فرمانرسول ابوہریرہ رضی اللّٰدعنہ کہتے ہیں نبی کریم صلی اللّٰدعليه وسلم نے فرما ياسب سے سچى بات جو لوئی شاعر کہہ سکتا تھاوہ لبید شاعرنے کہی بن ابی الصلت (جاہلیت کا ایک شاعر) ۔ . سلمان ہونے کے قریب تھا۔ ( صحیح بخاری: حدیث نمبر 3841)

> **Barkat Rice Mills** (Pvt) Limited

**Mushaal Hussein Mullick releases** message on her husband's confinement

Mushaal Hussein Mullick releases the video message in Urdu and English to mark one year of illegal life imprisonment of her jailed Indian Tihar Jail's death cell .

Simultaneously published from Islamabad, Lahore and Multan

Ziqa'ad 4, Thursday, May 25, 2023



Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Professor Ahsan Iqbal on Wednesday stressed the need for reviewing the formula of resources

distribution under the NFC award, giving incentives to provinces for the successful execution of the population control programme. (Report on Page 8)



🛶 www.dailyspokesman.net 🔰 @daily\_spokesman 📭



Daily Spokesman Vol: 16, Issue: 48

Price Rs. 25.00 Pages 8

### Solidarity

ISLAMABAD: Members of Christen Community hold rally at G-7 Markaz to show solidarity with Pak Army.



# Nation can't tolerate May 9 like 'barbaric incidents': PM

Spokesman News

stan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) did not deserve any exemption as they crossed red line on May 9th.

Addressing to the Shuhada Convention at Jinnah Convention Centre, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif said that he felt proud to address this convention because today we gathered here to pay homage to the martyrs. These are the martyrs who sacrificed their lives for the soil of this country and its defense, he asserted.

The Prime Minister said that these martyrs were our heroes

made on their honour. The peace and stability in the country came ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister as a result of more than 86,000 Shehbaz Sharif said on Wednes- sacrifices, but what happened on day that the miscreants of Paki- May 9th could never be forgotten. It will always be remembered as a dark day.

Shehbaz Sharif said that the miscreants of the PTI and its leader Imran Khan orchestrated a plan that inflamed the people, Imran Khan, who was the mastermind behind this planning, cannot acquit himself of blame.

He asked if any political party could attack the state in case of arrest of its leader. When this government came to power, it did not resort to any aggression and no compromise would be against the entire opposition. We



did not create any chaos. We were Ali Bhutto was hanged, Benazir arrested, went to jail, but did not Bhutto was martyred, and Nawaz cause any damage to the state and

defence institutions.

Mr Sharif said that Zulfikar

Sharif was forced into exile, and then his government was over-

thrown, but no political party

caused harm to the country or

The Prime Minister made clear that no offender will on unpunished, and we will not apprehend any innocent person. We will take strict action against such people so that no one dares to do it in the future. Even if I recommend, the wrongdoers will be punished, he asserted.

On this occasion, federal ministers Aminul Haque and Shireen Rehman also addressed, saying that no attacker on the state can be a patriot in any way. It is necessary to bring those who did this to justice. They demanded of the PM that the responsible individuals of May 9th should not be left under any circumstances.

# President message on the occasion of **Martyrs Reverence Day on 25 may 2023**



ISLAMABAD: Today we observe Martyrs Reverence Day to pay tribute to the unprecedented courage and sacrifices of our ancestors and personnel of our security forces who have rendered great sacrifices for the motherland. The nation owes to the heroism and sacrifices offered by the jawans and officers of our Armed Forces, including Pakistan Army, Rangers, Air Force, Navy, Police, and other security institutions that made Pakistan's defence impregnable. The integrity and security of our country would not have been possible without their valuable services.

The entire nation is proud of our valiant martyrs who displayed the spirit of patriotism and fearlessness in testing times throughout our history. Apart from defending the frontiers of the country, our security forces successfully nation. Pakistan Paindabad!

defeated the menace of terrorism. Pakistan single-handedly contained the scourge of terrorism due to the bravery and sacrifices of its forces. We should not forget that even during natural calamities and pandemics, our security forces stood shoulder to shoulder with their people and provided timely relief and assistance to their fellow countrymen.

Being the President of Pakistan, I regularly contact the families of the martyrs to pay homage and convey my feelings for the them. During my interactions with them, I feel proud over their spirt of patriotism towards the motherland. The entire nation acknowledges their contributions towards the defence of the nation and salutes them for laying down their lives for the motherland.

Pakistan is facing various challenges and we need to forge unity among our ranks to overcome the challenges being faced by the country.

Let us pledge on this day that we will never forget our valiant martyrs and reiterate our commitment to always honour them and express our undying love for these brave sons and daughters of the

### ECC allows SNGPL based fertilizer plants to operate till August 31

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Economic Coordination Committee (ECC) of the Cabinet allowed Sui Northern Gas Pipelines Limited (SNGPL) Based fertilizer plants to operate beyond May 31 to August 31 on indigenous gas with no subsidy.

The ECC met with Minister for Finance and Revenue Sena-

tor Mohammad Ishaq Dar in a chair, adding that SNGPLbased fertilizer plants include Fatima Fertilizer (Sheikhupura) and Agritech, said a press release on Wednesday.

Ministry of Industries and Production submitted a summary of Urea Fertilizer requirements for the year 2023 and briefed on the urea fertilizer situation in the country.

#### SC adjourns hearing on ECP's plea seeking review of Punjab elections

City Desk

Court (SC) on Wednesday ous hearing had questioned adjourned the hearing of the Election Commission of in its review petition were Pakistan's (ECP) plea asking not raised earlier. the top court to revisit its bly on May 14 till Thursday (May 25).

comprising Chief Justice of If a reasonable point was Pakistan Umar Ata Bandi-raised, the court would al, Justice Ijaz Ul Ahsan and review it and take a decision. Justice Munib Akhtar heard the case.

General for Pakistan (AGP) Mansoor Usman Awan said ISLAMABAD: The Supreme the bench during the previwhy points raised by the ECP

He said the government April 4 order of holding elec- had also mentioned the tions to the Punjab Assem- majority judgment in its response.

The CJP said the court A three-member SC bench was here to hear all parties. He said the court had

discussed the jurisdiction During the course of of review petition during

### PTI's Asad Umar resigns from party positions **Naveed Ahmad Khan**

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Secretary General and member of PTI core committee Asad Umar has resigned from party posi-

Addressing a press conference PTI leader Asad Umar said that there is no pressure on him, it's his own decision to resign from the party position.

He said that according to all surveys, Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) is the most popular political party currently in Pakistan and the PTI's win in by-election is a proof party's popularity.

Asad Umar maintained that two months back, the Chief Justice of Attorney yesterday's hearing. The Pakistan also suggested the polit- (PTI), senior vice president Fawad



ical parties to hold solve problems through talks and the Core Commander conference said that problems can be solved through dialogue.

Earlier, the Islamabad High Court (IHC) ordered the immediate release of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Secretary General Asad Umar.

Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf Chaudhry earlier today announced that he was resigning from the party position and parting ways with chairman Imran Khan It is pertinent to mention here that

several PTI lawmakers and members have parted their ways with the party following the May 9 violence, wherein military installations including General Headquarters (GHQ) in Rawalpindi and Corps Commander House Lahore were attacked after the arrest of party chairman Imran

A day earlier, Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) suffered two huge blows as former human rights minister Shireen Mazari and former Punjab minister Favvaz ul Hassan Chohan quit the party over May 9 violence.

### **Convention being held** today to pay homage to martyrs: Marriyum



ISLAMABAD : Minister for Information and Broadcasting Marriyum Aurangzeb said on Wednesday that "Azmat-e-Shuhada Conven-

tion" will be held at Islamabad Convention Center today to pay homage to the martyrs of the country and show solidarity with them by the entire

In a tweet, the minister said that the families of martyrs will also participate in the conven-

Marriyum Aurangzeb said that Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif will condemn the May 9 tragedy and pay homage to the martyrs and Ghazis.

#### Khawaja Asif reiterates Pak desire to strengthen partnership with Azerbaijan

跨 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The first Deputy Minister of Defense and Chief of General Staff of Azerbaijan Colonel General Karim Valiyev

Khawaja Muhammad Asif reiterated Pakistan's strong desire to strengthen its partnership with Azerbaijan in all

ation, said a news release issued here on Wednesday. The defense minister further

said that both countries share common religions, cultures, and history. Both countries would thus

continue to support each other on various international fora,

"Azerbaijan desires to work

#### 95 pc miscreants involved in May 9 incidents identified; 60 pc arrested: Cabinet told The cabinet directed for expedit $shuhada\, and\, their\, families.\, These$ against the elements involved in e-Insaf had attacked civilians and

**E** City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The federal cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Wednesday was apprised that about 95 percent miscreants involved in violent incidents on May 9 were identified whereas 60

ing the identification process and arrest of people involved in May 9 incidents, stressing that no innocent citizen should be arrested in the backdrop of such incidents, PM Office Media Wing said in a press release.

Addressing the participants, percent among them had been the prime minister said that the entire nation was standing with its be fulfilled during proceedings

martyrs had sacrificed their lives and left their orphan children behind to save the future of young generations. 95 pc miscreants involved in

May 9 incidents identified; 60 pc the private and public properties arrested: Cabinet told The prime minister also stressed that all legal requirements should

the criminal incidents. Only those people were arrested who had been involved in the incidents, he added. A detailed briefing was given over the damages inflicted upon

during the unfortunate incidents The meeting was apprised that miscreants of Pakistan Tehreek-

personnel of law enforcing agencies on May 9 and damaged properties, besides torching vehicles of the armed forces, police, ambulances and other public transport.

Sensitive installations, police stations, Jinnah House Lahore and Radio Pakistan, Peshawar were attacked and burnt to ashes, it was added.

called on Minister for Defense Khawaja Muhammad Asif.

fields including defense cooper-

he added.

The visiting dignitary said, closely with Pakistan."

# The Spokesman

# Group Photo TAXILA: President Dr. Arif Alvi in a group photo on the occasion of the first convocation of HITECH Institute of Medical Sciences on Wednesday. HITEC INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES FIRST CONVOCATION

# Population control possible with incentivized NFC award, says Ahsan Iqbal

#### **Spokesman Report**

ISLAMABAD : Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Professor AhsanIqbal on Wednesday stressed the need for reviewing the formula of resources distribution under the NFC award, giving incentives to provinces for the successful to demographic efficiency or control programme.

Addressing a ceremony with the British High Commistackling the challenge of population control, he said it was control programme. unfortunate that 80 per cent

size of the population while distributing resources under the National Finance Commission (NFC) award.

"The time has come; we need to seriously review the NFC formula for distribution of resources, while there ought to be some weightage for the population but equivalent execution of the population successful population control programme," he said.

organized in collaboration contradiction itself in the efforts that there was no incension to promote awareness in tive for provinces to success-



for the population control less financial resources." programme."

The minister questioned fully carry out the population how a province could effec-"... it is a sad thing that control programme when it achieved progress and prosweightage was given to the we have persisted with a knew that a "reduced number perity by creating a balance

He said there was a big formula that is very negative of the people means getting

Highlighting the importance of a controlled population, AhsanIqbal said develtively execute the population oped nations in the world had

between resources and popu-

Unfortunately, the minister said Pakistan could not make any noteworthy success in its population control programme due to some socioeconomic, cultural and educational barriers.

He said national consensus should be evolved in reviewing the NFC award formula, urging the experts to put forward suggestions to the policymakers, accordingly.

The minister said the census should not be limited only to the population count but also collecting the development and economic data of prov-

# Imran ready to form committee to negotiate with 'anyone in power'

#### **Bureau Report**

LAHORE: PTI chief Imran Khan on Wednesday said he was ready to form a committee to negotiate with "anyone" in power.

Addressing via video link, he said the committee would discuss two points with first on what benefit it would bring to the country if he was eliminated. "The other point will be to gauge the advantages of holding elections in October," he added. He would announce the committee, he said, on Thursday.

He went on to say that the oppression would not eliminate the PTI and such tactics would instead boost the party. "If he starts distributing PTI tickets, added. A political party ended, added.

he said, when its vote bank ended.

He asked if an ideology could be crushed with such cruelty. "If this was so, Kashmir would have been in India's hands," he added. The party leadership was detained, he said, and the magical words of "leaving the PTI" got them out.

He went on to say that he was surprised to see all this, adding that had been asking my PTI members to stay inside their homes to avoid such environment. "An impression is created that you will be relieved of all difficulties if you quit," he

Mr Khan said a time was about to come when democracy would end in the country. "Democracy ends when fundaanyone who gets it will win," he mental rights are not given," he



At one point, he said only those would survive who bowed down to power, he added.

