احاطہ کی دیوارنہ تھی لوگ کعبہ کے گر دنماز ير صقي تھے پھر جب عمر کادور آیاتوانہوں نے اس کے گر د دیوار بنوائی۔عبیداللہ عبدالله بن زبير في فيان كوبلند كيا-**Barkat Rice Mills** 

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#### Ahsan Iqbal for transforming education into skill-based system

Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Professor Ahsan Iqbal on Thursday highlighted the importance of 'retraining' the youth for new skills, stressing the need for transforming the existing education imparting method into a skill-based system to produce quality manpower in line with the requirement of the contemporary world. (Details on Page 8)

Qin Gang's visit important part of close, frequent interactions between China-Pakistan: Mao Ning

China's State Councilor and Foreign Minister Qin Gang's visit to Pakistan, Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Mao Ning said

Simultaneously published from Islamabad, Lahore and Multan

Shawwal 14, Friday, May 5, 2023





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### Summer Contingencies Conference

ISLAMABAD: Chairman NDMA, Lt. General Inam Haider Malik Presiding Summer Contingencies Conference with stakeholders at NDMA Main Hall on Thursday



# 'Confrontation between institutions not in national interests', says PM Shehbaz

**Spokesman Report** 

LONDON: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif said Thursday that confrontation between the institutions is not in national interests.

While talking to the media in London, PM Shehbaz Sharif said that Pakistan will come out of the crisis soon and the government is making maximum efforts to cope with the challenges.

"Parliament has complete powers for legislation and jurisdiction of institutions is determined in the Constitution. Everyone must respect the supremacy of the Constitution and law. It is in the dance with the Constitution."

He said that the past



actions against the opposition leaders. "The judiciary, parliament and other instibest interest of the nation tutions should serve the and the country to run the country. Double standards governance system in accor- cannot be beneficial for any

The premier said that he parliament is actively play-

discussed bilateral, regional

and international matters of

assured to work closely for

gy and people-to-people

opened new vistas of coop-

eration and coordination

He said that the SCO

Foreign Minister Bilawal

mutual interest.

contacts.

with Russia.

government took vengeful will attend the Commonwealth leaders' summit tomorrow and the corona-

> stan after his return. He further said that

tion ceremony on Saturday.

He added that he will discuss

the internal matters of Paki-

#### Participation in CFM reflects Pakistan's commitment to SCO charter: PM

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister region. Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday said that Pakistan's decision to attend the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation's Council of Foreign Ministers meeting in India reflected its commitment to the SCO Charter and multilateralism.

On Twitter, the prime minister said Pakistan was committed to playing its part to advance the shared values of peace and stability in the

ing its role.

Criticising Imran Khan's bail in different cases, PM Sharif said that courts are working day and night these dard.

"We are all for win win understandings based on connectivity, trade and mutually advantageous cooperation," he comment-

The prime minister's statement came as Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari arrived in Goa, India to attend the meeting and expressed confidence that moot would lead to a successful outcome.

days and granting bail within a few minutes. He added that bails in a few minutes are a kind of double stan-

## Bilawal, Lavrov discuss bilateral cooperation, regional matters



Mews Desk

ISLAMABAD: Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari on Thursday met his Russian counterpart further deepening cooper-Sergei Lavrov here on the ation in food security, enersidelines of the meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation's Council of Foreign Ministers being held

in Goa, India. During the meeting, they order regarding April 27 hearing Spokesman Report

SC issues written

ISLAMABAD: The Supreme Court (SC) has issued a written order regarding April 27 hearing of simultaneous elections case.

The SC's three-page written order stated that the apex court did not instruct the political parties to hold dialogues to end the political impasse. It read that the political parties going into the dialogue phase were their own decision.

It added that the Supreme Court's order for holding elections on May 14 is unchanged.

Yesterday, the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) approached Supreme Court to review its decision of holding elections in Punjab on May 14.

In a 14-page petition, the electoral body pleaded with the Supreme Court to suspend its May 14 decision until a verdict on the revision petition on the issue.

"SC should review its decision as the judiciary

### **Imran Khan gets** bail in nine cases

跨 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad High Court (IHC) on Thursday extended Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan's protective bail in nine cases registered under terrorism charges, attempted murder and vandalism.

The former prime minister appeared before the two-member bench headed by IHC Chief Justice Aamer Farooq amid tight security. The PTI chief reached the courtroom in a wheelchair.

The court approved Imran Khan's interim bail in two cases till May 9, while extending his protective bail in seven terrorism cases till May 14. The court also ordered him to approach the relevant court within 10 days.

At the outset of the hearing, Barrister Safdar told the court 140 cases have been registered against his client. "We have requested bail in all the cases that were in our knowledge."

The counsel urged the court

to fix a day for his client to join

the investigation.

During the hearing, Fawad Chaudhry criticised the security arrangements put in place by the government outside the court. advocate general The

claimed Imran Khan's medical report was not genuine. During the hearing,

Chaudhry got into an argument with Advocate General Jahangir Jadoon, at which the court expressed annoyance. In a special message to the

general public before leaving Islamabad, Imran Khan said he was going to Islamabad to appear before the high court despite swelling in his feet.

Lashing out at the ruling coalition, he said it was running away from elections and for this it was going against the Constitution of Pakistan and the CJP. Such elements were sparking a divide among Supreme Court's judges, he added.

"I'm appealing to the nation to come out for showing their solidarity with the CJP on Saturday evening," Imran Khan said.

# Six soldier martyred, three terrorists killed in gunfight: ISPR

跨 🛮 Adam Khan Wazir

NORTH WAZIRISTAN: According to ISPR a fire exchange took place between terrorists and own troops in general area Dirduni, North Waziristan District. Own troops effectively engaged the terrorists' location and three terrorists were sent to hell, while injuring another two.

However, during intense exchange of fire, six brave soldiers having fought gallantly, embraced shahadat. Details of martyred are: Havaldar Saleem Khan (age 36 years, resident of District Tank), Naik Javed lqbal (age 37 years, resident of District Kohat), Sepoy Nazir Khan (age 26 years, resident of District Bannu), Sepoy Hazrat Bilal (age 25 years,







resident of District Mardan), Sepoy Syed Rajab Hussain the area. (age 22 years, resident of District Orakzai) and Sepoy Bismillah Jan (age 22 years, resident of District Khyber).

Sanitization of the area is being carried out to elimi-strengthen our resolve.

nate any terrorists found in

Security Forces of Pakistan are determined to eliminate the menace of terrorism and such sacrifices of our brave soldiers further

Imran's use of wheelchair to skip court appearance divine retribution: Marriyum

跨 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Information and Broadcasting Marrivum Aurangzeb said on Thursday said that a person (Imran's) use of a wheelchair to skip court cases was divine retribution as he used to ridicule others for their diseases in past.

ring to Imran Khan without naming him, she said a person who made fun of Sharif's family members' illnesses was lying in a wheelchair today.

# President emphasises robust trade, economic ties with Saudi Arabia

**Spokesman Report** 

ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi on Thursday underscored the need for robust economic and trade relations with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) for the mutual benefit of two brotherly

the Ambassador-designate ple contacts. of Pakistan to Saudi Arabia on him, at Aiwan-e-Sadr

dent stated that Pakistan two countries.



attached special significance to its relations with Saudi Arabia, which were based The president expressed on common faith, shared these views while talking to history and people-to-peo-

He highlighted that Ahmad Farooq, who called Pakistan wanted to further consolidate the existing bilateral ties into a strategic Talking to the ambassa- economic partnership for dor-designate, the presi- the mutual interest of the





9-10-11 JUNE-2023

10:00 AM to 8:00 PM

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# The Spokesman

### Meeting

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Interior, Rana Sanaullah Khan chairing a meeting at the Ministry of Interior on Thursday.

# Interior Minister for effective border management

跨 Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Interior Minister Rana Sanaullah on Thursday directed the concerned to take all-possible measures to improve border management system for preventing illegal entry and exit from the country.

ing, held to review the ministry's performance.

Interior were present in the cient. meeting, said a news release.

The minister also direct-

improving their efficiency.

He also called for taking Secretary Interior Syed Ali all necessary measures to Murtaza and other senior make the Islamabad Capiofficials of the Ministry of tal Territory police more effi-

Rana Sanaullah said special attention should ed to fast track reform be given to cleanliness in He issued these directives process in the ministry and the Federal Capital in line

Minister Shehbaz Sharif.

The regulatory framework should be completed at the earliest to bring cleanliness in Islamabad at par with the international standards, he added.

The minister directed to simplify the process of getting fingerprints of those

while presiding over a meet- its attached departments for with the directives of Prime who wanted to obtain arms licenses from the ministry.

Arms training for people and certification procedures in this regard should also be devised, he added.

The meeting also reviewed progress on the establishment of the Private Security Service Regulatory Author-

# Ahsan Iqbal for transforming education into skill-based system

👺 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Special Initiatives Professor highlighted the importance ment in which experts had new skills, stressing the need for transforming the existing education imparting methin line with the requirement of the contemporary world.

"The most important thing is how we retrain our youth for new skills, and that means moving our education system away from the degree-based system and switching over to the skill-based system," he said

"Dissemination of Pakistan Human Capital Review" here.

For this purpose, he said, Planning, Development and the government had recently set up a national task force Ahsan Iqbal on Thursday for human and skill developof 'retraining' the youth for been gathered from the public and private sectors "This task force will with-

in one month give us a roadod into a skill-based system map that what new skills to produce quality manpower and changes in the human development programme are required to pursue so that we can keep

new emerging challenges," he a sense of urgency and action, The minister said the cannot further delay ignoring inces for drastic improvement fundamental challenge for our human resources because Pakistan was not new knowl-



lenge is implementation, er which truly needed to be implementation and impleour efforts aligned with the mentation. We all need to have and now is the time that we in this age, it is not the muscle while addressing an event of edge as "all the knowledge is power that can take any nation "We are launching some major

harnessed.

He said the federal government was working proactively in collaboration with all provin the education sector, adding the in the upcoming budget

initiatives for bringing children into schools to ensure 100 per cent universal primary enrollment."

He said the government wanted every student to have access to higher education under a multifaceted revolutionary system and "every student in our universities will have must a course of entrepreneurship and exports. There will be an orientation for them of job creation, not of job creation.

Ahsan Iqbal said human development was the key for any country to progress with the knowledge-based economy, for which he had been struggling for long to place Pakistan in the list of top five world economies by 2025.

### Journalist Imtiaz Baig killed in *Helum*



**Special Correspondent** 

JHELUM: A private channel's reporter Imtiaz Baig has been killed in an 'assassination attempt' carried out by unidentified persons in Jhelum.

Police confirmed that Samaa TV reporter Imtiaz Baig was killed in an 'assassination attempt'. Police detailed that unidentified persons attacked Baig with baton when he came out of a local mosque after offering prayers.

The attackers fled from the scene after attacking the TV reporter, police said.

Local media reports suggested that the senior journalist's body was shifted to the district hospital. Police authorities launched an investigation to ascertain the motives of the attack.

In October 2021, a journalist had lost his life after getting seriously wounded in a cracker attack in Hub, a city of the Balochistan province bordering Kara-

## Religious, political leaders urge G20 countries to boycott meeting in India: Ashrafi

跨 Bureau Report

LAHORE: Pakistan Ulema Council (PUC) Chairman Hafiz Muhammad Tahir Mahmood Ashrafi on Thursday said leaders of various schools of thought, political and religious parties of Pakistan had appealed the G20 countries' political and religious leaders not to participate in the upcoming meeting being held

Addressing a joint press conference here at Lahore Press Club, Ashrafi who is also Special Representative of the Prime Minister on Interfaith Harmonv and Middle East, urged G20 countries not to be part of any activity in Illegal Indian Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK).

He said according to the United Nations' (UN) resolutions and international law, Occupied Kashmir was a disputed territory and any such meeting or activity would be a violation of the UN resolutions and international law.

The G-20 countries participation in the meeting would support the Indian atrocities being faced by the innocent people of Occupied Kashmir, he added.

