is also directed to appear before police at Police Lines Headquarters on April 12 for a probe into 7 other cases.

All cases against the PTI chief are being investigated by the Counter Terrorism Department

The summons of all cases have been dispatched to Imran Khan's Zaman Park residence. The notices said Imran Khan should appear before the investigation teams to record his statement. "In case of non-appearance, the law will take its due course."

Earlier on Sunday, Imran Khan was summoned by the district and sessions court of Islamabad in the Toshakhana case on April 11 (tomorrow).

As per details, the summons were issued by the court on a plea seeking an immediate hearing of the Toshakhana case.

The former prime minister had been asked to appear before the court on April 11 at 8: 30 in the morning, the summon read.

Second phase of Polio 1 vaccination drive concludes



News Desk

ISLAMABAD: The second phase of the Polio vaccination drive concluded in 12 districts of Balochistan and 26 districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

During the five-day campaign, more than 4.12 million children were vaccinated in both provinces. Federal Minister for Health

Abdul Qadir Patel said that the focus was to ensure the vaccination of every child so that they remain protected from poliovirus, which has been found circulating in environmental samples.

"The presence of wild polio in the environment shows that the virus is circulating in our communities and posing a serious risk to our children," said Abdul Qadir Patel, the minister.

"With Ramazan around the corner, population movements can increase the risk of further spread, therefore, it is critical that parents and caregivers vaccinate their children in every campaign," said the minister.

"We have specifically designed this March campaign to reach areas where population movement is not just frequent but also expected during Ramazan and Eid festival," said Dr Shahzad Baig, National **Emergency Operations Center.**

PM's resolution to celebrate April 10 as National Constitution Day adopted: *Marriyum*

👺 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Information and Broadcasting Marriyum Aurangzeb on Monday said the National Constitutional Convention had adopted the resolution presented by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to celebrate the National Constitution Day on April 10 every year.

The resolution was presented by the PM on the completion of 50 years of the 1973 Constitution.

The purpose of celebrating the day was to apprise the people of the importance of the Constitution, the rights of the citizens and the duties of the state institutions, she maintained.

NA passes The National University of Pakistan Bill, 2023

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The National Assembly on Monday passed the National University of Pakistan (The National University of Pakistan Bill, 2023) clause by clause reading.

The bill was tabled by Minister for Parliamentary Affairs Murtaza Javed Abbasi on behalf of Minister for Defence Khawaja Muhammad Asif.

According to the Statement of Objects and Reasons: -Federal Government Educational Institutions (Cantonments/Garrisons Directorate) which is an Executive Department of MoD administers a large number of educational institutions all over the

country. The degree colleges under (FGEI Directorate are presently affiliated with seven provin-



cially chartered universities.

Variations in the scheme of studies, academic forecast, admission policies, exam lish a University that will schedules, evaluation criteria, grading system and fee structure detrimentally affect for the affiliation of degree the uniformity and surface colleges.

problems in the migration of students. Against this backdrop, it is imperative to estabstandardize higher education and provide a single platform

The FGEI Directorate has proposed to set up National University of Pakistan (NUP) in Islamabad. The University will be a unique model and public sector imitative with multi-disciplinary scope, focusing on strengthening and empowering affiliated colleges.

The project will provide equal opportunity to civilian youth from lower and lower-middle-income groups in pursuit of their higher education.

The university aims at achieving excellence in the advancement and dissemination of knowledge in the fields of natural and applied sciences engineering and emerging technologies, management sciences, computing, social sciences, humanities and arts and other such branches of knowledge.

Enhanced Rs.8500 disbursed to 7.5 million BISP beneficiaries

👺 Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Benazir Income Support Program is disbursing quarterly stipends, from January to March, among the 9 million deserving families across the country who are registered under Benazir Kafaalat. So far 7.5 million have received their cash assistance through designated banks or their Point of Sale (POS) agents.

Besides the disbursement of Benazir Kafaalat quarterly tranche, quarterly installment of Benazir Taleemi Wazaif is also being paid to the deserving families. Children of the regis-

in schools with an attendance rate of over 70% are entitled for the 'Teleemi

Moreover, the distribution of Rupees 2000 per family as Atta subsidy, announced by the Government of Sindh, is also going on. Out of the total 64 lac deserving families registered with Benazir Income Support Program, 26 lac, 80 thousand beneficiaries have been paid the atta subsidy amount in Sindh Province.

Under Wheat Seed Subsidy Programme of the Sindh government, Rs. 3.15 billion have been disbursed, affected farmers, through Benazir Income Support Programme.

The crackdown operations against alleged bank agents who are involved in deductions from beneficiaries cash are also being carried out with full force. Multiple FIRs, have been registered, and arrests have been made after receiving complaints of illegal deductions during payment of money to Benazir Income Support Programme. Moreover, monitoring teams under the leadership of the senior officials of Benazir Income Support Program have paid surprise visits in Punjab, Sindh, in case of any complaint.

tered beneficiaries who are enrolled among 1 lac and 33 thousand flood Balochistan, and other areas. These surprise visits were made at payment centers and agents involved in illegal deductions were also blacklisted. Federal Minister and Chairperson Benazir Income Support Program, Ms. Shazia Marri has directed the relevant authorities to take strict action against the agents who are found involved in illegal deductions.

The beneficiaries of Benazir Income Support Program are urged to lodge complaints in the nearest Tehsil office of Benazir Income Support Program or contact helpline number 0800-26477

angerous

FAISALABAD: A biker is refuelling tank illegally from road side trader, which is very dangerous and may cause any incident suddenly. Government bans such activity but due to the laziness of local administration the implementation is still waiting



Photo: Online

Govt of Punjab released funds for expansion second phase of Multan Institute of Cardiology

S Asim Tanveer

MULTAN: Government of sands of patients are in a life Punjab has released funds for the expansion of the second phase of Multan Institute of Cardiology and the purchase of equipment for it. I played my role to provide the best medi- the funds, after which the cal facilities. These views were expressed by Chairman Board of Management not only speed up, but it will Cardiac Institute Multan also buy Missionaries, which Khawaja Jalaluddin Romi will provide state-of-the-art important meeting of the

years, due to which thouand death struggle due to lack of treatment facilities. Considering these problems, our request But the health and finance secretaries immediately released construction of Phase Two of the Cardiac Hospital will two months. will go

Also, within three months, He said that the expan- the outdoor emergency ward sion project of Multan Insti- will not only start func-

again. Additional Secretary Procurement Dr. Avesha Parvez in the meeting Executive Director Cardiac Institute Multan Dr. Mujtabi Ali Siddiqui, MS Cardiac Institute Dr. Muhammad Iqbal, Prof. Tariq Abbas, Board Members Ibn Hussain, Mahnaz Farid, Justice (Rtd) Zafar Yasin, Prof. Dr. Ijaz Ahmed, Director Tankinkel Dr. Farhan Khan. DMS Purchase Dr. Hafiz

while presiding over the medical facilities, in the next Khabib Zia, DM Technical Dr. Muhammad Waqas Chaudhry, DMS Admin Dr. Hafiz Muhammad Asad participated. The tute of Cardiology has been tioning, but the construc- board meeting unanimous-

delayed for the past several tion of phase two will start ly approved the immediate purchase of medical equipment and other equipment used in the new block consisting of 208 beds. After the purchase of which the new block will be fully functional. The number of beds will increase from 279 to 500.

Chairman Board Khawaja Jalaluddin Rumi said that with the support of the Punjab government, they will provide full financial support in the purchase of five modern operation theaters. After that, patients undergoing bypass in South Punjab will not have to wait for long.

eಟ to acquire a majority stake in Careem SuperApp

e% | Careem | Uber

Example 2 Commerce Report

KARACHI: e& today announced the signing of a binding agreement with Uber Technologies, Inc. ("Uber") and its subsidiary Careem to acquire a majority stake in Careem's Super App spinout. Careem's ride hailing business will remain fully owned by Uber and continue to be available with all other Careem services on the existing app for customers.

This investment is in line with e&'s strategic ambition of scaling up consumer digital offerings and accelerating its transformation to a global technology and investments group. It provides e& with access to multiple digital verticals, new innovative digital services, strong talent, and new geographies.

In recent years e& has transformed into a global technology and investment group. The company is integrating emerging technologies into its expanding business verticals. e& has 163 million subscribers across 16 countries in the Middle East and

Hatem Dowidar, Group CEO of e&, commented, "super apps have catalysed the economic, social and cultural growth of emerging markets today. The popularity of Super Apps has come from the need to provide a unique and seamless customer experience.

Dara Khosrowshahi, CEO of Uber, said, "Over the last decade, Careem helped revolutionize mobility across the greater Middle East while building an incredible brand.

Khalifa Al Shamsi CEO of e& life said: "We are thrilled to welcome Careem into the e& family with this exciting and ground-breaking deal. There are several growth opportunities between Careem and e& life as the "consumer digital" arm of e&.

Careem CEO and co-founder Mudassir Sheikha said, "The opportunity to use technology to leapfrog the lives of people in the region is enormous.

Uber has been an incredible partner over the last three years as we expanded our mission to simplify the lives of people with everyday services beyond ride-hailing. We are excited to bring e& into the family.

Country's Constitution and Parliamentary are most supreme: PMAJK



😂 Abdul Majeed Tahir

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Azad Jammu and Kashmir Sardar Tanveer Ilyas Khan has participated in the golden jubilee ceremony of the Parliament of Pakistan. Azad Kashmir Prime Minister Sardar Tanveer Ilyas Khan while talking to the media said that the country's constitution and parliament are the most supreme, all institutions will have to respect them. The people of Occupied Jammu and Kashmir have hopes from Azad Kashmir and Pakistan to fight against Indian oppression. Attempts are being made to weaken the PTI government in Azad Kashmir, the people elected Tehreek-e-Insaf for five years, this government will complete its term in any case, an attempt is being made to tamper with the political system of Azad Kashmir. If done, there will be strong resistance at the public level. Those who make all kinds of conspiracies will face failure, under no circumstances will they allow the state to become a hostage, the Prime Minister of Azad Kashmir said that political work should be done by political people. All the institutions of the state have to work within their constitutional limits.

The CAA staff has set another example of honest & trustworthy duty

👺 Bureau Report

FAISALABAD: The CAA vigilance staff at Faisalabad Airport has set another example of honest & trustworthy duty. According to the details, the currency worth lakhs of rupees was returned to the passenger coming from Dubai, which had fallen from the passenger somewhere at the airport.

But the vigilance staff found the bag/ purse lying in the trolley from the drop lane and managed to access the affected person



The vigilance staff took the purse/bag into custody and handed it over to the airport administration and Saudi Riyal and some rupees were found in this purse. According to the sources, the total currency in this bag is equal to five and a half lakh rupees. Moreover, there were other important documents including the passport in the wallet.