Know More: Forward bloc suspected in PTI as Jehangir Tareen meets politicians in

He questioned the human right champions if they could see what was happening now to control social media, adding added. Whatever they would in the country. "Our democrathat media had been under

cy is being derailed," he added. PTI chief continued by saying that he thanked that Ms Mazari said goodbye to

save herself from cruelty she

had been facing, adding that it

harmed the politics of Pakistan. He lamented that the internet cut down around my house

control. "More than 10,000 PTI supporters have been detained," he added. "I do not know how to contact the party,"

Mr Khan said no one wanted to do investment in the country, adding that the country was reeling under inflation.

He said CJP Bandial was the last hope, adding that if the judiciary did not come forward, history would not forgive them.

"The nation is looking at you," he said. "You have to take stand for the democracy of the country," he added.

He ended the speech by saying, "We must be patient and not be heartbroken, adding that such difficult times came to nations". "It is better to die than to accept such slavery," he do, he said, he was ready to face.

We highly appreciate the

Global Community and espe-

cially Secretary General, United

Nations General Assembly, for

He said that in order to

further strengthen public

health systems' preparedness, for an efficient response to

pandemics, emergencies and

disasters, the country is under-

going a second round of Joint

supporting Pakistan."

# **CJCSC**, Services Chiefs pay rich tributes to shuhada of Pakistan

RAWALPINDI: On the eve of Yaum-e-Takreem-e-Shuhada-e-Pakistan, CJCSC, Services Chiefs, retired services' officers and representatives of civil society paid rich tributes to shuhada of Pakistan the line of duty for ensuring integrity, sovereignty and honour of the nation and motherland. The sacrifices of Shuhada are eternal, will continue to inspire future generations of ganda by the enemies of Pakistan. come what may.

Today is a day for the entire nation to commemorate and honour each and every Shaheed of the Armed Forces, Law Enforcement Agencies and the Civil Society who laid their lives for upholding the very purpose and ideals Pakistan stands for.

"Shuhada e Pakistan are our who rendered ultimate sacrifice in heroes and a great asset, whose ultimate sacrifices can never be allowed to be demeaned or undermined by anyone. Pakistani nation takes pride and solemnly pledges to remain deeply indebted to them and their countrymen and will never be forgot- proud families. Shuhada were, are ten, irrespective of vicious propa- and will continue to be our pride,

## Forward bloc suspected in PTI as Jehangir Tareen meets politicians in Lahore

#### 👺 Bureau Report

LAHORE: As the political temperature rises in country with crackdown on the PTI and its leaders quitting the party, PTI disgruntled leader Jehangir Tareen on Wednesday met a host of political leaders.

Sources said he had met 20 important politicians in a week raising suspicions that a forward bloc could emerge in the PTI.

Earlier, Mr Tareen held PTI chairman Imran Khan and party leaders responsible for the Jinnah House

The former PTI leader visited the place was treated. The Corps Jinnah House where he spoke to the Commander House was once Jinnah media and condemned the attack. He expressed that he got the chance Ali Jinnah J house and such an incito visit the Jinnah House and it had dent had happened after 75 years, deeply saddened him to see how he deplored.



Sahib's [Quaid-i-Azam Muhammad

# Two army soldiers, one policeman & one civilian were martyred in a suicide bombing

#### Mazir Adam Khan Wazir

NORTH WAZIRISTAN: According to ISPR On 24 May 2023, a vehicle borne suicide bomber exploded himself in general area Datta Khel, North Waziristan District.

Resultantly, Naik Said Ullah Shah (age 33 years, resident of Charsadda) and Sepoy Jawad Khan (age 31 years, resident of District Haripur) of Pakistan Army, Police Constable Hakeem Jan (resident of North Waziristan District) of Khyber Pakhtunkhawa cent lives. Police Department and an innocent

Civilian embraced shahadat. The suicide bomber intended to target a public gathering but swift response by the security forc-



catastrophe as the soldiers immediately intercepted the suicide bomber vehicle on suspicion, sacrificing their lives to save numerous inno-

Security forces and law enforcement agencies of Pakistan are determined to eliminate the menace of terrorism and such sacrifices of our brave soldiers and innocent citizens es personnel prevented a major further strengthen our resolve.

### First crude oil shipment from Russia expected by month end: Musadik

#### News Desk

ISLAMABAD : Minister of State for Petroleum Dr Musadik Malik on Wednesday said the first shipment of 100,000 tons of crude oil from Russia was poised to anchor at Oman Port by the month's end, from where it would be gradually brought to Pakistani ports by small ships.

stan stood at 20 million tons, while local production only accounted for 10 to 11 million tons annually. In contrast, he added, the

consumption of furnace oil had significantly diminished over time.

Consequently, the minister emphasized the urgent requirement for a deep conversion refinery with a three to four million barrels capacity. Without such meas-



Speaking informally to the media here, he explained that the oil shipment was anchored at Oman port just because of the logistic issues. Thus, he added that the decision to employ smaller ships for the onward journey was deemed the most practical and efficient solution.

Dr Musadik said the annual demand for petrol and diesel in Paki-

ures, projections indicate that by 2032, he added that the demand for petrol and diesel alone could reach 33 to 34 million tons, leaving a shortfall of approximately 22 million tons that would need to be imported. The minister said the government

was ready to collaborate with international investors in that regard because crude oil storage in the country was crucial to ensure energy security.

He said the government had introduced the greenfield refining policy of the petroleum sector as the country's per capita energy consumption was the lowest in South Asia.

# sacrifice amount

#### **Spokesman Report**

MADINAH MUNAWWA-RAH: The Government Scheme Hujjaj (pilgrims) on Wednesday appreciated the Religious Ministry's decision of refunding Rs 55,000 as the 'animal sacrifice amount to the pilgrims performing Hajj in both the regular and sponsorship schemes, before their departure from Pakistan to Saudi Arabia.

Talking to media Muhammad Altaf Qaisrani, a resident of Dera Ghazi Khan, said he got refunded the amount of Rs 55,000 from his bank without any hassle prior to his departure for Hajj, which was appre-

# Pakistan considers IHR implementation of Rs 55,000 as top priority accords: Oadir as top priority agenda: Qadir

ISLAMABAD: Minister for National Health Services, Abdul Qadir Patel on Wednesday said that implementation of international health regulations (IHR) is the top priority of the government to tackle Covid 19 pandemic, mpox, Polio, floods, earthquakes, and heat waves.

During sideline meetings at the World Health Assembly in Geneva, the minister said that the government is cognizant of the fact that building and sustaining essential public health core capacities are critical for national responses to public health events, said in a

He said that the COVID-



19 pandemic has demonstrated that not only public health systems across the countries have been challenged, but it 19 pandemic, had to shoulder has also tested the capabilities another disaster in the shape of other sectors and reflected on the level of preparedness of our health systems against pandemics and public health emergency events.

He said that Pakistan is the only country in the region while recovering from the COVIDof massive flooding in 2022, displacing 30 million people, destroying crops, damaging health infrastructure and causing considerable loss of around country.'

External Evaluation to identify the critical gaps and provide key recommendations for developing health security plan.

"We are also committed to developing synergies between health security and universal health coverage for a more sustainable response in the

Published by: Almass Ayoub Sabir from Zero Point Printers Rawalpindi

# 25 Years of Youm-e-Takbeer: Promoting Peace, Stability, and Development

👺 Tooba Khan

ISLAMABAD: The Arms Control & Disarmament Centre (ACDC) at the Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI) organized a Seminar on "25 Years of Youm-e-Takbeer: Promoting Peace, Stability, and Development."

In his welcome remarks, Director General ISSI Ambassador Sohail Mahmood stated that Youm-e-Takbeer was always an occasion for national pride as well as thanksgiving. He paid rich tributes to the leaders, scientists, engineers, technicians, security personnel, strategists and diplomats who had made invaluable contributions over the decades in Pakistan's nuclear journey. He added that Pakistan's nuclear programme, supported by complete national consensus, remained the bedrock of our impregnable national security and an invaluable source for accelerated socio-economic progress. In the 25 years since crossing the Rubicon, Pakistan had maintained a robust operationalized deterrent capability accompanied by an impeccable nuclear safety and security regime. Pakistan's credentials as a responsible nuclear state had been reinforced interna-



continued to project Pakistan's policies of restraint and responsibility internationally and make efforts for mainstreaming in the nuclear order.

In introductory remarks, Malik Qasim Mustafa, Director ACDC-IS-SI, said that the Pakistani nation commemorates "Youm-e-Takbeer" as a day when it conducted nuclear tests and restored the balance of power in South Asia. Pakistan's nuclear capa-

tionally. Also, active nuclear diplomacy bility has not only augmented national security but had ensured survival against aggression by a large and more powerful adversary, India. Over the years, Pakistan developed a robust command and control structure, stringent export control law, rules and regulations and a national nuclear safety and security regime, which was in line with international law and best practices. Pakistan had pursued peace, stability and development through its nuclear

Lt. Gen. (Retd) Khalid Kidwai, Advisor, National Command Authority, and former DG, Strategic Plans Division (SPD), in a special message paid tribute to the founding fathers of Pakistan's nuclear programme in the political, scientific, strategic and diplomatic fields and salute those whose collective determination, political wisdom, vision and scientific expertise allowed Pakistanis today to live and breathe in an environment of relative peace and stability without fear of external aggression. He stated that Pakistan's deterrence capabilities were well-balanced and comprised of a triad of land, air and sea forces, which operate under the umbrella of a strong command and control system.

Dr Ansar Parvaiz, former Chairman Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission (PAEC), speaking on "Peaceful Applications of Nuclear Technology in Pakistan" highlighted the technological strides that Pakistan's peaceful nuclear programme had made. He also talked about the tremendous contributions of nuclear technology in the fields of health, agriculture, energy and

tized rapidly, this is the era of technolo-

gy and we should pay more attention to

educating female students in the field

of information technology. He stressed

on the promotion of environmental

# Inauguration Ceremony of Smart Classroom at Women University Multan

👺 Kiran Asim

MULTAN: Secretary HED South Punjab Mr. Altaf Baloch on Wednesday inaugurated the smart classroom at Matital campus. According to the spokesperson, WUM another smart digital classroom has been completed in Women University Multan under the supervision and support of HEC. The chief guest was Secretary HED South Punjab Mr. Altaf Baloch. On this occasion, the supervisor of this Project and IT Head WUM, Engineer Muhammad Azam gave a brief presentation to the audience about the smart classroom overall structure, functions, facilities, resources provided by HEC. He also said that Women University Multan is second university in Multan who has achieved this milestone.

He further said that ery campus. Each classroom consists rooms from other universities too. of more than 30 modern computinstalled in both the classrooms. High shrunk, and now it is the age of e-learn-



classrooms have been constructed will be able to teach students together in Women University, one in Mati- in both classrooms, while lectures can tal campus and the other in Katch- be given on LMS through these class-

He further said that smart classers, while three LEDs have also been rooms are needed as the world has

speed internet facility is available for ing. On this occasion Vice-Chancellor raising the newly established Univerthe students. While both the class- Prof. Dr. Uzma Quraishi said that we sity very high in a very short possible rooms are soundproof, one teacher—are grateful to HEC for providing smart. classrooms. She said that we must protect this facility for the purpose of education, and we have to work together to ensure better use of this modern technology. Addressing the ceremony Secretary HED Mr. Altaf Baloch said that the world is becoming automa-

cleaning and maximum planting in the university. He said that close coordination

with industry is the real spirit of technical education. He further highlighted different successful operations of government related to the development of IT sector and higher education during the last year. He interacted with faculty members and discussed various issues related to the development of higher education. He applauded the endeavours taken by the Vice Chancellor Dr. Uzma Quraishi in time. He said that the government will provide all possible support to Women University in future to achieve their goals for pursuing quality education in this region.On this occasion, Pro Vice Chancellor Dr. Kulsoom Paracha, Registrar Dr. Qamar Rubab and other teachers were also present.

# MEPCO management promotes 4 Additional Chief Engineers

👺 Quratul Ain Asim

MULTAN: Multan Electric Power Company (MEPCO) management has promoted 4 additional chief engineers to the post of Chief Engineers with the approval of the Senior Selec-

Engineer Chaudhry Khalid Mehmood, who was serving as Director General HR & Admin MEPCO, has been promoted to the post of Chief Engineer. Promoted to Grade 20. permanent basis. Jam Gul Muhammad Zahid, serving as Chief Engineer/Customer Services



neer/Customer Services Director on

Noorul Hasan Dogar, who served as Chief Engineer Planning and Engi-Director on current charge basis, has neering on current charge basis, has been promoted to the post of Chief been promoted to the position of Chief Engineer and posted as Chief Engi- Engineer and Chief Engineer Plan-

ning and Engineering on a permanent basis, while Additional Chief Engineer (Technical Services) M&T II Bashir Ahmad Tunsvi has been promoted to the position of Assistant Chief Engineer. He has been promoted and posted as Chief Strategic Planner Mepco.