He said Pakistan had a clear-



pied Kashmir as announced by the Chief of Army Staff General Sved Asim Munir in the Kakul Academy in the recent days. which was in accordance with the international law and UN resolutions and Pakistan could never deviate from this position

Ashrafi made it clear that Foreign Affairs Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari's participation in the meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization was not related to the relationship between Pakistan and India.

The restoration of Pakistan and India relations would be possible through Kashmir route, he added.

He said they should force Indian government to stop its barbaric acts immediately because the minority communities were not safe in India.

He mentioned that Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, people of cut stand on the issue of Occu-scheduled caste and other reli- of the Kashmir and Palestine

gions and their worship places were constantly being targeted.

More than 200 churches and more than 500 mosques, and a number of Gurdwaras had been demolished while in Ramazan, the mosques had been sealed and Muslims were prevented from their fundamental right to worship, he added.

Ashrafi informed that an All Parties Kashmir Conference would also be held on May 19, in Islamabad under the Pakistan Ulema Council.

Meanwhile, he, in a message in the Arabic language at the press conference, urged the OIC and the leadership of Saudi Arabia, the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Salman bin Abdulaziz and his Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, to play their role in the current situation and draw the attention of the Islamic and international world to the practical solution

#### Bushra Bibi serves legal notice to Maryam Nawaz

跨 Bureau Report

LAHORE: Former premier and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chief Imran Khan's wife Bushra Bibi has initiated legal action against Pakistan Muslim League Nawaz (PML-N) chief organiser Maryam Nawaz, ARY News reported on Thursday.

Bushra Bibi sent a legal notice to Maryam Nawaz for delivering defamatory remarks in her speech on May 1 and demanded the PML-N chief organiser to tender an apology.

Under the law, a citizen can face five-year imprisonment for defaming an individual. The legal notice stated that Maryam Nawaz must tender an unconditional apology to Bushra Bibi in seven days.

It further stated that Maryam would face legal proceedings under defamation and other relevant laws if she does not take back her statement. Moreover, the transcript of Maryam's speech was also made part of the notice.

The notice stated that the PML-N chief organiser is running a campaign to defame Bushra Bibi and her

### PTI sends Rs10bn defamation notice to Khawaja Asif

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) has sent a Rs 10 billion defamation notice to the Defence Minister and PML-N leader Khawaja Asif over allegations of tickets sale.

The defamation notice was filed by the PTI leader Usman Dar which stated that the PML-N leader Khawaja Asif should send a written apology to the PTI chairman Imran. Khawaja Asif's accusation against the PTI of selling tickets for Rs 30 crore is baseless, the notice stated.

Furthermore, the notice stated that the PML-N leader should send a written apology to Imran Khan, and publish the written apology in major newspapers and if he cannot apologize then he should submit a fine of Rs 10 billion otherwise legal action should be taken against him.

Earlier, Defence Minister Khawa-

justice of Pakistan (CJP) Sagib Nisar over the audio leaks saying the "Former chief justice of Pakistan (CJP) Saqib Nisar went too far in his enmity with Nawaz Sharif,"

It is pertinent to mention here that another alleged audio leak of the former Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Saqib Nisar's son Najam Saqib and PTI ticket holder emerged

In the first part of the audio leak, Najam Saqib and PTI ticket-holder Abuzar Chaddhar can be heard talking about tickets while the second part comprises a call recording between Najam and Mian Uzair.

In the audio, Najam Saqib can be heard asking the PTI candidate to meet his Baba (father) and say thanks to him, adding that his father will be back by 11: 00.

In the second clip, a voice said to be Najam asked the other person to ja Asif lambasted the former chief check his WhatsApp.

### Pak can't afford more chaos: Shazia



👺 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Chairperson Benazir Income Support Program (BISP) and Federal Minister Ms Shazia Marri said that Pakistan cannot afford any more political chaos as political stability is inevitable for the economic strengthening of the

here on Thursday, along with Minister of State for Poverty Alleviation and Social Protection Faisal Karim Kundi, she said that Pakistan People's Party started a political dialogue with

same day across the country.

Shazia Marri appreciated the participation of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) in the dialogue on organising elections on the same day.

She also lamented PTI that this effort for political reconciliation is being marred by the inflexibility of PTI chief Imran Khan.

She said Constitution cannot be Addressing a press conference staked at the whims of an individual as the country cannot afford any more political chaos. She urged Imran Khan to stop using institutions for his political gains.

On the occasion, Faisal Karim all parties and took them on board. Kundi said the coalition government She further added that all the is fully focused on the development olitical parties including PTI had of the country. He said the PTI chief agreed on holding elections on the should not undermine democracy.

# Acting Afghan FM due in Islamabad on a four-day visit from May 5

ISLAMABAD: Acting Afghan Foreign Minister Mawlawi Amir Khan Muttaqi is scheduled to visit Pakistan from May 5 to 8, along with a high-level delegation.

The delegation will include the

Acting Afghan Minister for Commerce and Industry Haji Nooruddin Azizi, and senior officials from the Afghan ministries of foreign affairs, transport, and trade, a Foreign Office statement said. Apart from holding bilateral meetings, the acting Afghan foreign minister will also participate in the 5th China-Pakistan-Afghanistan Trilateral Foreign Ministers' Dialogue on May 6, 2023.

State Councilor and Foreign Minister of China Qin Gang will also participate in the Trilateral Foreign Minister's Dialogue.

The visit of the Acting Afghan Foreign Minister is a continuation of Pakistan's political engagement process with Afghanistan, which, inter alia, included a visit of Pakistan's Minister of State for Foreign Affairs to Kabul on November 29, 2022, and visit of a high-level delegation led by the Defence Minister of Pakistan to Kabul on February 22, 2023.

During the visit, the two sides will review the entire spectrum of bilateral relations between Pakistan and Afghanistan in the political, economic, trade, connectivity, peace and security, and education domains.

Pakistan is desirous of a peaceful, prosperous, stable and connected Afghanistan and reiterates its commitment to pursue continuous and practical engagement with the Interim Afghan Government, the

#### Conflict between SCBA, PBC **Reaches Supreme Court**

ISLAMABAD: The conflict between Pakistan Bar Council (PBC) and the Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) has intensified after the issuance of show cause notices.

The SCBA President Abid Zuberi and Secretary Mugtadir Akhtar Shabbir approached the Supreme Court (SC) to challenge the show cause notices issued by the Pakistan Bar Council (PBC). The SCBA sought nullification of the PBC show cause notices and termed the action 'illegal, violation of Article 9 and political'

The SCBA president and secretary stated in their petition that the federal law minister is a PBC member and the council is inclined towards the government. It added that PBC issued the

gal, out of jurisdiction and a violation of Article 9. The SCBA pleaded with the apex

tary 'on a political basis' which is ille-

court to stop PBC's interference in SCBA affairs. Pakistan Bar Council and executive committee were made parties in the petition. The SCBA filed the petition against

the PBC's show cause notices through advocate Hamid Khan.

Meanwhile, the Supreme Court Bar Association made a response move against the Pakistan Bar Council and notified the suspension of seven PBC members including Hassan Raza Pasha, Amjad Shah, Riyazat Ali Seher, Tariq Afridi, Masood Chishti, Ahsan Bhoon and Qalb Hassan Shah.

The association referred the matter to the general body for its final approvshow cause notice to the SCBA secreal after suspending the memberships.

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# Caretaker CM meets heirs of youth drowned in Neelum River

LAHORE: Caretaker Chief Minisfamilies of Ghulam Miran and the missing youths in Chowk Baba Azam Achhra today. He expressed his heartfelt condolences to the heirs of the deceased youth Ghulam Miran and bereaved families and prayed to Allah

directed the authorities to provide ter Punjab Mohsin Naqvi visited the the best treatment to the injured and ordered a team of divers from Rescue 1122 to be dispatched to the accident site immediately.

Mohsin Naqvi also consoled the

It may be added that eight members of a family including Ghulam Miran, Walid Ibrar, Hasan Safdar, Bilal Maqbool, Azhar Ashraf, Rahim Khan, Raheel, and Shahnawaz Maqsood drowned in the river when their jeep plunged into it. The body of Ghulam CM's visit.

inquired about the well-being of the injured Muhammad Fahad. The CM for the safe return of the missing youth. Miran is recovered and the search for the missing youth is ongoing, for the missing youth is ongoing, while Muhammad Fahad, Moin, and Hasnain Shehzad are receiving medical treatment.

Commissioner and DC Lahore. along with CCPO Lahore and other officials, were also present during the

#### Training Course

LALAMUSA: Opening Ceremony of 4 weeks Promotion Training Course Of Municipal Officers in Punjab Local Govt Academy Lalamusa. Along with DC Gujrat(Chief Guest), AC Kharian, DSP Lalamusa, Director(Head of Academy), Deputy Directors & Assistant Directors.



# Rescue 1122 celebrates International Firefighters Day

Asim Tanveer

MULTAN: Rescue 1122 Multan organized an awareness walk flag march and seminar on the occasion of International Firefighters Day. Punjab Emerrency Service Rescue 1122 Multan organized an awareness walk flag march and seminar from Multan Arts the occasion of Internationaim of paying tribute to the firefighters who sacrificed their lives to help the people in distress. Acknowledging their services to provide to the public

important role during fire of fire emergency. The walk started from Kalma Chowk



Council to Kalma Chowk on of the walk carried banners ber of Commerce and Indusand charts about fire safety al Firefighters Day with the and recognizing the services of firefighters. The walk was led by District Emergency Officer Dr. Kaleemullah. Other participants included Emergency Officer (Admin) awareness about fire safety Engineer Muhammad Bilal, Control Room Incharge So that the community Muhammad Mudassar can be made aware of their Zia, Emergency Officer (Operation) Muhammad and reduce the incidence Arshad Khan, Fire Rescuers, Volunteers, and Mian Rashid Igbal (President), and ended at Multan Arts Sheikh Muhammad Asim Council. The participants on behalf of Multan Cham-

try. Saeed (Vice President), Nadeem Ahmed Sheikh (Senior Vice President) and a large number of civil society and rescuers participated.

Mian Rashid Iqbal (President) acknowledged the services of the rescuers on this occasion and said that your presence is a sense of security for the citizens of Multan and especially the business sector. China sleeps. We are fully satisfied and satisfied with the performance of our rescu-

Just as you selflessly stand with us in every difficult hour, we are with you in all your needs. Emergency Officer (Admin) Engineer Mohammad Bilal said that Rescue 1122 is an idea which was dreamed by a person two decades ago and he was ashamed of facing difficult situations bravely. His name is (Star Imtiaz) Dr. Rizwan Nasir. Not only in Punjab but also in all the provinces of Pakistan by training the rescuers who provide timely assistance to the people and providing rescue services in

their provinces as well. The seminar was presided over by District Emergency Officer Dr. Kaleemullah in his address. He said that fire fighters are actually the real heroes of the nation because fire fighters not only help people in times of crisis but sometimes sacrifice their lives while protecting people's property and lives.

#### Shahid Afridi celebrates the expansion of a charitable school in Karachi's suburbs

**№** News Desk

KARACHI: Sports celebrity, charity leader and Chairman, Shahid Afridi Foundation, Shahid Afridi will grace an event as Chief Guest on Saturday, to be held to celebrate the expansion sion of his NGO's, one SAF School in partnership with Green Crescent Trust (GCT), aimed at enrolling out-of-school children in Sindh.

He will formally inaugurate the newly constructed first floor of the charitable school in Wangi Goth in Karachi's suburbs. The Wangi Goth, SAF School is jointly run by the non-profits Shahid Afridi Foundation (SAF) and Green Crescent Trust (GCT). With the expansion of the Wangi Goth School, the number of children from underprivileged families studying there will increase up

The SAF and GCT jointly run eight charitable schools in Karachi's suburbs having an enrolment of over 3,000 students from the deprived areas, as 50 per cent of them are girls. Both non-profits started a partnership four years back.

