



Government reduced the petroleum prices

The federal government has reduced the prices of petrol, diesel and other petroleum products once again for the next 15 days. Dar announced the reduction in petrol price by Rs8 per litre, diesel price by Rs5 per litre and light diesel by Rs5 for the next 15 days. The new prices of petroleum prices will be taken into effect from June 1.



Govt of Pakistan start working on a war footing for the rights and cultural heritage of Cholistan: Sain Zahoor

Cholistan is undoubtedly of historical importance. The rivers of Cholistan are mentioned in the historical books and even in the ancient book of the sub-continent "Rig Veda". Today's desert was once a river, and between Mohenjo-daro and Harappa, in the form of the Hakra Valley, (Details on Page 5)

Simultaneously published from Islamabad, Lahore and Multan

Regional security issues

RAWALPINDI: Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Syed Asim Munir on Wednesday met Chief of General Staff (CGS) UK Army General Sir Patrick Nicholas Yardley Monrad and discussed regional security issues.

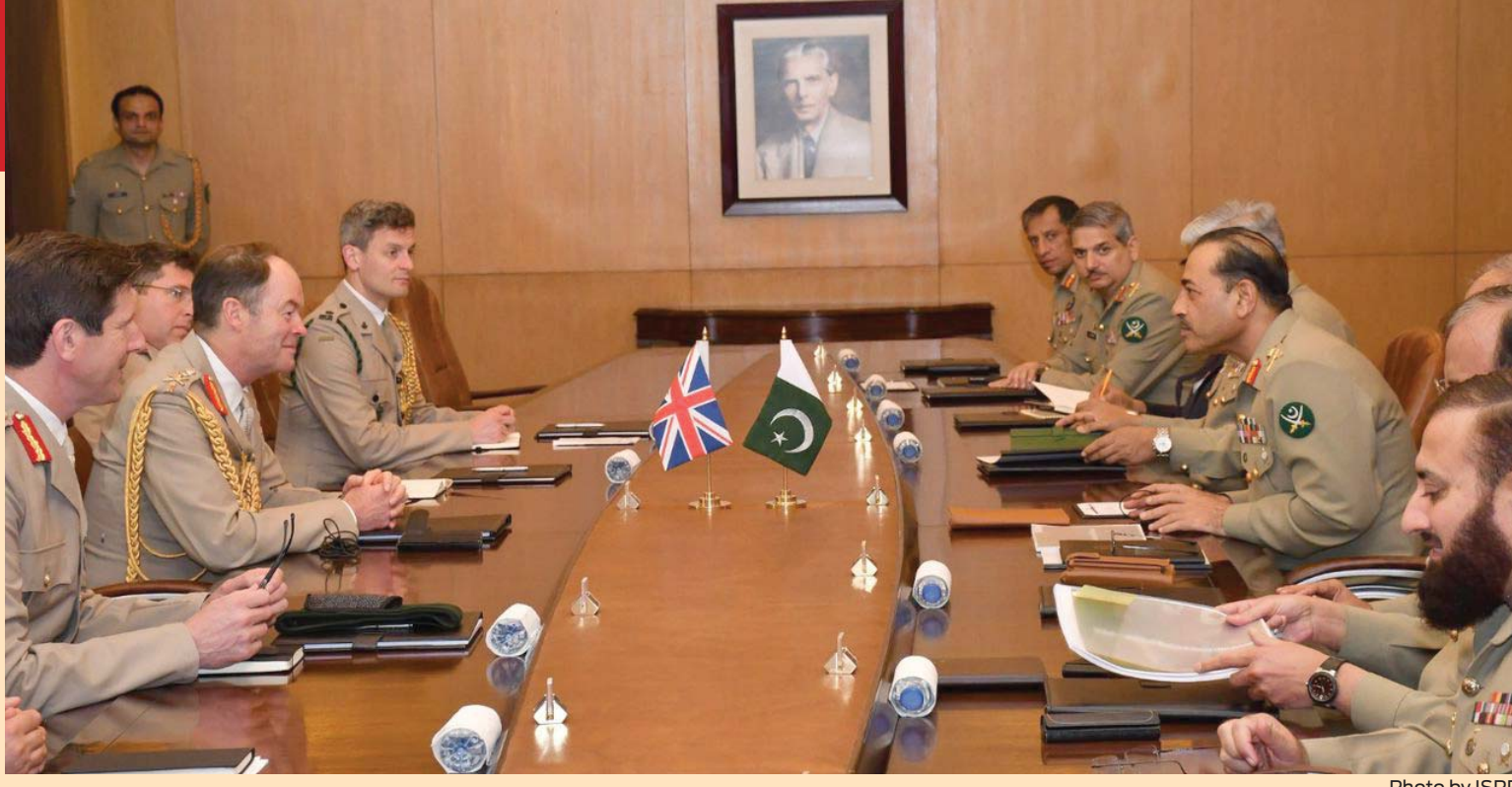


Photo by ISPR

COAS Asim Munir, British CGS discuss regional security issues

Naveed Ahmad Khan

RAWALPINDI: Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Syed Asim Munir on Wednesday met Chief of General Staff (CGS) UK Army General Sir Patrick Nicholas Yardley Monrad and discussed regional security issues.

According to Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), CGS UK Army General Sir Patrick Nicholas Yardley Monrad Sand-

ers called on COAS General Syed Asim Munir at General Headquarters (GHQ) today.

Upon arrival, CGS UK Army laid floral wreath at Yadgar-e-Shuhada. "A smartly turned out contingent of Pakistan Army presented the guard of honour to the visiting dignitary," the statement said.

During the meeting, regional security issues and matters of mutual interest were discussed.

The visiting dignitary acknowledged the sacrifices and achievements of Pakistan Army in fight against terrorism and efforts for bringing peace and stability in the region.

Earlier, the CGS UK had also called on Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee, General Sahir Shamshad Mirza at Joint Staff Headquarters, Rawalpindi.

It is pertinent to mention here that the British Army's Chief of

the General Staff (CGS), General Sir Patrick Sanders arrived in Pakistan on a five-day visit.

During his visit, General Sir Patrick Sanders would meet with Pakistan's Chief of Army Staff General Syed Asim Munir, along-

side other Defence Engagement activities and discussions on bilateral military cooperation in response to climate change related crises would be a key focus of the visit, a news release said.

General Sir Patrick Sanders' visit comes almost one year after Pakistan's devastating floods which left nearly one third of the country submerged and affected an estimated 33 million people.

The UK's Ministry of Defence was directly involved in providing assistance for flood relief operations, airlifting in eight boats and ten portable generators at the request of Pakistan's Chief of Army Staff.

FM to attend Jordan's royal wedding, meet Iraqi leadership

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari is travelling this afternoon to Jordan and Iraq, the Foreign Office said Wednesday.

In the first leg of the visit, the foreign minister will travel to Jordan to attend the royal wedding.

From Jordan, the foreign minister will visit Iraq from

June 5-7.

"During the visit, the Foreign Minister will meet with Iraqi leadership, and hold detailed meeting with his counterpart," the FO said.

Important agreements will also be signed during the visit.

FM Bilawal is undertaking this visit at the invitation of the Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Iraq, Dr. Fuad Hussein.

PTI responsible for May 9 vandalism: Faisal Kundi



Bureau Report

PESHAWAR :Minister of State for Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety, Faisal Karim Kundi here Wednesday claimed that Pakistan Tahrir e Insaaf (PTI) was responsible for the ransacking of government and public properties during May 9-10 vandalism and accused Imran Khan for disowning the arrested party workers.

Talking to media persons after visiting the burnt Radio Pakistan's building here to express solidarity with the employees of the national broadcaster and Associated Press of Pakistan, Faisal Kundi deplored that horde of Pakistan Tahrir e Insaaf have ransacked and put on fire the government and people's properties including Radio Pakistan's building and stolen its

expansive computers, electronic appliances, furniture, sound system, vehicles engines and other expensive items.

He said the attacks on government and defense installations was a preplanned conspiracy, and that attackers, planners and abettors could not escape from law.

Faisal Kundi said that it was highly deplorable that Imran Khan has disowned its party workers who were put behind the bar in May 9 vandalism cases and had hardly talked about them.

He said Imran Khan talked about beauty and visit of Northern Areas of Pakistan but it was unfortunate that he never talked to meet the jailed workers.

Faisal Kundi said that PPP leadership had never afraid of jails as former President Asif Ali Zardari had spent about 4000 days and Faryal Talpur nearly 170 days in jails including harsh weather.

The state minister demanded that compensation of all the ransacked and burnt buildings including Radio Pakistan Peshawar could be recovered from the PTI leadership and strict punishment should be awarded to elements for the late response that resulted burning of the Radio Pakistan building.

Pakistan highly values its broad-based ties with Belarus: PM

Bureau Report

LAHORE: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif Wednesday said Pakistan greatly valued its cordial and broad-based relations with Belarus.

He also affirmed Pakistan's commitment towards building mutually beneficial cooperation with Belarus in all areas, including economic, agriculture, science and technology, information technology, education, and culture domains.

The prime minister received Foreign Minister of Belarus Sergei Aleinik, the PM Office Media Wing said in a press release.

Foreign Minister Aleinik conveyed the warm greetings of President Lukashenko to the prime minister, while highlighting that Belarus regarded Pakistan as an important country in the region and appreciated its efforts to promote regional peace and stability.

The prime minister also briefed the foreign minister on the

human rights violations by India in the Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK).

Noting that Pakistan and Belarus would be commemorating the 30th anniversary of the establishment of their diplomatic relations in 2024, the prime minister welcomed continued high-level exchanges and engagement.

In this regard, he also reiterated his invitation to the Belarusian president to undertake a visit to Pakistan, at his earliest convenience.



Nawaz Sharif to return home soon: Interior Minister

City Desk

ISLAMABAD :Interior Minister Rana Sanaullah on Wednesday said that PML-N supreme Nawaz Sharif had the right to get relief from the fabricated cases against him and expressed his confidence that Nawaz Sharif will return home soon to lead the party for the general election 2023 campaign.

"Innocent Nawaz Sharif should be granted the opportunity to plead his case before a court," he said in an exclusive talk with a private news channel. PML-N would move the court to review on Nawaz Sharif's disqualification as the party chief, he added.

PTI govt mislead UK's NCA on £190m repatriation to country: Irfan Qadir

City Desk

ISLAMABAD :SAPM on Accountability Irfan Qadir on Wednesday said the PTI government mislead the UK's National Crime Agency (NCA) on the repatriation of £190m to Pakistan.

Addressing a presser, he said the previous government cunningly used the Supreme Court's bank account [for repatriating public money]. "The NCA misunderstood that the money was being repatriated to the country's exchequer," he added.

He went on to say that the £190m scandal was getting traction these days, adding that the UK's National Crime Agency (NCA) had frozen some accounts in England.



"Zero-tolerance policy needs to be adopted against those who looted public money," he added.

Read Also: Elections will be held on Nawaz Sharif's return, says Talal Chaudhry

It was being projected that stolen money was to be repatriated to the country, he said.

Mr Qadir continued by saying that the federal cabinet approved the repatriation on Dec 2, 2019,

but the money was not repatriated to the national exchequer. "It should be investigated why the SC did not review it," he added.

He said the PTI government did not share the State Bank of Pakistan's bank account with the UK government, adding that the British agencies were tricked. "The money was not received by the SBP but by some people," he alleged.

There was no example of such "grand corruption", he said, adding that a simple thing was being complicated. "Our authorities should hold such people accountable," he added.

Know More: Fawad Chaudhry meets Shah Mahmood Qureshi in jail

Fawad vows to continue struggle in bid to take country out of quagmire

City Desk

RAWALPINDI :Former Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader Fawad Chaudhry on Wednesday vowed to continue his political struggle in a bid to take the country out of the quagmire.

Addressing a press conference flanked by Imran Ismail and Mahmood Moulvi, Mr Chaudhry stressed the need to show "collective responsibility" for bringing "several innocent people and activists behind bars".

Stating that the party quitters have held talks, Mr Chaudhry said a detailed discussion was also held with Shah Mehmood Qureshi.

Imran Khan's interim bail extended in NCA £190m scandal

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD :An accountability court in Islamabad granted former prime minister Imran Khan bail in the Al-Qadir Trust case till June 19 against surety bonds worth Rs500,000.

The PTI chief arrived at the Federal Judicial Complex after the Islamabad High Court (IHC) directed him to approach a relevant accountability court.

Accountability Judge Muhammad Bashir presided over the hearing.

IHC directs Imran to approach accountability court

Earlier today, the Islamabad High Court (IHC) on Wednesday extended interim bail of former prime minister and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf Imran Khan in the NCA £190m scandal (Al-Qadir Trust corruption case).

Imran Khan appeared before a two-member bench of Justice Mianqun Hassan Aurangzeb and Justice Saman Rafat under strict security.

Law Minister chairs meeting of Cabinet Sub-committee to engage foreign law firm

City Desk

ISLAMABAD :Federal Minister for Law and Justice Senator Azam Nazir Tarrar on Wednesday chaired a meeting of the Cabinet Sub Committee to recommend the mechanism to engage foreign law firm of strategy for treaties with investment provisions (TIPS).