Exports can be increased by introducing Multani Souvenir Mangoes worldwide. Umar Jahangir

👺 Kiran Asim

MULTAN: The district administration has decided to celebrate Mango Festival, the festival of gifts of saints The task was given to the district departments for the mango festival in the first week of July Agriculture University and district departments meeting under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner Umar Jahangir Mango Festival is the best platform to introduce mango to the world.

Ambassadors of different countries will be invited to the Mango Festival. There will also be musical and cultural shows and entertainment in the Mango Festival.

#### MEPCO Power Transformer of 10/13 Megawatt installed

MULTAN: The Grid System Construction Department of Multan Electric Power Company (MEPCO) has completed the project of setting up a new 132 KV Donga Bonga grid station at Bahawalnagar at a cost of more than 27 crore rupees. Under the direction of Chief Executive Officer Mepco Engineer Mehrullah Yar Bharwana, a power transformer of 10/13 MVA has been initially installed in the new 132KV Donga Bonga grid station at a cost of Rs. A 17 km long single circuit transmission line has been laid from the station to the Donga Bonga grid station.

On which 12 and a half crores have been spent. Chief Engineer (Development) PMU Muhammad Arshad Dharala, Chief Engineer T&G Chaudhry Khalid Nazir, Project Director GSC Syed Jawad Mansoor Ahmed visited the newly established 132KV Donga Bonga substation and despite the shortage of materials, the new substation was completed  $\label{eq:completed}$ in a short period of time. Congratulations to the officers and personnel of GC, T&G, P&I, T&I and Civil Divisions for establishing.

Project Director GSC said that the new 132KV Donga Bonga grid station will generate 7 feeders of 11KV which will benefit thousands of customers in Donga Bonga, Ada Kherajpura and adjoining areas. Other officers were also present.

#### NFEH takes its tree plantation campaign to KU campus



KARACHI: The Department of Biotechnology, the University of Karachi, and the National Forum for Environment and Health (NFEH) have joined hands to jointly conduct the tree plantation campaign.

A tree plantation activity was held in this regard at the Biotechnology Department on the KU campus. In the first phase of the plantation drive, 100 tree saplings were planted and more saplings will be planted in the next phase.

Speaking on the occasion, NFEH President Naeem Qureshi said that Karachi had lost its charm with its climate getting warmer with the passage of time due to a constant decrease in tree cover.

He lamented the situation that tree cover was merely present on a three per cent area of the city whereas ideally, 25 per cent area of Kara-

chi should be green. Qureshi urged the KU students to come forward and fully own the tree plantation drive.

Chairman of the Biotechnology Department, Prof Dr Saifullah, said that it was his firm resolve that his department should become a green zone and environment-friendly area on the campus as for this purpose massive plantation activity would be conducted.

Impact Foundation President Zafar Saleem said that his non-governmental organisation had been working for the cause of environmental protection, training, and creating job opportunities for the youth.

Later, the plantation activity was carried out by the KU's faculty members, students, NFEH office-bearers, and Faeq Saleem of the Green Team. They also expressed resolve to take care of the newly planted saplings. Earlier, the NFEH joined hands with the Capital Development Authority for plantation activity at Islamabad's Heritage Village in March this year. Some 400 saplings were planted in the plantation activity in the federal capital. The plantation drive this year will continue by the end of this year's monsoon season.

Also present at the plantation activity were Ruqiya Naeem, Ghulam Kabria of NFEH, and lecturer at the Biotechnology Department, Dr Shumaila Rashid.

## DFP thanks G-20 nations for boycotting working group meeting in Srinagar

Maieed Tahir

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Democratic Freedom Party (DFP) has expressed its profound gratitude to the members of G-20 who skipped the working group meeting on tourism hosted by India in Srinagar.

In a statement issued here today the DFP spokesman while terming it as a great diplomatic setback for India said that a number of important countries including China, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, Egypt, Indonesia and Mexico have refused to be a part of the conference held in the

Terming it as a victory of justice, the spokesman said adding that on the one hand, key stakeholders' refusal to attend the moot has vindicated the Kashmiris' stand and their claim, while on the other, the protests held by Kashmiris on the day have internationalized the Kashmir issue.

The people of Kashmir owe a debt of gratitude to all those countries who realized the sensitivities involved in the meeting, took a pragmatic and principled stance by staying away from the conference", the spokesman said adding that the decision to skip the meeting has boosted the morale of Kashmiris who have been reeling under India's relentless and brutal suppression for the past several years.

# We believe in stable democracy, fair judiciary, dignified parliament: Sardar Attique

Majeed Tahir

MUZAFFARABAD: President of All Jammu and Kashmir Muslim Conference, former Prime Minister Sardar Attique Ahmad Khan has said that the events of 09 May are very regrettable and some people have committed an unfordecisions made at different times, these situations have arisen in Pakistan, it did not happen suddenly, but because of the carelessness of some stakeholders, the negligence of some and not feeling the sense of responsibility, now all stakeholders are involved to solve the problem. Holders have to play their role. We believe in stable democracy, fair judiciary, dignified parliaparliament, democracy cannot be a substitute for defense.

All these institutions can be saved only by strengthening defense. The survival and solution of the Kashmir issue are indispensable for the stronger the army, will be the more givable crime. Due to the wrong powerful When it comes to military democracy, we have been made fun We understand military democracy. There is no criticism on social media about any sector, but under a systematic plan, the army is criticized through social media.

The performance of Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari has exposed India. The countries that did not participate in the G20 conference are grateful

and Egypt Maxcico and others. He expressed these views while addressing the participants of the grand solidarity rally with the Pakistan Army organized by the All Jammu and Kashmir Muslim Conference in the capital Muzaffarabad on Wednesday.

Hundreds of small and big vehicles and a large number of motorcycles and other vehicles were included in the rally from Mujahid expressed Late Mujahid e expressed Awal Sardar Abdul Qayyum Khan's shrine. The rally participants were welcomed everywhere. The flag-cracked slogans of Kashmi Banega Pakistan and Muslim Conference resonated with the majority of the participants in

youth were very enthusiastic and the portraits of Chief of Army Staff General Sved Asim Munir. Mujahid I Sardar Muhammad Abdul Qayyum Khan and Sardar Attique Ahmad Khan were displayed in the rally.

The rally was welcomed at dozens of places from Ghaziabad to Muzaffarabad and small and large caravans continued to join this rally. It was the largest rally of solidarity with the army in the history of Azad Kashmir. Before that, the Muslim Conference or other In the rallies organized by any party, youths and people did not participate in such a large

The rally consisted of thousands of workers, Muslim

ment, but judiciary, economy, to China, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, the rally were young people, the Conference workers, MSF and Youth. In his address at the end of the rally held at the martyrs' shrine, the president of the Muslim Conference, Sardar Atiq Ahmad Khan, said that the expression of solidarity with the Pakistan Army is included in the constitution of the Muslim Conference, and by holding this rally, we are not doing anything new. In the 90s, he organized rallies from Mirpur to Faizabad, from Faizabad to Khyber, from Khyber to Karachi in order to prevent the ideological sabotage of the young generation and to strengthen the relationship with the ideology of Pakistan and the



fun of us, but the far-reaching more than other parties. In this views of Mujahid I and I myself region, the workers of the Muslim felt that solidarity rallies with the army were necessary. Why are and intellectual role which the solidarity rallies with the army workers of the Muslim Conferbeing taken out, but this week, the same parties took out rallies in Muzaffarabad and Mirpur.

President Muslim Confer-He said that at that time the ence emphasized to the workpolitical parties used to make ers that their responsibilities are Conference.

Conference have an ideological ence have to perform. Government, economy, construction and development in the state and state institutions were established by the All Jammu Muslim



# **Namaz Timings**

#### **EMERGENCY**

Rescue (Police) 15
Bomb Disposal 15
Fire Services Rawalpindi/
Islamabad1122 & 16
Emergency Ambulance 1122 &
& Rescue Services 4451122
Motorway Police9266044
Motorway Police 9270601-20

#### **Women Police**

<b>Stations</b>				
Islamabad	9222596			
Rawalpindi	9270601-20			

<b>ENQUIRY</b>				
Edhi Ambulance	115			
PIA Flight Info	114			
PIA Cargo	9280979			
Railway Inquiry	117			
Railway Exchange	9270831-5			

HU3PI	IALS
CMH	5611111
MH	561116
MH	561116
Cantt Hospital	9270907-11
DHU .	5556311_/

#### Green Entertainment's **OSTAnkhein** for Serial Kabli Pulao Released

#### 👺 City Desk

KARACHI: Green Entertainment, an upcoming channel currently running its test transmission, is thrilled to announce the release of the original soundtrack (OST) 'Ankhein' for the highly anticipated serial, 'Kabli Pulao.' The OST features a soulful and mesmerizing song performed by the legendary Rahat Fateh Ali

Directed by Kashif Nisar, 'Ankhein' has been penned by the talented Imran Raza, while the music composition has been masterfully crafted by the acclaimed Sahir Ali Bagga known for his melodious arrangements. Producer Qaiser Ali and Executive Producer Imran Raza, through their collaboration with Q&K Productions and Multiverse Entertainment, have brought forth this release that promises to enchant audiences with its rich melodies and captivating tunes.

The song 'Ankhein' beau tifully captures the multitude of emotions associated with love, emphasizing the eyes as the window to one's soul. It portrays how the eyes serve as a gateway to the deepest feelings and emotions within us. Rahat Fateh Ali Khan's flawless vocals effortlessly breathe life into this song, making it an unforgettable experi-

ence for listeners. Speaking about the release, COO Imran Raza said, "Working alongside esteemed artists like Rahat Fateh Ali Khan and Sahir Ali Bagga has been an incredible journey. I am immensely proud of this project as it showcases the talent and dedication of our team. I truly believe that music can touch hearts and transcend boundaries. Through this composition, we hope to resonate with listeners on a more personal level."

# Faiz Hameed biggest beneficiary in £190m NCA scandal, claims Faisal Vawda

ISLAMABAD: Former federal minister Faisal Vawda on Wednesday claimed that former DG ISI Lieutenant General (Lt Gen) Retired Faiz Hameed was the "architect" and the "mastermind" in the National Crime Agency £190m case Imran Khan was currently facing.

The PTI leader was speaking to the media after he appeared before NAB in NCA £190m corruption case.

Talking to the media, Vawda said that former accountability advisor Shahzad



Akbar, Zulfi Bukhari and other leaders were being named in this case but the biggest "beneficiary" is Faiz Hameed.

"My compulsion today was to tell the

nation that when you say the beneficiary is Imran, [...] the biggest is Faiz Hameed."

Faisal Vawda further said that this was a "very small case" and that bigger crimes would be uncovered when things were further probed.

Criticising President Arif Alvi, the federal minister said that Alvi played a

"huge role in these misunderstandings". "I had warned Imran Khan before about "snakes" in his party, who would be holding press conferences soon, condemning the May 9 violence," Faisal Vawda added.

### Youm-e-Takreem-e-Shuhda-e-Pakistan

ISLAMABAD: A view of the portraits of Martyrs of Pakistan, on Poles at Chand Sitra Junction are install by administration to mark the Youm-e-Takreem, for honoring those who lost their lives for the sake of Pakistan.



Photo: Online by Sultan Bashir

# Preparations to make OPD of Nishtar 2 Hospital functional from June 1st: Captain (R) Saqib

#### Asim Tanveer

MULTAN: Preparations to make the OPD of Nishtar II Hospital functional from June 1 have entered in the final stages and 99 percent of the development work has been completed. Consultant doctors have been appointed and furniture for doctors' rooms has been delivered..

Similarly, electricity connection has also been obtained for the OPD and air-conditioning and heavy generators have been installed. Procurement of medicines for patients has also been completed, beds have been installed for patients in triage and arrangements of biomedical equipment for pathology labs have also been completed. The Additional Chief Secretary South Punjab Capt.(Retd) Saqib Zafar visited Nishtar II Hospital on Wednesday to review the



the occasion, said the Chief

Minister Punjab had given a

completion of OPD.

