



Court to not interfere in economic matters: CJP

Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Umar Ata Bandial on Monday said the court would not interfere in economic matters as it did not have the required expertise. The CJP expressed these views while heading a three-member bench which heard a case related to the K-Electric's (KE) privatization. (Report on Page 8)



Khawaja Asif terms elections 'a risk to current economic crisis'

Defence Minister Khawaja Asif said termed elections 'a risk to the current economic crisis. As per details, Khawaja Asif said that the divide in Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) has a lesson for politicians, people who joined them had no background. Referring to Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) he said that those chanting for freedom have now collapsed. The former PTI leader Firdous Ashiq Awan has requested to join PML-N, he added. (Details on Page 8)

Simultaneously published from Islamabad, Lahore and Multan

Coalition Partners Meeting

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif chairs a meeting of coalition partners for consultation on proposals for Public Sector Development Programme 2023-24 on Monday.



Photo: PID

FM Bilawal, Iraqi leadership agree to further enhance bilateral cooperation



News Desk

BAGHDAD: Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari and President of Iraq Dr Abdul Latif Jamal on Monday appreciated the trajectory of bilateral relations between the two countries and agreed to expand mutually beneficial cooperation. Pakistan and Iraq enjoyed close and cordial relations based on mutual respect and shared values, they noted during a meeting, the Foreign Office Spokesperson posted on her Twitter handle.

Separately, Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari also called on Prime Minister of Iraq Mohammed Shia Al Sudani and conveyed best wishes to the leadership and the people of Iraq. They agreed to further strengthen the multidimensional cooperation and to cement the brotherly ties between Pakistan and Iraq. FM Bilawal, Iraqi leadership agree to further enhance bilateral cooperation. Earlier, the foreign minister arrived in Iraq on an official visit from June 5 to June 7.

Govt successfully navigates challenges faced by Pakistan: PM

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif has said that his government has been able to navigate the challenges faced by Pakistan in the best possible fashion with the help of its people and brotherly and friendly countries. In an interview with Anadolu News Agency posted on its website on Monday, the prime minister said Pakistan had been facing a plethora of problems since April 2022, when the current government took over after former prime minister Imran Khan was ousted in a no-trust vote. "The issues are the result of the previous government's policies," he said. "Pakistan, in April 2022, was on the verge of default because the government of the day had violated the IMF agreement and the economy was in tatters," he maintained. "Then we had devastating floods in August 2022. Combined

with that we are facing galloping inflation, because of the international situation," he added. To a question, PM Shehbaz said Pakistan was very hopeful of finalizing a deal with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) this month. "We are still very hopeful that the IMF programme will materialize. Our ninth review by the IMF will match all terms and conditions and, hopefully, we'll have some good news this month," he told Anadolu in Ankara. The prime minister was in Ankara for President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's inauguration ceremony. "We have met all conditionalities. I repeat, each and every requirement of the IMF as prior actions has been met," he asserted. "Some of those actions are usually met after the board's approval, but this time the IMF required that those actions be met before the board's approval, so we have met them," he was quoted by the Turkish news agency as saying.

The prime minister said the people of Pakistan had faced challenges in the past, and if needed, would tighten their belt and rise again. About May 9 vandalism, he said PTI chief Imran Khan faced charges of "serious corruption, malpractice, and wheeling-dealing," stressing that the "law had to deal with this." He (Imran Khan) for a period of time, had been preparing his people mentally, his bunch of thugs as he would call them, to react violently, in case he (IK) was arrested, the prime minister added. Prime Minister Shehbaz said, "He (IK) planned this very serious act against the state of Pakistan. He incited his people. There's evidence beyond any doubt." Khan's supporters were instructed to torch buildings, attack institutions, and desecrate graves and monuments, he added. "Those people who have attacked civilian installations will be tried under civilian law, and

those people who attacked military installations and desecrated institutions will be tried under the Military Act," the prime minister further elaborated. About cases under the Military Act, the prime minister explained that "once the judge awards punishment, the defendant has two appeals - one in the high court and then in the Supreme Court of Pakistan." He said that the bottom line of the entire process was ensuring justice so that such thing could never took place in Pakistan, for the rest of their lives. "Would any civilized country allow this kind of vandalism against the state, which happened on May 9 in Pakistan?" he questioned. The prime minister cited an example of incidents that took place on January 6, 2021 at Capitol Hill in Washington. Were not those perpetrators being tried and given severe punishments so that such an act could never happen again in the history of the United States! he

maintained. The prime minister also congratulated the people of Turkey on President Erdogan's reelection, hailing it as a "wonderful development". "I will work very closely with my brother, President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, a visionary leader and a man of commitment who believes in public service. I hope our relations will enhance to a much higher level in terms of brotherhood, understanding, and economic cooperation," he said. He further said, "I always maintain, and I mean it, that our two brotherly countries are like one soul with hearts that beat together. We speak different languages, but we understand what we're saying through our hearts. So, I think it's a great opportunity." He expressed the confidence that both countries would boost cooperation in the near future to enhance trade and foster mutual growth by focusing on areas such as biogas, solar energy, and hydropower.

A soldier was martyred by terrorists firing in Ladha area of Upper South Waziristan.

Adam Khan Wazir

WAZIRISTAN.: According to ISPR, On 05 Jun 23, fire exchange took place between own troops and terrorists in general area Ladha, South Waziristan District. Own troops effectively engaged the terrorists' location. However, during intense exchange of fire, Lance Naik Muhammad Sabir (age 30 years, resident of District Manshara) 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.

Phasing out single use plastic items govt's foremost priority: Marriyum

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Information and Broadcasting Marriyum Aurangzeb on Monday reiterated the government's commitment to curb use of plastic made items from routine life for preserving the planet earth from looming threat of climate change. "Phasing out plastic shopping bags, plates, spoons, forks, containers, cups, bowls, knives, and similar single-use items is the government's foremost priority," the minister said in news statement issued in connection with the World Environment Day being observed today across the globe. Theme for the World Environment Day 2023 is under the campaign #BeatPlasticPollution, 'Ecosystem Restoration'. The minister said, use of straws, lids and wraps for drinks would also have to be curbed at all cost for protecting the environment and biodiversity in the ecosystem.



she said a campaign would be launched in Islamabad to end use of disposable items which was a laudable step. The minister said environmental woes were a global challenge and could only be overcome with collective efforts. She urged the youth to make biodiversity conservation a mission of their life as this was the matter of humankind survival. "By reducing carbon footprint, the looming threat of climate change can be averted," she added. "Conservation of marine life, micro-organisms, plants, fungi and all kinds of animals is conservation of life," the minister remarked. She said youth and children would have to become a force which would protect environment by curbing environmental pollution. Collective efforts were needed to protect the planet earth for the incoming generations, the minister added.

LHC seeks details of FIRs against Qureshi by Tuesday

TLTP

LAHORE: Lahore High Court on Monday sought details of criminal cases registered against Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) stalwart Vice Chairman Shah Mehmood Qureshi from incumbent caretaker provincial government by June 06 (today). The former foreign minister Qureshi has been in police custody in the aftermath of the May 9 attacks on sensitive state installations. On May 23, the Islamabad High Court (IHC) ordered the release of Qureshi after he submitted an undertaking to the court. However, hours later he was re-arrested by the Punjab Police from outside the Adiala Jail in Rawalpindi. Consequently, daughter of the PTI vice chairman, Meher Bano Qureshi invoked the LHC jurisdiction seeking details of all undisclosed or new first information reports (FIR) registered against her father. She made Chief Secretary Punjab and Provincial Police Chief as respondents in the matter. She sought the court directives to the concerned authorities to give protection of law to Qureshi and not to arrest him in any new criminal case without prior permission of the court.

Sanjrani boards on diplomatic visit to Russia



Spokesman Report

MOSCOW: Chairman Sanj Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani, along with a delegation of Senators, has commenced a four-day visit to Russia at the invitation of the esteemed Speaker of the Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation, Valentina Matvienko. The chairman Sanj and his accompanying delegation arrived at Moscow's Domodedovo airport, where they were warmly received at the VIP lounge, a press release received here from Moscow on Monday said. The distinguished delegation was greeted by Chizhov Vladimir Alekseevich, the head of the group on cooperation between the Federation Council and the Senate of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, representing the Russian side. Additionally, Shafiqat Ali Khan, the Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to the Russian Federation, was present to welcome the delegation on behalf of Pakistan. During this visit, Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani aims to strengthen bilateral ties between Pakistan and Russia, foster political cooperation, and explore opportunities for enhanced collaboration in various fields of mutual interest.

ECC Meeting

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar chaired the meeting of the Economic Coordination Committee (ECC) of the Cabinet on Monday.



Photo: PID

ECC approves over Rs 422 bln supplementary grants

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Economic Coordination Committee (ECC), in addition to other decisions on Monday, approved Supplementary and Technical Supplementary Grants (TSG) of Rs 422.3 billion in favour of various divisions.

Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar chaired the ECC meeting.

The meeting was attended by Federal Minister for Industries and Production Syed Murtaza Mahmud; Member of the National Assembly (MNA) and former prime minister Shahid Khaqan Abbasi; Minister of State for Finance and Revenue Dr Aisha Ghous Pasha; Minister of State for Petroleum Musadik Masood Malik; Special Assistant to the Prime Minister (SAPM) on Finance Tariq Bajwa; SAPM on Revenue Tariq Mehmood Pasha; federal secretaries and

other senior officers.

The ECC accorded approval to the summary of Ministry of Communications for issuance of Government of Pakistan's (GoP) guarantee amounting to Rs 9,500 million for the construction of Hyderabad-Sukkur Motorway on build-operate-transfer basis.

The committee also approved Rs 12 billion for the National Disaster Management Authority for procurement of relief items to restock/replenish its reserves in order to be better prepared to respond to any impending disaster.

The ECC on the summary of Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination approved fixation of maximum retail prices (MRPs) of 49 new drugs on the basis of being lower as compared to their prices in the neighbouring countries.

These drugs are being introduced in Pakistan for the first time mostly at prices consid-

erably lower than the region.

The committee approved Supplementary and Technical Supplementary Grant of Rs 839.129 million for the project titled "New Gwadar International Airport (NIGA) of Ministry of Aviation.

It also approved TSGs of Rs 120.450 million and Rs 140.584 million for the Establishment Division for the CFY 2022-23 to meet the shortfall of ERE and Non-ERE components, and for the payment to government departments for services rendered from various sources respectively; and Rs 116.499 million for the Ministry of Human Rights for meeting the shortfall in essential expenditures in different organizations working under it.

The committee approved TSG of Rs 700 million for the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting to meet the shortfall during CFY 2022-23.

Similarly, for the Ministry of

Interior TSG of Rs 48 million was approved for release of funds to HQ Frontier Corps (North) KP for the construction of FATA Levies Centre at Shakas, Peshawar, Rs 470.827 for the payment of troops cost/subsistence allowance to the personnel of Civil Armed Forces deployed in UN Peacekeeping Missions and Rs 66.336 million for the construction of Frontier Constabulary Training Center, Michni, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The funds had been granted in aid to Pakistan by the United States for capacity building of the civil armed forces.

