



Marriyum Aurangzeb stresses 'free media' for safeguarding democracy

Minister for Information and Broadcasting Marriyum Aurangzeb stressed 'free media' for safeguarding democracy from different kinds of threats in the country. (Details on Page 8)



Dr. Fowzia says 'key' for Aafia Siddiqui's release in Islamabad

Dr. Fowzia reached Pakistan after meeting her incarcerated sister Dr. Aafia Siddiqui in the United States. Last month, Dr Fowzia met her sister Dr. Aafia Siddiqui in Fort Worth of the United States where she is currently detained, after a long wait of 20 years. Speaking to the media upon her arrival in Pakistan from the US, Dr. Fowzia said: "I couldn't imagine that Aafia was in such a bad situation."

Simultaneously published from Islamabad, Lahore and Multan

Day of Russia

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister of Law and Justice Azam Nazeer Tarar cuts the cake along with Ambassador of the Russian Federation in Pakistan Danila Ganich and others, on the occasion of "National Day of Russia" at Serena Hotel in Federal Capital.



Photo: Online by Raja Farid

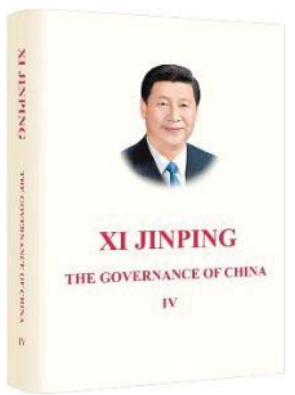
4th volume of 'Xi Jinping: The Governance of China' published

News Desk

BELJING: The fourth volume of "Xi Jinping: The Governance of China" has been published in French, Russian, Arabic, Spanish, Portuguese, German, Japanese, and traditional Chinese, according to a publisher statement issued here.

The newly-published volume contains a compilation of 109 spoken and written works of Xi, general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, from Feb. 3, 2020, to May 10, 2022, along with 45 photographs taken since January 2020. It is divided into 21 sections by topic, State-run Xinhua reported.

It is a record of the great practices of the Party Central Committee with Comrade Xi Jinping at its core in responding to the pandemic and drastic changes, both unseen in a century, and rallying and leading the whole Party and the Chinese people of all ethnic groups in realizing the goal of building a moderately prosper-



ous society in all respects and starting a new journey to build China into a modern socialist country in all respects, the statement said.

It is an authoritative work that fully and systematically reflects the new horizon opened up and the latest development achieved by Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era, said the statement.

The simplified Chinese and English editions of the book were published in July 2022.

Despite constraints, budget 2023-24 promises to turn things around: PM Shehbaz Sharif

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Monday said that despite the constraints imposed by domestic and global circumstances, the budget 2023-24 promised to turn things around and has outlined a clear path for the purpose.

The prime minister, in a tweet, said that achieving economic self-sufficiency remained the overarching goal where the economy was insulated from external turbulence and shocks.



He said as the experts were analysing the various facets of budget 2023-24, he considered it important to highlight the special emphasis the government had placed on the growth-inducing sectors in the budget.

He said the measures for the uplifting of information technology, agriculture, solarisation, youth development and other sectors were proposed after thorough deliberations.

"They are aimed at incentivizing innovation and entrepreneurship of our talented youth

and boosting the productivity of agriculture and attracting investment in the agro-industry."

At the same time, the prime minister said the government was working on a solarisation initiative to replace the costlier sources of power generation by harnessing the vast solar power.

"Affordable energy is key to economic growth and the provision of relief to the people. The procurement of crude oil from Russia is also part of the energy security plan," the prime minister remarked.

At least 9 killed as bus plunges into ravine in A7K

Abdul Majeed Tahir

MIRPUR: At least nine people were killed and several others were wounded when a bus fell into a deep ravine in Kotli, Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) on Sunday night.