A passenger resident of district Sargodha was contacted through his ticket and the passenger was informed that his bag was safe.

Later the bag/purse was handed over to the passenger at the airport and the passenger thanked CAA and ASF staffers

The passenger further thanked the CAA vigilance staff in particular for their efforts for tracing the currency and documents to him and said that he was proud of such trustworthy sttafers of Pakistan.

District price control magistrates improve the performance

Asim Tanveer

MULTAN: Commissioner Multan Division Engineer Aamir Khattak has issued special orders to maintain stability in the prices of essential commodities. The action against the mafia should be speeded up. The district administration should coordinate with the food authority to conduct a joint operation against the adulteration mafia. The district price control magistrates should improve their performance.

Make sure the price control magistrates have their presence in the markets. Apart from the price control, no representative of them can do field inspection at all. No mafia will be allowed to act arbitrarily. In the meeting, the deputy commissioners gave a detailed briefing and said that so far 46 lakh 51 thousand 2 hundred and 64 flours are sold in the division. Bags were distributed. 11 lakh 330 bags of flour were distributed in one day. After providing quota to lakhs of citizens, the rush has reduced. So far in the month of Siam in the division, price control magistrates have conducted 44748 raids, imposed a fine of Rs 4111500, filed 48 FIRs, arrested 146 people. Officers of the relevant departments were present in the meeting.

Faisalabad will become CyberAbad soon: Dr. Khurram

Menahill Rashid

FAISALABAD: The youth of Faisalabad are rich in diverse, unique and untapped business ideas which need the guidance of successful entrepreneurs and a conducive environment to implement them and in this regard Faisalabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry, with the support of TIE, would do a hallmark where Faisalabad will become CyberAbad soon. It would work to settle it in a unique opportunity. This was said by Dr. Khurram Tariq, President of Faisalabad Chamber(FCCI) while addressing the Iftar dinner of the

On this occasion Telenor Chief Executive Offiof National Technology Fund, Shafiqur Rehman



also present. He said that the journey which they have after bringing Pakistan's traversed in decades can be textile sector to its peak, completed in a few months now he wants to make this Islamabad Chapter of TIE. city an IT center and for this purpose, a conducive environment will be providcer Irfan Wahab, Ignite. ed here in which the youth Asim Shehryar Hussain can realize their untapped

of Rehman Medical Insti- this regard, successful busitute, Panasin Group Chair- nessmen have to mentor the man Zubair Mohiuddin and young entrants in this sector other charter members were as much as possible so that ties for new start-ups in tech

and years.

He also proposed an endowment fund for the financial support of youth with untouchable ideas and said that this work will be carried forward in collab-He further said that in oration with TI and other

non-profit organizations. He talked about the provision of necessary facili-

he said that in this regard, he had to cooperate with Tv and Indus Valley Entrepreneurs, who should be connected with the insti-Earlier, Murtaza Zaidi,

the president of Ty, also addressed and emphasized on the establishment of business ecosystem in PakistanAnd said that the charter members will play their full role in this regard.

Martyred FC personal laid to rest in Tank with full military honour



B Adam Khan Wazir

TANK: The funeral prayer of Frontier Corps personnel Nazir Ullah Mehsud, who were martyred yesterday, was offered in local graveyard with full military honours.

Sector Commander FC South Suhail Bajwa, Pak Army Officers, relatives and large number of local

people attended the funeral prayer. Sector Commander South laid floral wreath on behalf of Chief of Army Staff (COAS), Corps Commander Peshawar, IG FC South and Sector Headquarter FC South. A smartly turned out contingent

of Pakistan Army presented guard of honour, Sector Commander FC South also handed-over the national flag and uniform to the martyr's brother and son.

On this occasion, martyred Nazir Ullah's brother said that we are proud of our brother's martyrdom, He considered it his duty to help

everyone in the village.



Namaz Timings

..... 8: 01 pm **EMEDGENCY**

..6: 35 pm

Maghrib

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

Women Police

Stations 9222596 . 9270601-20 Islamabad

ENOUIRY

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

HOSPITALS

110	SFIIALS
CMH	561111
MH	561116
MH	561116
Cantt Hosp	ital9270907-1
DHQ	5556311-4
RGH	9290301-7
Holy Family	/9290322-7
PIMS	9261170-79
Polyclinic	9218300-09
Shifa Intern	ational4603666

CDA	9221334-43
CDA	9208301-04
Met Office	9250360-6
RDA	5555864
TMA	5770886
Cantonment Board	9270151-3
Islamabad Metropo	litan
Corporation	9209224
Potohar Town	9209224
Rawal Town	5773343

DEPARTMENTS

COMPLAINTS

Water Tanker Service E-7, F-10 & F-11 G-5, G-6, G-7, G-8, ..9203883 G-9, G-10, G-11, G-12, H-8 ..9266316 Wapda Islamabad......9217579-80 Sui Gas Complaint..... 119, 9272249 Wasa Water Tank ...0331-5022125

AIOUcommences *examinations* of BA, B.Ed from April 25

№ News Desk

ISLAMABAD: Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU) is conducti examinations of Associate degree in Arts (B.A), Associate degree in commerce (B.Com) and B.Ed programs offered in autumn 2022 semester from April 25, 2023 throughout the country. According to Controller Examinations, date sheet is available on the university website (www.aiou. edu.pk).

Roll number slips are uploaded to students' CMS portal and dispatched to the students at their addresses as well.

Vice Chancellor, AIOU Prof Dr. Nasir Mehmood has instructed the examinations department to ensure transparency and provide all facilities to the students during the conduct of examinations.

More than 500 examination centers are being established in nearby and easily approachable vicinities of the students for their convenience.

Special teams will make surprise visits to the exam centers to eradicate the element of cheat-

Webinar on HR Policy conducted by Nutshell and S&P Global

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: S&P Global, in collaboration with Nutshell Group, held a webinar on 'Career Development: Creating a Path for Employee Growth and Retention,' recently.

Leading corporate executives and HR experts examined the impact of technological advancements and organizational changes on workplace relationships. The discussion revolved around the ideal culture of a workplace that is continuously evolving, making it critical for organizations to redesign and re-think their work structures to retain their best talent.

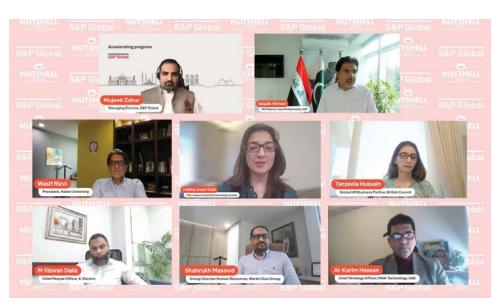
In his opening remarks, Mujeeb Zahur, Managing Director, S&P Global, said; "We at S&P Global spend our energies on developing clear goals, embracing continuous learning, networking strategically, seeking feedback, and proactively developing leadership skills across

Mujeeb further stated that S&P Global has won many awards including Best Place to Work in 2019, Gold Award Top IT Exporter 2016-2018, Platinum Award BPO Services 2019, and Silver Award in Top IT Exporter

in the evolution of the company as a people-centric organization. Mujeeb added; "S&P Global is also taking part in Corporate Responsibility, and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Initiatives, that include training of the female workforce.

The webinar opened many perspectives of looking at the increasing need for retention and growth and how closely it is linked to leadership dynamics. Saquib Ahmad, Managing Director Pakistan, Iraq, and Afghanistan, SAP, emphasized the role of leadership, saying; "The overall phenomenon around workplaces has changed, and the employees know exactly what to demand from the organization they wish to work for." He also insisted on a conducive ecosystem to retain talent and reduce the brain drain in Pakistan.

A dialogue on the theme of the webinar followed, moderated by Al-Karim Hassan, Chief Strategy Officer, MAK Technology, UAE. Esteemed panelists included Wasif Rizvi, President, Habib University; Fatima Asad-Said, Chief Executive Officer, Abacus Consulting Technology Limited; Tanzeela Hussain, Global HR Business 2019. These awards have helped Partner, British Council; Muham-



CAREER DEVELOPMENT: CREATING A PATH FOR EMPLOYEE GROWTH AND RETENTION

Officer, K-Electric; and Shahrukh Masood, Group Director Human Resources & Corporate Communication, Martin Dow Group.

Al-Karim initiated the dialogue new working modalities; "Not everyone can get promoted, but everyone can grow."

Talking about employee reten-

mad Rizwan Dalia, Chief People tion practices, Wasif commented; "Apart from work-life balance, growth, encouragement, and good communication, the fundamental differentiating factor that ensures employee retention is the shared with a profound statement on the sense of purpose." This, he felt, was a clear difference between a successful and an average organ-

Fatima spoke about the chal-

lenge to ensure opportunities for human capital and to add value in terms of employability. She felt that the human factor still rules, and relevance will impact sustainability and productivity most significantly. Talking of changed dynamics, she stated,

Commenting on what the future holds in terms of career development, Tanzeela said, "The

onus is now on the organizations as to how they harness potential talent and invest in developing their skills. The war of talent is still on, so 'up-skilling' and 'right-skilling' are imperative." She further reiterated the need for shared purpose and values as it creates relevance.

Rizwan spoke about the 3 Ps of Play, Purpose, and Potential, and how they contribute towards the sustainability of the institutional model for employees as well as companies. He also insisted on the role of the line manager to ensure his team's retention and growth.

Shahrukh reflected on the changed value system of the new generation; "Earlier, people joined organizations, committing to staying for a decade and a half, and go through several designations within the same organization, but now the situation has changed and growth is viewed differently. This generation wants immediate results; they want a place where they feel heard and appreciated."

The Webinar was a great success, with valuable inputs and thoughts coming in from all speakers and panelists, and was attended live in 11 countries across the globe.

Bengals

RAWALPINDI: Vendors are selecting and purchasing bengals in a wholesale shops ahead of up-coming Eid-ul-Fitr at Peer Wadhai area in the city.



All Pakistan Chinese Overseas Federation demands security for its members

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: The social media director of All Pakistan Chinese Overseas Youth Federation was tortured by four unknown persons in front of Jinnah Park police station civil line.After which the accused managed to escape easily. Aasma Ismail Butt, president of the federation, appealed to the government and the top officials of the police to provide security to all the members of the federation. She said that The government should provide protection to such institutions which are playing an important role in strengthening Pakistan-China friendship under your support.