In all, GCT runs 160 plus, charitable schools in Sindh with an enrolment of over 30,500 students from underprivileged families. The event will also be attended by SAF CEO, Zafar Malik, CEO GCT, Zahid Saeed, COO GCT, Habib Navaid, Saad Zia and other trustees, donors, well-wishers, of the two non-profits, and dignitaries from various walks of life.

# Virtual University Inaugurates Centre for Genomics and Proteomics at KSK

**Bureau Report** 

LAHORE: The Virtual University of Pakistan (VUP) has officially inaugurated its Centre for Genomics and Proteomics at the KSK campus. The ceremony was attended by faculty members, students, and distinguished guests from various fields of academia and research.

The inauguration ceremony was chaired by Prof. Dr. Arshad Saleem Bhatti, Rector of the Virtual Univerat the event, Dr. Arshad emphasized the importance of genomics and proteom-"The study of genomics and North. proteomics is essential in advancing our understandfinding solutions to some of the world's most pressing

cials who were the part of and will offer students and and the Centre for Genom-

health issues.'



sity of Pakistan. Speaking this Genom center, especially Prof. Dr Masroor Elahi and Mr. Atiq Ur Rehman ics in today's world, saying Regional campus manager

The Registrar Virtaual University of Pakistan Prof. ing of the human body and Dr. Mohsin Javed said that "The Centre for Genomics and Proteomics at KSK will be a hub for cutting-He acknowledged the edge research in the fields of working of all those offi- genomics and proteomics,

to work with leading scientists in the field. A group of babar, Dr. Tanveer hussain students from the related departments also visited the KSK campus and they were overjoyed to see the state of the art research facilities.

In the closing speech Dr. Arshad Saleem said that The Virtual University of Pakistan is committed to providing its students with the best possible education and research opportunities, ics and Proteomics at KSK is a testament to this commit-

VUP is committed to providing its students with a vibrant and inclusive learning community, where they can pursue their academic and personal goals and become successful and responsible citizens of Pakistan. Virtual University of Pakistan wishes all its new students a successful and rewarding academic journey at VUP.

#### RPO Dera visit Civil Hospital Dera

跨 🛮 Adam Khan Wazir

DERA ISMAIL KHAN: According to details, Regional Police Officer Dera Ismail Khan Abdul Ghafoor Afridi reached Civil Hospital Dera to visit DSP Abid Iqbal, who was injured in the firing by terrorists at police station University area.

While inquiring about the well-being of the injured DSP, RPO Dera appreciated the counter action against the terrorists and instructed the hospital administration to provide the best treatment facilities.

On this occasion, RPO Dera said that the moral of the police cannot be lowered by the cowardly actions of the terrorists, Rather, the morale of the Dera police is high. Against the attack of the terrorists, the policemen showed exemplary performance without caring for their lives and killed two terrorists.

#### Caretaker CM asks DCS to restore 475 water filtration plants in 15 days



**Bureau Report** 

LAHORE: In compliance with the orders of the caretaker Chief Minister Punjab Mohsin Naqvi, the government has compiled a list of 475 non-functional water filtration plants in both government and private sectors across various districts of the province. The objective is to revive these plants within the next 15 days and ensure the supply of clean drinking water to the people.

As per the provincial government's spokesman Amir Mir, the caretaker CM has instructed that the closed water filtration plants be repaired and re-functionalized promptly to provide clean drinking water to four million people. This restoration project will not be financed by the government, as it will be carried out from May 05 to 20 in collaboration with philanthropists, and the private sector will also be responsible for their maintenance.

Amir Mir emphasized that this effort will prevent waterborne diseases, adding that the caretaker CM has given the concerned deputy commissioners a 15-day deadline to repair all damaged water filtration plants to ensure that the provision of clean drinking water is not disrupted.

#### Caretaker KP Govt withdraws the decision to appointment of DG Info KP

Adam Khan Wazir



WANA: District Press Club Wana has threatened a sit-in protest against the appointment of an unrelated officer in the provincial information department KP, condemned the appointment in strong terms and expressed full solidarity with the employees of the Information Department Khyber Pakhtonkhowa.

Chairman Adam Khan Wazir and other cabinet members said in an emergency meeting held at District Press Club Wana yesterday, that the appointment of the finance department officer on the provincial level journalists is not allowed at all, and we reject it.

This action is based on oppression and abuse, the caretaker provincial chief minister of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Governor of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and the caretaker minister of information, Barrister Firooz Jamal, should take special notice of this otherwise there will be a protest at the provincial level, Chairman Adam Khan Wazir said that there is a senior most officer like Muhammad Imran Khan in the Information Department, but bringing an officer from another department and sitting here is not cruelty.

As the post of DG Information is purely technical professional and sensitive, so the provincial government should reconsider this decision and withdraw the decision.

So, otherwise, coverage of all official events will be stopped by a complete, boycott and a protest demonstration will be held in front of the secretariat.

#### Police killed TTP leader and mastermind of Sri Lankan Cricket attack

Asim Tanveer

DERA ISMAIL KHAN: Tehreek-e-Taliban (TTP) Khyara group chief Mohammad Iqbal alias Bali Khyara was killed in a police encounter.

Terrorist Mohammad Iqbal aka Balikhiyara was also involved in Sri Lanka team attack Dera Ismail Khan police encoun-

tered the most dangerous terrorist wanted by the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Punjab police involved in several incidents of terrorism and target killing, Muhammad Iqbal known as Bali Khiyara son of Allah Wasaya Qoum Khiyara Sakna village Chah Khanwala, Tehsil Parwa, District Dera Ismail Khan. He was killed near Fateh Mor in retaliatory firing after police attacked him



As a result of the firing, DSP Abid Iqbal was injured The government of Pakistan has put a bounty of one crore five lakh (1,50,0000) rupees on the head of Muhammad Igbal alias Balikhiara. Twenty-one (21) cases of terrorism, target killing, target killing of police personnel and people belonging to the Shia sect and kidnapping for ransom, while Multan Police, Punjab province, are wanted in five (5) cases, Dera police officials. According to Muhammad Iqbal known as Balikhiyara was also involved in suicide blasts.

### Physical inspection of vehicles with Islamabad number also in Punjab will be done: DG Excise

**Mian Rashid Asghar** 

FAISALABAD: Director General Excise and Taxation Punjab Muhammad Ali has expressed that now the physical inspection of vehicles showing with Islamabad numbers would be observed in Punjab, while this facility would also be available for Punjab vehicles in Islamabad. He further informed that in such way not only the problems of the citizens would be minimised but also the revenue of the provincial and federal excise departments would maximize.

The DG further said that the step had been taken in the light of the orders of the Supreme Court of Pakistan. He said adding that, for this purpose a mobile app had been introduced through which vehicle registration and chassis number verification in Punjab and Islamabad would be made. The DG Muhammad Ali said, "the importance of this project is also high because there are a large number of vehicles with Islamabad number in Punjab and one had to go to Islamabad first to change the ownership of the vehicle so this is a big relief for the citizens provided by the government in view of the extremely expensive fuel expenditures." The DG Excise M. Ali further told that the facility of physical inspection had been provided in Lahore, Faisalabad, Multan and Bahawalpur even to cover entire Punjab. He further said that the staff of Excise Department Punjab had also been trained to run this program successfully with easements.



#### **Namaz Timings** Maghrib ... 8: 26 pm

#### **EMERGENCY**

Rescue (Police)1
Bomb Disposal 15
Fire Services Rawalpindi/
Islamabad1122 & 10
Emergency Ambulance 1122 8
& Rescue Services 445112
Motorway Police926604
Motorway Police9270601-20

#### **Women Police**

Stations				
	Islamabad		9222596	
	Rawalpindi	92	70601-20	
	Islamabad		9222596	

#### **ENOUIRY**

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

#### **HOSPITALS**

CMH	5611111
MH	561116
MH	561116
Cantt Hospital	9270907-11
DHQ	5556311-4
RGH	9290301-7
Holy Family	9290322-7

#### PAC organized Ustad Daman *Literary* reference

RAWALPINDI: Punjab

#### 👺 City Desk

Arts Council in collaboration with Punjab college of commerce Rawalpindi organized literary reference titled "Ustad Dama Ka Sareer Nama". The reference was jointly presided over by Jalil Aali and Prof. Dr. Maqsood Jaffari. Dr. Shazia akbar performed the duties of host in the reference. Noted critic and writer Jalil Aali said that as long as Punjabi literature lives, the name of Ustad Daman will also live. Ustad Daman was the king of the stage and his poetry was fluid. He was a great poet and Qalandar in the true sense. Ustad Daman expressed his love for Punjabi language through poetry in Punjabi language and not to destroy Punia bi language by promoting Urdu language. Famous writer Dr. Maqsood Jafari said. It was said that the tone of Ustad Daman's poems was public and the thoughts were very high. He experimented in all kinds of political, romantic, and funny poems. In his poems, there was always a glimpse of love for the country. He used to express what he felt in his poetry. He always raised the slogan of philanthropy in his poetry. He was not a rebel but he definitely raised his voice against evils and cruelty. Director Arts Council Waqar Ahmad said that Ustad Daman's poetry is rich in realism and naturalism and is a good reflection of human life. Mr. Qayyum. Tahir, Prof. Dr. Ravish Nadeem and other writers highlighted various aspects of Ustad Daman's life and poetry. The event was attended by a large number of people from

# PM slams India's decision to hold G20 Tourism Working Group meeting in Srinagar

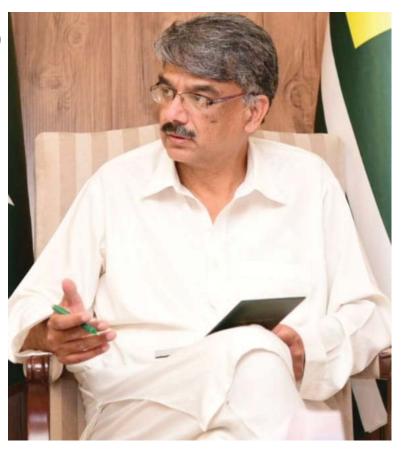
#### 跨 🛮 Abdul Majeed Tahir

MUZAFFARABAD: Prime Minister Azad Jammu and Kashmir Chaudhry Anwar-ul-Haq has strongly condemned India's decision to hold a meeting of the G20 Tourism Working Group on May 22-24 in Srinagar, the capital of Occupied Jammu and Kashmir. In his statement, the AJK premier, while referring to the disputed nature of the Kashmir issue, said that India's contentious decision to host the G-20 Summit event in the occupied territory was a flagrant violation of the United Nations Security Council resolutions and the United Nations Charter and international law. He made it clear that such actions cannot hide the reality of Jammu and rights situation in the region, the Prime fair and impartial referendum.

"Kashmir is an internationally recognized conflict that has been pending on the agenda of the United Nations Security Council for more than seven decades", the PM said, adding that India cannot hoodwink the world community by using such tactics. The prime minister, Ch. Anwar ul Haq said that by hosting an international conference in Srinagar, New Delhi cannot deflect the attention of the international community away from Kashmir that has been reeling under relentless oppression for the past several years. Urging Muslim countries, who are currently members of the group twenty, to take effective notice of the worsening political and human

Minister Chaudhry Anwar ul Haq said that G20 Islamic countries including Turkey, Indonesia, Saudi Arabia should boycott the upcoming event being hosted in Srinagar.

The PM said that the people of Kashmir have been demanding implementation of the UNSC resolutions that guarantee the right to self determination to the people of Kashmir. He said that it was imperative that the G-20 nations should realize their moral obligations and play their much needed role to resolve the lingering dispute peacefully, thereby pursuing the Indian government to allow Kashmiri people to exercise their right to self-determination and determine their political future through free,



#### Tea

ISLAMABAD: A worker is busy in making tea at his restaurant at Aabpara Market during pleasant weather in Federal Capital.



Photo: Online

# ABHI and Decibel Join Hands to Offer AbhiSalary

#### Commerce Desk

LAHORE: ABHI, an embedded finance company, is excited to announce its partnership with Decibel, a global provider of Human Resource Management System (HRMS) solutions. This collaboration brings together ABHI's cutting-edge earned wage access technology with Decibel's HRMS expertise, creating a powerful solution that financially empowers employees with convenient access to their earned wages.

