

Daily The Spokesman

RAWALPINDI



British army chief to arrive in Pakistan on official visit

British Army Chief of General Staff (CGS) Gen Patrick Sanders will arrive in Pakistan on a five-day visit. The visit is taking place under the long-standing defence agreement between Pakistan and the UK. Gen Patrick Sanders is scheduled to meet Chief of Army Staff Gen Asim Munir during his visit. Matters related to bilateral defence cooperation would be discussed.



Asian International Financial Center set up at Almaty to resolve trade, business issues: Envoy

Ambassador of Kazakhstan to Pakistan Mr Yerzhan Kistafin said on Monday that Asian International Financial Center (AIFC) has been set up at Almaty where all business and trade-related problems and issues would be resolved under one roof on European pattern. (Details on Page 8)

Simultaneously published from Islamabad, Lahore and Multan

Ziq'ad 9, Tuesday, May 30, 2023

www.dailyspokesman.net

@daily_spokesman

Daily Spokesman Vol: 16, Issue: 53

Price Rs. 25.00 Pages 8

Address

Quetta: Army Chief General Syed Asim Munir addressing the officers of Command and Staff College Quetta.



COAS Asim Munir visits Quetta garrison, addresses officers

Spokesman Report

RAWALPINDI: General Syed Asim Munir, COAS visited Quetta Garrison where he addressed officers of Command & Staff College Quetta.

While addressing the officers, COAS emphasized upon opera-

tional preparedness for conventional, sub-conventional and 5th Generation Warfare.

COAS said, "Those who are making futile efforts to drive a wedge and weaken the unbreakable bond between the people of Pakistan and its Armed Forces will never be able to succeed Insha

Allah." Armed Forces of Pakistan remain perpetually indebted to the valiant and proud people of Pakistan who, through the recent manifestation of their unique love for their Armed Forces across the length and breadth of the country, have given a befitting reply to the nefarious designs of the enemy

and their collaborators.

COAS further stated that the nexus between the internal collusive elements and external forces to create instability has amply been exposed to the people of Pakistan". Pak Army, being one of the strongest armies of Allah

and undaunted support of proud people of Pak, can neither be deterred nor coerced by anyone, Alhamdulillah.

COAS also visited various welfare schemes for soldiers in Quetta Garrison. He was earlier received by Commander Quetta Corps.

Govt & Parliament have no friction with judiciary: Irfan Qadir

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Special Assistant to the Prime Minister (SAPM) on Accountability Irfan Qadir on Monday dispelled a notion that both the government and the Parliament were at odds with the top judiciary.

"There are some rumours that the government and the Parliament are against the Supreme Court, which are totally baseless and have no reality. The government has desire to see a strong judiciary," the SAPM said while addressing a news conference.

"I want to inform the nation that the present government desires to strengthen judiciary and the Supreme Court as we have no friction against the courts, instead we are standing with the apex court."

However, he said, being the mother of all the institutions, the Parliament was the supreme forum and implementation of its decisions was crucial to run the affairs of the country in an effective way.

"We all are also bound to work according to the Constitution of our country and following the Constitution always enhances everyone's respect," he remarked. Irfan Qadir said he had expressed his reservations when the government of Yousaf Raza Gillani was removed by the apex court.

He was of the view that the Parliament had the power to remove the prime ministers through a no-confidence motion, while no other institution had such power.

Imran cause of economic, political instability: PM

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif Monday said Imran Niazi had a role in deepening economic challenges of Pakistan as he scrapped the deal with International Monetary Fund (IMF) and his non-stop agitation, long marches and sit-ins caused economic and political instability.

In a tweet on social media platform Twitter, he said, "Looks like Imran Niazi's understanding of the economy and the broader environment in which it operates is quite limited. He also conveniently forgets his own role in deepening economic challenges. From scrapping the IMF deal, he has always wished Pakistan



to default" adverse impact his politics of "This is in addition to the non-stop agitation, long marches,

and dharna has had on the economy in terms of causing political instability. Even Pakistani investors would shy away from investing their capital in such an unstable environment deliberately created by Imran Niazi. The terrible events of May 9 alone have cost the economy billions of rupees & are an irrefutable endorsement of his nefarious designs. This is not to mention the plethora of corruption cases he is involved in," he noted.

"The real challenge for us is to reduce our dependence on imports and bring down inflation, which is possible when we make exports, investment and productivity the engine of the economy. This is where our efforts are headed," he concluded.

Imran Khan summoned by JIT for Jinnah House attack probe

Bureau Report

LAHORE: The Joint Investigation Team (JIT) has decided to summon former premier and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chief Imran Khan in connection with a probe into the Jinnah House attack on May 9.

Sources told ARY News that JIT issued call-up notices to Imran Khan for his appearance before the investigators on Tuesday (tomorrow). The former premier will be questioned about the vandalism and arson on May 9.

The PTI chief has been summoned by the JIT head Deputy Inspector General Kamran Adil at DIG Investigation Office Qila Gujjar Singh.

The Punjab government had constituted 10 separate JITs for probing into May 9 incidents. Khan had been nominated in different cases lodged at several police stations including Sarwar Road and Shadman.



Sources added that the investigators already received details from the arrested suspects about their contacts with Zaman Park.

On May 27, Punjab Home Department constituted a joint investigation team (JIT) to probe vandalism and arson at Corp Commander House (Jinnah House) in Lahore on May 9.

According to a notification issued by the department, SSP Investigation Iqbal Town Aqeela Niaz Naqvi has been appointed as the convener of the JIT.

The JIT includes four other

officers of the provincial police force, the notification stated.

Several PTI leaders and workers had allegedly attacked the Jinnah House after they entered the vicinity to protest against the arrest of their party Chairman Imran Khan on May 9.

Police had also arrested Rizwan Zia, son of Major (retired) Ziaul Hassan, who remained IGP Punjab and Sindh, in the Jinnah House attack case.

Earlier in the month, the Joint Investigation Team (JIT) chief had presented report about the cases registered against former premier Imran Khan before the court.

The Lahore High Court heard a plea for 121 cases against the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chief Imran Khan. According to the court proceedings, the government lawyer informed the court that there are currently nine cases against Khan in Punjab.

SC adjourns Punjab polls case hearing for indefinite period

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The Supreme Court (SC) Monday indefinitely adjourned the hearing on the Election Commission of Pakistan's (ECP) petition against the top court's order of elections in Punjab on May 14.

A three-member bench — headed by Chief Justice of Pakistan Umar Ata Bandial and comprising Justice Ijaz Ul Ahsan and Justice Munib Akhtar — is hearing the plea.

At the outset of the hearing, Attorney General of Pakistan (AGP) Usman Awan raised objection over the bench. After approval from the president, the Supreme Court (Practice and Procedure) Act 2023 has been enforced.

Rana dismisses allegations of mistreatment meted out to female prisoners



City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Interior Minister Rana Sana Ullah on Monday rejected the allegations being propagated on social media about the mistreatment being meted out to female prisoners involved in the May 9th vandalism.

Talking to a private news channel, the minister said

that all those accused of the Jinnah House attack in Lahore would face legal consequences. He said the 'PTI's radicals' burnt houses, public properties, and military installations with proper planning to spread chaos and anarchy in the country.

He also blamed Imran Khan and other PTI leaders for brainwashing youth in a bid to create chaos and unrest in the country.

The minister said that according to evidence, the violent protesters of the May 9th mayhem were instructed by Imran Khan and other leaders of the PTI.

Elections to be held on time: Ahsan Iqbal

Bureau Report

LAHORE: Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Ahsan Iqbal has said that elections in the country will be held on time.

Talking to the media here on Monday, he said in a sarcastic vein that 'revolutionists' could not bear with jails for one or two days.

He said, "The way Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf is shattering reminds us of an English language phrase 'the house of cards'." He said the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) leadership faced jails even in tough situations, but never raised hue and cry.

Ahsan Iqbal said there were many people in the PTI who did not support the politics of its leadership and the one being promoted on the PTI's social



media. He said that no patriotic person could support negative propaganda being promoted by the PTI overseas social media against country's defence institutions.

He said that if any political worker would play role within the parameters of politics and democracy, then he would be considered as part of democracy.

To a question, he said Pakistan had met all conditions of International Monetary Fund and he hoped that soon matters with the IMF would be finalised which would definitely end uncertainty in the market.

'No compromise on country's dignity, honour': Ishaq Dar



City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue, Mohammad Ishaq Dar Monday said that the civil and military leadership were on the same page against miscreants involved in the 9 May incidents who will be brought to justice.

Talking to a private news channel he said that such incidents should be condemned, adding that the government

was committed to strengthening the national economy and all stakeholders should play their role in this regard.

While criticizing the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), he said the Khan's government had "brought the country to the brink of default", but the current rulers "preferred" to save the nation instead of its votes.

The finance minister said that we all have to work together to get the country out of the crisis due to the wrong policies of the previous government.

PTI must realize that its dirty politics was not in the interests of Pakistan and was also alarming for its future as well, he mentioned.

SC review bill becomes law, raises hopes for Nawaz, Tareen

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Supreme Court Review of Judgments and Orders Act 2023 became law and raised hopes for Pakistan Muslim League Nawaz (PML-N) supreme Nawaz Sharif and Pakistan's prominent businessman Jahangir Tareen, ARY News reported on Monday, quoting legal experts.

According to legal experts, the President of Pakistan, Dr. Arif Alvi, has ratified the

Supreme Court Review of Judgments and Orders Act 2023, after which it passed into the law, which allowed PML-N supreme Nawaz Sharif and Jahangir Tareen to file review plea over the sentence imposed on them. It is worth mentioning here that on May 8, the Supreme Court Review and Judgment Order Bill, which was approved by the National Assembly and Senate, was sent to President Arif Alvi to be formally passed into the law.

Future of Pakistan

ISLAMABAD: Students of the Frontier Scouts Cadet College Warsak, Peshawar, in a group photo with Secretary Senate, Mohammad Qasim Samad Khan at Parliament House on Monday.



Jahangir Tareen possibility of forming a new political party, expected to be announced soon

Asim Tanveer

LAHORE: Jahangir Tareen, the main political figure of Punjab, is likely to form a new political party, which is also expected to be announced soon.

Former leaders of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Jahangir Tareen and Aleem Khan have met to discuss the formation of a new party. Alim Khan gave a lunch in honor of Jahangir Tareen and his companions at his residence.



Present and former personalities belonging to Tehreek-e-Insaf participated in this luncheon while Prime Minister's Political Advisor Aoun Chaudhry also participated

in the luncheon. Sources say that in the meeting Jahangir Tareen consulted with Aleem Khan regarding the formation of a new political party.

The luncheon participants suggested that instead of forming a pressure group, we should form a new political party. By forming a new political party, people's rights will be better protected.

Sources said that Aun Chaudhry also insisted on forming a new party. It was suggested at the lunch that

more leaders wanting to leave PTI should find a new platform. Sources say that a new political party will be announced in the next two to three days.

Sources said that in the next 72 hours, Jahangir will hold a press conference with important political leaders. Jahangir Tareen will also be accompanied by politicians who are detached from PTI. Jahangir Tareen will soon apply for the registration of the new party in the Election Commission.

Asian International Financial Center set up at Almaty to resolve trade, business issues: Envoy

Asim Tanveer

MULTAN: Ambassador of Kazakhstan to Pakistan Mr Yezhan Kistafin said on Monday that Asian International Financial Center (AIFC) has been set up at Almaty where all business and trade-related problems and issues would be resolved under one roof on European pattern.

While addressing a gathering of industrialists at the Multan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MCCI) here, the Kazakh ambassador said that Kazakhstan House was already operational in Lahore and Karachi and resolving all business and trade-related issues swiftly at one point.

He said, area wise his country was 9th largest in the world, blessed with innumerable opportunities for new

businesses and industries. He added that inputs like oil and electricity were cheaper in cost while laws and facilities were business-friendly.

He disclosed that three direct flights per week would operate from Pakistan to Kazakhstan from June 2023. He promised to issue a business visa within three days on the recommendations of MCCI.

He said that 50 per cent of the world's population lives in Central Asia and business persons can have easy access to this big market by availing business-friendly atmosphere in Kazakhstan.

He said that Pakistan and Kazakhstan can benefit each other through cooperation in agriculture, industry, tourism, technology transfer, health, education, industry and commerce through joint ventures for the benefit of the



people of the two countries.

