

Law Minister emphasises need for professional education of lawyers

The Federal Minister for Law & Justice Senator Azam Nazir Tarrar attended the closing ceremony of the first ever 3 day teacher training workshop for law faculty members "Designing and Teaching Effective Law Courses for Legal Academics" as a Chief Guest. (Details on Page 8)



Toll-Free Call Center launched to assist Pakistani Hajj pilgrims

A toll-free call center has been established in the Main Control office of Makkah for Pakistani Hajj pilgrims to register and resolve their complaints effectively. "The center has five exclusive telephone lines for registering complaints."* Pilgrims had been asked to contact these numbers to register their complaints: 0567117032, 0567119580, 0567117063, 0567117063, and 0567119548.

Inauguration

FAISALABAD: Interior Minister Rana Sana Ullah Khan inaugurating NADRA Registration Center Aminpur Bangla and Passport Counter in Chak No.30-JB on Narwala-Aminpur Road on Sunday.

The image shows Interior Minister Rana Sana Ullah Khan, wearing a blue shirt and a grey cap, cutting a white ribbon. He is surrounded by other officials. A banner in the background reads: "NADRA REGISTRATION CENTRE AMIN PUR BANGLA INAUGURATED BY RANA SANA ULLAH KHAN FEDERAL MINISTER FOR INTERIOR DATED: 04, JUNE 2023".

Two soldiers martyred in North Waziristan gun battle with terrorists

Spokesman Report

RAWALPINDI: On 03 Jun 23, fire exchange took place between own troops and terrorists in North Waziristan District. Own troops effectively engaged the terrorists' location and two terrorists were sent to hell, while injuring another two. Weapons and ammunition were also recovered from the killed terrorists. However, during intense exchange of fire, Naik Zaheer Abbas (age 38 years, resident of Khushab District) and Lance Naik Mairaj Ud Din (age 23 years, Resident of Dera Ismail Khan District) having fought gallantly, embraced Shahadat. Sanitization of the area is being carried out to eliminate any other terrorists found in the area. Armed forces of Pakistan are determined to eliminate the menace of terrorism and such sacrifices of our brave soldiers further strengthen our resolve.



PM Shehbaz Sharif concludes his two-day official visit to Turkiye, leaves for Pakistan

Spokesman Report

ANKARA: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Sunday left for Pakistan after concluding his two-day official visit to Turkiye. At the Ankara International airport, the prime minister was seen off by senior officials of Turkiye's ministry of foreign affairs, members of Turkish parliament, Ambassador of Pakistan Dr Yousaf Junaid and other members of the embassy, PM Office Media Wing said in a press release. At the invitation of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, the prime minister attended his inauguration ceremony in Ankara on June 3. During his stay, the prime minister also held interaction with the world leaders and discussed bilateral ties and cooperation in diverse fields between Pakistan and their respective countries. He also held meetings with various delegations of business



PM meets world leaders in Turkiye, discuss bilateral ties, cooperation

ANKARA: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif during his recent visit to Turkiye also met with different world leaders and discussed the bilateral ties and cooperation between Pakistan and their respective countries. The prime minister met former deputy prime minister of Turkiye and Chairman MHP Devlet Bahçeli and conveyed his felicitation over success in the elections, PM Office Media Wing said in a press release on Sunday. On the occasion, he also met with Kosovo's President Vjosa Osmani-Sadriu. Both the leaders reiterated their desire to promote bilateral relations and cooperation in different fields. The prime minister also interacted with Iranian First Vice President Mohammad Mokhber. The prime minister referred to establishment of market at Balochistan-Sistan border and his recent meeting with the Iranian president. Welcoming the commencement of barter trade between the two countries, the prime minister expressed the confidence that it would mutually benefit the people of both brotherly countries. In his meeting with Uzbek President Shavkat Mirziyoyev, the two leaders discussed regional cooperation, connectivity and further strengthening of bilateral cooperation in diverse fields. of the eternal bonds of friendship between the two countries," Foreign Office Spokesperson in the earlier statement had said.

and trade companies and entities of Turkiye and discussed prospects of vast business and investment potential existed between the two brotherly countries in various sectors. The prime minister's visit was a reaffirmation of the deep-rooted fraternal ties between Pakistan and Turkiye. The prime minister conveyed warm felicitations on behalf of the government and people of Pakistan to President Erdogan on his re-election as President of Turkiye on May 28. "Pakistan-Turkiye relationship is deeply embedded in commonalities of faith, culture and history, and strengthened by mutual trust and convergence of views on regional and global matters. Frequent leadership level exchanges are a defining feature

FM felicitates Hakan Fidan on his appointment as Turkiye's FM

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari on Sunday extended his warm congratulations to Hakan Fidan on his appointment as the Foreign Minister of Turkiye. On his Twitter handle, the foreign minister posted that he was looking forward to working closely with his Turk-



Pervaiz Elahi sent on judicial remand in illegal appointment case

Bureau Report

LAHORE: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) President and former chief minister Pervaiz Elahi has been sent on 14-day judicial remand to jail in illegal appointment case. As per details, the court rejected the ACE appeal for physical remand and sent the PTI president Pervaiz Elahi on judicial remand. Furthermore, secretary Punjab assembly Rai Mumtaz Hussain Babar has been sent to jail on judicial remand. The ACE spokesperson said that they will challenge the verdict of Pervaiz Elahi's case in the court as this verdict was contrary to the facts like others verdicts. He maintained that ACE had provided solid evidence in the court today.



NAB summons record of 22 politicians in £190m scandal probe

Bureau Report

LAHORE: In a major development, the National Accountability Bureau (NAB) has demanded record of 22 political leaders in illegal transfer of NCA's £190m scandal. The NAB in a letter to excise secretaries demanded record of automobiles, properties and accounts of 22 politicians including former federal ministers and cabinet members. The anti-graft watchdog has summoned record of the properties of Sheikh Rashid, Pervaiz Khattak, Umar Ayub, Hammad Azhar, Murad Saeed, Asad Umar, Fawad Chaudhry, Azam Swati, Ali Ameen Gandapur, Shafiqat Mehmood, Chaudhry Ghulam Sarwar, Shireen Mazari, Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui, Farrugh Naseem, Khusró Bakhtyar, Ijaz Shah and others.

Govt likely to introduce scheme for declaring benami assets

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The federal government is expected to introduce a scheme for the declaration of benami properties in foreign countries, citing sources. Ahead of the budget, it was learnt that the federal government made the asset declaration mandatory in the income tax particulars. Sources told ARY News that the government received recommendations to end capital gain to the filers for hiding new properties. The filers will have to mention their new properties in wealth statements within one year after the new budget. In the upcoming budget, the federal government started preparations to toughen conditions for the documentation of real estate transactions. Sources said that the capital gain right will not be awarded to the filers who hid their new properties, adding, the filers enjoyed the facility of legally hiding their properties for three years.

40,781 Pakistani Hajj pilgrims reach Saudi Arabia

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The spokesperson of the Ministry of Religious Affairs said that 27,686 intending pilgrims from Pakistan are present in Madinah under the government scheme. 13,095 pilgrims have reached Makkah after completing their eight-day stay in Madinah. Moreover, over 1,000 intending pilgrims under the private scheme also reached Saudi Arabia. The spokesperson added that a monitoring team completed the field assessment of 12 Hajj group organisers. 522 employees including assistants and medical staff are also staying in Saudi Arabia to facilitate the Pakistani pilgrims. 334 employees were deputed in Makkah, 172 in Madinah and 19 at Jeddah airport. A helpline was also established in Saudi Arabia for addressing the complaints and guidance of the pilgrims.

Talha returns Rs 4.5bn to pilgrims, implements cost-cutting measures

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony Senator Muhammad Talha Mahmood on Sunday said the ministry, taking significant measures to ease the financial burden on pilgrims, had returned an impressive sum of Rs 4.5 billion, demonstrating its commitment to ensuring the well-being of those embarking on the holy journey. He disclosed that this year's expenses for the Hajj had been lowered to \$3,900 from \$5,000, presenting a substantial decrease in comparison to the previous year. However, despite this decrease, he acknowledged that the current Hajj remained the most expensive in history due to the depreciation of the Pakistani rupee and the increase in the value of the US dollar, he added. Addressing concerns about accommodation for pilgrims in Saudi Arabia, Senator Talha emphasized that the ministry had taken steps to secure buildings at more affordable rates.

Punjab police to challenge Yasmin Rashid's acquittal in high court

Bureau Report

LAHORE: The Punjab police on Sunday announced to approach high court against a Lahore anti-terrorism court's order to discharge Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader Yasmin Rashid in Jinnah House attack case. In a statement issued today, the Punjab police said: "All conspirators, planners, and perpetrators of the May 9 incident, including Dr Yasmin Rashid, would be brought to justice." The police claimed that the investigation was being conducted using scientific methods. "We were not given the opportunity to present forensic evidence in court," police maintained in the statement.

