

# Daily The Spokesman

RAWALPINDI



## 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 is an important part of the recent close and frequent interactions between the high-level dignitaries of China and Pakistan, Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Mao Ning said on Thursday.

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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.



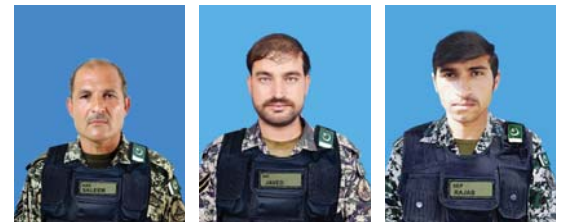
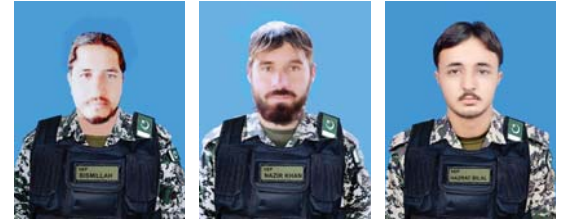
Photo: PID

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

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: Havaladar Saleem Khan (age 36 years, resident of District Tank), Naik Javed Iqbal (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 (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 eliminate any terrorists found in the area. Security Forces of Pakistan are determined to eliminate the menace of terrorism and such sacrifices of our brave soldiers further strengthen our resolve.

# '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 best interest of the nation and the country to run the governance system in accordance with the Constitution." He said that the past



government took vengeful actions against the opposition leaders. "The judiciary, parliament and other institutions should serve the country. Double standards cannot be beneficial for any society. The premier said that he

will attend the Commonwealth leaders' summit tomorrow and the coronation ceremony on Saturday. He added that he will discuss the internal matters of Pakistan after his return.

He further said that parliament is actively play-

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

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister 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

region. "We are all for win win understandings based on connectivity, trade and mutually advantageous cooperation," he commented.

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.

ing its role.

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

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

## Bilawal, Lavrov discuss bilateral cooperation, regional matters



News Desk

ISLAMABAD: Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari on Thursday met his Russian counterpart Sergei Lavrov here on the sidelines of the meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation's Council of Foreign Ministers being held in Goa, India. During the meeting, they

discussed bilateral, regional and international matters of mutual interest.

Foreign Minister Bilawal assured to work closely for further deepening cooperation in food security, energy and people-to-people contacts.

He said that the SCO opened new vistas of cooperation and coordination with Russia.

## SC issues written order regarding April 27 hearing

Spokesman Report

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

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.

The advocate general 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 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.

## 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 countries.

The president expressed these views while talking to the Ambassador-designate of Pakistan to Saudi Arabia Ahmad Farooq, who called on him, at Aiwan-e-Sadr here.

Talking to the ambassador-designate, the president stated that Pakistan



attached special significance to its relations with Saudi Arabia, which were based on common faith, shared history and people-to-people contacts.

He highlighted that Pakistan wanted to further consolidate the existing bilateral ties into a strategic economic partnership for the mutual interest of the two countries.



## 2nd QUETTA INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY expo & CONVENTION

**9-10-11 JUNE-2023**  
10:00 AM to 8:00 PM

**AL-Jannat Palace**  
Near Survey 144, Opposite Quetta Commercial Center, Quetta

For Information & Contact  
**Fahad Barlas (COO)**  
Cell: 0311 888 8878 - 051-2892004 - fahadbarlas@pakworldexpo.com



# Caretaker CM meets heirs of youth drowned in Neelum River

**Bureau Report**

LAHORE: Caretaker Chief Minister Punjab Mohsin Naqvi visited the families 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

inquired about the well-being of the injured Muhammad Fahad. The CM directed the authorities to provide 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 bereaved families and prayed to Allah

Almighty to give them courage, hoping for the safe return of the missing youth.

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 Shah Nawaz Maqsood drowned in the river when their jeep plunged into it. The body of Ghulam

Miran is recovered and the search 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 CM's visit.

## 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.



## 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 Pakhtunkhwa. 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 Balikhayara was also involved in Sri Lanka team attack

Dera Ismail Khan police encountered 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 Khyara son of Allah Wasaya Quom Khyara 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 Iqbal alias Balikhayara. 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 Balikhayara was also involved in suicide blasts.