He said both countries have to prepare the younger generation to successfully meet future challenges and added after operations of direct flights, an Expo Center would be developed in Kazakhstan for Pakistani products.

He said a delegation of Pakistani women entrepreneurs would visit Kazakhstan in Oct 2023.

He said an agreement has

particularly in the engineering field have been reached. Kazakhstan also imported sweet, aromatic and tasty Pakistani mangoes, he added.

Earlier, MCCI president Mian Rashid Iqbal highlighted the importance of enhanced trade relations between both countries and demanded that Pakistan be declared as the most favourite nation with a preferential trade agreement. He also suggested a national economic zone in Kazakhstan for Pakistani investors.

He said that joint ventures in engineering Petrochemicals, agriculture and energy sectors can be beneficial for the two countries.

MCCI senior vice president Nadeem Ahmad Sheikh, vice president Asim Saeed Sheikh and former president Mian Muhammad Hussain also spoke.

Alvi felicitates Erdogan on re-election as Turkiye's president



News Desk

ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi on Monday felicitated Turkiye's President Recep Tayyip Erdogan on his re-election to the office.

"His win is reflective of the trust posed in him by the people," the president said in a message to Erdogan.

Alvi said Turkiye is a close friend and a country with which we have

had brotherly relations for centuries.

"Pakistan and Turkiye have always stood by each other and I am confident that our relations would continue to prosper under your dynamic leadership," he said.

The president said he looked forward to working with President Erdogan closely and further expand bilateral cooperation with Turkiye in all areas of mutual interest.

Women prisoners at Kot Lakhpat Jail being treated as per SOPs, CM told

Bureau Report

LAHORE: A two-member committee, formed to probe allegations of mistreatment of women prisoners arrested over May 9 violence, told Punjab Chief Minister (CM) Mohsin Naqvi that the inmates were being treated as per standard operating procedures (SOPs).

The committee – comprised of SSP Investigation Dr Anoush Masood and Deputy Commissioner Lahore Rafia Haider – provided a detailed briefing to the Punjab caretaker CM regarding their visit to Kot Lakhpat Jail and their interactions with the women



prisoners.

During the meeting, the committee categorically rebuffed the allegations of mistreatment of female inmates, saying that they met everyone separately and questioned them over any mistreatment.

Constitution of Pakistan ensures basic rights to people, says Tasneem Qureshi

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Minister of State/SAPM for Industries and Production, Tasneem Ahmed Qureshi has said constitution of Pakistan ensures all basic rights including education, freedom of expression and religious practices to the people of the country.

He expressed these views while addressing an event to celebrate golden jubilee of the 1973 constitution of Islamic Republic of Pakistan under the title "my constitution-guarantee of my freedom" at a local hotel in Sargodha on Monday.

"The 1973 constitution binds people of all the federating units and provides them with opportunity to practice political activities freely," the

minister maintained.

He said the role of Shaheed zulfikar Ali Bhutto will be remembered always for his contribution in framing the constitution.

The event was arranged by Shaheed Bhutto foundation in collaboration with Sargodha Bar Association.

Leader of Pakistan people's party Nadeem Afzal Chun, Chief Executive Officer of Shaheed zulfikar foundation Asif Khan, President Sargodha Bar Association Zafer Yasin, Miss Sadia Sajad Shiekh, Vice President Sargodha Bar Association, Dr. Ibrar Zahoor Bhatti HoD, history and Pakistan Studies University of Sargodha were also among the speakers who addressed the event.

Three men gang rape after girl burial

Quratul Ain Asim

GUJRANWALA: Gujranwala area Gang rape of three persons with dead body after Digging Grave Shocking incident in Qila Didar Singh police station area.

The extremes of cruelty and dishonor Ehsanullah filed an application at Qila Didar Singh police station that his sister died two days ago and was buried on 22.5.23.

On 27.5.23, when he went to the graveyard for prayer at 5 am, the grave was open and the shroud was also open, along with Ishtiaq was raped by three unknown persons, while two persons were opened by the witness in the cemetery.

APHC-AJK chapter strongly condemned Modi government for conspiring to kill Yasin Malik through the judiciary

Abdul Majeed Tahir

ISLAMABAD: A meeting was held in Islamabad under the chairmanship of APHC-AJK Convener Mahmood Ahmed Saghar in Islamabad, in which it was said that India's biased courts are working under the influence of Hindutva elements and Kashmiris are being punished for demanding their birthright to self-determination.

It was said in the meeting that the Indian kangaroo courts had always disappointed the Kashmiris. The demand by India's infamous National Investigation Agency (NIA) to give death sentence to Yasin Malik is a deep conspiracy for the judicial killing of another popular Kashmiri leader.

The meeting expressed regret that the unholy nexus of the Indian government and the anti-Muslim judiciary had taken the lives of many innocent Kashmiris and the judicial killing of prominent Kashmiri martyrs Muhammad Maqbool Butt and Muhammad Afzal Guru were fresh examples of the injustice done to Kashmiris.

The meeting appealed to the United Nations and other human rights organizations to come forward and save Kashmiris from Hindutva terrorism and play role in release of JKLF Chairman Muhammad Yasin Malik, APHC Chairman Masarat Alam Butt, Shabbir Ahmad Shah, Nayeem Khan, Aasiya Andrabi and other Hurriyat leaders and activists.

While, paying homage to

17-year-old Aasiya Jan and her sister-in-law Neelofar Jan in the meeting, the tragedy of rape and double murder in Shopian was termed as a serious attack on the collective conscience of the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

It was said in the meeting that the Shopian tragedy had shaken the conscience of the people of Kashmir Valley and it could not be ignored under any circumstances.

Muhammad Farooq Rahmani, Mir Tahir Masood, Sheikh Abdul Mateen, Imtiaz Wani, Syed Ejaz Rahmani, Javed Iqbal Butt, Hasan Al Bana, Raja Khadim Hussain, Salim Haroon, Muhammad Shafi Dar, Zahid Ashraf, Nazir Karnai, and others participated in the meeting.

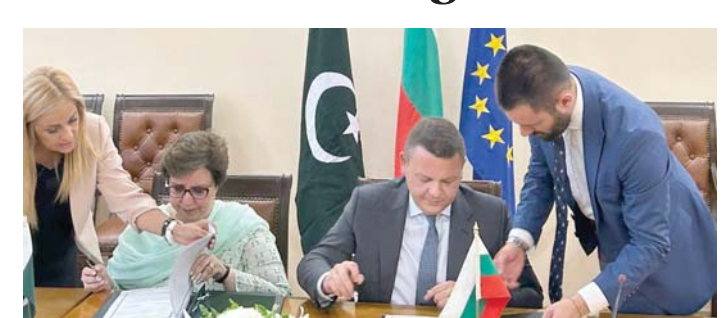
PRCS organizes Mega Youth Gathering and Walk to pay tribute to Father of Nation

Spokesman Report

LAHORE: The Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS) held a "Mega Youth Gathering and Awareness Walk" to commemorate Red Cross Red Crescent Day. The event took place in Lahore here on Monday, starting from Ayub Sports Complex and concluding at Jinnah House. The walk was led by PRCS Chairman Sardar Shahid Ahmed Laghari and saw the participation of numerous students, PRCS personnel, volunteers, and individuals from diverse schools of thought.

During the walk, participants displayed placards conveying messages of national unity and service to humanity. The main objectives of the event were to foster patriotism, instill positive attitudes among young people, and pay tribute to the founder of the nation and the Pakistan Red Crescent, Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah.

Signing of MoU on Maritime Cooperation between Pakistan and Bulgaria



Spokesman Report

BULGARIA: Pakistan and Bulgaria signed the 'Memorandum of Understanding on Maritime Cooperation' today in the Ministry of Transport and Communication of Bulgaria. From Pakistani side, Ms. Mariam Madiha Aftab, the Ambassador of Pakistan to the Republic of Bulgaria signed the MoU, while, H.E. Hristo Alexiev, Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Policies and Minister of Transport and Communication of Bulgaria, signed the document from Bulgarian side.

The signing of this MoU will help the two countries formalize their collaboration in the field of maritime affairs. Under the MoU, the two countries would expand and deepen cooperation on matters relating to maritime transport, facilitate liaison between their respective bodies dealing with maritime affairs, increase private sector awareness & cooperation, create mutu-

ally beneficial economic opportunities and promote investments in this important field.

Speaking to media after the signing ceremony, the Ambassador of Pakistan said that signing of this MoU is yet another milestone in the continuously strengthening bilateral relations of the two countries and will help the respective authorities of the two countries to establish mutually beneficial collaboration. She also highlighted that, earlier, last month the two countries held the fifth round of Bilateral Political Consultations during which proposals relating to collaboration between the two countries in diverse fields were discussed.

On the occasion, the Ambassador also held a separate meeting with the Minister of Transport and Communication of Bulgaria during which proposals to enhance collaboration between the respective ministries of the two countries were discussed.

‘Misogynist Imran Khan’s narrative of victimhood’ bound to fail: Marriyum

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD :Minister for Information and Broadcasting Marriyum Aurangzeb on Monday debunked another narrative of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan that the female workers of his party were being harassed in prisons, as totally baseless.



ter handle.

“A certified liar, who says “men are not robots” and advocates attacks on women and young girls because of wearing short clothes, is now cooking up a new lie to play the victim in the aftermath of public response to the May 9 tragedy,” the minister said in a long thread in Urdu language on her Twit-

She was particularly referring to Imran Khan’s statement which he made in an interview with a foreign media outlet that “If a woman is wearing very few clothes, it will have an impact on the men, unless they’re robots. I mean it is common sense.”

Marriyum alleged that Tayyba Gul, who reached out Imran Khan for justice in a case against the then National Accountability Bureau (NAB) chairman, was abducted and held hostage in the Prime Minister’s House. The evidence, she provided, was then used to blackmail the NAB chairman so that the then opposition leaders could be put in death cells.

All the limits were crossed during Imran Khan’s government to maltreat the women journalists, she said, adding the PTI chairman did not even stop there and alleged that the female media persons deliberately sneaked into male-concentrated gatherings.

“This malicious ploy to mislead over-

seas Pakistanis and the world is bound to fail like Cypher and other dramas,” the minister said while asking Imran Khan to present evidence of his new propaganda of female workers harassment.

“Either present evidence or keep your mouth shut,” she advised the PTI chief. “This is a very serious allegation which we cannot tolerate in any case. Your era of blackmailing and apathy is no more.”

Branding Imran Khan as a “media predator”, she said it was only the PTI leader who could dare to make such horrendous accusations without any evidence. However, he got exposed every other day with his lies, fabricated videos and pictures, she added.

Security forces have posted Add staff at the GHS Servekai



Adam Khan Wazir

WANA: Security forces held a detailed meeting with local people and elders of Sarvekai Tehsil of Upper South Waziristan, the importance of education, employment opportunities for youth in the IT sector and cooperation with security forces to maintain peace and stability in the region were discussed during the discussion.

Locals appreciated the cooperation of the security forces for posting additional staff at Government High School Sarvekai.

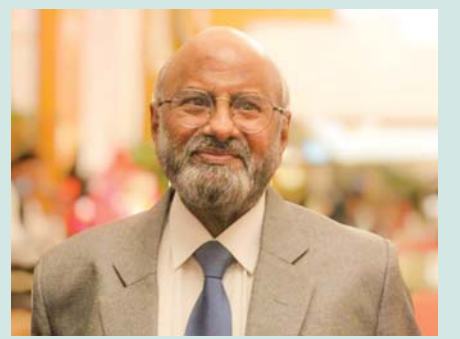
Additionally, security forces have provided Wi-Fi and Internet connection to Al Badr IT Center, so that students can avail this facility to improve their IT skills, the locals also vowed to continue providing all possible assistance to the security forces in maintaining peace and stability in the area.

The tribal elders said that the services of Pakistan Army and FC South are not only commendable but the forces deserve praise.

EFP condoles demise of VP Fasihul Karim Siddiqi

City Desk

KARACHI: It is with a heavy heart that the Employers’ Federation of Pakistan (EFP) bids farewell to Vice President Fasihul Karim Siddiqi who passed away. Fasihul Karim Siddiqi served as the Secretary General of the EFP for over 5 years and remained



a member of the EFP Board of Directors for more than two decades. He was also the Executive Director of the Global Compact Network Pakistan ever since the Network was formed in December 2005, a visiting faculty in leading Karachi business schools for over two decades.