May 9 events: Sensitive agency gets custody of four more 'rioters'

Bureau Report

FAISALABAD: An anti-terrorism court (ATC) in Faisalabad on Sunday handed over four more people - accused of attacking office of a sensitive agency on May 9 - to authorities for their trial under the Pakistan Army Act. According to details, the four suspects will be tried under the Army Act over their involvement in the vandalism and arson at the office of a sensitive installation on May 9. The suspects have been taken into custody by an army team from the central jail. The case filed against the suspects at the Civil Lines police station will be proceeded into under Army Act and Official Secrets Act.

Group photo

ISLAMABAD: The Federal Minister for Law & Justice Senator Azam Nazir Tarrar attended the closing ceremony of the first ever 3 day teacher training workshop for law faculty members "Designing and Teaching Effective Law Courses for Legal Academics" as a Chief Guest, on Sunday.



Photo: PID

Law Minister emphasises need for professional education of lawyers

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The Federal Minister for Law & Justice Senator Azam Nazir Tarrar attended the closing ceremony of the first ever 3 day teacher training workshop for law faculty members "Designing and Teaching Effective Law Courses for Legal Academics" as a Chief Guest. The workshop was the outcome of collaboration between the Directorate of Legal Education (DLE), Pakistan Bar Council, the Shaikh Ahmad Hassan School of Law and the LUMS Learning Institute. The workshop took place over June 1-3 and involved Deans and Law professors from 21 institutions of legal education from across the country.

The workshop comprised of active learning sessions focused on course structure, methods of instruction and assessment, along with substantive sessions on both private and public law. Mr. Usama Malik, Director, Directorate of Legal Education, PBC and Dr. Sadaf Aziz, Dean Shaikh Ahmad Hassan School of Law was present at the occasion. Senior Judges from the Lahore High Court attended the event including Justice Ali Baqir Najafi, Justice Jawad Hassan and Justice Asim Hafeez. Senior members of the Pakistan Bar Council including Mr. Ahsan Bhoon and Mr. Hassan Raza Pasha also graced the occasion.

The Law Minister appreci-

ated the intent and design of the workshop and the collective experience and expertise of the participants. He spoke about the renewed efforts of the Pakistan Bar Council and the Directorate of Legal Education headed by Mr. Usama Malik to ensure conformity with Legal Education Rules 2015 and the standards established by the Honourable Supreme Court of Pakistan in Pakistan Bar Council v. Federation of Pakistan reported as 2019 SCMR, 389 where it was emphasized that the "Provision of good quality legal education is inextricably linked with dispensation of justice that the Bar is responsible for ensuring".

Recent directives to ensure a non-practicing allowance

for law instructors and the crackdown on sub-standard law colleges are some of the mechanisms for ensuring such standard setting.

Minister Tarrar and the Honourable Justices Ali Baqir Najafi and Jawad Hassan emphasized the need for life-long education among members of the legal profession through the provision of continued professional education.

Moreover, former President Supreme Court Bar Association Mr. Ahsan Bhoon and Chairman Executive Committee of the Pakistan Bar Council Mr. Hassan Raza Pasha also praised the initiative taken by Mr. Usama Malik and Dr. Sadaf Aziz to uplift the standard of law faculty

members across Pakistan in the shape of this workshop. Dr. Parvez Hassan, advocate Supreme Court and member of the Board of Trustees of LUMS, reflected on the founding vision of the Shaikh Ahmad Hassan School of Law.

It was the first in the country to establish the 5 year BA/LLB programme and makes an ongoing effort to engage in curricular development and promotion of an active research and learning culture. The Learning Institute at LUMS is also the first in the country to promote a constant upgradation of pedagogical skills amongst university professors based on scientific and evidence based studies to identify successful teaching methodologies.

Punjab police says will prove May 9 violence was planned

Bureau Report

LAHORE: Inspector General (IG) Punjab Police Usman Anwar said that they will prove in the court that May 9 violence was planned.

While addressing a press conference Inspector General (IG) Punjab Police Usman Anwar said that specific targets were selected on May 9 by the rioters and Punjab police will prove that the riots were carried out through proper planning.

He said that calls data for May 9 and March 9 is being collected, the data showed that PTI leader Yasmin Rashid made 41 calls and 154 calls on May 9 and March 8 are similar.

IG Punjab revealed that the attacks on Jinnah House, GHQ, Radio Pakistan and other prominent public buildings were carried out at the same time. He said that so far 101 Jinnah House rioters have been identified and 18 are arrested.

He claimed that a total of four people were dead and they died because of their bullets. One person died as the ambulance couldn't



reach the hospital as a result of May 9 violence. The suspects who were carrying out violence had bullets and the police were unarmed, he added.

The head of Punjab Police further said that they have been accused of torturing the senior journalist and anchorperson Imran Riaz Khan but the reports will be submitted to the court. Raids are being conducted to arrest the PTI leaders, Hammad Azhar and Aslam Iqbal, he added.

Pak envoy deeply saddened by tragic loss of lives in China's Sichuan province

Spokesman Report

BELJING: Pakistan Ambassador to China, Moin ul Haque on Sunday extended his deep sorrow and heartfelt condolences on the loss of lives in a landslide in Sichuan province of China.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the victims and their families, he said in a statement.

At least 14 people were killed and five others missing as a result of a landslide in China's southwestern Sichuan province on Sunday morning.

The landslide occurred at around 6am on Sunday morning in a mountainous area near Leshan city in the south of the province.



More than 180 rescue workers have been dispatched to the site, with search and rescue operations still ongoing.

The Leshan city was hit by heavy rain over the two days before the incident, weather tracking data indicated.

PIA's Roosevelt Hotel leased out for three years, announces Saad Rafique

News Desk

LAHORE: Minister for Railways and Aviation Khawaja Saad Rafique on Sunday confirmed that the 'precious asset' Roosevelt Hotel, owned by the Pakistan International Airlines (PIA), has been leased out to the New York City Administration for three years.

Addressing a press conference in Lahore, the federal minister said that an agreement has been reached between Pakistan International Airline-Investment Ltd (PIA-IL) and New York City Administration for the utilisation of Roosevelt Hotel on rental for three years.

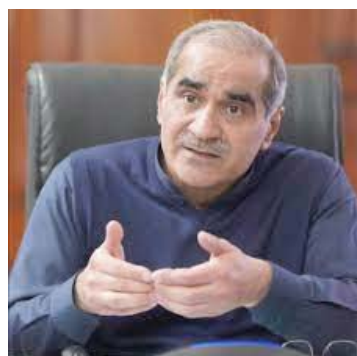
"An agreement has been reached with the New York City Administration, whereby the government of Pakistan will receive \$220 million," Saad Rafique said, adding: "Under this agreement, 1,250 rooms of the hotel have been leased for a period

of three years".

The minister noted that the Roosevelt Hotel, which was closed in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, has become a major concern for the government. "There was a severe risk that if the hotel is not utilised, it will be affected by landmarking," he added.

"The landmarking would have affected the price of the Pakistan-owned hotel," Rafique claimed. He expressed regret that previous government had made the decision to run the Roosevelt Hotel through a public private partnership.

He noted that the 'major issue' the government was facing was salaries of the hotel's employees. "Now, as a result of the agreement, 77 employees will serve there and the rest will be terminated," he said, adding that it was decided that no employee from the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA)



will be employed at the hotel.

The Roosevelt Hotel, established in 1924, is among the historic hotels in the United States and is situated in the luxurious downtown area of Manhattan.

PIA acquired the 19-storey building in 1979 on the partnership, from its own profits and as a part of PIA's diversification strategy.

In October 2020, the PIA-owned Roosevelt Hotel in New York announced to permanently close its doors after nine decades due to massive financial losses.

During the press conference, Aviation Minister Khawaja Saad Rafique announced that the federal government has decided to outsource three international airports of Pakistan - Karachi, Islamabad and Lahore.

The minister revealed that the operation of these airports will be entrusted to an international firm, with the aim of enhancing the services provided. However, he said, outsourcing of airports does not mean selling them.

"An agreement has been signed with the International Financing Corporation (IFC), and numerous countries have expressed interest in collaborating with the firm," Rafique added.

PANAH asks to Govt: put health of people first, 'Sugary drinks cause diabetes'

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan National Heart Association through a letter requested Chairman, Saleem Mandviwalla to be a responsible and public leader and give importance to the health of the people rather than the interests of the industry.

PANAH has reminded Saleem Mandviwalla through a letter that the PANAH team briefed him in the finance committee about the health and economic harm of sugary drinks including a 250 ml glass.

It contains 7 to 9 spoons of protein, diabetes is a major cause of many diseases including heart, in which Pakistan has come to the third place in the world and the speed with which this disease is increasing, Pakistan has come to the first place in the world and only



one of them, team said. in Pakistan every day due to this disease and Paki- 1100 people are dying

stan is spending two times more than the amount received from the IMF on the management of this one disease and all the studies have proved that sugary drinks cause diabetes, the team added.

30% of disease is accounted for We can save many lives and costs by simply controlling sugary drinks and also what the world is doing to prevent sugary drinks from affecting health and the economy 80 Countries around the world have reduced his anger by raising taxes on him and what are the recommendations of the World Bank and WHO, team said.

You agreed with us and said that the Finance Committee will give its recommendation on this, whereas the matter turned out to be the opposite, deam demand.