Specialized Healthcare South Punjab Nasir Afzal Khan, Vice Chancellor Nishtar Medical Univer- target to complete the OPD sity Professor Dr. Altaf Ahmed, of Nishtar II Hospital by May Additional Secretary Sadia 31. He said it was a challenge Mehr, MS Nishtar Hospital to make the OPD operation-Dr. Rao Amjad and Project al within 30 days and all the Director of IDAP Adnan concerned departments and Rahmat were also with him. administrations have risen to Additional Chief Secretary the challenge by working day

Hospital will be made functional for patients from June 1. He said a medical college will also be constructed along with Nishtar II Hospital for which government land near the hospital is being evaluated. Additional Chief Secretary South Punjab directed the authorities concerned for densely plantation and instalation of high quality street lights in the entire outer area of the hospital. South Punjab Capt.(Retd) Saqib Zafar ,while talking on

and night. Capt.(Retd) Saqib Zafar said OPD of Nishtar II

Rs. 9450 million are being spent on the Nishtar II project covering an area of 57 acres, which includes the purchase of bio-medical equipment worth Rs. 1900 million. It was informed in the briefing that all the machinery for the hospital has been imported and payment has also been made to MEPCO for the installation of grid station.

# IWG opens new workspace locations in Pakistan

#### News Desk

LAHORE: IWG, the world's largest provider of hybrid working solutions with brands including Spaces and Regus, is expanding its network in Pakistan and opening a state-of-theart 875 sq.mt new location at Marina One, Islamabad in May 2023 in partnership with Bilal Afzal from M/S Construxive; 1500 sq.mt new location at Naveena, Lahore in June 2023 in partnership with Sameer Elahi and 650 sq.mt new location at EOBI F7, Islamabad in July 2023 in partnership with Saad Mehmood.

The new IWG locations are complete with co-working spaces, private offices, meeting rooms and creative spaces as the demand for hybrid working rapidly

accelerates. All partners chose the IWG flexible workspace platform and have entered into a management agreement with the IWG brand.

Marina One will be the first HQ-brand location in Pakistan adding 875 sq.mt in Islamabad, and will be IWG's 3rd centre in the city. Naveena, Lahore will be a Signature brand location, adding a massive 1500 sq.mt in Lahore. The 3rd managed partnership deal in Pakistan will be at EOBI, F7 Islamabad and its opening is expected in the third quarter of 2023. This centre will add 650 sq.mt of much needed inventory as the existing centre has been consistently at full occupancy.

Mark Dixon, CEO & Founder of IWG, commented: "We are establishing a stronger and much-needed footprint in Pakistan with these latest openings. As an important business hub both Lahore & Islamabad are fantastic places for us to boost our expansion plans. The need for high-quality flexible workspaces continues to soar as hybrid working becomes the new normal. We are very pleased to work in partnership with both Sameer Elahi and Bilal Afzal from M/S Construxive to develop the IWG brand under a management agreement that will add a cutting-edge workspace to their

Bilal Afzal, Sameer Elahi & Saad Mehmood expressed their pleasure in partnering with IWG.

Bilal Afzal commented: "IWG is the world's largest flexible space operator and this partnership will give us a

unique and flexible solution empowering our business to be most productive.

Saad Mehmood noted: "Digitalization and new technologies are transforming the world of work and Pakistanis want the personal productivity benefits of living and working how and where they want.

IWG's multi-brand expansion strategy is designed to appeal to every type of business and entrepreneur. IWG creates personal, financial, and strategic value for businesses of every size. from some of the most exciting companies and well-known organisations on the planet, to individuals and the next generation of industry leaders. All of them harness the power of flexible working to increase their productivity, efficiency, agility, and market proximity.

## Senator Naseebullah lauds security forces for arresting Gulzar Imam Shambay



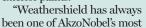
#### 👺 Raja Furgan Ahmed

ISLAMABAD: Chairman Senate Standing Committee on Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety Senator Naseebullah Bazai has praised the security forces for arresting one of the most high-profile militant leaders, Gulzar Imam Shambay - the head of the outlawed Baloch National Army (BNA). In a statement on Wednesday, Senator Naseebullah Bazai said, "The arrest of Gulzar Imam Shambay is a tremendous achievement of the intelligence agencies." "He was involved in various antistate activities. His arrest is an outcome of outstanding performance of intelligence agencies," he added. "Meanwhile the statement of Gulzar in his press conference that the rights of Balochistan can be protected in parliamentary politics is a signal to all those States who are openly targeting Pakistan," Senator Bazai concluded. It is to be mentioned here that, Gulzar Imam Shambay was arrested by security forces in a successful intelligence operation. While addressing a press conference on Tuesday, Shambay said the struggle for Balochistan's rights could only be pursued through constitutional and political means. Born in Panigur in 1978, he initially worked as a contractor and later became a correspondent for a local newspaper. In 2009, Shambay joined a terrorist group and eventually became deputy to Brahamdagh Bugti in the Baloch Raj Aajoi Sangar (BRAS) till 2018. Later, he formed the Baloch National Army (BNA) as a new militant outfit. He played a pivotal role in steering militant activities in Balochistan, particularly in the southern region of the province. Imam, who was earlier a staunch believer in an independent Balochistan, had maintained contact with external elements, including some hostile intelligence agencies. He visited India in December 2017, using fake documents. Through these connections and operational expertise, he emerged as an influential figure within the BRAS. He held the position of BRAS operational head before his arrest. Imam's arrest was announced in an ISPR press release on April 7.

#### AkzoNobelkaray launches new Dulux Weathershield Powerflexx in Pakistan

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

LAHORE: AkzoNobel Pakistan Ltd, a leading global manufacturer of paints and coatings, has launched the upgraded Dulux Weathershield Powerflexx in its trusted Weathershield range of exterior paints.





Executive Officer, AkzoNobel Pakistan Limited. "Given the harsh impact of today's climate and weather on homes, nsumers in Pakistan are increasingly demandinghigher-quality exte rior paints that can protect and keep their homes looking beautiful for longer. The new Dulux Weathershield Powerflexx is doing just thatdistilling the best of science, innovation, and the magic of Dulux to offer meaningful benefits to homeowners. Families can continue to create happy memories together, knowing that the trusted Dulux Weathershield Powerflexx now protects their homes for longer," added Mubbasher.

The superior tough film withstands extreme all-weather conditions and protects walls against colour fading, dirt, dust and watermarks, keeping homes looking pristine for longer.

#### AKUH performs first-ever bedside surgery on newborn

#### **Commerce Desk**

KARACHI: The Paediatric Surgery team at Aga Khan University Hospital (AKUH) in Karachi has achieved a remarkable feat by successfully performing a bedside surgery on a newborn baby for hernia repair. This groundbreaking surgery took place in the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU), making it a first-of-its-kind achievement. Unlike traditional surgeries conducted in ideal operating room conditions, this procedure was carried out at the baby's bedside.

The baby boy, born on April 25, 2023, at the Aga Khan Maternal and Child Care Centre in Hyderabad, faced breathing difficulties shortly after birth, leading to a diagnosis of congenital diaphragmatic hernia (CDH). CDH occurs when the diaphragm, the muscle separating the abdomen from the chest, fails to close properly, allowing abdominal organs to migrate into the chest cavity. This condition can impede the growth of the lungs and heart and is potentially life-threatening for newborns.

Due to the critical condition of the baby, he was immediately transferred to AKUH's main campus in Karachi, where he was intubated and admitted to the NICU. Despite receiving advanced care, his condition remained highly critical, necessitating surgery as the only viable solu-

However, the team faced a unique challenge. The baby's instability made it impossible to transport him to the operating room, requiring a different approach. The AKUH experts rose to the occasion, transforming the NICU into an operating theatre that met all safety and sterility requirements for the surgery.

Led by Dr. Muhammad Aqil Soomro, Section Head of Paediatric Surgery at AKUH, and supported by an expert team of paediatric surgeons, NICU doctors and nurses, the anaesthesia team, and support staff, the bedside surgery was successfully performed on April 29, 2023. The procedure, lasting two hours, concluded without any

Following the surgery, the baby's respiration began to improve, and with gradual weaning off ventilation and medications, he made significant progress. Finally, on May 7, 2023, the baby was discharged from the hospital and happily sent home to continue his journey towards a

 $\label{thm:commended} Dr.\, \acute{S}aleem\, Islam, Chair of Surgery\, at\, AKUH, commended\, the\, team's$ dedication and highlighted the significance of bedside surgeries for critically ill newborns with CDH.

"Transporting these fragile babies to the operating room can be dangerous and impact surgery outcomes," emphasized Dr. Islam. "The decision to perform the surgery at the baby's bedside was driven by the need to ensure uninterrupted and safe care for this critical newborn."

Soon after the success of its first bedside surgery, AKUH later performed a second surgery on another newborn with CDH. This groundbreaking achievement by the Paediatric Surgery team at AKUH demonstrates their commitment to innovation and excellence in healthcare. The success of this first-of-its-kind bedside surgery showcases AKUH's expertise and dedication to providing advanced medical care for critically ill newborns.

Group Chairman/Chief Editor: Almas Ayoub Sabir Vice Chairman: Managing Editor: Head Editorial Advisory Board: Amjad Mehmood Bureau Chief Karachi:

Asim Nazir Ahmad Naveed Ahmad Khan Saleem Zaman Khan. (mszk786@gmail.com Syed Afraz Ali Nazish

(afrazalishah@gmail.com)

Bureau Chief Lahore:

Islamabad Office: Rose Plaza, I-8 Markaz. Karachi office: Flat No.C.3.A.One Comfort, Block No 11.

Gulshan-e-Igbal, Main Rashid Minhas Road.

Lahore Office: 7-E, Samanberg, Johar Town. spokesmanislamabad@gmail.com Email:

0346-5008408 Whatsapp:

### **Indian Army imposing** deprivation, hunger in occupied Kashmir

akistan Tuesday spotlighted in the UN Security Council the desperate plight of Kashmiri people under Indian military occupation and slammed India for convening a G20 meeting in restive Kashmir in an attempt to project "normalcy" in the disputed territory.

Speaking during a debate on ensuring the security and dignity of people caught in the crossfire and addressing the related issue of access to food and essential services, Ambassador Munir Akram said that the key of securing peace and stability South Asia was the just and peaceful resolution of the Kashmir dispute in accordance with the Security Council resolutions.

"Deprivation and hunger are being imposed on the Kashmiri people by the suppression imposed by a 900,000-occupation army, massive violations of their human rights and the progressive expropriation of their properties and means of livelihood," the Pakistani envoy said.

"It is, therefore, sad to see some but not all of the Group of 20 representatives allowed themselves to be used in India's attempt to portray a false sense of normalcy in occupied Jammu and Kash-

In this regard, Ambassador Akram cited the recent words of the Special Rapporteur on Minority Issues, Fernand De Varrenes, who warned against the attempt to "normalize military occupation, which should be decried and condemned, not pushed under

At the outset of his remarks, he underscored the nexus between hunger and conflict, observing that 70 per cent of the 250 million people who go to bed hungry every day are in areas of armed conflict, the majority of whom are children.

The Council's agenda, to the contrary, keeps adding new conflict situations to old and entrenched issues, as hunger continues to grow, impacting people in the Global South, the Pakistani envoy

On Afghanistan, he said that almost 95 percent of Afghanistan's population exists in extreme poverty.

"Even as we seek to ensure women's rights, and end terrorism in and from Afghanistan, the world cannot allow the Afghan people to be consigned to prolonged poverty, he said, adding the Afghan economy must be rapidly revived through the release of Afghanistan's assets abroad; revival of its banking system; reconstruction of its infrastructure and implementation of the "connectivity" projects.

Ambassador Akram commended the UN Secretary-General's Black Sea Grain initiative to ease the impact of the Ukraine war and accompanying restrictions on food security, hoping that the agreement will be implemented faithfully and fully.

"Above all," he added, "Pakistan desires an early end of the war in Ukraine in accordance with the principles of the UN Charter and international agreements."

Earlier, some 50 speakers, during a day-long open debate, outlined priority action areas for ensuring civilians' survival, security

As a whole, Secretary-General Antonio Guterres called on the international community to break the deadly cycle of armed conflict and hunger by addressing underlying causes, strengthening vulnerable countries' economies, honouring commitments to support nations on the frontlines of the climate crisis and increasing contributions to humanitarian operations.

"Civilians have suffered the deadly effects of armed conflict for too long," he emphasized, asserting: "It is time we live up to our promise to protect them."

# The World's Justice System Vs Pakistan Justice System - I

police constable, working in the city of Bradford, United Kingdom, on November 18, 2005, the emergency alarm of a travel agent on Morley Street went off, Sharon arrived in front of the travel agent's office with her colleague Teresa Melbourne and The people inside were warned, the criminals inside opened fire on them, there are no weapons in the UK so police officers usually arrive on the scene unprepared.