According to the spokesperson of the ministry, representative of Board of Investment, Privatization Commission, Attorney General Office and PPRA attended the meeting.

The Committee was constituted by the Cabinet to recommend the mechanism for engaging reputed international law firms for transactions and appointment of financial and legal advisors.

After deliberation on the matter, it was decided that the appointment of transaction advisors, financial advisors and legal advisors in respect of privatization matters should be given a formal shape for the approval of the Federal Cabinet.

Meeting on Budgeted 2023-24

LAHORE: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif chairs a meeting on budget 2023-24 proposals regarding the agriculture sector on Wednesday.



Photo: Online

Ayaz, Sergei discuss matters of mutual interest

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Economic Affairs Sardar Ayaz Sadiq and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Belarus Sergei Aleinik on Wednesday discussed the matters of mutual interest, including the commitments made during the sixth session of Pakistan-Belarus Joint Ministerial Commission (JMC) in January 2023 at Minsk, Belarus.

Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Belarus Sergei Aleinik called on the minister, said a press release issued here.

The meeting was also attended by Andrei Metelitsa, the Ambassador of Belarus to Pakistan, Igor Bely, the DG for Asia, Africa and Latin America, and Ilya Kanapliou, the Trade Councillor at the Embassy of

Belarus to Pakistan, Humair Karim, the acting secretary EAD, the additional secretary, and other senior officials from the Ministry of Economic Affairs.

Minister for Economic Affairs Sardar Ayaz Sadiq warmly welcomed the foreign minister of the Republic of Belarus and highlighted that both countries shared a cordial and friendly relationship and are committed to strengthening bilateral ties in future.

He appreciated the successful 6th Session of Pakistan-Belarus JMC, which paved the way for further cooperation in trade, agriculture, health, science & technology, tourism, and investment in the industrial sector.

He further highlighted that Belarusian nationals can benefit from the Short-Term Train-



ing Program in Professional Training and Advancement Program (PTAP) under the three disciplines: banking, railways, and postal.

Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Belarus Sergei Aleinik showed keen interest

He further highlighted the expertise of Belarusian bio and medical technologies, geological exploration, mining technology, agricultural equipment, fertilizers, and information & communication technology from which Pakistan can benefit. He also appreciated the Government of Pakistan's outlook towards the enhancement of trade and commerce as well as the development of agriculture.

He emphasized further strengthening economic cooperation between the two countries utilizing the forum of the Pak-Belarus Joint Ministerial Commission.

The Foreign Minister for Belarus extended a warm invitation to the Federal for Economic Affairs to visit Belarus. The meeting ended with a vote of thanks from both sides.

Over 75% repair, maintenance work of Neelum Jhelum completed: NA body told

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: The National Assembly Standing Committee on Water Resources on Wednesday was apprised that over 75 per cent repair and maintenance work of 969 MW Neelum-Jhelum Hydro Power Project has already been completed and remaining work would be complete shortly.

The committee which met with Nawab Yousaf Talpur in the Chair was informed that due to blockage in the water discharge tunnel of Neelum-Jhelum Hydro Power Project

the project was closed in 2022. Due to the blockage and closure of the project a loss of billions of rupees has been incurred.

The Project Director, Neelum-Jhelum Hydro Power Project informed the Standing Committee that as the project has insurance, so a claim of over Rs 41 billion has already been sent to concerned insurance companies.

The Standing Committee directed that the claim be properly followed-up and the Standing Committee should be updated, regularly.

The committee was

informed that dewatering of flood water from Sindh and Balochistan has also been completed. Dewatering of flood water was the duty of National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA). However, the provincial departments and NDMA have jointly completed the task, it was further told.

NDMA paid Rs. 250/- million to relevant provincial department of Balochistan for dewatering. Similarly, 159 dewatering pumps were also provided to relevant provincial department of Sindh. Hence, 99% of dewatering has been completed in the province.

However, in few lowlands some water was still there.

The Standing Committee was informed that during the current year the Advisory Committee of Indus River System Authority (IRSA) predicted for 27% shortage of water. But actually 20% more water shortage took place as of the predicted water. So, the shortage of the water is proportionately distributed among different federating units.

Nawab Muhammad Yousuf Talpur directed that Water Apportionment Accord 1991 be acted upon in letter and spirit.

He further declared that any mistake, laziness or violation of the law would not be tolerated at all.

Members of National Assembly (MNAs) Engr. Sabir Hussain Kaim Khani, Ms. Nuzhat Pathan, Mr. Khalid Hussain Magsi, Mir Munawar Ali Talpur, Syed Hussain Tariq and Mr. Muhammad Mohsin Leghari, the Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources, Chairman and Members, IRSA and senior officers of the Ministry of Water Resources, IRSA, Irrigation Departments and WAPDA also attended the meeting.

Two terrorists killed in South Waziristan IBO

Raja Furqan Ahmed

RAWALPINDI: Two terrorists were killed in an Intelligence-Based Operation (IBO) launched by security forces in the general area Dossali of Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa's South Waziristan district.

According to Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), security forces conducted an intelligence-based operation in the general area Dossali, South Waziristan district on the reported presence of terrorists. During the operation, an intense exchange of fire occurred between the security forces and terrorists, resulting in the killing of two terrorists.

Weapons and ammunition were also recovered from the killed terrorists, who remained actively involved in terrorist activities against security forces and killing of innocent citizens, the military's media wing further said.

The ISPR said the area was being sanitized to eliminate any terrorists found in the area. Locals of the area also appreciated the operation and expressed their full support to eliminate the menace of terrorism, it added.

World No Tobacco Day

Tobacco tax imperative to protect our generations

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Deadly products of tobacco industry are killing present and future of Pakistani Children. Government must ensure that children remain protected from these products. These views were shared by the speakers during an event organized by the Society for the Protection of the Rights of the Child (SPARC) to celebrate World No Tobacco Day 2023.

Dr. Shazia Sobia Aslam Soomro, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of National Health Services Regulations & Coordination, said that the 61 million of youth is an asset for Pakistan but the addictive and dangerous tobacco products are a threat for our present and future. The government recently increased the tax on tobacco products so that they go beyond the purchasing power of youth.

She further added that approximately 1200 children beginning smoking daily and 170,000 people dying due to tobacco induced diseases every year. We can't let young lives



suffer at any cost. Youth must thrive and for that increasing tobacco prices to keep it away from children's reach is imperative.

Dr. Nisar Ahmed Cheema, MNA and Member Standing Committee Health, talked about the theme of World No Tobacco Day 2023 - We Need Food, Not Tobacco. He said that due to inflation the children and youth of Pakistan are facing severe issues in meeting their educational, nutritional, and recreational requirements.

Hence government's decision to increase tobacco prices should be welcomed and supported by all.

Dr. Samina Matloob, Member, Standing Commit-

tee, National Assembly of Pakistan for National Health Services Regulations & Coordination, said Pakistani youth is bombarded with sales and advertisement of tobacco products. Homes, Educational Institutions, Recreational spaces, these products are very where. It is our collectively responsibility to protect our children and youth from these products.

Dr. Ziauddin Islam, Former Technical Head, Tobacco Control Cell, Ministry of Health, tobacco industry claims to be a provider but in reality it is causing damage to economy. The recent decision by government to increase Federal Excise Duty on tobacco products is commendable.

In order to build on this, FED should be increased according to the inflation for the fiscal year 2023-24.

Suleman Ahmed, DG, Higher Education Commission (HEC), our youth wants a safe and healthy future. It is about time our policymakers decide whether they want to support the youth or an industry which trying to recruit this youth as replacements to keep its profits going.

Khalid Ahmed Dogar, Program Manager SPARC, mentioned that the track and trace system implemented by the FBR in Pakistan is a great way to ensure that tobacco industry can't cause any further damage to our economy.

AJK PM calls on FM Bilawal



Abdul Majeed Tahir

ISLAMABAD: Azad Jammu & Kashmir Prime Minister Chaudhry Anwarul Haq Wednesday called on Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari here at Zardari House and discussed matters of mutual interests, including prevailing political situation in the country.

FM Bilawal, reiterating the country's continual and consistent support to the Kashmiris' legitimate struggle,

said efforts to highlight the Kashmir issue at the international level would be further accelerated in order to sensitize the global community about the early and amicable settlement of the longstanding dispute.

The foreign minister also reiterated Pakistan's political, moral and diplomatic support for the Kashmir cause.

AJK Minister Raja Faisal Mumtaz Rathore was also present in the meeting, an AJK Government press release said.

SC adjourns hearing of audio leak case till next week



City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Supreme Court on Wednesday adjourned hearing of a petition filed against the judicial commission probing the veracity of recent audio leaks till next week.

A five-member larger bench comprising Chief Justice of Pakistan Umar Ata Bandial, Justice Ijaz Ul Ahsan, Justice Mumib Akhtar, Justice Syed Hasan Azhar Rizvi and Justice Shahid Waheed heard the case.

During the course of proceedings, the judicial commission led by Justice Qazi Faez Isa submitted a concise statement through commission secretary Hafeezullah Khajjak and objected to the five-member bench.

The response stated that one of the alleged audio leaks concerned the chief justice's mother-in-law and Justice Akhtar was also mentioned during the conversation.

The commission stated that it would not be appropriate for the SC judges were required to not allow their personal interest to influence their official conduct or official deci-

sions.

One of the petitioners Advocate Riaz Hanif Rahi said he wanted to file a contempt of court petition.

The chief justice observed that all the petitions would be clubbed and included in the case.

He said the court would first hear Attorney General for Pakistan (AGP) Mansoor Usman Awan's arguments against the five-judge bench. No decision was taken on the objections to the bench at the previous hearing, he added.

He said the court was directing the registrar to allot a number to the AGP's plea and directed Awan to provide copies of his petition to all the respondents.

He said the government's petition had included some words that should not have been there.

Advocate Shoaib Shaheen, counsel for Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) President Abid Shahid Zuberi, said the association had always defended the apex court in talk shows but the judicial commission had stated that "we speak against the judiciary during talk shows".

Sanam Javed Khan's father reacts to his daughter's imprisonment

Bureau Report

LAHORE: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader Sanam Javed Khan's father Rana Bilal reacted to his daughter's imprisonment.

As per details, Sanam Javed Khan's father Rana Bilal said that his daughter is on bad terms with him because she says "I talk bad about PTI chief Imran Khan".

The PTI leader's father maintained

that former prime minister Imran Khan is basically a 'bad person'.

He said that the PTI chief has no concerns about Pakistan. Rana Bilal further said that his ideology is against extremism.

It is pertinent to mention that several PTI members including senior leadership were arrested after the May 9 violence following the arrest of former prime minister and PTI Chairman Imran Khan.

Pakistan slams IMF's 'intervention' in internal matters

ISLAMABAD: State Minister for Finance and Revenue Aisha Ghaus Pasha Wednesday slammed the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for "intervening" in Pakistan's internal matters.

"Pakistan's conduct is in line with the law," the state minister said, terming IMF Mission Chief for Pakistan Nathan Porter's statement - regarding the political situation in Pakistan - "extraordinary".

While the IMF does not comment on domestic politics, Porter had said that the Fund hopes "a peaceful way forward is found in line with the Constitution and the rule of law."

Hoping that both sides will reach a staff-level agreement before the announcement of the federal budget - expected to be unveiled on June 9 - for the fiscal year 2023-24, the state minister said that the delay is neither good for Pakistan nor the Fund.

Rescue 1122 Emergency Service Every Time Ready For Any Emergency: Dr Kaleem Ullah

Kiran Asim

MULTAN: To assess the capacity of the departments to deal with any emergency situation, to plan the finalization of measures through inter-connection and to control the situation in minimum time is the main objective of Mock-Exercise. Government departments across the district participated fully in the flood mock-exercise at Yad Muhammadwala organized by Rescue 1122. Preparations of all departments to deal with the pre-monsoon and expected flood situation were complete and utilized in the relief operations. The devices are also in operational condition.

In any emergency and expected flood situation, the district administration and government agencies will be the first team rescue 1122 to help the people in trouble by using all the resources to protect the life and property of the people. Amir Iftikhar addressed the participants on Mock



Exersize for Monsoon and Possible Floods 2023.

Earlier, a salute was given by the men of Rescue 1122 and the boats marched past. After which the District Emergency Officer Dr. Kaleemullah welcomed the heads of all institutions and especially Assistant Commissioner President Amir Iftikhar, Assistant Commissioner City Simal Mushtaq, Assistant Commissioner Shujaabad Dr. Fayas and PDMA representative Nasir Sultan

on the Mock Exersize. Said and highlighted the purpose of mock exercise. Incident Command Post, Medical, Logistics and Maintenance Camps have been set up by Rescue 1122 in Mock Xerzee.

While thanking the Department of Health, Department of Education, Livestock, Agriculture, Sui Gas, Civil Defence, Police, Municipal Corporation, Department of Public Relations, Community Emergency Response Teams who participated in the flood

mock exercise and for dealing with the possible flood situation.