ABHI is a forward-thinking Earned Wage Access provider that enables employees to access their earned wages in real-time, helping them manage their finances and avoid financial stress. AbhiSalary allows employees to access a portion of their earned wages before their scheduled payday, providing them with greater financial flexibility and control.

Cloud in Pakistan, offering a COO at ABHI. "This collab-



**A** ∣abhi

to businesses of all sizes. Decitions includes talent management, attendance and leaves compliance, and more.

with Decibel, a trusted name well-being. in the HRMS solutions indus-Decibel is the largest HRMS try," said Mr. Ali Ladhubhai, providing comprehensive comprehensive range of HR oration allows us to combine to the needs of businesses and ees' financial lives."

HRMS solutions, creating a bel's expertise in HRMS solupowerful solution that brings financial flexibility to thousands of employees. Togethmanagement, benefits admin- er, we can make a positive istration, payroll and tax impact on the financial lives of employees and help them "We are thrilled to partner achieve improved financial

HRMS solutions that cater

management tools and services AbhiSalary with Decibel's their employees," said Mr. Faisal Qamar, CEO at Decibel. "Our partnership with ABHI aligns perfectly with our mission, as it allows us to add an innovative earned wage access solution to our suite of features and promote financial wellness among employees. We are excited about the "Decibel is dedicated to opportunities this collaboration brings and the positive impact it can have on employ-

# L'Oréal Pakistan Celebrates 14 Year Anniversary with a Focus on Community and Care

#### **Example 2** Commerce Desk

neighboring cities.

KARACHI: L'Oréal Pakistanmarked its 14thYear Anniversary withcommemorative eventsin Karachi at DarulSukun: a charitable organization that provides care, rehabilitation and protection to children with disabilities, in Islamabad at Fareeda Bashir Gharana - Trust; a charitable organization that is dedicated to providing a brighter future to orphans and underprivileged children, and in Lahore at SOS Children's Village; a charitable organisation which provides care, shelter and support for orphan and underprivileged children.

The anniversary commemoration was based in the spirit of community, kindness and giving back, in line with L'Oréal's unwavering commitment to making a positive impact on society and instilling the importance of social responsibility within the communities



in which they operate.

The anniversary event focused on community-centric activities where L'Oréal Pakistan employees across the leadership, management and

team levels volunteered their time and resources in interactive activities with the residents of DarulSukun, Fareeda Bashir Gharana - TrustandSOS Chil-

"We are honored to celebrate our 14thyear anniversary in Pakistan with a focus on the spirit giving back to the community," said Qawi Naseer, Managing Director of L'Oréal Pakistan. "At L'Oréal Pakistan, we are deeply committed to creating a positive impact in society through our diverse sustainability initiatives. The projects that we have embarked on since inception are a testament to our dedication to empowering individuals and making a difference in the community."

Indeed,L'Oréal Pakistan has a long-standing history of social responsibility and community engagement. Over the past 14 years, the brand has been dedicated to making a positive impact on society through various initiatives, and empowered individuals with skills and opportunities.

Some of the notable initiatives that L'Oréal Pakistan has undertaken or supported recently include.

### Land registry through e-Registration has been started in Multan Division: Amir Khattak

#### S Asim Tanveer

MULTAN: As in the rest of Punjab, the registry through e-registration has been started by the Punjab Land Records Authority in Multan division. The training of all revenue officers and staff about e-registration was held in Raza Hall. Commissioner Engineer Aamir Khattak in Multan division. While inaugurating the e-registration, he said that the Punjab government has provided the facility of e-registration to the people sitting at home. A web portal has been created for e-registration which will eliminate middlemen, fraud. Public involvement and individual responsibility has been ensured for good governance. Additional Director Operations Usman Ahmed said that users will get the challan

After paying the fixed fee in the Bank of Punjab, users will be able to write the deed at home. Deputy Director System Development Punjab Land Record Authority Rizwan Chishti said that users will be able to register the seller, customer and witnesses by themselves. After writing the deed, digital methods will be transferable to the Sub-Registrar. Consumers will submit biometric verification and statements in front of Sub-Registrar at scheduled time. After verification of statements, approved registry copy can be obtained. Province-wide training program for District Administration, Assistant Commissioners, Sub-Registrar, Stamp Vendors. has been arranged. Training has been conducted at all 10 Divisional Headquarters. District Officers, Additional Commissioners, Additional Deputy Commissioners, Assistant Commissioners, Sub Registrars Participants

## MoU Signed to provide digital smart Healthcare System in Punjab

#### **№** City Desk

RAWALPINDI: The Puniab Health Department and Telecom Foundation (Federal Ministry of Information Technology and Telecommunication) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Tuesday to provide state of the art smart digital health system in the province.

The President & CEO Telecom Foundation Syed Zomma Mohiuddin and the CEO of District Health Authority Punjab, Dr Saadat Ali Khan, signed the MoU documents at a ceremony held in Rawalpindi.

Speaking at the occasion, Dr. Jamal Nasir, the Punjab Minister for Health, expressed his appreciation for Telecom Foundation for bringing about a revolutionary change in the health sector. He further added that in line with the vision of Punjab Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi, amodern digital health system is being planned with the help of Telecom Foundation for the Punjab Health Department, which would initially provide smart digital services in the basic health centres of the province, starting

President Telecom Foundation stated that in line with their vision of providing digital smart and sustainable services, especially to the underprivileged strata of the society, the Foundation will be providing these services to uplift the efficiency of the healthcare system and reduce the rush of patients to the Hospitals. Director Health Services Rawalpindi Division Dr. Ansar Ishaq and GM social welfare Telecom Foundation Atifa Ahsan, along with other officials were also present on the occasion.

#### PTEA rejects decision to withdraw subsidized tariff on gas supply to export-oriented sectors

#### Main Rashid Asghar

FAISALABAD: Pakistan Textile Exporters Association (PTEA) has flayed the decision of withdrawal of concessional tariff on gas supply to the export-oriented sectors, terming it an anti-export move which will

seize the industrialization and export growth. Quoting the decision, PTEA's senior leader Sohail Pasha has said that the concessional tariff of \$9 per mmbtu has been withdrawn and the export-oriented sectors will be charged at normal industrial tariff with effect from May 1st 2023. Textile industry is already passing through difficult times as extreme cash flow crunch and high production cost have immensely damaged the export pace and adversely impacted the textile value chain. Exports are falling consistently both in value and quantities and this move will further add fuel to the fire, he added. This is having adverse impact on the employment and the economy of the country. Export downfall has been a cause of serious concern for economy and a major setback to industry.

This tariff increase decision shall put the textile export industry at halt resulting in massive de-industrialization & unmanageable unemployment. Textile industry is facing a major crisis as it is rapidly losing credibility and competitiveness in the global market. It is the time to support the export sectors to have long-term sustainability in the balance of payments as it is an important source of foreign exchange. Government should set its priorities right and accord preferential treatment to boost the exports and generate industrial activities. Only the export sector has the ability to pull country out of crisis and steer it towards economic prosperity.

Expressing disappointment over discontinuation of competitive gas/ RLNG price, other Senior PTEA leader Arif Mahmood Qureshi said that textile industry has already lost its viability against the regional competitors as our exports are at a comparative disadvantage in respect of high production costs in the region. Due to inefficient and unfriendly socio-economic environment, the cost of doing business in Pakistan has escalated enormously due to intermittent raise in the prices of raw materials and production inputs rendering our exports uncompetitive in international market.

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#### Ban on transportation of wheat from Punjab to other provinces should be removed

akistan Flour Mills Association Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (PFMA-KP) on Wednesday urged the Prime Minister to take notice of ban on wheat transportation from Punjab to KP and other provinces.

Addressing a press conference here, chairman PFMA-KP Muhammad Iqbal said that under Article 151 of the constitution the ban on wheat transportation was unconstitutional, adding that the Prime Minister, Chief Ministers Punjab and KP should have to take notice of the issue and order removal of all the check posts of the police and other agencies set up by the Punjab Government to stop the transportation of wheat to other provinces.

He further called for steps to avert such ban on edible items especially on wheat in future and provide relief to KP people and flour mill industry.

He said that at present, there are abundant reserves of wheat in the province of Punjab and the Food department under its wheat procurement policy allowed flour mills of Punjab to purchase wheat, however due to ban on transportation of wheat to other provinces, the people are forced to purchase flour at the rate of Rs 3000 to 4000 per 20kg.

He said that PFMA-KP requests the Prime Minister of Pakistan, Shehbaz Sharif, the Governor KP Ghulam Ali, KP Chief Minister Azam Khan, KP Food Minister, Chief Secretary and the Food Department to allow KP flour mills to freely purchase wheat from the private market of Punjab so that the closed flour mill industry of KP could restart their operation and provide cheap and quality flour to the people of KP.

He urged the Prime Minister to announce a special relief package for KP flour mills so that the unemployed labourers could get back to their jobs

He deplored that a petition over the issue was filed in the Supreme Court of Pakistan in the month of August last year but despite the passage of 10 months, no hearing was conducted.

Iqbal said that the Chief Justice of Pakistan should have to take notice of the violation of Article 151 and fixed a date for a hearing on the petition of PFMA as soon as possible.

He said that the flour mills industry in the province is in dire straits due to economic crisis and militancy while on the other hand, the Punjab government has imposed on transportation of wheat to Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, using the pretext of

He said that the requirement of wheat in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province was 50 lakh tons per year, while the production of wheat in the province was six to eight lakh tons.

He said that there are 250 to 260 flour mills in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province and due to ban on transportation of wheat from Punjab and non-availability of wheat, 70 percent flour mill industry of KP has been closed and thousands of workers have become jobless.

# Far-ahead and Far-behind Approach: essential to explore meanings of life

Syed Irfan Iqbal

n expert driver always looks far-ahead and farbehind in order to find spaces for smooth drive. He is not supposed to stop car at every second to check the mechanics or electrical parts of vehicle and he is not either supposed to be whimsical enough to stop the vehicle after every short interval and assess air pressure or to know the condition of road. He keeps going with a belief that destination is his fate and the vehicle he is driving is reliable. The small bumps on road, sudden breakdown of vehicle, unpredictable mood swings in other cases severe traffic congestion, heavy rain, blistering snow, fast storm do not let the committed and honest driver to stop the vehicle. He keeps going how slow it may be with a belief that destination is his fate. He knows well that these obstacles are part and parcel of path. He knows that water never flows in reverse but always flows forward to be part of something bigger and something for which water is destined for.

A common saying 'Life is a journey' have we ever wondered why life is not termed or called walking, swimming, flying, eating, watching and other never endings 'INGs'. Realistically, Journey of real life comprises of all these little

ney; once we are on road of world; let's drive the vehicle of our lives confidently with a belief that this vehicle is bound to meet a pre-destined destination or self-made goals.

We as driver of our lives should look far ahead-adopting futuristic approach does not allow us to be entangles in petty disputes and petty egoism. As, Quaide-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah knows that his struggle is for future of millions of humans, as Martin Luther King realizes that his fight against racism is for future generation to come; as Hellen Keller-American Person with disabilities, foresees that her struggle would be beacon of light for Persons with disabilities and also for those who have eyes but are unable to see! Looking far-ahead keeps them propelling and struggling to work for millions of humans to come.

Opposite to 'look-far ahead approach' is Looking far-behind. It is not keep entangled into near negative past, daily discouragement, daily little whimsicality of others and some trouble of past or some obstacle ( it may be self-made or of external environment). Looking far behind does not mean to ignore bad past but it means distancing themselves from past but never to forget and ignore the lessons from history. It teaches us not reversing again and again the vehicle of life. As we just look far behind just to keep us aware and keep us envisioned

and past misfortunes. Past is to learn the lessons and following these lessons in present makes prospects of future bright. Edison would not have been able to lighten the darkness of world with his invention of Bulb if he had kept on reversing the previous attempts again and again; he had learnt from each experiences of past; but he keeps on going and going. Ultimately, he blessed nights of billions of people with 'Light'.