The ECC also approved more TSGs for the Ministry of Interior, including Rs 347.99 million to complete the raising process of 6th Battalion of Pakistan Post Guards for anti-smuggling purpose; Rs 1,251.374 million for the FATA Temporary Displaced Persons Emergency Recovery Project (TDP-ERP) of

NADRA to serve the vulnerable families, affected by military operations; and Rs. 49.5 million for further disbursement of amount as financial assistance for the families of Shuhada and injured persons of the Swat terrorism incident.

Likewise, TSG of Rs 9,145 million was approved for the Power Division for the execution of 2x660 MW Coal-fired Power Project Jamshoro; Rs. 48.429 million for the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs to meet its ERE shortfall; Rs. 1422.394 million for the Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission to meet its ERE shortfall; Rs. 110.653 million for the National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA) to strengthen NACTA within its current mandate; Rs. 5,252 million for the Ministry of Defence for meeting ERE shortfall and Rs 402.251 billion for the Economic Affairs Division (EAD) for servicing of foreign loans and credits.

Military installations attackers being tried under Army Act: Fazl

Bureau Report

LAHORE: Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) chief Maulana Fazlur Rehman said on Monday that the miscreants involved in attacking the state institutions, military installations and GHQ, were being tried under the Army Act.

Talking to the media after visiting residence of Federal Minister Sardar Ayaz Sadiq to offer condolences over the death of his brother, he said the other political and religious parties had also been staging



protests, but they remained peaceful and no one went to the extent of setting ablaze

state properties.

Maulana Fazlur Rehman said that Tehrik-e-Labbaik

Pakistan was a political party in nature, it staged protest demonstrations but did not attack the state institutions or GHQ. "We are facing a new situation which cannot be compared with the past," he added.

"We have respect for national institutions including the judiciary; however, one has the right to express reservations if there was a question over the performance of any institution," he added.

"Despite difference of opinion, we will reach a consensus

and conduct elections together," he said adding that the PDM was not an electoral alliance; however, adjustments at the local level could be made.

The PDM chief said that the country should go to elections, adding that people were understanding who had pushed the country to the swamp.

To a question, he said that everyone was worried about inflation; however, there was a hope that things would get better as the economy was moving in the right direction.

JI ready to give Karachi deputy mayor's slot to PTI: Hafiz Naeem



Bureau Report

KARACHI: Jamaat-e-Islami Karachi chief Hafiz Naeem said Monday that JI is ready to give the deputy mayor's slot to its ally Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) and the JI's mayor will be elected in the metropolis.

While talking to the ARY News programme '11th Hour', Hafiz Naeem said that they are still in contact with the PTI leaders after May 9 incidents. "We hope that the elected PTILG [local government] members will not go against the instructions of their party chief."

Khurram Dastgir lays the foundation stone of 500/132 kV grid station

Commerce Desk

LAHORE: The Federal Minister for Energy (Power Division) Engr. Khurram Dastgir Khan has laid the foundation stone of the 500/132 kV grid station for Allama Iqbal Industrial City (AIIC) at FIEDMC, near Sahiwal interchange, district Faisalabad. The project, being launched by NTDC, aims to address the energy needs of both the Allama Iqbal Industrial City and M3-Industrial City under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) projects of Special Economic Zones (SEZs). It will cater for the medium and long-term scenarios by supplying reliable and stable power to support a 600 MW load demand.

Federal Minister said that issues regarding imports, related to this project will be solved as early as possible. He advised MD NTDC to complete the project before the stipulated time. He said that we have to contribute

in the development of the country instead of complaining.

The Managing Director of NTDC, Engr. Dr. Rana Abdul Jabbar Khan also spoke on the occasion, saying that the project will not only boost the energy

sector but also contribute to socio-economic progress and create employment opportunities, further advocating NTDC's long-standing commitment to driving Pakistan's national development.

The groundbreaking ceremony was attended by CEO FESCO, Engr. Muhammad Bashir, CEO FIEDMC, Tanvir Jabbar, key political figures, local elders, NTDC officers, contractors and others.



Court to not interfere in economic matters: CJP

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Umar Ata Bandial on Monday said the court would not interfere in economic matters as it did not have the required expertise.

The CJP expressed these views while heading a three-member bench which heard a case related to the K-Electric's (KE) privatization.

During the course of proceedings, CJP Bandial asked the petitioner's lawyer Rashid Rizvi to approach the high court concerned in the matter.

He said the Parliament had made two laws related to the clause 3 of Article 184 and asked whether any old cases were scheduled for hearings so the issue could be observed live.

Advocate Salahuddin said an application had been filed against

the KSC Labour Union. Upon this,



Justice Ayesha Malik said the matter was not before the court as yet.

The petitioner's lawyer pleaded that the hearing should be adjourned till next week. To this, Chief Justice Bandial said that the court would be on holidays from next week and judges would not be available.

He directed the lawyer to receive instructions before the next hearing. Subsequently, the case was adjourned till Tuesday.

Khawaja Asif terms elections 'a risk to current economic crisis'

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Defence Minister Khawaja Asif said termed elections 'a risk to the current economic crisis.

As per details, Khawaja Asif said that the divide in Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) has a lesson for politicians, people who joined them had no background.

Referring to Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) he said that those chanting for freedom have now collapsed. The former PTI leader Firdous Ashiq Avan has requested to join PML-N, he added.

There is no doubt in PTI leader Yasmin Rashid's presence in Jinnah



House at the time of violence she was there the entire time, the Defense Minister said.

Khawaja Asif maintained that it was disappointing to see former finance minister Miftah Ismail's criticism of party policies as he had been appointed as the finance minister for the second time and his stance was unjustified.

SECP approves IPO application of Symmetry Group

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Symmetry Group Limited after the approval of the Securities Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) started its Initial Public Offering (IPO) application on Monday.

"This significant milestone allows Symmetry Group to move forward with its plans to launch the IPO and offer shares to the public, said a press release," said a press release issued here.

Symmetry Group is a leading player in the digital industry and has been at the forefront of transforming and digitalizing marketing, sales, and other consumer-centric functions for organizations.

The Company has received approval for listing on the main board of the Pakistan Stock Exchange Limited, paving the way for its IPO.

The IPO will be conducted by the 'Book Building' method of offering, where shares are allotted to investors on the Dutch auction method.

The offering will consist of 101,240,082 shares obtainable at

a floor price of PKR 4.25 per share, including a fresh capital raise of PKR 375. million. Additionally, the Company sponsors, Sarosh Ahmed and Adil Ahmed will offer shares worth PKR 55 million.

Chief Executive Officer (CEO) & Co-Founder of Symmetry Group, Sarosh Ahmed was enthusiastic about this milestone and said "Symmetry Group is driven by its pioneering legacy of transforming possibilities for businesses and organizations for over two decades.

Our customers trust our creativity, innovation, and expertise in producing ground-breaking digital experiences. As we expand our capabilities and strengthen our core, our talented team sustains the trust of our stakeholders.

From seamless digital integration to a re-imagined suite of transformative products and services, partnering with us allows businesses to unlock their true potential.

With aggressive local and global growth plans, the IPO boosts our financial standing, enabling us to develop cutting-edge, AI-driven products and intellectual properties.

Pakistan Navy observes World Environment Day

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Navy on Monday celebrated World Environment Day to underscore the significance and emphasize on taking suitable measures to protect the marine ecosystem.

World Environment Day is observed globally on 5 June to raise awareness of the significance of a healthy and green environment. It aims to promote healthy measures for improving quality of life. This year's theme for World Environment Day is 'Solutions to Plastic Pollution', which aims to bring focus on the importance of pollution caused by plastic material and promote its responsible use to protect the environment, a Pakistan Navy news release said.

To show firm resolve and create awareness, Pakistan Navy organised various lectures, harbour cleaning campaign at Karachi and an awareness walk at Manora Beach to highlight the importance of preserving

the environment. Additionally, PN has launched various initiatives to conserve the environment ranging from a collection of solid waste from the harbour, the establishment of reed bed plants in all areas under its jurisdiction and extensive tree/mangrove plantation campaigns.



Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral Muhammad Amjad Khan Niazi in his message on World Environment Day reaffirmed the Pakistan Navy's resolve and commitment to make every effort for improving the quality of our environment. He urged the industrial community to embrace best practices and principles to synergize efforts towards practical 'Solutions to Plastic Pollution'.

UN resolutions only way forward to settle the long-pending Kashmir dispute peacefully

Abdul Majeed Tahir

MUZAFFARABAD: Prime Minister Chudhary Anwar ul Haq has said that the implementation of the UN resolutions was the only way forward to settle the long-pending Kashmir dispute peacefully. Talking to Australian High Commissioner Neil Hawkins who called on him here today, the PM, while stressing the need for early resolution of the long running dispute said that hundreds of thousands of innocent Kashmiris have been martyred by the Indian troops during the ongoing freedom movement.

"There are thousands of anonymous mass graves discovered in different areas within and outside the Kashmir valley", the PM said, adding that he was not in favour of trade with India until the Kashmir issue was resolved. Referring to the massive troops' concentration in the Indian-held territory of Jammu and Kashmir, the PM said that the Occupied

Kashmir has been classified as the world's highest militarized zone where India had deployed over 9 lakh forces to crush the Kashmiris Legitimate political struggle.

"The human rights situation has further worsened in the IoK since the Modi government stripped the region of its special status by abrogating Article 370 and 35A of the Indian constitution", the PM said, adding that essential fundamental freedoms including the people's right to freedom of assembly, the right to protest and rights to freedom of speech and expression remain largely suppressed in the region. "India has denied Kashmiris of their fundamental human rights in occupied Kashmir", he said, adding that there was no restriction on human rights in Azad Kashmir. Referring to the existing political harmony in the liberated territory, the PM said that democratic traditions were very strong in Azad Kashmir and people fully enjoy their political and democratic rights." In Azad



Kashmir people enjoy complete freedom, there are no restrictions whatsoever in Azad Kashmir, there is not a single political prisoner, while the situation on the other side of the Line of Control is quite different", he said, adding that the occupation authorities have caged the entire Hurriyat leadership and suppressed every form of dissent in the region. Speaking on the occasion, Neil

Hawkins expressed his pleasure at visiting Azad Kashmir. "Azad Kashmir is one of the beautiful places in the world, the natural beauty here is a source of great interest for tourists", he said, adding that along with domestic tourists, foreign tourists' influx into the region was a good sign for the local economy. The Australian High Commissioner said that he was happy to attend the liter-



Group photo with Chief Secretary Azad Kashmir Muhammad Usman Chachar and Australian High Commissioner Mr Neil Hawkins at Muzaffarabad

ary festival held in Muzaffarabad. He said that Australia will provide its full support regarding water and food security. Member of the Legislative Assembly Abdul Majid Khan and Political Secretary of the Australian High Commission Mairi Robertson was also present at the meeting.

Laying wreath

PML leader Maryam Nawaz laying wreath at the mazar of late Mujahid-e-Awal Sardar Abdul Qayyum Khan along with Sardar Attique Ahmed Khan Federal Minister Information Maryam Aurangzeb at Ghaziabad



District Youth Office arranged a solemn program in honor of martyrs



Adam Khan Wazir

WANA: On the special instructions of Deputy Commissioner Ashfaq Khan, the District Youth Office arranged a solemn program in honor of martyrs at Zam Governor Model School with the support of District Civil Administration Upper.

Additional Deputy Commissioner (F&P) Ijaz Akhtar was the chief guest of the program, students of various schools participating in the program presented national anthems, tableaux and speeches and a large number of people from other walks of life also participated on this occasion.