The recommendation was not given, but the industry is repeatedly using your platform against it and many medical associations and civil societies have also sent their recommendations to the government. Being a responsible and public leader should prioritize the health of the public rather than the interests of the industry, team said.

Railways approach govt departments to pay outstanding dues

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Ministry of Railways has expedited the efforts and approached the federal and provincial departments to recover outstanding billion of rupees dues on account of using its land and other services.

"Minister for Railways Khawaja Saad Rafique has asked the official concerned to approach the federal and provincial departments for recovering the outstanding amount as soon as possible," an official in the Ministry told APP here Sunday.

About the amount payable against the different departments, the official said that an amount of over Rs 8375 million (over 8 billion) was payable

by different departments on account of using its land and various services.

The federal departments have to pay an amount of Rs 709.084 million, provincial departments Rs1980.217 million and autonomous and private bodies Rs 5685.736 million, he expressed.

Pakistan Railways, he said has upgraded as many as 167 vulnerable un-manned level crossings to manned level crossings, out of which 550 are identified by the department over the entire railway network last year. The relevant provincial government provided the finances to Pakistan Railways for the upgradation of un-manned level crossings in the country, he added.

NA speaker felicitates Ch. Latif on elected as Speaker of AJK assembly

Abdul Majeed Tahir

ISLAMABAD: 4th June 2023: Speaker National Assembly Raja Pervez Ashraf extended warm felicitation to former President PPP AJK and former opposition leader AJK Legislative Assembly Chaudhry Latif Akbar for being successfully elected as Speaker of Azad Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly.

The Speaker said that the successful election of Chaudhry Latif Akbar as the speaker of Azad Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly reflect-



ed the confidence reposed by members of Assembly on people centred policies of PPP. He also expressed his confidence that Chaudhary Latif Akbar as

Speaker Azad Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly would continue to exert his efforts for highlighting atrocities on Kashmiris in Indian occupied Jammu & Kashmir at every international forum.

The Speaker expressed his belief that legislative Assembly of AJK would continue to legislate in the best public interest under visionary and astute leadership of Chaudhry Latif Akbar. He added, "Ch. Latif Akbar being the Speaker of Legislative Assembly would follow principles of consensus based politics."

MOU between Women's University and Imperial College of Business Studies



Quratul Ain Asim

MULTAN: A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed between The Women University Multan (WUM) and Imperial College of Business Studies (ICBS) by Prof. Dr. Uzma Quraishi, Vice Chancellor of WUM, and Dr. Tahira Aziz Mughal, Rector of ICBS. The signing ceremony marked a significant milestone in fostering academic collaboration and mutual cooperation between the two institutions. This partnership aims to enhance academic excellence, promote research projects, and facilitate student and faculty exchanges, driving research, innovation, and socio-economic outcomes while providing quality education and empowering students for professional development. During the ceremony, Prof. Dr. Uzma Quraishi emphasized the importance of such collaborations in providing students and faculty with opportunities for international exposure, knowledge exchange, and cutting-edge research initiatives. Dr. Tahira Aziz Mughal expressed optimism that this collaboration will contribute to the overall academic growth and professional development of the university community, leading to impactful outcomes in the field of management education. The event was attended by Pro Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr. Kalsoom Paracha, Registrar, Prof. Dr. Qammar Rubab, Director Institute of Management Sciences, Prof. Dr. Sadia Irshad, Director ORIC, Dr. Kanwal Rehman, and other heads of departments.

Country suffering from the Worst Economic and Business Conditions. Dr Safdar Hashmi

Asim Tanveer

MULTAN: Cantonment is a C Class Cantonment Board in terms of population and despite this being proved in the recent census, collection of dues, taxes as per A Class Cantonment Board from the citizens of Cantt is illegal and unjust.

The country is currently suffering from the worst economic and business conditions and misery in the country. The dragon of inflation and unemployment wants to swallow the country. In these worst economic conditions, demanding unbearable duties from the resident citizens and businessmen of the Cantonment Board in the name of Old Grant Lease is completely unfair and cruel to the people. They do not have the resources for two meals a day. A large number of white-collared lower class cantonment citizens have only shop rent to support their household or pay dues to the cantonment board.

When did our neighboring countries give relief to the people by abolishing the British-era Cantonment Act? Cantonment Board should abolish the old grant lease policy and implement a people-friendly policy. Amending the Old Grant Lease Act and abolishing the deadline of 30 June 2023 by giving relief to citizens and businessmen of cantonment boards across the country including Multan.



Sit-in for the resolution of demands continued for the 10th day



Adam Khan Wazir

WANA: The national unity sit-in in Tehsil birmal azamwarask of District South Waziristan Lower continued for the tenth day, apart from local tribal elders, political leaders and people belonging to different schools of thought participated in the sit-in.

The participants of the sit-in while talking to the media said that the Government should immediately resolve the legitimate demands of the people of birmal tehsil Azamwarsak area and take practical steps to resolve them.

The participants say that until the legitimate demands of the people of this area are not resolved, the sit-in will continue.

It should be clear that the people of tehsil birmal area Azamwarsak of South Waziristan Lower, staged a sit-in 10th days ago to accept their demands, which is still going on, their demands are as follows.

- 1: 24 hours electricity supply should be ensured to Tehsil birmal.
- 2: In the Pak-Afghan border, the local people should be allowed to protect their natural crop pine, and the herdsman should be allowed to have their cattle without hindrance.
- 3: To install mobile towers in certain areas and provide 3G/4G services where there are mobile towers.
- 4: Government educational institutions and health centers have been non-functional for a long time in different areas of tehsil birmal, so they should be functional.
- 5: Compensation should be given to the families of those who were injured and martyred in various incidents.

The participants of the sit-in threatened that if our legitimate demands are not resolved by the government and the district administration, then the sit-in will continue and we will start protesting at various government places.

On the other hand, ANP senior leader Ayaz Wazir requested the Government to resolve the demands of the sit-in as legitimate.

He further said that the government should show seriousness and take concrete steps to resolve the demands, otherwise more problems will arise from the sit-in. Which will later cause problems for all government institutions.

Health hazard

KARACHI: A view of accumulated sewerage water at Gulistan-e-Johar University Road causing trouble to the people, which needs the attention of concerned authorities.



Photo: Online

Islam is a complete code & system of life: Alhaj Naseer Vohra

Mian Rashid Asghar

FAISALABAD: It is the responsibility of all of us to maintain the physical and spiritual disability of humans until the Day of Judgment, this was stated by Alhaj Naseer Youssef Vohra.

Orphans value the GMT camp for children's hearing. Central President Cloth Board Ethihad Group Pakistan participated the Sunta Pakistan camp set up for hearing by GMT in Orphanage This special camp at Tariqabad was inaugurated by Vohra.

On this occasion the Principal Special Education Dr. Nadeem Anjum, Dr. Arushna Nazli, Rana Abid, Asim Khan, Dr. Manoor, Fayaz and Malik Adnan were also present.

After the opening cere-



mony, Alhaj Youssef Vohra, while conducting the hearing test of the orphans, has said that Islam is a complete code & system of life, in which the rights of every member of the society have been taken carefully & Allah Almighty has not left anyone helpless in deprivations.

He has provided all means

for everyone that they can easily live on Allah's earth and spend their days of life. Orphans and orphans also have social rights. Their full support is the protection of their rights and turning away from it is a violation of their rights.

A total of 300 children were tested in this camp, out

of which 15 children were hearing impaired, of which 8 children were provided with hearing aids.

Naseer Vohra has further said that if there is an orphan under his shadow, he should take care of that orphan. Raise him well. In the hadiths, there are many virtues of raising an orphan and treating him well. He indicated and opened them.

Vohra with doctors, camp management and Suits were distributed to the staff of the orphanage. At the end, prayers were also prayed for the development and protection of the orphans of the country of Pakistan and the forces of Pakistan.

It will be considered inhumane attitude when we ignore top deprived persons, Vohra said and added.

Journey of development in Multan Division is going on fast: Amir Khattak



Quratul Ain Asim

MULTAN: The journey of development in Multan division is going on fast. The Highways Department has completed Basti Maluk to Tehsil Shujaabad Road in a record period of 6 months. Speaking about this, Axin Highways Ghulam Nabi said that the Highways Department has completed the one and a half year scheme in a short period of 6 months. The scheme has also saved tax money of the public by ensuring transparency and quality of construction by completing it ahead of schedule.

The construction and maintenance of the 17 km long, 20 feet wide road has cost Rs 30 crore. Ghulam Nabi said that Commissioner Multan Division Engineer Aamir Khattak has ordered to complete the schemes of roads, infrastructure soon and he

World environment day will be celebrated on June 05: NFEH

KARACHI: The National Forum for Environment and Health (NFEH) has demanded that federal, provincial, and local governments should sit together and adopt a 'National Action Plan' to effectively deal with the issue of plastic waste before this polluting issue causes irreversible damage in the country.

In an address in connection with World Environment Day-2023, NFEH President Naeem Qureshi said that the least Pakistan should do is to ensure that all main urban centers in Pakistan should strictly impose a ban on single-use polythene bags to tackle the problem of plastic pollution.