In addition, Fasihul Karim Siddiqi was a widely respected colleague and a dear friend. He was an exceptional advocate for the rights of workers and a steadfast representative of employers’ interests. His expertise and commitment in the field of industrial relations were unparalleled.

EFP Board of Directors and the Secretariat send their sincere condolences to Mr. Siddiqi’s family.

RPO reviews performance of protection centers in four districts of the region

Raza Naqvi

ATTOCK :Regional Police Officer (RPO) Rawalpindi Region Syed Khurram Ali while chairing a meeting has reviewed the performance of the Protection Center established in the four districts of the region. In the meeting, DSP Admin Shahida from Rawalpindi, ASP Maaz ur Rehman from Jhelum, DSP Azhar Shabir from Attock, DSP Naseeruddin from Chakwal, ADIG Naeem Akhtar and Victim Support Officers of all four districts and in charges participated. Focal persons of four districts while giving a briefing to RPO Rawalpindi regarding the performance of protection centers said that services were provided to more than 3,000 people across the region, including women, disabled persons, transgenders, etc. According to the Standard Operating Procedure (SOPs) these people were sent to various institutions, NGOs and rehabilitation centers. Besides, special vehicle sign cards for driving were issued to 46 people with hearing loss and speech impairment in Rawalpindi.

RPO Rawalpindi while issuing instructions to the participants said that all persons who have been entrusted to other institutions or NGOs should also keep in touch regularly. Protection Centers are playing the role of an excellent supporters for the deprived sections of society whose performance is being evaluated regularly. Meanwhile, Regional Police Officer (RPO) Rawalpindi Region Syed Khurram Ali Monday held Khuli Katchery (open court) here to redress complaints of the citizens under the open door policy.

The citizens submitted applications namely Imran resident of Rawalpindi, Taj Bibi resident of Gujjar Khan, Muhammad Rafiq resident of Attock and Muhammad Sher resident of Choutra Rawalpindi.

Nawaz Sharif made Pakistan the first nuclear power by detonating nuclear weapons: Sheikh Aftab

Raza Naqvi

ATTOCK: Senior Vice President PML (N) Punjab Sheikh Aftab Ahmed said that the leader of Muslim League (N) Muhammad Nawaz Sharif made Pakistan the first nuclear power by detonating nuclear weapons. He was addressing the public gathering on Youm e Takbeer here in Attock. He said that America is practically absolutely not by putting the offer and threats of billions of Dollars on the tip of the shoe. Speaking on this occasion, Senior Lawyer of Supreme Court of Pakistan Sheikh Ahsanuddin Advocate, the lawyer of Dr. Qadeer Khan, paid tribute to the eminent scientist on nuclear explosions in wonderful words and said that he wished he had been rewarded and appreciated in his lifetime. The name of Zulfikar Bhutto will also be written in golden words in the history of Pakistan, thanks to his actions, Pakistan cannot be seen by the enemy with a blind eye.

Youm-e-Takbeer was celebrated in a grand manner the other day which was organized by PML-N District Attock. On the occasion of the 25th anniversary, a colorful ceremony was organized in Ziarat Park Attock City. Senior Lawyer Sheikh Ahsanuddin Advocate specially participated. PML(N) leaders Sheikh Salman Sarwar, Sheikh Muhammad Ajmal, Sher Zaman Takker, dynamic youth leaders Talal Butt, Sheikh Nasir Mehmood, Muhammad Saleem Shahzad, Iftikhar Dar, Ali Asghar, Fuji Abdul Qayyum Ghorghashti, Haji Ehsan Khan, Malik Naeem Khan, Nisar Ali Khan, Sh. Javed Iqbal, Liaqat Umer, Ehsan Qureshi and other senior journalists were present in the ceremony. A large number of AML-N officials, leaders and workers from Attock city and Chhachh participated from across the district. On this occasion, colorful fireworks and national songs were also organized.

Talking

KARACHI: Leader of Muttahida Qaumi Movement (MQM) Mohammad Hussain talking to media persons at Sindh Assembly in Provincial Capital.



Photo: Online

National Science and Engineering Fair selects Pakistan team to represent country at international competitions

News Desk

LAHORE: International scientific research competitions play an important role in the education of highly talented school and college students opening new possibilities to extend their knowledge in sciences. The competitions give the challenging opportunity to the young minds to get some feedback of the work with which they are trying to deal, and to measure their strength in an international arena. Most of the participating students later become students at various universities and become research-

ers reporting at scientific conferences, thus their first appearance becomes a decisive factor in their future scientific career.

The Grand Winners of the National Science and Engineering Fair Pakistan 2022-23, held earlier this year at Karachi, represented Pakistan at the Regeneron ISEF 2023, held from 14 to 19 May 2023 at Dallas, USA. “The work we do today is going to have a great impact on our future. It is encouraging for us to be able to hold such competitions and provide our youth with the opportunity to represent Pakistan internationally. Paki-

stan is home to an incredible amount of untapped potential and talent, as demonstrated by the high number of participants qualifying for the National Science and Engineering Fair Pakistan every year. These students have excelled in their field enabling themselves to compete against students from across the country and internationally” said the Country Fair Director, Syeda Khadija Bashir.

Team Pakistan comprised of four individual finalists Moazzam Mansoor from Engro Grammar School, Daharki for his project “Orchid Crop Advisor”, Hasan Raheel from Aga Khan High-

er Secondary School, Karachi, for his project “FOURDUST: Turning Green Waste into Energy”, Mahad Ahmed from Scarsdale International School, Lahore for his project titled, “Automatic Solar Panel Cleaning System” and Umer Sohail Meer from International School, Lahore for his project “Development of Molecular Diagnostic Tool for Cotton Leaf Curl Disease”, accompanied by the Country Fair Director, Syeda Khadija Bashir and Faisal Fayaz, Symposium Presenter at Regeneron ISEF 2022 and Judge in the Embedded Systems Category at the Regeneron ISEF 2023.

Ericsson retains top ranking in Frost Radar™ Global 5G Network Infrastructure Market 2023: Report

Commerce Desk

Ericsson has been ranked as the leader in the Frost Radar™ 5G Network Infrastructure Market 2023 report for the third consecutive year, showing that the company’s enhanced efforts to invest in technology leadership for customers’ benefit continue to pay off.

Apart from retaining its top ranking, Ericsson has also gained important recognition for developing energy-efficient 5G RAN solutions that cater to customers’ needs.

Maintaining top ranking in the Frost Radar™ report over the past years has shown Ericsson’s consistent ability to scale its innovations and growth in the field, according to the yearly report from business consulting firm Frost & Sullivan. It also reaffirms Ericsson’s lead-

ership in the 5G network infrastructure market, which spans radio access networks (RAN), transport networks, and core networks.

Fredrik Jejdling, Executive Vice President and Head of Networks at Ericsson, says: “It is rewarding to see our sustained efforts to increase the energy efficiency of Ericsson 5G solutions recognized in this Frost Radar report. We will continue to invest in technology leadership centered on innovation, openness, and growing our customers’ business.”

Commenting on Ericsson’s top result, Troy Morley, Industry Principal, at Frost & Sullivan’s Information & Communication Technology group, says: “Ericsson has proven its ability to scale its innovations globally with 2G, 3G, 4G, and now 5G. The company invests signifi-



cant amounts in R&D, and this is essential in a market in which technology is always evolving.”

Ericsson currently powers 145 live 5G networks in 63 countries, which is the highest level that Frost & Sullivan has seen publicly reported.

“As a leader in the 4G infrastructure market, Ericsson enters the 5G market with a large customer base,” says Morley. “The company has done an excellent job keeping its

current customers and adding new customers.”

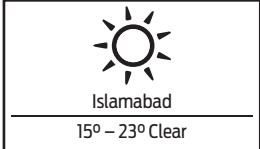
Commenting further on the report, Morley says: “Energy efficiency is now the buzzword. While early 5G RAN solutions focused on proving the technology, Ericsson’s current 5G RAN solutions tout being smaller and lighter and saving energy, which is answering its customers’ needs.”

The Frost Radar™ report independently evaluates compa-

nies with a significant influence on the market in a particular industry. The Innovation and Growth scores are used to rate a company’s focus on continuous innovation and ability to translate innovations into consistent growth, as highlighted in the Frost Radar™ methodology. The report plots top industry participants, standing out among companies positioned as the overall market leaders, leaders in a market segment, or thought leaders in a specific segment.

In related news announced in March, Ericsson was also named a leader in the 2023 Gartner® Magic Quadrant™ for 5G Network Infrastructure for CSPs report.

Download the full report: Frost Radar™: Global 5G Network Infrastructure Market, 2023



SERVICES

Namaz Timings

Fajr	3:19 am
Zohr	12:05 pm
Asr	5:03 pm
Maghrib	7:11 pm
Isha	8:52 pm

EMERGENCY

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

Women Police Stations

Islamabad	9222596
Rawalpindi	9270601-20

ENQUIRY

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PIA Flight Info	114
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CAA	9281092

HOSPITALS

CMH	561111
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MH	561116
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RGH	9290301-7
Holy Family	9290322-7
PIMS	9261170-79
Polyclinic	9218300-09
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CDA	9208301-04
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Cantonment Board	9270151-3
Islamabad Metropolitan Corporation	9209224
Potohar Town	9209224
Rawal Town	5773343

COMPLAINTS

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E-7, F-10 & F-11	9204654

Chairman Career Group stresses high standards of education at ICC Ghauri Garden Campus



News Desk

ISLAMABAD: Chairman Career Group of Institutions Javed Intizar visited ICC Ghauri Garden Campus, in which he said in meetings with the Sections Coordinators, Deputy Director, Teaching and Non-Teaching Staff that the educational manifesto of Career is hard work, honesty and justice which monitors the economic conditions of all staff. Our economic policy is to bring all staff salaries to the highest level in the country within three years. This includes recruitment targets, results as well as planning for alternative sources of income. However, every teacher's priority is to be responsible for explaining the results and concept clarity of his/her respective subject. Trying to improve the career education system day by day. Teachers and administration should focus on their respective responsibilities.

Grand opening of PC Legacy Nasirabad Hunza

Unveiling a haven of comfort and serenity amidst the majestic mountains of Hunza.

Spokesman Report

NASIRABAD, HUNZA : The grand opening of PC Legacy Nasirabad Hunza took place in the beautiful valley of Hunza, surrounded by the snow-capped mountains. The event was attended by Mr. and Mrs. Murtaza Hashwani, CEO of PSL and Deputy Chairman, Hashoo Group, Senior Minister of Gilgit-Baltistan Col. Ubaidullah Baig, Rani Atiqa Sahiba of Hunza, Shehryar Khan, Mir of Hunza, Owners Mr. Ayaz Kalani, Mr. Mehboob Ali Bhulani, Mr. Fida Ali Sawani and Mr. Nizarshah, local dignitaries, Hashoo Group executives and guests from all over Pakistan.

The brand PC Legacy is a new chain of four-star hotels by Hashoo Group, which already owns and operates Pearl-Continental Hotels and Hotel One across Pakistan. PC Legacy will bridge the gap for travellers between five-star and select-service hotels. Situated in one of the world's most picturesque locations, and overlooking Rakaposhi, PC Legacy Nasirabad

Hunza offers breathtaking views of the surrounding mountains, allowing guests to immerse themselves in the magnificence of nature. The hotel features 57 meticulously designed rooms and suites, state-of-the-art facilities, and a range of dining options, promising a truly remarkable stay.

The breathtaking ceremony took place in the idyllic outdoors of the hotel, with an unobstructed view of the enchanting Rakaposhi mountain. The CEO of Hashoo Group, Mr. Murtaza Hashwani, a pioneering force in the Pakistani hospitality sector, unveiled the PC Legacy Nasirabad Hunza and addressed the guests, reflecting upon the journey that led to the creation of PC Legacy Nasirabad Hunza. "It gives us immense pride to declare that we have already attained a remarkable 40% representation of female employees at PC Legacy Nasirabad Hunza, and we are dedicated to elevating this figure to 50%. This distinction makes us the first hotel in Pakistan to achieve such a significant proportion of women in our



workforce" he added.