## 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 Emergency Service Rescue 1122 Multan organized an awareness walk flag march and seminar from Multan Arts Council to Kalma Chowk on the occasion of International Firefighters Day with the aim of paying tribute to the firefighters who sacrificed their lives to help the people in distress. Acknowledging their services to provide awareness about fire safety to the public

So that the community can be made aware of their important role during fire and reduce the incidence of fire emergency. The walk started from Kalma Chowk and ended at Multan Arts Council. The participants



of the walk carried banners and charts about fire safety and recognizing the services of firefighters. The walk was led by District Emergency Officer Dr. Kaleemullah. Other participants included Emergency Officer (Admin) Engineer Muhammad Bilal, Control Room Incharge Muhammad Mudassar Zia, Emergency Officer (Operation) Muhammad Arshad Khan, Fire Rescuers, Volunteers, and Mian Rashid Iqbal (President), Sheikh Muhammad Asim on behalf of Multan Cham-

ber of Commerce and Industry, 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 rescuers of Multan.

Just as you selflessly stand with us in every difficult hour, we are with you in all your needs. Emergency Officer (Admin) Engineer Muhammad 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 Intiaz) 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 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 to 400.

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 University of Pakistan. Speaking at the event, Dr. Arshad emphasized the importance of genomics and proteomics in today's world, saying "The study of genomics and proteomics is essential in advancing our understanding of the human body and finding solutions to some of the world's most pressing health issues."

He acknowledged the working of all those officials who were the part of



core team in developing this Genom center, especially Prof. Dr. Masroor Elahi babar, Dr. Tanveer Hussain and Mr. Atiq Ur Rehman Regional campus manager North.

The Registrar Virtual University of Pakistan Prof. Dr. Mohsin Javed said that "The Centre for Genomics and Proteomics at KSK will be a hub for cutting-edge research in the fields of genomics and proteomics, and will offer students and

researchers the opportunity to work with leading scientists in the field. A group of 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, and the Centre for Genom-

ics and Proteomics at KSK is a testament to this commitment.

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

**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.

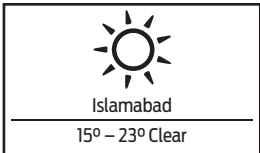
On this occasion, RPO Dera said that the moral of the police cannot be lowered by the cowardly actions of the terrorists. Rather, the morale of the Dera police is high. Against the attack of the terrorists, the policemen showed exemplary performance without caring for their lives and killed two terrorists.

## 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.



**SERVICES**

**Namaz Timings**

Fajr ..... 3: 44 am  
Zohr ..... 12: 05 pm  
Asr ..... 4: 54 pm  
Maghrib ..... 6: 53 pm  
Isha ..... 8: 26 pm

**EMERGENCY**

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

**Women Police Stations**

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

**ENQUIRY**

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

**HOSPITALS**

CMH ..... 561111  
MH ..... 561116  
MH ..... 561116  
Cantt Hospital ..... 9270907-11  
DHQ ..... 5556311-4  
RGH ..... 9290301-7  
Holy Family ..... 9290322-7

**PAC organized Ustad Daman Literary reference**

City Desk

RAWALPINDI: Punjab 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 Punjabi language by promoting Urdu language. Famous writer Dr. Maqsood Jaffari 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 neighboring cities.