He was addressing a meeting core committee of NFEH to organize an interactive seminar on WED 2023

This seminar will be held

on June 05 at local hotel. Sindh environment minister Ismail Rahoo will be the chief guest on this occasion and Shariq Vohra, Ali Asghar Khadim, Saquib Ejaz Hussain, Faraz ur Rehman and Zahra Ali Syed will join as speakers.

He said the theme of this year's World Environment Day "Beat the plastic pollution" befittingly highlighted the environmental catastrophe Pakistan and other developing countries had been facing due to the unattended issue of polythene bags and unchecked use of other plastic material in everyday life.

Qureshi highlighted that monsoon season was about to begin all over the country and all the main cities in Pakistan especially Karachi could face again the issue of urban flooding due to choked stormwater drains.

He said that various studies and surveys had repeatedly pointed out that waste mainly generated due to the unattended problem of polythene bags was the main cause behind the choking of the stormwater drains in Karachi.

He lamented that the menacing problem of plastic waste in Karachi not just created the issue of urban flooding during monsoons but also caused massive harm to the marine and coastal environment of the city.

The NFEH President pointed out that around eight million tons of plastic material entered the oceans and seas every year a country like Pakistan having no proper mechanism in place to deal with this issue is a major contributor to this cause of marine pollution.

He said that certain esti-

mates indicated that over 50 per cent of the total waste generated in Pakistan is made up of plastics. Another study pointed out that up to 55 billion polythene bags are in use in Pakistan and this number keeps on increasing every year.

He urged the federal, provincial, and local governments in Pakistan to be on one page to deal with the plastic waste issue of the country before it is too late.

Besides imposing a complete ban on single-use polythene bags the government should promote the use of products made of biodegradable plastic to lessen the damage to the environment and marine ecosystem of the country.

He highlighted that main urban centers in Pakistan especially Karachi lacked a proper system to dispose of tones of solid waste gener-

Punjab Govt started internship Program for Students: Saqib Ali Attil

Asim Tanveer

MULTAN: Under the chairmanship of Secretary Agriculture South Punjab Saqib Ali Attil, a meeting of the Internship Program Recruitment Committee was held in Multan. Internship program for male and female students has been started to increase cotton production. The Punjab government has allocated a huge amount of Rs 150 million for the internship program. A meeting of the Recruitment Committee of the Internship Program was held in MNS Agricultural University under the chairmanship of South Punjab Agriculture Secretary Saqib Ali Attil. In the meeting, Vice Chancellor MNS Agricultural University Professor Dr. Asif Ali.



Islamabad
15° - 23° Clear

SERVICES

Namaz Timings

Fajr	3:16 am
Zohr	12:06 pm
Asr	5:05 pm
Maghrib	7:15 pm
Isha	8:57 pm

EMERGENCY

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

Women Police Stations

Islamabad	9222596
Rawalpindi	9270601-20

ENQUIRY

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
CDA	9208301-04
Met Office	9250360-6
RDA	5555864
TMA	5770886
Cantonment Board	9270151-3
Islamabad Metropolitan Corporation	9209224
Potohar Town	9209224
Rawal Town	5773343

COMPLAINTS

Water Tanker Service	
E-7, F-10 & F-11	9204654
G-5, G-6, G-7, G-8	9203883

The country's political temperature is cooling

Tariq Khattak

ISLAMABAD: Dr. Hanif Mughal, Senior Vice President of Pakistan Economy Watch (PEW), said on Sunday that the political temperature is decreasing in the country, which is a good sign for the struggling economy.

Masses are getting satisfied as inflation is receding, economic indicators are slowly improving, and things are coming back to normal, he said.

Dr. Hanif Mughal said in a statement issued here today that economic development will accelerate if appropriate measures are taken in the budget which will give relief to the people.

He said that the previous government not only took record loans in the history of the country, but also set new records of mismanagement.

Pakistan's economy which was 22nd in the world was pushed down to 47th number and now their frustrated leaders



are claiming that the country will be bankrupt any time soon.

The former government destroyed the economy, leading to closure of thousands of businesses and millions losing their jobs. The international institutions that

provided record loans to the former cabal without question are not ready to provide a billion dollars to Pakistan, which indicate their ill intentions, he observed.

He said that if the government was not changed, it would have put the integrity of the country in jeopardy to please their foreign masters.

Mr. Mughal said that the process of difficult reforms has been completed, due to which the people and the business community had to bear a lot of trouble, but now the situation is improving, and the people have started getting some relief.

The government is committed to implementing long-term reforms aimed at improving the country's economic situation and Pakistan will never default like Sri Lanka, he said.

While the IMF's rejection of Pakistan's request poses a hurdle, the government remains resolute in its efforts to revive the deal and secure the financing to support the economic recovery.

Crackdown to prevent fake fertilizers and agricultural Drugs: Umar Jahangir



Kiran Asim

MULTAN: On the instructions of Deputy Commissioner Umar Jahangir, the district administration conducted a thorough crackdown to prevent fake fertilizers and agricultural drugs. Along with the agriculture officers, raids were conducted in the tehsils. During the crackdown, 5 people who were selling fake agricultural drugs and fertilizers were arrested while the shops and warehouses of the accused were sealed. Similarly, Assistant Commissioner Jalalpur Pir Wala Raheel Mirza and Assistant Commissioner Shuja Abad Fayaz Ali Jatala also registered 7 cases while conducting operations in Jalalpur Pirwala, Shujaabad.

Meanwhile, Assistant Commissioners took the samples of fertilizers and agricultural medicines in the town. Deputy Commissioner Umar Jahangir said that the mafia will be called to give relief to the farmer brothers. Umar Jahangir said that anti-social elements are destroying agriculture for personal interests. Inspection teams have also been formed to supply fertilizer at government rates.

Crops and orchards were completely destroyed due to heavy hailstorm

Adam Khan Wazir

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

According to reports, heavy rains and heavy hailstorm occurred in different areas of Wana, completely destroying all the crops and cultivated garden's/orchards in the area.

It should be remembered that most of the people in Waziristan are dependent on agriculture, but the standing crops of different areas have been badly affected by heavy rains and heavy hailstorms for the second time.

Local farmers and tribal elders of Wana said that if the central and provincial governments do not address our losses, the farmers will face financial difficulties.

They said that most of the farmers here have cultivated crops by taking loans from the markets but after the destruction due to hailstorm, it has become difficult for them to clear this loan.

However, wheat harvesting was going on now, which has also been spoiled. On which the government should estimate the damage through a survey and provide relief to the affected farmers as soon as possible.



Calligraphy

ISLAMABAD: An artist is busy in drawing Islamic calligraphy at Government School MSG G-8/2 in Federal Capital.



Photo: Online by Sultan Bashir

Difficulties faced by the passengers during rain: DS Railway

Kiran Asim

MULTAN: DS Railway Multan Division suddenly inspected the Shalimar Express, checked the security including fire extinguishing equipment, also visited Cantt Railway Station. During the surprise inspection, along with his team, he checked the passengers without tickets and also checked the dining car and fire extinguishers, other security arrangements.

While issuing necessary instructions to the staff present in the train, DS Railway Multan Division Hamad Hasan Mirza visited Multan Cantt Station during the rain on Saturday evening, during which he inspected the AMS office and issued necessary instructions to the railway staff. He also reviewed the difficulties faced by the passengers during rain and issued necessary instructions.

Brutal inflation has pushed millions below the poverty line

T Khattak

ISLAMABAD: Former President of the Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI) Dr. Shahid Rasheed Butt said on Sunday that merciless inflation has broken the backs of the people and pushed millions of people below the poverty line.

People in rural areas are more affected by the inflation than people in urban areas, which is unfortunate, he said.

Shahid Rasheed Butt said that now that inflation is fully embedded in the system, it will continue to damage the masses with full force in the next financial year to increase public anxiety.

In a statement issued here today, he said that according to the data released by the government, inflation has reached 38 percent in the month of May, which is the highest level in the history of the country



and in South Asia.

Inflation is increasing, but there has been no increase in the wages of the workers, nor has there been a significant increase in the salaries of public and private employees, he added.

The business leader said that people are being affected by inflation and that it has become difficult for them to make ends

meet. While the politicians, aristocrats, industrialists, landlords, and bureaucracy do not care about it.

To reduce inflation, it is necessary to improve the price mechanism, deal with hoarders and profiteers according to the law, and import cheap food items from neighbouring countries, he demanded.

He noted that authorities are not willing to take an interest in providing relief to the masses as they are all focused on politics.

He said that the FBR has not been able to fulfil its targets, so people should be ready to bear unexpected burdens.

Mr. Butt said that if Pakistan had traded with India and given it access to Afghanistan and Central Asia, it would not have invested billions of dollars in Iran, Pakistan would have become very important for New Delhi, and we would not have to beg the IMF and friendly countries for loans.

NUML's tribute to late Colonel Shaikh

NUML recalls late Col. Shaikh at special event to mark his memory

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The Department of Turkish Studies at the National University of Modern Languages (NUML) hosted a beautiful ceremony here the other day to commemorate the life and works of late Col. (R) Masud Akhtar Shaikh—a soldier, a traveler, a writer, and a topnotch Turkish language interpreter. Col. Shaikh's literary contributions towards cementing the hearts and minds of the people of Turkiye and Pakistan were shared with university students amidst hopes that NUML too would produce literary giants like him.