According to details, a bus carrying 35 passengers skidded off the road and fell into a deep ravine in the limits of Narpoth police station in Kotli.

As a result, nine people were killed and scores were injured.

The rescue sources said all the passengers were returning to Gujranwala after attending a Urs ceremony Nairian area near Kotli.

Rescue teams reached the spot and shifted the dead and injured to District Headquarters (DHQ) Hospital, Mirpur. Rescue sources said that the death toll may rise further as some of the injured were in critical condition.

BISP budget enhanced up to Rs. 455 billion for FY 2023-24: Shazia Marri

Spokesman report

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety (PA&SS), Shazia Marri Monday said that the incumbent government has enhanced Benazir Income Support Programme's (BISP) budget from Rs. 404 billion to Rs.455 billion for the Financial Year 2023-24.

She informed the journalists about the budget increase during a press conference held here.

She said that Benazir Nashonuma budget saw a leap up from Rs. 4.8 billion to Rs. 32.2 billion.

While talking about the Benazir Nashonuma Programme, the minister apprised the audience that BISP has registered 0.643 million children, pregnant women, and lactating mothers up to date.

As part of its ongoing development program, BISP has distributed Rs. 24 billion, effectively supporting vulnerable communities across the country.

She negated the fake news circulating in the media recently about boosting the population through Benazir Nashonuma.

She said it was extremely irrespon-



sible to spread such news which are completely unfounded and have no true grounds.

Shazia Marri emphasized the importance of the role of the Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) in uplifting the lives of the underprivileged and marginalized segment of the society.

The federal minister also announced plans to start a mobile service for the National Socio-Economic Registry (NSER) in remote areas of Sindh, Balochistan, South Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

During the press conference, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety, Faisal Karim Kundi urged the

Sindh government to follow all the instructions to protect the citizens from the cyclone impacts.

While discussing the situation caused by Cyclone Biparjoy, during the press conference, Faisal kundi highlighted that the government is closely monitoring the situation, with particular attention to areas such as Sajawal, Badin, and Thatta which are highly vulnerable.

These areas have been placed on high alert, and efforts are underway to ensure the safety of over 8 million people. The Minister of State urged the public to cooperate with government and adhere to safety measures issued from time to time during emergency situation.

KP govt to present Rs 600bln budget for four-month of FY 2023-24: Finance Advisor

Bureau Report

PESHAWAR: Advisor to the Chief Minister for Finance Himayatullah on Monday said that the caretaker government had prepared the budget for the financial year 2023-24, however, it would present an approximately Rs 600 billion budget for the next four-month.

"If the new government does not come within time then there will not be any issue of budget for the rest of the year as the government has already prepared the budget for the whole fiscal year," he said, adding that the size of the four-month budget was expected to be Rs 550 to 600 billion, according to a statement.

The Advisor said that there was a consideration of 15 to 20 percent increase in salaries and pensions while no new tax would be levied in the budget and no new development plan would be included.

Ishaq Dar chaired the first meeting of the Cabinet Committee



Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Maritime Affairs Syed Faisal Ali Sabzwari, Federal Minister for Power Mr. Khuram Dastagir Khan, Federal Minister for Law and Justice Senator Azam Nazir Tarar, Minister of State for Petroleum Mr. Musadik Malik, SAPM on Finance Mr. Tariq Bajwa, SAPM on Government Effectiveness Dr. Muhammad Jehanzeb Khan, Secretary Finance, Secretary Maritime Affairs, Secretary Law & Justice, and other senior officers attended

the meeting.

The CCoIGCT considered and deliberated on a summary of Ministry of Maritime Affairs about the existing 21 years old Concession Agreement of KPT with Pakistan International Container Terminal (PICT) for operating the Container Terminal which is going to expire on 17th June, 2023. The Committee endorsed the decision of the Ministry of Maritime Affairs that after the expiry of the agreement with PICT on 17th June, 2023, KPT will take over the charge of operating the activities of the Container Terminal.