On this occasion, awareness relief camps were organized by the government departments and the officers gave a briefing regarding their awareness flood relief camps. In the flood mock exercise, Rescue 1122 also conducted a practical demonstration of rescuing people trapped in the flood and moving the affected families along with their belongings to safe places in a professional manner.

React Native - a future driven technology: Ms Humera Batool

Quratul Ain Asim

MULTAN: Institute of CS&IT organized one day awareness seminar on React Native: A future driven technology at Women University Multan. Ms. Humera Batool Gill, lecturer CS & IT, WUM gave an overview of React Native followed by a presentation by Dr. Khawaja Tehseen Ahmed Associate Professor from the Computer Science Department Bahuddin Zakriya University Multan. He briefly describes the uses, strength, and its market share. In fact, this session paved the way to explore opportunities for students to make their place in the mobile app development market. At the end, Director Dr. Khadija Kanwal presented a shield to Dr. Khawaja Tehseen Ahmed and appreciated the session for highlighting the opportunity of using React Native for students. Certificates are distributed among the faculty of CS & IT as well as other departments.



Biometric attendance not limited to DHQ or Primary Health Care Department: Dr Masood

Kiran Asim

MULTAN: Pakistan Medical Association delegation met at MS District Headquarters Shahbaz Sharif Hospital, biometric attendance, waiting room for patients' relatives, doctors' parking. As per the details, the delegation of PMA Multan under the leadership of President PMA Multan Prof. Dr. Masood-ul-Rauf Haraj visited MS Shahbaz Sharif Hospital Dr. Shoaib. Had a detailed meeting with Dr. Shoaib Iqbal. Meanwhile, the delegation said that biometric attendance should not be limited to district headquarters hospital or primary health care department. If necessary, it should be applied to all departments of Punjab without discrimination.

A library should be established in the premises of Shahbaz Sharif Hospital so that the doctors stay connected with the latest guidelines. Their participation in the program has been pending for several months, while MSS Dr. Shoaib Iqbal assured to raise all these points before the higher authorities for their resolution.

While the delegation asked to follow up till the solution of the problems, on this occasion Dr. Murtaza Baloch, Dr. Ashfaq Gujjar were in the delegation. Dr. Sheikh Abdul Khaliq, Dr. Zulqarnain Haider, Dr. Waqar Niazi, Dr. Umair, Dr. Haris, Dr. Zohaib and others were present.

On special instructions of IGFC S Haroon Hameed arranged a free medical camp

Adam Khan Wazir

WANA: On special instructions of IGFC South KP arranged a free medical camp after the made functional of BHU Khan Kot in Lower South Waziristan District.

However, a medical team of security forces will visit BHU Khan Kot three days a week (Friday to Sunday) for the convenience of local people.

Yesterday, on the demand of the local people, a free medical camp was organized in this regard at BHU Khan Kot. A total of 300 patients including men and women were treated in the medical camp.

The local people of the area appreciated the efforts of FC South KP for arranging the medical camp and thanked IGFC South KP for the restoration of BHU.

On the other hand, the tribal elders said that Pak Army, FC South and SWS have not only played a leading role in functionality the health centers but have also taken the lead in providing all possible facilities to the people in the area.

Demanded to govt to declare the area disaster prone: local elders

Adam Khan Wazir

WANA: In most areas of Lower South Waziristan district, standing crops, vegetables and fruits have been completely destroyed due to heavy hailstorm, rain and stormy winds.

Heavy rain and hailstorm lashed Zarmilan, a remote area of South Waziristan Lower, completely destroying all the crops in the area and most of the people in Waziristan depend on agriculture, but yesterday's heavy rains, hailstorms and flash floods have completely destroyed all the standing crops in the area. The local tribal elders of Zarmilan region said that if the central and provincial governments do not address our losses, the farmers will face financial difficulties.



Awarding

CHINIOT: Chief Justice Lahore High Court Muhammad Ameer Bhatti awarding to seniors lawyers shields for their best performance at a local hotel.



Photo: Online

Seminar held at Iqra University North Campus on 'Mental Health Week'

News Desk

KARACHI: Mental health is an important aspect of overall well-being, and often requires a combination of interventions for effective treatment. These mental health conditions are usually treated with different medications. These views were expressed by a renowned psychiatrist and professor at Jinnah Sindh Medical University, Dr. Mohammad Iqbal Afridi, during the "Mental Health Week" seminar held at Iqra University



North Campus, highlighting the significant roles of pharmacological and psychological management in overcoming mental stress.

By gaining knowledge about these medications and

their effects, we can make informed decisions and work together to achieve the best treatment outcomes. Dr. Salima Tejani Head of the Department of Psychology stated that events like

these, which provide counseling, therapy, and pharmacology education in educational institutions, empower students to manage mental stress, promote well-being, and help others improve their mental health.

At the end of the event, The Campus Director Prof. Dr. Syed Ali Raza presented a Commemorative shield to Professor Dr. Mohammad Iqbal Afridi. Dr. Mohammad Masroor, Dr. Salima Tejani, and other participants were present at the occasion.

Training workshop on e-challanig

Mian Rashid Asghar

FAISALABAD: Training workshop on E-Challanig for PHP Officers In pursuance of the directions of DIG PHP Dr Muhammad Athar Waheed held & Training programme on E-Challan was conducted for the ASIs' and SIs' of Faisalabad and Sarghoda Region of Punjab Highway Patrol at Agriculture University Faisalabad. The master trainers from Punjab Information Technology Board namely Rashid Mahmood Project Director, Mamoon Sharif Software engineer delivered lectures and did practical demonstrations through multi-media about the method to challan the violators through using the Electronic means.

Four books launched at AIOU

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: A book launch ceremony was held at Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU), in which 4 different books were launched. This event was organized by the Department of Pakistani Languages, AIOU. Chairman, Department of Pakistani Languages, Prof. Dr. Abdullah Jan Abid presided over the ceremony while Chairperson, Department of Punjabi, Lahore College for Women University, Dr. Mujahida Butt was the chief guest.

Four books titled Adbiyat-e-Sindh, Baluchistan: Qadeem Tareekhi Manazir, Oya Qurban (a book written on the tradition of Pashto Tappe) and Punjabi Shaeri Te Moseeqi Da Sambandh were launched. The authors of the books are Dr. Hakim Ali Baroro, Wahid Bakhsh Buzdar, Tayyabullah Khan and Dr. Saadat Ali Saqib respectively.



Dr. Zia ur Rahman from Department of Pakistani Languages hosted the ceremony. The authors presented the importance and scenarios of their books and thanked Prof. Dr. Abdullah Jan Abid for organizing this ceremony. Dr. Mujahida Butt appreciated that Allama Iqbal Open University is providing education to international students besides overseas Pakistanis

around the world. She praised that languages and linguistics are also taught at this university.

Dr. Abdullah Jan Abid said that the efforts for the development and promotion of Pakistani languages in the AIOU have been going on for two decades. Current Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr. Nasir Mahmood, and Dean of Social Sciences, Prof. Dr. Abdul Aziz

Sahir are paying special attention to Pakistani languages for the promotion of national unity and harmony in the country. Our new generation is not familiar with our literature and culture. As per the instructions of Vice Chancellor, Pashto, Sindhi, Balochi, Punjabi language, literature, and culture courses are being included in all BS programs of the university.

Pakistan Can Earn \$300 million through PVC exports

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Significant investments to expand and improve the efficiency of domestic PVC production have created an opportunity for Pakistan to earn USD 300 million through the export of surplus volumes and products.

Currently, Pakistan's per capita PVC consumption stands at 1.2 kg versus a global average of 6.1 kg. Growth in our per capita consumption will be driven by rising per capita income, increasing urbanization, and robust domestic manufacturing in the coming years. Through various customer engagement and market development initiatives, such as a retail outlet - think PVC, Engro Polymer & Chemicals Limited (EPCL) is actively promoting various standardized, high-quality PVC products.

At a media briefing, Mahmood Siddiqui, Vice President Manufacturing of the Company, highlighted that, "Since 2015, the Company has invested over USD 188 million in Plant expansion and other upgrade projects for higher efficiency, reliability, and diversification of operations. In 2021, EPCL enhanced its PVC capacity to 295,000 tons per annum, which is sufficient to fully cater to the local demand and achieve exports as well." Muhammad Idrees, Chief

Commercial Officer at EPCL, said that "the Company is collaborating with TDAP to explore global markets for export of value-added PVC downstream products. In the last two years, the Company exported surplus products worth USD 48 million to Turkey and Middle Eastern markets, while import substitution of around USD 300 million contributed significantly toward solving Pakistan's balance of payments situation. The downstream PVC industry can fully utilize its excess capacity and help in earning USD 300 million in valuable foreign exchange by standardizing and improving the quality of finished products."

The Company's 2030 vision is to become a globally-competitive PVC producer, prioritizing exports, and increasing the domestic per capita PVC consumption to international levels. As part of its business strategy, the Company is also looking to position PVC as the "Material of Choice" with a primary emphasis on value added products.

Alas, for the Company to enact its plans and maximize the potential of PVC exports while also meeting increasing local demand, it is equally imperative for the Government to ensure a conducive business environment with availability of right policies and necessary utilities.



Islamabad
15° - 23° Clear

SERVICES

Namaz Timings

Fajr 3:18 am
Zohr 12:05 pm
Asr 5:04 pm
Maghrib 7:12 pm
Isha 8:53 pm

EMERGENCY

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

Women Police Stations

Islamabad 9222596
Rawalpindi 9270601-20

ENQUIRY

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

HOSPITALS

CMH 561111
MH 561116
MH 561116
Cantt Hospital 9270907-11
DHQ 5556311-4
RGH 9290301-7
Holy Family 9290322-7
PIMS 9261170-79
Polyclinic 9218300-09
Shifa International 4603666

DEPARTMENTS

CDA 9221334-43
Met Office 9250360-6
RDA 5555864
TMA 5770886
Cantonment Board 9270151-3
Islamabad Metropolitan Corporation 9209224

Pakistan's Fourth Miss Pakistan Crowning Ceremony

News Desk

LAHORE: Pakistan by Sonia Ahmed, President of Miss Pakistan and has continued to grow since then. In 2020, Areej Chaudhary hailing from Islamabad, was crowned Miss Pakistan World 2020 on the soil of Pakistan and since then has represented Pakistan in Miss Earth, Miss Global and Miss Eco International and is soon planning to go to Turkey to represent Pakistan in Miss Aura International.

In 2021, in another historic event, Sonia Ahmed, the President of Miss Pakistan Pageants, announced the crowning of the first trans girl on the soil of Pakistan as Miss Trans Pakistan 2021.

In 2022, Lahore's city was buzzing with beauty queens as more titles were introduced by Sonia Ahmed, the founder of Pakistan's Pageant Industry. Miss Pakistan Universal, Miss Pakistan Global, Miss Pakistan Supreme and Miss Pakistan National were a few to name. Mrs. Pakistan and Mr. Pakistan titles were also awarded to the contestants in Lahore. Dr. Shafaq Akhtar the newly crowned Miss Pakistan Universal made waves in the pageant industry by participating in Miss Aura International, Miss Planet and Miss Elite. She brought back the first winning titles to Pakistan. She won Miss Rixos Sultana in Miss Aura and Miss Humanity in Miss Planet. Two winning titles were brought back to Pakistan.

Committed to impart education to every child under ZERO OOSC in ICT: DG NCHD

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: "Islamabad has a higher level of rate of Literacy as compared to the other parts of the country. Similarly the number of OOSC is less than the other parts of the country too. However, there are still challenges in terms of ensuring that all children have access to education. The population of Islamabad Capital Territory is more than two million and number of children of age 05 to 16 in Islamabad is 629,538 (estimated), the percentage of OOSC is 10% (ref PSLM 2019-20). The total number of OOSC in Islamabad is more than 52,000" this was observed by DG NCHD Syed Junaid Akhlaq while addressing the community at the inauguration ceremony of community school Barakahu, in Islamabad today.

He said that some factors that contribute to the issue of out-of-school children in Islamabad and other areas of Pakistan as well include: Poverty, Gender disparities, Infrastructure and accessibility related to safety, internal

displacement and lack of quality of education. Efforts are being made by the government, non-governmental organizations, and civil society to address these challenges and increase access to education for all children, he informed.

Recently Ministry of federal Education & Professional Trainings had launched ZERO OOSC Drive for Islamabad. NCHD had launched massive enrollment campaign to achieve the target of Zero OOSC drive, he added. Children of age cohort 5-16 are being tracked to roll out in non-formal schools established by NCHD, BECS, NEF, and FDE. Local organizations like Sunbeam and Page are contributing as well in the drive, he further added.

It gives me immense pleasure to share with you that in a couple of days NCHD had identified more than 10,000 OOSC through door to door household survey. NCHD social mobilization process and its results reflect the untiring efforts of every employee. 35 teams were constituted containing 5 members each for data collection to track all out of school children in Islam-

abad. Initially, our focus was on identification of OOSC, starting from today NCHD is going to gear up enrollment of these OOSC in NCHD education facilities i.e. establishment of Community Schools (CS) & Accelerated Learning Centers (ALP). NCHD has established 57 schools which include 52 Community Schools & 5 ALP Centers. Total enrollment in NCHD educational facilities is 3,528 children.