The event had ex-aviator and author of four books, Gen. (Retd.) Muhammad Azam, as the guest speaker. He was flanked by former chairman of the Federal Bureau of Revenue, Mumtaz Haider, Dean of the Faculty of Languages at NUML, Dr. Jamil Asghar Jami, Head of the Department of Turkish Studies, Dr. Sibel Bayram, and admirers and family members of Col. Shaikh. Students studying Turkish language at NUML also attended the event.

The event started with an introduction of Col. Shaikh and his publications, a pictorial presentation featuring glimpses from his life, and a video message from



the former Cabinet secretary and minister, Ejaz Rahim, who termed Col. Shaikh as "a sensitive man, who has produced literature; who became a bridge between two cultures; and who emerged as a patriotic Pakistani and a patriotic Turk, with a concrete bouquet of books in his hand." The event also featured a tour of the Department's library, which now has a dedicated corner displaying hundreds of Col. Shaikh's books donated by his family for the benefit of students of Turkish language.

Addressing the event, Gen. (r) Azam lauded Col. Shaikh's extensive work, which he stumbled upon by chance

during a visit to PAF Hospital, where copies of his 25 books—of which 21 are translations of Turkish prose and poetry into Urdu and English—have been placed for patients in waiting. "Translation is a very difficult task. It is not mathematical; the translator must convey the essence, the logic, and the environment as well, and I am amazed by the quality of the extensive work that Col. Shaikh has left behind," Gen. Azam remarked. He invited the Dean's attention to "Why, in the last 70 years, we have only one Col. Shaikh, who learned a language and then gave back by creating a literary bridge between Turkiye and Pakistan? He urged NUML to explore how it can encourage the 5,000 to 10,000 armed forces' officers who learn various languages to pay back by following in the footsteps of literary icons like Col. Shaikh.

Gen. (r) Azam recommended that a hall in NUML be named after Col. Shaikh so that students are inspired by his work and the deep connection which he fostered between the two nations lives on. He also suggested that the university introduce a 'Col. Masud Shaikh Excellence Award' which should annually be presented to the top student of the Turkish language course as an eternal tribute to his memory.

The Dean, Dr. Jamil Asghar Jami, wondered how, in just one lifespan, Col. Shaikh could produce so many literary projects. He invoked Allama Iqbal's verse 'Jahan mein ehle eema surat-e-khurshid jeetay hein; Idhar doobay, udhar niklay, udhar doobay, idhar niklay' as a tribute to Col. Shaikh's impactful life. "Certain people, when they go, take a whole facet of civilization with them. Col. Shaikh's departure is a loss of not just one individual, but a whole civilization," he said. Dr. Jami was very forthcoming to the recommendations made at the event. He promised to dedicate a corner for Col. Shaikh's books in NUML's Central Library as well, for which the family has agreed to donate more books. "By doing so, we will not just honour the author's memory, but will also be honouring NUML itself," he proudly remarked.

Mumtaz Haider voiced concerns about Pakistan's current trajectory. "We, as a country, are treading a path which is taking us away from philosophy, heritage, and literature," he lamented. Quoting one of Churchill's famous post-World War II remarks, "So many owed so much to so few," he asserted that Pakistan owed a great debt to Col. Shaikh. Dr. Sibel said, "Writers find the best way to live forever."

Power supply will be improved in Balochistan and Sindh

Commerce Desk

LAHORE: The National Transmission and Despatch Company Limited (NTDC) has achieved the successful replacement of a 108 km 220 kV transmission line in south region. The newly constructed Guddu-Shikarpur transmission line has been energized on June 3, 2023. This significant milestone marks a major step towards improving the power supply system in the South areas of Pakistan, specifically Balochistan and Sindh Provinces.

Guddu-Shikarpur Transmission Line project has been completed with total contract cost of USD 13,108,994 and PKR 1,630,460,035, this transformative project addresses operational problems and system bottlenecks that plagued the previous transmission line. This vital project will strengthen the connection between Guddu and Shikarpur, resulting in improved stability and reliability of the power transmission network. The existing 220kV Guddu-Sibbi single circuit transmission line, constructed in 1977, suffered from aging and deterioration of the PCC Poles + Steel Towers. Over the course of its more than 40 years of service, the transmission line experienced a de-rated capacity, causing frequent operational challenges for power transmission from Uch Power Plants to respective load centers.

The Managing Director NTDC, Engr. Dr. Rana Abdul Jabbar Khan appreciated the Project Delivery South team for their efforts to complete this critical project.

PMDC decides to hold MDCAT exam on Aug 27

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Medical and Dental Council (PMDC) has decided to hold the Medical Dental Admission Examination (MDCAT) on August 27, 2023.

The decision was made in the council meeting chaired by President PM&DC Dr Rizwan Taj. The council decided that the syllabus of the MDCAT will remain the same as last year's exam.

The council directed all provincial secretaries to start preparing for the said exam. The decision was made keeping in view the larger interest of students.

Last year, almost 204,259 students appeared in exams while this year 210,000 students are likely to appear in the exams.

Medical universities from all four provinces and the federal capital will again conduct the exams as per the provincial curriculum.

The council emphasized that prior to exams all stakeholders will be taken on board like public medical universities' examination departments to ensure the secrecy of exams.

The MDCAT paper difficult index will also be taken into consideration for ease of students without compromising merit to ensure that all provinces conduct exams without any trouble to students.

It was decided that the NUMS will be the admitting university responsible for admissions in all armed forces-administered medical and dental colleges and institutes.

The NUMS admission test will be considered in par with the national MDCAT to be applicable only for admission in all armed forces-administered medical and dental colleges.

The meeting was attended by the council members including Dr Amjad Siraj Memon, Dr Muhammad Zubair Khan, Jawad Amin Khan, Barrister Ch. Sultan Mansoor, Noor ul Haq, Dr Mahmud Aurangzeb, Dr Tahmina Asad, Lt. Gen. Mohsin Qureshi Surgeon General, Dr Muhammad Shoaib Shafi Secretary Health Ministry of National Health Services and all provincial secretaries and nominees.





77th Anniversary of Republic Day of Italy

Italy enjoys bilateral ties with Pakistan in multiple spheres: Andreas Ferrarese

Italy is a true friend of Pakistan amongst EU nations: Khawaja Asif



By Naveed Ahmed Khan

ISLAMABAD: Italian Ambassador to Pakistan Andreas Ferrarese hosted a grand reception to mark the 77th anniversary of the Republic Day of Italy at Serena Hotels, Islamabad. The event was attended by many Ambassadors, Head of Missions, Defence Attaches and Pakistanis from different walks of life and media persons.

Governor Punjab Muhammad Balighur Rehman, Deputy Speaker National Assembly of Pakistan Zahid Akram Durrani, Federal Minister for Defence, Khawaja Asif, Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed, Chairman Parliamentary Committee on China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), Maulana Syed Muhammad Abdul Khabir Azad, Chairman Central Ruet-e-Hilal Committee Pakistan, Ambassador of Turkmenistan and Dean of Diplomatic Corps H.E. Atadjan Movlamov were also present on occasion to exchange their views on various issues.

Defence Minister Khawaja Muhammad Asif has said both Pakistan and Italy enjoy excellent relations adding this relationship is poised to grow more in the coming days. He expressed these views while speaking on the 77th anniversary of the Republic Day of Italy. He further added that Italy was an important country in the European Union and had always supported Pakistan on important issues including the grant of GSP plus status. He said Pakistan duly recognized the Italian goodwill gesture.

The Italian Ambassador Andreas Ferrarese said in his speech that our cooperation encompasses, but is not limited to political, economic, cultural, and social spheres. Italy values the vital support and continued cooperation that Pakistan extended to the international community. Both countries appreciate the importance of people-to-people contacts that foster bilateral ties. The Embassy is strongly committed to improving and extending consular services.

Talking about the joint commission he said, the 5th Italy-Pakistan Joint Economic Commission (JEC) took place on 29-30 May in Rome, where the two sides agreed to establish a joint framework to deal with climate change and cooperation in water management. Both sides signed an important "Roadmap for Cooperation" which covers climate change, trade & investment, heritage & culture, agriculture, technical cooperation, higher education, and transfer of technology in related sectors.

The ambassador further said, "We shall continue to explore the avenues with a focus on agriculture, renewable energy, textiles, construction, and tourism. Collaboration in fields of textiles, agriculture, livestock, marble, pharmaceuticals, and mass manufacturing will help enhance Pakistan's industrial scope and increase exports of value-added goods".

He said, with a population of around 240 million, and a constantly growing demand for high-end products, Pakistan continues to be an attractive market for Italian companies and businesses. Some renowned Italian companies have established their presence in the Pakistani market lately, he added.