Federation, Aasma Ismail Butt, said that this is an organization which is working to make Pak-China friendship more stable. But it is sad to say that threats were given to the federation even three years ago, not stan Chinese Overseas Youth ation, Other Chinese living in protection to the public did not ronment.

victims of insecurity. A few days ago, as the president of the federation, I was also threatened by unknown persons. After which, in the context of security concerns, I and Federation Chairman Shujaat Ali also submitted a request to the Ministry of Interior, but the series of threats could not stop. A day ago, Federation's social media director Faisal Hayat was tortured by four unknown persons in front of Jinnah Park police station civil line. The sad fact is that a person was tortured outside the police station.

Rather, after the beating, the accused were able to escape from the crime scene easily, but

the country have also been miss it. Which is a question mark on the efficiency of the law enforcement agencies, the Federation is connected to the Chinese Embassy, on the basis of which we are being targeted. Condemning these accidents, the All Pakistan Chinese Overseas Youth Federation appeals to the government that organizations that are playing an important role in strengthening Pakistan-China friendship,They should be provided protection, if such accidents are not controlled in time, it is likely to affect bilateral relations. Not only the governments of the two countries, but also the people of Pakistan and China love each other, we all want to maintain this atmosphere of President of All Paki- only the members of the feder- the police who were providing brotherhood in a peaceful envi-

STOP TB Partnership and Pfizer host a symposium

News Desk

KARACHI: Every year Stop TB Partnership and its partners unite to raise public awareness of the devastating health, social, and economic impacts of TB and call for an end to

this epidemic. Stop TB Partnership Pakistan in of acquiring TB and management collaboration with the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Sindh and challenging. She said that the number Pfizer Pakistan to commemorate this of new HIV cases is increasing every day. The event was attended by leading stakeholders including member NGOs, TB survivors, members of academia, and print and electronic Advisor CDC, informed that globally

ence on the current situation of TB in Pakistan. He informed that 611,000 estimated people fell ill due to TB in Pakistan in 2021 whereas 48000

HIV-negative and 2100 HIV-positive gaps of promoting of political will, people died due to TB in the country, and only 55% of cases were notified.

Throwing light on HIV TB co-infection, Dr. Afshan Isani, Provincial TB Advisor CDC Sindh, said that Tuberculosis and HIV, both infections facilitate each other. HIV-in-A seminar was organized by the fected persons are at it increased risk of TB HIV co-infected cases is more vear. In 2022, about 30,000 new HIV cases were registered in the country.

a lot is being done to implement the Dr. Sharaf Ali Shah, Vice Chair of strategy that aims to end TB. Some Stop TB Pakistan, updated the audirecent developments include reducing the duration of treatment for sensitive TB in certain cases to four months and for Drug-resistant TB to six months. Sharing his thoughts on 'Filling the

Dr. Salim Kazmi, Senior Technical

Patient Advocacy Groups and local funding', Dr. Karam Shah Senior Advisor Stop TB Pakistan, said that there is an urgent need to engage policymakers at district, provincial and federal levels to promote political commitment, to declare TB as a health priority and to allocate adequate domestic funding. He added that different strategies could be used, including a Parliamentary caucus, and involvement of media like electronic. print, and social media.

The symposium also had an interactive discussion comprising panelists of senior members of academia Prof. Iftekhar Ahmed and Dr. Saifullah from Dow University of Health Sciences, Dr. Rumina, and Prof Nisar Rao from Aga Khan University and Dr. Nausheen Ahmed from Jinnah Postgraduate Medical College. The panelist stressed the need to update support

the medical curriculum regarding TB. Dr. Ali Akbar Dahri Additional Director of CDC said that his department was in the process of developing a provincial strategic plan to end TB.

Prof. DS Akram, a senior pediatrician, commented that the diagnosis of TB in children is more complex, unfortunately, about 12% of our TB patients are children.

'Speaking on the occasion, the country manager of Pfizer Pakistan, S.M. Wajeeh said 'The growing number of Tuberculosis cases in Pakistan signifies the urgency for interventions at multiple levels. We are glad to have partners such as STOP TB Pakistan and National TB Control Program with whom we share a common vision to end TB in

the country. Stop TB Pakistan thanked Pfizer Pakistan for providing logistic

Emersons, organized an Iftar Dinner

Asim Tanveer

MULTAN: Abdul Mohsen Shaheen, Joint Secretary of The Emersons, organized an iftar dinner in honor of all the members of the executive body. In which the President of The Emersons Dr. Hameed Raza Siddiqui, Vice Presidents Hamid Ali Hashmi and Rao Muhammad Akbar, General Secretary Bilal Naeem Chaudhry, Finance Secretary Abdul Khaliq Chaudhry, other members of the Board of Directors Dr. Maqbool Geelani, Ali Sakhnoor, Altaf Rasool Shahid, Muhammad Farooq Chaudhry. And Ahmed Adnan participated.

Along with iftar and dinner, all the activities of The Emersonians were also discussed. Multan: Dr. Hamid Raza Siddiqui, Hamid Ali Hashmi, Rao Akbar, Bilal Naeem, Abdul Khaliq Chaudhry and other dignitaries participated in the iftar dinner given by Abdul Mohsen Shaheen, Joint

Dawlance stands with earthquake victims in Turkiye

E Commerce Desk

KARACHI: Dawlance is the leading brand of home appliances in Pakistan and a wholly-owned subsidiary of Arçelik-the 2nd largest manufacturer in Europe. The parent company is based in Turkiye-a country that was devastated by the strongest earthquake (7.8 magnitudes). the 6th of February 2023, causing over 50.000 deaths in the region. Therefore, Dawlance has pledged to provide relief and show solidarity with the brotherly Islamic nation, by generously contributing to Arcelik's earthquake-rehabilitation initiative.

Koç Holding -the largest conglomerate of Turkiyethat owns Arçelik and Dawlance, has also set up a Crisis Coordination Center, to help people affected by the earthquake. Immediately after the earthquake, Arçelik constituted a 'Search & Rescue Team', who saved 20 precious lives of citizens trapped in the collapsed buildings and rubble. The company has also established relief centers in; Hatay, Adıyaman and Kahramanmara to deliver valuable humanitarian aid across these regions.

This resourceful initiative for the rehabilitation of affected communities has already delivered 800,000 relief items, including food, clothing, blankets, tents, solar panels & generators, as per the prioritized need list & guidelines of the Turkiye government. Using old washing-machine drums, Arcelik has created and distributed room heaters and stoves, while also providing refrigerators for the cold chain for the safe delivery of medicines. Kitchen trucks to deliver hot meals and Hygiene trucks to provide laundry services have also been sent to the affected areas. Under the leadership of Koç Holding, Arçelik and other group companies, a container city is being established in the region to adress the longer-term shelter needs of those who lost their homes in the earthquake. It is also opening a call center to create a livelihood for the people of the region.

The Chief Executive Officer of Dawlance - Umar Ahsan Khan stated that: "We are deeply saddened by the national disaster impacting millions of lives in Turkive.

Arçelik Chief Commercial Officer of South Asia Can Dinçer expressed his gratitude to Dawlance for joining the rehabilitation initiatives and said: "The people of Turkey will never forget the compassion shown by our Pakistani brethren, to help us survive the tremendous challenges after the earthquake and resume our journey towards progress. All employees of Arçelik are thankful to the Dawlance family, for extending invaluable support, to lift our spirits during the most difficult days of our nation."

Remittances hit 7-month high at \$2.5bn in March

Remittances sent home by overseas Pakistanis touched a seven-month

high at \$2.5 billion in March apparently due to Ramazan and Eid ul Fitr. The inflow of workers' remittances was 27% higher compared to the prior month of February; however, it was 11% lower compared to

March 2022, the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) data showed on Monday.

Moreover, inflows remained comparatively high as non-resident Pakistanis used legal channels to send funds to their family members due to the shrinking gap between rates in the interbank and open market. Samiullah Tariq, head of research at Pakistan-Kuwait Investment Company, termed the increase a "good omen", elaborating that the difference between the kerb and interbank rates was minimal.

"Remittances number is highest for past seven months; however, this year Ramazan has started earlier which is why remittance inflow increased earlier than last year," he explained.

Historical trends suggested that overseas Pakistanis sent record-high

remittances ahead of Eid festivals every year. Arif Habib Limited Head of Research Tahir Abbas told Geo.tv that the monthly increase in the remittances is due to the Ramazan factor which usually fetches higher flows due to family commitments, welfare, charity etc. "The flows in the upcoming months are expected to remain elevated due to another Eid [Eid ul Adha] falling by the end of this fiscal year," he maintained. The Ministry of Finance has projected that the remittances will "further improve due to positive seasonal and Ramazan factor".

Meanwhile, the central bank — in its monthly remittance bulletin stated that with the cumulative inflow of \$20.5 billion during the first nine months of the fiscal year 2022-23, the remittances decreased by 10.8% as compared to the same period last year.

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Ahsan Iqbal's key visit to China

akistan and Chinese authorities on Monday held a 'progress review' meeting to discuss important CPEC projects and minutes of the 11th JCC sitting, following a crucial visit of Planning Minister Professor Ahsan Iqbal to Beijing and interaction with Vice Chairman of National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) Li Chunlin.

Chief Economist of Planning Division at the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) Secretariat Nadeem Javaid and his Chinese counterpart NDRC Director General Pan Jiang co-chaired the meeting, which was attended among others by senior officials from Ministries of Planning, Energy, Industry, Communication, Agriculture, Interior, Science & Technology, Information Technology & Telecommunication and Board of Investment, a news release said here.

Both sides expressed satisfaction with the smooth implementation of various CPEC projects and agreed that all the pending issues would be resolved amicably in the spirit of traditional cooperation, mutual understanding, complete trust and brotherhood.

The two sides expressed satisfaction on the progress made in the four priority Special Economic Zones (SEZs) namely Rashakai, Allama Iqbal Industrial City, Dhabeji and Bostan, agreeing to 'further expedite' the progress to attract relocation of high-quality industries.

The signing of the Framework Agreement for Industrial Cooperation was highly appreciated and both sides committed to holding bi-annual meetings to review the implementation of the framework.

Chief Economist Nadeem Javaid also requested strong support from the NDRC and other relevant Chinese government institutions to advance the implementation of important projects like Main-Line (ML-1), Karachi Circular Railway (KCR) and key energy projects in line with the consensus reached between the leadership of the two countries.

As the year 2023 marks the Decade of CPEC and the strong partnership between Pakistan and China, both Pakistan and China are celebrating 10 Years of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and CPEC on July 5, 2023 whereby high-level Chinese delegations are scheduled to visit Pakistan to witness the achievements made since the inception of CPEC.

To make the 10 years' celebrations memorable, both sides expressed the desire to sign the minutes of the 11th Joint Cooperation Council (JCC) meeting before the end of April 2023 so that relevant Technical Joint Working Groups (JWGs) could hold their meetings by mid of May 2023 and workout the tangible outcomes for the 12th JCC Meeting; being planned to be held in the first week of July 2023 at Islamabad.