To make it possible that all children aged 5-16 years receive education in the post-18th amendment era, a three-pronged approach is required, and fortunately, NCHD is the only organization in the country that possesses the said approach, namely formal/non-formal /informal education along with youth literacy. Comprehensive enrollment strategy and dropout-follow up mechanism of UPE program further strengthen the organization. Since inception NCHD has focused on enrollment of OOSC with special emphasis to their retention as well, 16 million



OOSC have been enrolled till 2016. NCHD inked Taleem-e-Wazaif project with BISP in 2021 and had enrolled 2.5 million chil-

dren to schools, across the country, he shared.

He stressed that if all stakeholders work with the same pace and

commitment Inshallah soon Pakistan will be able to achieve targets of SDG-4 and 100% enrollment in the country.

Rainy weather

ISLAMABAD: People are enjoying during rainy weather at F-9 Park as the temperature today in Capital city is like the month February.



Photo: Online by Sultan Bashir

Secretary WWF highlighted Pakistan's dedication to safeguarding the rights of migrant workers

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: In a recent address to the Asia-Gulf Cooperation Council, at Manila, Philippines Mr. Zulfikar Ahmad, Secretary of Workers Welfare Fund, highlighted Pakistan's dedication to safeguarding the rights of migrant workers and promoting safe, orderly, and regular migration. The speech emphasized the importance of addressing the challenges faced by migrant workers, including forced labor, exploitation, and discrimination, arising from man-made crises, natural disasters, and pandemics.

With Pakistan being one of the leading countries of origin



for migrants in Asia, Mr. Ahmad emphasized the country's active participation in various international platforms and initiatives such as the Colombo Process, Abu Dhabi Dialogue, Budapest Process, and Bali Process. Pakistan is committed to working with organizations like the

International Labour Organization (ILO), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), and the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) to enhance global governance on international migration.

To address the challenges related to labor migration,

Pakistan's Ministry of Overseas Pakistanis & Human Resource Development has developed a comprehensive Draft National Emigration & Welfare Policy for Overseas Pakistanis. This policy aims to ensure fair and ethical recruitment processes, protect the rights of emigrant workers through Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) with destination countries, and engage community welfare attaches in Pakistani Missions abroad.

Pakistan's efforts to enhance cooperation and partnerships in protecting migrants have resulted in the signing of several MOUs with countries such as Saudi Arabia, UAE, Kuwait, and South Korea.



to educate the nation about the dangers of tobacco. He suggested government that short term solution to control tobacco is to increase taxes on it and make it less affordable for people and long term solution is to make country tobacco free through legislation.

Dr. Anjum Jalal while talking about the harms of

tobacco said it is one of the major causes of heart and many other diseases. He said that there has been an alarming increase in heart diseases among children and one of the main reasons for this is parental smoking and second hand smoking. Colonel Shakeel Ahmad Mirza said that Pakistan has become a hotbed of

diseases at present, one of the main reasons for which is the availability of tobacco products at very low prices, instead of the government removing tobacco products from the reach of the public, it legalizes new products.

Dr. Wajid Ali said that we have to protect our children and youth who are the future of the nation from the ravages of tobacco. PANAH is working for a great cause which every section of the nation should stand with.

Dr. Saleha said that tobacco is the major cause of heart diseases and we shall work on tobacco control to reduce the heart diseases in Pakistan. Dr. Abdul Mateen said that aware-

Beware of fraudulent financial activities

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP), from time to time, issues public warnings to raise awareness among the general public regarding typologies of potentially fraudulent activities perpetrated by companies or entities/individuals posing as legitimate incorporated persons that come to their attention. The objective is to educate public, enabling them to recognize and avoid falling prey to deceptive practices.

On the basis of information available on social media and complaints/queries received recently it is observed that following typical business models are being used to lure public;

Mobile/web-based apps promising lucrative profits/referral bonuses on deposits/investments;

Seeking deposits in the name of making investments on your behalf in different products and promise lucrative return like investments in Surface Mount LED (SMD) screens, trading of different products/forex/cryptos;

Taking advances in the name of fees/down payment for provision of loans or assets on lease/easy installments at low markup;

Receiving funds for online jobs packages,

The general public is, once again, cautioned that the Certificate of Incorporation of a company is only an evidence of its registration as a corporate entity. Deposit taking/leasing/financing is only permissible to companies which have obtained a license (different from incorporation certificate) to that effect.

Any person dealing with a company is recommended to self-check status of that company on SECP's website or by raising a query with SECP on <https://sdms.secp.gov.pk/>. A list of companies suspected to be involved in unauthorized businesses is placed on SECP website and is updated from time to time.

It is noticed that ill-willed actors devise new models to interact with and deceive public. Public is therefore advised to remain vigilant and report any suspected activity by a registered company at scams@secp.gov.pk.

SIEMENS & the German Cooperation Strives to Provide Opportunities to Young Women



Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Supporting the cause of empowering young women by providing them with employment opportunities in technical trades, NAVTTC, the German-funded and GIZ-implemented Global Project Education (Build4Skills) in partnership with SIEMENS Pakistan presented their joint initiative "Shana Bhashana" to the national and international TVET experts, decision-makers and private sector representatives in an event in Karachi.

While giving the opening remarks, Mr. Andreas Wegner, Consul / Deputy Head of Mission German Consulate General Karachi emphasized that "only by setting promising examples we de-construct stereotypes or false assumptions about gender and someone's abilities".

Mr. Muhammad Daniyal, Managing Director of Siemens Pakistan appreciated the efforts by all the stakeholders for making this initiative possible and encouraged the female participants to strive for their dreams and stand side by side with men in all trades and sectors."

Ms. Romina Kochius, Coordinator Sustainable Economic Development, Training, and Employment, GIZ and also looking after the Global Project Education (Build4Skills) in Pakistan, while addressing the young women stated, "you are the enablers, who challenge systemic limitations and institutionalized discrimination - so that alleged choices become actual choices".

Ms Momina Dar, CEO, BTIL Academy and an experienced professional from the humanitarian and development sector was the keynote speaker at the event where she addressed the topic of women's participation in unconventional trades. Her speech led to a fruitful panel discussion on empowering young girls while promoting work-place based training.

GIZ's Global Project Education (Build4Skills) is a globally operating project funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). Under this project, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and GIZ have formed a strategic partnership united in the belief that infrastructure measures hold an untapped potential for work-place based training (WBT). The project is operating small-scale interventions in Pakistan, Kenya, South Africa, Senegal and Mongolia.

We will go to any extent to protect our youth from the tobacco industry's tactics. Kiani

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Already in Pakistan, a large number of people, especially the youth, are suffering from the deadly effects of tobacco, and the tobacco industry has brought new and more destructive products into the market. We must do everything possible to protect our youth from these tobacco industry tactics. This was said by speakers while addressing a conference organized by Rawalpindi Institute of Cardiology in collaboration with PANAH on the occasion of Anti-Tobacco Day. The Chief Guest of the event was Panah President Major General (Retd) Masood ur Rehman

Kayani. Executive Director of Rawalpindi Institute of Cardiology, Anjum Jalal, Consultant Physician and Panah's Lead Technical Advisor Consultant Pulmonologist Professor Dr. Wajid Ali, Prof. Colonel Dr. Shakeel Ahmed Mirza, a large number of civil society, youth and journalists participated in the event. The event was hosted by Panah Secretary General Sanaullah Ghumman.

General Masood ur Rahman Kayani said that Panah has been trying to save its countrymen from heart and related diseases for the last 40 years. Smoking is one of the leading causes of heart disease, cancer and many other diseases. We are on a mission

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Yaume Takreem-e-Shuhda with Pak Army

Islam has given special place to martyrs. Pakistan has also got lot of martyrs which gave their lives to give us security and safety. Martyrs of Pak Army and our security departments are our heroes who ensured our safety with their bloods.

Nation has witnessed the malicious incidents on May 9 when a group of few riots and anti-state elements attacked on the Pak Army and civilian's installations. They also attacked on the Yadgars and models of our national heroes. Many lives of our soldiers and civilians were lost in these incidents. Riots not only damaged the installations and properties but they also attacked on the Yadgars of our martyrs which was not a good sign in acknowledging their remarkable services for the country. The feelings of the families of our martyrs were badly affected because of these evil attacks.

Army Chief General Asim Munir announced to observe May 25 as Youm-e-Takreem Shuhada-e-Pakistan (Day of Honouring the Martyrs of Pakistan) in order to acknowledge the sacrifices of our martyrs and showing solidarity with their families.

The army chief's visited to the Police Lines to observe 'Youm-e-Takreem Shuhada-e-Pakistan (Day of Honouring the Martyrs of Pakistan)', dedicated to the brave heroes who laid down their lives for the defense and prosperity of the country.

The families and children of the martyrs were present, grief-stricken yet proud, as they too placed flowers on the memorial, honoring their loved ones' sacrifice.

Commissioner Islamabad Liaquat Ali Chtata and Commissioner Pindi Noorul Amin, representing the government, paid their respects by placing flowers on the memorial. The commemoration also witnessed the presence of respected individuals such as PTV anchorperson Ishrat

Fatima, as well as religious leaders Mufti Muneeb and Maulana Akhbir Azad, who all expressed their reverence for the martyrs by laying flowers on the memorial. A sea of distinguished personalities including entrepreneurs, artists, scholars, and activists also joined the ensemble.

A number of ceremonies of Quran recitation and prayers for fallen heroes were arranged across the country. People paid tribute to the eternal sacrifices of the martyrs of the Pakistan Army, Rangers, Frontier Constabulary (FC), Police, and other law enforcement agencies who laid down their lives for the peace and order of the homeland to end terrorism. Moreover, several commemorative cere-

monies were held at the martyrs' memorials to pay tribute to them. A number of commemorative ceremonies were held at Pakistan Air Force (PAF), Pakistan Naval Headquarters (PN), and Police Yadgar-e-Suhada including Azad Jammu Kashmir (AJK), Gilgit-Baltistan (GB) and all provincial capitals. The day serves as a powerful reminder that the 'sacrifices made by the martyrs shall never be in vain'.

Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Asim Munir also had an informal meeting with the school students and children of martyrs present on the occasion of Pakistan Martyrs' Day - which was held at the Pakistan Military's General Headquarters (GHQ). General Asim Munir said that Pakistan Army was the heir of all children of martyrs, stating that the relation with them is 'exemplary and long-lasting'. "Pakistan Army will stand united with you," said COAS to the kids of the martyrs. Army Chief also visited the martyrs' monument, laid floral wreath and offered fatcha.

Corps Commander Rawalpindi Lt. Gen Shahid Imtiaz was the chief guest of the event. Everything was well organized and timings were strictly followed. The Corps Commander Rawalpindi Lt. Gen Shahid Imtiaz laid a wreath at the Martyrs' Memorial Muzaffarabad and offered a special prayer for the development, prosperity and stability of the country. On this occasion, Chief Secretary Azad Kashmir Dr. Muhammad Usman Chachar and IG Police Dr. Ameer Ahmed Sheikh were also present and laid a wreath on the occasion. In this event, the heirs of martyrs of Pakistan Army, police and law enforcement agencies, children of educational institutions, political and social figures and a large number of citizens also participated. On this occasion, the chief guest

received on the gate which clearly showed the deep association of our Army with civilians. Sitting arrangement was excellent. To pay tribute to the martyrs, 'Youm-e-Takreem Shuhada-e-Pakistan' was observed with great enthusiasm across Azad Jammu and Kashmir on May 25 2023. Chief Guest mixed up with the people and had very frank conversation with everyone specially the families of martyrs. I was also introduced to the chief guest and we had a brief and very nice interaction. One thing I clearly noticed during the ceremony that there is no gap between our civilian and military sentiments. Both are on one page and people love their army by heart. So the propaganda of any sort of gap between civilians and military is totally false and rubbish.

The ceremony ended exactly on the time which was already shared with the audiences and participants. The day and its sweet memories are unforgettable for me and I along with whole nation pray that our brave army may serve the country even with more pace and enthusiasm.



Analysis

Abdul Basit Alvi

President calls for timely justice

President Dr Arif Alvi on Wednesday called for early disposal of the small domestic cases to avoid the aggravation of disputes and bloodshed.

He said the federal and provincial ombudsman had their key role in the promotion of public service and good governance.

Addressing a seminar here, the president said as a member of National Assembly (NA) in 2017, he proactively worked for passing a bill related to alternate dispute resolution to reduce the burden on the main-stream judiciary.

Dr Arif Alvi pointed out, "When physical interaction was not possible owing to security issues, the executives including himself must have arranged on-line setups such as "Zoom meetings" to ensure direct communication with the common people to guarantee timely justice delivery."

Last night, he said, "He disposed of 10 cases of the federal ombudsman and normally he disposes of the cases of appeals in just a few hours.