The afternoon was filled with moments of inspiration. Ms. Samreen Kalani, Mr. Faisal Sawani, Sheryaar Mohammad and Salman Mehboob Ali shared their views, emphasizing the collaboration

and shared vision behind this exceptional venture. Their words resonated with the audience, underscoring their commitment to providing unparalleled luxury and service, as well as giving back to the community. The Senior Minister,

Col. Ubaidullah Baig's attendance highlighted the significance of this landmark occasion, symbolizing the importance of the region as a prime destination for tourism and development.

Adding to the enchantment of the evening, the internationally acclaimed "Gurgu", a group of musicians from Lief Larson Music Centre, Hunza, along with Mr. Niaz Baltistani, a renowned singer from Gilgit-Baltistan took the centre stage, captivating the guests with a mesmerizing performance. The melodic tunes echoed through the mountains, creating an unforgettable ambience that perfectly complemented the surroundings.

Embarking on this exciting new chapter, PC Legacy Nasirabad Hunza aims to redefine the standards of luxury hospitality in the region. Travellers from around the world are invited to embark on an extraordinary journey of relaxation, rejuvenation, and discovery, while indulging in the unparalleled beauty and tranquility that this remarkable destination offers.

Annus Abrar opens his new flagship atelier in Karachi

City Desk

KARACHI:- Pakistan's much-loved fashion designer Annus Abrar opened the doors to his all-new artistic atelier in Karachi in a star-studded launch event on the evening was just in time for this festive season.

The brand new Annus Abrar atelier Showcases the label's most sought after collections, along with semi-formals and prêt-à-porter, and the designer's signature bridal. With this new Annus Abrar flagship atelier is sure to be the perfect one-stop shop for fashionistas this year.

On the occasion of his flagship atelier launch, the ultra-talented designer Annus Abrar commented, "The concept of an atelier has been in the works for quite some time. I was just looking for the right location and had a particular architectural style in my mind. The Annus Abrar patrons wanted a venue for viewing our ready-to-wear collections and our aim is to listen to our customers. We are excited to have a space for enhanced interaction with the brides and their families for a more personalized experience for their special



occasions. This confidence is backed by steady patronage and we are hopeful and ready to enjoy the luxury of our new address with everyone."

The launch was attended by powerhouse actors Ayeza Khan, Sonya Hussyn, Minal Khan, Sidra Niazi, Yashma Gill,

Rizwan Ali Jaffri, Zhalay Sarhadi, Osama Tahir and Hassaan Khan, stylist Ehtesham Ansari, and fellow designers Mariyam D. Rizwan and Mona Imran, along with Aneesa Faruqi and several other luminaries from the industry graced the grand launch with their presence.

'Physical Theater Display' was staged by Arts Council of Pakistan

Spokesman Report

KARACHI : Arts Council of Pakistan Karachi presented a spectacular physical theater display in Auditorium I in which various personalities including American Consulate Public Affairs Officer Lee McManus, President of Arts Council Muhammad Ahmad Shah, American theater instructor Hannah Gaff participated. Students of Theater Academy of Arts Council of Pakistan Karachi participated in the physical theater display. Ahsan Bari did the duties of moderator. Lee McManus, Public Affairs Officer of the American Consulate said that there is a lot of talent in Pakistan, organizing such theater and group programs. They play an important role in connecting the culture and people of both the countries and strengthening the ties, he said that Hannah Gaff is a talented artist, I thank the President of Arts Council



Muhammad Ahmed Shah, with whose support all this is possible. Hannah Gaff while speaking said that Pakistan and Arts Council Karachi has settled in my heart, Arts Council is my home and people here are my family, Arts Council is an institution where daily programs

are held, students here are very capable and talented. I thank Ahmed Shah, I hope that I will continue to come to Pakistan to do different projects in the future. In physical theater display, different stories and dances are skillfully presented by students, students in various

characters like clowns perform their art. Theater training at Arts Council of Pakistan Karachi was given by American physical theater instructor Hannah Gaff. Physical theater instructor Hannah Gaff's excellent training was greatly appreciated by the participants.

Mondelez Pakistan sends teams to flood-affected areas

City Desk



ISLAMABAD : As families from Pakistan's flood-hit regions from last year still work towards rebuilding their lives, Mondelez Pakistan has initiated Phase II of its rehabilitation efforts in the respective areas. As part of this initiative, the country's leading confectionary manufacturer partnered with Akhuwat Foundation again, and sent teams to Sujawal, a town in interior Sindh that was amongst the worst affected by floods, to facilitate the work of rebuilding the lives of people in the community.

Commenting on the development, Usama Majeed, Head of Corporate Affairs Mondelez Pakistan, stated: "Pakistan is our homeland and as a company that is part of its economic infrastructure, we carry a significant responsibility towards society as well. We continually recognize this duty and focus on committing to initiatives that support numerous pertinent causes across the country. Phase II of our flood rehabilitation efforts is a step in this direction and we are proud to be playing a role in making lives easier for people in these regions."

The Mondelez teams met with families affected by the floods in the region and assured them of their assistance in collaborating and contributing towards the ongoing restoration efforts.

Highlights Gala, Talent Hunt ends with high-energy and exuberance

Tahir Amin Malik

LAHORE: The highly anticipated Information and Technology event Skills Gala and Talent Hunt, 2023 has come to an end with full of energy and enthusiasm at Expo, Center, Lahore.

In two days extravaganza event IT experts, Keynote Speakers, IT Companies CEO's participated in the two days conference and there were 60 stalls were also displayed at two days events and IT lovers took keen interest regarding Skills, Training and Jobs. On the 2nd days CEO Skills Todo Ayesha Zaman welcomed to the distinguished guests and speakers.

On the 2nd days MD (PSEB), Mr. Salaman, P@ASHA, Chairman Zohaib Khan, Mr. Ilhan, Director Learning and Development P@SHA, while the panel discussion session was also kept during the conference and the subject was NGO's role in Society which the Kenote speaker was Umer Saif.

In the soft launch of tech summit the speaker was Furqan Aziz, CEO, InnoZone, In Accelerating Entrepreneurship Through IT Kamran Ceo, Oracto, Obaid Arshad, Ceo Ginko, Bilal, Wise Market, Faizan Aslam, Ceo, Bookme, Shamoolah, Ceo Gharpar, while the other speakers were included Syed Arsla Ali Shah, Arzish Azam, Sajjad Kirmani, SAAS business for International markets, Adeem Mirza, Muslim Entrepreneurship, Iffan Malik, Artificial Intelligence, Shameer Amir, Ethical Hacking, Usman Chughtai, E-Commerce Wala, Haroon, Innozone, HR Ozi Group. Athar Asif, Program Manager HR-PITB, Umar Connect HR, Farhan Saleem Ceo Digital Mandi, At the end closing Remarks gave by the Ceo Skills todo Ayesha Zaman. At the end she said that this event will be fruitful for Youth for all their guidance related with Skills, Training programs and Jobs and Inshallah we will continue to hold such kind of events in futures.



NIC Karachi, Pakistan's largest tech incubator, celebrates its 5th anniversary

News Desk

KARACHI : NIC Karachi, Pakistan's largest tech incubator, celebrated its 5th anniversary with a grand event that united industry leaders, entrepreneurs, and stakeholders. Since its inauguration in 2018, the LMKT-operated and Ignite-funded incubator has played a crucial role in fostering innovation and nurturing entrepreneurial talent in Pakistan.

CEO LMKT Atif Rais Khan, expressed his jubilation on reaching this significant milestone, stating, "Pakistan's startup ecosystem has



witnessed remarkable growth in the past five years and we are proud to have played a pivotal role in this transformation. We believe in the potential of our people and are excited to enable NIC Karachi's journey

of empowering entrepreneurs and nurturing innovation." Faizan Laghari, Project Director of NIC Karachi, expressed his optimism for the future, stating, "The 5th anniversary of NIC Karachi is a testament

to our unwavering commitment to nurturing startups and creating an enabling environment for innovation and growth. We have witnessed the transformative journey of our startups and are determined to support their continued success. NIC Karachi aims to be a catalyst for change, driving the growth of Pakistan's startup ecosystem for years to come."

NIC Karachi boasts a diverse portfolio spanning various industries, including HealthTech, AgriTech, FinTech, EdTech, Big Data, and AI. With a global presence in Turkey, Africa, and the UK, NIC Karachi has become

the preferred destination for innovative entrepreneurs. Demonstrating its impact, our startups have generated over 97,000 jobs, raised an impressive investment of Rs. 7.6 billion, and generated revenue of Rs. 5.2 billion. Through collaboration with our partners, NIC Karachi continues to offer state-of-the-art facilities, mentorship, business support services, and a thriving ecosystem to nurture startup growth. As we embark on the next chapter of our journey, NIC Karachi remains committed to empowering startups and driving socio-economic development in Pakistan

Patrolling police in Faisalabad recover gun, stolen motorcycle after arrest of wanted criminals

Bureau Report

FAISALABAD: Patrolling Police Faisalabad is carrying out major operations against drugs and weapons, in which the team of Patrolling Police VAC Khurrianwala recovered 01 gun from the accused while others recovered liquor, fugitive from court and 01 stolen motorcycle.

Under the supervision of DSP Malik Muhammad Ameen Sub-Inspector Rana Umar Rasheed and Saqib Saleem ASI of Patrol Post VAC Khurrianwala along with their team recovered 01 gun 12 bore 10 cartridges from the accused Zahid Ali son of Ghulam Abbas during the blockade in police station Chak Jhamra. A case has been registered.

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Tobacco, the biggest silent Killer

World No Tobacco Day (WNTD) is observed around the world on May, 31st every year to raise public awareness about the dangers of tobacco use, the business practices of tobacco companies and the World Health Organization (WHO). In an effort to protect health and healthy lives and future generations, WHO Member States celebrated World No Tobacco Day in the year 1987 to draw global attention to the tobacco epidemic and the human deaths and illnesses it causes could. Tobacco is an agricultural product made from the leaves of the tobacco plant, which is used in cigarettes, betel, snuff and other intoxicants. Commonly used in smoking are lime, tobacco, smoky snuff and artificial colors. Common forms of tobacco use include: Cigarettes, which are made from finely chopped tobacco leaves and reconstituted tobacco, often mixed with other additives, which are then filled into paper-wrapped cylinders. Beedi, are South Asian cigarettes filled with tobacco flakes. Cigars consist of tightly wrapped bundles of dried and fermented tobacco that are burned to draw the smoke into the smoker's mouth. Hookah, it can be used to smoke herbal fruit, tobacco, or cannabis. Curteks are cigarettes made from a complex mixture of tobacco, cloves and flavored "chutney". Pipe smoking, is done with a tobacco pipe. In all these ways, smoke and toxins reach the lungs.

The most important among smoking is cigarette, the use of which is increasing day by day. On World No Tobacco Day in 2008, the WHO called for a global ban on all tobacco advertising, promotion, and sponsorship. The purpose of the day is to draw attention to the widespread prevalence and negative health effects of tobacco use, which currently causes more than 8 million deaths worldwide each year. There are few countries in the world where smoking is common. Among them

are China, Indonesia, America and Russia, while its use is more in Pakistan, India and Bangladesh. The World Health Organization also says that every year at least 50 lakh people who smoke die from lung cancer, heart disease and other causes. The agency also says that if this trend continues, the number of people who die from smoking-related causes will rise to at least 80 million by 2030. Any of us can be a part of these statistics, so prevention should start at home.

If seen from the perspective of children, the World Health Organization (W.H.O) has said that about 1200 children start smoking in Pakistan every day. The diseases caused by smoking in Pakistan cost the health facilities 620 billion rupees. And it is used in countless medicines. It is a fact that tobacco is a unique economic product that earns countries a lot of capital, but human lives are more valuable than this capital. According to a BBC report, according to an organization called "Tobacco Free Kids", tobacco use causes the death of 163,000 people in Pakistan every year and the damage to the country's economy caused by smoking is the tobacco industry is greater than the financial benefits derived from. Smoking is legal in Pakistan, but is prohibited in certain circumstances. If smoking is calculated on a daily basis, 177 million cigarettes were consumed daily in FY14. According to the Pakistan Demographic Health Survey, 46 percent of men and 5.7 percent of women smoke. Smoking habit is mostly found among the youth and farmers of Pakistan and is considered responsible for various health problems and deaths in the country. Pakistan is the largest consumer of tobacco in South Asia.

Pakistan is one of the top producers of high-quality tobacco in the world.