"Italy remains among the top ten exporting countries for Pakistan in the world, and the third major trade partner in the EU. Both our countries are in favour of the trade liberalization scheme at the World Trade Organization and contest the idea of unilateralism" he said. "Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS) has supported several projects in fields of agriculture, health, and infrastructure in diverse regions of the country"



ment Cooperation (AICS) has supported several projects in fields of agriculture, health, and infrastructure in diverse regions of the country"

The ambassador further shared that in addition to economic affairs, Italy remained active in community uplift projects and several fruitful

programs in various fields had been accomplished in Pakistan. "Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS) has supported several projects in

fields of agriculture, health, and infrastructure in diverse regions of the country. We are excited to see the initial success of the "Olive Culture Project" in

Pakistan that would bear tangible fruits for the country in the future", he added.

The envoy said Italy's archaeological Mission was one of the

oldest present missions in Pakistan and had made great contributions to Pakistan's already rich archaeological scene. He added, "Italians' love for Pakistani mountains is no secret and that reflects through their activities of conservation and uplift of Pakistan's mountainous areas." The Embassy of Italy in Islamabad is committed to further strengthening bilateral ties, to take mutual trade to its natural size. "We look forward to a deeper collaboration with the Pakistani business community, relevant bodies such as chambers of commerce and industry in both countries" he added.

The ambassador said that this year we also celebrating the 75th anniversary of the diplomatic relations between Italy and Pakistan. "The time-honoured Italy-Pakistan relations are marked by emergent bilateral cooperation and harmony of views on a great range of issues. Our cooperation encompasses but is not limited to political, economic, cultural, and social spheres. Italy values the vital support and continued cooperation that Pakistan extended to the international community" the ambassador said.

H.E. Andreas Ferrarese added to his views that with a community exceeding 180,000, Italy is home to the largest Pakistani diaspora in Europe (post-Brexit) and their contribution to the Italian economy, as well as to that of their native country was remarkable. He said, "Worker remittances from Italy to Pakistan have been at an all-time high in the past two years (more than 1 billion Euro per year). Italy was the seventh largest source of worker remittances to Pakistan globally, and the top one within the EU countries."

Italian Trade Commissioner for Pakistan Amedeo Scarpa said that the Italian Trade Agency (ICE) is a government trade and investment promotion agency whose duty was to develop, facilitate and promote the economic and trade relations of Italy with other countries, with particular emphasis on the needs of small and medium-sized businesses. "Italy stands among the top ten trading partners of Pakistan. Italian industrialists have been enjoying good trade relations with their Pakistani counterparts for the past many decades" he added. However, there are still large margins for further improving such trade by enhancing trade promotion activities to be realized in both countries, he added.

He said that Pakistan's exports of goods and services to Italy witnessed an increase of 35.58% during the first three quarters of the fiscal year (2021-22) compared to the exports of the corresponding period of last year.

The overall exports to Italy he said were at \$758.795 million during July-March (2021-22) against exports of \$559.664 million during July-March (2020-21). And this is above the average considering that Pakistan's exports to other countries had an increase of 26.64% in nine months (from US \$18.713 billion to US \$ 23.699 billion). He said, on a year-to-year basis, the imports from Italy increased by 98.32%, going up from \$43.320 million in March 2021 against the exports of \$85.916 million in March 2022. Meanwhile, on a month-to-month basis, the imports from Italy witnessed a surge of 47.31% in March 2022 compared to the exports of \$58.323 million in February 2022.

The cake-cutting ceremony took place after playing the national anthems of both countries. Mr. Andreas Ferrarese is very famous in the Pakistani community therefore, guests in larger numbers opted to attend the event. At the end of event, the guests enjoyed Italian cuisine specially prepared for this occasion under the supervision of well-known Malaysian Chef, Pathmanathan Balagandaram, Executive Chef of Serena Hotels.

This is the time to strengthen the economy of Pakistan – Chairman Wall Street



Commerce Report

KARACHI: A mega draw was organized by Wall Street in Karachi Head Office that started from the first Ramadan. People from all over the country won cash prizes amounting to lakhs of rupees in the draws and Umair Haji Zafar was the lucky one who was declared the winner in Hajj balloting.

Chairman Wall Street, Ramzan Ali, said that we are working for the growth and development of the country and this is the time to strengthen the economy of Pakistan, and we are working in this direction.

CEO of Wall Street, Sarfraz Hussain Siddiqui, said that Wall Street always cared for people and this campaign is aligned with that thinking. The Wall Street Company has been serving the country since 2003 and we will continue to serve Pakistan. In the draws, we gave cash prizes worth lakhs of rupees to the customers daily.

Country Manager Wall Street, Mohammad Aslam Ranger, said that we wanted to benefit our customers through draws. Wall Street fulfilled its commitment as we provided an opportunity to people across the country to win lakhs of rupees in cash prizes including the Haj package. This campaign will improve the economy of Pakistan and that is our dream. We will also give GFS plots to our customers on Eid ul Azha. People from all over the country participated in the draws and won prizes worth millions of rupees. Wall Street administration will continue to serve the whole country.

2nd International Solar Energy (ISEM) & IEEP IREM Expo has concludes



Tahir Amin Malik

LAHORE: The 2nd International Solar Energy (ISEM) & IEEP IREM Expo has concluded here at Expo Center, Lahore. There were number of stalls has been displayed during the three days events. On the 3rd days the conference was also held which the topic was Challenges and Potential Solutions for Clean and Green Power Generation Portfolio in Pakistan. This was organized by The Institution of Electrical and Electronics Engineering Pakistan (IEEEP). The number of Speakers who participated in the Conference were included Mr.Tahir Basharat Cheema, Energy Advisor All Pakistan Textile Mills Association, (APTMA), Mr.Faiz Ahmed Bhutta, Energy Training and Research Center, Mr.Shehan Talagala, Sales Executive Jinko Solar, Mr.Murtaza Saleem, Pearl Energy Solution Pvt Ltd, Shoaib Asif Sipra, Vice President Energy Solutions, Wateen Telecom, Mr.Hafiz Owais Ahmad, Planning Engineering LUMS University, Mr.Muhammad Minhaj Khokhar, Ceo, PK2100 LLC, Mr.Salman Nazir, Head of Projects RE-2, MS. Grace Wan Sales Manager Canadian Solar, Mr.Uzair Zavary Group Director, (USA,UAE, Pakistan)Netline Pvt Ltd, Mr.Babar Hussain, Ceo, Babar Hussain Group.

Gas prices

Increasing gas prices will affect the masses, production, and exports: Atif Ikram Sheikh

Tariq Khattak

ISLAMABAD: Former Vice President of FPCCI Atif Ikram Sheikh said on Sunday that a fifty percent increase in gas prices will affect the masses, production, and exports.

The decision will increase poverty in the country, which is already facing unprecedented price hikes taking a toll on the masses, he said.

Atif Ikram Sheikh who has also served as President ICCI and Chairman PVMA said in

a statement issued here today that an upward revision in the gas tariff will burden the people with hundreds of billions of rupees, therefore the decision should be withdrawn.

The decision will help state-run gas companies get additional funds of 226 billion rupees amid mounting losses.

OGRA's decision will provide SNGPL with additional funds of about Rs121 billion during the next financial year. SSGCL will get additional funds of Rs105 billion, which is not justified.

He said that domestic production is continuously falling, the production of major industries has decreased to an alarming level, and exports have been continuously dwindling for nine months.

In the month of May, exports dropped by seventeen percent, and this decision will make the production process more expensive, which will further reduce exports, he warned.

In the first eleven months of the year, exports have decreased to 25.36 billion dollars,



compared to 28.87 billion dollars during the eleven months of last year.

He said that due to restrictions on imports, the economy is affected and businesses are closed, but the trade deficit has decreased from 43.40 billion dollars to 25.79 billion dollars.

In 2022, Pakistan's exports were 32.5 billion dollars, while India's exports were 680 billion dollars. Pakistan's per capita export earnings were 140 dollars, while India's per capita export earnings were 483 dollars, he informed.

Used clothes

ISLAMABAD: People are busy in selecting and parching useful clothes at Landa Bazar at Sector H-9 Sunday Bazar in Federal Capital.



Photo: Online by Sultan Bashir

Pakistan a Priority Market for Business: Commerce Minister tells British Companies

Spokesman Report

MANCHESTER: Federal Minister for Commerce, Mr. Naveed Qamar, addressed the UK business community in Manchester on 3 June 2023, urging them to prioritize Pakistan as a market for business expansion.

The Federal Minister is on an official visit to the UK to attend Commonwealth Trade Ministers' Meeting.

Minister Qamar highlighted the favorable business environment and abundant opportunities available in Pakistan during his speech at the event, which was attended by the business community, UK Parliamentarians, Mayors, Councillors and media representatives.

The Minister acknowledged the 1.6 million-strong Pakistani diaspora in the UK as the cornerstone of the strong UK-Pakistan relationship.

The UK has become Pakistan's third-largest export

partner, second-largest investment partner, and third-largest source of remittances, said Minister Qamar.

He said despite pandemic restrictions, Pakistan's exports to the UK grew by 33%, surpassing the US\$2 billion milestone. Exports are expected to maintain momentum, with a 10% growth rate in the current financial year, said the Minister. Minister Qamar thanked the UK Government for its development assistance to Pakistan.