The same thing happened with Sharon and Teresa, as expected, the shooting started and both were seriously injured. Among them was a Pakistani Piran Dutta Khan, who escaped immediately and came to Pakistan. Piran Dutta entered the office of a travel agent for robbery with a seven-member gang. The office had a security alarm. That rang and the police arrived.

Piran Dutta had a revolver, he opened fire, it managed to escape after the firing while the other six accused were caught and a chase started for Piran Dutta, Piran Dutta came to Pakistan and went into hiding from British Govt. A reward of 20,000 pounds was also placed on his information and his embassy in Pakistan was also activated. It took 15 years for Britain to find Piran Dutta

A huge amount of money and manpower was also spent on it, but these people reached Piran Dutta in 2020, so Islamabad police arrested him in 2020

ain, the criminal was arrested, but a new conflict arose here, the agreement on the exchange of criminals between Britain and Pakistan was not completed, it took two and a half years for Britain to sign this agreement, until on 11 April 2023, the British police came to Islamabad and handcuffed the accused and took him to London. Locked up in the same police station whose constable he shot dead 17 vears ago.

Piran Dutta is now 74 years old and this is the latest example of state writ and this example proves that you can commit a crime in a living country but you cannot escape punishment after the crime, the state makes you the

last person in the world. It will search even from the corner and bring you to the culprit no matter how much effort and money it has to spend for it.

Kiran Asim

Take the example of Osama bin Laden and America, Osama bin Laden carried out 9/11, it happened and Osama bin Laden disappeared after that, America started looking for him, four billion dollars were spent in this search. And hundreds of people were also used, but the US finally traced Osama bin Laden to Abbottabad and shot him on May 2, 2011 and threw his body into the sea.

It was the most expensive project in

ten years for it and research, this example of Osama bin Laden proved that you can attack America but you cannot escape after the attack, America will find you from hell and punish you, it is not important whether the punishment is big or small in this world, it is important that the punishment is exact.

You should certainly hang six times the punishment for theft, but if the crim-

inal, the judge and the police are not sure of the punishment, then the crime will continue to be committed and the criminals will continue to increase. Punishment should be definite, the criminal should know that if I have committed a crime, no power

in the world can save me from punishment, even if I hide in the underworld. the government will dig me out and then the court and prison will be mine. As fate would have it, I often give the example of King Alauddin Khilji of India.

He was very strict in the matter of theft, in his time the punishment for theft was death, he caught the thief and hanged him in public and his body was hung for a whole year, he was so strict in this matter that he There was no theft in India until 60 years after his death. People thought that if we stole, he would not leave us even after leaving the grave.

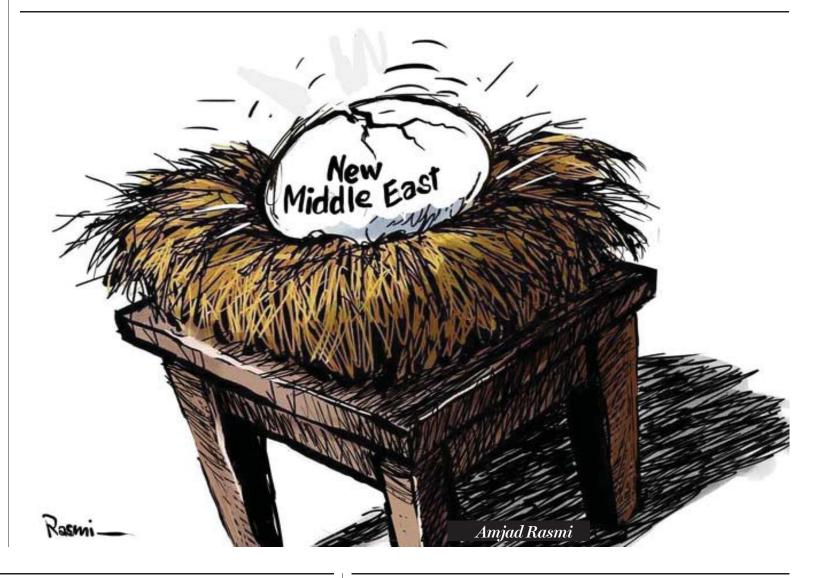
haron Beshenivsky was a with the information and help of Brit- American history, America had to wait We always give the example of Hazrat Umar Farooq RA.

Hazrat Umar Faroog RA had thousands of qualities, but his style was justice, perhaps that is why even today after 14 hundred years, when the name of Hazrat Umar Farooq RA is mentioned, Adl Farooqi is written along with it. A person could not escape after committing a crime, even if it was his own son, he would also be captured from Cairo and the Caliph himself would flog him with his own hand. When Hazrat Umar RA passed away, the guard standing on the border of Madinah announced that Madinah had passed away.

This action was not possible in the lifetime of Hazrat Umar Farooq RA, it happens that the punishment is definite, while in our country we are tightening the law, but the crimes do not stop despite this, why? Because criminals know that the justice system can't catch me and even if they catch me, we will be saved. We will get a big lawyer. Our government will come and we will get NRO and thus all our sins will be forgiven

And this is our real tragedy. We as a nation are crying on May 9 but we are not looking for reasons for May 9. The question is who encouraged the people or the PTI workers to come out with sticks and attack the Corps Commander's house. Destroy the houses, attack the GHQ, set fire to the model ship in Mianwali, attack Balahisar Fort Peshawar.

To be continued



# Pakistan's Multifaceted Crisis of Political and Economic Realm

#### Saeeda Usmani

akistan is facing a multifaceted crisis of political and economic realm. In the recent year, it has been evidently seen a rise in political instability, high inflation, and the emergence of new security challenges. Despite these intrigue threats which make it imperative for the Shahbaz' administration to address the crisis and the lack of interest to restore stability shows their incompetence. However, there is a need to be more vibrant approach that helps to understand and resolve the crisis accordingly and reduce its impacts. The current analysis of the prevailing situation in Pakistan provides some insight of crisis which brings the attention to the scholars to resolve amicably.

Shahbaz' administration is having a major crisis of legitimacy and a number of political challenges. This crisis has caused a widespread sense of uncertainty among citizens, raising questions about the ability of the government to provide stability and security. As a result, there have been calls for reforms to address the issues that have caused the legitimacy crisis, though it remains to be seen whether these will be successful in restoring confidence in the government. Lack of confidence in the government is having a detrimental effect on the country.

In the wake of his removal from the post of Prime Minister, Imran Khan has launched a narrative against the powerful army officials of Pakistan, accusing them of conspired against him to overthrow him, and even attempting to murder him. The political situation in Pakistan is at a boiling point, with Imran Khan, leader of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), calling for elections after dissolving his assemblies in Punjab and KPK provinces within 90 days as per the obligations of the 1973 Constitution. However, September, followed by an attack at the Confu-

ment (PDM) a political alliance of difference thirteen political parties makes federal government headed by Shahbaz Sharif, resisting and iustifying the rejection of election's demand due to lack of funds in reserve and surge in terrorism.

A troubling balance of payments crisis is eroding the standard of living in Pakistan, a country that is still recovering from devastating flooding last year. The World Bank expressed concern that the crisis could "undo the poverty reduction gains achieved in the last two decades and reduce the incomes of poor households even further" in their statement last month.

Furthermore, Pakistan's central bank has foreign reserves of only \$4.4 billion, which is insufficient to cover the country's imports for more than a month. The economy has experienced a significant slowdown, resulting in a shortage of dollars and difficulty in importing goods, leading to a scarcity of food items and a sharp rise in prices. Inflation in April reached an alarming rate of 36.4%, with food costs increasing by 47% in urban areas and over 52% in rural areas. The ongoing crisis has also adversely affected the pace of CPEC projects, and even the visit of Shahbaz Sharif to Beijing in November last year did not produce the desired outcome, as Beijing prefers to negotiate with a stable government.

The security situation in Pakistan has deteriorated significantly in recent times, with the country now facing a multitude of threats from both within and without. Terrorism and extremism have been on the rise, and there have been numerous cross-border clashes between Pakistan and its neighbouring countries. Threat from militant and separatist organizations is increasing. In recent months, Pakistan has seen a spate of violence directed at Chinese investments and nationals. Most prominent among these attacks was the assault at a dental clinic in Karachi last

on the other hand, Pakistan Democratic Move- cius Institute in Karachi in April 2022. A luxury hotel in Balochistan, hosting a senior Chinese delegation, was also targeted. Tehrik-e Taliban Pakistan (TTP) has increased its insurgency against Islamabad, resulting in many deadly attacks across major cities. On the 12th of May, the situation became more dire after two Pakistani soldiers were martyred and three wounded in an attack on a security post in Balochistan.

Although the crisis in Pakistan appears to have no immediate resolution, there is still hope for a better future. Pakistan is known for its resilience, and the fate of the country lies in the hands of its citizens and leaders. To ensure progress, a plan of action is necessary, which should include political and economic reforms, infrastructure investments, and fiscal responsibility. Therefore, it is essential for Pakistan to take bold steps to safeguard foreign investments and nationals and to continue its successful partnerships with economic allies. The current divided institutions and power struggle are sabotaging the state, and national unity is urgently needed. Democratic elections are critical for stability, and institutions must use dialogue to negotiate their differences and reservations.

The pressing issues in the country demand immediate and extensive reforms to restore stability and public confidence. The crisis has inflicted significant hardship on citizens, and swift measures are necessary to alleviate their suffering. Despite facing formidable challenges, Pakistan can surmount them and come out stronger through a comprehensive strategy that places political, economic, and security reforms at the forefront. To foster national solidarity and pave the way for a brighter future, it is crucial to gauge public sentiment through a new mandate.

(Writer is Student of International Relations (University of Chakwal) reached at usmani4613@gmail.com

# Smoking: A health or social problem?

#### **Muhammad Abdullah**

moking has been a contentious issue for decades, with opinions varying on whether it is a health problem or a social problem. It is still a significant problem for society despite years of public health initiatives. On one hand, the social and economic aspects that influence to bacco use has been pointed out, while some contend that it's primarily a health issue. In this piece, we examine both sides of the argument and provide explanations for why smoking is a health issue rather than a social one.

On oner hand, the overwhelming evidence points to the fact that smoking is, first and foremost, a health problem. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), smoking is the leading cause of preventable death worldwide, responsible for approximately six million deaths each year. Smoking is a major risk factor for several chronic diseases, including lung cancer, heart disease, and stroke. The greatest risk factor for non-communicable diseases (NCDs), which include cardiovascular illnesses, cancer, diabetes, and chronic respiratory diseases, is tobacco use.

There is overwhelming evidence of the harmful effects of smoking on health and the economy, it is clear that smoking is a health problem lower productivity by removing people from the labor force either permanently or temporarily owing to ill health.

Between 25 million and 29 million people in Pakistan are estimated to be tobacco smokers, according to the Pakistan National Health Survey, the Global Adult Tobacco Survey, and the Pakistan Demographic and Health Survey. In Pakistan, tobacco use is pervasive and affects people of all socioeconomic backgrounds and ages. Smoking and the use of tobacco products are very

common, with cigarettes being the most widely used tobacco product. It is estimated smoking and tobacco usage has been responsible for more than 100,000 deaths annually in the country.

The proponents of the social problem argument contend that people may start smoking in order to blend in with a particular social group or as a coping mechanism for social anxiety. Social factors such as social norms and social identity also play a significant role in smoking behavior. They consider smoking as a personal choice. However, prohibition against using tobacco does not take away someone's ability to choose to use tobacco products. It would only forbid the use of these goods in public areas where they have a harmful impact on the general populace. However, in reality smoking is a highly addictive behavior that is difficult to quit. Nicotine, the primary psychoactive component in tobacco, is as addictive as heroin or cocaine. In fact, many smokers want to quit but find it nearly impossible to do so without help.

In Pakistan, efforts have been made to lower tobacco usage which includes higher price on tobacco products, information campaigns, and legislation and regulations governing tobacco use. Further steps are required to combat tobacco use and the accompanying health concerns, since the high rate of tobacco users in the nation continues to be a serious public health challenge. rather than a social one. Moreover, smoking can As smoking is a health problem that requires a comprehensive approach to address. While social and cultural factors may influence smoking behavior, the detrimental health effects of smoking on individuals and society cannot be ignored. It is time for individuals, governments, and organizations like the World Health Organization and World Bank to prioritize tobacco control and work together to reduce the harm caused by smoking.

> (Author is Communications and Advocacy Coordinator at ASD.)