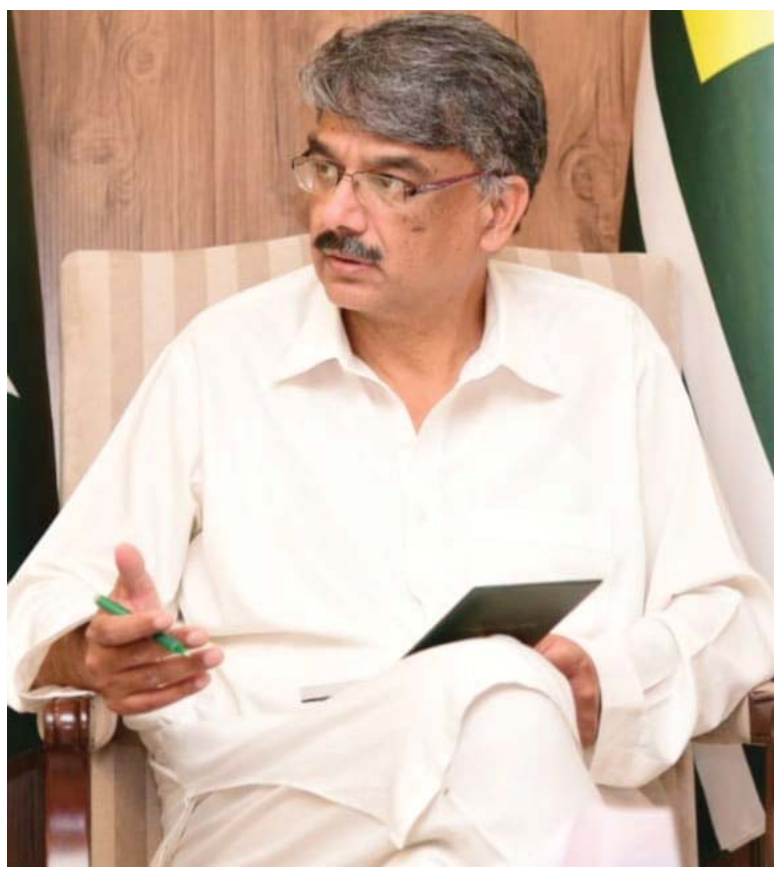
# PM slams India's decision to hold G20 Tourism Working Group meeting in Srinagar

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

Kashmir. "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 rights situation in the region, the Prime

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, fair and impartial referendum.



## 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. Decibel is the largest HRMS Cloud in Pakistan, offering a comprehensive range of HR



management tools and services to businesses of all sizes. Decibel's expertise in HRMS solutions includes talent management, attendance and leaves management, benefits administration, payroll and tax compliance, and more. "We are thrilled to partner with Decibel, a trusted name in the HRMS solutions industry," said Mr. Ali Ladhuhai, COO at ABHI. "This collaboration allows us to combine AbhiSalary with Decibel's HRMS solutions, creating a powerful solution that brings financial flexibility to thousands of employees. Together, we can make a positive impact on the financial lives of employees and help them achieve improved financial well-being." "Decibel is dedicated to providing comprehensive HRMS solutions that cater to the needs of businesses and 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 opportunities this collaboration brings and the positive impact it can have on employees' financial lives."

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

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 from the e-stamp web portal. 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 deed, 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 Punjab 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, a modern 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 with Rawalpindi. 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.

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

Commerce Desk

KARACHI: L'Oréal Pakistan marked its 14th Year Anniversary with commemorative events in 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 - Trust and SOS Children's Village.

"We are honored to celebrate our 14th year 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.



## 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 release.

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 stability.

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.

## 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 harassment and arrest of several 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 harassment 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 detained Kashmiris lodged in different jails and detention centres in IIOJK and India forthwith.

## 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.

He said that the government and the people of Turkey have always openly supported the right of self-determination of Kashmiris. Underlining his efforts to promote the Kashmir cause at international level, the president said that he had the privilege and honour to represent Kashmiris at the UN, OIC and other important forums wherein



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 and hear to Kashmiris. Referring to the volatile situation in the region, he said that Kashmir has been a bone of contention between India and Pakistan.

Both the nations, he said, have fought three wars over Kashmir. "The clouds of war will continue to hover over the region unless the Kashmir dispute is resolved in accordance with the UNSC

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 other international organizations that believe in human rights should play their role to stop the ongoing atrocities in Occupied Kashmir and resolve the Kashmir issue.

## 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 Association, Syed Akhtar Mir, while appreciating 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

**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 adequately.

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 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..

Thiruni Liyanage co-Task Team



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 under progress.

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 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 issues.

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 Barrages.

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 disposal of desilting material from rice

canal.

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 and design.

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 Frecha 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 joined meeting..

## 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 an ulma 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 PANAHA 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 interventions like 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 interest and 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 Ranjha said that Ulema has a great respect in our society. They can give a very effective message to public on health harms of sugary drinks.

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 Russia.

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 concentrating 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.