Have we ever wondered! What is actual difference between middle class vehicles and super rich luxury vehicles? Both types of vehicle have to traverse the roads, both vehicles are supposed to have expert driver and a pre-destined or pre-decided destination. The difference is, in fact, lies spacious inner ambience, sound and noise free inner environment, and best of all inner safety measures to keep the passengers safe in case of accident. In life, it is inner space, inner peace, inner calm, inner commitment and inner strength that save us from external accidents and from those over which we do not have control.

Last but not least, the life on this road of world faces ups and downs, sometimes it breaks down suddenly, sometimes, it does not let us to find our destination, sometimes it does not let us to adjust in outer ambience (as large vehicles are not made for small streets),

activities. While driving for real life jour- how to avoid past blunders, how not sometimes our fellow passengers find us to be prisoner of past shortcomings faithless, sometimes we lost belief on the journey and it is also possible that some time we realize that we have been traversing on such roads which was not made for us. In such testing times, it is inner resolve, commitment, confidence and belief that do not let us to bow down In front of momentary obstacles. It is strength of inner ambience with which we can swim across oceans of troubles, seas of oppression and streams of disappointments. The story of human struggle is a manifestation of this reality that Man always keeps his journey continued on the path of improvement and making the inner and outer world more tolerable and adjustable. Man-made wonders of the world reflects that looking far-ahead and looking far-behind is the approach what we need to traverse the roads of life with a confidence that we all have destinations to reach conditionally we avoid tendency of reversing the flow of life.

Let's resolve that our journey of life remain continued as bird keeps on flying to be at home in evening, as flowers keep on blossoming without fear of fading away for-ever, as birds keep on signing, as trees keep on bearing fruits not for themselves for others.

Writer is Researcher at Parliament House, Islamabad reached at syedirfaniqbal65@gmail.com



# ISPR Spreading Truth and Facts-I

todav is an essential part of modern warfare and the recent war. In the recent wars either history's most impressive use of military weapons, or history's most thorough use of words and images as weapons of war, or both were witnessed. Wars are waged by governments, and in democratic societies governments must win public support from their own citizens before they can fight and win a war against the enemy. To win the minds the successful Governments run public relations campaign on an unprecedented scale, and with unprecedented success. In reality, the smart bombs of the war succeed

mostly because of smart words. In recent years, hybrid warfare has come up as a real challenge for countries especially, the ones which are developing like Pakistan and tensions of hybrid warfare due to baseless and false allegations from Indian media. The rumors and spreading of false information is on peak and it maximizes the need of a reliable institution to counter these things and propagate the true picture.

Till the decade of the 1990s, ISPR was a relatively small setup playing a modest role as the media arm of the armed forces. Over the years, however, it has ballooned into a well-resourced, well-equipped and well-staffed organisation that plays multiple roles within the overall domain of media and communications. In some ways, the rapid expansion big names of Major General Asim and growth of ISPR was a natu- Saleem Bajwa, Major General

he Public relation ral by-product of the information revolution that has speeded up since the advent of the digital age.

The military was perhaps the first institution to grasp the immense power of effective communication at a time when the connectivity of citizens was generating unimaginable empowerment at the individual, institutional and national level. While the ministry of information and other communication and information outfits run by the government struggled to come to terms with the modern demands of the media, the military invested

to project power through weapons of mass influence. Readers, The

Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) are the media and **Public Relation** wing of the Pakistan Armed Forces. It broadcasts

and coordinates military news and information to the country's civilian media and the civic society. ISPR Directorate acts as ambassador of the Armed Forces. The Directorate plays a proactive role in bridging gulf between Armed Forces and the public through media. This is a specialized function, which in present era requires a scientific approach. Major General Ahmed Sharif Chaudhary is current DG of ISPR who is doing an excellent job. Previous Chiefs including

Asif Ghafoor, and Major General Babar Iftikhar etc were very active in running the institution in a quite professional way. Like central and other regional offices it's AJK office is also working in a quite professional way. ISPR AJK's commander and staff are quite popular in people and journalists because of their profes-

sional and friendly behavior. These days its time of Media and Internet. The only one who is active in these mediums can survive. Also to counter Fifth Generation Warfare, misinformation and false propaganda, it's heavily in ISPR and its capacity much essential to closely engage

with media and present the true picture. ISPR is doing this in a very professional and proactive manner. Spreading the true and fact base information is a big

job which this institution is doing with full responsibility. A very comprehensive press conference was recently arranged by DG ISPR in which he interacted with media in quite beautiful and professional way. At his maiden press conference as the director general of the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), Maj-Gen Ahmed Sharif Chaudhry briefed the media on the current security situation both on eastern and western borders as well as other professional matters. However, during the question-answer session, the ISPR chief also spoke about the role of the army

in the Punjab elections, social

media campaign against the military leadership and possibility of disciplinary action against some retired generals.

"Pakistan Army is a national army... for us all politicians, all parties are respectable," Maj-Gen Chaudhry said, while replying to a question. He added that everyone had the right to have an opinion, stressing that Chief of Army Staff (COAS) Gen Asim Munir had reiterated that the people of Pakistan were the source of

"The army will not want to go to any one ideology or party. Every region is represented in the army. The cooperation of the army with them is to the extent of operations against terrorism," he stressed.

The ISPR DG, while answering another question regarding the campaign against the army on social media, said that using army for a particular political or religious cause could lead to chaos. He further said that both the people and the army would not want the army to be associated with any particular political party. "Political leaders should strengthen our thinking. The army and the politicians have a non-political relationship, it will not be appropriate to give it a political colour.

When asked about the arrest of Lt-Gen (retd) Amjad Shoaib, the ISPR DG said: "Veterans (retired soldiers) are our asset. Their sacrifices are for the forces of Pakistan. Veteran groups are not political organisations, but charitable organisations. They should not do politics."

To be continued

# Pakistani Students in Australia

#### Tayyiba Zabih

ustralia is a well-liked study abroad option for Pakistani students due to the excellent quality of education provided by Australian universities and the friendly atmosphere in the nation. Many Pakistani students rely on various sources of support, including financial assistance from their families, scholarships, and part-time jobs. However, obtaining permanent residency and citizenship in Australia can be a challenging process for Pakistani students.

The history of Pakistani students in Australia dates back to the 1960s, when a small number of Pakistani students began studying at Australian universities. The proportion of Pakistani students, however, did not start to significantly rise until the 1990s. This was due to several factors, including the growing demand for quality education, increased awareness about Australian universities among Pakistani students. and the availability of scholarships and other forms of financial assistance.

One of the primary reasons why Pakistani students prefer Australia as their study destination is the high standard of education that Australian universities offer. International rankings place a number of Australian institutions among the most prestigious in the world. Pakistani students have access to a diverse selection of courses and degree programmes in subjects such as engineering, medicine, business, and the humanities.

Another reason why Pakistani students choose Australia is the welcoming and inclusive environment that the country offers. Australia is known for its multiculturalism and diversity, which makes it easier for international students to adjust to life in Australia. Pakistani students can also take advantage of various support services provided by universities and the government, including academic support, health services, and counselling services.

When it comes to managing their studies and finances, Pakistani students in Australia rely on various sources of support. Many students receive

financial assistance from their families, while others take out loans or work part-time jobs to cover their expenses. Moreover, scholarships and fellowships are also available at Australian institutions for overseas students, including those from Pakistan.

Despite the many benefits of studying in Australia, obtaining permanent residency and citizenship can be a challenging process for Pakistani students. To apply for permanent residency, Pakistani students must meet several requirements, including English language proficiency and evidence of work experience. For those who are still in university or are unfamiliar to the country, these requirements may be problematic.

Moreover, the Australian government has implemented strict visa regulations to prevent student visa fraud and non-compliance. These regulations can create additional hurdles for Pakistani students, who must demonstrate their genuine intention to study and meet the visa requirements. This procedure can be tough and time-intensive, causing stress and frustration for students.

However, Pakistani students in Australia can take dvantage of various resources and support services to help them navigate the visa application process. Universities and government agencies provide guidance and assistance to students on visa requirements. documentation, and application procedures. Many universities also provide post-study work visas, allowing foreign students to keep their residence in Australia and work for up to four years after finish-

In conclusion, Pakistani students who have a desire for a top-notch education in a friendly atmosphere tend to pick Australia as their place of study. While obtaining permanent residency and citizenship can be a bit hard, many Pakistani students continue to pursue their education in Australia and make significant contributions to the country's economy and society. With the support of universities, government agencies, and various support services, Pakistani students in Australia can overcome these challenges and achieve their academic and career goals.

Writer reached at Email: tayyibazabih@gmail.

# Ambassador of Japan calls on **Finance Minister**

#### Naveed Ahmad Khan

ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Japan to Pakistan Mitsuhiro Wada Wednesday called on Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar and discussed ways and means to enhance cooperation in improving the trade, investment and economic relations between the two countries.

Shinji Yanagi, Vice Chairman Toyota Company, Special Assistant to Prime Minister on Finance Tariq Bajwa, Secretary Finance and senior officers were also present on the occasion, said a press

The minister briefed the ambassador about the economic challenges and priorities of the present government.

He apprised the ambassador of the economic policies and reforms being implemented by the government to lead the economy towards growth and

The minister also expressed his views on the cordial relations between Paki-



stan and Japan and appreciated Japan's investments in Pakistan.

He said that the two countries enjoyed sound friendly relations which had been getting stronger with each passing day.

The minister said that Japan was one of the major development partners of Pakistan and he firmly believed that the cooperation would further strengthen in multiple fields for the mutual benefit of both the countries.

He further highlighted potential opportunities of investment in Pakistan and welcomed investment plans of Japanese companies in Pakistan.

Ambassador of Japan Wada Mitsuhiro praised the pragmatic policies and actions being taken by the government and said that Japan greatly valued its bilateral relations with Pakistan.

He expressed confidence in the economic policies of the current government and assured that business, investment and economic linkages between the two countries would further strengthen in coming days.

# Kashmir dispute as key to peace and stability in South Asia: Barrister Sultan

#### **Bureau Report**

ISLAMABAD: President Azad Jammu and Kashmir Barrister Sultan Mehmood Chaudhry, while terming resolution of the Kashmir dispute as key to peace and stability in South Asia, has said that it was high time that the international community should play its due role to help resolve the lingering dispute. He expressed these views during his exclusive interview with the Turkish national broadcasting organisation TRT, Russia Today TV, Al-Arabia TV and others here today. The president regrettably noted that even after the passage of 75 years, the Kashmir issue was still hanging around. Referring to recent visits to the US, the UK, Europe, Turkey and Middle East countries, the president said there was a growing realization that the dispute should be resolved peacefully in line with the Kashmiris Aspirations.

nation of Kashmiris. Underlining his—tion between India and Pakistan efforts to promote the Kashmir cause



he had presented the case of Kashmiri people effectively and highlighted the plight of Kashmiris besides exposing Indian barbarism and brutalities in occupied Kashmir. He said that it was quite encouraging to note that the international community was ready to listen He said that the government and the and hear to Kashmiris. Referring to the people of Turkey have always openly volatile situation in the region, he said supported the right of self-determi- that Kashmir has been a bone of conten-

and other important forums wherein resolved in accordance with the UNSC Kashmir issue.

resolutions that guarantee the right to self determination to Kashmiri people", the president said. Since peace and stability in South Asia hinges on the settlement of the Kashmir dispute, the president said that it was incumbent that the world community should come forward and help resolve the dispute once and for all to ensure durable peace in the region. He said that the United Nations, the United States, the OIC and Both the nations, he said, have fought other international organizations that ation, Syed Akhtar Mir, while appreciat international level, the president said three wars over Kashmir. "The clouds believe in human rights should play that he had the privilege and honour to of war will continue to hover over the their role to stop the ongoing atrocities represent Kashmiris at the UN, OIC region unless the Kashmir dispute is in Occupied Kashmir and resolve the

#### *Hearts of the* people of Turkey and Pakistan beat together: Halil Ibrahim

#### News Desk

KARACHI: The head of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of Turkey, Halil Ibrahim Basran, has said that the hearts of the people of Turkey and Pakistan beat together, while Turkey faces the threat of earthquakes, Pakistan has to be prepared to deal with floods and other sudden disasters. The spirit of service of the Pakistani scouts, especially of Sindh, is worthy of praise, which was seen during the floods last year. He was discussing with the rescue team members of Sindh Scouts at the provincial headquarters of Sindh Boy Scouts Association. On this occasion, he said that soon the Pakistani scouts will be provided advanced rescue training under the supervision of experts in Turkey. We are happy that the scouts in Turkey, like Pakistan, are always ready to deal with all kinds of sudden disasters. Halil Ibrahim Basran further said that we will examine in which areas the Turkish and Pakistani scouts have cooperation. Abilities can be exchanged between. On this occasion, Provincial Secretary of Sindh Boy Scouts Associating the efforts made by the Turkish Consulate in Karachi for rescue training, said that now we are going to take effective steps in this regard in Sindh.