# The Spokesman 5

#### Turkish Cuisine Week

# Unique recipes from local dishes of Hatay province

#### Naveed Ahmad Khan

ISLAMABAD: As part of Turkish cuisine week, an opening ceremony took place in Islamabad. The event was hosted by the Turkish Embassy. The ceremony was attended by Mr. Saad Ahmad Warraich, Director General (Afghanistan, Turkey & Iran), Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Mrs.Dil ad enol ,Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC) & her husband, large number of media persons and Turkish citizens living in Islamabad

Ambassador of Türkiye to Pakistan Dr Mehmet Paçaci here inaugurated 'Turkish Cuisine Week', featuring unique recipes from local dishes of Hatay province.

Addressing the audience, the Ambassador said, "Shaped by more than a thousand years of cultures and traditions, social heritage, and stories, Turkish cuisine presents its distinctive and diverse flavors to the world during 'Turkish Cuisine Week' from May 21-27.

"In its second year, the cuisine introduces Türkiye's rich gastro-



representations of the Republic of Türkiye," he added.

Türkiye Ambassador inaugurates 'Turkish Cuisine Week'

Talking about the similarity of foods between Türkiye and Pakistan, he said, "The food in some regions of Türkiye is similar to nomic culture to a broad audience Pakistani food, especially the food at home and abroad through the of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) and

northern regions.

Unique examples from Turkish cuisine are presented within the scope of 'Turkish Cuisine Week'.

"This year's special menu consists of local dishes from the cuisine of Hatay," he said.

Included in the UNESCO Creative Cities Network in gastronomy, the city of Antakya in Hatay

province has long been world-renowned for its diverse cuisine. Featuring More Than 650 dishes, Hatay Gastronomy is a Mediterranean Cuisine Characterized by Fresh Vegetables, quality olive oil, and legumes and cereals. Hatay menu, showcased in this year's international events, includes flatbread with red pepper paste,

bulgur salad), oven-baked kebap and rose syrup.

During Turkish Cuisine Week, numerous dishes reflecting timeless and sustainable Turkish cuisine will be prepared with local ingredients and traditional cooking techniques. Event shields across Türkiye's 81 provinces will

cuisine, including Turkish coffee, Turkish tea, and Turkish delight.

During 'Turkish Cuisine Week', numerous dishes reflecting timeless and sustainable Turkish cuisine will be prepared with local ing techniques. Events held across Türkiye's 81 provinces will show-

including Turkish coffee, Turkish tea, and Turkish delight.

Turkish cuisine, also an essential component of Türkiye's intangible social heritage, guarantees the transfer and sustainability of ingredients and traditional cook- cultural heritage generations in this respect.

B Photos by Raja Farid



# Nawab of Bahawalpur to promote education, health, infrastructure and democratic values: Zubair Rabbani

#### S Asim Tanveer

BAHAWALPUR: To pay tribute to the services of Nawab Sir Sadiq Muhammad Khan Abbasi Khamis, the last ruler of Bahawalpur, on the occasion of his 57th birth anniversary, an exhibition of the Nawab of Bahawalpur's photographs and the items used by him is being organized at the Bahawalpur Museum. Done at Bahawalpur Gallery. Apart from photographs, state coins, medals, stamps, speeches signed by the Nawab, letters and cards, various letterheads, royal caps, state monogrammed buttons, badges and other rare items were displayed in the exhibition. Director Bahawalpur Museum Muhammad Zubair Rabba-Abbasi has rendered valuable servic-



es to the state and the nascent state  $% \left( 1\right) =\left( 1\right) \left( 1\right) \left$ of Pakistan

During his tenure, he made reforms in education and health, judiciary, police and other administrative instisteps for the welfare of the people. The made this state unique in the subcon-

reign of Huzavin was a peaceful period of patriotism, welfare and unfettered justice. He said that the steps taken by Nawab to promote education, health, infrastructure and democratic values

tinent. His golden achievements are a beacon for all of us

Muhammad Zubair Rabbani said that in Bahawalpur Museum, the newly constructed galleries of the museum have been dedicated to display many rare items including two vehicles of Nawab Sahib, Shahi Baghi, Saman Harb in a better way. A one-ofa-kind Ford Woody station wagon has been removed from the entrance gate and made part of the gallery to preserve it for future generations.

While to pay tribute to Nawab Sahib's services, the Sir Sadiq Memorial Hall in the museum is also named after him. Meanwhile, Fatiha was recited for the soul of Nawab Sahib. Educationist Riaz Motha, wellni while visiting the exhibition said tutions according to the contempo- are still beneficial to the people. The known journalist Nazar Abbas Ghalo, that His Highness Sir Sadiq Khan rary requirements and took historic political vision of Amir Bahawalpur students, museum staff and visitors were also present on this occasion

# Chief Justice AJK High Court inaugurated the hearing of online cases in the High Court

Abdul Majeed Tahir
 ■

MUZAFFARA-BAD:Chief Justice Azad Jammu and Kashmir High Court Justice Sadaqat Hussain Raja inaugurated the hearing of online cases in the High Court. Under the auspices of IT Board Azad Kashmir, Azad



Jammu and Kashmir High Court headquarters have been connected to all Circuit Benches in Azad Kashmir through video link. Now Cases can be heard online from the circuit benches at Kotli, Mirpur and Rawalkot to provide speed justice the people at earliest.

The inauguration ceremony was held at the apex High Court Headquarters, Muzaffarabad, in which Judges High Court Justice Syed Shahid Bihar, Justice Muhammad Ejaz Khan and Justice Khalid Rashid Chaudhry from Mirpur Circuit through video link, Senior Judge High Court Justice Mian Arif Hussain and Justice Sardar Liaquat Hussain from Rawalkot Circuit through video link participated.

The Chief Justice and judges of the agenda High Court also conducted of hearing online cases from Kotli, Mirpur and Rawalkot. Director General Information Raja Azhar Iqbal, Director General IT Board Dr. Khalid Rafiq, Member Bar Azad Jammu and Kashmir Bar Council Chaudhry Shaukat Aziz Advocate President Central Bar Association Raja Aftab Advocate were present in the opening ceremony while Vice Chairman from Mirpur, Kotli and Rawalkot through video link. Bar Council Raja Nadeem Khan Advocate, President High Court Bar Association Hamid Raza Advocate, President Kotli Bar Sardar Ghulam Mustafa Advocate and President Poonch Bar Sardar Khalid Mehmood Advocate and other lawyers participated.

Speaking at the opening ceremony, Chief Justice High Court Justice Sadaqat Hussain Raja said that today is an important day in the history of judiciary, the distance will be narrowed with modern technology, circuit benches will not end with this system but will become more active and dynamic. Under e-Courts, there will be an option for lawyers who want to take their cases online, rules have been framed and procedures have been laid down in this regard.

He said that the IT Board has taken great interest in the initiation of online cases in the High Court for which he is thankful. The Chief Justice said that the District Courts are being further improved. Judge High Court Justice Khalid Rasheed Chaudhry said that with the efforts of the Chief Justice High Court, the hearing of online cases has started in the Supreme Court, for which he is grateful. Chief Justice is using his best skills as the team captain.

Regular cases will be heard through this technology. Vice Chairman Bar Council Raja Nadeem speaking on video link from Circuit Beach Mirpur said that the legal profession is grateful to the Chief Justice for the initiation of online cases in the High Court. This important step in the history of judiciary will be written in golden letters. Member Bar Council Chaudhry Shaukat Aziz said that the start of online hearing of cases will provide convenience to both lawyers and civilians, I congratulate the Chief Justice of the High Court.

President High Court Bar Association Sardar Hamid Raza while addressing Wedlink from Mirpur Beach said that I pay tribute to the Chief Justice for starting the online system. President Center Bar Association Raja Aftab, President Poonch Bar Association Sardar Khalid Mehmood and President Kotli Bar Association Sardar Ghulam Mustafa also paid tribute to the Chief Justice for starting the online system in Azad Jammu and Kashmir High Court and his Thank you.

# Presenting Shield

PESHAWAR: Advocate Sawal Nazir Minister Local Government Elections & Rural Development Khyber Pakhtunkhwa presenting Shield to Madam Pang Chunxue Officiating Ambassador of China after a meeting to further enhance Khyber Pa-



# FED increase on all sugary drinks to 50% requested

Pakistan at top with 31% diabetic adults and government requested to take urgent measures

#### Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Civil Society and Health Professionals urged government to increase excise tax on all sugary drinks to minimum of 50% of the retail price through finance bill 2023-24. They also applaud the imposition of excise duty on the juices and other sugary drinks through Supplementary Finance Bill 2023 and requested a further increase to align with the evidence based recommendations.

"The several research studies confirm that the regular consumption of juices, sodas and other sugary drinks are among the major cases of obesity, type 2 diabetes, heart diseases, sever- measures taken by the Govern-

kidney diseases. It is pertinent to mention that Pakistan has turned to top country globally with nearly 31% adults aged 20 -79 years living with diabetes." said by General Masuood Ur Rehman Kiani, President Pakistan National Heart Association. "The regular consumption of sugary drinks is putting serious threat to public health and economy of the country. The government should take concrete measures including urgent increase of excise tax on all sugary drinks" he added.

al types of cancer, and liver and

While Pakistan's Health Minister Abdul Qadir Patel is attending 76thWorld Health Assembly at Geneva and briefing world on

ment of Pakistan to reduce risk factors of the non-communicable diseases. "we have been successful in increasing duties and taxes on sugary drinks through supplementary finance bill in 2023. Effective measures are being taken for the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases in Pakistan" he said. Munawar Hussain, Consultant

at Global Health Advocacy Incubator said that consumption of sugary drinks has imposed serious threat to economy of the country as well. "The estimated annual cost of managing diabetes was 2640 million USD in Pakistan in 2021. This is seriously hitting our economy and health care sector. The modelling study by the world

bank in 2022, confirmed that raising 50% FED on sugary drinks in Pakistan is very likely to improve population's health particularly the prevention of overweight/ obesity, diabetes and cardiovascular diseases". he said There are substantial finan-

cial benefits both in form of tax revenue and added value of keeping people alive and healthy. The study also confirms that with the increase of FED, the average tax revenue for next 10 years will significantly increase than the current revenue. For example, the recommended 50% FED increase on all sugary drinks will achieved annual health gain of 8500 DALYs, create economic value of health impact on 8.9 million

US dollars every year and generate average revenue of USD 810 million per year for next 10 years in Pakistan.So there is no risk of financial loss to country rather the FED increase will support the economy and improve public health at same time. Hussain

Dr. Khawaja Masuood Ahmed National Coordinator Nutrition and NFA at Ministry of National Health Services, Regulation and Coordination said "The per capita fruits and vegetable consumption is low in Pakistan as unfortunately the beverage companies promote their juices and other sugary drinks as an alternative of fruits which have high amount of sugars. The nutritionists and

public health experts recommend ened milk. Research confirms that consuming fruits and vegetables in their original form as a healthier negative impact on economy or option but not in the form of juices which are harmful to the health".

Sana Ullah Ghumman, General Secretary at PANAH said "The national opinion poll conducted by Pakistan Health Research Council in 2021 confirmed that 78% Pakistani adults supported increasing tax on sugary drinks to control obesity and other non-communicable disease". He further added "The research from professionals urged Government Mexico, South Africa and Peru shows that taxing sugary drinks to 50% of retail price of all types will reduce the consumption of of sugary drinks including juicunhealthy beverages but increase the consumption of heathier alternatives like water and unsweet-

tax on sugary drinks have no net on the joblessness in the countries those who increased the taxes.

It is pertinent to mention that the beverage industry is using several tactics to escape the taxes. The government should prioritize the public health over corporate interest, Ghumman added.

Keeping in view of this potential and strategic nature of the intervention, civil society and health of Pakistan to increase excise tax es, carbonated beverages, energy drinks, squashes, syrups, flavored milk and iced teas etc. he said.