According to a report, during the year 2020-2021, Pakistan produced about 50 million kg of tobacco; the value of Pakistan's tobacco industry was about more than 400 billion rupees. Tobacco production in Pakistan provides employment to more than 7 million people for economic support. Tax on non-essential items like tobacco is the main source of revenue. In the financial year 2022-23 there is an increase of 9.7% compared to the previous year. The estimated economic loss to society due to smoking in Pakistan is 615.07 billion rupees which is 1.6% of Pakistan's GDP. Recently (SPARC) Society for the Protection of the Rights of the Child and (SPDC) joint event, highlighted and urged the government to refrain from reducing production taxes announced by the tobacco industry.

Because statistics are under reported by the industry and cigarette companies also pass the tax burden on to consumers. Therefore, the policy of increasing taxes should be continued in an effort to control tobacco.

Compare the production of tobacco, the development of industries and its benefits and its deadly effects on human life, the extent of health damage caused by smoking and the risk of additional diseases caused by excessive consumption of tobacco. How much does it increase? For example, by smoking, like cigarettes, nicotine and other toxic compounds enter the human body, which are harmful to human health. Its use increases the risk of lameness, mental retardation, malformations of the mammary glands, mental diseases, cardiovascular diseases and various rare diseases. Many countries also have smoking bans in place to save lives. Smoking can be very harmful to health. It is addictive and can lead to heart diseases,

diabetes, high blood pressure, respiratory diseases, cancer and other health problems. By using it, the whitening color of the teeth is lost. Apart from this, the whiteness of the teeth gets rusted and can lead to tooth decay, tooth decay, loss of hardness of the teeth and other dental related problems. Besides chest, lung, brain and heart diseases, diseases behind this epidemic include high blood pressure, stomach cancer, dental disorders, brain disorders and amnesia. There are diseases that make human life miserable. Diseases that are fatal to human life are more than its use. Cigarette smoke is as damaging to the lungs and health system of others as it is to the smokers themselves. People should not smoke in places where other people are present. Restrictions are often imposed to avoid public transport, parks, hospitals and crowded places, but no measures are taken to enforce them.

Smoking has become a part of daily routine in our society. People do it for their own satisfaction, entertainment or just to pass the time. Some people smoke as part of their rituals or make it part of a ritual. So for some it has become a way to reduce social pressure or get along with others. These people smoke during meetings or social occasions with friends or social groups to keep their relationships strong. Educate your children about the dangers of smoking from the beginning and be aware that they are not sneaking cigarettes. The best way to prevent children from smoking is for adults not to smoke in front of them. Apart from this, the use of smoking is also increasing among women, but smoking is becoming common among young people and women as a fashion. If we see, in our daily routine, we avoid giving anything to anyone, but cigarettes are shown to be civilized by putting them in front of others with great enthusiasm. We are deliberately spreading this poison of death to others.

One of the characteristics of the Holy



Analysis

Javed Ullah Raja

China inaugural flight of C919 passenger plane

Pakistan's Ambassador to China, Moin ul Haque has congratulated China on the successful inaugural flight of C919, the country's first domestically-made large passenger aircraft.

C919, China's self-developed large passenger aircraft, completed its inaugural commercial flight from Shanghai to Beijing on Sunday, creating a milestone in China's aviation industry, which aims to compete with global players such as Boeing.

"Indeed, this is a major milestone for the Chinese aviation sector and for the global commercial aircraft industry," the ambassador tweeted.

Developed by the Commercial Aircraft Corporation of China (COMAC), the C919 aircraft, China's first self-developed large jet airliner, is an important proof of China's strength in self-innovation in the high-end manufacturing industry, and its solid market performance will foster further confidence in future orders and among customers, Chinese experts said.

The C919's inaugural flight departed at 10:32 a.m. from Shanghai Hongqiao International Airport and landed at Beijing Capital International Airport at 12:31 p.m., where it was welcomed with a special water-salute ceremony.

The highly anticipated flight codenamed MU919 flying from Shanghai to Beijing was flown by China Eastern Airlines and carried around 130 passengers.

Both the business and economy class on the C919 use a new generation of domestically designed and produced cabin seats. Among them, eight business class seats use an all-aluminum alloy frame structure with a cradle design and a backrest that can reach 120 degrees. The distance between the front and rear seats exceeds 1 meter.

The C919 cabin has a width of 2.25 meters, and the middle seat in the economy class triple seat is 1.5cm wider than the two seats on the end, bringing passengers more comfort.

The C919 project was launched in 2007 and completed its first test flight in 2017. On September 29, 2022, it obtained the Type Certificate from the Civil Aviation Administration of China, the country's aviation sector regulator.

With between 158 and 168 seats and a flight range of 4,075 to 5,555 kilometers, the C919 is designed to have the same level of specifications as the popular Airbus 320 and Boeing 737.

According to China Eastern Airlines' plan, the first C919 plane will initially be operated between Shanghai and Chengdu, the capital city of Southwest China's Sichuan Province, before flying more routes.



Hybrid warfare is a war of ideas without weapons - II

Farzad Ahmad Cheema / Nazar Ahmad Niazi

Social media propagators use the techniques like spreading fake news to provoke people against each other. Pakistan's largest city Karachi almost from a decade facing target killings and attacks on common people. This was the clearest shape of hybrid warfare imposed by the enemy on Pakistan. Such killers destroyed the peace of the whole city. It's being claimed by scholars that the Chinese (white colonists) physical appearance in Pakistan has complete resonance with Britishers (brown colonists) in the subcontinent. At present, the main targeted areas of Pakistan's enemies are Gilgit-Baltistan, Balochistan, former FATA, and CPEC.

Conclusion:
 Wars have always been fought with all the resources available to a nation such as money, politics, and diplomacy to achieve political objectives. A weaker nation always remains at the mercy of a stronger opponent. It does not mean that only having a top-class military equipped with the latest weapons of war is not enough to ensure survival. It means actually that the nation should be at peace with itself. The nation should have trust in its leadership and the capacity and capability of the state institutions to be responsible for its good. To achieve this country must be peaceful within itself. People should be given basic rights like food, shelter, education, and healthcare. The children should be in schools instead of on the streets begging. There should also be a quick and fair justice system. The government should be able to provide basic facilities like hospitals, water, and gas. The state should be caring towards its citizens and be in a position to be helpful to the needy. The police should safeguard the citizens from criminals and the army should be able to protect the borders.

Pakistan needs to develop a national policy plan to effectively handle the hybrid threats throughout the complete set of hybrid warfare doctrine, which includes cyber information warfare to physical kinetic operations, and political and diplomatic warfare. Pakistan should work with international organizations and economic groups which can help combat hybrid warfare at the international level. Media can play an important role in destroying the aggressor state's agenda by giving correct information, Pakistan has been dominated by coercive diplomacy too. In Pakistan, there is a need to educate the people about coercive diplomacy and hybrid war. This only can be done by opening debates and addressing the youth through social media. Pakistan needs to analyze its foreign policy, and economic and domestic policies if they have to align with the current situation.

Concluded

Letter to the Editor

Resilient Real Estate Industry of Pakistan Riding the Economic Storm in 2023

Shazia Gulzar, Islamabad

The Real Estate Industry Pakistan's economic landscape is now afflicted with challenges. With rising inflation, the average citizen's purchasing power has diminished, making homeownership an increasingly elusive dream for many. The real estate business, which is seen as a foundation of economic stability, has not been spared from these difficulties. Despite these dangers, certain companies, such as AAA Associates, have shown remarkable fortitude.

In Pakistan, inflation has skyrocketed in the previous year, rising from 6.4% in May 2022 to a frightening 9.1% in May 2023. This cost growth has had a tremendous effect on the average Pakistani household, making basic necessities more expensive and luxury items, such as property ownership, a frightening concept.

But all is not lost. There's a hope that we can combat these challenges as Real Estate Industry. According to a World Bank analysis, recent developments in the Pakistani real estate sector show a growth trajectory of 2.3% in 2023. The government's efforts, such as the Naya Pakistan Housing Programme and the Prime Minister's Construction Package, have given the sector a considerable boost. AAA Associates has taken advantage of the opportunity given by these growth-inducing variables.

The real estate industry, as the backbone of the Pakistani economy, continues

to be powerful and durable, giving attractive returns on investment even in difficult times. Amid the economic turmoil, AAA Associates, a standout in the real estate business, has been making tremendous progress, providing outstanding ROI for investors throughout Pakistan.

While the Pakistani real estate sector is expected to contribute more than 2.6% to Pakistan's GDP in 2023, the role of AAA Associates is pivotal in driving this growth. The company's strategic moves in the real estate market have resulted in profitable outcomes, thus contributing to the positive sentiment around investing in this sector.

Despite the economic challenges and inflationary pressures, AAA Associates has remained steadfast in its commitment to its investors, customers, and employees. The company's resilience is testament to its strong business fundamentals and adaptability. In a time when industries are grappling with economic turbulence, AAA Associates stands as a beacon of stability and reliability.

The future continues to be bright for Pakistan's real estate sector, and AAA Associates is poised to continue its role as a key player. By aligning its strategies with market trends, governmental initiatives, and the demands of a growing population, the company is well-positioned to continue delivering on its promise of exceptional returns on investment. Thus, in the unfolding landscape of Pakistan's real estate industry, AAA Associates emerges as a safe, profitable harbor for investors navigating these promising yet challenging waters.

May 28: A Terrifying Plan - II

Azam Tariq Kohistani

Instead of accepting this evasive response, Pakistani authorities immediately demanded that the ambassador be summoned to the Foreign Office and showed him a film of the presence of Israeli planes in close proximity to Pakistan. They made every possible effort to prove that these were Indian planes, but to no avail. Pakistani officials said, "These planes are not purchased by India, they belong to Israel, which arrived here yesterday."

Israel's first Prime Minister, David Ben-Gurion, acknowledged this fact immediately after the 1967 Arab-Israeli War. He made this statement during a speech to a gathering of distinguished Jewish figures at the Sorbonne University in Paris, saying:

"The international Zionist movement must never be misled about Pakistan. In reality, Pakistan is our true and ultimate ideological (theoretical) opponent. Pakistan's intellectual and military capital can pose a danger to us at any time. We must think carefully about befriending India, not only because it is necessary, but also because it is beneficial. We must necessarily benefit from the historical animosity that exists between Hindu Pakistan and the Muslim inhabitants of this region, but our practical wisdom should be such that we maintain ties with India through international circles."

Under the auspices of the American Council for Foreign Relations, a book titled "The Greater Middle East: Politics and Military Expansion" has been published which mentions the role of Pakistan's armed forces and civilian administration. The book states that "Pakistan's armed forces are the guarantor of Pakistan's ideology, unity, and stability, while the country's civilian administration is completely Westernized and does not believe in Pakistan's ideology."

Reading these comments, it is distressing to think that Jews and Christians want to eliminate us and that we have no opportunity to accumulate wealth. At this time, Pakistan is going through extremely difficult circumstances. We have acquired nuclear weapons, but their protection has also become an issue. The United States, India, Israel, and Russia continue to press on Pakistan's nuclear bombs, but on the other hand, the insensitivity of our rulers has brought us to the brink. If even at this point, we rely on foolishness instead of wisdom and understanding, rest assured that even these nuclear bombs cannot save us.

(Azam Tariq Kohistani senior analyst and worked with different magazines based at Karachi)

'The 300th Anniversary of the Birth of the Poet Magtymguly Fragi'

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The Executive Board of UNESCO, at its 216th session, approved proposals from Member States regarding anniversaries in which UNESCO could take part in events in 2024-2025. Following the discussion, the Executive Board decided and recommended to the General Conference to authorize UNESCO to take part in the celebration of 46 anniversaries. Among them, the proposal submitted by Turkmenistan with the support of Azerbaijan, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Türkiye, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan; 100th anniversary of the birth of the poet Magtymguly Fragi.