At the end of the program, people collectively offered a special prayer for the country's martyrs and paid homage to them.

On this occasion, the tribal elders said that the Pakistan Army has made many sacrifices for the beloved country of Pakistan and the forces of Pakistan have sacrificed their lives for the security of the country, which we cannot forget under any circumstances. His services will always be remembered.

An awareness walk and seminar was organized by Rescue

Mian Rashid Asghar

FAISALABAD: Organizing of awareness walk and seminar by Rescue regarding World Environment Day is a symbol for desiring clean and clear life

Rescue sources pointed out that environmental protection is the key of our health security and it also rescues our health brightness evergreen.

According to the details, an awareness walk and seminar was organized under the leadership of District Emergency Officer Engineer Ehtesham Wahla regarding World Environment Day in which a large number of rescue officers, staffers and rescue volunteers participated. The District Emergency Officer said in his message that the purpose of celebrating the World Environment Day is to protect the natural environment and make people to get due awareness of the problems faces in present situations. This year the theme of the World Environment Day is "Solution to Plastic Pollution". Plastics are turning into toxic fumes when burned, posing serious threats to the planet. We do not think that all this plastic is unnatural making the environment away from nature.

Plastic waste is continually polluting for a very long time. If we talk about oxygen, our first thought goes to trees.

They pointed out that, we all must consider ethically to save and secure our environment.

Our health survival is bound with clean environment, they said and added.

Paper industry is suffering from crisis

Mian Rashid Asghar

FAISALABAD: Paper industry is suffering from crisis due to skyrocketing paper sheets' rate in the country.

Printing Press Markets is already facing expensive electricity and ink which has put a strain on the press market and newspaper industry too.

According to the details, the President Anjuman Tajran Press Market Chaudhry Muhammad Akram has urged the government to reduce the rates of paper, ink, electricity and energy in the budget and said adding that the purchasing power of students in purchasing copies, books and educational materials have been becoming out of their reach that will also badly affect the education system.

Negligible focus would soon emerge if the prices of paper industry related commodities are not reduced instantly. He said that what kind of system has been being given where the students an asset of coun-



try will not be able to study in such hard tasks.

The business organizations of the city of Faisalabad have decided together that if the tax imposed on the businessmen is increased in the country in next coming budget, the businessmen reserve their right to protest. The newspaper and paper industry is suffering and the country is heading towards darkness.

World Environment and Climate Change an out come of Environmental Pollution. Capt Saqib

Quratul Ain Asim



MULTAN: Additional Chief Secretary South Punjab Capt (Retd) Saqib Zafar Said World Environment and climate

change is an outcome of environmental pollution and due to climate change, life and livelihoods, both are at risk. He said environmental pollution can be controlled by intensive plantation and control of plastic waste. Capt. (Retd) Saqib Zafar has said the Indus River is the second most plastic polluted river in the world, in which 165,000 tons of plastic waste is thrown every year. He said 90 percent of people in Pakistan live in the Indus Basin and 80 percent of Pakistan's arable land is irrigated by the Indus River. He said due to pollution in the Indus River, the existence of the world's rarest Indus Dolphin is also endangered.

Pak Army is our red line: Maher Arslan Sial



Asim Tanveer

MULTAN: Maher Arslan Sial and Mehr Sanul Sial of Sial community of Multan have said that Pakistan Army is our red line. Valhaha loves the defenders of her country and stands by the side of the Pakistan Army, she expressed these views while addressing the participants in the rally organized by the Sial community in Multan to show solidarity with the Pakistan Army.

The rally reached Multan Press Club from Fayaz Chowk Kaiyanpur through Habiba Sialan Babar Chowk and ended. The rally was led by Maher Arslan Sial and Maher Sanul Sial. Mehr Amir Sial, Mehr Sanul Sial, Chaudhry Osama Sindhu, Chaudhry Ahsan, Mehr Azhar Sial, Mehr Panal Sial, Mehr Kashif Ali Sial and others participated in this occasion of full expression of solidarity with the Pakistan Army by raising slogans of Pakistan and Pakistan Zindabad. He said that he pays tribute to the many sacrifices of the Pakistan Army for the security of the country and the people

And appreciates all such initiatives in which there is peace and order and construction and development in the country, whether there are natural disasters, earthquakes, floods or any other difficult time, the soldiers of the Pakistan Army condemn the events of May 9

Sardar Attique hails IIOJK consensus fatwa against Hindutwa

Abdul Majeed Tahir

RAWALPINDI: Sardar Attique Ahmed Khan President Muslim Conference and former Prime Minister Azad Jammu Kashmir has welcomed the consensus fatwa/decreed announced on Monday at Srinagar by Ulema and Mashaikh of all schools of Islamic thought and jurisprudence terming it a landmark ideological advance of the Jammu and Kashmir people. At this point of time when Kashmiris in India-held Kashmir are facing hellish circumstances wrought by the Hindutwa tailored BJP government in J&K this broadest consensus is a historic achievement which will push forward

the self-determination right movement ongoing in the state, he asserted.

Sardar Attique Khan said that BJP India has turned life of people in occupied Jammu and Kashmir as a burning hell incarcerating teenagers, women, rights workers, senior leaders of Kashmiri political and religious parties; in an urgent Tweet to UN Secretary General he urged quick intervention to save human lives from brutish treatment by occupying Indian government. Following is the text of the consensus fatwa:

"He Almighty also says: {Allah forbids you not those who warred not against you on account of religion and drove you not out from your homes,

that ye should show them kindness and deal justly with them. Lo ! Allah loves the just dealers.? Allah forbids you only those who warred against you on account of religion and have driven you out from your homes and helped to drive you out, that ye make friends of them. Whosoever makes friends of them (All) such are wrong doers.} (Al-Mumtahanah 60: 8-9)

Having cited the above verses, the Kashmiri scholars said, "Therefore, a Muslim should work for the interest of his people and his state. He should work to preserve his people's potentials and resources and to allow justice to prevail.

"Cooperation with the enemies of



Islam is a grave sin and is a transgression against religion. That is why Allah has threatened those who commit such a sin with severe punishment."

"Cooperation with Muslims has the priority. It should be dedicated to the purpose of attaining the pleasure of

Allah and realizing the welfare of the Muslim Ummah."

"We all know the punishment that Allah has set for those who join hands with the enemy against their people and their countries. Allah Almighty says: {Have you not considered those who make allies of a people with whom Allah has become angry? They are neither of you nor of them, and they swear to untruth while they know [they are lying]. Allah has prepared for them a severe punishment. Indeed, it was evil that they were doing.} (Al-Mujadalah 58: 14-15)

"He Almighty also says: {Allah forbids you not those who warred not against you on account of religion and

drove you not out from your homes, that ye should show them kindness and deal justly with them. Lo ! Allah loves the just dealers.? Allah forbids you only those who warred against you on account of religion and have driven you out from your homes and helped to drive you out, that ye make friends of them. Whosoever makes friends of them (All) such are wrong doers.} (Al-Mumtahanah 60: 8-9)

Having cited the above verses, the Kashmiri scholars said, "Therefore, a Muslim should work for the interest of his people and his state. He should work to preserve his people's potentials and resources and to allow justice to prevail.



Islamabad
15° - 23° Clear

SERVICES

Namaz Timings

Fajr 3: 15 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 &
& 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 926170-79
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
G-9, G-10, G-11, G-12, H-8 9266316
Wapda Islamabad 9217579-80
Sui Gas Complaint 119, 9272249
Wasa Water Tank
Rawalpindi 0331-5022125

World Environment Day 2023 is Being Celebrated: Aamir Khattak

Kiran Asim

MULTAN: Saving the environment means saving mankind, life. World Environment Day 2023 is being celebrated under the theme of eradicating plastic pollution. Aamir Khattak Commissioner Multan Division said on the occasion of World Environment Day We all have to work together to restore the ecosystem. Motherland is directly affected by climate change. Commissioner Multan Division Aamir Khattak said that It is imperative to address climate change by determining sustainable development policies. There is an urgent need to create awareness among the people about global warming and its harms. Every person should show sensitivity while realizing his responsibility A green, clean environment is essential for the survival of the new generation.

Round-table discussion with Poland's Undersecretary of State Wojciech Gerwel

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The Centre for Strategic Perspectives (CSP) at the Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI) organized a Round-Table Discussion with H.E. Mr. Wojciech Gerwel, Undersecretary of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Poland.

The discussion was chaired by Ambassador Sohail Mahmood, Director General ISSI. Participants included: Ambassador Fauzia Nasreen, Pakistan's Former Ambassador to Poland; Ambassador Nadeem Riyaz, President IRS; Former Ambassador Shah Jamal; Mr Muhammad Saleem, Additional Secretary Europe, MOFA; Dr Zafar Nawaz Jaspal, Director, School of Politics and International Relations, QAU; Mr. Hassan Abbas, Policy Expert, National Security Division; Ambassador Khalid Mahmood, Chairman, BoG, ISSI; and Senior Research Faculty members. Dr. Neelum Nigar, Director CSP, and CSP research team were also present.

In his welcome remarks, DG ISSI Ambassador Sohail Mahmood said that warm and cordial relations existed between Pakistan and Poland. As they celebrated the 60th anniversary of diplomatic relations, both



countries were keen on further deepening their multifaceted relationship in all dimensions. DG ISSI Ambassador Sohail Mahmood also thanked the Polish authorities for their assistance in safe evacuation of Pakistani nationals from Ukraine in the wake of the Ukraine conflict.

Undersecretary Gerwel underscored the importance Poland accorded to its 'friendly and solid' relationship with Pakistan. He stated in the changing and uncertain times, Poland was reaching out to its partners, and as such "Pakistan is a valuable partner." He

highlighted the vast potential in economic relations between the two countries in a number of key sectors including trade, investment and energy.

Undersecretary Gerwel also apprised of the evolving regional situation including in Ukraine as well as Poland's perspective on the range of issues of peace and security confronting Europe.

His talk was followed by a dynamic interactive session. Ambassador Khalid Mahmood, Chairman BoG ISSI made the concluding remarks.

World Environment Day

ISLAMABAD: Today Boy and Girl Scouts of IBSA actively participated in the walk organized by the Environment Protection Agency (EPA) on the occasion of World Environment Day.



Every Pakistani swallows about five grams of plastic per week: Dr Uzma

Quratul Ain Asim

MULTAN: World Environment Day was celebrated in Women University Multan under the auspices of Department of Environmental Sciences and Prime Minister Green Youth Moment Club, WUM at Matital campus. The chief guest Vice Chancellor Prof Dr Uzma Quraishi while invited guest of honor includes Dr. Mohsin Nawaz (MNSAU), Dr. Zahid Masood (NUST University, Islamabad), Dr. Muhammad Aslam (Mumtaz and Allied Industries), Dr. Asif Rauf (Parks and Horticulture Authority), Mr. Khawaja Hassan (Pak Arab Fertilizers), representatives from Multan Chamber of Commerce and MG Apparels



attended the event.

The United Nations General Assembly established the World Environment Day in 1972, which was celebrated for the first time in 1974, and until today the status of this day has not decreased, but its impor-

tance is increasing with each passing day. Our air, soil and water are all being polluted rather they are also causing contamination of our food items. It is not only limited here, but plastic and its products are also affecting the ecosystem of the planet.