# **Bull & Bears**

Index Fluctuation				
Pakistan: PSX 100-Share Index				
Current	Prev. Close			
41,117.32	41,099.30			
Day's High	Day's Low:			
41,342.23	41,064.40			
Index Value	Change			
1,964,005,238	+18.02			
Percentage	Time			
+0.04%	24 May, 2023 5:00 pm			
Europe: FTSE 100 Index				
Index Value	Change			
7,627.10	-135.85			
Percentage	Time			
4.750/	24 May, 4:35 pm GMT+1			
<b>–</b> 1.75%				
111 0 70	GMT+1			
111 0 70	GMT+1			
USA: Dow Jones	GMT+1 Industrial Average			
USA: Dow Jones I	GMT+1 ndustrial Average Change			
USA: Dow Jones Index Value 32,791.65	GMT+1 ndustrial Average Change -263.86			
USA: Dow Jones Index Value 32,791.65 Percentage -0.80%	GMT+1 ndustrial Average Change -263.86 Time 24 May, 1:17 pm			

#### **Open Market Forex Rates**

Change

**Time** 

24 May, 3:15 pm

GMT+9

-275.09

**Index Value** 

30,682.68

Percentage

-0.89%

Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	200	202
Bahrain Dinar	762.17	770.17
Canadian Dollar	225	227.5
China Yuan	40.74	41.14
Danish Krone	41.58	41.98
Euro	329	332
Hong Kong Dollar	37.31	37.66
Indian Rupee	3.46	3.57
Japanese Yen	2.15	2.2
Kuwaiti Dinar	932.58	941.58
Malaysian Ringgit	62.92	63.52
NewZealand \$	179.8	181.8
Norwegians Krone	26.58	26.88
Omani Riyal	741.31	749.31
Qatari Riyal	78.28	78.98
Saudi Riyal	81	81.9
Singapore Dollar	215	217
Swedish Korona	26.91	27.21
Swiss Franc	318.76	321.26
Thai Bhat	8.37	8.52
U.A.E Dirham	83.5	84.3
UK Pound Sterling	380	383.5
US Dollar	306	308

Bank Al Habib and ACE Money Transfer Join Forces to Stimulate Remittance Inflows to Pakistan



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

KARACHI: Remittance is a significant source of foreign reserves for Pakistan, and any decline in its volume can severely impact the country's economic stability. To sustain the declining remittance inflows to Pakistan that have become a major cause of concern for the country's economy, ACE Money Transfer, a UK-based growing remittance provider, and Bank Al Habib, one of the leading commercial banks in Pakistan, have announced another joint

Mr Rashid Ashraf, CEO of ACE Money Transfer, said, "We heartily appreciate the overseas Pakistani community that always extends its best efforts and plays a vital role in the country's economic growth. Our collaboration with Bank Al Habib, offering the most sought-after services and excellent cash prizes, aims to encourage overseas Pakistanis to transfer more remittances through regulated channels".

Mr Aun Ali, Group Head of Business Bank AL Habib, said, "As one of the leading banks in Pakistan, Bank AL Habib is cognizant of its responsibility and is playing its part in boosting the inflow of worker remittances into Pakistan through regulated channels.

Our collaboration with ACE Money transfer is another step towards achieving this goal. Bank AL Habib initiates home remittance campaigns regularly to increase awareness about the ease through which these remittances can be sent and received by the customers".

# Many important industries are on the verge: Mian Zahid Hussein

#### **Example 2** Tariq Khattak

ISLAMABAD: Chairman of National Business Group Pakistan, President Pakistan Businessmen and Intellectuals Forum, and All Karachi Industrial Alliance, and former provincial minister Mian Zahid Hussain on Wednesday said the production cost of the industrial sector should be significantly reduced in the coming

Otherwise, he said, the future of industries in the country will be uncertain hitting production, exports, employment and revenue.

Mian Zahid Hussain said that thousands of industries have closed in the country, many are operating at half or less capacity, while millions of people have become unemployed, and if this situation continues, the country's economic condition will further deteriorate.

Talking to the business community, the veteran business leader said that due to the increased



value of the dollar, a surge in bank markup, depreciation of the rupee, unsustainable inflation exceeding 36 percent, import restrictions and political instability, the industrial sector is

This important sector has deteriorated and if it was not supported, the revenue target of FBR will not be met while the default of banks will also increase, he added.

To revive the industrial sector, it is necessary to reduce its cost of production, he said, adding that the SMEs play a fundamental role in the development of any country, but this sector is also being neglected in Pakistan.

There is a need for easier financing, less tax and reduced audit burden for this sector so that it can play its role in the development of the country and provide employment to the people.

Mian Zahid Hussain said that textile, auto, pharma, steel and many other industrial sectors are on the verge of collapse and they need to be bailed out immediately.

industries to be set up in tribal areas than need- damage Pakistan's economy, which needs to ed for political gains and gave them tax exemp-

tions due to which their production cost is low and they pose a threat to industries in other parts of the country.

Competition between the industries of the regions should be ensured for the sake of a level playing field, he added.

Mian Zahid Hussain further said that the supply of imported raw materials for the industries should be ensured. While the requirement of ID cards for purchase should be made effective or abolished.

A large part of the country's economy is undocumented, which will not agree to documentation until they have confidence in government institutions and officials while documenting the economy can generate an additional tax of four trillion rupees per year.

Increased smuggling and the Afghan Tran-The previous government allowed more sit Trade Agreement are also continuing to be reviewed, he said.

# OGDCL and PRL sign MOU for collaborative growth in Pakistan's energy sector

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

ISLAMABAD: The Oil and Gas Development Company Limited (OGDCL) on Tuesday established a strategic partnership with the Pakistan Refinery Limited (PRL) to identify and pursue potential cooperation opportunities and foster mutual growth in the energy industry of Pakistan. Both companies have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to establish a strategic cooperation relationship in the energy industry. The MOU sets the framework for future collaboration and cooperation between the two companies.

Both companies will work together to execute necessary agreements, including confidentiality agreements for data exchange, to identify suitable investment opportunities. The parties will also facilitate and support each other in realizing the objectives outlined in the MOU, with a commitment to defining a specific Scope of Work/TOR for any joint investment opportunity prior to entering into a defin-

The MOU is effective from the date of



signing and will be valid for a period of subject to technical and commercial due two years unless mutually extended by both parties. Each party will bear its own costs related to the negotiation, execution, and performance of the MOU.

While the MOU is not legally binding and does not create any contractual obligations, it signifies the commitment of OGDCL and PRL to explore potential avenues for collaboration and cooperation. Any future cooperation will be

diligence, as well as the respective boards'

Both OGDCL and PRL are optimistic about the benefits this strategic cooperation can bring to the energy industry in Pakistan. By leveraging their respective expertise and resources, these companies aim to contribute to the growth and development of the sector, ultimately benefiting the economy and the people of Pakistan.

### **FPCCI** demands abolishment of futile **Section 7E**

#### 跨 Spokesman Report

KARACHI: Mr. Suleman Chawla, Acting President FPCCI, has apprised that the entire business, industry and trade community of Pakistan is of the view that the Section 7E introduced in Income Tax Ordinance (ITO) 2001 through Finance Bill 2022 has categorically proven to be not only chaotic for the economic activities; but also futile & ineffective as it has only generated PKR. 9 billion in the first 10 months of its implementation.

Mr. Suleman Chawla proposed that the federal budget 2023 - 24 is an opportune time to listen to the longstanding concerns of the business community; and, called upon Mr. Ishaq Dar, federal minister for finance & revenue, to capitalize on this opportunity to earn the goodwill of business community. Abolishment of Section 7E in ITO 2001 would prove to be a tangible confidence build-

ing measure for the stakeholders of country's economy and will impart a sense of being heard by their government, he added.

Mr. Suleman Chawla questioned the rationale and efficacy of issuing thousands of income tax notices to the filers; who were subjected to harassment and experienced psychological pressures due to those unfair, arm-twisting, ill-prepared and copy-paste notices.

Mr. Zakaria Usman, Convener of FPCCI's Budget Advisory Council, explained that 7E is a levy of income tax on immovable properties which under the constitution is a provincial subject and is also tantamount to double taxation. Real Estate and construction sector would suffer directly due to 7E; and. will result in unemployment and decline in commercial & economic activities as more than 70 allied sectors & industries of the construction indus-

# RCCI delegation calls on Ishaq Dar, presents budget proposals

#### News Desk

ISLAMABAD: The delegation led by President of Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI) Saqib Rafiq met with Federal Finance Minister Ishaq Dar at FBR

Senior Vice President Muhammad Hamza Sarosh, Vice President Faisal Shahzad, former presidents Suhail Altaf, Dr. Hassan Sarosh, Asad Mashhadi, Raja Amir Iqbal Zahid Latif Khan, Chairman Tax Affairs Committee Faraz Fazl, among others, were also present on the occasion.

During the meeting, matters related to taxation, rupee depreciation, inflation, investment, barriers to the development of the industry, and the problems faced by the exporters were discussed.

Finance Minister Ishaq Dar welcomed the budget proposals given by the members



of the delegation and assured that these proposals will be included in the next budget. He reiterated that 'Pakistan will absolutely not default' as the government was committed to overcome the prevailing economic challenges. He said that the government is fully aware of the difficulties faced by the business community.

'efforts and hard work', Ishaq Dar noted that the country had recorded a current account surplus for the months of March and April at \$750 million and \$18m, respectively.

He said suggestions of the business community will be given due consideration as joint efforts are required to put the Commending his economic team for its country on the path of economic stability.

### **SECP** issues fraud alert

#### Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) on Wednesday warned the general public against investing in any fraudulent investment schemes that promise hefty profits and unrealistic incentives.

The Commission has been constantly clarifying that mere registration of a company, does not authorize it to solicit deposits from the general public or offer investment schemes.

The SECP has noticed that a company, namely "Alliance in Motion Global (Private) Limited," is offering various packages to attract the public to its unlawful business activ-(MLM), in violation of clauses

of the memorandum of association. The directors of the company include Raymond Asperin, Eduardo Cabantog, and Ahmad Muhammad. Raising un-authorized

deposits from the general public and indulging in referral marketing, MLM, pyramid, and ponzi schemes are unlawful activities in terms of the explanation of Section 301 of the Companies Act, 2017. The general public is here-

by cautioned and advised not to invest in any such illegal investment schemes offered by the aforementioned company.

Remember to always make investments in banks, National Saving Schemes, the stock market, insurance compaities of multi-level marketing nies, or NBFC companies with valid licenses from SECP.

## Economic development is linked to political stability: Governor KPK

#### **55** Tariq Khattak

ISLAMABAD: Governor Kyber Pakhtunkhwa Haji Ghulam Ali has said that economic development is linked to political stability. The government is working seriously to get the country out of economic difficulties. Political instability in the past years has hurt the country a lot, no economic policy can be successful without the business

us.No one is above the country, The events that happened on May 9 are nothing but hatred, violence and indecency, the entire nation is standing by the side of the Pakistan Army.

He expressed these views vesterday while addressing a function held at the Islamabad Chamber of Commerce. on the occasion Chairman Founder Group, Khalid Iqbal Malik, former Chairman Khalid Javed, General (retd) Abdul Qayyum, Samina Fazil, Presi-

Baloch and others called the violence on May 9 as anti-national and demanded that No exception should be made against those involved in these incidents

Provincial Minister of

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Manzoor Afridi, Senator Hidavatullah, along with officials of business community of Islamabad and business organizations of various sectors also participated in the ceremony. Gover-Pakistan is a red line for all of nor KPK said that we all know that the economic conditions of Pakistan are not good, but now this matter will not last long, Things are moving towards stability

> What has been done to this country in the last few years is now coming to an end. He said that I am the representative of the business community in the government. I am raising my voice to solve all the problems

Addressing the ceremony, President Islamabad Chamber Ahsan Zafar Bakhtavari said

dent of Anjuman Tajran Ajmal that Governor KPK has made his name through the politics of nobility.

He has played his role to solve the problems of the business community on a priority basis at all levels. He said that the coopera-

tion of the business community is indispensable to solve the current difficult economic situation of Pakistan .the government should listen to us and make the suggestions a serious part of policy making. He said that Governor KPK

should make efforts for political stability in the country .Pakistan's development and political stability are inseparable. He said that the political

leadership needs to sit in one place for long-term policy making for development. President Islamabad Chamber said that the events that happened on May 9 are very painful.

the entire Islamabad is standing by the side of the Pakistani forces In this regard, the Islam-



The business community of abad Chamber will organize a Senior Vice President Islam- to the business communisolidarity ceremony with the

martyrs today.

Addressing the event, needs to give a clear road map

abad Chamber Faad Waheed ty, we should know what the said that the government economic policy will be for the

# Fatima Sana to Captain Pakistan in Emerging Women's T20 Asia Cup

**Asim Tanveer** 

ISLAMABAD: Fatima Sana will lead Pakistan in the upcoming ACC Emerging Women's T20 Asia Cup that will be played in Hong Kong next month. The national women's selection committee has announced 14-player squad, which includes four players who featured in the inaugural ICC U19 Women's T20 World Cup earlier in the year, for the eight-team tournament that will be played from 12

The squad has been put together after observing performances in the T20 phase of the Pakistan Cup Women's Cricket Tournament and emerging camp in Multan in March.