This list also contains the following proposals that Turkmenistan proposed jointly with other countries and supported:

950th anniversary of the Diwan-Lughat al-Turk (Compendium of the Turkish dialects), written by the lexicographer and philologist Mahmud

al-Kashgari (1074) (joint proposal by Türkiye, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, with the support of Hungary, Mauritania, Morocco, Qatar and Tajikistan);

900th anniversary of AjamiNakhchivani, architect (1125 - late 12th century) (Azerbaijan, with the support of Türkiye and Turkmenistan);

1000th anniversary of the birth of Amir 'Onsor-al-Ma'ali Kaykavus (Kayka'us) b. Eskandar b. Qabus b. Voşmgir (Islamic Republic of Iran with the support of Armenia, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan);

100th anniversary of the active life of Parvin Etesami, poet (1907-1941) (Islamic Republic of Iran with the support of Tajikistan and Turkmenistan)

It is also worth recalling that on May 24, 2023, UNESCO included the Collection of manuscripts of Magtymguly Fragi, presented by Turkmenistan, in the International Memory

of the World Register.

In 2024, Turkmenistan will widely celebrate the 300th anniversary of the birth of the great philosopher and poet Magtymguly. In addition to the large-scale cultural events, there will be grand opening of the majestic monument being erected in the foothills of the Kopetdag in honor of Magtymguly Fragi, which will become another symbol of deep reverence by current generations for the richest creative heritage of the great Turkmen poet and thinker.

The 216th Session Of The Unesco Executive Board was Held At Unesco Headquarters

The 216th session of the UNESCO Executive Board was held at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris from 10 to 24 May 2023. The Executive Board of UNESCO is the organization's main decision-making body, responsible for strategic decisions and overseeing its activities.

During this session, various issues

related to UNESCO's mandate and priorities were considered and discussed. The participants of the session included representatives of the Member States of UNESCO, experts and delegates, as well as the leadership of the organization. For two weeks, discussions and decisions were made on various issues that are important for the activities of UNESCO and its goals in the field of culture, education and science.

At this session, with the support and co-authorship of Turkmenistan, the Executive Board of UNESCO approved the following decisions included in the agenda:

70th anniversary of the UNESCO Associated Schools Network: development prospects;

"Bicycle for All": bicycle for sustainable and healthy lifestyles initiative;

Follow-up of the Tashkent Declaration and Commitments to Action for Transforming Early Childhood Care and Education

US Ambassador visit to the power generation site



Rehan Khan Khushik

HYDERABAD: Climate change is a global challenge that requires global solutions. The United States is proud to support Pakistan's efforts to combat climate change through projects like the Hawa Energy Limited (HEL) wind power project.

US Ambassador Blome's recent visit to the power generation site underscores our continued partnership with Pakistan to promote renewable energy and sustainable development.

The US government supports 15 wind power projects that generate a total of 780 MW of power to the national grid, supporting millions of Pakistanis.

US Ambassador Blome's recent visit to the Makli hills in Thatta also. Photos US Ambassador Blome's recent visit to the power generation site and other places.

Experts discuss G-20 Conference, Kashmir dispute at UAJK Seminar

Bureau Report

MUZAFFARABAD: The seminar titled "G-20 Conference & Disputed Status of Jammu and Kashmir" held at the Institute of Kashmir Studies, the University of Azad Jammu and Kashmir (UAJK) proved to be an insightful platform for discussion and analysis. The event garnered the attention of esteemed individuals such as Prof. Dr. Syed Nadeem Haider Bukhari, the Acting Vice-Chancellor of UAJK, Altaf Hussain Wani, Chairman of the Kashmir Institute of International Relations (KIIR) in Islamabad, Dr. Raja Sajjad Latif, Director of the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Commission, and Dr. Summaira Shafique, Coordinator of the Institute of Kashmir Studies, took the stage to share their expertise



and perspectives.

The speakers unanimously expressed their concern over India's decision to host the G-20 Conference in this contentious region. They highlighted the flagrant violation of international laws and the blatant disregard for the Kashmiri people's right to self-determination that such a decision represents. It served as a reminder of the obstinacy

displayed by India and its persistent denial of the Kashmiri people's legitimate aspirations.

The participants called for solidarity and collective efforts to address the challenges faced by Kashmir, as well as to ensure justice, peace, and the realization of the Kashmiri people's long-awaited aspirations.

The seminar concluded with a renewed sense of

determination to advocate for the rights of the Kashmiri people and to create awareness at both national and international levels. The gathering served as a powerful platform for raising voices and demanding justice, with the hope that through dialogue, engagement, and diplomatic efforts, a resolution can be found for the long-standing Kashmir issue.

Anti-dengue campaign on emergency basis: Amir Khattak



Kiran Asim

MULTAN: Commissioner Multan Division Engineer Aamir Khattak has ordered the anti-dengue campaign to be conducted on an emergency basis and said that due to the recent weather, the risk of breeding of dengue larvae has increased. Sealing of commercial and private buildings has started when dengue larvae are found. To be done. Special checking of under-construction buildings and buildings will be done. District departments should take special measures regarding sanitation measures. Anti-dengue focal person Dr. Attaur Rehman took action on the direction of Commissioner Aamir Khattak.

DFP condemns NIA's move to seek death sentence for JKLF chief Mr Yasin Malik

Abdul Majeed Tahir

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Democratic Freedom Party has taken strong exception to Indian National Investigation Agency's (NIA) nefarious move to seek a death sentence for Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF) chairman Muhammad Yasin Malik. Terming the NIA's move as a part of a well thought out plan to eliminate the Kashmiri leadership, the DFP spokesman said that the move reflects the crooked mindset of the apartheid regime that wanted to kill every Kashmiri who refused to accept the Indian narrative on Kashmir.

He said that the BJP should take a leaf out of Kashmir's history and realize the reality that it cannot suppress the legitimate political voices by caging them in prisons or sending them to the gallows.

He said that the martyrdom of Maqbool Bhat and Muhammad Afzal Guru that further cemented the Kashmiris' resolve and strengthened their passion for freedom must serve as an eye opener for a deaf, dumb and blind government led by Modi, which was hell bent on killing every kind of dissent in the region.

The DFP spokesman appealed to the international human rights bodies to take effective cognisance of the matter, and stop India from using its kangaroo Courts to punish Kashmiri leaders who have been championing the Kashmiris' just cause peacefully.

He also urged the human rights organizations to play their due role to secure early release of all Kashmiri prisoners including JKLF Chairman Yasin Malik, Masarrat Aalam Butt, Shabir Ahmed Shah, Nayeem Ahmed Khan and others who have been booked under various sections of draconian law Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) and Indian Penal Code (IPC).

Deputy Commissioner Emergency visit of Multan City after heavy rain and hailstorm



Asim Tanveer

MULTAN: Deputy Commissioner Umar Jahangir made an emergency visit to the city after the heavy rain and storm last night. On this occasion, the Deputy Commissioner reviewed the damage caused by the storm and hailstorm. The Deputy Commissioner also visited Crown Flyer on Bosa Road. On this occasion, the Managing Director Vasa Chaudhry Danish also gave a briefing regarding the Crown Flyer. The Deputy Commissioner said that the sewer line and the road were affected due to the collapse of the wall of the private plaza under construction, while orders were issued to the relevant institutions including Wasa for immediate restoration. Umar Jahangir said that due to the heavy rains, the damage to crops and property is being assessed. The district administration has issued a full red alert in the recent rains.

PM says govt ready to support Pakistan Life Savers Program in Azad Kashmir

Abdul Majeed Tahir

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Azad Jammu and Kashmir Chaudhry Anwar ul Haq has said that the government was ready to provide all possible help and support to make the Pakistan Life Savers Program (PLSP) in Azad Kashmir a success. The PM said this while talking to Dr. Junaid Abdul Razzaq of Agha Khan University, who called on him here today.

Additional Chief Secretary Development Fayaz Ali Abbasi, Government Secretaries Irshad Qureshi, Zahid Khan were also present on this occasion.

Prime Minister Chaudhry Anwar ul Haq while talking to Dr. Razzaq said that the PLSP was a great initiative and a sacred cause of saving precious human lives. He said that helping citizens to acquire



basic life-saving skills would be highly instrumental in saving human lives during emergency situations.

Highlighting the significance of the program, the PM said that nothing was more important than saving lives. "Human life is very sacred as there is no better deed than

saving a human life", he said.

The PM said that the government would welcome extension of this program in Azad Jammu and Kashmir and was ready to benefit from the experience of Agha Khan University.

He assured Dr. Razzaq that the government would provide

him with full support in this regard. The PM also directed that all necessary steps should be taken to facilitate Dr. Junaid Abdul Razzaq during his visit to Muzaffarabad. The government, he said, would provide full support to raise public awareness about life saving at all levels." If the institu-

tion wants to organize training workshops in the health department, universities, colleges and other institutions of the AJK, the government will provide full facilities in this regard", the PM said.

The PM also appreciated Dr. Razzaq for championing this great cause. Dr. Razzaq, who is also Director Trauma and Emergency at Agha Khan University, briefed the PM about the importance of the PLSP. Dr. Junaid Abdul Razzaq thanked the Prime Minister and appreciated him for his kind cooperation.

While briefing the Prime Minister, he said that the PLSP aims to train one crore youths and help them acquire basic life-saving skills and provide initial treatment to people during an emergency. He said that the jurisdiction of this program would also be extended to Azad Kashmir.

GFS Builders & Developers are associated with KEC

Spokesman Report

KARACHI: Irfan Wahid, CEO of GFS Builders and Developers has said that GFS Builders and Developers are associated with the Karachi Editors Club. We all have come together to improve the economy of Pakistan. GFS dreams for all Pakistanis to have their own houses, and this dream seems to be coming true for us. Work is progressing rapidly in Seven Wonder City Phase 2 and all our projects, and we are providing people with their homes on easy monthly installments.

He said from Karachi to Gilgit, Pakistan is blessed with abundant blessings. We need to think beyond our nationality

and consider Pakistan. We pray for Pakistan to become the best country in the world, he added. These views were expressed by him during a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Karachi Editors Club with the GFS Builders and Developers CEO Irfan Wahid.

Meanwhile, Mubasher Mir, Secretary of the Karachi Editors Club, said that GFS Builders and Developers have made a name for themselves in a short period and have provided fantastic projects for people. GFS is counted among Pakistan's best builders. If we think as a nation, we can achieve progress.

He said that GFS Builders and Developers led by

CEO Irfan Wahid, have done remarkable work. Our prayer is for Pakistan to become the best country in the world.

General Secretary of the Karachi Editors Club, Manzar Naqvi, said that the meeting with CEO Irfan Wahid of GFS Builders and Developers was very fruitful. The Karachi Editors Club has been doing great work for the media, and we need you with us. During the meeting, a briefing on GFS's Project 7, Wonder City Phase 2, was given by Managing Director Mansoor Wahid.

Additionally, Managing Director Mansoor Wahid praised the work of the Karachi Editors Club.

The meeting was attended



KARACHI: GFS Builders & Developers CEO Irfan Wahid and Managing Director Mansoor Wahid presenting a shield to Karachi Karachi Editors Club General Secretary Manzar Naqvi during the meeting of KEC delegation with them. KEC President Mubasher Mir, AdPulse CEO Khurram Jaffrani and others are also seen in the picture.

by Kazi Asad Abid, Brig (Retd) Tariq Khalil, Manzar Naqvi Secretary-General, Col (Retd) Mukhtar Ahmed Butt, Iqbal Jamil, Agha Masood Hussain, Naemuddin, Rashid Jamal, Muhammad Nauman, and CEO AdPulse CEO Khurram Jaffrani.

Later, GFS Builders & Developers CEO Irfan Wahid and Managing Director Mansoor Wahid presented a shield to Karachi Karachi Editors Club General Secretary Manzar Naqvi.