Climate change's impact on agri and food security in Pakistan

ccording to the UN "Long- by the rains. term changes in temperature and weather patterns are referred to as climate change. These changes may be organic, but since the 1800s, human activity has been the primary cause of climate change. This is mainly because burning fossil fuels, such as coal, oil, and gas, releases gases that trap heat."

Pakistan's location, topography, and socioeconomic conditions make it particularly susceptible to the effects of climate change. Temperatures have risen, rainfall patterns have changed, and extreme weather events like floods and droughts have become more frequent as a result of climate change.

These effects have had serious repercussions for the nation, including harm to infrastructure, loss of cattle and crops, eviction of entire towns, and detrimental effects on public health. Additionally, populations living downstream face a serious risk from glacial lake outburst floods as a result of the melting of the Himalavan glaciers.

Pakistan's economy is mostly dependent on agriculture, which is susceptible to the effects of climate change such as water scarcity, soil degradation, decreased agricultural yields andlowered crop production, etc. This can then result in financial losses and food insecurity.

The recent rainfall in Pakistan has had a detrimental effect on the wheat crop. The majority of the crop has been damaged due to heavy rain and hailstorms. Normally, March and April are relatively dry months in Pakistan, and farmers look forward to harvesting their wheat crops in full bloom. However, the sudden onset of rains, accompanied by hailstorms, has left many farmers devastated, with substantial losses incurred due to the damage caused

The impact on the wheat crop has been significant, with many farmers facing reduced yields and financial losses. This is a cause for concern, as wheat is a staple crop in Pakistan and plays a critical role in ensuring food security for the country's population. This loss will make Pakistan's already difficult struggle to meet domestic wheat demand even more difficult.

Currently, Pakistan is facing a severe wheat flour crisis, leading to tragic deaths among individuals in the crowds that are struggling to obtain flour bags from trucks sent by the government to wheat-scarce regions of the country. Despite government efforts, the crisis persists and has yet

to be resolved. The wheat flour crisis is a critical issue as it affects the daily life and livelihoods of millions of Pakistanis who rely on wheat flour for their staple food needs. It is imperative that immediate and effective action is taken to address the crisis and provide necessary relief to affected communities and urgent action is needed to support affected farmers and address the underlying issue of climate change to prevent further damage to crops in the future.Climate change is having a significant impact on the food system in Pakistan. The prices of essential commodities such as vegetables and fruits are skyrocketing due to the reduced surplus production caused by the changing climate. The erratic weather patterns are affecting crop production on farms, resulting in lower yields and an increased risk of crop failures. The shortage of crops can disrupt the supply chain, resulting in reduced availability of food, leading to food insecurity for

communities who rely on these crops as their primary source of sustenance.

The adverse impact of climate change is becoming increasingly evident, and Pakistan is not immune to its effects. The agricultural sector, which is the backbone of the country's economy, is particularly vulnerable to such erratic weather patterns that are hindering its growth, causing inflation and malnutrition in the country. It is therefore imperative that urgent steps

are taken to mitigate the impact of climate change on this sector.

The devastating floods back then had forced many people to flee their homes and seek refuge elsewhere. The resulting homelessness, coupled with the profound **Amina Ahmad Wattoo** impact of the floods on

the agricultural sector, has had a significant negative impact on Pakistan's economy. Unfortunately, the losses from these floods have yet to be fully addressed, and the region has already been hit by subsequent rainfall.

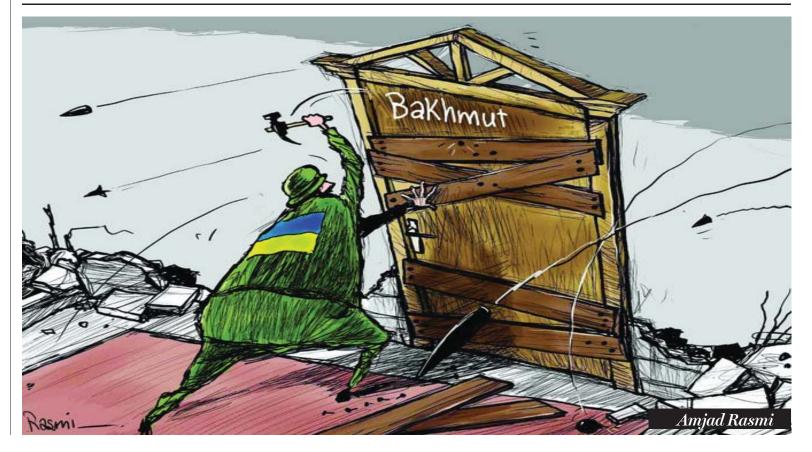
According to the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) report,"Most of the disaster displacement recorded globally has taken place in the Asia and Pacific region. An estimated 225.3 million internal displacements—or forced movements—were recorded during 2010-2021. Large-scale storms and floods, droughts, earthquakes, tsunamis, and volcanic eruptions keep displacing millions of people every year across this vast region, that is home to most of the world's population.Weather-related hazards—such as monsoon rains and tropical stormswere responsible for 95% of all disaster displacements across the region during and literature at COMSATS University

It is crucial to acknowledge the severity of the situation and take immediate action to support those affected by these natural disasters. By providing aid and resources to those who have lost their homes and livelihoods, we can begin to mitigate the long-term effects of these floods on the region's economy and ensure that the affected communities have the resources they need to rebuild and recover.

In conclusion, Pakistan is facing serious and far-reaching consequences as a result of climate change. The impacts of rising temperatures, changing rainfall patterns, and extreme weather events have had devastating effects on infrastructure, agriculture, and public health. The recent heavy rainfall has severely impacted the wheat crop, exacerbating the existing wheat flour crisis in the country. This crisis is a critical issue that affects the daily lives of millions of Pakistanis. It is essential to take immediate and proactive measures to address climate change's adverse impact on agriculture to ensure food security for the people of Pakistan. If the Pakistan Meteorology Department could provide accurate weather predictions and the government could take proactive measures to address potential disasters, it would be possible to

control the situation to some extent. Additionally, the floods and subsequent displacement of people have had profound negative effects on Pakistan's economy. It is essential to acknowledge the severity of the situation and take immediate action to support affected communities, mitigate the long-term effects of these disasters, and address the underlying issue of climate change. By working together, we can help ensure a more secure future for Pakistan and its people.

Writer is the student of MS Linguistics



A hidden significance of Kashmir

Asadullah Mahesar

ashmir is a beautiful mountainous region located in South Asia, which is currently administered by three countries: India, Pakistan, and China. The region has been a subject of conflict and dispute between India and Pakistan since the partition of India in 1947. The region is sited at the crossroads of Central, South, and East Asia and serves as a gateway to the Indian subcontinent. There are numerous significance of Kashmir like, its strategic location, natural resources, tourism, and historical and cultural significance. But the most significant of them is the water of Kashmir. The region is home of several rivers and streams that flow into Pakistan. The Indus River, which is one of the major rivers of South Asia, originates in Tibet and flows through Kashmir and Pakistan, providing water for irrigation, hydropower generation, and several other purposes.

According to the World Bank Pakistan is an agricultural country with more than 62% of its population living in rural areas and depending on agriculture for their livelihood. The country's economy is heavily reliant on the agricultural sector which contributes significantly 22.7% to its GDP reported by the Finance Division of Pakistan. The Indus River system, which is fed by the rivers of Kashmir, is the lifeline of Pakistan's agriculture which provides water for crops such as wheat, rice, sugarcane etc.

Kashmir's water is also important for Pakistan's energy needs. The region became the cause of several hydroelectric power plants, which generate electricity from the water of the Indus River system. According to NEPRA the power plants in Kashmir and Pakistan collectively generate more than

helping to mitigate climate change.

However, the use of these water resources originated from Kashmir has been a point of contention between India and Pakistan. Though, the first ever war between India and Pakistan had fought for the region in 1947 and resultantly. India cut off Pakistan's water supply in early 1948 without any official notice. From here the water dispute between two countries had begun which was resolved through the Indus Water Treaty of 1960 in which the Western Rivers (Indus, Jhelum, and Chenab) and the Eastern Rivers (Ravi, Sutlej, and Beas) were given to Pakistan and India respectively. Moreover, the ongoing dispute over the use of these water resources has been a major source of tension between the two countries for decades. Thus, India violates the Treaty to construct the Baglihar Power Projects on Chenab River in Indian Occupied Kashmir.

Furthermore, Kashmir's water has a great significance for Pakistan because several major rivers that flow through Pakistan originate from Kashmir. These rivers include the Indus, Jhelum, and Chenab. The waters of these rivers are essential for the agricultural sector, which is the backbone of Pakistan's economy as well as for the generation of hydroelectric power. Additionally, the waters of these rivers are also used for domestic, industrial, and recreational purposes in Pakistan. It is estimated that the Indus Basin Irrigation System, the largest contiguous irrigation system in the world, irrigates more than 17 million hectares of agricultural land in Pakistan. This vast agricultural land includes the fertile plains of Punjab and Sindh provinces, which are major agricultural regions in Pakistan, producing crops such as wheat, rice, sugarcane, and cotton.

The Indus, Jhelum, and Chenab rivers 29% of the country's electricity, reducing are the three major rivers that flow from

Pakistan's dependence on fossil fuels and the disputed region of Kashmir and are the primary sources of irrigation water for Pakistan's agricultural lands. The following are the estimated irrigation water amounts provided by these rivers to Pakistan:

> The Indus River provides water to over 14 million hectares of agricultural land in Pakistan. It is estimated that the Indus River alone irrigates about 45% of Pakistan's total cultivated area. The Jhelum River, which also originates in Kashmir, is a tributary of the Indus River and provides irrigation water to about 1.2 million hectares of land in Pakistan's Punjab province. The Chenab River is another major tributary of the Indus River and provides irrigation water to about 2.5 million hectares of land in Pakistan's Punjab and Sindh provinces. Therefore, according to the Indus River System Authority (IRSA) these three rivers collectively irrigate more than 80% of the country's total cultivated area.

> Consequently, the importance of Kashmir's water for Pakistan cannot be overstated. The water from Kashmir is a crucial resource for the country's agriculture, energy, and industrial needs. Pakistan's economic and social development is closely linked to the availability of water from Kashmir, and any disruption in the flow of water could have serious consequences for the country. Pakistan has been politicizing on the issue of Kashmiri Muslims since the inception. But indeed, it's the politics of water resources that is the need of both neighbouring countries India and Pakistan. Therefore, it is crucial that Pakistan and India work together to ensure the sustainable use of the water resources in the region, and to resolve any outstanding issues related to the sharing of water from the rivers of Kashmir.