Fatima has played 31 One-Day Internationals and 24 T20 Internationals and the decision to name her captain for the tournament has been made after she captained Strikers, based on probables for this squad, to wins in all three matches in the above-mentioned tournament and led Blasters' successful T20 Championship campaign in Lahore in

Squad: Fatima Sana (c), Anoosha Nasir, Eyman Fatima, Gull Feroza, Gulrukh, Lubna Behram, Najiha Alvi (wk), Natalia Parvaiz, Sadaf Shamas, Shawaal Zulfigar, Sveda Aroob Shah,



Amir. Reserves: Amber Kainat, Dua Majid, Fatima Khan and Rameen Sham-

Pakistan are slotted in Group A with Hong Kong, India A and Thailand A. Pakistan will open their campaign on 13 June with the match against Thailand A, after which they play Hong Kong and India A on 15 and 17 June, respectively. Top two teams from each group will qualify for the semi-finals which will be played on 19 June. The final of the tournament will be held on 21 June.

Chief selector Saleem Jaffar: "I want to congratulate all players who have been selected for the emerging Asia Cup and

to their full potential. We have some outstanding talent coming up and it was a tough call to select 14 players. I want to tell those cricketers who have hard and they will definitely get chances in the upcoming events.

We have been observing these players since the camp in Multan and we have tested them in different conditions, with their most recent challenge being the three T20 matches against our top international players.

Fatima Sana has displayed some

Fatima Sana: "It is an honour for me to captain Pakistan in the upcoming

sure she will lead this side with example.

tournament. The responsibility of leading the emerging side will definitely help me develop as a cricketer and I am eagerly looking forward to leading my team in this important tournament. These players are full of energy and are excited for the opportunity ahead of them.

We have had good practice over the last few weeks, and the Pakistan Cup Women's Cricket Tournament provided us ample match practice against tough sides. Ahead of these matches, we had a healthy discussion as a team amongst ourselves that we have to make the most of these matches, and I am glad how every player stepped up and contributed in each game.

The emerging team's pre-tournament not been selected for this tournament to camp will begin tomorrow, Thursday, keep their heads high and keep working at the Hanif Mohammad High Performance and will run until 8 June. They will depart for Hong Kong on 9 June.

Player support personnel: Aisha Jalil (manager), Mohsin Kamal (head coach), Muhammad Kamran Hussain (assistant coach), Muhammad Usman Shahid (analyst) and Rabia Siddiq (physiother-

The national women's selection outstanding leadership credentials in committee includes Asmavia Iqbal, Tuba Hassan, Umm-e-Hani and Yusra I am hopeful that they will perform domestic tournaments recently, and I am Marina Iqbal and Mohtashim Rashid.

Al Hamdu Lillah with the Grace of Almighty Allah Islamabad Taekwondo Team Won 3 Bronze Medal in 34th National Games Quetta Balochistan.

### 34th National Games Golf Competition will be contested at the historic Quetta Club Golf Course

**Sports Desk** 

QUETTA: The 34th National Games Golf Competition will be contested at the historic Quetta Club Golf Course from Thursday ,25th May .Conducted under the supervision of Pakistan Golf Federation(PGF) the Tournament Director for this grand national event is Brig (r) Sohail Ishrat of PGF and for next four days the best golf amateurs of the country will apply their golfing skills that fetch them national honors in the shape of a gold

Representing Baluchistan Golf Association are Syed Asghar Ali Shah ,Lt Col Altaf Hussain ,Muhammed Ali and Zakria Khan Nasir .All of them stand recognized as players of merit and this is a splendid occasion for them to prove their worth and prevail over their adversaries from the more established centers of golf like Karachi, Lahore, Islamabad, Rawalpindi and Peshawar.

Champions from Baluchistan are certainly going to feel the heat of exceptional golf play when they match wits with the accomplished ones who are competing under the banner of WAPDA .Salman Jehangir is a prominent one of the national golf scene and so are Hussain Hamid, Danish Javed and Nouman Asghar. These four are currently the cream of national golf arena and routing them will not be an easy task . Consistent and accurate golf play will be the need of this national games golf encounter .

Punjab Golf Association has fielded commendatory players like Rao Hassan, Shameer Majid, Mekayl Majid and the assiduous Ahmed Zafar Hayat.

Also in contention are champions representing Pakistan Navy ,Pakistan Air Force ,Police and Army .

The run of play is going to be unnerving and daunting and in individual category the gold medal will be a desired commodity. While men play over four rounds and in golfing terms over 72 holes ,the ladies will compete over three days (54 holes ) from 26th May

All these golf events will be held at Quetta Golf Club Golf Course from 25th May to 28th May 2023.

#### Worcestershire pacer Josh Tongue added to England's squad for Ireland Test

**₿** A Sports

LONDON: Worcestershire seamer Josh Tongue has been added to the England Men's Test squad for the Test match against Ireland starting at Lord's on Thursday 1 June 2023.

Josh Tongue has impressed for several seasons in domestic competition and was part of the England Lions tour of Sri Lanka earlier this year and featured prominent-

ly in the red ball part of that series.

Josh Tongue has come through the Worcestershire pathways from junior ranks and represented the club at all levels

Luke Wright, England Men's National Selector, said: "We have been monitoring Josh Tongue for quite some time and he deserves this call-up to the Test squad. It will be a great experience for him to understand and get used to the environment under Ben (Stokes) and Brendon (McCullum).

"It is important to have players ready to respond and with a big summer of Test cricket coming up, we will need that depth to our squad. We wish Josh and the rest of the squad well for the first international of the campaign."

Josh Tongue will join up with the rest of the squad this week-

**England Men's Test Squad:** 

Mark Wood (Durham)

Ben Stokes (Durham) Captain James Anderson (Lancashire) Jonathan Bairstow (Yorkshire) Stuart Broad (Nottinghamshire) Harry Brook (Yorkshire) Zak Crawley (Kent) Ben Duckett (Nottinghamshire) Dan Lawrence (Essex) Jack Leach (Somerset) Ollie Pope (Surrey) Matthew Potts (Durham) Ollie Robinson (Sussex) Joe Root (Yorkshire) Josh Tongue (Worcestershire) Chris Woakes (Warwickshire)

# PFF and MCB Islamic Bank signed an MoU for the clubs, we have made the decision

**Sports Desk** 

LAHORE: The Pakistan Football Federation (PFF) and MCB Islamic Bank have forged a strategic partnership, marked by the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) at the FIFA House in Lahore on Wednesday. The purpose of MoU is to simplify and speed up the process of opening bank accounts for clubs, a key statuary requirement for the club to become a voting right holder.

The MoU ceremony was attended by Zargham Khan Durrani, President MCB Islamic Bank, Muhammad Hamid Yasin, Group Head CF, Usman Ali Alvi, Business Head, Ashar Iqbal, Head RBG North, Agha Muhammad Ali, National Sales Manager CF, Amer Baig, Head CFI, Azhar Iqbal, Head Institutional Sales, PFF NC Chairman Haroon Malik, NC members Muhammad Shahid Niaz Khokhar and Haris Azmat.

The MoU ceremony was attended by Group Head CF, Usman Ali Alvi, Business Head CF, Ashar Iqbal, Head RBG North, Agha Muhammad Ali, National Sales Manager CF, Amer Baig, Head



NC members Muhammad Shahid Niaz Connect." Khokhar and Haris Azmat.

President of MCB Islamic Zargham Khan Durrani, was overwhelmed with the partnership and stat-Zargham Khan Durrani, President MCB ed: "We are pleased to announce our saying, "The opening of the account for NC is focused to support the clubs by Islamic Bank, Muhammad Hamid Yasin, partnership with the PFF. This MoU reflects our dedication to supporting and assisting local communities with the aim of making the registration process easier, faster, and more accessible for all the

CFI and Azhar Iqbal, Head Institutional stakeholders, particularly football clubs, Sales, PFF NC Chairman Haroon Malik, under the umbrella of Pakistan Football

fervor for the partnership. On the historical occasion, PFF NC Chairman Haroon ress and prosperity. Malik emphasized its significance, fulfilled in order to get the club regis- of professional football development and To make this process more convenient ness models.

to collaborate with MCB Islamic Bank, while signing a MoU in this regard to facilitate the football clubs and effectively overcome the obstacles faced during the account opening process for clubs. With this assistance and support of MCB Islamic Bank, we are committed to ensuring that all clubs can now successfully open their accounts with comprehensive guidance and support," the NC Chief asserted.

Haroon Malik emphasized that the primary objective of these collective efforts is to speed up the transparent election process, ensuring that all legitimate stakeholders are provided with essential requirements to actively participate in the elections and select the most suitable administration to govern the PFF. This The PFF also expressed the same will not only strengthen Pakistan football but also put it on the path of prog-

NC member Shahid Khokhar said any club is one of the key requirements all means to bring them to a stage from of the PFF Statutes, which needs to be where they can kick start their journey tered and become a voting right holder. to focus on the club's sustainable busi-

# Ireland name squad for ICC World Cup Qualifier

A Sports

DUBLIN: Cricket Ireland on Wednesday, have named a strong 15-member squad for the crucial 10-team 2023 ICC Cricket World Cup Qualifier in Zimbabwe next month.

Andrew Balbirnie will lead a strong Ireland side, abundant with pacers, in the 2023 Cricket World Cup Qualifier in Zimbabwe, from which two teams would make it to the main event in India later in the year.

The Qualifier begins from June 18 and will see ten teams, including West Indies and Sri Lanka, competing for two plac-



The Ireland squad has sever-Josh Little, Craig Young, Barry McCarthy, Graham Hume and White, who recently made his

Curtis Campher. But considal pace options in Mark Adair, ering the conditions, they have also opted to go with Ben

Test debut in Bangladesh. "We're heading into a big

few months and it's looking at what personnel we need from a tactical point of view, who are in form, and a squad composition that suits the conditions we are likely to face," Andrew White, the Ireland men's team selec-

"In the latter stages of the tournament, for example, we are likely to be playing on used pitches, so that's where we see the value of a Ben White coming to the fore."

"But before we look too far ahead, we have to start well and we've put together what we think is our best squad to meet

that challenge. With a seam attack of Adair, Little, Young, McCarthy, Hume and Campher we feel we're heading towards our best attack once more, while PJ Moor's experience in Zimbabwean conditions and his versatility batting anywhere from 1 to 7 gives us great cover."

Moor has already played Test cricket for Ireland since his move from Zimbabwe, but is yet to play ODIs for them with his last international fiftyover match coming in 2019 for Zimbabwe.

Stephen Doheny misses out on the squad after recently playing in the series against Zimbabwe earlier in the year.

# No Ackermann, van der Merwe as Netherlands name squad for World Cup qualifier

A Sports

AMSTERDAM: The Netherlands Cricket on Wednesday, named their 15-member squad for the upcoming ICC Men's Cricket World Cup Qualifier in Zimbabwe.

A host of key players - including veteran duo Roelof van der Merwe and Colin Ackermann - will miss the tournament due to playing commitments in England's County Championship, though young-gun all-rounder Bas de Leede will travel for the tournament.

As well as de Leede contributqualifying for the 50-over World likely rest with the likes of Max are confident the squad we have

Nidamanuru and Edwards with et that will be successful in these the bat, and Logan van Beek, Viv Kingma and Aryan Dutt with the

Experienced wicket-keeper Scott Edwards will once again captain the Netherlands, taking with him a competitive group even without a number of

Despite the absence of a host of proven performers, Edwards is confident his team have enough firepower to compete well during

the three-week tournament. 'Coming off the back of a three-game series in Zimbabwe ing on both sides, Dutch hopes of a few months ago, we have been really intentional in our prepa-Cup at the end of the year will ration for the qualifiers and we

O'Dowd, Vikramjit Singh, Teja picked can play a brand of crickconditions," Edwards said.

"We have a good mixture of experienced players along with some exciting young players who have performed well in the domestic Pro Series and club season leading into this tourna-

The Netherlands are drawn in Group A for the Zimbabwe event and commence their Qualifier campaign against the tournament hosts at Harare Sports Club on June 20.

Matches against the USA, Nepal and the West Indies follow for the Netherlands, with the European side requiring a top-three finish in the group to qualify for the Super Six stage of

The top two teams at the end of the Super Sixes then earn a place in the 50-over showcase at the end of the year.

The Netherlands finished in 13th place in the recent ICC Men's Cricket World Cup Super League and will have gained some confidence of making it out of the First Round and reaching the Super 12 stage of last year's ICC Men's T20 World Cup in

Netherlands squad: Scott Edwards (c) (wk), Max O'Dowd, Logan van Beek, Vikram Singh, Aryan Dutt, Viv Kingma, Bas de Leede, Noah Croes, Ryan Klein, Teja Nidamanuru, Wesley Barresi, Shariz Ahmad, Clayton Floyd, Michael Levitt, Saqib Zulfiqar.