Bull & Bears
PSX 100-Share
Index Fluctuation

Pakistan: PSX 100-Share Index	
Current	Prev. Close
41,340.06	40,964.54
Day's High	Day's Low:
41,649.13	41,005.15
Index Value	Change
5,461,108,818	+375.52
Percentage	Time
+0.92%	30 May, 2023 5:00 pm

Europe: FTSE 100 Index	
Index Value	Change
7,627.20	+56.33
Percentage	Time
+0.74%	26 May, 4:35 pm GMT+1

USA: Dow Jones Industrial Average	
Index Value	Change
33,093.34	+328.69
Percentage	Time
1.00%	26 May, 5:20 pm GMT-4

Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Average	
Index Value	Change
31,233.54	+317.23
Percentage	Time
+1.03%	29 May, 3:15 pm GMT+9

Open Market Forex Rates

Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	201	203
Bahrain Dinar	760.26	768.26
Canadian Dollar	225.5	227.5
China Yuan	40.47	40.87
Danish Krone	41.17	41.57
Euro	331	334.1
Hong Kong Dollar	36.49	36.84
Indian Rupee	3.46	3.57
Japanese Yen	2.25	2.3
Kuwaiti Dinar	929.34	938.34
Malaysian Ringgit	62.42	63.02
New Zealand \$	172.94	174.94
Norwegians Krone	26.14	26.44
Omani Riyal	744.58	752.58
Qatari Riyal	78.53	79.23
Saudi Riyal	82.8	83.6
Singapore Dollar	215	217
Swedish Korona	26.73	27.03
Swiss Franc	315.41	317.91
Thai Bhat	8.28	8.43
U.A.E Dirham	84.6	85.5
UK Pound Sterling	381	384
US Dollar	313	316

Pakistan's First Int'l Conference on Islamic Capital Markets (ICM) successfully concluded

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD : Pakistan's First International Conference on Islamic Capital Markets, organized jointly by the Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) and the Accounting and Auditing Organization for Islamic Financial Institutions (AAOIFI), successfully concluded here on Monday. The theme of the one-day conference was "ICM development with ecosystem completion: innovation, growth, and transformation".

The conference was supported by the Asian Development Bank (ADB), Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX), National Clearing Company of Pakistan Limited (NCCPL), Central Depository Company (CDC), Almezan Investments, and other leading industry players in the non-bank financial sector.

The Federal Minister for Finance & Revenue, Muhammad Ishaq Dar, delivered the keynote address. He stated that, "Pakistan has a strategic plan in place to grow Islamic finance", and added that, "we have a financial inclusion strategy that covers all the components needed to create Islamic financing". He emphasized that major financial markets across the globe have exhibited evidence that Islamic finance has already become mainstream, parallel to the global finan-



cial system, and that it has the potential to tackle extreme poverty and boost shared prosperity.

H.E. Sh. Ebrahim Bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, Chairman, Board of Trustees, AAOIFI, said in his keynote address that the principles of Islamic capital markets foster social and economic development and support sustainable growth, job creation, poverty alleviation, and the overall well-being of communities. He reiterated AAOIFI's overall commitment to the Islamic finance industry of Pakistan, as well as its capital market, and assured AAOIFI's full support for improving the quality of AAOIFI standards implementation in the country.

SECP Chairman Akif Saeed, in his speech said that a calculated approach is needed to transform all segments of the financial system to trans-

form into a complete Islamic ecosystem. While highlighting key reforms introduced by SECP in recent years within the sphere of Islamic finance, he assured the audience of SECP's complete commitment to transform its regulated sectors in accordance with wishes of people of Pakistan as embodied in the Constitution. He further laid down priority areas of SECP, which include focus on promoting product development & innovative solutions, implementing international best practices in governance and ethical standards, enhance capacity building through collaborations, and strengthen the legal and regulatory frameworks for Islamic finance.

SBP Governor Jameel Ahmed communicated the central bank's commitment to transforming the financial sector into a shariah-compliant

system. He mentioned that SBP and SECP, as part of the federal government's steering committee, are playing their roles in achieving the aligned goals for the transformation towards an Islamic economic system.

The event was a resounding success, bringing together prominent speakers from Bahrain, Turkey, Malaysia, the UAE, and the UK, in addition to local industry experts, scholars, and practitioners. Through a series of panel discussions, and breakout sessions, the participants highlighted growth opportunities in different segments of the Islamic capital market and non-bank financial sectors. There was a broad consensus that a strategic development plan needs to be introduced and implemented for the organized development of Islamic finance across all sectors.

On the topic of Islamic fintech, experts agreed that in the fast-changing dynamics of the market, propelled by technological advancements and the growing demand for innovative products that cater to emerging sectors, tech-based products and services need special focus and facilitation.

Participants unanimously resolved that all stakeholders must work together for the shared prosperity of the Muslim Ummah through the development of a sustainable and efficient Islamic financial system.

Making Islamabad a crime-free city is the primary responsibility of Police: Shoaib Khurram

Tariq Khattak

ISLAMABAD :DIG Safe City Project Islamabad Police Shoaib Khurram Janbaz said that the police is working to make Islamabad a crime-free city. The Safe City project has helped significantly in reducing crime. Work is being done to provide 100% coverage of the Safe City Project in urban areas of Islamabad. Steps are being taken to bring markets and parks into the project. There is a need to increase cooperation between ICCI and Safe City Project.

He expressed these views while talking to the president of the chamber, Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari, during his visit to the Islamabad Chamber yesterday. On this occasion, he invited the delegation of Islamabad Chamber to visit Safe City Headquarters in the meeting, cooperation between the two institutions was discussed and various possibilities were reviewed.

DIG Safe City Project said in his speech that Safe City Project has proved to be helpful in eliminating crime from Islamabad and bringing criminals to justice. At present, the coverage of Safe City in all urban sectors of Islamabad is 60 to 70 percent, which is targeted to reach 100 percent. Work is being done to take the project to newly constructed sectors as well. He said that many reforms have been brought in the traffic system in the city. Alternative arrangements have been



made in areas where there were traffic problems

Talking on this occasion, President of Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari said that the prevention of crimes is necessary for the security and survival of Pakistan, because domestic and foreign investors are slowly diverting their attention from Pakistan due to crime. We have to look at the eradication of crime with national security, only then we can get rid of this evil. He said that the Safe City project is commendable and has benefited the city a lot. To increase the effectiveness of the plan, its coverage should be increased. There is a need to increase the cameras of the Safe City project and improve the

monitoring at the entrances of Islamabad. He said that first aid points should be started at public places so that immediate help can be provided in case of an accident.

On this occasion, Senior Vice President Islamabad Chamber Faad Waheed said that there is a need for a sustainable policy to solve traffic problems in the city. Traffic engineering needs to be used during road construction to avoid ruts, ruts and other problems. Former President Islamabad Chamber Zafar Bakhtawari said that there is a need to create fear of cameras in criminals. Under Safe City, there should be such a system that before committing a crime, the criminal has to fear that his movements are being recorded.

Instead of taxpayers, tax evaders be targeted: Mian Zahid Hussain

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 Monday said the payment of loans and interest has increased much more than the income of the government.

The policymakers are desperate to increase the income, but easing the burden on the existing taxpayers will cause harm instead of benefit, he said.

Mian Zahid Hussain said that instead of increasing the burden on existing taxpayers, the government should target non-tax paying sectors.

Talking to the business community, the veteran business leader said that the government is increasing its expenditure instead of reducing it, and the burden is being shifted to the business community and people who are already worried and



cornered.

Mian Zahid Hussain said that the business community is anxious and disturbed by reports of the imposition of various taxes in the upcoming budget. The business community should be taken into confidence instead of being kept in the dark.

He noted that the PTI government and

former finance minister Miftah Ismail had tried to target the non-taxpaying sectors, but now it seems that the policy will be abandoned, and the current taxpayers will be squeezed which will not increase tax revenue.

More taxes will decrease revenue because many businesses will close, and many of those that remain functional will start evading taxes.

He said that such measures will reduce the size of the document economy while increasing the size of the undocumented economy, which is already much larger than required.

Mian Zahid Hussain added that re-imposing a tax on bank transactions would also be a wrong decision, as this experiment had failed in the past and will fail again.

The document economy is also affected due to the ban on imports, but those making payments through handi are thriving. The economy needs to be taken out of the ICU, not pushed to its deathbed.

Karandaz launches findings of comprehensive report on private healthcare in Pakistan

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Karandaz is a leading impact investor in Pakistan with the aim to promote access to finance for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise (MSMEs) and financial inclusion of unbanked individuals. Karandaz conducted a highly anticipated webinar to unveil the findings of its groundbreaking report titled "Private Healthcare in Pakistan—Gaps, Opportunities, and Possibilities." The report, comprising Volume 1 & 2, is now available to the public on Karandaz's website.

The webinar commenced with welcome remarks from Mr Waqas ul Hasan, CEO, Karandaz followed by opening remarks by Dr Shamsad Akhtar, Chairperson, Karandaz Board. Ms Fatima Sheikh, Special Secretary (Health), Govt of Punjab delivered the keynote address, highlighting the initiatives being taken in the public sector for health delivery, significance of the report and its potential impact on the healthcare sector.

Ms Mehr Shah, Director of Research, Marketing, and Communications (RMC) at Karandaz, along with Mr Imran Zia, Study Technical Lead at the Centre for Economic Research Pakistan (CERP), and Mr Behzad Taimur, Program Manager at CERP Analytics, presented the key findings from the report.

Notably, the research highlights that healthcare expenditure has seen a modest increase of 18.6% between 2010 and 2020, reaching 2.95% as a percentage of GDP. Out-of-pocket expenditure accounts for more than 55% of total healthcare expenditure, indicating an urgent need for increased investment in the sector.

Commenting on the findings, Mr Waqas ul Hasan, CEO of Karandaz, said, "Despite the growth of private healthcare in Pakistan, there are still significant gaps in the healthcare system, which are rooted in structural flaws. For instance, while larger public-sector hospitals are the primary providers



of critical hospital admissions and medical care for the underprivileged, routine consultations are sought by 70% of Pakistan's population from private medical providers.

Dr. Shamsad Akhtar, Chairperson Karandaz Board, highlighted a core issue related to private healthcare supply: "Tech-enabled interventions in healthcare, such as digital healthcare platforms, have shown promise but remain limited in reach and scope. To bring transformative change and bridge the demand-supply gaps, it is crucial for the technology and IT sector to invest and engage in the healthcare industry."

The first panel, focusing on "Bridging the Infrastructure Gap Through Innovations," featured industry experts including Mr Furquan Kidwai, CEO of Dewaai pk, Ms Aiman Khan, CEO of SLOSH AI Solutions, and Dr Sara Khurram, CEO of Sehat Kahani.

The second panel, titled "Unlocking Access to Quality Healthcare: Navigating the Landscape of Financing," comprised prominent figures such as Ms Mona Hassan, Principal Investment Officer International Finance Corporation (IFC), Mr. Aatif Awan, Managing Partner Indus Valley Capital, Mr Leandro Cuccioli, Director British International Investments (BII), Mr Kashif Mustafa, Managing Partner Lakson Investments, and Mr Malik Ahmad Jalal, Founder Cordoba Ventures.

During the closing remarks, Ms Anna Gibson, Team Lead-Private Sector Development at the Foreign Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO), emphasized the importance of collaboration among public, private, and donor organizations in achieving universal healthcare coverage, saying, "What we have heard today is that there are solutions to some of these challenges."

Wheat production is below rate of population growth

T Khattak

ISLAMABAD: Brig. (R) Aslam Khan, Chairman of Pakistan Economy Watch (PEW) said on Monday that the production of wheat in the country is not able to keep pace with the growing population.

Due to reduced production

and a growing population, the wheat exporting country is now forced to import wheat worth billions of dollars.

In a statement issued here today, Aslam Khan said that the country's population is increasing at a rate of two percent per year, but the production of wheat is not

increasing at the same rate.

This year, the production of wheat is likely to be less than the target by 1.6 million tonnes, due to which wheat will have to be imported.

He said that wheat production was estimated at 28.4 million tonnes, but the recent estimates suggest that the



production will remain at

26.8 million tonnes while the shortfall will be met through imports.

He informed that the area under wheat cultivation also declined from 9.3 million hectares to 9.1 million hectares as farmers shifted to other crops.

Wheat is the main staple

food and its consumption is around 125 kilograms per head per year, which is one of the highest in the world. Wheat and wheat-based products account for 60-7 percent of total calories consumed, and it will remain of primary importance and the main source of calories.

Aizaz Cheema reviews Pakistan Shaheens performance in Zimbabwe

A Sports

ISLAMABAD: Head coach of Pakistan Shaheens Aizaz Cheema reflected upon his side's performance amid their busy Zimbabwe Tour where they played two four-day four-dayers and six 50-over matches from 3 to 27 May 2023.

Pakistan Shaheens put on a dominant show in the two-match four-day series as they blew Zimbabwe Select 2-0. Omair Bin Yousuf, Muhammad Huraire, Haseebullah Khan, Mohammad Ali and Mehran Mumtaz were the star performers for the visitors.

In the six-match One-Day series, however, Pakistan Shaheens coped with a tough assignment as Zimbabwe Select line-up consisted of the first-choice players representing the national side, as they viewed the limited-overs series as a chance to prepare themselves for the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup Qualifiers 2023, set to take place in Zimbabwe from 18 June to 9 July.