According to this research, every person swallows about five grams of plastic per week. They stressed that urgent measures are imperative to prevent further contamination of the Earth's system. Another study in Pakistan revealed that 300 microplastics were found in one gram of sand in Clifton, a coastal area of Karachi.

Speaking on the occasion, Asif Nadeem (PEPA) said that every year various events related to the global environment are organized by the public and private sectors, but unfortunately, what we learn from these events is not implemented. He urged the people to take care of the plants as it is essential for a better future for our future generation.

SDPI, AIOU, NDRMF Environment Day Event

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), Allama Iqbal Open University, National Disaster Risk Management Fund (NDRMF), Nestle Pakistan and other partner organizations are organizing a high-level policy dialogue on "Reimagining plastics and renewable solutions to environmental degradation" at the Auditorium of AIOU VC Secretariat from 09: 30 AM to 02: 00 PM on Tuesday (6th June). The Federal Minister for Climate Change Senator Sherry Rahman, UN Under-Secretary General and UNEP ED Ms. Inger Andersen, Minister of State Ms Romina Khursheed Alam, Chairperson BoG SDPI, Ambassador Shafiqat Kakakhel, Deputy head of mission UAE Rashid Abdul Rehman, SDPI ED Dr Abid Qaiyum Suleri, Vice Chancellor of Allama Iqbal Open University Dr Nasir Mehmood, Senator Mushahid Hussain Syed, Vice Chancellor of Agriculture University Faisalabad, Dr Iqar Ahmed Khan CEO NDRMF Bilal Anwar, Dr Mushtaq Memon, Regional Coordinator UNEP, Mustafa Hyder Syed, ED Pakistan China Institute and other will speak at various sessions.

An exhibition of artworks containing the culture of China held

City Desk

ISLAMABAD:

An exhibition of artworks containing the culture of China was held at the Art Gallery of Fatima Jinnah Park Islamabad. Where important figures interested in the arts were present. Chinese artist East



Yun was also present on this occasion. While President of All Pakistan Chinese Overseas Youth Federation Aasma Ismail Butt attended the exhibition as a guest.

Aasma Ismail Butt appreciated the efforts of the organizers of Islamabad Art Gallery for organizing a successful exhibition of Chinese artworks and She also praised the Chinese artworks. Aasma Ismail Butt said that the friendship between the two countries will be strengthened through the culture of Pakistan and China. Exhibitions should be held in the future also containing the culture of Pakistan and China. We are hopeful that our country will develop further in the field of art in the coming days. Citizens and art lovers influenced by Chinese art proved that the people of Pakistan are also fond of Chinese arts. This is a positive change whose credit goes to the current government. In order to make Pakistan-China friendship more stable in the future, there is a need to emphasize the promotion of the culture of both countries.

CBD Punjab takes the lead in environmental protection on World Environment Day

City Desk

LAHORE: Punjab Central Business District Development Authority (PCBDDA), also known as Central Business District Punjab (CBD Punjab), proudly joins the global community to celebrate World Environment Day with great enthusiasm, aiming to raise awareness and promote positive actions for environmental protection. This year's theme for World Environment Day is "Beat Plastic Pollution," which highlights the urgent need to address the detrimental impact of plastic on our environment. CBD Punjab has consistently championed the cause of reducing plastic usage and promoting the adoption of eco-friendly alternatives.

Under the visionary leadership of CEO CBD Punjab, Imran Amin, the authority remains at the forefront of various environment-friendly initiatives, further solidifying its commitment to a greener future. By embracing modern urbanization on vertical principles, CBD Punjab is actively contributing to the economic development of Punjab while prioritizing sustainability.

Speaking on this occasion, the CEO of CBD Punjab, Imran Amin expressed the authority's unwavering dedication to environmental protection, stating, "At CBD Punjab, we firmly believe that safeguarding the environment is not merely an option but a responsibility. We have to take collective action to combat plastic pollution and protect our planet for future generations. World Environment Day serves as a reminder to all individuals to protect and preserve our planet."

CBD Punjab extends its invitation to everyone to join hands in celebrating World Environment Day and play an active role in preserving our natural resources. By taking small yet significant steps in our daily lives, such as reducing plastic usage, conserving water, and planting trees, we can collectively make a lasting impact on our environment.

Seminar on Heart Health held at North Campus of Iqra University



City Desk

KARACHI: Iqra University's North Campus organized a seminar on the importance of heart health, focusing on "World Hypertension Day" under the auspices of the Pakistan Hypertension League. The seminar aimed to raise awareness about the adverse effects of hypertension, with the distinguished cardiologist, Professor Dr. Abdul Rashid Khan, Secretary-General of the Pakistan Hypertension League, expressing his thoughts on the hypertensive complications, which greatly enlightened the audience.

Professor Abdul Rashid Khan's insightful discussion emphasized the understanding of hypertension and the significance of its management to prevent cardiac complexities. His presence added significance to the seminar, motivating the attendees to prioritize heart health. Dr. Muhammad Masroor, Dean of Health Sciences, highlighted the vastness of the field of health sciences, stressing the importance of students being well-informed. In order to fulfill this objective, Dr. Rafaya Ahmed, a faculty member, organized an exceptional series of health sciences seminars at Iqra University's North Campus. She consistently strives to enhance the learning and comprehension abilities of the university's students, which is why I commend Dr. Rafaya Ahmed's enthusiasm and dedication.

Dr. Uzair Raja, a Brand Manager in the pharmaceutical industry, shared his personal experiences to guide aspiring pharmacists regarding the scope of industrial pharmacy and encouraged them to pursue a better future in this field. At the end of the ceremony, Dr. Muhammad Masroor, the Dean of Health Sciences IUNC, presented shields and certificates to Professor Dr. Abdul Rashid Khan and Dr. Uzair Raja. The event was attended by Dr. Muhammad Imran, HOD of Pharmacy, and Dr. Rafaya Ahmad, Faculty Member as well.

Concern raised on beverage industry's efforts to derail public health agenda

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: Speaking to a joint press conference, health professionals and civil society representatives raised their concern on the efforts of beverage industry to derail the public health agenda of reducing consumption of sugary drinks through imposing higher federal excise duty in the finance bill 2023-24. This was said during the press conference jointly organized by Pakistan National Heart Association, Diabetic Association of Pakistan, Pakistan Nutrition and Dietetic Society, Family Physicians Association, Pakistan Kidney Patient Welfare Association and Civil Society Alliance.

"Taxing sugar-sweetened beverages (SSBs) is an effective, evidence-based public health response against rising rates of obesity, diabetes, and heart disease. To date, at least 105 countries,



cities, and regions have instituted excises taxes on SSB" said by Sana Ullah Ghuman General Secretary PANAH. "We have serious concerns that beverage industry is trying to offset government's efforts to reduce obesity, type 2 diabetes, cancer, liver and kidney diseases, and trying to escape taxes in the finance bill 2023-24" he added.

Munawar Hussain, a Public Health Advocate and consultant at Global Health Advocacy Incubator said "there is a growing evidence from countries which shows that increasing tax

on sugary drinks, contrary to industry arguments, do not lower wages, reduce employment, or have any negative impact on the economy".

The public health advocates and civil society representatives are urging government to take measures to reduce consumption of all type of sweet drinks including those with the artificial sweeteners. The guidelines by World Health Organization clearly indicate that non caloric sweeteners are equally harmful to health and increasing risk for NCDs.

"Pakistan has turned to the top country globally with 31 percent adults living with diabetes. The annual cost of diabetes management has increased to 2.6 billion US dollars in Pakistan. This storm need to be stopped through evidence based measures like taxing sugary drinks" said Dr. Abdul Basit, General Secretary Diabetic Association of Pakistan. "If we have not been able to prevent diabetes, it shall derail the entire development agenda" he shared his fear.

Sq. Leader (Rtd) Ghulam Abbas, General Secretary to Pakistan Kidney Patient Welfare Association also spoke during the press conference. "Nearly half of the diabetic patients develop complications to their kidney and we have to put many of those on dialysis. The consumption of sugary drinks is posing serious threat to public health and economy of the country" he said.

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Lies & U-Turns and Brainwashing Machine - II

Imran Khan Government in a national security meeting decided to take action against the TLP but within two days of this decision, Khan Government signed a deal with TLP and released all the arrested workers. For Imran Khan, Toshakhana gifts when given to other rulers belong to the state but when he received these gifts he straightaway sold these gifts. Imran Khan always criticized the electables and announced he would never take these electables into his party. But later he formed his government in Punjab with the help of those electables. Imran Khan hated turncoats, but after a 2010 public rally he accepted all the turncoats who chose to join his party. Chaudhry Pervez Elahi at that time blamed General Ahmed Shuja Pasha for this move. Imran promised before the public that he would never use anyone's shoulders to come into power but later confessed that agencies used to help him by bringing parliamentarians before any important legislation. In February 2022, the Imran Khan Government in a written agreement with the IMF agreed to implement the new petroleum and electricity prices but within three weeks, they violated the agreement by taking a U-turn. Imran Khan always criticized the Amnesty scheme and termed it a whitening of black money scheme. However, his government introduced several such schemes and his close associates like Farah Khan availed this scheme. Imran Khan promised he would never bring a larger delegation to any foreign trips but the media has reported several times that Khan visited with a huge entourage. He criticized the Metro bus and his own government started the

Metro Bus project in Peshawar. Imran Khan promised he would never defend any corrupt element but despite serious allegations on Khan's close associate Farah Khan, he defended her publicly. Imran promised that his Azadi march will be peaceful but when the march reached Jinnah Avenue Islamabad, it turned violent and burnt trees and other properties there. Imran Khan appointed the current Chief Election Commissioner in his own government and gave good remarks about him. However, later changed his stance and leveled allegations against him. He also had good opinions about former Chief Election Commissioner Fakhruddin G Ibrahim but after the 2013 elections, he turned against him as well. Imran Khan who claimed Toshakhana details are state secrets during his own government. But started demanding revealing the details of other governments as well. Imran Khan's government told the Islamabad High Court that revealing the details of Toshakhana is a national security matter. However, later it was revealed that Khan sold all those gifts that he received from different countries. Before the elections, Imran Khan promised that he would not stay in the PM House. After taking oath as PM, first it was announced that he will stay at Speaker House, then again the decision was changed and the media was told that he will stay at Punjab House. However, ultimately he settled in the PM House where he resided in the Military Secretary House.