The president also stressed the need to raise awareness about the role of the ombudsman as few people were currently aware of its role.

He also directed for removal of obstacles in the way of interaction between government officials and the common people.

He said, "Islam teaches people to show patience and forgiveness to promote peace and harmony in society."

"No nation needs any foreign aid if they truly follow the values and teachings of Islam."

Referring to the living standards of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) and the His companions, the president also asked the country's executives to follow them and adopt the living standard of the common man.

Speaking about the importance of woman's rights and their participation in society, the president said, "Islam is the first religion that emphasized to provide an inheritance to women and in Quran it has been emphasized with clarity."

Normally in our society, he said women of a family withdrew their inheritance rights in favour of their brothers which happened often under pressure. However, he said it rarely happened that men of a family withdrew their inheritance right in favour of their sisters.

Stressing the need to ensure the women's participation in every field of life, President Alvi said the country could not afford the burden of 52% population, therefore they must be given freedom in public places so that they could freely work at any place.

Flattening the economy



Mode of Action against the Women

According to Punjab Police's own statistics, currently 291 cases have been registered against PTI people across Punjab while 56 cases have been registered in Lahore alone. The number of arrested activists across the province is 5615. Out of 291 cases, 55 cases have been registered under terrorism provisions happened.

Across the country a number of female gender of all ages are also facing the circumstances whom they never imagined that it could be happened here because we framed wonderful rules to secure and save the dignity of women.

Our dedications with Islam and ideology of Pakistan picture that a woman is naturally an innocent and delicate needs balance by the men but?

It is the grace of Islam that a woman in all forms is respectful. Impartiality, honesty and sincerity with your investigations can provide equitable justice.

If you do, punish them with beatings, not to cause injury or severe pain, and they have a right over you that you treat them well and Give bread, sustenance and accommodation in a good manner) Sahih Muslim Hadith 70 No. (1218)

Islam is full of mercy and compassion, justice and kindness have been emphasized many times in this religion and this is the spirit of this religion. Cruelty and excess, unjust beating, persecution and disturbing anyone for whatever reason is not permissible

in this religion. Men and women, rich and poor, needy and rich are all equal, no one has superiority over the other; Therefore, no rich person has been allowed to abuse the poor, nor has a powerful person been given the right to use his power over the helpless and the weak; Even the speechless animals have been commanded to be kind and merciful. The Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings be upon him, through his various sayings, forbade cruelty and abuse of animals. What is prohibited is that it is also prohibited to slaughter one animal in front of another animal; So that he does not feel the pain of being slaughtered, in Islam when he with an animal If good manners are emphasized, then how much kindness will be emphasized with human beings, respect for humanity is more than that of animals, this is the reason that no such thing will be done even with mortal enemies which is against humanity, such as beheading them, burning them in fire, suffering from thirst, inhumane punishment, etc. Once a funeral of a Jew passed in front of the Prophet (PBUH): They asked, O Messenger of Allah! This was the funeral of a Jew and a non-Muslim, what was the need to stand in respect for him? He, peace be upon him, said, "Alysat nafs" (Sahih Bukhari: 1312) "Is he not human" here

though he was not a Muslim; But the Prophet (PBUH) has respected humanity, which shows that in spite of disbelief and polytheism, the attributes of humanity and their respect will remain. In spite of slavery, the qualities of humanity are not invalidated, in the same way, humanity will not be invalidated by prisoners. The things that a human being needs as a human being will be provided anyway, such as full food, thirst. Providing water for extinguishing, providing cloth for covering the body etc. Therefore, it is not permissible to keep the prisoners hungry, thirsty, or naked. The Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings be upon him, while giving instructions to his Companions about the prisoners of Bani Qurayza, said: "Imprison them with kindness and kindness, give them a chance to rest, feed them, water them, and do not combine both the sword and the heat of this day" (Al-Musawat al-Fiqhiyah 4/198) in the days in which the prisoners of Banu Qurayzah were imprisoned. Yes, those were hot days, the heat was high; That's why the Prophet (SAW) particularly urged to provide opportunities for Qilaula in the heat of the day and in the sun; For not taking care of the heat of the prisoners in hot days, leaving them in the sun; Rather, not giving them a chance to rest is also

an inhumane act and inhumane acts with prisoners are not permissible. Beating, forcing them to stay awake continuously, or not arranging bright light or loud noise in their place of residence, is not valid in Sharia. Crimes of course Islam They are also very hideous and reprehensible in sight, their dead followers deserve the most severe punishment; But Shariat has also defined its limits and the important thing among them is respect for humanity, any punishment that harms humanity is not permissible.

In view of the current situation, it is clear that courts, police stations and jails should be separate for women and their command and control system should also be in the hands of women, otherwise many valuable people have gone to other countries and now we this series continues, women can also join and prefer to migrate because a women's shelter is a man & what role is expected in these circumstances?

All female genders must be released on bail immediately & maximum opportunities should be provided to them to express in front of the judiciary for actuality and factually funding.

The women arrested in the Jinnah House vandalism cases, are being brought to the court with their faces covered with shopping bags to hide their identity, but this Identity is giving a certain lesson to world!

Mood, mode & methodologies raised many questions but who will answer and when?

Allah has given us this country, Pakistan-II

Allhamdulillah! Today there is no one asking for bread. He said, "Don't turn away someone who asks. If he should come on a horse with a crown on his head. And thank Allah that Allah has made us givers instead of takers."

"We should thank Allah for all the blessings that Allah has given us this country, Pakistan". In the past kings did not have electric bulbs? There were no electric fans. Today, in our blessings, all the parts of our body, our wife and children, our house, our employment, our resources, everything is pointing towards that we should be grateful to the Almighty Allah in every situation, so that Allah may bless us more. If someone praises us, let us also thank Allah that Allah has hidden us by covering our sins with his veil. We have no perfection in this.

Hazrat said that while traveling from one country to another, a woman was sitting on the next seat with her two and a half year old child and was feeding him. And at every morsel she says to her child. Say thank you. He would say. Mom: thank you. And so he repeated these words many times. Today the disbelievers have adopted our words. Today in our homes, what do our mothers not give us? Doesn't she feed us? Doesn't she do it for us? Have we ever said thank you or Jazak Allah to our mothers? If we do this, Allah will be pleased with us. Allah will bestow blessings. He said that a blind man who memorized the Qur'an came to me. He regretted that the mother from whom I was born, the mother in whose arms I grew up and with the prayers of my mother, I have memorized the Qur'an today. I have not seen her with my eyes in my whole life. So let us thank Allah for our eyes, our ears, our hands, our feet, our tongue for everything that Allah has given us all this.

Given upon the same topic, thanking Allah for his blessings, a doctor, a religious scholar, was explaining in such away. What is the value and importance

of human saliva and mentioned an incident that I saw a person in the hospital walking around with a bottle of water in his hand and repeatedly siphoning water from this bottle. Sipping again and again. I inquired him from that person what is the matter that you keep sipping water from the bottle again and again. He mentioned his pain and replied that I do not spit, so my mouth is dry. It happens so I sip water from a bottle to keep my mouth hydrated so I don't feel sick. My body isn't producing saliva. Hazrat Mulana said: That spit which has no value and no one knows it well. And it is considered the dirtiest thing. This is also a great blessing of Allah, what

would be the condition of man without it. Maulana said that we should be thankful to our parents that thanks to them, Allah has given birth to us in the house of a Muslim and in the mother's lap, Kalma Tayyaba was given. We could have been born in Hinduism, Christianity or any other religion. It is a great blessing to be born in a Muslim's home and to be blessed

with Kalma. We have no perfection in this, thank Allah for it. He said that those who are the heads of their institutions. Let them thank Allah because they could have been among the people standing outside the gates paying duties. And those who turn away those who come for jobs from outside could have been among them. Who return people from outside?

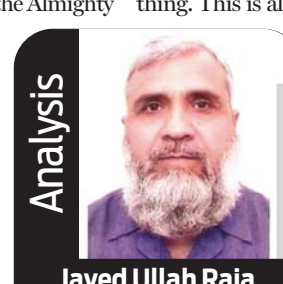
In the end, Hazrat Maulana said that we should all repent before Allah for our shortcomings. And remember that they will never turn away anyone who comes from their door. And we will not underestimate the blessings of Allah. We will become slaves. And they will become grateful servants of Allah.

Concluded
 Writer is senior analyst and reached on javedul-lahraja@gmail.com



Analysis

Mian Rashid Asghar



Analysis

Javed Ullah Raja

IS The BIG Rethink

6th Edition of Leaders in Islamabad Business Summit

Waseem Khokhar

ISLAMABAD: Nutshell Conferences Group and Martin Dow Group, in strategic partnership with Overseas Investors Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and Unity Foods Limited, hosted Day 1 of the 6th Edition of LEADERS IN ISLAMABAD BUSINESS SUMMIT, with the theme "The BIG Rethink."

The sub-themes on Day 1 varied from the need for the Big Re-Think, to Leadership in the Age of Disruption, to Disrupting the Future. The day comprised nine individual addresses, three panel discussions, and one conversation.

Addressing the Inaugural Session, Prof. Ahsan Iqbal, Federal Minister for Planning, Development & Special Initiatives, highlighted the need to streamline policies for facilitation and building a collaborative environment. He shared his vision of five essential Es for a sustainable and stable future: Exports, e-Pakistan (digitization), Environment (water security and food security), Energy (move to renewables) and Equity & Empowerment. Highlighting the need for equity he said, "We are looking at education, health and population control as our drivers and are targeting 20 poorest districts for an accelerated development program to end disparity."

Khurram Dastgir Khan, Federal Minister for Power, stated that as a result of disruption of the Ukraine war and ensuing rethinking, Pakistan's electricity generation will now be indigenized for sustainability and growth. "We will have five sources, out of which four will be domestic and one will be semi-domestic." He further added that despite immense devaluation, they have been holding on to the base tariff for electricity since



September 2022, owing to the new energy source from Thar Coal. Muhammad Azfar Ahsan, Founder & CEO Nutshell Group, and former Minister of State & Chairman Board of Investment, in his welcome address, elaborated on the theme "The BIG Rethink" for progress. "I blame incompetence, lack of political will, absence of collaboration between stakeholders and lack of continuity of policy framework for bringing us to the present condition." He reinforced that Pakistan's progress lies in uplifting education, health and digitalization, and that we need to model after ASEAN and the Central Asian Republics to expedite our progress.

Ali Akhai, Chairman, Martin Dow Group, focused on the importance of embracing transformation. In his opening remarks, he said, "In a world that is constantly evolving, change is the only constant. It is the responsibility of us leaders to reimagine and rethink. I believe we should all embrace The BIG Rethink with open minds and hearts. Together, we can defy the norms, envision a brighter future, and seize the infinite opportunities that lie ahead."



Dr. Zeelaf Munir, Managing Director & CEO, English Biscuit Manufacturers (Pvt) Limited, stated that if Pakistan has experienced a collective failure, we need a collective rethink. On an impassioned note, using the analogy of a ship, she refused to sink and encouraged the 220 million pairs of hands and hearts to be on the deck and to rise like a phoenix from the ashes.

Faisal Rehman, Managing Partner Middle East, SoftBank Investment Advisers, spoke about the urgent need to head towards digital transformation; he lauded NADRA's role in doing so. He added that, to streamline progress, NADRA must use the unique data most effectively for economic growth via analytics.

Talking about the digital future, Kaan Terzioglu, Group CEO, VEON, said, "Pakistan needs to transform data into useful information that can be used for the creation of value-added services. Let us make sure that every Pakistani uses the Internet for personal and professional development. We want 4G for all and not 5G for a few."

The Summit included a soft launch for Dr. Ishrat Husain's

new book titled 'Economic Challenges and Solutions for Pakistan.' The second session had Dr. Ishrat Husain, N.I, H.I, Author, Economist, former Federal Minister & Governor, State Bank of Pakistan, in conversation with Sajjeed Aslam, Regional Lead Public Affairs - Asia Pacific ACCA. Dr. Husain stated that contrary to popular belief, there has been a consensus. The real issue, he said, is instability and lack of accountability. "We need our youth to be equipped in the field of Sciences, Engineering, Creative arts, Mathematics, etc. Education is a game changer and teachers of STEM need to be facilitated."

This was followed by the first panel discussion of the day. Dr. Moed W. Yusuf, Pakistan's former National Security Adviser; Muhammad Aurangzeb, President & CEO, HBL and Chairman Pakistan Business Council & Pakistan Banks' Association; Ghias Khan, President & CEO, Engro Corporation; Aamir Ibrahim, President & CEO, Jazz & Chairman, Mobilink Microfinance Bank; Maheem Rahman, CEO, InfraZamin Pakistan; and Sajjeed Aslam were part of this illustrious panel.

Muhammad Aurangzeb, expressed his desire to make banks equally involved in financial partnering and get rid of collateral mind set.

Reinforcing the need for renewables, Ghias Khan, said; "The biggest challenge is the rising cost of energy, which we need to address urgently. Wind and solar alone cannot manage the load; we would need to include the Thar Coal project to curb the price surge."