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Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights

ShoaibAijaz /Amna Khan

ntellectual Property Rights (IPRs) is playing a very crucial role in this complex and economically integrated world. It spurs economic growth by legitimating trade and investment. Moreover, it underpins innovation in the economy by motivating research and development activities. Basically, IPRs include Patents, Trademarks, Copy Rights Industrial Design, and Geographical Indications. The IPRs enforcement may help to correct the market mechanism and to turn the market competitive. It ultimately improves product quality and service delivery in the economy. However, it has been witnessed that there is weak enforcement of the IPRs among developing countries, subsequently, it leads to significant discourage innovation, trade, investment, and output among the developing countries. Similarly, the enforcement and production of IPRs related activities in Pakistan is also deplorable.

The IPR production and registration in regional contexts such as Bangladesh, Iran, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, and India. The patent applications of Indian residents are at the top of the list, with the above 23 thousand followed by Iranian residents, one of the regional countries over filed 11,000 patent applications in 2020. Pakistan, the Philippines, and Sri Lanka are likely to have around 300 to 400 patent applications in 2020.

The Intellectual Property Organization of Pakistan reports that 35720 and 3211 applications for Trademark and Copyright were received in 2022 respectively. Additionally, within the same period of time, it also received 346 design applications and 726 patent applications. In 2022 the IPO registered only 15471 for Trademarks and in 2028 for Copyright applications. Similarly, 179 applicationswere registered for Patent and 183 for design.

Pakistan has passed several laws to protect intellectual, novel, and artistic work, likethe copyright ordinance 1962 and Copyright rules 1967, Patent ordinances, 2000. Moreover, for trademarks legislation

trademarks rules, 2003. The government of Pakistan has taken a new initiative to notify a new Geographical indication law in 2022. GI recognizes the natural, Agricultural, and manufactured goods originating. Pakistan approved the geographic indication right of 79 products. A Geographical indication is an act that provides registration and protection of those goods for public interest and advances the economic development n less developed areas in Pakistan.

in Pakistan use of trademarks ordinances, 2001 and

Pakistan made a Geographical indication rule to protect demotic products in the international market. As India get their GI right for the Basmati rice in the European Union in September 2020. Pakistan also was facing the issue of registration regarding demotic products; The local items were not protected through GI law.

Nonetheless, the violation of the IPRs is rampant in Pakistan. The domestic market is flooded with spurious and imitative products; that significantly discourage innovation and competition in the economy and cost the consumer and producer both. The prime factor for the weak enforcement of IPR is burgeoning corruption and weak market regulation. According to the Reform Agenda Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (2021) states that the enforcement of the Intellectual property Rights mechanism is weak in the country. The poor enforcement of IPRs discourages the sector that made any invention, hence the IPRs regime must be strengthened. There is a lack of R&D and new invitations. As mentioned in the reform agenda through enforcement of Intellectual property Rights make more R&D and new innovations.

IPR is a very effective tool to spur growth by attracting foreign investment and substantially enhancing trade. For the sustainable and long-term growth of the economy of the country, solid enforcement of IPR laws is essential. Besides, the government and private sector collectively invest in R&D activities to increase innovation and knowledge production in the economy.

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UK publication uncovers Armenia's vandalism in 'Hiroshima of the Caucasus'

ISLAMABAD: Thirty years of Armenian occupation did not take pity on anyone or anything, leaving thousands of people homeless, destroying lives, as well as the cultural and historical heritage of Azerbaijan. With the sole goal to regime, which speaks about "Arstakh" being their homeland, did nothing but destroy and wreak havoc in what is said to be their "dear lands".

Armenia did not even attempt to repopulate and flourish the Karabakh region but rather simply wiped down cities and villages, leaving everything

In this vein, Azerbaijan's Aghdam, which is often referred to as the "Hiroshima of the Caucasus", has fallen victim to Armenia's policy of ethnic the only building that remains standing among the vast area of ruins.

Prior to the occupation, Aghdam was considered the commercial center of the entire region, where 143,000 people lived in the city with 124 villages. Some 145 historical and cultural monuments were registered in Aghdam and none Armenia's eradication of any trace

In a recent article titled "They culture, specifically when it came to

war-torn lands of Azerbaijan's 'Hiroshima" published in the UK's "Express", the author John Varga writes about his two-day trip to Azerbaijan's liberated territories

The destruction and devastation is almost total, yet very little of it was pursue ethnic cleansing, the Armenian inflicted by military means and warfare. The evidence speaks overwhelmingly of a calculated and deliberate attempt to eradicate any trace of the Azerbaijani people and their culture from these lands," the British journalist wrote.

Moreover, the publication underlined that the Armenian military first looted the abandoned houses and then sold the empty properties to other Armenians and even Iranians for between US\$200-300.

"The purchasers stripped the houses for all they were worth-first, they cleansing with Juma Mosque being took furniture, washing machines and other household goods, before carting off bricks, stones, roof tiles and window frames. Finally, they set fire to what was left of the house, leaving nothing but some charred remains and a few bricks," the article continued.

The journalist also did not miss of them survived the total destruction. of the former inhabitants and their

But Varga was not the first journalist horrified by the tragedy of Azerbaijan's liberated lands. A video reportage produced by the Associated Press stressed how "the return of Aghdam is a triumph for Azerbaijan, but the joy of returning is mixed with sadness and anger because one has to return to a devastated city." The world-famous photographer Reza Deghati, who has lived in France for many years, visited Azerbaijan both during the First and the Second Karabakh Wars and pictured the aftermaths of the destruc-

Despite this aggression, the "Hiroshima of the Caucasus" is now being rebuilt and will welcome its first residents in 2025. Azerbaijan President Ilham Aliyev has made the reconstruction and rebuilding of Karabakh a priority of his political agenda by investing billions of dollars into the construction of new roads, airports, railways, houses and energy infrastruc-

In 2021, Azerbaijan allocated \$1.5 billion for the reconstruction of liberated territories, followed by AZN 2.2 billion (\$1.2 billion) in 2022. These funds will be used primarily to restore infrastructure (electricity, gas, water,

communications, roads, education, health, and so on) as well as cultural and historical monuments.

We are building nine new cities and initially more than 300 villages and towns from scratch. This is a rare and unprecedented model of post-conflict reconstruction by a national government using its own financial resources. In 2021-2022, the state of Azerbaijan spent about \$4bn on reconstruction in liberated areas. This year, we plan to allocate at least \$1.7bn." President Ilham Alivev stated.

The Azerbaijani leader has invest-

ed projects worth 40 million manats (\$23 529) in the Aghdam Industrial Park, the number of residents of which has reached 15.

With the continuous investments in the reconstruction of Azerbaijan's liberated territories, the vandalized cities and villages are surely destined to blossom in the nearest future.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates of the State of Palestine // warns of the repercussions of any Israeli aggression on our people in the Gaza Strip

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and occupation, crime and siege.

expatriates of Palestine warns of the results and repercussions of any imminent Israeli military aggression against our people in the Gaza Strip, as Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu believes that the military aggression on the Gaza Strip is his political savior, given that the opposition will stand with him in that military confrontation, which will weaken or even Stop the opposition campaign against him.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Palestine warns the international community of the danger of what Netanyahu will do after the end of the Jewish holidays, and calls for proactive international positions to prevent these crimes from being committed against the innocent Palestinian people, particularly in the Gaza Strip, including restoring the policy of assassinations against Palestinian leaders there.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Palestine affirms that the Palestinian people will not accept, this time, the bias of some countries to the position of the occupying state and apartheid on this upcoming aggression in favor of the occupying state, and to give the occupying state unacceptable protection by claiming its right to self-defense despite, It is a country of aggression,

Muslim Conference is a party of present, past and future: Sardar Attique

Majeed Tahir

MUZAFFARABAD: President of All Jammu and Kashmir Muslim Conference and former Prime Minister Sardar Attique Ahmad Khan has said that Muslim Conference is a party of present, past and future. The deep roots of which are in the people ranks. The Muslim Conference faced difficult times before, but the workers faced every difficulty bravely.

In the new organization of the Muslim Conference, active and ideological workers have been brought

The role of women in party strengthening the Muslim Conference has been exemplary. He expressed these views while talking to the chairperson of the student wing, Ms. Maimona Kayani, Advocate. Muslim Conference can never ignore the ideological and active workers of the Jamaat.

The Muslim Conference is reorgaizing itself from the grass root level



that the government of Azad Kashmir should provide funds along with elections to the local representatives so that the slow journey of construction and development in the state can

and becoming a strong party. He said realized. The workers of the Muslim Conference should show Mujahid awal's thoughts of selflessness and perseverance in politics. The journey of strength of the Muslim Conference has started again.

It is time for strength. It is sad to see The dream of construction and the worse economic conditions of Paki- organization will be formed in Muzafdevelopment can never be shamefully stan. The incompetence of the rulers

has weakened Pakistan. The political conditions of Pakistan are showing changes in the future.

He said that the Muslim Conference is the guardian of the unity of the state.. The sacrifices of Kashmiris in the Azadi Kashmir movement cannot be forgotten in any way. The Muslim Conference will highlight the issue of Kashmir in every forum.

He said that the people of Occupied Kashmir are still making sacrifices following the footsteps of the martyrs of Kashmir, India is suppressing the voice of truth and truth of Kashmiris like the Dogra rulers.

The flashpoint has become, if the world does not realize the seriousness of this problem, the dream of peace, stability and development in South Asia will not be fulfilled.

While thanking him, he said that I will fulfill the responsibilities assigned to me, God willing, and a new women's farabad soon.

Half population of country with largest canal system malnourished

Spokesman Reprot



ISLAMABAD: Former President of Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Dr. Shahid Rasheed Butt on Monday said half of the population of the country with the world's largest canal system is suffering from food insecurity and undernourishment.

He said that rising inflation, unemployment and poverty are increasing starvation, which is affecting women and children more

The food security situation in 91 countries of the world is better than Pakistan, many of which are not agricultural countries, he added.

Shahid Rasheed Butt said in a statement issued here today that the nutritional needs of half of the population of the country are not

He said that the kharif crop season is from April to September, in which cotton, sugarcane, rice, maize and mash are cultivated, which will be affected by the lack of water.

Shahid Rashid Butt said that the per hectare production of wheat in Pakistan is three tons, which is ten tons in New Zealand. If Pakistan can produce six tons of wheat per hectare like Egypt and Saudi Arabia, the farmers will be prosperous, wheat will not have to be imported and foreign exchange of seven billion dollars can be earned by exporting it. He informed that in view of the importance of food security, dozens of countries use their army to improve and supervise the agriculture sector.