Consequently, Zimbabwe Select



managed to make the most of the experience of their first-choice players and home advantage and outclassed Pakistan Shaheens to take the series 4-2.

Despite a dismal show in the one-day series, Pakistan Shaheens' head coach Aizaz Cheema lent his support to the young players, who stood out in the month-long Zimbabwe tour.

"I am extremely proud of the young players in the Pakistan Shaheens team who showcased their skills and potential during the tour. In the two four-dayers, players like Mehran Mumtaz, Omair Bin Yousuf, Muhammad Huraire, and Haseebullah displayed exceptional

performances, contributing significantly to our victories. It was a great testament to their talent and dedication to the game," said Aizaz Cheema in a press release by the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB).

The former pacer, however, expressed his disappointment over the inability of Pakistan Shaheens to capitalise during the crucial moments and termed it a big factor behind the team's defeat in the white-ball series.

"However, I am disappointed with our performance in the six-match 50-over series against Zimbabwe Select, where we lost 4-2. As a team, we couldn't perform to our full potential and failed to capitalise on the opportunities presented to us. Had we seized those chances, the outcome could have been different. It was a missed opportunity, and we will work on rectifying our mistakes and improving our team cohesion.

Aizaz Cheema then went on to acknowledge the top performers for Pakistan Shaheens with Omair Bin

Yousuf, Muhammad Huraire, Haseebullah Khan, Mohammad Ali and Mehran Mumtaz receiving the special mention from their head coach.

"I must acknowledge the impressive performance of our fast bowlers, who consistently picked up wickets during the 50-over series. Their contributions were instrumental in keeping us in the game and putting pressure on the opposition. In the batting department, Omair Bin Yousuf, Mubasir Khan, and Qasim Akram stood out with their run-scoring abilities, showcasing their potential for the future.

"We will analyse our performances, identify areas for improvement, and work tirelessly to strengthen our team's performance. The Zimbabwe tour has provided valuable lessons and experiences for our young players, and we will use these as stepping stones towards future success. Pakistan Shaheens team is determined to bounce back stronger and continue to develop and groom talented players for the senior national side."

Sidra Amin Leads Dynamites to Third Straight Win

Asim Tanveer

MULTAN: Dynamites captain Sidra Amin made 95 off 100 balls to help her side to their third straight win in the Pakistan Cup Women's Cricket Tournament as they beat Blasters by 78 runs at the State Bank Ground on Monday.

The right-hander struck 13 fours and stitched a 130-run partnership for the second wicket with Bismah Maroof, who made 95-ball 65 (hitting two fours and a six). The two came together when Khadija Chishti was out caught and bowled for five by Diana Baig with 23 runs on board.

Sidra and Bismah now lead the tournament batting charts with 195 runs at 97.50 and 94 runs at 94, respectively.

The partnership pushed back Blasters bowlers and propelled Dynamites to 214 for four in 45 overs. Diana and Saba Nazir picked up two wickets each.



Blasters were all out for 136 in 37.3 overs as off-spinner Rameen Shamim took three wickets for 25, while Nashra Sundhu, Ghulam Fatima and Maham Manzoor picked up two wickets each.

Blasters captain Muneeba Ali top-scored with 33 and the second best performance with the bat in the innings came from opener Ayesha Zafar, who made 30.

Fatima, the leg-spinner, has the most wickets in the tournament with eight scalps at 7.88. Diana Baig and Aliya Riaz follow her with six and five wickets, respectively.

Challengers, who are yet to win a match, will play Blasters on Wednesday.

Scores in brief: Dynamites beat Blasters by 78 runs

Dynamites 214-4, 45 overs

(Sidra Amin 95, Bismah Maroof 65, Aliya Riaz 21; Saba Nazir 2-36, Diana Baig 2-37)

Blasters 136 all out, 37.3 overs (Muneeba Ali 33, Ayesha Zafar 30; Rameen Shamim 3-25, Maham Manzoor 2-17, Nashra Sundhu 2-28, Ghulam Fatima 2-28)

Player of the match - Sidra Amin (Dynamites)

Pakistan defeat Japan to secure semi-final berth at Junior Hockey Asia Cup 2023

Pakistan on Monday booked a spot for the semi-final of the ongoing Junior Hockey Asia Cup 2023 after defeating Japan.

Pakistan defeated Japan 3-2 to secure a place in the semi-final of the tournament currently going on in Oman.

For Pakistan, Abdul Wahab scored two goals and Arbaaz Ahmed scored one goal in the match played in Salalah.

However, for Japan in the second minute of the game, Kompi Yoshida gave his team the lead on a penalty corner.

Pakistan's Arbaaz equalised the match by scoring on a penalty corner in the 23rd minute. In the 30th minute, Abdul Wahab scored a field goal to give Pakistan the lead, but in the 38th minute, Japan's Hota Yamada equalised the match once again.

In the semi-final, Pakistan will face Malaysia on May 31.

With the win, Pakistan also ensured that they have qualified for Junior Hockey World Cup that will be played in Malaysia this year.

Pakistan only needed to avoid defeat in their final pool match against Japan in order to qualify for the World Cup after their match against India ended with a draw.

Bismah Maroof charged for code of conduct violation: PCB



Asim Tanveer

MULTAN: Dynamites' Bismah Maroof has been fined 20 per cent of match fee for a level 1 breach of the PCB's Code of Conduct for Players and Player Support Personnel during her side's match against Blasters in the ongoing Pakistan Cup Women's Cricket Tournament 2022-23 at the State Bank Stadium on Monday.

Bismah was found to have violated Article 2.8 of the PCB Code of Conduct, which reads as: "Showing dissent at an Umpire's decision during a Match."

The incident happened in the 40th over of Dynamites innings when Bismah showed obvious disappointment over the umpiring decision when she was given out LBW.

The charge was imposed by on-field umpires Alay Hyder and Sabahat Rashid.

Bismah accepted the charge and the fine was imposed by the match referee Mohammad Anees.

Kylian Mbappe named best French player for fourth time in row



Sports Desk

Kylian Mbappe was voted the Ligue 1 player of the season for the fourth successive time Sunday after helping Paris Saint-Germain win a record 11th French title.

The France star has scored 28 goals in the league this term and is on course to finish as the division's top scorer for the fifth season running.

"It's a pleasure, I always wanted to win, to write my name into the league's history. But even with all the ambition I have I didn't expect to win so quickly," said Mbappe on receiving his award.

Kylian Mbappe, scorer of 40 goals this campaign, snubbed Real Madrid at the end of last season and signed a new three-year contract to stay with PSG.

According to reports, the 24-year-old's contract will run out next year unless he exercises an option to stay until 2025.

Asked about his future at the awards ceremony, Kylian Mbappe replied: "I will be here again next season."

He is the first four-time winner of a prize first awarded in 1994, surpassing Zlatan Ibrahimovic who won the accolade on three occasions with PSG.

Franck Haise of Lens was named coach of the season after leading the club to second place and a return to Champions League football for the first time in two decades.

Lens goalkeeper Brice Samba was also honoured while Paris Saint-Germain left-back Nuno Mendes earned the best young player award.

He was one of four PSG players in the team of the season alongside Mbappe, Lionel Messi and Achraf Hakimi.

Arslan Ash lifts second Combo Breaker title for Tekken 7



Sports Desk

Arslan Ash, the renowned ESports player, has once again claimed the title of Combo Breaker champion 2023.

His exceptional skills and dedication have propelled him to the top, solidifying his status as a dominant force in the eSports arena.

"Another day, another win for Pakistan," wrote Ash.

"Winning Combo Breaker back to back has been unreal. The entire journey was fun, filled with intense moments, but in the end, it all turned out amazing.

"Thank you, everyone, for always supporting me."

ESports sensation Arslan Ash has brought another victory to Pakistan, making Pakistan proud by emerging as the champion in the event held in the USA.

Pakistan takes immense pride in Arslan Ash's accomplishments, and his success serves as an inspiration for aspiring gamers across the country.

In the Tekken 7 finals, Arslan Ash defeated a South Korean player, securing the title for the second time.

It is evident that Arslan Ash is currently one of the world's best Tekken players and has already clinched multiple international events.

About Combo Breaker

COMBO BREAKER is a community-based events and apparel brand dedicated to competitive fighting games. As international travel destinations for culture and competition, COMBO BREAKER conventions connect people to the history, camaraderie, rivalry, and unforgettable experiences needed to produce lifelong attachment to the Fighting Game Community.

From May 26-28, 2023, COMBO BREAKER's annual convention has returned to the Renaissance Schaumburg Convention Center and Hotel in Schaumburg, Illinois, USA. With 140,000 square feet of venue space dedicated to a full weekend of fighting game experiences, this will be COMBO BREAKER's largest event to date.

No rift with Babar Azam, confirms Mohammad Amir

A Sports

KARACHI: Pakistan pacer Mohammad Amir opened up regarding his alleged rift with Pakistan captain Babar Azam and refuted the perceived tensions between them in a humorous way.

Mohammad Amir, in an interview to a local TV channel, was questioned by the host regarding whether there is any tie between him and Pakistan star batter Babar Azam.

In response, Amir revealed that Babar, who is his junior, always treated him with utmost respect and there was no issues between the two cricketers.

"Babar was my junior when I was playing for Pakistan, and he has always respected me," shared Amir.

Mohammad Amir further weighed



his statement by adding a humorous touch which left the host and the audience in split.

"Babar is not my ex-fiance that I won't like him," he concluded.

It is worth mentioning here that cricket fans assumed a rift between Mohammad Amir and Babar Azam after the



former's statement regarding was misinterpreted ahead of their anticipated faceoff in the eighth edition of the Pakistan Super League (PSL).

When asked about his opinion on his face-off against Peshawar Zalmi captain Babar, the fast bowler said: "My job is to take wickets and win matches for

my team, so for me, facing Babar or a tailender batting at number 10 will be the same".

Mohammad Amir subsequently explained his earlier remarks about Babar Azam, claiming that he never referred to the Pakistani skipper as an underwhelming player or a tailender.

"First, I would like to ask those who have misrepresented this matter. Show me one interview in which I said that Babar is an average player or a tailender," stated Amir.

"In all my interviews, I have called him the best batsman of Pakistan, which I am saying with my own mouth, and have said in many places, that it is difficult to bowl against him in ODI and Test matches due to his technique. So, would I call him a tailender?" he questioned.

Hasan Ali shuts internet troll after supporting Shahnawaz Dahani

A Sports

KARACHI: Pakistan pacer Hasan Ali shut down an internet troll after he lent his support to his young compatriot Shahnawaz Dahani after his dismal show with the ball in the sixth one-day against Zimbabwe Select on Saturday.

Young pacer Shahnawaz Dahani received a ruthless thrashing amid Pakistan Shaheens' sixth one-day against Zimbabwe Select where he went for 105 runs in his quota of 10 overs.

Following his disappointing performance with the ball in the crucial one-day against Zimbabwe Select, Shahnawaz Dahani received immense backlash from Pakistan fans while some also questioned his focus on the sport.

In response to the backlash, Shahnawaz Dahani shared a tweet, curated by a local sports news outlet and

reflected upon his own performance by sharing his bowling statistics alongside a message.

"To all those who love Dahani, here is his focus & performance before & after injury. Except for today's performance, Dahani has 30 wickets in last 12 matches, & economy under 6, & 'Remember Dahani will always enjoy his game & celebrate,'" wrote Dahani on Twitter.

Responding to Shahnawaz Dahani's tweet, Hasan Ali lent his support to his fellow cricketer Shahnawaz Dahani and urged him to keep his head high and keep performing.

"No need to worry bro.. we all know you are very talented and a hardworking cricketer. [Everyone concedes runs in cricket] and it was just that day for you which is absolutely fine," wrote Hasan.

"Keep your head high and keep performing," he added.



Hasan's supportive remarks for Shahnawaz Dahani, however, did not go well with a Twitter user, who straight up called both pacers 'C-grade cricketers'.

Unlike many trolls, this did not go unnoticed by Hasan, and he responded in a kind yet befitting way.



It is worth mentioning here that Hasan Ali played a pivotal role in Pakistan's Champions Trophy 2017 glory.

He was named the player of the tournament after finishing the event with 13 wickets at an average of 14.69 and an economy rate of 4.29.