# World Bank mission and social environmental, safeguards mission visited Sukkur barrage

#### **Example 2** Zainab Hyder

KARACHI: The high level World Bank mission and social environment and social safe guards mission visited Sukkur barrage and held meetings with irrigation officials of Guddu and Sukkur Barrages and reviewed the progress.

World Bank Implementation Support Mission led by Task Team leader, Water Resources Management Specialist Francois Onimus and Thiruni Liyanage co-Task Team Leader, social safe guards mission was led by senior environmental specialist, Takeaki Sato, Senior social development specialist, Imran-ul Haq.

Task Team leader, Water Resources Management Specialist Francois Onimus has suggested to install Pinjar during construction activities in the river to protect endogenous Indus Blind Dolphins and other species and maintain environmental conditions of Dolphins Habitate and Flora Funa.

He said that Dolphins management plan is a integral part of Environmental and Social management plan in which care of blind dolphins Habitate and associated ecology of project area also covered adquately.

World Bank Implementation Support Mission led by Water Resources Management Specialist Francois Onimus was presiding over the progress review meeting at Office of the Chief Engineer Guddu Barrage at Sukkur.

Thiruni Liyanage co-Task Team Leader World Bank urged to expedite under progress. the rehabilitation work to meet the project time lines.

The world Bank mission reviews the project implementation progress and issues to support smooth implementation of World Bank funded Sindh Barrages Improvement Project Guddu and Sukkur barrages..



Leader World Bank urged to expedite the rehabilitation work to meet the project time lines.

Project Director SBIP Ghulam Muhi Ddin Mughal briefed about the project activities done till todate and showed a hope said that it would completed in it's stipulated period.

He assured that physical progress may increase to save the time and cost.. The mission will also review the safeguards and fiduciary aspects of the project.

Project implementation consultant, mott Macdonald international UK based representative Carrie Eller briefing the World Bank mission said that ten gates and hoisting system at Guddu barrage has been installed delivered from Turkey and nine gates out of ten gates were completely operational. She said that remaining one gate was

Chief engineer Guddu Barrage Mohammad Ishaq Abbasi said that replacement process of gates and hoisting system may be expedite before starting the flood season..

While, social safe guards mission was led by senior environmental specialist, Takeaki Sato, Senior social development Thiruni Liyanage co-Task Team specialist, Imran-ul Haq held meeting

with officials of Wild Life department and irrigation officials at camp of office of contractor at Sukkur barrage

Senior environmental specialist, Takeaki Sato urged to waste management plan should be implemented at site for safe handling and disposal of waste material generated from construction activities to full fill legal and contractual requirements..

Takeaki Sato was presiding over meeting and reviews environment

Senior social development specialist, Imran-ul Haq has instructed to collect waste material from source / spot and after segregation it should be stored at designated storage area for final disposal.

Adnan Khan Deputy Conservator Wild Life Department has said that we have rescued 14 Indus Blind Dolphins from.various canals and up and down streams of Guddu and Sukkur Barrag-

He said that through experts of his department, they were continuing the protection of Indus Blind Dolphins

with coordination of SBIP. While, they visited Rice canal from

0 RD to 25 RD and suggested to save

The high level World Bank mission visited the Sukkur Barrage also reviewed the progress of ongoing activities at Sukkur barrage and modernization project progress.

They held meeting with Chinese contractor china road and bridge corporation representatives..

It was reviewed work progress, environment and social management, work program including the design and fabrication of gates and hosting equipment, Cofferdam methodology

Project Director Sindh Barrages Improvement Project SBIP, Ghulam Muhiudin mughal, FAO technical assistance Project manager Ahmed Junaid memon, Deputy Project Director SBIP Sajid Ali Bhutto, Director Procurement Razak Memon SBIP. Technical Officer Mr Imran Aziz Tunio of SBIP, Director Procurement Planning and Development Sindh Government Freeha Mhar and Fariaq Uqili environment specialist of planning and development also accompanied the World Bank mission, Fatah Memon, Zahida Mughal, Mumtaz Ghumro senior engineers of irrigation department also disposal of desilting material from rice joined meeting..

#### APHCAJK has expressed serious concern and denounced the Indian authorities for putting ban on media



**News Desk** 

ISLAMABAD: The APHC AJK has expressed serious concern and denounced the Indian authorities for putting ban on media and continued harrassment and arrest of sevral journalists in Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir, thetas.

APHCAJK leaders in a meeting headed by convenor Mehmood Ahmed Sagar urged the international community to put pressure on India to stop human rights violations and harrassment on media in occupied Kashmir and take steps towards settling the Kashmir dispute in accordance with the Kashmiris' aspirations.

They have strongly condemned the slapping continued arrest of journalist Aasif Sultan, Fahad Shah and Irfan Meraaj who are still facing illegal detentions in different jails of India and IIOJK.

The meeting said repeatedly new imposed media law is being invoked against the journalists and media to threaten them and intimidate them into submission.

They said anybody who reports facts or is critical of the Narendra Modi-led fascist Indian government and its authorities in IIOJK is put behind the bars for years by invoking draconian laws, before any charge is brought against them.

They said, thousands of Hurriyat leaders, activists, youth and journalists are suffering in jails after being booked under the black laws and despite appeals by the UN, human rights organisations, media groups, activists and civil society members, these people have not been released.

The meeting expressed sympathy with the detainees and their families and again urged India to release deatined Kashmiris lodged in different jails and detention centres in IIOJK and India forthwith.

#### Government urged to increase 50 % FED on all sweetened drinks



#### 👺 Bureau Report

LAHORE: The increased consumption of sweetened drinks has put this country into a diabetic emergency where every third Pakistani adult is living with type 2 diabetes. In addition, more than 10 million people are pre diabetic. If no immediate policy actions taken by the government, the number of people living with diabetes in Pakistan will increase to 62 million by 2045. This was said by speakers during a an ulema conference organized by Pakistan National Heart Association at a local hotel in Lahore. A large number of Ulema, media and civil society representatives from Lahore attended the session. Mr. Sana Ullah Ghumman General Secretary PANAH hosted the workshop and welcomed all participants.

Mr. Munawar Hussain, Consultant Food Policy Program at Global Health Advocacy Incubator said that Pakistan's economy is facing serious challenges where debt and liabilities are skyrocketing. In this situation Ministry of Finance should consider strategic interventionslike increasing tax on sugary drinks to reduce the hospital expenditure and generate revenue to meet the shortfall.

Mr. Sanaullah Ghumman, General Secretary at Pakistan National Heart Association said that sugary drinks are not necessity of the life and its increased cost will not impact common population. However, increasing cost of the fuels, energy and agriculture commodities will directly impact everyone. Ministry of Finance should prioritize public health over the corporate interestand increase tax on all sweetened drinks including sodas, energy drinks, juices including fruit juices, flavored milk, iced tea, squashes, syrups and sweetened powders used to make drinks.

Mufti Abdul Khabeer Azad said that Ulema shall give awareness to public on health harms of sugary drinks.

Dr. Fiaz Ranjah said that Ulema has a great respect in our society. They can give a very effective message to public on health harms of

The speakers said that the excise tax on sugary drinks increased during supplementary finance bill 2023 is good step towards right direction by government but not enough by considering the situation of diabetic emergency in Pakistan. The speakers and civil society representatives raised their concern on the interference of beverage industry in the policy process and creating barriers to halt the tax increase.

### Zelensky demands special court to hold Russia accountable for 'crimes of aggression'

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky Thursday demanded the immediate formation of a special tribunal to hold Russia responsible for the "crimes of aggression", it has been perpetrating in Ukraine.

The Ukrainian leader is currently in The Hague on a rare first visit to the Netherlands after meeting Nordic leaders a day before in Helsinki to mobilise military support ahead of Kyiv's counteroffensive against

According to New York Times, Zelensky landed in the Netherlands after spending a whole day rejecting Russian claims that Ukraine was involved in a drone attack on the Kremlin, asserting Ukraine was concen-

trating on the fight on its own soil. "We're defending our villages and cities," he said during his meetings with Nordic leaders in Helsinki, Finland.

"There should be responsibility for this crime. And this can only be enforced by the tribunal," he told diplomats and officials after visiting the International Criminal Court, which has issued an arrest warrant for Russia's Vladimir Putin over a war crime charge.

Zelensky said: "Of course, we all want to see a different Vladimir here in The Hague. The one who deserves to be sentenced for his criminal actions right here in the capital of the international law."

"Only one Russian crime led to all of these crimes: this is the crime of aggression, the start of evil, the primary crime. There should be responsibility for this crime," he added in his speech.

"That's why we insist on the tribunal's creation," an idea Zelensky said was already being backed by 39 countries.

#### **Bull & Bears** PSX 100-Share

'``' Index Fluctuation				
Pakistan: PSX 1	00-Share Index			
Current	Prev. Close			
42,093.80	42,087.93			
Day's High	Day's Low:			
42,336.44	42,055.90			
Index Value	Change			
7,954,587,479	+5.87			
Percentage	Time			
+0.01%	3 May, 2023 5: 00 pm			
Europe: FTSE 100 Index				
Index Value	Change			
7,702.64	-85.73			
Percentage	Time			
-1.10%	4 May, 4: 35 pm GMT+1			
USA: Dow Jones I	ndustrial Average			
Index Value	Change			
32,941.33	-472.91			
Percentage	Time			
-1.42%	4 May, 12: 08 pm GMT-4			

#### Open Market Forex Rates

Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Average

**Index Value** 29,157.95

**Percentage** 

+0.12%

Change

+34.77

Time 2 May, 3: 15 pm

GMT+9

Currency	Buying	Selling
	188.55	190.55
Australian Dollar		
Bahrain Dinar	754.59	762.59
Canadian Dollar	212.05	214.25
China Yuan	41.04	41.44
Danish Krone	41.86	42.26
Euro	313.1	316.1
Hong Kong Dollar	36.15	36.5
Indian Rupee	3.47	3.58
Japanese Yen	2	2.05
Kuwaiti Dinar	926.13	935.13
Malaysian Ringgit	63.62	64.22
NewZealand \$	175.01	177.01
Norwegians Krone	26.41	26.71
Omani Riyal	737.03	745.03
Qatari Riyal	77.95	78.65
Saudi Riyal	75.85	76.65
Singapore Dollar	213.1	215.1
Swedish Korona	27.47	27.77
Swiss Franc	316.59	319.09
Thai Bhat	8.28	8.43
U.A.E Dirham	78.05	78.85
UK Pound Sterling	357.1	360.1
US Dollar	285.75	288.65

#### **Ericsson** $collaborates\ with$ Dell Technologies to enhance Cloud RAN flexibility

News Desk

ERICSSON (NASDAQ: ERIC) continues to drive the Open RAN and Cloud RAN ecosystem forward, adding Dell Technologies as a Cloud RAN infrastructure collaborator.

Expanding the ecosystem with new collaborators and technologies is one of the key drivers in Open RAN and Cloud RAN architectures. Ericsson is partnering with Dell as a supplier of Dell PowerEdge servers for its Cloud RAN offering.