Masses fed up of political and economic turmoil

跨 Spokesman Repot

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Economy Watch on Monday said masses are tired of continued political, and economic turmoil while the business community is experiencing sleepless nights.

If the situation remains the same, it will compel many to relocate their businesses to other countries, it said.

Many investors are investing billions in Dubai due to Mughal, SVP of PEW.

The first crisis came in ment delayed a deal with the navirus pandemic started, my beyond repair. during which funds were



followed by a judicial crisis

which is having a very nega-

tive effect on the country's

downgrading Pakistan's cred-

it rating due to political insta-

bility but sanity is not prevail-

ing among the political circles

paying a heavy price for this,

Global rating agencies are

economy, he said.

Hanif Mughal said that uncertainty at home which the then government tried is a factor behind erosion of its best to please the voters the local currency, said Hanif at the cost of the economy which emptied the treasury.

After that another govern-2018-2019 when the government came to power which in its effort to control the IMF after which the coro- dollar damaged the econo-

he observed. He said that our economy

has long been suffering from several structural problems but instead of finding sustainable solutions to those problems, our leaders have relied on quick fixes, he observed.

Hanif Mughal said that these problems cannot be resolved by the government of the day. Problems like alarmingly high levels of domestic and external debts, fiscal deficit, unemployment, poverty and low levels of exports, remittances, foreign investment and foreign exchange reserves are all interweaved.

And all of them are structural in nature which needs and the masses reeling under to be addressed or the coununprecedented inflation are try will suffer for decades, he

WMC action for the cleaning of the holy city of Multan: DC

Asim Tanveer
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MULTAN: Under the direction of Deputy Commissioner Umar Jahangir. Multan Waste Management Company has come into action for the cleaning of the holy city and the restoration of infrastructure. In 68 union councils of the city, strict action has been taken against those who throw building materials and garbage on the highways. In this regard, the company's enforcement cell issued notices of fines under the Local Government Act to more than 10 property owners vesterday. Chief Executive Officer Shahid Yaqoob said that these properties were sealed after giving notices by the enforcement cell.

There will be no compromise for the cleanliness of the city. A complete inspection of the sanitation staff is being carried out in the field to resolve the sanitation complaints. Shahid

Five killed in Louisville shooting

Five people were killed while six others were injured in a shooting at a Louisville bank building in Kentucky, according to US policemen. The six injured people were transported to the hospital including a

police officer, said Louisville Metro Police Deputy Chief Paul Humphrey, who also confirmed that the suspected shooter was dead. While describing the incident, Humphrey said that first on-scene

officers "encountered active gunshots still being fired inside the location at that time." While he confirmed the shooter was dead, the police were not aware

of the exact circumstances of his death at this time. According to a local TV station, witnesses who managed to leave the

building heard shots being fired inside the building.

People who had been injured during the shooting were taken from the scene in ambulances, local media reported. Kentucky Governor Andy Beshear said he was heading to the scene and tweeted: " LMPD has confirmed a shooting situation in downtown

Louisville with multiple casualties. I am headed there now. Please pray for all of the families impacted and for the city of Louisville. The shooting happened in a building on East Main Street that hous-

es the Old National Bank in the city of 625,000 people.

The authorities looking into the incident believe that it may have been a situation of workplace violence. They think that the suspect might be an employee, according to two senior officials, as reported by NBC. It is also suspected that the shooter may have been suffering from mental health issues, they said.

Moreover, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) confirmed that it was too was looking into the incident.

Iftaar dinner in Washington to remember oppressed people of Kashmir

News Desk

WASHINGTON, DC: World Kashmir Awareness Forum (WKAF) organized an Iftaar dinner to express its appreciation to the brethren of Azad Kashmir ancestry, Pakistani Americans and friends of Kashmir for their continued support. The board has experienced their dedication, commitment, and generosity over the years to strengthen the cause of Kashmir in corridors of power here in Washington, DC, New York and beyond. The event was held at Church, Virginia where the leadership of Kashmiri and Pakistani community was in attendance.

from Quran and Javaid Kousar, a well-known journalist in DC metropolitan area offered salutation on Prophet Muhammad (PBUH).

Imam Naeem Baig, National Coordinator, "Religions for Peace USA' highlighted the importance of Ramdhan. He said, "We thank Allah, subhanahu wa ta'ala, for blessing us with another Ramazan so that we become closer to Him, our

Dr. Ghulam N. Mir, President, World Kashmir Awareness Forum thanked the guests of this Namak Mandi Restaurant, Falls special Iftar dinner in this holy month of Ramazan. He said that to tonight we want to thank a very special and unique relation-



ing shoulder-to-shoulder with occupied Kashmir. the people living under Indian tyranny. Together we will continue our peaceful struggle for freedom and Indian decolonization of the occupied Kashmir. We need to redouble our efforts.

During his remarks, Mowahid Hussain Shah, Attorney-at-Law, Of Counsel to late US Senator James Abourezk, highlighted the significance of never giving up and the dangers of a defeatist mindset which can lead to indifference and inaction.

Dr Imtiaz Khan, Professor at George Washington University Medical Center thanked the people of Azad Jammu and Kashmir for their presence and being in the forefront for espousing the cause of people of Indian Imtiaz Khan stated that Indi-

an government has substantially increased the level of terror unleashed on the people of IOK. Mongi Dhaouadi, President,

Tunisian United Network highlighted the meaning of fasting and its relevance with the oppressed people all over the world. Month of fasting makes us feel compassion and empathy towards the needy, destitute, poor, hungry, and less fortunate in our community.

Dr. Zahid Bukhari, National Director, ICNA Council for Social Justice said that we must stand to promote global awareness of this situation and the acceptable solution of the Kashmir issue.

Dr. Akbar Khawaja, Strategist and Educator said India is the program thanked the audioppressing the people of Kashmir for decades and spreading violence to stop them from ership of Kashmiri & Pakistani demanding fundamental rights of freedom.

Kashmiris on both sides of the Ceasefire line are like brothers and sisters and wish to maintain that national kinship here at the United States.

tary, Kashmir American Welfare Association (KAWA) told the participants that we know it well that you all have invested your time and energy to pursue the right of the people of Jammu & Kashmir — right to self-deter-

Sardar Zarif Khan, Emcee of ence for their participation. He applauded the role of the lead-American community and said it was a fact that whenever we gave vou a call vou always responded in the positive.

Kashmir and the Indian Occupied Kashmir. No two communities in the world enjoy such a loving relationship. People in the Occupied Kashmir are ever so grateful to the people of Azad Kashmir and the Islamic Umer Khalil recited the verses ship between the people of Azad Republic of Pakistan for standSardar Zubair Khan said that

Shoaib Irshad, General Secre-

Those who attended includ-

ed among others Malik Hamid, Shoaib Irshad, Sardar Zubair Khan, Moazzam Aftab, Akram Butt, Aftab Roshan Khan, Gul Sher, Johhny Bashir, Rana Saadat, Mohammad Akbar, Mazhar Chugtai, Ziaul Hussain, Raja Liaqat Kiyani, Shafiq Shah, Umer Khalil, Syed Adeeb, Atif Raja, Shahbaz Shaw, Shahid Abbasi and representatives of the media fraternity.

PSX 100-Share

Index Fluctuation			
Pakistan: PSX 100-Share Index			
Current	Prev. Close		
39,835.90	40,049.65		
Day's High	Day's Low:		
40,183.81	39,815.86		
Index Value	Change		
1,443,097,876	-213.75		
Percentage	Time		
-0.53%	10 Apr, 2023 1: 30 pm		
Europe: FTSE 100 Index			
Index Value	Change		
7,741.56	+78.62		
Percentage	Time		
+1.03%	6 Apr, 4: 35 pm GMT+1		

USA: Dow Jones Industrial Average		
Index Value	Change	
33,525.57	+40.28	
Percentage	Time	
+0.12%	10 Apr, 12: 44 pm GMT-4	
Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Average		

Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Averag		
Index Value	Change	
27,633.66	+115.35	
Percentage	Time	
+0.42%	10 Apr, 3: 15 pm GMT+9	

Open Market Forex Rates

Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	190	192
Bahrain Dinar	760.96	768.96
Canadian Dollar	210	212
China Yuan	41.89	42.29
Danish Krone	42	42.29
Euro	312	315
Hong Kong Dollar	36.45	36.8
Indian Rupee	3.5	3.61
Japanese Yen	2.2	2.25
Kuwaiti Dinar	929.58	938.58
Malaysian Ringgit	64.98	65.58
NewZealand \$	179.34	181.34
Norwegians Krone	27.26	27.56
Omani Riyal	743.17	751.17
Qatari Riyal	78.6	79.3
Saudi Riyal	76.2	77
Singapore Dollar	215	217
Swedish Korona	27.32	27.62
Swiss Franc	315.98	318.48
Thai Bhat	8.43	8.58
U.A.E Dirham	78.2	79
UK Pound Sterling	356	359
US Dollar	288.25	291

ICCI to organize Shopping Festival in the last week of Ramazan

Spokesman Report



ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry has planned to organize a shopping festival in F-7 and F-10 markets in collabora-

tion with ICT Administration, MCI and concerned Market Associations from 21st Ramazan till Chand Raat. The festival will feature many activities including traditional food area, art & crafts corner, mehndi stalls, kids' area, corporate stalls, live music stage, lucky draws, quizzes, laser lights, lighting displays and first aid medical camp. All entry and exit points of both markets would be decorated with gigantic arches displaying event branding. The shopping festival would increase footfall of customers and provide a good opportunity to the traders of the area to generate more business.

Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari, President, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry in his statement, said that shopping festivals have become increasingly important in the retail world in recent years, as they not only drive sales, they also provide variety of more brands to the customers and help them to purchase items of their choice. He hoped that the shopping festival in F-7 and F-10 markets would boost trade activities and provide customers better choices for shopping.

FaadWaheed, Senior Vice President ICCI said that shopping festivals are very effective in promoting trade activities and hoped that the shopping festival in Islamabad would provide good opportunity to the customers to buy different products at affordable prices in a festive environment.

Engr. Muhammad Azharul Islam Zafar, Vice President ICCI said that the trend of shopping festivals is on the rise in the world and it is important that all relevant institutions should facilitate in organizing shopping festivals in the Capi-

Conflict is not about principles but about political interests: Mian Zahid Hussain

№ Tarig Khattak

ISLAMABAD: Chairman of National Business Group Pakistan, President Pakistan Businessmen and Intellectuals Forum, and All Karachi Industrial Alliance, and former provincial minister Mian Zahid Hussain on Monday said the continuous decline in the confidence of businessmen, industrialists and investors is alarming.

The business community is troubled by unending economic problems, businesses are closing down and people are losing their jobs, he said.