As a prime minister, he will never get protocol, Imran promised to the nation before the elections. However, he not only used six luxury vehicles specified for the PM but all other protocols were also being accorded to him as the prime minister of the country. Imran Khan used to give examples that if Holland's prime minister can travel on a bicycle then why can't our premiers follow it. However, after being elected as prime minister, Imran Khan used to travel from PM House to Banigala through helicopter. Imran Khan used to call former chief minister Punjab as the biggest robber of Punjab. However, after winning the general elections, Pervaiz Elahi was not only a key ally of Imran Khan, but the PTI also elected him as Speaker of Punjab Assembly and later as Chief Minister. Imran Khan also gave a few seats in the provincial as well as federal cabinet to Pervaiz Elahi's party. After the no-confidence move was succeeded, Imran Khan asked his MNAs to resign from the National Assembly. However, later he ordered his MNAs to go back to the parliament and take back their resignations. Imran Khan and his party leaders announced they would not become part of this imported parliament and contest by-elections but later Khan himself contested elections on eight out of nine vacant seats. Imran Khan and his party leaders announced Khan will contest elections on all the vacant seats of National Assembly but later they decided PTI's candidates will contest the elections on

the vacant seats. These are just few examples of his U-turn and lies whereas in reality his every word and action was comprised of lies and U-turns. Fakhhar Durrani elaborated lot of other examples as well in one of his published article. Then come to another point that along with lies and u-turn how Imran Khan and PTI have been brainwashing the minds of the people and making a certain mindset. I will give just one example (which I received from a very reliable source and also searched from internet) to prove my words. Saeed Afridi (A nobody) tweets a lie, "So far, unfortunate but understandable. However, ALL that changed this weekend when Pakistan's Military Intelligence (MI) presented the COAS a report with its preliminary findings on the acts of vandalism and damage to Army property." And he further tweets, "The findings informed the COAS that the events in question were 'instigated' and 'orchestrated' by the Intelligence Bureau (I.B) under instructions from the Ministry of Interior with assistance from members from the Ministry of Defence and some citizens." Few PTI Influencers like Moeed Pirzada, Azhar Mashwani, Adil Raja etc Retweet it. Then PTI's second tier leadership (Shahbaz Gill, Murad Saeed etc) retweets this lie further. And then Imran Khan comes into action by saying, "New findings have come out" and the lie is spread to the masses as truth. Readers, it's now the turn of the people to differentiate between truth and lie. Also its need of the time to take strict action on spreading this lies and hatred based narrative.



Analysis **Abdul Basit Alvi**

Concluded

Inefficient bureaucracy hurdle in beating plastic pollution

Speakers at seminar said that environmental hazards of plastic are multifarious but often glossed over. Policies are ineffective and lack implementation whereas plastic has detrimental effects on human health that take their toll on millions of lives every year. Impact of plastic on aquatic life in oceans is an example of this. Pakistan is no exception to plastic pollution. Pakistan produced 3.9 million tonnes of plastic waste in 2020, over 65 percent of which was mismanaged. 18 percent of municipal solid waste produced in Pakistan is plastics.

The seminar titled "Beat Plastic Pollution" was organized by the Bahria University Environment and Earth Sciences department and APGA on Monday. The guest speakers included well-known environmentalist and Devcom-Pakistan Executive Director Munir Ahmed, Dr. said Akbar Khan, Dr. Abrar Shinwari, UNIDO technical expert Hammad Bashir, former Member CDA Sanaullah Aman, environmentalists Sana Tahir and Rehan Tahir.

Speaking as a guest of honour, well-known environmentalist and Devcom-Pakistan Executive Director Munir Ahmed said Pakistan's single-use plastic consumption is rising by over 15 percent a year despite all the legislations by the federal and provincial governments. Pakistan is producing about four million tons of plastic waste a year while the already produced plastic waste can make a mountain double of the height of K2, the second highest mountain in the world. According to a survey report, Pakistan currently uses 55 billion plastic bags a year.

Munir Ahmed said the gap between the policies and their implementation is huge. We have everything on papers that dusting shelves sans practices accordingly. Government institutions lack will and resources to implement the policies in letter and spirit. First of all, our policies don't address the single-use plastics that have increased immensely after the Covid-19. Secondly, we don't realize the carcinogenic role of plastics that has increased health vulnerabilities. Civil society organizations and academia shall play their role in creating awareness among masses on the use of plastics, and also raise voice to the governments to take every possible measure for drastic cut on supply-side.

Sana Tahir urged the students to take lead in using the environment-friendly products, and help in reaching out to the common people with a message of conservation. The university shall engage students in public awareness initiatives.

Sanaullah Aman said charity begins at home. We need to focus on our habits and change the perceptions to conservation by individual efforts.

Hammad Bashir said according to the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO), plastic production and use have grown exponentially since the 1950s, with around nine million people employed globally in polymer production and plastic processing industries. Presently, the world produces 430 million metric tonnes of plastics every year.



Shiqra CHINA DAILY

What will be the end of the game due to the CPEC of America, China and Punjabi Nation-II

While on March 31, 2022, in the meeting of foreign ministers of neighboring countries held in Tongzhi, China, apart from China, Russia, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Pakistan, Iran, Taliban officials also participated. After that, the US-backed government under the leadership of Imran Khan could not continue in Pakistan on April 9, 2022. Despite pursuing Option No. 2, the US could neither prevent the CPEC agreement from happening on April 20, 2015. Neither could the US-backed Imran Khan-led government in Pakistan in 2018 completely scrap the CPEC plan to reach China's warm waters. Neither could stay in Afghanistan. Therefore, the implementation of the CPEC project has started again. Ahead of the CPEC agreement during the Chinese President's visit to Pakistan on 20 April 2015;

from Pakistan and make it a free port.

2. In Balochistan, there was a conspiracy by the United States to build its bases by making Balochistan an independent country through the Baloch people. So that by sending reinforcements to his subordinate government in Afghanistan from Baluchistan, he would block the way to Russia and also keep China away from Gwadar. But after the agreement of CPEC on April 20, 2015, Gwadar Sea Port has also been built by China and road construction is also going on in Balochistan. Therefore, no conspiracy is being allowed to succeed by the security forces in Balochistan.

3. For a long time, America was doing the work of terrorizing the path of China by patronizing its noble Pathans in the northern areas of Pakistan. So that China can be prevented from reaching Gwadar by erecting obstacles in the area located at the gate of China. But after the agreement of CPEC, the work of building roads is also going on in the northern areas of Pakistan. Therefore, no conspiracy is being allowed to succeed by the security forces.

4. politicizing the Punjabi nation by dividing the Punjab and inciting the immigrants, Sindhi and

Baloch to clash against the Punjabi nation; Conspiracies to involve in social, economic, administrative, economic problems were also carried out by America. So that the plans of the Punjabi nation to prevent China from setting up camp in the Indian Ocean cannot be resisted by the Punjabi nation. But the situation at the moment is that for America;

1. Urdu-speaking Indian immigrants who conspired to separate Karachi from Pakistan and make it a free port are also useless.
 2. The Baloch who are plotting to make Balochistan an independent country are also useless
 3. The Pathans who are doing terror in the northern areas of Pakistan are also not useful.

4. politicizing the Punjabi nation by dividing the Punjab and inciting the immigrants, Sindhi and

occupied Kashmir and Punjab from India, the Indian-occupied Kashmir and Punjab over the 'Pakistani Punjab' Sindh and Karachi. Along with putting it on the path to create a "Greater Punjab" that includes Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pashtun areas should be agreed to withdraw.

Otherwise, if China starts protecting the Punjabi nation and frees Kashmir as well as the Indian-occupied Punjab from India, "with Pakistani Punjab" from Delhi to Peshawar and from Kashmir to Kashmir, the origin of Maharaja Ranjit Singh. If the problem of religious places for Sikh Punjabis and river water problem for Muslim Punjabis is solved by uniting Punjab To make Karachi a free port through Urdu-speaking Indian refugees, to make Balochistan an independent country through the Baloch, to terrorize the northern areas of Pakistan with Pathans, to divide Punjab, to incite the refugees, Sindhi and Baloch to clash against the Punjabi nation.

The conspiracies of will not show color. Baloch of Balochistan, Pashtun of Balochistan and Pakhtun areas of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa will also remain with Punjab. By which Pakistan will become bigger and stronger instead of being small and weak-in this situation America will not be able to stop China from setting up camp in the Indian Ocean.

Concluded



Analysis **Kiran Asim**

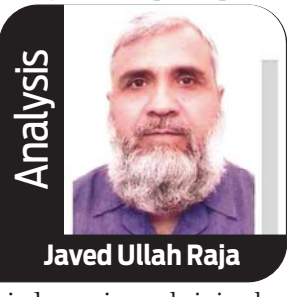
Helping Buddy, Helpless Ragging - I

Positive thinking ability is essential for social development. Placing oneself in positive moments and turning difficulties into possibilities is an important part of spiritual and social development. People with good morals respect others and behave with humility. They put nations on the path of development by presenting themselves as a model for sustainable development by strengthening social interactions and enhancing social cooperation. What beautiful values which are prevalent in the world but we are far away from them. First year fool in our educational institutions few decades ago now, it is called as "Ragging". The purpose of writing which has been going on in our educational institutions for a long time is that when students from schools go to colleges and universities for the purpose of admissions, on the first day the reception of these forgetful children on the first day is indicative. On this day, senior college students are happy to make fools of these new friends instead of welcoming and helping them. This day was earlier remembered here as "First Year fool" and now it is called "Ragging". Ragging, which often occurs in educational institutions in our country such as colleges or universities. It usually involves older students subjecting new students to various forms of harassment, humiliation or abuse as a means of gaining dominance or maintaining a social hierarchy. Ragging or hazing is generally considered harmful and unethical. Because they can cause physical and psychological damage. Ragging can lead to emotional trauma, stress, depression and sometimes physical injuries. If seen in the context of Ragging and Buddy, then the difference between the two is also clear from their

meanings that the meaning of Ragging which is called Dargat Bana and Buddy means friendship. Those new students who are not familiar with the environment of the college i.e; to whom they will meet, what they will do, to whom they will ask and where they will go. Because, there is a strange feeling of fear and dread of going from a small environment to a large free environment. Various demands are made by senior students on this day. Some fresher's are asked to dance, some are asked to sing, some are pushed to the ground and some are pushed into the college pool. Apart from this, it also includes throwing different liquid colors on their clothes with bottles. New methods are being used day by day to make many more fools. And these senseless customs are still going on today and there is no thought or action to stop them. It is surprising, that these are the ongoing factors on the part of four educated people. Because every year during the New Year admission days these evil deeds happen in colleges and universities which cause trouble for the fresher's.

On the contrary, in the countries of the world that have a large population of non-Muslims, it is surprising for us that, in which direction we are traveling and how well they are maintaining the good traditions. At the beginning of the new year in these colleges and universities in the world. When new students go for admissions, they are given all possible support and guidance before they go. They don't have the practice of ragging there, but a friend called "Buddy" to help and guide them. This buddy who means friends is senior students of colleges and universities who serve as volunteers to guide the newcomers.

To be continued



Analysis **Javed Ullah Raja**

International seminar on infection related features of microorganisms

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: COMSTECH in collaboration with Karolinska Institutet, Sweden, organized one-day international seminar on infection related features of microorganisms on June 5, at COMSTECH.

Prof. Dr. Ute Rumlung, department of microbiology, tumor and cell biology, Karolinska Institutet, said that infectious diseases are a major cause of morbidity and/or mortality in developing as well as industrialized countries. She said that sub-clinical infections lead to gradual impairment of functionality. She mentioned that susceptibility for infectious diseases is increasing. She informed that up to 80% of the human microbial infections are caused by biofilm-forming bacteria and microbes in biofilms are tolerant against antibiotics and immune response. New pathogens are emerging due to change in life style, industrial processes, altered microbiome, and immune status.

Prof. Dr. Shazia Anjum, Dean,



Faculty of Chemical and Biological Sciences, Islamia University Bahawalpur said that this field of study is very important, as microbes are the enemies of the human being. She emphasized that we all need to collaborate and work together to fight infectious diseases. She appreciated the health capacity building initiatives of

COMSTECH and the seminar where people from the field will be able to learn and network to collaborate to combat diseases.