Maheem Rahman lamented the lack of innovation across sectors; "Companies in Pakistan have been operating for 50-60 years, but they have been unable to innovate their processes."

Aamir Ibrahim emphasized on the importance of Internet availability for all and said that Internet shutdowns would only push the country backwards. He said that RAAST has shown the potential of digitalization. "We need to shift gears to rethink trade across borders and use digitalization in our favor."

Yousaf Hussain, President & CEO, Faysal Bank Limited, in his address following the panel discussion, shared that the bank's journey to Islamic instruments

is a testament to the possibility of rethinking and reimagining. "There must be minimization of disruption. Customers, stakeholders, and investors all must be brought on the same page alongside regulatory compliance." He highlighted the need for an increased awareness of Islamic Banking and urged the academia to play its role.

The third session was a dialogue titled 'Leadership and Strategy in the Age of Disruption.' Panelists included Irfan Wahab Khan, CEO, Telenor Pakistan & Chairman, Telenor Bank; Ayla Majid, Global Vice President, ACCA and Founder & CEO, Plaintive; Samina Rizwan, Founder, CalmKaaj; Mujeeb Zahur, Managing Director, S&P Global; and was moderated by Saquib Ahmad, Managing Director, SAP Pakistan, Iraq & Afghanistan. All speakers, who are leaders in their respective fields, echoed the need to empower teams, celebrate the failures and think of 'long-term' in terms of generations and not number of years.

The fourth session continued the discussion on disruption with a change of panelists, including Asif Peer, CEO, Systems Limit-

ed; Adil Farhat, CEO, Procter & Gamble Pakistan; Dr. Ayesha K. Khan, Regional Managing Director, Acumen; Syed Moonis Abdullah Alvi, CEO, K-Electric Limited; and Sami A. Wahid, Managing Director, Mondelez Pakistan Limited. They shared their views on the need for disruption to achieve progress. The country, they agreed, is going through an existentialist crisis; disruption is no longer an option for Pakistan rather it has become a necessity to address food insecurity and sustainability. Asif Peer elaborated "When we talk about disruption, we must understand that it does not look familiar, and we need to change in order to combat it."

Moonis Alvi stressed on the need for privatization by referring to the loss incurred by K-Electric as to how it is not contributing to circular debt in any way, and was accounted for. "Disruption in the power sector can be brought about through privatization. A non-exclusive distribution license will shape Pakistan's future, especially concerning the power sector."

The fifth session comprised the closing address by H.E. Nicolas Galey, Ambassador of France to Pakistan. Referring to France as a 'Land of Innovation,' the Ambassador highlighted the contribution of training institutions that changed the game. He said that France can aid Pakistan in its journey towards green energy. The trade between Pakistan and France grew by 20% in 2022 and he looked forward to fostering ties between both countries on collaborative and stronger footings.

The event was moderated by Rabia Ahmad, Director & Chief Operating Officer, Nutshell Group, and Shaha Tariq, Head of Content & Storytelling, Nutshell Communications (Pvt) Limited.

Govt of Pakistan start working on a war footing for the rights and cultural heritage of Cholistan: Sain Zahoor Ahmad Dharija

Asim Tanveer

BAHAWALPUR: Cholistan is undoubtedly of historical importance. The rivers of Cholistan are mentioned in the historical books and even in the ancient book of the sub-continent "Rig Veda". Today's desert was once a river, and between Mohenjo-daro and Harappa, in the form of the Hakra Valley, this region consisted of bustling cities and swaying fields. Renowned archaeologist Dr. Rafiq Mughal identified 1300 cities and towns in Cholistan in his research, but unfortunately no one paid attention to Cholistan, today Cholistan is full of problems. In order to highlight the historical, cultural and cultural importance of Cholistan, the well-known Saraiki intellectual and prominent journalist Sain Zahoor Ahmad Dharija has always raised his voice in every forum. Along with the war of the pen, Dharija Sahib organized many seminars, conferences and programs about Cholistan. Saan Zahoor Ahmed Dharija's life is full of struggle for the rights of Saraiki Wasib, not a day goes by when he does not organize a program on the issues of Wasib. The credit for the successful organization of the Cholistan Saraiki Literary Conference at the Arts Council Bahawalpur yesterday also goes to Dharija Sahib, who has worked day and night to make this conference a success.

Cholistan Saraiki Literary Conference organized by Saraiki National Council of Pakistan, Saraiki Poets Rights Council was presided over by Sain Zahoor Dharija. Islamia University Dean Faculty of Arts Professor Dr. Javed Chandio, Pakistan Saraiki Party President Malik Allah Nawaz Venus, Former Federal Secretary Hussain Ahmad Madani, Prof. Dr. Mushtaq Ahmad, renowned Saraiki poet Jahangir Mukhlis, Director Bahawalpur Arts Council Sajjad Hussain, station Director Radio Pakistan Bahawalpur Sajjad Bari Director Media Affairs Islamia University Shahzad Khalid, Prof. Ismatullah Shah, Prof. Athar Lashari, Sahibzada Mian Abdul Majeed Abbasi, Program Officer Bahawalpur Arts Council Malik Zakoullah, Ejaz Baloch, Chaudhry Shahbaz Mudal, Rai Muhammad Sharif, Malik Javed Chanar, Nasir Awan, Prof. Shamaila Manzoor, Rai Ghulam Nabi and others spoke. In his presidential address, the Chairman of Saraiki National Council, Zahoor Ahmed Dharija, said that Cholistan should be given the status of a separate division by establishing new districts, new constituencies of the Nation-



al and Provincial Assembly should be formed, human rights and basic facilities should be provided to the ancient inhabitants of Cholistan. All the lands of Cholistan should be allotted to the local residents.

Cholistan Development Authority is the main cause of exploitation of Cholistan and destruction of Cholistan. Steps should be taken to secure the relics of Cholistan. Cholistan victims should also be allotted areas in Lahore, Islamabad, Mangala Dam, Tarbela Dam and Okara Cantonment, Pit Feeder Canal and Sindh victims of Chakuk were settled in Cholistan. He said that Cholistan should not only be made a center of floating, but Cholistanis should also be given their rights as human beings.

Zahoor Dharija, the chairman of the Saraiki National Council, said that Cholistan is a desert of thirst and poverty, the wide border of Cholistan is with the enemy country India, it is important to pay attention to solving the problems of Cholistan as it is a sensitive matter. He said that today's conference has been organized to draw attention to the culture and heritage of Cholistan and the problems of Cholistan. He said that authoritarian politicians are fighting for power and they have no attention towards the problems of backward areas. Even in the 21st century, people die of thirst in Cholistan. The Prime Minister has issued an order to supply water in Karachi. Is Cholistan not included in the geography of Pakistan? He said that water theft in the canals of Cholistan should be stopped and water should be provided to the local people. Zahoor Dharija said that of the river Sutlej Another Cholistan is coming into being after the sale, one hundred years ahead should be thought, a commission should be formed to compare the difference in facilities between Pakistan's neighboring desert Rajasthan and Pakistani Cholistan. He said that all illegal allotments including Arab sheikhs should be ended, the bullying of

Tariq Bashir Cheema Balighur Rehman and all other land mafias should be ended.

Zahoor Dharija said that death dances in Cholistan due to lack of water, hundreds of animals die of thirst in different areas of Cholistan, along with animals, human lives are also lost, Cholistan Development Authority, local administration and provincial government. At the same time, the silence of the federal government is regrettable as well as condemnable. He said that Cholistan is one of the big deserts of the world, there are many secrets in the sands of Cholistan, people of Cholistan are very simple and kind, they love their land, their soil and resources so much that no human life Despite the lack of facilities, they have been associated with Cholistan for centuries and are not ready to leave it even for a moment.

Zahoor Dharija said that Cholistan is a big desert of Pakistan, a land of peace and love, Khwaja Farid has loved it a lot, Khwaja Farid has prayed to the animals and birds of Cholistan along with the people of Cholistan. Full of prayers. Birds come to Cholistan for shelter but hunters kill them, Arab sheikhs have made Cholistan a hunting ground, today there is water shortage in Cholistan, people and animals are dying They come to kill birds, falcons, chickens, camels of Cholistan, they have no plan for human life.

Professor Dr. Javed Chandione said that just as Cholistan has a historical, cultural and cultural status, today's Cholistan conference is leading to making a new history of the region. He said that Vice Chancellor Islamia University Prof. Dr. Athar Mehboob was supposed to attend but he had to go to Lahore, so I am giving good news on his behalf that the Syndicate of Islamia University has approved the establishment of Cholistan Saraiki Area Study Center. This will expand the scope of research and research on



Cholistan. He said that I congratulate that Zahoor Dharija Sahib has dedicated his whole life for this region, Dharija Nagar itself is the name of Saraiki world, it is his credit to hold the most important conference regarding Cholistan. Dr. Javed Chandio while describing the historical importance of Cholistan said that Cholistan is the name of a lost world which needs to be seen and found once again.

He said that today it is also a revolution that the issues of Cholistan and Saraiki Wasib are being openly discussed in the Bahawalpur Arts Council, Saraiki province is also being demanded. used to go He said that I remember that in the 1970s there were Saraiki conferences in Karachi and the great writer Ghulam Yasin Fakhri of Dharija Nagar published a Saraiki magazine Sachar from Karachi. So he had to lose his job, at that time various things were said against him, so much revenge was taken that he had to leave Karachi. Dr. Javed Hasan Chandio said that there is a need to compile a history regarding Saraiki, the Hakra Valley is the name of an ancient and great civilization, the Hakra River turned away from this region centuries ago, but after centuries, every person living in Cholistan is The generation lived on the same footing

"Hakkara Will Vahsi" means the Hakra River will flow once again and we will be transformed from a desert into a river. Dr. Javed Hasan Chandio, talking about Islamic University, said that after the arrival of Vice Chancellor Dr. Athar Mehboob, a new world has settled in the university and the educational fate of the region is changing, a new world is being created. Credit goes to Dr. Athar Mehboob. Malikullah Nawaz Vance said that not only Cholistan, the entire Wasib has been turned into a Begar camp, the bureaucracy has a big hand in the destruction of Cholistan, the problems of the entire Wasib including Cholistan will be solved when the province of Saraiki-

stan is formed. He said that the commissioner, deputy commissioner, police officials, heads of all departments come from outside, while the representation of Wasib in the judiciary and administration along with security forces is not equal to salt in the flour.

He said that Nawabs, Makhdooms, Gadi Nasheens and Vaders of Bahawalpur have full hand in ruining Cholistan, they should also be held accountable. Cholistan research scholar Professor Dr. Mushtaq Ahmed said that I have been researching Cholistan for a long time, I am also the president of Cholistan Numdars, in today's conference personalities from Cholistan have come and they have also explained the problems, but I Be an eye witness to all problems

He said that the former state of Bahawalpur consists of two parts of the Cholistan desert and one part of the riverine area. He said that Cholistan Development Authority was established in 1976 to solve the problems of Cholistan- is and provide facilities to them, but Cholistan Development Authority became a means of facilitating land mafias and exploiting Cholistanis and instead of solving the problems, they worsened.

He said that at present my four writ petitions have been filed in the High Court and one in the Supreme Court, I am knocking the door of every institution against the atrocities on Cholistan, three generations of Cholistanis have ended, after the establishment of Pakistan, Cholistanis Their right to live is also being taken away, Cholistan has been turned into a hunting ground, some lands have been given by the rulers to the people of Abu Dhabi for heavy bribes and some others to Arab sheikhs, all of them have given their own areas. No Go Areas have been created, They kill any animal or human being by mistake in their areas. He said that oppression and abuse are happening step by step, the five hundred kilometer long strip runs along the Indian



border along with Bahawalnagar, Bahawalpur and Rahimiyar Khan districts, the rulers have no sense of the sensitive nature of Cholistan. Today's Cholistan Conference has given the opportunity to hear and tell many things. I get very frustrated

But when I see people like Zahoor Dharija Sahib, then my breathing starts again and I come alive again. He said that there are many organizations established in the name of Cholistan in Bahawalpur, but no practical suggestions have ever come forward, all of them leave the house. Today the new narrative of Cholistan is coming out, we hope that the matter will move forward now. Former Federal Secretary Hussain Ahmad Madani said that I have been in the ruling house and I know all the facts about where exploitation is taking place. He said that we have raised our voice for the rights of Cholistan at every opportunity, we will not be left behind. Along with this, seven crore rupees were given for the first salary of the employees of Pakistan, guaranteed the currency of Pakistan, gold and silver and resources of trillions were given but unfortunately all these favors have been forgotten today.