The Ericsson and Dell collaboration will further enable open cloud networks that allow customers to choose their own infrastructure while ensuring telco-grade performance at the far edge. Adding Dell PowerEdge servers to Ericsson's Cloud RAN solution, including the PowerEdge XR8000 and XR5610, which are specifically designed for telecom, Open RAN and mobile edge-computing workloads, brings even more choice and flexibility for Cloud RAN customers. Dell PowerEdge servers help facilitate the Cloud RAN journey due to their high performance, small form factors, resilience and inter-

connectivity with the larger network. Freddie Södergren, Head of Technology and Strategy for Networks, Ericsson, says: "Collaborating with Dell exemplifies our commitment to deliver added flexibility for our Cloud RAN customers, allowing them to choose their own infrastructure while ensuring telco-grade performance at the far edge. This collaboration will further enable open cloud infrastructures while supporting Dell's high-performing server offerings.

"To accelerate the adoption of open and cloud RAN network architectures, it's important to collaborate with partners such as Ericsson," says Kyle Dufresne, Global SVP and GM, OEM Solutions, Dell Technologies. "With Dell PowerEdge servers supporting Ericsson's Cloud RAN solution, network operators have the option of using the world's leading server platform to realize the value of open technologies, and quickly bring innovative and revenue generating solutions to

#### PARC ensure food and nutritional security

# Govt committed to provide financial assistance to agricultural researchers: Rana Tanveer

#### **Spokesman Report**

ISLAMABAD: Organized by Pakistan Agricultural Research Council, the three day National Dialogue on Agricultural Research successfully concluded at the National Agricultural Research Centre, Islamabad. At the closing ceremony of the Dialogue, the Chief Guest, Honorable Federal Minister for Education and Professional Training, Rana Tanveer Hussain commended PARC for organizing a comprehensive and goal-oriented dialogue that involved all stakeholders.

The Minister emphasized that the agriculture sector is crucial to Pakistan's economy and stressed the importance of maximizing its potential to ensure food and nutritional security. He urged all the researchers to establish a purely indigenous and self-reliant agricultural research which is aligned with the international standards of food and nutritional security. He added that the government is fully committed



research and scholarships to the researchers and encouraged them to engage with the international scientists' community in order to attain latest knowledge and expertise.

The three day event at NARC, Islamabad, was attended by representatives from all partners' institutions, where vice chancellors ing program for fruits, vegetables and flowers, from 12 universities including Dr. Mukhtar Adoption of modern technologies like Tissue all stake holders under one umbrella for effec-Ahmed, Chairman HEC, Director Generals culture, Aeroponics and protected cultivation tive coordination to boost the economy.

to consistently provide financial support for of all provincial agricultural research, Heads of international organizations, and the private

> In addition development of climate resilient and nutritious varieties of field crops, diversification and sustainable intensification of cereal based cropping system, target oriented breed-

of vegetables, reduction of food losses and wastage, bio-fortification, Livestock breed improvement and vaccine development, Advancement in mechanization, Urbanization and Climate change along with a variety of other important topics were also on the agenda of National Dialogue.

Chairman Pakistan Agricultural Research Council, Dr. Ghulam Muhammad Ali expressed gratitude to the distinguished guests and reiterated that PARC is committed to revolutionize agricultural sector of the country and ensure food and nutritional security. The Chairman added that the fertile land and water resources need to be preserved and sustainably used to their full potential to ensure food security and to accomplish self-sufficiency in the sector.

At the occasion Vice Chancellors of different universities also appreciated Chairman, PARC for organizing a successful event that facilitated

# Efforts have been intensified to get a rich crop of cotton to earn foreign exchange: Saqib Ali

MULTAN: Efforts have been intensified to get a rich crop of cotton to earn foreign exchange and revive the country's economy. In South Punjab, the target of sowing cotton on 45 lakh 54 thousand acres and getting 75 lakh 8 thousand bales of cotton has been set.

South Punjab Secretariat has steped up to achieve the target of cotton cultivation and production and has established a coordination among the Administrative Department of South Puniab and Administration of districts to make the strategy a success. In this connection, a meeting was held on Thursday in South Punjab Secretariat Bahawalpur which was presided over by Commissioner Bahawalpur Division Dr. Ehtesham Anwer and Secretary Agriculture South Punjab Saqib Ali Ateel. DC Bahawalpur Zaheer Anwer Juppa, DC DC Bahawalnagar Zulfiqar Ahmad Bhon, pur division. MD Cholistan Development Authority Rao Department and Agriculture Department controlled rates, he added. The commis-



attended the meeting.

Commissioner Dr. Ehtesham Anwer, while addressing the meeting, said that measures are being taken to ensure cotton cultivation on 23 lakh 14 thousand acres area in the division.

Seeds, fertil Nadeem and officials of Revenue, Irrigation are being provided to the farmers at vation and production will be achieved

crack down on those dealing in fake and sub-standard pesticides and said all possible guidlines be provide to the farmers about cotton cultivation and harvest. The Secretary Agriculture South Punjab He said the target of 38 lakh bales of Saqib Ali Ateel said in his address that Rahim Yar Khan Shakeel Ahmad Bhatti, cotton will be achieved from Bahawal- the target of cotton cultivation has been set on 5 million acres in the province of which 91% of the target of cotton culti-

sioner directed all the DCs to launch

### **Cake Cutting**



KARACHI: Mr. Javed Farhan Akhtar Faridi, Group Ahmed, MD and CEO, Jubilee Life Insurance cut a cake as the company celebrated 100,000+ online OPD consultations from general physicians and specialists for patients. This milestone was completed in partnership with Sehat Kahani. Mr. present.

Head of Retail Operations, Marketing and Administration, Jubilee Life Insurance, Dr. Sara Saeed Khurram, Co-Founder and CEO, Sehat Kahani along with other representatives from both companies are also

### **FPCCI to Facilitate Look Africa Initiatives** for Export Promotion

Commerce Desk

KARACHI: Irfan Iqbal Sheikh, President FPCCI, has apprised that FPCCI, as the apex trade & industry body of Pakistan, will be pushing ahead with and facilitating Look Africa initiatives for the swift exploration of new export markets for the country; which is possible through tapping African& Central Asian states. He was speaking with the South African High Commissioner in Pakistan, H. E. Mr. Mthuthuzeli Madikiza, at the FPCCI

Head Office, Karachi. Mr. Irfan Iqbal Sheikh highlighted the very fact that Pakistan has a very strong diaspora in South Africa comprising of top professionals & businessmen; and, they can become an excellent bridge in forging B2B ties

between the two countries. H. E. Mr. Mthuthuzeli Madikiza extended his full support in establishing Pak - South Africa Joint Business Council between the national chambers of the



the true potential of bilateral trade, investments, joint ventures, industrial collaborations, export of workforce and transfer of technology. H. E. Mr. Mthuthuzeli

Madikiza emphasized that South Africa and Pakistan need to look into the bottlenecks in the direct bilateral trade as there are some South African consumer products available in the Pakistani malls; but, they are being branded, packaged and exported through third countries. Prices of South African consumer products can be considerably brought down and their demand increased as the result; if they are directly imported from the source country, he added.

# Majid Al Futtaim expands its investment to PKR 11.5 billion in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD: Majid Al Futtaim - the leading shopping mall, communities, retail and leisure pioneer across the Middle East and Africa - has further expanded its retail footprint in Pakistan by breaking ground for its twelfth Carrefour store in Phase 11, DHA Rahbar. Carrefour's eleventh store in Phase 7 is currently under development, and both new stores will be operational by the end of 2023.

The ground-breaking ceremony was attended by Umer Lodhi, Country Manager for Carrefour Pakistan at Majid Al Futtaim Retail, who was joined by Dr.Younis Al Mullah, the Senior Vice President (SVP) of Business Development at Majid Al Futtaim, and Colonel Ali Yasir Pirzada, the Director of Joint Venture & Built, Operate, Transfer (JV & BOT), Defence Housing Authority (DHA).

Dr. Younis Al Mullah, the Senior Vice President (SVP) of Business Development at Majid Al Futtaim while speaking on the occasion said, "I am delighted to be a part of this new strategic development in Paki-



Umer Lodhi, Country Manager of Carrefour Pakistan at Majid Al Futtaim Retail said, "Despite economic challenges in the country, Carrefour is committed to strengthening the economy of Pakistan by creating job opportunities and providing customers with high-quality products

With a total investment of PKR 11.5 billion in Pakistan's retail industry, Carrefour has become a trusted local partner and Apple's App Store.

by creating value for the industry and the Pakistani economy. Breaking ground for two upcoming stores in the past five months showcases the brand's unwavering commitment to growth and development.

Customers continue to have the option of shopping in-store at their 10 existing locations and can also opt for delivery service through the Carrefour Pakistan app for enhanced convenience. The app can be downloaded from Google Play Store

# ICCI to cooperate with PBFI in resolving key issues of traders

#### **Example 2** Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari, President, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry (ICCI) said that he will continue to serve the business community with sincerity and enthusiasm to provide them with maximum facilitation in promoting business activities. He said this while addressing the swearing-in ceremony of newly elected Office Bearers of (PBFI). Chaudhry Tahir was elected as President, Raja Imtiaz Abbasi and Tahir Ayub Senior Vice Presidents, Saeed Khokhar Patron-in-Chief, Zahid Qureshi Chairman, Khalid Abbasi

Organizer and Babar Chaudhry Deputy Secretary General of Islamabad Business Forum.

Ahsan Bakhtavari said that serving the business community is his mission and Allah SWT is providing him with new opportunities for this purpose. He hailed the announcement of Chairman CDA to give representation to ICCI in CDA board and said that it would help in resolving the key issues of the Pakistan Business Forum Islamabad business community and the citizens more effectively. He congratulated the newly elected office bearers of IBF and General Secretary, Aziz ur Rehman assured that the Chamber will fully cooperate with them in resolving the

Ch. Muhammad Tahir, President

Vice Chairman, Imran Bukhari Chief and Raja Imtiaz Abbasi Secretary General Pakistan Business Forum Islamabad said that the positive announcements of Chairman CDA in ICCI have created new hopes in the traders of the Capital.

Khalid Iqbal Malik, Group Leader ICCI administered oath to the newly elected office bearers of Pakistan Business Forum Islamabad and expressed good wishes for them. He said that under the leadership of Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari, ICCI is taking revolutionary steps for the betterment of the business community and assured that the Chamber will also fully cooperate with PBFI for the welfare of trading

Zafar Bakhtawari, Former Presi-



dent ICCI & Secretary General UBG said that the Chairman CDA has announced important decisions during visit to ICCI, which has increased the goodwill of the current government among the business community.

Asif Luqman Qazi, leader of Jamaat-e-Islami said that the Pakistan Business Forum would contribute to strengthen business linkages among Islamic countries and improve trade between them.

# Omair scores unbeaten 250 as Shaheens declare on 521 against Zimbabwe A

ISLAMABAD: Omair Bin Yousuf returned unbeaten on 250 as Pakistan Shaheens declared their first innings on 521 for three in 115.3 overs against Zimbabwe A on the second day of the first four-day match at the Kwekwe Sports Club in Kwekwe on Thursday.

At stumps, Zimbabwe A were 112 for four in 41 overs with captain Roy Kaia returning unbeaten on 12, according to information made available here by Pakistan Cricket Board.

Dion Myers, coming to bat at number three was the notable run-getter for his side, scoring 56 off 92 deliveries, which included eight fours and one six. He and opening batter Tanunurwa Makoni (21, 59b, 2x4s) knitted 64 runs for the second wicket. Both batters fell to left-arm spinner Mehran Mumtaz, who completed the day with figures of two for 32 in 11 overs.