The Coordinator General COMSTECH, Prof. Dr. M. Iqbal Choudhary welcomed and thanked the participants of the seminar. He said the infectious diseases are the major threat to

the human well-being. He lamented that we spend a lot on other areas of research like technology but we are unconscious of the major killer of human being since its inception. He said that pharmaceutical industry is not interested in investing into the development of antibiotics, academics must focus on infectious diseases research to solve this problem. Prof. Choudhary stressed the need of collaborative work in the area of infectious disease research. He said this seminar is organized with the objective to understand the infections at molecular level, and let the researchers to network and collaborate.

The seminar was attended by the Ambassador of Yemen and the diplomats from Qatar and Uzbekistan. A large number of national and international researchers participating in the seminar in-person and online. International and national speakers delivered ten lectures on different aspects of infectious diseases. Each lecture was followed by question and answer session.

Bank of Khyber inaugurated of two new branches



Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Bank of Khyber, one of the leading financial institutions in Pakistan, is proud to announce the grand inauguration of two state-of-the-art branches in DHA Islamabad and Top City. With these latest additions, the bank has expanded its presence in the federal capital, now boasting a total of 12 branches. This strategic expansion aims to offer customers in the capital region enhanced accessibility to a wide range of convenient banking services.

Mr. Hafiz Mohsin Director Accounts and Finance Bahria Town, Maj (R) Kazim Ali Khan, MD Al-Nazim 999 Builders & Developers and Mr. Muhammad Ali Gulfaraz, MD /CEO, Bank of Khyber inaugurated the DHA Islamabad branch. Mr. Sher Muhammad - Group Head of Conventional Banking, Mr. Asim Bashir Group Head Digital Banking, Ms Natasha Adil Regional Head Retail Banking along with other senior executives also attended the branch inauguration. Col® Riaz ul Haq Chaudhary, Project Director, Al-Nazim 999 Builders & Developers, Mr. Hafiz Mohsin, Director Accounts, Bahria town Islamabad also graced the occasion with their presence.

Simultaneously, the Top City Islamabad Branch was inaugurated by Brig® Hamid, Chief Administrator of Top City Islamabad, Mr. Shafiq Afridi, CEO of Toyota Khyber Motors, and Mr. Muhammad Ali Gulfaraz, MD/CEO of Bank of Khyber along with other senior executives of the bank.

Mr. Muhammad Ali Gulfaraz, the Managing Director/CEO of Bank of Khyber, shared his excitement regarding the expansion, stating, "We are thrilled to expand our footprint in Islamabad through the inauguration of these two new branches. This expansion exemplifies our dedication to enhancing customer service and bridging the gap to our cutting-edge financial solutions. We firmly believe that these branches will not only provide convenience to residents but also foster the economic growth of the city."

Dubai's Department of Economy and Tourism's latest campaign invites Pakistani visitors



News Desk

KARACHI: Dubai's Department of Economy and Tourism (DET) is thrilled to unveil its latest campaign, Chalo Dubai, which is aimed at Pakistani travelers. For the first time, the campaign video exclusively targets this market by featuring actors speaking in Urdu.

Dubai is the ultimate family vacation destination, offering world-class attractions and a variety of indoor and outdoor activities for families to enjoy. The campaign videos showcase the city's unique experiences and highlights its affordability and family-friendly environment, making it an ideal holiday destination for Pakistani visitors, especially those with kids.

The Kids Go Free initiative allows families to explore Dubai's diverse attractions, including classic landmarks such as Dubai Fountain, At the Top Burj Khalifa, and LEGOLAND Dubai Park that is located at Dubai Parks and Resorts, as well as newer experiences like the Museum of the Future, AYA Universe, and the Sky Views Observatory.

Talking about the campaign, Bader Ali Habib, Head of South Asia, Dubai Department of Economy and Tourism, said: "Through this campaign, the first to be run in Urdu specifically to target the Pakistani market, we want to showcase Dubai as the ultimate family vacation destination.

Our 'Kids Go Free' initiative helps families to explore and experience Dubai's unparalleled offerings, making it more accessible and affordable than ever before. With growing demand for family-friendly experiences among Pakistani travelers, we aim to highlight Dubai's full range of attractions and activities for families, catering to a diverse range of preferences. We are confident that Dubai will exceed their expectations and provide them with unforgettable memories."

Aga Khan University celebrates World Environment Day

News Desk

KARACHI: The Aga Khan University commemorated the 2023 World Environment Day, featuring the screening of documentary, "Oceans: The Mystery of the Missing Plastic" followed by a panel discussion at the AKU auditorium.

The panel discussion revolving around the topic of "Addressing plastic pollution through innovative and local solutions", brought together experts from various fields to explore effective strategies to tackle the plastic crisis of global proportions. The panel included Mr. Ghazi Salahuddin, Regional Head (Sindh and Balochistan) at WWF Pakistan, Ms. Ramlah Tariq, Sustainability Lead at Unilever Pakistan, Mr. Salman Tariq, CEO at Davaam, Dr. Mehmood Ali,

Associate Professor, Department of Environmental Engineering at NED University, and Ms. Amber Ajani, Manager Environment and Sustainability at the Aga Khan University.

Celebrated every year on the 5th of June, World Environment Day is a global commemoration to raise awareness on environmental challenges such as air pollution, plastic pollution, illegal wildlife trade, climate change, among others. Our event primarily focused on solutions to plastic pollution under this year's theme of #BeatPlasticPollution.

As we know, the plastic waste is choking our seas and coasts, threatening ecosystems, livelihoods, and lives around the world. According to the United Nations Environment Programme, more than 400 million tonnes of plastic is



produced globally every year, half of which is designed to be used only once. Of that, less than 10 per cent is recycled. An estimated 19-23 million tonnes end up in the lakes, rivers, and seas.

In his welcome address, Mr. Jamil Ahmed Khan, Senior Advisor in the Office of the President at AKU said, "Plas-

tic pollution is one of the most pressing challenges our world faces today.

During the panel discussion, Mr. Ghazi Salahuddin (WWF Pakistan) said, "Our world is swimming in plastic. Coastal communities residing along the Indus Delta are facing harrowing effects of plastic

pollution.

Mr. Salman Tariq (Davaam) added, "Around 3.3 million tonnes of plastic is wasted every year in Pakistan which equals two times the size of Mount K2.

Representing Unilever Pakistan, Ms. Ramlah Tariq said, "Our mantra is reduce, reuse, and recycle. We are committed to and working towards halving our use of virgin plastic by 2025."

Dr. Mehmood said, "At NED University, we are actively working on producing research that can provide practical measures for conserving our environment.

Ms Amber Ajani (AKU) shared, "Globally, AKU has made concerted efforts to phase-down single-use plastic water bottles and is now replacing plastic cutlery used for take-away with natural birchwood cutlery.

World Environment Day

ISLAMABAD: Photo shows PTCL & Ufone 4G's Group Head, HSE Corporate, Fawad Farukh, Group Head, HSE Technology, Muhammad Arsalan Raja and other team members plant a tree in connection with World Environment Day. The PTCL Group led plantation activities across all its zonal offices in line with its long term commitment to environmental sustainability and a clean green Pakistan.



Your Next Entertainment Companion - Infinix SMART 7 series is now available nationwide

Commerce Desk

LAHORE: Pakistan's highest selling smartphone brand; Infinix has now made available super smooth and entertainment savvy SMART 7 series smartphones starting at Rs 26,999 only. Designed to provide a power packed entertainment experience, SMART 7 houses an extended RAM of up to 7GB and a massive sunlight-readable 6.6" HD+ display. Both SMART 7 and SMART 7 HD are available to purchase online on Xpark and also on outlets nationwide at a starting price of Rs 26,999/-

Up to 7 GB extended RAM enable users to multitask seamlessly while navigating through their favorite applications, playing games, and streaming their favorite shows. Also making it manageable to keep all entertainment outlets open at once for a power packed experience.

Rs. 2.5 billion plus worth of deals finalized at ISEM & IREM Exhibition at Expo Centre Lahore

Commerce Desk

LAHORE: More than Rs. 2.5 billion worth of deals have been finalized at the second International Solar Energy Meet (ISEM) Expo and IIEEP IREM Expo, Pakistan's Premium Solar Energy, Electronics and Electrical Exhibition, at Expo Centre Lahore.

The organizers of the prestigious event said that more than 12000 plus visitors attended the event, which was aimed at augmenting a serious debate on the available options of the renewable energy. It was also aimed at providing a unique

platform to the industry players to get together and discuss and devise ways and means to help the government overcome the lingering energy crisis in the country.

White Paper Summits in a strategic partnership with the Institution of Electrical and Electronics Engineers Pakistan (IIEEP) also organized a conference where national and international expert speakers shared their case studies, technical presentation and latest insights on the problems and solutions addressing the power and renewable energy sector of Pakistan.

As many as 150 national and international companies and manufacturers and distributors had gathered under one roof to exhibit their products regarding solar and alternative energy options for the benefit of the end users. Local and international energy and power sector experts, primarily working in renewable power with focus on solar power generation, attended this event.

Pakistan is facing energy crisis as 60 per cent of country's energy mix comprises fossil fuels which are imported and consume a major chunk of the national reserves in the form of interna-

tional payments in dollar. The depleting rupee is making the matters worst for the government.

The share of solar or green energy in Pakistan's energy mix is only 5 to 6 per cent which is extremely low given the resources and options available to leveraging clean energy.

The experts said that long term approach is needed to overcome the current energy crisis to ensure safe and secure future of the coming generations.

Earlier, Khurram Dastgir Khan, Federal Minister for Energy, while inaugurating the event,



said that the renewable energy is the need of the hour and the government is allocating resources and putting in sincere efforts

to mitigate the carbon footprint in the country.

The Federal Minister said that the government is encouraging

the proliferation of the clean and green energy solutions. "This event is a step towards the future of the renewable and wind energy, which will reduce the power cost of the consumers," he said, adding that government will soon launch a project for the manufacturing of solar panels in the country.

IIEEP IREM Expo focused on Power Transformers, Power Technology, Capacitors, Batteries, Heavy Duty Cables, Power Distribution Equipment, Wind Energy, Hydropower, Bioenergy, Bio Gas, BioFuel, Hydrogen, GeoThermal Energy, Solar Energy and more.

Bull & Bears
PSX 100-Share
Index Fluctuation

Pakistan: PSX 100-Share Index	
Current	Prev. Close
41,667.94	41,352.98
Day's High	Day's Low:
41,681.68	41,375.57
Index Value	Change
4,021,870,985	+314.96
Percentage	Time
+0.76%	5 Jun, 2023 5: 00 pm

Europe: FTSE 100 Index	
Index Value	Change
7,599.99	-7.29
Percentage	Time
-0.09%	5 Jun, 4: 35 pm GMT+1

USA: Dow Jones Industrial Average	
Index Value	Change
33,697.74	-65.02
Percentage	Time
-0.19%	5 Jun, 1: 13 pm GMT-4

Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Average	
Index Value	Change
32,217.43	+693.21
Percentage	Time
+2.20%	5 Jun, 3: 15 pm GMT+9

Open Market Forex Rates

Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	202	204
Bahrain Dinar	758.82	766.82
Canadian Dollar	226	230
China Yuan	40.28	40.68
Danish Krone	41.03	41.43
Euro	322	325
Hong Kong Dollar	36.4	36.75
Indian Rupee	3.46	3.57
Japanese Yen	2	2.08
Kuwaiti Dinar	925.2	934.2
Malaysian Ringgit	61.94	62.54
NewZealand \$	173.16	175.16
Norwegians Krone	25.88	26.18
Omani Riyal	742.38	750.38
Qatari Riyal	78.38	79.08
Saudi Riyal	80.5	81.5
Singapore Dollar	220	222
Swedish Korona	26.36	26.66
Swiss Franc	313.87	316.37
Thai Bhat	8.21	8.36
U.A.E Dirham	83.5	84.5
UK Pound Sterling	377	381
US Dollar	305	308

The govt should encourage the spread of clean and green energy:
Dr. Zahir



Tahir Amin Malik

LAHORE: Dr. Zahir Javed Piracha, CEO PENTA Energy said about the 2nd Solar Energy Expo that this event will be beneficial for the promotion of Solar Energy, and Electronics. He further said that Government should encourage the proliferation of clean and green energy solutions.