Commending the UK Government, Minister Qamar highlighted the announcement of a £1.5 billion facility to support bilateral investment and export.

He also appreciated the UK Government's concessions to Pakistan on Developing Countries Trading Scheme (DCTS) facility, resulting in zero duty on over 92% of Pakistan's exports to the UK.

Business community of Islamabad is grateful to Chairman CDA: President ICCI

T Khattak

ISLAMABAD: President Islamabad Chamber of Commerce Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari chaired a meeting of the presidents of different markets of Islamabad, on this occasion the issue of construction works by CDA in the markets was discussed. The presidents of all the markets of Islamabad participated, various markets were selected for the construction and repair works in the first phase, including G 9, Abpara Market, G 11, F10, F11, F6 and Melody Market.

In the meeting, 5 focal persons were also selected for coordination regarding construction works with CDA, including President Islamabad Chamber Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari, Chairman Founder Group Khalid Iqbal Malik, Former President Ijaz Abbasi, President Anjuman Tajran Ajmal Baloch and Khalid Chaudhry. Speaking on the occasion, President Islamabad Chamber Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari said that the entire business community of Islamabad is grateful to the Chairman CDA Captain Noor Ul Amin Mengal, who paid attention to our long-standing problem regarding the construction works in the markets.

We will work in this regard in a phased manner, he said that the presidents and other officials of all the markets should



cooperate with the Chamber and CDA to end this problem. The work has not been done for a long time, therefore the situation of the markets is worse, due to the lack of irrigation and carpeting, the problems of cleanliness have also become serious.

I hope with this initiative of CDA we will overcome these problems soon. Speaking on this occasion, Chairman Founder Group Khalid Iqbal Malik said that Islamabad as the capital of our country is the crown jewel of our country.

We need to make this city an ideal city in every aspect including cleanliness. This

initiative by CDA is an opportunity for all the business community to offer our full support to solve the problems of our marketeers.

President All Pakistan Anjuman Tajran Ajmal Baloch said that I am grateful to the President Islamabad Chamber and Chairman CDA for paying attention to this long-standing problem. He said that Abpara is the oldest market in Islamabad. But due to lack of construction work, the most affected is also, if the business community moves forward with this unity, then our problems will be solved.

Budget should be made according to the resources of the poor and middle class: Sarfraz Mughal

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: The federal government has announced to present the financial budget on June 9. On this occasion, prominent business leader Sarfraz Mughal has appealed to the government to take into account the current national crises, especially the inflationary storm, in the upcoming budget.

Set an example by presenting the public budget by including the problems of the poor and middle class and its resources in the priorities. Small government employees are left behind in this mill. The white cover of retired employees is not fulfilled by the recent pension. In the budget, the salaries of government employees and the pension



of retired employees should be increased according to the situation. Sarfraz Mughal has further said that the burden on the government treasury By ending the incentives, the people can be relieved and the country can be made prosperous. The reduction in the prices of petroleum products, ghee, oil, flour is welcome. Friends should be made. Educational and medical expenses have cooled the hearts of many homes.

OICCI demands super tax removal

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: OICCI presented its key taxation proposals for 2023-24 budget to Minister of Finance (MOF), Mr M. Ishaq Dar on June 3rd. The meeting was attended by the Governor State Bank, top leadership of the Ministry of Finance and Revenue and FBR.

OICCI President, Amir Paracha appreciated the engagement by the Govt with leading tax contributor in the country and expressed the apprehension that "economy is currently under stress and GDP growth forecast including for large scale industries for the immediate near term is negative to marginally positive, which along with super high inflation and interest rates and fast weakening currency, has the potential to substantially dent the profitability of tax paying sectors next year". "OICCI therefore has recommended "Mr. Paracha continued, " that the Super tax be removed and no new taxes or surprises be announced in the



upcoming budget, as it will further dampen the formal business sector". Finance Minister took great interest in OICCI proposals, which were forward-looking and intended to boost the economic activity going forward.

OICCI stressed the urgency for broadening the tax base to boost its revenue collection according to the proportionate share of each sector of the economy, especially trade,

services, real estate, and agriculture. OICCI stressed that sufficient data is available in the system to significantly broaden the tax base and arrest the revenue leakage due to the GOP. MOF appreciated OICCI offer of assistance and asked FBR team to work closely with technology companies, who are also members of OICCI, to help identify through latest technology tools, including Artificial Intelligence, in highlighting potential new taxable entities. OICCI has estimated that with dedicated efforts to collect revenue from all segments of the economy, the Tax-to-GDP ratio can be increased in a few years to 16%, from current less than 10%. OICCI further recommended that a significant portion of current FBR resources, at least 30 percent, be assigned for BTB (Broadening of Tax) unit.

OICCI has also recommended, the abolishment of Super Tax for all sectors and capping the Corporate Tax rate of 29%, and no further increase in effective tax rate which is already greater than the regional competitive rates.



OICCI recommendation for elimination/reduction of minimum tax specially for listed companies and companies in the regulated sectors was also appreciated by the participants. The general rate for minimum tax should be reduced to 0.25% and carry forward of minimum tax credit be allowed for at least 5 years as prior to 2022".

OICCI also recommended the simplification of withholding tax regime, with existing 200 different tax rates for 24 WHT sections, to make it more convenient and business friendly. OICCI highlighted massive Excise duty

evasion in Tobacco industry (estimated to Rs. 80 bn), duty-not-paid goods, and under-invoicing, which adversely affects tax revenue. To ensure transparency, OICCI recommends the import data should be made publicly available. Custom valuation should be done by using latest method of valuation including, online search and matching international and regional pricing and taking local legal brand owners on board.

Mr. Paracha added, " recognizing the very high inflation impact on the low income group, OICCI has recommended that annual income upto Rs 1.2 million be tax free compared the current Rs 0.6 million annually."

Apart from other proposals, OICCI separately submitted the sector specific proposals which includes Pending sales tax refunds under FASTER Pharma System to be processed within 72 hours of the submission and restoration of zero-rated regime for Pharma Industry as prior to 2022.

Islamabad Club Juniors defeat Dubai Polo Club 6-5 in nail-biting contest

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Islamabad Club Polo Juniors staged off a late comeback challenge from Dubai Polo & Equestrian Club to cruise to a 6-5 victory in the second exhibition fixture of the two-match series here at Polo Ground of Islamabad Club on Sunday.

Islamabad Club Juniors got off to a flying start as Abdullah hammered the first goal for them at the start of the opening chukker. But moments later, Dubai's Charlie Matthews hit a fantastic goal to equalise the match. At the end of the first

chukker, the match was tied at 1-1.

Islamabad Club's promising young guns displayed some incredible horsemanship and aggression in the second chukker. It was Saad Mirza, who first chipped in with a fantastic goal to make it 2-1 and then Saim Abbas scored a third goal for them to make it 3-1.

Islamabad continued playing their hearts out as Saim Abbas and Saad Mirza scored one goal apiece for them in the third chukker to enhance the lead to 5-1.

Dubai Club made a strong comeback in the fourth chukker when Ayden Al Ahmed Aiden converted two back-to-back

undefended 30-yard penalties into goals to decrease the lead to 5-3. But Hashim Waheed knocked another goal for Islamabad, making it 6-3.

In the dying moments of the match, Dubai scored two more goals to end the thriller 6-5.

United Arab Emirates Ambassador to Pakistan Hamad Obaid Ibrahim Salim Al-Zaabi, who was the chief guest at the prize distribution ceremony gave away trophies and awards to the players of both teams.

The visiting team players included Hassan Al Abbar, Ayden Al Ahmed,

Charlie Matthews and Harmes Werle. They were accompanied by Lisa Mathews (Team Manager) and Jan Azam (Team Coach).

The players for the Islamabad Club Polo team comprised Chengiz Khan Leghari, Akbar Aurangzeb, Abdullah, Saad Mirza, Muhammad Ali Malik and Hashim Waheed. The Islamabad Club for the first time hosted a series of exhibition matches between the junior teams of Islamabad Club and Dubai Polo & Equestrian Club.

This was the first time a junior polo team visited Pakistan which as part of the sports diplomacy of Islamabad Club.

Junior Polo Cup

ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of UAE in Pakistan H.E. Hamad Obaid Ibrahim Salem AlZaabi in a group photograph with players of Islamabad Club Junior team winner of final Junior Polo Exhibition Match during prize distribution ceremony at Islamabad Club Polo Ground.



Photo by Raja Farid

Dynamites win Pakistan Cup Women's Cricket Tournament 2023

Asim Tanveer

KARACHI: An unbeaten century from Sidra Nawaz and seven wickets between spinners Ghulam Fatima and Nashra Sundhu helped Dynamites beat Challengers by 132 runs and lift the trophy of Pakistan Cup Women's Cricket Tournament 2022-23 on Sunday at the State Bank Stadium in Karachi.

The match, which was live-streamed on PCB's YouTube channel, saw Sidra Amin-led Dynamites pocket PKR1million as the winners' prize money while Challengers captained by Omaidha Sohail had to settle for PKR 0.5million.

This was Dynamites' second successive win over Challengers in the one-day tournament final, after beating them in the 2018 edition by 190 runs at the Multan Cricket Stadium.