The people who did not give a cent to Pakistan have become the "uncles" of Pakistan, the people who were sheltered by the Saraikis today also show their eyes. Sahibzada Abdul Majeed Abbasi said that history has been reversed, those who have been favored say that we should accept Mohsin Mano. An offer was also made and it was also said that the rivers come from India, you should join India and your Cholistan will also become lush and green. But Nawab Sahib said that I am a Muslim and my door opens towards Pakistan. Today I ask, what reward did the state of Bahawalpur get? He said that exploitation always leads to changing geography, today I say Babang Dahal that I will raise the flag of the rights of Cholistan, I will raise

the flag of the rights of the former state of Bahawalpur, I will raise the flag of Saraikistan and I will raise the flag of the province of Saraikistan. I will become an ambassador that a lot of injustice has been done to our Saraiki nation, now we will not remain silent.

Well-known Saraiki poets Jahangir Mukhlis and Sajjad Bari stole the show by presenting the best poems about Cholistan. Prof. Ismatullah Shah speaking about Khwaja Farid and Cholistan said that Khwaja Farid made Cholistan a land of peace, Sajjad Hussain Khan said that Cholistan desert is spread over thousands of square miles, thousands of years ago these rivers The area was Professor Athar Lashari said that water should be sent to the tubs through pipelines and the canals of Cholistan should be opened without delay so that humans and animals can quench their thirst.

Malik Javed Chanar Advocate said that licenses and permits were given to destroy the beauty of Cholistan and to kill the birds and animals there, no steps were taken for the improvement and development of Cholistan, Cholistan is part of Pakistan and Adjacent to this desert is Rajasthan which belongs to India, India has made a huge Indira Gandhi canal in Rajasthan and made it green and lush, even today people die of thirst in Cholistan. Chaudhry Shehbaz Mudal said that the government should also collect data about deaths in Cholistan. In the conference, well-known Saraiki poets Shahid Alam Shahid, Ajmal Khomesh, Amrit Jogi, Abdul Razzaq Zahid, Munoor Saraiki, Wazir Kachala, Javed Shani, Shahab Baloch, Hoshu Sheedi, Dilshad Baloch Noor Puri, Shakeel Anjum, Yasin Vance, Zubair Ahmad Zubair, Sujjal Bukhari, Ashna Jalal Puri presented their speech. While Saraiki singers presented Cholistan Saraiki anthems. Zahoor Ahmad Dharija was also felicitated for his great Saraiki services in the conference.

Bull & Bears
PSX 100-Share
Index Fluctuation

Pakistan: PSX 100-Share Index	
Current	Prev. Close
41,330.56	41,671.65
Day's High	Day's Low:
41,852.23	41,265.03
Index Value	Change
5,533,382,541	-341.09
Percentage	Time
-0.82%	31 May, 2023 5:00 pm

Europe: FTSE 100 Index	
Index Value	Change
7,446.14	-75.93
Percentage	Time
-1.01%	31 May, 4:40 pm GMT+1

USA: Dow Jones Industrial Average	
Index Value	Change
32,819.02	-223.76
Percentage	Time
-0.68%	31 May, 12:45 pm GMT-4

Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Average	
Index Value	Change
30,887.88	-440.28
Percentage	Time
-1.41%	31 May, 3:15 pm GMT+9

Open Market Forex Rates

Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	201	203
Bahrain Dinar	758.25	766.25
Canadian Dollar	227	229.2
China Yuan	40.26	40.66
Danish Krone	41.04	41.44
Euro	330	333.3
Hong Kong Dollar	36.39	36.74
Indian Rupee	3.45	3.56
Japanese Yen	2.25	2.45
Kuwaiti Dinar	927.17	936.17
Malaysian Ringgit	61.94	62.54
New Zealand \$	172.79	174.79
Norwegians Krone	25.67	25.97
Omani Riyal	740.96	748.96
Qatari Riyal	78.37	79.07
Saudi Riyal	82.2	83
Singapore Dollar	220	222
Swedish Korona	26.36	26.66
Swiss Franc	315.04	317.54
Thai Bhat	8.21	8.36
U.A.E Dirham	84.8	85.6
UK Pound Sterling	382.5	386.3
US Dollar	311	314

Govt needs to implement economic reforms soon: 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 Wednesday said those who plotted to provoke people against army have miserably failed.

The politicians who were trying to isolate Pakistan have been isolated for which credit goes to patriot Pakistanis who love their army, he said.

Mian Zahid Hussain said that the army has made a few mistakes, but their sacrifices and martyrdoms are above all.

Talking to the business community, the veteran business leader said that the bravery,



professionalism, and high performance of the armed forces in the war against terrorism

and in dealing with earthquakes, floods, and other calamities are etched in the hearts of the people, and due to this institution, they can sleep peacefully.

The business leader said that relations between Pakistan and China are deeper than the sea and higher than the Himalayas, and both countries have the same position on international and regional issues.

At the behest of some powers, a conspiracy was hatched to create cracks in the relations between friendly countries, which has been successfully countered, and now work on the CPEC has started again, Chinese banks have also rolled over loans forwarded to Pakistan, and they are cooperating in all fields.

Mian Zahid Hussain said that the destruction of national assets and damaging relations with friendly countries should not be

allowed for the political interests of some failed politicians.

Failed politicians should not be given importance, and the people should be shown their real face, he said, adding that political stability is coming in the country and the confidence of the business community is also being restored.

However, he said, authorities should take steps to provide immediate political and economic stability and relief to the people; otherwise, the situation in the country will never improve.

There is an urgent need for the government to take tough decisions, widen the tax net, sell failed enterprises, control circular debt, reduce business costs, and do other necessary reforms to improve exports and cut inflation and the trade deficit.

President Erdoğan's re-election is a manifestation of the Turkish people's confidence : Says Ahsan Bakhtawari

T Khattak

ISLAMABAD: President Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari has said that the re-election of President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan is a manifestation of the Turkish people's confidence in his personality and policies. President Erdoğan supported Pakistan like a brother in every difficult time. Turkey is once again seen as a world power because of his sustainable policies. The people of Pakistan love him immensely. Pakistani nation will not forget his services in every difficult time.

He expressed these views yesterday while talking to the Turkish Ambassador Dr. Mehmet Pachi on the occasion of a visit to the Turkish Embassy along with a delegation of the Islamabad Chamber of Commerce. On this occasion, the delegation congratulated the Ambassador on the re-election of Recep Tayyip Erdoğan as President by Islamabad Chamber and Business Community.

The President of Islamabad Chamber said that these words of the President of Turkey are closest to the truth that Pakistan and Turkey are two countries and one nation. What happens in Ankara, we feel in Islamabad. The people of both countries love each other immensely. This is the reason that the joy of the success of the newly elected President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan is being celebrated equally in both countries. Turkey has supported Pakistan in every hour of difficulty. I hope that under President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, Turkey will become a strong



economic power and a stronghold of the Islamic world.

The Pakistani nation and government are always ready to help Turkey in every difficulty. Pakistan values brotherly relations with Turkey. After the establishment of Pakistan, Turkey was among the first countries to recognize Pakistan and even today Pakistan and Turkey stand side by side in difficult times. He further said that under the leadership of President Erdoğan, Turkey has made enormous progress in various fields the present success is behind his endless services.

On this occasion, the Ambassador of Turkey thanked Islamabad Cham-

ber of Commerce President Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari and the delegation. He said that the relationship between Pakistan and Turkey is an example, I hope the relationship between the two will be stronger in the future.

He said that the people of Turkey will never forget the way the Pakistani people and government supported Turkey in the recent earthquake in Turkey. On this occasion, he thanked the President of Islamabad Chamber for giving valuable donations to the victims of the earthquake and presented certificates of appreciation on behalf of the Government of Turkey.

MoU between Aga Khan Agency for habitat and Tourism promotion services-Serena hotels



Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Serena Hotels, a leading hospitality group committed to sustainable tourism, has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Aga Khan Agency for Habitat (AKAH) to pursue IFC EDGE (Excellence in Design for Greater Efficiencies) Building Certification for its two upcoming hotels, Hunza Serena Hotel and Sost Serena Hotel. The signing ceremony took place at Islamabad Serena Hotel on May 31, 2023.

The MoU signifies a significant milestone for Serena Hotels as it further strengthens the company's commitment to environmental stewardship and sustainable practices in the construction and operation of its properties. The

collaboration with the Aga Khan Agency for Habitat Pakistan, (formerly known as Aga Khan Planning and Building Service, Pakistan or AKPBS), a global leader in promoting resilient and sustainable habitat solutions, will technically assist that the new hotels are designed and built to the highest international standards of energy efficiency and resource conservation.

EDGE Certification is a globally recognized green building rating system developed by the International Finance Corporation (IFC), a member of the World Bank Group. It promotes sustainable practices in the building industry by incorporating measures for energy efficiency, water conservation, and the use of environmentally friendly materials.

Pakistan is getting 25% less honey than its production capacity: Saqib Ali Attil

Asim Tanveer

MULTAN: A one-day training workshop was organized at the Mango Research Institute regarding the promotion of profitable mango farming. Secretary Agriculture South Punjab Saqib Ali Attil participated as a special guest. The master trainers of Mian Nawaz Sharif Agricultural University Multan trained the participants on the methods of bee breeding, including the methods of breeding of bees, to the officers of the Department of Agriculture Extension and Adaptive Research Farms. On this occasion, Secretary Agriculture South Punjab Saqib Ali Attil. While addressing the participants of the workshop, he said that Mugs Bani is an environment-friendly method



Beekeepers are an important source of foreign exchange as well as employment. He said that according to experts, at present Pakistan is getting 25% less honey than its production capacity. Different types of honey are produced in Pakistan. Magus Bani will not only meet the nutritional deficiency but also help in controlling the adverse effects of climate change on the crops. He directed that with better guidance of farmers, honey can be produced on commercial basis. The purpose of beekeeping is to ensure additional income. By promoting the establishment of mugs, it will help to improve the financial condition of the farmers

And in the first phase, at least two boxes should be installed on each government farm. He added that the farm manager who takes good care of bees and produces more honey will be given prizes and certificates of appreciation. Additional Secretary Task Force South Punjab Intiaz Ahmed Waraich, Dean Faculty MNS Agriculture University Professor Dr. Shafiqat Saeed, Deputy Director Agricultural Information Punjab Naveed Ismat Kahlon and other officers participated in the training workshop.

Meeting

ISLAMABAD: A delegation from Sialkot Chamber of Commerce and Industry held a meeting with Finance Minister Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar and Defense Minister Khawaja Mohammad Asif on Budget 2023-24 proposals at FBR (Hqrs), in Federal Capital.



Photo: Online

Nepra Conducted Public Hearings on KE's Petition

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: KARACHI: NEPRA conducted a public hearing on 31st May 2023 for the petition submitted by K-Electric on account of Fuel Charges Adjustments (FCA) for April 2023 and Quarterly Adjustments for January to March 2023.

For the month of April, after hearing KE's presentation and analysis NEPRA has provisionally presented a reduction of PKR 0.05 per unit, however a final decision will be formally notified as per the regulator's procedures. As per prevailing laws and regulations, these are one-time charges which are expected to apply on only one monthly bill.

On the other hand, K-Elec-

tric had requested PKR 5.170 / kWh rupees on account of Quarterly Adjustments for January -March on which the Authority will decide after due verification and deliberation. The impact of quarterly adjustments is usually not passed to consumers under the uniform tariff policy applicable across the country.

Fuel Charge Adjustments (FCA) are incurred by utilities due to global variation in fuel prices used to generate electricity and change in the generation mix. Under the policies governing the power sector, these costs are passed through to the customers for one month only, following NEPRA's scrutiny and approval. Consumers also receive a benefit when the cost of fuel decreases.

Hashoo Foundation Knowledge-based Development Strategy towards Economic Recovery

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Recessions, political uncertainty and natural disasters are recurring issues in world history. As a part of their efforts to deal with the situation in Pakistan's scenario and come up with an effective strategy, Hashoo Foundation together with the Government organized an exclusive and innovative Round Table Dialogue as the first of a series of a pilot initiative demonstrating the Pakistani resilience and wisdom in seeking insights from the international intellectual capital available in Islamabad. Hashoo Foundation is a knowledge based and nonpartisan not-for-profit organization with the mission to leverage knowledge as capital to help bring about socio-economic uplift.

The Round Table Dialogue invited a select group of committed

people from Ambassadors to Business leaders to Academics to give input towards trade and economic recovery solutions under the current context.

Such situations of recessions and uncertainties result in inequitable economic growth, but economic activities per se do not come to a halt rather they adapt to the context and the risk is that they are concentrated in small groups. As knowledge leaders and global partners, all stakeholders of the global polity often engage to facilitate how best nonpartisan SDG actors in both private and public sectors can continue with their services to consumers or citizens in such situations.

Ayesha Khan, Country Director, Hashoo Foundation welcomed the participants and shared that HF since the last 7 years HF has focused



on using knowledge or intellectual capital to produce actionable input for the betterment of individuals

and communities. The Foundation's motto has always been "Together we make a difference" hence the collec-

tive wisdom from today's session will help us find new and unique problem-solving ideas for technological and innovative approaches towards sustainable economic growth.

Prof. Dr. M. Zia Ul Haq, Director General, International Islamic University joined the round table discussion as guest speaker. He thanked Hashoo Foundation on bringing up this very important issue and working towards finding solutions. He highlighted the role of academia and researchers in working together with all stakeholders towards formulating a strategy for economic growth.