Mian Zahid Hussain said that for the first time in the country's history, the situation is rapidly deteriorating due to the simultaneous political, economic and constitutional crisis.

Talking to the business community, the veteran business leader said that street crimes



are increasing and insecurity in the business markup, electricity and fuel prices are continis causing the flight of capital and exodus of industries from the country.

Many business people believe that the country is not moving in the right direction and that things are getting worse instead of better which is detrimental to them, he remarked.

Mian Zahid Hussain said that the business community is also worried due to the rising have been hearing nothing but comforting inflation because the majority of the country's population is spending a large part of their income on food and their purchasing power has eroded therefore, they are unable to buy other things.

As a result, many businesses have closed same time, the value of the local currency is also continuously depreciating while the bank

community is continuously increasing which uously increasing, which has made business more difficult and worsened the situation for the people.

The business leader added that delay in the IMF loan and the early election controversy have created uncertainty and fears among the public and the business community, which is affecting their confidence.

The public and the business community statements about the IMF loan for months, adding to their anxiety.

They believe that the disputes between politicians and institutions in the country have nothing to do with the country's development, constitution and law, but the whole down while others continue to shrink. At the effort is to achieve their own political interests, for which the integrity of the country is

GFS Builders & Development organized Iftar Dinner

Commerce Desk

KARACHI: GFS Builders & Development organized an Iftar Dinner that was attended by the former MNA, Aftab Jahangir, former MPA Bilal Ghaffar, Head of JDC, Zafar Abbas, Abid Majeed, Mian Aslam Noor, Hanif Talu, Faisal Aziz Khan, and Khurram Jafarani, including businessmen, builders, and eminent personalities from different walks of life and media representatives.

Expressing his views on the occasion, Chief Executive Officer of GFS Builders and Developers, Irfan Wahid, said that Ramazan is the month of virtues and blessings.

It is a divine month that brings us close to God. As per tradition, GFS has organized this event this year also and we thank all the dignitaries who came to attend the soulful event.

CEO Irfan Wahid said that public services are also available abroad.



service is one of our top priorities and we are too passionate abuot to see every Pakistani has his own house. We not only offer better service in Pakistan, but our

Despite inflation and crisis in the construction business, GFS Builders are launching and completing projects in different cities one after the other. People have blind faith in us now.

The second Quetta International Property Expo and Convention will be held in Quetta



Commerce Desk

QUETTA: Chairman, Pakistan Association of Exhibition Industry Khurshid Barlas met Deputy Commis-Expo and Convention, which is a three-day exhibition from May 26 to 28, 2023 at Aljanat Palace Quetta, Exhibition will be Exhibitited by renowned builders, developers, allied construction industry from across the country, including bank projects and a large number of different business communities associated with the tourism industry. Will participate

During the conversation, Khurshid Barlas told the Deputy Commissioner that

is to promote the construction and development in Balochistan, Pakistan and to improve the reputation of Pakistan, and efforts are being made to increase trade sioner Quetta Shaihaq and investment in the coun-Baloch in his office yesterday. try. Deputy Commission-And discuss about 2nd Quet- er Quetta Shaihak Baloch ta International Property appreciated the initiative of Khurshid Barlas regarding trade and assured him that holding the exhibition in Quetta is welcome.

important role in the development of Balochistan that they will actively participate in the Investment in Balochistan Business Conference on 25 May and the exhibition starting from May 26 to 28, 2023 the shield was also presented to Deputy Commissioner Quetta by Chairman Pakistan Associathe purpose of the exhibition tion of Exhibition of Industry.

This exhibition will play an

P@SHA Supporting Gaming Industry to Bring Foreign Exchange: Zohaib Khan

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Muhammad Zohaib Khan, Chairman Pakistan Software Houses Association (P@SHA), has apprised that gaming industry is on the rise in Pakistan with a focus on mobile gaming and, mobile games alone have generated US\$171.30 million in the year 2022. As per the latest statistics, US\$21.34 million were generated by online games and US\$16.13 million through download games as well.

P@SHA Chief predicted that the revenue in the video games segment is projected to cross US\$200 million in 2023; with an annual growth rate of 9.77% from 2023 -2027. However, this is not enough, given the true potential & expandable HR pool of Pakistan's gaming industry, he added.

Currently, Pakistan employs around 8,500 game developers in three major sub-sectors; namely, gaming products, middleware and gaming services. He stressed that we can easily add 3000 gaming developers to the HR pool every year; and, in that fashion, Pakistan can comfortably attain a 30 percent year on year (YoY) growth in gaming industry's foreign remittances - provided we can invest into HR & skills development for the aspiring game developers.

Muhammad Zohaib Khan referred to Statista Market Forecast & Internation-



al Trade Center (ITC) and informed that Pakistan has the potential to become next regional hub in game development as its 64 percent population is young; and, through targeted skills development, Pakistan can surpass its yearly projections.

Muhammad Zohaib Khan elaborated that ease of doing business for IT & ITeS industry can only be ensured if they are allowed to freely manage their finances and remittances through banking channels; as IT professionals are a pool of dynamic entrepreneurs, young professionals in various verticals and aligned with international best practices.

It is pertinent to note that P@SHA and its member firms supported & participated in Game Developers Conference 2023 held in California with the support of Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP), Ministry of IT & Telecom (MoITT), USAID and Pakistani Consulate in Los Angeles; and, Pakistan Pavilion attracted who's who of the global gaming fraternity due to the excellent presentation of the game development potential we have in Pakistan and it is our aim to make Pakistan a serious contender in the US\$315 billion global gaming industry,

Zohaib Khan added.

TPL Insurance-Giving Customers More Control Over Their Auto Insurance № News Desk LAHORE: TPL Insurance,

Another FIRST by

the market leader in innovations underpinned by customer-centricity in the insurance segment, is proud to announce another first in the industry. The company has completed a pilot launch of a new auto insurance product, giving customers more control over their coverage options.

Unlike traditional comprehensive and deductible insurance options, which offer limited flexibility, TPL Insurance's new product allows customers to select and pay for only the coverage options they want. This means that customers no longer have to pay for coverage they don't need and can instead focus on the specific risks they face as car owners.

A used car customer may not want to purchase comprehensive insurance as they will have to pay depreciation on parts replacement. However, with TPL Insurance's new product, customers can also choose to cover their vehicle against theft/ total loss/third party or additional zero depreciation cover in order to avoid

paying depreciation for parts replacement. This gives customers greater flexibility and control over their insurance coverage.

The new product is available in conventional and takaful versions, ensuring customers have various options. The base rate for the new product starts at just 0.99%, with the ability to add on additional coverage options at an increased rate. This pricing philosophy ensures that customers only pay for the coverage they need rather than being forced to purchase a one-size-fits-all insurance policy.

"The launch of this new auto insurance product once again reaffirms TPL Insurance's commitment to customer centricity and innovation," said Mr Aminuddin, CEO of TPL Insurance. "This product is a testament that we understand our customers have unique insurance needs and financial limitations: this empowers them to customize their coverage for their specific requirements. It is a significant step towards making auto insurance easy and accessible for everyone in Pakistan."

ZONERGY won the Energy Storage **Emerging Enterprise Award**

ISLAMABAD:: The three-day 11th Energy Storage International Summit and Exhibition ESIE2023 came to a successful conclusion. Guo Jun, executive director and president of ZONERGY, personally led a team to participate in this exhibition. ZONERGY showed its main products such as household energy storage, industrial and commercial energy storage, and portable power supply, and received high recognition and attention from industry colleagues, media reporters, and audiences, and the scene was very popular.

With the help of the exhibition, ZONER-GY actively communicated and interacted with industry experts, colleagues, and customers, discussed new ideas for the integration of optical storage and storage, and signed a strategic cooperation agreement with Beijing HyperStrong Technology Co., Ltd. Build a brand and win the market together.

At the same time, ZONERGY also released and exhibited the star product Panda and industrial and commer-



spot, which received high attention. Many industry media came to the ZONERGY booth to visit and interview and report on ZONERGY products. During the exhibition, ZONERGY also actively participated in keynote speeches to share the development of ZONERGY with the industry. Liu Yang, vice president of ZONERGY and vice president of Chengdu Research Institute, gave a keynote speech entitled "Research

cial energy storage product series on the and Application of Sodium-ion Batteries", introducing the material properties and industrialization of Na-ion batteries, and the R&D and application of ZONERGY

Na-ion batteries. Under the "Double Carbon" goal, ZONERGY will continue to take advantage of the global market, integrate resources, deepen the energy storage industry, and contribute to the high-quality development of energy in my country

After Babar, Doull slams Kohli for slowing down to reach 'personal milestone'

Former New Zealand cricketer and renowned commentator Simon Doull criticised India's star batter Virat Kohli for slowing down to reach his personal milestone during the Indian Premier League (IPL) fixture.

Kohli played a flamboyant half-century knock amid his side's fixture against Lucknow Super Giants and propelled Royal Challengers Bangalore to a massive total of 212/2.

His magnificent knock, however, failed to impress Kiwi commentator Doull, who accused the former of slowing down to reach his half-century after a flying start.

"Kohli started off like a train, he was going hammer and tongs, playing a lot of



"From 42 to 50, he took 10 balls. think there's room for that in this game

shots," stated Doull during commentary. Concerned about a milestone. I don't hot water since then and received major

anymore. You've just got to keep going especially with wickets in hand at that stage. You've got to keep going," he added.

Earlier, during the recently-held eighth edition of the Pakistan Super League (PSL), Doull passed alike remarks for Babar Azam and asserted that Peshawar Zalmi's captain slowed down to reach his maiden PSL century.

"Rather than putting the team first... the last little while, that's all that been happening. Rather than looking for boundaries, still, so much firepower to come. Hundreds are brilliant, stats are great, but it has to be team first," Doull

The Kiwi commentator has been in backlash from Babar's fans.

Envoy Inaugurates Sports Festival for Photojournalists

Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan H.E. Jemal Beker Abadula on Monday inaugurated a sports festival for photojournalists here at National Press Club (NPC).

On arrival, he was accorded warm welcome by the new elected regime of NPC including President Anwar Raza, General Secretary Khalil Raja, Finance Secretary Nayyar Ali and executive members.

The ambassador also held detailed meeting with shares similarities in many the media persons who the NPC office bearers and discussed bilateral cooperation in media sector.

persons, he said Journalism was a noble and digni- on us by others," he said fied profession which played while urging the maina critical role in the national stream media to lead from development.

media sector of Paki-the country stan, which was vibrant ly impressed me.