Batting first, Dynamites managed to score 211 for six in their 45 overs. After losing Khadija Chishti (10, 36b, 1x4) in the 10th over, play-



er of the tournament Sidra Amin was joined by wicket-keeper-batter Sidra Nawaz and the pair added 52 runs for the second wicket.

After the departure of Sidra Amin (38, 57b, 4x4s), who ended up with a tally of 269 runs in the one-day phase, Sidra Nawaz kept one end intact and played shots at will. She brought her and the tournament's first century, returning undefeated on 103 off 112 deliveries, which included 13 boundaries.

For Challengers, spinner Noreen Yaqub took two

wickets for 53 from nine overs, finishing the one-day stage of the competition with eight wickets.

In turn, Challengers' batters were never allowed to settle and they kept losing wickets regularly, eventually being skittled out for 79 in 28.5 overs. Right-handed batter Javeria Khan top-scored with 28 off 53 balls, which included two fours, and was one of the only three players from her side to reach double figures. She scored 161 runs from five matches and stood second

on the batting charts after Sidra Amin.

For Dynamites, the spin duo of Ghulam Fatima and Nashra Sundhu did the damage. Nashra bagged four wickets for five runs in 4.5 overs, while leg-spinner Ghulam Fatima grabbed three wickets for five runs from four overs. Ghulam Fatima ended up as the most prolific bowler with 12 scalps from five outings, while left-arm spinner Nashra stood second on the bowling charts with 11 wickets from five matches.

British Pakistani Enaam Ahmed finishes top 5 in the Detroit Grand Prix

Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: Enaam Ahmed, a 23-year-old talented British Pakistani sports racer, achieved an impressive accomplishment by securing a top-five finish in the Detroit Grand Prix.

The event was part of Round 4 of the 2023 Indy-NXT by Firestone, which took place in Detroit, the renowned auto manufacturing capital of the United States (US).

A suspension part failure in qualifying forced him to start from outside the top 10 but Enaam Ahmed made up fast and finished in the top 5.

On the opening lap, the car of Louis Foster was spun



around by Hunter McElrea and Enaam had to take evasive action to avoid crashing into him, and also avoiding the walls. Enaam overtook two cars in one corner moving him up into the Top 5.

His aggressive overtaking wowed the American spectators who now call him the Pakistani Panther.

This is the second time in a month that Enaam has ended up in the top-five places, beating the most talented racing drivers America and the world has to offer.

"The concrete canyon that is the Detroit Street circuit, I had to be careful as there was chaos all around at the start. I still managed to pass seven cars," an excited Enaam said after picking up several places and finishing fifth in the race.

"This is his second top-five finish after fourth-place finishes at Barber Motorsports Park in Alabama. Enaam has jumped to 8th in the championship standings."

"Championship success is a long game. Both my team and myself are rookies in the

series and we are learning from each other. My goal is to be in the top five this year, and gain experience on American ovals and style of racing. If the opportunity is there I want to fight for the title this year," explains Ahmed.

Enaam's illustrious career flying under the Pakistani flag has seen him beat the records of Formula One driver's Lewis Hamilton and Max Verstappen. Not only that, Enaam Ahmed is also the British Formula 3 Champion, the first ever high-level Formula Championship winner in the history of Pakistan, and has surpassed the record of Ayrton Senna by winning 13 races in one season.

Djokovic eases into record 17th French Open quarter-final



Sports Desk

PARIS: Novak Djokovic reached his 55th Grand Slam quarter-final and record 17th at the French Open on Sunday with a straight-sets win over Juan Pablo Varillas.

Djokovic, chasing a third Roland Garros championship and record-setting 23rd men's Grand Slam title, eased past his 94th-ranked Peruvian opponent, 6-3, 6-2, 6-2.

The 36-year-old Serb, champion in Paris in 2016 and 2021, will face 11th seed Karen Khachanov for a place in the semi-finals.

Djokovic holds a commanding 8-1 career lead over the Russian including their only previous meeting at the French Open in 2020.

"I had never played my opponent before. I knew he was a clay court specialist and that I had to earn the victory. It was the best I played this week," said Djokovic after ensuring a 14th successive last-eight spot at the tournament.

On his record 17th quarter-final in Paris, he added: "I am very proud of this record. I have put a lot of effort into my game and I am very motivated to continue."

On Sunday, Djokovic fought off a break point in the opening game of the first set before stretching out to a convincing 4-0 lead.

Two more breaks then helped him to a comfortable 5-1 advantage in the second set. It took Djokovic just 79 minutes to open a two-set lead.

That was in stark contrast to his gruelling third round win over Spain's Alejandro Davidovich Fokina.

The first two sets then needed two hours and 53 minutes to negotiate and his eventual straight-sets win proved to be the longest three-setter he had ever played, clocked at three hours and 36 minutes.

Varillas, who had never won a Grand Slam match before this year's French Open, continued to wilt, slipping 2-1 down and then 4-1 down in the third before Djokovic put him out of his misery after a shade under two hours on court.

Women team of Faisalabad Police won the handball match



Mian Rashid Asghar

FAISALABAD: Women team of Faisalabad Police won the handball match. The City Police Officer Usman Akram Gondal invited the winning team to his office and awarded them certificates of appreciation.

According to the details, the Faisalabad Police Women Team defeated the Jhang Police Women Team in a friendly handball match, on which the City Police Officer congratulated the team and said that the sports activities will remain continued in the future and the facilities given to the sports teams will also continue. It is being further improved to enhance the interaction and interests among other women.

England retain Ireland Test squad for first two Ashes games



A Sports

LONDON: England have named the same group of 16 players from the one-off Test against Ireland for the first two Ashes Tests, starting later this month.

The squad includes James Anderson and fellow pacer Ollie Robinson, who missed the four-day Test against Ireland at Lord's due to fitness concerns as they are expected to be completely fit for the high-stake Test series against arch-rivals Australia.

Young fast bowler Josh Tongue also marked his call-up to the Ashes squad after a five-wicket haul in his debut Test, helping England beat Ireland by 10 wickets on Saturday.

Meanwhile, Stuart Board, Mark Wood, Matthew Potts and Chris Woakes are also included in the squad making up a high-spirited pace attack for England.

Ben Stokes will lead the England team despite his bowling fitness remains uncertain.

The highly-anticipated Ashes series begins on June 16 in Birmingham with the second Test at Lord's from June 28.

England squad: Ben Stokes (c), Ollie Pope, Jonny Bairstow (wk), Joe Root, James Anderson, Stuart Broad, Harry Brook, Jack Leach, Ben Duckett, Zak Crawley, Matthew Potts, Ollie Robinson, Dan Lawrence, Chris Woakes, Mark Wood, Josh Tongue.

Ashes schedule:
1st Test: 16-20 June, Edgbaston, Birmingham
2nd Test: 28 June-2 July, Lord's, London
3rd Test: 6-10 July, Headingley, Leeds
4th Test: 19-23 July, Emirates Old Trafford, Manchester
5th Test: 27-31 Kia Oval, London

Al-Nassr winger speaks about Ronaldo's attitude in training

Al-Nassr winger, Abdulrahman Ghareeb, opened up about star footballer Cristiano Ronaldo's attitude during training.

According to Sportskeeda, Ghareeb revealed that Ronaldo — who joined the Saudi Pro League side in January for two and a half years — has a "fiery attitude" if he loses during training.

Not long after the Portuguese football player joined Al-Nassr, he scored 14 goals in 19 games, helping the Knights of Najd challenge for the Saudi Pro League title.

"Ronaldo's life is very serious. He gets angry if he loses in training despite having won many European championships and individual titles. This is in addition to his early attendance at training before many others," said Ghareeb while speaking about Ronaldo's attitude.

"I receive great support from Ronaldo. He stands by me greatly and he is the reason I attend training with great enthusiasm. I train with Cristiano, how can I not be excited?!"

Josh Hazlewood ruled out of WTC Final, Nesar replaces injured pacer

A Sports

LONDON: Australia fast bowler Josh Hazlewood has been ruled out of ICC World Test Championship final against India due to his ongoing Achilles and side issue.

Michael Nesar will replace Josh Hazlewood in the Australian squad for the mega clash at the Oval's London from June 7 to 11.

Josh Hazlewood has been fighting injury since leaving the Royal Challengers Bangalore early during the Indian Premier League, and Australia has decided not to take any chances with the right-arm ahead of a busy



away schedule.

World Test Championship Final's Event Technical Committee also approved the late change made by the Australian team.

The inclusion of all-rounder Nesar to Australia's 15-member squad for the one-off Test makes him a contender for the final XI along with Scott Boland.

Nesar has been in excellent form recently for Glamorgan in England's County Championship as he

claimed 19 wickets from five matches and even managed to score a hundred against Sussex.

The right-arm has played only two Tests during his career but could find a place in the final XI and partner skipper Pat Cummins and fellow pacer Mitchell Starc for the World Test Championship Final.

34-year-old Boland, on the other hand, has played seven Tests for his country — the most recent being the series opener against India at Nagpur in February — but has claimed 28 wickets at an imposing average of 13.42, making him a better choice than Nesar.