Babar Hussain the CEO of Babar Hussain Group also gave the remarks about the 3 days Solar Energy Expo he said that this event of Solar will be a step towards the future of renewable and wind energy, which will reduce the power cost of the customers.

He said that such kind of Solar Exhibitions can go a long way towards achieving the goal of clean and green energy a vis reducing the carbon footprint in Pakistan Mr. Kashif Bashir Vice Chairman IEEE Lahore section said that Commercial and domestic consumers should ensure the use of Solar Energy to deal with power crisis in Pakistan.

Muhammad Minhaj Khokhar Chairman & CEO PK-2100 Technology and Business Advisor said that such kind of expo are important for the development of energy sectors in Pakistan and the Expo is an ideal meeting place for global and local stakeholders, Executives, Leading Industry, Decision Makers, Manufacturers and Suppliers, Government Officials and Policy Makers, who are shaping the future of Solar Energy Sector in Pakistan.

There were 150 Stalls were displayed during the 3 days 2nd Energy Expo here at Lahore which included 30 international stalls and 120 Local Stalls and the top International and Local Exhibitors displayed their stalls and received the wonderful response from the customers in 3 days.

Economy does not require treatment, but urgent surgery: 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 said on Monday that the serious and economic crimes of the past have left the economy half dead.

Now this patient will not get better with the help of medicine, but he needs emergency surgery, he said.

Mian Zahid Hussain said that people have been suffering from inflation, unemployment and economic decline for many years. But now their patience is waning, therefore steps to improve should be started without delay. Talking to the business community, the



vetran business leader said that due to inflation and unemployment, millions of people

have gone below the poverty line, lawlessness has become a problem and the problem of food security is becoming serious.

There is growing public anxiety which calls for immediate action, he said, adding that benefits should not be given to some of the influential groups in the name of reforms like in the past, but decisions should be made on merit.

Mian Zahid Hussain said that taxes should be levied on sectors that do not pay taxes, government should get rid of failed companies, improve the system of subsidies and refunds, increase exports and decrease imports, and forgive existing taxpayers.

The business leader observed that new departments are being created with a rapid pace, which is a joke with the country's resources and the poor people.

He noted that there are dozens of departments that have no work, while many different departments have been given the same responsibilities, which is like playing with the country's resources, so central and provincial governments should reduce their size.

Mian Zahid Hussain said that if the drama continued instead of real reforms, the country will become bankrupt, the value of the rupee will fall further, inflation will hit the country, the banking system will collapse, the demand for dollars will increase and the share of undocumented economy will increase.

Many countries have achieved the goal of self-reliance in a few years, with less resources than Pakistan, because in these countries, distribution of resources and awarding of influential people in the name of reforms was stopped for the sake of national development.

Trying to make sports the identity of Islamabad city, Chairman CDA

Tariq Khattak

ISLAMABAD: Chairman CDA Captain Noor Ul Amin Mengal has said that we are trying to make sports the identity of Islamabad city. Improving sports facilities in Islamabad is our priority, CDA is working on a mega project to upgrade sports grounds. Providing sports facilities to the youth is indispensable for building a better society. He expressed these views yesterday in his speech as a special guest at the cricket tournament organized by the Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

The teams of ICCI, CDA, Media anchor and ICT XI participated in the tournament. The senior officials of CDA, Senior Vice President Islamabad Chamber Faad Waheed, Vice President Engineer Azhar Islam, Zafar Bakhtawari participated in the tournament. Speaking on the occasion, Chairman CDA said that CDA is taking great steps regarding sports will provide complete sports facilities in every sector of Islamabad, working to improve the condition of the existing grounds.

Talking on this occasion, President of Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari said that sports can be the best alternative for youth in any society. Promoting heels means high-



lighting positive activities in society. He said that the Islamabad Chamber has a keen interest in the promotion of sports related activities in the city. The Chamber is working on a project to construct a multi-purpose sports ground in Islamabad. Better talent will emerge only if sports

are promoted at the grassroots. He said that Chairman CDAs interest in promoting sports is welcome. If other institutions also cooperate in this regard, the situation can improve. All institutions need to work together to take Islamabad forward in sports.

TPL Life successfully onboarded 60,000 potential life insurance agents



Commerce Desk

KARACHI: TPL Life Muavin, Pakistan's first virtual earning and learning platform, continues to grow and reach a new milestone of surpassing 60,000 potential life insurance agents registering onto the portal.

"We are thrilled to see the remarkable response to Muavin from users nationwide. The platform aligns with our vision of promoting financial inclusion and digitization in Pakistan's insur-

ance industry," said Mr. Saad Nissar, CEO of TPL Life. He added, "It provides a unique opportunity for individuals to become financially independent, contribute to the economy's growth, and access insurance products."

TPL Life offers cash rewards for each course completion to encourage individuals to complete their education and become productive life insurance agents, helping the company expand its presence across Pakistan.

PTCL recognized as the 'Most Facilitating Employer'



Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's leading telecommunication and integrated ICT services provider, Pakistan Telecommunication Company Limited (PTCL) has been recognized as the 'Most Facilitating Employer over the Last Five Years' at the National University of Science and Technology's 'NUST Placement Recognition Awards 2023'.

Group Chief People Officer (GCPO) PTCL & Ufone 4G, Muhammad Shoaib Baig received the award at a vibrant awards ceremony organized at NUST. This recognition is a testament to PTCL's unwavering commitment to fostering

a work culture that provides a growth platform to the future leaders of our country.

PTCL Group encourages strong industry-academia linkages to help align education and training with the evolving industry trends to ensure development of well-trained professional and visionary business leaders in the country. Through multiple job roles, exclusive internship and training programs, PTCL & Ufone not only provide valuable exposure and mentorship to students and fresh graduates but also strengthen the vitality and sustainability of Pakistan's corporate sector by inducting fresh talent and innovative minds each year.

Tobacco industry's profit margin increased due to shifting of tax burden on Customers

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Society for the Protection of the Rights of Child (SPARC) issued a press release to highlight Tobacco industry's mischievous ways to earn additional profits from tobacco users. According to the health activists, government should be earning additional revenues from increased tobacco taxation not tobacco industry.

Malik Imran, Country Head Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids, said that tobacco industry's profit margin increased due to shifting of tax burden on customers. He further added tobacco industry's ulterior motive is to earn hefty profits from its consumer that's why the industry has always tried to manipulate the government and tax policies into its favor.

The FED shared in retail price continuously declined from 45.7 per cent in 2020-21 to 41.0 per cent in 2022-23 (Aug-Feb). During same period, the producers' price increased from 41.1 per cent to 44.4 per cent. The overall price increase was 164 per cent and 170 per cent in tier one and tier 2 respectively. Cigarette manufacturers have also kept increasing their net-of-tax price of the economy brand increased by 121 per cent, much higher than



the prevailing inflation rate. Dr. Ziauddin Islam, Former Technical Head, Tobacco Control Cell, Ministry of Health, said that cigarette manufacturers have over-shifted the tax burden to consumers to increase their profitability. Tobacco Industry has used various tactics, such as front-loading and abrupt changes in production, to avoid tax hikes and influence tax policy.

Khalil Ahmed Dogar, Program Manager, SPARC, said that tobacco industry is directly targeting youth's future and government's economic wellbeing. He further added that, FBR has started countering illegal cigarette packs successfully by implementing track & trace system on tobacco. To end this tobacco menace, we must understand the underlying facts and truth on tobacco industry's wrong approach which only focuses on its own profits at the expense of its customers.

Descon Oxychem Attains Coveted UN Mark Certification for Product Packaging

Commerce Desk

LAHORE: Descon Oxychem Limited, a leading global chemical manufacturer, proudly announces the achievement of the prestigious UN Mark certification for its product packaging. The UN Mark is an internationally recognized standard established by the United Nations, highlighting the company's commitment to ensuring the highest safety standards for the transportation of goods in international markets.

The UN Mark certification holds significant importance as it is required by key global business destinations for imports.

This certification demonstrates Descon Oxychem's dedication to meeting global safety standards and reinforces its position as a trusted and reliable partner in international trade.

Mr. Mohsin Zia, CEO of Descon Oxychem, expressed his satisfaction with this achievement, stating, "We are immensely proud to have attained the UN Mark certification."

Climate Resilience Program launched in Pakistan

Spokesman Report

LAHORE: The World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) inaugurated the Climate Resilience Program that aims to proactively identify risks and build resilience to climate change to enhance the resilience of water stewardship and sustainable agriculture in Punjab region.

Launched in global partnership with The Coca-Cola Company, as a first step, WWF organized a two-day workshop titled "Integrated Resilience Action Planning for Climate Change" on World Environment Day, bringing together the collective wisdom of key stakeholders from government enti-

ties, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and the private sector.

"Coca-Cola brings a vast distribution network and a strong sustainable agenda to our decade-long partnership with WWF. We believe we can strengthen our mutual commitments to climate resilience to create an integrated framework and solve for complex climate change disasters," said Aisha Sarwari, Director Public Affairs, Communications & Sustainability, Coca-Cola Pakistan & Afghanistan Region.

Hammad Naqi Khan, Director General of WWF-Pakistan, highlighted the severe impact of climate change on water resources in Pakistan. He



stated, "The devastating floods of 2022 resulted in significant production losses for key crops. WWF-Pa-

kistan is committed to building resilience through initiatives like these. To address water and food security chal-

lenges, it is crucial to improve water governance, transform the agri-food system, and enhance institutional capacity building."

Recently, WWF-Pakistan also conducted a watershed health assessment study in the Ravi Basin supported by the grant funding provided by The Coca-Cola Company, which identified key water-related issues in the area. Informed by this local assessment, the next phase of the project will develop interventions that will help develop a Watershed Management Plan. These will cater to the river's improved water quality and quantity, better ecosystem, and infrastructure improvement and development.

CDA aims to make sports Islamabad's identity: Chairman

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Chairman Capital Development Authority (CDA) Captain Noor Ul Amin Mengal has announced that the civic body was working to make sports the identity of Islamabad city and to achieve this goal, the authority prioritized improving sports facilities in the city.

He said that CDA was working on a mega project to upgrade sports grounds in the city, adding that providing facilities to the youth was essential for building a better society, said a press release.

Noor Ul Amin expressed these views as a special guest at the cricket tournament organized by the Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI).

The teams of ICCI, CDA, Media anchor and ICT XI participated in the



Chairman

Senior officials of CDA, Senior Vice President Islamabad Chamber Faad Waheed, Vice President Engineer Azhar Islam, Zafar Bakhtawari also participated in the tournament.