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

**Sports Desk**

ISLAMABAD: Omar 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 run-out. Earlier, resuming their first innings at the overnight score of 352 for two, with Omar Bin Yousuf on 161 and Kamran

Ghulam on five, Pakistan Shaheens lost right-handed Kamran (26, 70b, 4x4s) in the 88th over with 388 runs on the board. After the departure of Kamran, vice-captain Hussain Talat joined Omar

and the pair stitched an unbroken 133 runs for the fourth wicket. Over the course of the partnership, the 24-year-old Omar brought up his maiden first-class double-century. His previous best first-class score of 174 was made playing for Sindh against Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in September 2019 at the UBL Sports Complex in Karachi. When Imran Butt called the declaration in the 116th over of the innings, Omar 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 (Omar Bin Yousuf 250 all out, Mohammad Hurrara 178, Hussain Talat 51 not out) Zimbabwe A 112-4, 41 overs (Dion Myers 56; Mehran Mumtaz 2-32)

# 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. In his first season in English football, Haaland



has rewritten the record books as City close in on a potential treble of Premier League, Champions League and FA Cup. He is the first player in the English top flight to score a half century of goals in all competitions since 1931.

# 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 third-placed 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. The Catalan giants beat Osasuna 1-0 on Tuesday to move to 82 points at the top. Antoine Griezmann scored twice in the first half, netting his first in just two minutes of the game, to give



the home side at Metropolitan Stadium an electrifying start. Alvaro Morata extended their lead right after the interval while Yannick Carrasco slotted their fourth from the penalty spot after Cadiz defender handled the ball inside the box. One minute after Anthony Lozano scored the only goal for Cadiz in the 72nd, Nahuel Molina rounded off the scoring for Atletico with a close-range strike from a counter-attack. Later on Wednesday, relegation-threatened Getafe defeated 13th-placed Celta Vigo 1-0 but were unable to exit the bottom three despite levelling on points with Valencia.

# 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 Cup 2023. According to PHF, Oltmans has been contracted for the Junior Asia Cup only which is scheduled to take place between May 23 and June 1 in Salalah, Oman. 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 fliers 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 Cup. 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

**Sports Desk**

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 release. "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 Organizations 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 them," it added. 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 Organisations category.

# 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-MATSUSHIMA 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 & Chamahta Sitara, Sensie Amjad Prince, Sensie Saima Batool, Sensie Tahira Nadeem, Sensie Alishba Zahra, Sensie M Adeel (Gujranwala), Sensie M Umer, Sensie Imran Majeed, Ali Sabir, Zoela Fatima, Alizay Gulshan, Esha, Fizza, Laiqa, 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

**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 victory.

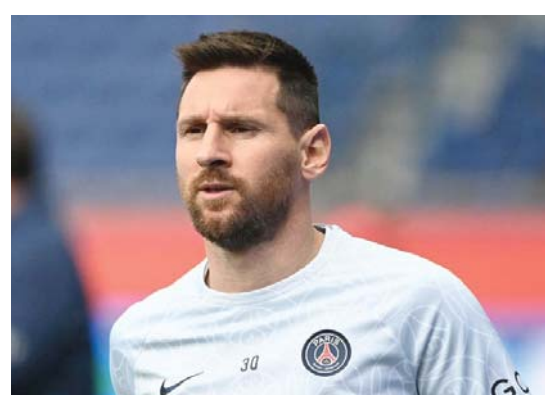
## PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas, Mr. Faisal 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 Abdul Ghafoor. If anyone have objection of above advertisement submit their objection within fifteen days of this advertisement otherwise objection will not be entertained. Deputy Director Punjab Housing & Town Planning Agency Sub Region Rawalpindi

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

Lionel Messi's future at PSG was plunged into doubt on Wednesday after he was suspended by Paris Saint-Germain after travelling to Saudi Arabia without 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 while disciplinary measures are in place," the source added. Another source, also speaking on condition they were not identified, indicated that the seven-time Ballon d'Or winner would "probably" be sidelined for a fortnight, noting that "nobody is more important than the club". 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 for a second time, this time 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 training 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 either. "Fed up with mercenaries" - PSG are due to return to league action away at struggling Troyes on Sunday, a game that Messi may now miss. 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. Having at one point

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 form at Qatar-backed Paris. Despite that, he has scored 31 goals in 71 appearances in all competitions. 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.



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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 superstar.