Both Joylord Gumble (1,11b) and Wessly Madhevere (15, 26b, 2x4s) were

Earlier, resuming their first innings at the overnight score of 352 for two, with Omair Bin Yousuf on 161 and Kamran vice-captain Hussain Talat joined Omair Myers 56; Mehran Mumtaz 2-32)

right-handed Kamran (26, 70b, 4x4s) in the 88th over with 388 runs on the

After the departure of Kamran,

runs for the fourth wicket. Over the course of the partnership, the 24-yearold Omair brought up his maiden firstclass double-century. His previous best first-class score of

and the pair stitched an unbroken 133

174 was made playing for Sindh against Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in September 2019 at the UBL Sports Complex in

When Imran Butt called the declaration in the 116th over of the innings, Omair was unbeaten on 250 off 342 balls, smashing 27 fours and one six. Talat returned undefeated on 51 off 90 deliveries, hitting six fours and a six. Scores in brief:

Pakistan Shaheens 521-3 d, 115.3 overs (Omair Bin Yousuf 250 all out, Mohammad Huraira 178, Hussain Talat 51 not

Zimbabwe A 112-4, 41 overs (Dion

# Haaland sets Premier League record of 35 goals in a season

**Sports Desk** 

MANCHESTER: Erling Haaland set a new Premier League record of 35 goals in a season as the Manchester City striker took his tally in all competitions this campaign to 51 by scoring against West Ham on Wednesday.

The 22-year-old moves beyond the 34 goals scored by Alan Shearer for Blackburn in 1994/95 and Andy Cole when at Newcastle a season earlier.

However, Haaland is still some way short of the all-time record for goals in an English top-flight season of 60 set by Everton legend Dixie Dean in 1927/28.

English football, Haaland



In his first season in books as City close in on a and FA Cup. potential treble of Premier

has rewritten the record League, Champions League English top flight to score a

half century of goals in all He is the first player in the competitions since 1931.

#### PHF appoints Oltmans as team consultant for Junior Asia Cup 2023



**Sports Desk** 

LAHORE: Pakistan Hockey Federation (PHF) on Thursday appointed the renowned Dutch coach Roelant Oltmans as the consultant to their national team for the Junior Asia C 2023.

According to PHF, Oltamans has been contracted for the Junior Asia Cup only which is scheduled to take place between May 23 and June 1 in Salalah,

The 68-year-old has previously coached Pakistan national hockey team twice in the past in 2003 and 2018.

Besides Oltmans, the coaching panel also includes Olympian Hanif Khan (manager), Adnan Zakir International, Olympian Mudassar Ali Khan, Asif Ahmed Khan International, Olympian Zeeshan Ashraf, Rana Zubair (drag flickers coach) and Mazhar Abbas International (goalkeepers coach).

It is pertinent to mention here a total of 10 teams, split into two pools, will be competing in the upcoming Junior Asia

Pool A comprises Pakistan, India, Japan, Thailand, and Chinese Taipei, while Pool B consists of Korea, Malaysia, Oman, Bangladesh and Uzbekistan.

Pakistan play their opening match against Chinese Taipei on May 23 before facing Thailand on May 24, India on May 27 and Japan on May 29.

The tournament serves as the qualifying round for the Junior Hockey World Cup 2023 as the top three teams from Junior Asia Cup will qualify for the megaevent in Malaysia later this year.

### FIH to join CSHR as Engaged Organisation

ISLAMABAD: The International Hockey Federation (FIH) on Thursday announced that it has joined the Centre for Sport and Human Rights (CSHR) as an Engaged Organisation.

"It is the first International Sports Federation to join CSHR under this new membership category," the FIH said in a press

"Engaged Organizations have been created to facilitate participation in CSHR activities among a broader network of committed organizations looking to embed commitments to human rights standards in their business.

"Formal participation in CSHR's work has up to now been through the multi-stakeholder Advisory Council which supported the establishment of CSHR. New Engaged Organisations will be able to develop knowledge and capacity and secure access to CSHR's networks and expertise."

"FIH joins CSHR as an Engaged Organisation to uphold and promote its commitment to universal humanitarian values including diversity, inclusion and non-discrimination, across its governance, operations, activities and events.

As part of its new sustainability strategy, FIH has set out specific commitments to follow the UN Strategic Framework on Human Rights. As such, FIH seeks the support of the Centre for Sport and Human Rights to identify risk areas related to human rights and work on appropriate measures to address

Mary Harvey, CEO of CSHR said, "The Centre for Sport and Human Rights exists to convene all actors in sport to address common human rights challenges and create opportunities for knowledge to be exchanged and developed.

This multi-stakeholder approach is core to who we are and we are extremely proud to welcome FIH, Airbnb and McDonald's to the Centre as the first members of our new Engaged Organ-

#### Karate demonstration held



News Desk

LAHORE: Under the supervision of Pakistan Karate organisation Kyokushin kai kan IKO-MATSUSHIMA Japan . Ramadan Self defence Kyokushin karate demonstration was held at Atta Butt Dojo's Railway stadium Garhi Shahoo Lahore. The Chief Guest was honorable Malik Saiful Malook Khokar senior politician & President Lahore Pakistan Muslim League (Nawaz) along with Syeda yasmeen Haider coordinator & Rao Sadaqat (PA). Chief guest applauded the training of young karate kaz and their perfection in kihon, Kumite & Kata . Many of the young karate stars male/ Female along with their parents attended the training. Malik sb also praised the services of Shihan Atta Hussain Butt International karate master instructor / Referee IKO-MATSU-SHIMA Japan. Cash prizes were awarded in the shape of Eidi by the President Lahore PML (N) Malik Saiful Malook Khokar. Other guests and senior karate stars are as under: - Faisal Abbas President PKKF, Sana Ullah Ansari Sec General Lahore KKA & Chamakta Sitara, Sensie Amjad Prince, Sensie Saima Batool, Sensie Tahira Nadeem, Sensie Alisbha Zahra, Sensie M Adeel (Gujranwala), Sensie M Umer, Sensie Imran Majeed, Ali Sabir, Zoela Fatima, Alizay Gulshan, Esha, Fizza, Laiga, Malayeka Elexia, M Jawad, International Skater Sijawal Butt with his team, Tahir Qureshi Accounts officer, Asif Rehman Accounts officer AG Office Lahore, Muhammad Ali Butt senior politician, M Fiaz, Ahsan Ullah etc.

Chief guest also distributed the trophies/prizes among winners, he was presented a beautiful souvenir by Shihan Atta Hussain Butt President Pakistan karate organisation Kyokushin kai kan IKO-MATSUSHIMA Japan

#### Wahab Riaz greets Pakistan cricket team for winning **ODI series**

跨 Tahir Amin Malik

LAHORE: Adviser to Punjab Chief Minister on Youth Affairs and Sports Wahab Riaz has congratulated Pakistan cricket team for taking an unassailable 3-0 lead and winning 5-match ODI series against the visiting New Zealand cricket team.

It is pertinent to mention here that Pakistan defeated New Zealand cricket team by 26 runs in the third ODI match at Karachi. In his greeting message on Thursday, Adviser to Punjab Chief Minister on Youth Affairs and Sports Wahab Riaz said the Pakistan cricket team exhibited wonderful teamwork and fighting spirit against a strong guest team.

Adviser to Punjab Chief Minister on Youth Affairs and Sports Wahab Riaz showered praise on in-form skipper Babar Azam, Fakhar Zaman, Imamul Haq, pacers Naseem Shah, Haris Rauf and Shaheen Afridi for their excellent performances in the series

# Atletico thrash Cadiz 5-1 to go ahead of Real Madrid in LaLiga

A Sports

MADRID: Atletico Madrid scored five goals for the second time in a row as they outclassed visitors Cadiz 5-1 on Wednesday to take second place in LaLiga standings, surpassing their city rivals Real Madrid. With only five games

left, Atletico jumped to 69 points, one clear of thirdplaced Real, who lost 2-0 at Real Sociedad on Tuesday. Leaders Barcelona, who

are 13 points ahead of Atletico, will have the chance to clinch their 27th La Liga title with a win in their next game against city rivals Espanyol on May 14.

Osasuna 1-0 on Tuesday to itano Stadium an electrifymove to 82 points at the ing start.

Antoine



The Catalan giants beat the home side at Metropol-

Griezmann ed their lead right after goal for Cadiz in the 72nd, scored twice in the first half, the interval while Yannick Nahuel Molina rounded off minutes of the game, to give from the penalty spot after a close-range strike from a points with Valencia.

Cadiz defender handled the ball inside the box.

One minute after Antho-Alvaro Morata extend- ny Lozano scored the only

counter-attack.

Later on Wednesday, relegation-threatened Getafe defeated 13th-placed Celta Vigo 1-0 but were unable to exit the bottom netting his first in just two Carrasco slotted their fourth the scoring for Atletico with three despite levelling on

**PUBLIC NOTICE** Whereas, Ghafoor s/o Abdul Ghafoor allottee of plot No. 490-E, Sector-II (Khayaban-e-Sir Syed), Area Development Scheme-I, Rawalpindi have appointed General Power of Attorney to Mr. Bashir Ahmed s/o Abdul Ghafoor vide registered deed at No. 414/4 dated 28-01-2023 from Sub Registrar, Rawalpindi. Now The General Power of attorney wish to transfer the above mentioned plot to Imran Afzal s/o Abdu

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**Deputy Director Punjab Housing & Town Planning Agency Sub Region** Rawalpindi

# Messi's PSG future in doubt after suspension over Saudi trip

ling to Saudi Arabia without club". the club's permission.

A source with knowledge of the disciplinary procedure told AFP that Argentina's 35-year-old World-Cup winning captain, who is out of contract at the end of the season, would be sidelined for "several days", while various media in France reported that he would be suspended

for two weeks. "He cannot train, cannot play, and will not be paid for a second time, this time while disciplinary measures are in place," the source

added. Another source, also speaking on condition they were not identified, indicat-

PSG was plunged into d'Or winner would "probadoubt on Wednesday after bly" be sidelined for a forthe was suspended by Paris night, noting that "nobody Saint-Germain after travel- is more important than the

Messi played the whole game in PSG's 3-1 home defeat by Lorient in Ligue 1 on Sunday.

He then travelled to Saudi Arabia to fulfil commercial commitments in his role as a tourism ambassador for the Gulf state.

The Saudi Tourism Authority said in a press release on Wednesday that Messi had "returned to Saudi with his family" and had been treated to a demonstration of palm weaving

and had fed Arabian gazelles. As a result of the trip, Messi missed a train-

Lionel Messi's future at ed that the seven-time Ballon ing session scheduled for Monday following the weekend defeat.

The PSG squad were given a day off on Tuesday and Messi did not take part in training on Wednesday

- 'Fed up with mercenar-

PSG are due to return to league action away at struggling Troyes on Sunday, a game that Messi may now

If he were to be sidelined for two weeks he would also sit out a home match against Ajaccio on May 13.

The disciplinary measures make the prospect of Messi staying in the French capital after his two-year deal expires at the end of this season even more remote.

looked set to extend his stay for another year, a source close to the club told AFP last month that he was now "much more likely" to depart.

Messi arrived from Barcelona, the club where he had spent the majority of his career, in 2021 but has struggled to reproduce his best Having at one point form at Qatar-backed Paris.

Despite that, he has scored all competitions.

31 goals in 71 appearances in He was recently jeered by a section of the PSG support,

who see him as a symbol of all the club have done wrong in focusing on superstar signings while failing to build a genuinely competitive team.

Messi has scored 20 goals in all competitions this season and is the leading assist provider in Ligue

However, his form since leading Argentina to World Cup glory in Qatar has declined along with that of most of the PSG team.

1, with 15.

Their insipid performance against Lorient was a sixth defeat in 17 Ligue 1 match-

es in 2023. They remain five points clear of Marseille at the top

of the table with five games left, and are therefore still on course for a record 11th French title. However, they were

knocked out of the Champions League in the last 16 by Bayern Munich and also went out of the French Cup at the same stage to star.

Marseille. Meanwhile hundreds of

fans gathered at the club to protest over PSG's current form and the Messi saga. "We're fed up with mercenaries! We must sack

Messi! We must sack Nasser Al-Khelaifi (the club's Qatari president)," supporters chanted. "We are sincerely worried

about the future and the sustainability of our club," the team's 'ultras' supporters said in a statement, adding "is there still a pilot on the plane?" Meanwhile, several videos

posted on Twitter appeared to show a group of supporters, dressed in black gathered in front of the home of Neymar, shouting abuse at their injured Brazilian super-