"Pakistan and Ethiopia Ethiopia were opened for found and its name is Lucy," mation.



ways and somehow, our problems are also similar whether these are related Addressing the media to climate change, terrorism or hybrid war imposed front in fighting informa-However, development tion warfare waged against

and independent, had real- Embassy of the Feder- it our land where remains nalists who worked hard to

would be welcomed and served with coffee during their visit to the premises.

H.E. Jemal Beker said his country was a land of origins, land of coffee and above all, the land of King Najeshi and Bilal Habshi.

"Coffee was first discovslamic Hiira took place He said doors of the towards our country and sports festival for the joural Democratic Republic of of first human have been bring forth factual infor-

the ambassador remarked. He also extended gratitude to the NPC and Photo-

journalist Association for inviting him to the auspicious event. H.E. Jemal Beker also

congratulated the Photojournalist Association and newly elected regime of ered from Ethiopia and first the National Press Club for organizing a wonderful

PAK vs NZ: Fakhar Zaman joins training camp for New Zealand series

跨 By A Sports -

LAHORE: Left-handed opener Fakhar Zaman has joined the national team's training camp for the upcoming home whiteball series against New Zealand, scheduled to commence on April 14.

Fakhar Zaman, who turned 33 today, reported at the National Cricket Academy (NCA) here and joined Pakistan's whiteball squads, which are undergoing training camp for the five-match each T20I and ODI series against New Zealand.

Taking to Twitter, the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) also shared the aforementioned news.

"Birthday boy [Fakhar Zaman] joins the camp," wrote PCB.

The left-handed opener was also named in Babar Azam-led Badshahs' lineup for the intra-squad practice match against Shadab Khan's Stallions.

Pakistan's white-ball squads' training has been in full swing since Friday after they reported at the NCA with senior players including the trio of Babar, Mohammad Rizwan and Shaheen Shah Afridi returned to the national setup.

It is pertinent to mention that the green shirts will take on New Zealand in a fivematch each T20I and ODI series, which will be played in Lahore, Rawalpindi and Karachi from 14 April to 7 May.

Delegation of Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry visited Mini Hockey Stadium

Tahir Amin Malik

LAHORE: Top cricket stars and a delegation of Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI) visited Mini Hockey Stadium to watch Ramzan Sports Series Hockey Championship on Sunday night.

Commissioner Muhammad Ali Randhawa, Director Youth Affairs Syed Umair Hassan and Director Sports Nadeem Qaiser were also present on this occasion.

It is pertinent to mention that the Ramzan Sports Series Hockey Championship is being organised under the directions of caretaker Chief Minister Punjab Mohsin Naqvi and under the supervision of Adviser to CM Punjab on Sports and Youth Affairs Wahab Riaz from April 7 to 11.



team Mohammad

Masood and Ehsanullah also played hockey for some time along with Wahab Riaz.

this occasion, national cricketer M Haris said that the first Ramazan Sports Series is a good effort to revive sports particularly hockey. Fast bowler Ehsa-Members of national cricket nullah said that the Punjab

government and Wahab Riaz Chamber of Commerce also Haris, Saim Ayub, Shan are making a good efforts to revive the game of hockey among young generation.

Cricket star Saim Ayub has Speaking to the media on said that hockey is our national game and such events should be held in other provinces to revive hockey. Shan Masood said that his father was also a hockey player.

The delegation of Lahore

witnessed hockey match under the leadership of President LCCI Kashif Anwar. The delegation included Vice President Adnan Khalid Butt, Khalid Khokhar, Shahzeb Akram, Shahid Beg, Arshad Beg, Siddique Anwar and Umar Farooq.

They said that there is a lot of sports talent among the young

players and we are ready to sponsor any sports event to bring forward the youth talent.

They said the Ramzan Sports series 2023 is a very good initiative which will promote hockey.

Sports Adviser Punjab Wahab Riaz and Secretary Sports and Youth Affairs Punjab Shahid Zaman also watched the badminton competitions at NPSC Gymnasium Hall.

Tickets for Pak v NZ matches in Rawalpindi and Karachi to go on sale tomorrow

👺 Bureau Repot

LAHORE: The tickets for the fourth and fifth T20 Internationals and the five One-Day Internationals between Pakistan and New Zealand will be available online from 11 April. The fans can log on to pcb.bookme.pk from 1600 to buy the tickets.

The Pakistan Cricket Board has once again set affordable prices so the cricket lovers in Rawalpindi and Karachi can watch their stars in action.

Tickets for the last two T20Is at Rawalpindi are priced at PKR500 for Premium enclosures (Miran Bakhsh, Shoaib Akhtar, Sohail Tanvir and Yasir Arafat) and at PKR1,000 for VIP enclosures (Imran Khan, Javed Akhtar, Azhar Mehmood and Javed Miandad). The third-floor gallery for the two matches on 20 and 24 April is available at PKR3,500.

The tickets for the first two ODIs on 27 and 29 April at the Pindi Cricket Stadium will be available for PKR300 (Premium enclosure), PKR500 (VIP enclosure) and PKR3,000 (third floor gallery).

Fans can buy tickets in Karachi in the range of PKR250 to PKR1,000.

General enclosure (Iqbal Qasim, Nasimul Ghani, Wasim Bari, Mohammad Brothers and Intikhar Alam) tickets are available for PKR250. Fans will have to pay PKR500 for a seat in First class enclosure (Asif Iqbal, Waqar Hasan, Zaheer Abbas and Majid Khan). A seat in Premium enclosure (Quaid, Wasim Akram and Imran Khan) is available for PKR750 and VIP enclosure (Hanif Mohammad, Javed Miandad and Fazal Mahmood) is priced at PKR1,000)

The final three ODIs will be played on 3, 5 and 7 May at the National Stadium.

Pakistan Veterans Hockey Club Green Clinched 2nd Mehtab Chawla Ramazan Hockey Tournament title"



KARACHI: Pakistan Veterans Hockey Club (Green) won the second Mehtab Chawla Flood-Lights Ramazan Veterans Hockey Tournament, beat Karachi Fitness Club by six 6-1 in the final, Olympian Sameer Hussain was the best player of the final. Governor Sindh Kamran Khan Tessori distributed the prizes.

According to the details, last night in Olympian Islahuddin and Dr. Muhammad Ali Shah Hockey Academy final was one-sided. In the first two quarters of the match, the competition was equal 1-1 goal, but in the next two quarters, the experienced team scored five more goals and claimed the victory. Olympian Qamar Ibrahim, Olympian Sameer Hussain, Olympian Kashif Jawad, former international Muhammad Ali Khan, Muhammad Irfan and Syed Al Hassan scored one goal each while right-in Imran Khan scored the only goal of Karachi Fitness Club.Olympian Samir Hussain was declared the best player of the final

Governor of Sindh Kamran Khan Tessori was the chief guest of the final match. He said in his address that the hockey game in Karachi is alive because of Olympian Islahuddin. In his academy, national sports activities continue throughout the year he Dedicated his life to hockey, I am his big fan and my support for the promotion of the national game will always be with him.

On this occasion, Olympian Islahuddin said that he is the Pioneer of veteran's hockey under his captaincy, Pakistan won the World Cup twice and now he is determined to win it for the third time. He said that he will continue the mission of late Mehtab Chawla and Mehtab Chawla Hockey Tournament will be held regularly in Ramazan every year.

The Governor of Sindh awarded Olympian Sameer Hussain the best player award and a prize of Rs.10,000. The Chief Guest, Kashif Chawla, Farrukh Chawla, Asma Ali Shah was presented with a commemorative shield by the Academy on this occasion, Olympian Ayaz Mehmood, coach of Pakistan Hockey Team, Secretary General of Pakistan Hockey Federation Haider Hussain, Mustafa Jameel, Vice President of Sindh Olympic Association Mahfooz ul Haq, President of Karachi Basketball Association Ghulam Muhammad, Rao Javed Iqbal, Ejaz uddin and there were others.

Pakistan's table tennis star Perniya Khan eyes Paris Olympics 2024

The country's number-one table tennis player Perniya Khan on Monday said that she wants to represent Pakistan in Paris Olympics 2024.

Talking to journalists Khan said: "My target is Paris Olympics 2024. A lot of hard work is needed for that. I am confident that I will make it to the mega event."

She expressed gratitude to Advisor to Punjab Chief Minister on Sports Wahab Riaz for organising a highly competitive

First Ramzan Sports Series 2023 Competitions continued

Sports Desk

LAHORE: The competitions of the First Ramzan Sports Series 2023 were continued at different venues of Nishtar Park Sports Complex on the third 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, Secretary Sports and Youth Affairs Shahid Zaman, Director Youth Affairs Syed Umair Hassan, Director Sports Nadeem Qaiser also watched the exciting competitions on Sunday night.

According to the results.

Lahore division won the Women's Badminton Doubles title against Faisalabad. Lahore's Ghazala Siddique and Saima Waqas defeated their opponents Zubaira Islam and Huma Javed by 21-14 and 21-12.

Gujranwala defeated Faisalabad by 21-14 and 21-15 in Badminton Men's doubles final.

Bahawalpur Division won the Table Tennis Women's Doubles title. Mehmuda and Sadia of Bahawalpur defeated Ayesha and Zunaira of Rawalpindi by 3-1 in

Faisalabad won the table tennis title of men's doubles against Lahore by 3-1. Rahim and Hamza of Faisalabad defeated Asim

Qureshi and Awais of Lahore in

Raiwind Green won the

Ramzan Sports Series cricket tape ball tournament at LCCA ground.

Raiwind Green defeated Lahore

Blue team by 8 wickets in the final While playing first, Lahore Blue

scored 76 runs for the loss of two Asim Qureshi of Lahore defeatwickets, Ghaffar of Lahore Blue ed Faizan Zahoor of Faisalabad scored 44 runs. Raiwind Green 3-1 in the first semi-final. achieved the target quite comfortably after losing two wickets. abad's Hafeezur Rahman defeat-Raiwind Green's top scorer was ed Lahore's Awais Hassan by Nauman, who scored 42 runs.

The Lahore and Faisalabad Division teams reached the final of the Ramzan Sports Series Hockey Championship.

In the first semifinal, Lahore division defeated Rawalpindi division by 3-0. Ali Aziz of Lahore scored 2 goals while Abdul Manan

scored 1 goal. Hafeezur Rahman of Faisalabad reached the finals of Table Tennis Championship Men's Singles.

In the second semi-final, Faisal-

3-2. Both semi-finals were thrilling contests and all the players played well. In Ramzan Sports Series football event, Lahore edged out Sahi-

wal 1-0 in the football match. Mosin Wattoo scored the match winning goal in the final moments of the match. Faisalabad defeated Multan

Asim Qureshi of Lahore and 3-0, Sargodha defeated Bahawalpur by 2-1 while Gujranwala toppled Rawalpindi by 5-4 om penalty shootout.