Speaking on the occasion, the chairman CDA the authority was taking effective steps regarding sports and would provide complete sports facilities in every sector of the capital.

He said that CDA was also working to improve the condition of the existing grounds, special sports enclaves, and jogging tracks had been made indispensable in all major parks.

"ICC's interest in the promotion of sports is welcome, I hope the Chamber and CDA would work together for the promotion of sports", he added.

President ICCI Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari said that sports could be best alternative for youth in any society and promoting heels meant highlighting positive activities in the society.

He said that the chamber had a keen

interest in promoting sports related activities in the city.

The chamber was working on a project to construct a multi-purpose sports ground in the city which would not only benefit the chamber members but other citizens would also be able to get benefit, he said adding that there was a need to work for promoting sports in educational institutions.

Better talent would emerge only if sports were promoted at the grassroots, he added.

He said that Chairman CDA's interest in promoting sports was welcome and urged other institutions to cooperate in that regard to improve the situation.

All institutions needed to work together to take the capital forward in sports, he added.

Sports and entertainment way to teach discipline; Respect the law: Muhammad Tariq Chauhan

Asim Tanveer

MULTAN: Additional Inspector General of Police Training of Punjab visited the Police Training College Multan, Muhammad Tariq Chauhan participated in the final matches of the Sports Gala held at the Police Ring College Multan and distributed prizes to the participants of the Sports Gala. Gave away commemorative shields to the retired and transferred officers from the police department. Commandant Police Training College Multan Gauhar Mushtaq Bhutta Deputy Inspector General of Police accompanied him



Police Training College Multan's police training college saluted the Additional Inspector General of Police Training Punjab. Additional Inspector General of Police Training Punjab watched the final matches of Badminton, Tug of War, Table Tennis, Volleyball and Carrom Board at the Sports Gala held at Police Training College Multan. Prizes were awarded to the first and

runner-up teams and their performance was appreciated. On this occasion, he said that sports and entertainment are a way to teach discipline and respect the law. Sports develop endurance, self-control, agreement and obedience in a person.

Sports recreation refreshes a person by removing his boredom and the exercise in which a person natu-

rally takes more interest is sports. Efforts are necessary to bring mobile and computer bound youth to the sports field to encourage them to take up challenges and raise the flag of Pakistan Police in the world. The strategy of giving access to the sports field to the training officers of the police department training institute is a positive step for the promotion

of sports. He said that the doors of my office are always open for all officers and personnel who have retired from the force. The retired officers thanked Dr. Muhammad Tariq Chauhan Additional Inspector General of Police Training Punjab and Commandant Police Training College Multan Gauhar Mushtaq Bhatta Deputy Inspector General of Police.

Shaheen Afridi overwhelmed by fans support in England

BIRMINGHAM: Left-arm Pakistani fast bowler Shaheen Afridi said that he's overwhelmed by the support fans in England have shown him so far. Shaheen, who successfully led twice the PSL franchise Lahore Qalandars to back-to-back title victories in the last two years, was speaking exclusively to Geo News at Edgbaston Stadium Birmingham after his team Nottinghamshire Outlaws beat the hosts Birmingham Bears in the T20 Blast game.

During the match, hundreds of Shaheen's fans present at the stadium were mainly from Birmingham and were backing the home team to win, but also kept on backing up Shaheen whenever he was bowling or was fielding close to the boundary line throughout the match. The Shaheen Afridi fans waited patiently after the match for almost an hour to make sure they get a chance to take his autograph or a selfie with him. Normally, the players from the visiting teams leave quite soon after the match as they have to travel back to their home cities but Shaheen obliged the wishes of the fans and stayed to make sure that they all get for what they came.

"It really feels good to see so many fans around. These are our own people who are supporting me regardless of wherever I'm playing so they come out to support me whether I'm batting, bowling or fielding. I'm extremely grateful to all the supporters."

This has been the case throughout the T20 Blast tournament that wherever Shaheen is playing where at home ground Trent Bridge or at Manchester's Old Trafford, Birmingham's Edgbaston or any other ground hundreds of fans have been flocking to stadiums to watch him in action up close.

We found so much love, Virender Sehwag lauds Pakistan's hospitality



A Sports

ISLAMABAD: Legendary Indian opening batter Virender Sehwag recalled his tour to Pakistan back in 2003-04 and the hospitality he received from the locals.

India visited Pakistan in 2003 for a full-fledge ODI and Test tour amid which the two arch-rivals locked horns in a five-match white-ball and a three-match red-ball series.

The touring side dominated Pakistan in both formats as they sealed the ODI series 3-2 and Test series 2-1.

Virender Sehwag, who was also a part of the Indian contingent, recalled his side's successful tour of Pakistan for the hospitality, he received during his time in the country during an interview on a YouTube channel

"When we toured Pakistan back in 2003-04, we found so much love from the Pakistani people," he shared.

"Before the second Test in Lahore, we went for shopping. I bought some 30-35 Pakistani suits for my family at a local market. The shopkeeper refused to take money from me, saying I am the guest, and how he can take money from a guest. We received such love everywhere in Pakistan," added Virender Sehwag.

During the same interview, Virender Sehwag also heaped praise on former Pakistan captain Inzamam-ul-Haq and termed him Asia's best middle-order batter.

Wahab Riaz comments on Pakistan-India World Cup deadlock



A Sports

KARACHI: Pakistan's left-arm pacer Wahab Riaz said Pakistan should play the ICC Cricket World Cup 2023 in India as the uncertainty over the team playing the mega event in the neighbouring country looms large.

Punjab's Sports Minister Wahab Riaz shared his views about Pakistan's participation as the world champion in the ARY News sports show Bouncer. The left-arm bowler said Pakistan should follow its saying that "politics should be separate from sports".

The provincial minister said that Indian cricketers are friendly towards their Pakistani counterparts but can't turn the country as they cannot go against the government's decision.

Moreover, the cricketer added that India should have toured Pakistan for the Asia Cup. He said Green Shirts should participate in the World Cup under any situation.

He also said the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) does what it wants as it is the most influential cricket board.

Wahab Riaz, speaking about himself, said he does not only want to play in the World Cup but also to play more for the country. He added he is trying to make a comeback for the national team, but it might be too late for him.

The cricketer said the team is performing well. The pacer added the team's bowling unit is good, but there is a shortage of bowlers who can bowl their 10 overs.

It is pertinent to mention that Pakistan's last tour of India was in 2012-2013 when the two sides bilateral series for the last time.

Since then, the two sides have only met in ICC and regional tournaments.

Speaking to the media in Lahore on Monday, Wahab Riaz requested the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) to let him practise at the National Cricket Academy (NCA), albeit he is not invited to the specialised camps. Wahab Riaz further said it was the board's own choice not to call him for the specialised camps for the bowlers, starting later this month at the NCA.

"It is their (PCB's) choice if they did not invite me to bowlers' camps," he told reporters while attending the Torch Lighting ceremony for the DC Lahore Young Games 2023.

On Friday, PCB called up 13 spinners and 11 fast bowlers for the two camps that will run from 10 till 15 June (for spinners) and 16 till 21 June (for fast bowlers).

"I will continue my bowling practice at the NCA," added Wahab Riaz, besides requesting the PCB to allow him to use the facility for the purpose.

Baku World Taekwondo Championship was a great learning opportunity: Head Coach

Sports Desk

KARACHI: The just-concluded World Taekwondo Championship held in Baku was a prestigious and high-level event and it proved to be a big opportunity for the players to compete against the best from the territories and countries. The Pak squad was comprised of 4 athletes of different categories and featured in Fin, Fly, Bantam, and Heavy Weight categories.

These views were expressed by Pakistan's Head Coach Yousuf Karami.

He said that our players showcased good performances in the event but they can surely do better with the potential in them, adding, In-ring up against world-ranking players



and giving tough competition is a good sign for the future of taekwondo in Pakistan as such events boost your morale and experience to take on some of the best athletes, he concluded. The team leader Omar Saeed

was also all praise for Pak players for delivering well and playing with full zeal and hoped that the experience they gained in Baku will further horn their skills. The following are category

and weight-wise results in which Pak players featured:

In-58 kg Fly Weight category of Round of 64, Pakistan's Haroon Khan beat Uros Belanovic of Serbia 2-0 with R1: 14-6 while R2: 17-10.

In Round of 32, Mustafa Mansour Egypt vs Haroon Khan Pak, Haroon Khan won 2-1.

In the Round of 16, Haroon Khan Pak was defeated by Georgii Gurtsiev AIN by 2-0.

In -54 kg Fin Weight (Round of 32), Yavor Kazlou AIN beat Pakistan's Shahzaib Khan 2-1.

-63 kg Bantam Weight (Round of 64) Arbaz Khan beat Severin Ndong Obamme (GAB) by 2-0.

In Round of 32, Arbaz Khan Pak vs Lovre Breecic Croatia, which Lovre Breecic won 2-0.

In the +87 kg Heavy Weight of Round of 64, Hamza Saeed defeated Petros Andreou of Cyprus 2-0 while in Round of 32, Hamza Saeed of Pak was beaten by Ruslon Zhaparov Kazakhstan 2-0.

Batters-led Fujairah thump Abu Dhabi to win Emirates D10 League title

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ABU DHABI: Salman Khan and Muhammad Usman starred with the bat as Fujairah on Sunday, thumped Abu Dhabi by 62 runs and claimed Emirates D10 League 2023 title.

Fujairah batters fired all cylinders and made Abu Dhabi pay for their decision to bowl first. The visitors piled up a massive total of 139 for the loss of five wickets with Salman Khan and Muhammad Usman leading the charge with brilliant half-centuries.

Fujairah got off to a contrasting start as they were two down for 32 runs in the third over as opening batter Hameed Khan (8) and Raees Ahmed (11) perished cheaply.

Following the early slump, Salman and Usman partnered strongly for the third wicket and

added 80 runs to the total in just 31 deliveries before the former fell.

Muhammad Zubair Khan castled Salman Khan, briefly after he amassed his half-century and provided a much-needed breakthrough to Abu Dhabi in the Emirates D10 League final.

Salman Khan smashed four boundaries and three sixes on his way to a 24-ball 51 and remained the top-scorer for Fujairah.

Fujairah then sustained another blow to their flying batting partner as Nasir Faraz (1) fell victim to Raja Akifullah Khan in the next over.

Muhammad Usman Khan and Hafiz Almas then ran riot in the next over as they scored 19 runs in the last over before the former got run out on the final delivery.

Salman remained the nota-

ble run-getter for Fujairah with a 21-ball 50 with the help of four boundaries and three sixes.

Set to chase a mammoth in Emirates D10 League final, Abu Dhabi's batting lineup stuttered and could only raise 77 runs before bundling out in the final over.

Opener Mohammad Kamran Atta (22) and in-form middle-order batter Ali Abid (23) were the notable run-getters for the hosts while the rest failed to make significant contributions at the grand stage.

Besides Atta and Abid, only Anoop Gopalkrishna (14) could make it into the double digits.

Mohammed Faraazuddin and Umair Ali Khan led the bowling attack for Fujairah with two wickets each while Muhammad Rohid, Shahbaz Ali, Haider Ali and Nasir Faraz made one scalp



each. It is worth mentioning

here that eventual champions Fujairah put on a dominant show

throughout the recently-concluded Emirates D10 League as

the side also finished at the top of the standings.