Stakeholders from around the world as well as public and private sector appreciated the initiative and actively participated in the process of supporting home-led solutions for socio-economic development.

Ex-footballers to hold protest against PFF NC today

Sports Desk

KARACHI: Scores of former Pakistan footballers and stakeholders called a protest against the FIFA-appointed Normalization Committee (NC) for its prolonged control of the Pakistan Football Federation (PFF).

The demonstration will be held outside Karachi Press Club today (Wednesday) followed by a press conference by the former players and football representatives, who have decided to launch joint efforts under a single platform.

The protest will be led by former Pakistan captains Akbar Raisani and Zafar Iqbal, ex-captain and President Award winner Isa Khan, Karim Baloch, Dr Mohammad Ali, Haji Khalil, Gul Mohammad Kakkar and other



The platform is distraught over the district-level representatives.

unnecessary delay in holding the PFF elections and foot-dragging by the NC to transfer the power to an elected body.

It is pertinent to mention that the Normalization Committee's mandated term expires on June 30, however, the elections are nowhere in sight.

Football affairs in Pakistan have been mired in crisis since 2015 in the absence of an elected body.

FIFA appointed a Normalisation Committee in September 2019 to put the country's football back on track. FIFA also suspended PFF membership for a 15-month period during that time after the Normalisation Committee was thrown out of office.

The FIFA suspension was only lifted in June last year and extended the mandate of the NC by one year after it regained control of PFF in May.

Karachi Sports World organized Sindh Culture Talent Hunt 2023

Sports Desk

KARACHI: Sindh Culture Talent Hunt 2023 was organized by Karachi Sports World with collaboration with Culture, Tourism, Antiquities and Archives Department and, hosted by H.I Osmania Govt Girls Degree College under the supervision of Prof Farzana Khan Principal H.I Osmania Govt Girls College.

Where as Prof Yasmeen Hassan solangi and Prof. Afsheen Naz performed judge duties in these events.

the Chief Guest of the event on the final day was Prof. Anees zaidi

He shared his knowledge with the students about the history and culture of Sindh.

Miss Huma Amani, who recently represented the Hockey Pakistan Board Team in Oman and won the series and was also invited as guest of honor.

At the end of the event Chief Guest Prof. Anees Zaidi and Principal H.I Osmania Govt Girls College, distributed shields, certifi-



ates and awards among the winners and also praised the contribution of Karachi Sports World and Culture, Tourism, Antiquities And Archives.

Last but not least Principal and Chief Guest admire the hard work and dedication of Event Organizer Ms Batool Kazim for Organizing such a successful event,

at a very short span of time. The Competition was divided into three categories.

Essay Writing competition
Speech competition and Painting Competition
In essay Writing 1st position was secured by Sheeza Saleem
2nd Position was clinched

by Laiba Zafar From ADA 1
In Speech Competition Munaza Fatima Clinch 1st Position
Dua Nadeem got 2nd Position
In Painting Competition 1st Position was secured by Kinza Fatima Taj ud-din Qureshi
2nd Position was gained by Qairat Kamran.

Bowlers, Usman star as Sharjah thrash Abu Dhabi in D10 League



ABU DHABI: Sharjah's bowlers dominated Abu Dhabi batters before Usman Khan's vital 38-run knock propelled Sharjah to a resounding seven-wicket victory in the 34th match of the ongoing Emirates D10 League.

Set to chase a modest total of 77, Sharjah amassed the target for the loss of just three wickets with 25 balls to spare as Usman Khan led the batting charge for the visitors with a brilliant knock.

Sharjah got off to an unwanted start to the pursuit as they lost their first wicket on the very first delivery as Khalid Shah fell for a golden duck.

Following an early setback, Usman Khan and Hassan Eisakhel stitched a brief second-wicket partnership for Sharjah and added 31 runs to the total before the latter fell.

Eisakhel smashed a quickfire 21 runs in just nine deliveries, hitting two boundaries and as many sixes.

Usman Khan then put on another crucial partnership for Sharjah as he, alongside Fayyaz Ahmad added 38 runs in the third-wicket stand that lasted for 11 deliveries.

Usman was the core aggressor of his match-defining partnership with Fayyaz and scored the majority of the runs before finally perishing in the fifth over when his side needed just eight runs in 31 deliveries.

He top-scored for Sharjah with a brilliant 38-run knock in 18 deliveries, laced up with a boundary and five sixes.

For Abu Dhabi, Muhammad Zubair Khan picked up two wickets while Muhammad Mohsin made one scalp.

Put into bat first, Abu Dhabi's batting lineup struggled against a collective bowling effort put on by Sharjah's bowlers as they could only pile up 77/6 in 10 overs.

Ali Abid top-scored for Abu Dhabi with a cautious 23 but was a touch too slow as he conceded 20 deliveries in the process, followed by Irshad Hussain, who struck 17 off 10 deliveries.

Abdul Muqtadar Babar (14) was the other notable run-getter for Abu Dhabi while the rest failed to contribute significantly.

For Sharjah, Muhammad Mudassar Ali, Muhammad Uzair-Khan and Muhammad Saghir Khan bagged two wickets each.

Usman's fifty powers Fujairah to thump Ajman in D10 League

A Sports

ABU DHABI: Muhammad Usman scored a quickfire half-century in the run chase and led leaders Fujairah to a dominating eight-wicket victory over Ajman in the 33rd match of the ongoing Emirates D10 League.

Set to chase a massive total of 104, Fujairah comfortably accumulated 107 runs for the loss of two wickets with eight balls to spare, thanks to an unbeaten match-winning partnership between Muhammad Usman and Nasir Faraz.

Earlier, the leaders had a contrasting start to the pursuit as they were two down for just 23 runs in the second over as both their openers Salman Khan and Raees Ahmed perished cheaply.

Following the slump,



Muhammad Usman and Faraz scripted an astounding recovery for their side with an unbeaten 84-run partnership and steered their side to their eighth victory.

Muhammad Usman led the charge for Fujairah with a swashbuckling 52 not out off just 26 deliveries, laced with two boundaries and six sixes.

Faraz was equally impressive amid his 16-ball 33-run knock, which featured one boundary and three sixes.

For Ajman, Mohammed Ajmal and Sheraz Piya could pick a wicket apiece.

Opting to bat first, Ajman raised 103/4 in the allotted 10 overs at the back of a brilliant half-century by Sagar Kalyan. The opening batter

smashed six boundaries and five sixes on his way to top score for Ajman with a 30-ball 66.

Besides him, Adnan Ul Mulk Nawab contributed significantly with a brisk 27-run knock in 20 deliveries with the help of a boundary and two sixes.

The rest of Ajman's batters struggled with running between the wickets against Fujairah and could not enter the double digits.

For Fujairah, only Shahbaz Ali could pick up a wicket while the rest of their bowlers went wicketless.

With a dominating eight-wicket victory, Fujairah tightened their grip on the top spot in the Emirates D10 League standings with 16 points in 10 matches while Ajman remained in fifth with six points after as many matches.

'Landmark year' for women's football as FIFA WC nears 1m ticket sales



A Sports

ISLAMABAD: Organisers of the 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup - scheduled later this year in Australia and New Zealand - said they were close to selling one million tickets.

According to the report, around 850,000 tickets have already been sold for the event that takes place between July 20 and August 20, 2023.

"2023 is going to be a landmark moment for women's football," said Fifa secretary general Fatma Samoura.

A FIFA spokesperson also informed the British broadcaster that over the next weeks, the one million ticket sale milestone will be crossed.

It is pertinent to mention here that the 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup will be the ninth edition of the tournament, featuring 32 teams.

As women's sports are gathering more and more viewership across the globe, FIFA expects the football megaevent to surpass a record 1.5 million ticket sales and around 2 billion viewers on television.

The United States women's football team will defend their title at the event which begins with a grand opening ceremony at Eden Park, Auckland before the first match between co-hosts New Zealand and former World champions Norway.

A total of 64 matches will be played across ten venues in nine different cities of the Australian continent.

The final will take place on 20 August at Stadium Australia in Sydney.

Eight teams will feature in their first FIFA Women's World Cup which includes Haiti, Republic of Ireland, Morocco, Panama, Philippines, Portugal, Vietnam and Zambia.

Pakistan thwart Malaysia to set up Junior Asia Cup final with India



SALALAH: Abdul Rehman scored a brilliant hat-trick as Pakistan came from behind to hand a 6-2 thrashing to Malaysia in the Junior Hockey Asia Cup semi-final on Wednesday.

Parabo Tangaraja opened the scoring for Malaysia in the 21st minute to take the lead which lasted until the 42nd minute as Muhammad Safyan fired the equaliser.

Abdul Rehman then struck his first and put the men in green in the lead in the 44th minute but the advantage only lasted a minute as Malaysia equalized.

Abdul Hannan Shahid's field goal in the 47th minute once again put Pakistan into the lead before Abdul Rehman struck twice in the 48th and 51st minutes to complete his hat-trick and enhanced Pakistan's dominance.

Arbar Ahmed's 58th-minute strike proved to be a cherry on top for Pakistan which completed a 6-2 thrashing victory over Malaysia to qualify for the third straight Junior Hockey Asia Cup final and seventh overall.

Pakistan will now face arch-rivals India in the much-anticipated final of the Asian event. Earlier in the first semi-final, India blew away South Korea 9-1 to qualify for the final.

It is worth mentioning here that both Pakistan and India are so far unbeaten in this year's Junior Hockey Asia Cup.

The arch-rivals also came face to face in the group stage but the enthralling contest failed to conclude a result as they settled for a 1-1 stalemate.

Playing at the Salalah Sports Complex, the Pakistan team defended the Indian attack quite brilliantly in the first quarter which ended without a goal despite men in blue enjoying the bulk of possession. India took the lead via a penalty corner with Sharad Nand Tiwari flicking the ball in the net to help his team go 1-0 before halftime.

Pakistan, however, unleashed a counterattack in the third quarter and put the Indian defence under pressure.

India won a couple of penalty corners but failed to score. Pakistan, on the other hand, equalized through Ali Basharat, who netted from a close distance to make it 1-1.

The final quarter also witnessed a see-saw contest with both teams battling for a winning goal but the deadlock persisted till the final whistle.

Dembele, Nkunku back in France squad for Euro 2024 qualifiers

Sports Desk

Barcelona's Ousmane Dembele and RB Leipzig forward Christopher Nkunku are among the players recalled to the France squad named on Thursday by coach Didier Deschamps ahead of two Euro 2024 qualifiers in June.

Fitness problems meant both players missed France's opening qualifying matches in March, when they beat the Netherlands 4-0 at home and won 1-0 away to the Republic of Ireland.

They now go into a match against minnows Gibraltar in Faro, Portugal on June 16, and a home clash with Greece three days later, on top of qualifying Group B with six points.

"You will say I am very pragmatic, but the three points that

are available against Gibraltar have the same value as those we took against the Netherlands or in Ireland," Deschamps told reporters in Paris.

"He was supposed to be in the squad for the World Cup but was ruled out by injury, but now he is back on top form," added Deschamps of Nkunku, who scored four goals in the last five Bundesliga games of the season for his club as they finished third.

He is set to feature for Leipzig in this weekend's German Cup final against Eintracht Frankfurt.

Chelsea centre-back Wesley Fofana is also in the squad and will hope to make his full France debut after withdrawing from the March list due to injury.

Real Madrid left-back Ferland Mendy was also handed a first

call-up since before the World Cup, while injured Arsenal defender William Saliba is among the notable absentees.

Highly-rated Nice midfielder Khephren Thuram was left out, while Juventus midfielder Paul Pogba and Chelsea's N'Golo Kante - two stars of France's triumphant 2018 World Cup campaign - are again absent after injury-ravaged seasons.

France squad for Euro 2024 qualifiers against Gibraltar and Greece:

Goalkeepers: Alphonse Areola (West Ham United/ENG), Mike Maignan (AC Milan/ITA), Brice Samba (Lens)

Defenders: Axel Disasi (Monaco), Wesley Fofana (Chelsea/ENG), Theo Hernandez (AC Milan/ITA), Ibrahima Konate

(Liverpool/ENG), Jules Kounde (Barcelona/ESP), Ferland Mendy (Real Madrid/ESP), Benjamin Pavard (Bayern Munich/GER), Dayot Upamecano (Bayern Munich/GER)

Midfielders: Eduardo Camavinga (Real Madrid/ESP), Youssouf Fofana (Monaco), Antoine Griezmann (Atletico Madrid/ESP), Adrien Rabiot (Juventus/ITA), Aurelien Tchouameni (Real Madrid/ESP)

Forwards: Kingsley Coman (Bayern Munich/GER), Ousmane Dembele (Barcelona/ESP), Olivier Giroud (AC Milan/ITA), Randal Kolo Muani (Eintracht Frankfurt/GER), Kylian Mbappe (Paris Saint-Germain), Christopher Nkunku (RB Leipzig/GER), Marcus Thuram (Borussia Moenchengladbach/GER)