Cyclone Biparjoy: Sindh govt orders evacuation; Seaview cordoned off

Bureau Report

KARACHI: The Sindh government on Monday ordered the authorities concerned to evacuate residential areas and other human settlements located near the coastal areas of province as cyclone Biparjoy, now classified as an "extremely severe cyclonic storm", inching closer to Pakistan.

The provincial government has issued a Red Alert, directing the authorities concerned to evacuate residential areas and other human settlements located near the coastal areas of province till 6pm tomorrow (Tuesday).

The government directed the Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDM) to submit report of evacuation 'every six hours.' "The authority should also release number of evacuated people and details

of relief camps," it added.

Giving details of the evacuation plan, the PDMA - in a statement - said that residents located near the slums on the coastal belt will be evacuated first. The PDMA noted that the wind speed can reach 120 km/hour in case of a possible storm. "Meanwhile, waves have reached heights of 8 to 12 feet near Kati Bander and surrounding ocean," the statement added.

Meanwhile, the Karachi police have also cordoned off Seaview to prevent people from heading out into the open sea as the city administration have imposed Section 144 amid the cyclone threat.

According to the notification, bathing and hunting in the sea will be banned, and fishermen in the sea are also at risk, the ban will be imposed from June 11 until further order.

Meeting with the President

ISLAMABAD: A delegation of Standing Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation (COMSTech) Scientific Advisory Council (SAC), led by the Coordinator General of COMSTech, Prof. Dr. M. Iqbal Choudhary, called on President Dr. Arif Alvi at Aiwan-e-Sadr on Tuesday.



Photo: PID

President for enhancing scientific cooperation among COMSTech member countries

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi on Monday underscored the need for enhancing educational and scientific cooperation among COMSTech members to overcome the challenges being faced by the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) countries in different sectors.

He said that there existed an abundance of open-source knowledge that needed to be fully utilized by the Muslim

countries to their benefit.

The president expressed these views while talking to a delegation of the Standing Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation (COMSTech) Scientific Advisory Council (SAC), led by the Coordinator General of COMSTech, Prof. Dr. M. Iqbal Choudhary, that called on him, at Aiwan-e-Sadr, President Secretariat Press Wing said in a press release.

The president said that the world was undergoing rapid

changes due to advancements in the field of science and technology and Islamic countries were required to strengthen their capacities and make faster decisions to keep pace with the fast-changing world.

He said that the availability and democratization of knowledge had brought greater opportunities that should be fully capitalized upon by the Muslim countries.

The president also underscored the need of taking benefit from emerging technologies,

like Artificial Intelligence, as well as find out-of-box solutions to the problems being confronted by Muslim countries in the fields of education, science and technology. He said that the scientific advisory mechanisms of COMSTech would also help fulfill the national needs of OIC member countries.

The delegation apprised the president about the initiatives undertaken by COMSTech to strengthen cooperation in the fields of science and technology among OIC member states.

The participants highlighted the challenges and opportunities in higher education, science, technology and innovation (STI) and also gave various suggestions to further boost cooperation among Muslim countries.

The president appreciated the ideas presented by the participants as well as the contributions made by COMSTech towards the promotion of educational and scientific cooperation among member countries.

Chinese Charge'd Affairs, called on Finance Minister Ishaq Dar



Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Finance Minister Senator Muhammad Ishaq Dar greeted the Charge de Affairs Ms. Pang Chunxue reciprocated the sentiments and acknowledged the friendly relations between the two countries. She also assured of continuous support from Chinese Government to the people of Pakistan.

Finance Minister Senator Muhammad Ishaq Dar appreciated the deep rooted historical bilateral relations between Pakistan and China, and much-admired the Chinese support to Pakistan on multiple fronts. He also highlighted the need to deepen bilateral relations further in economic, trade, and financial sectors. The Finance Minister further updated the Charge de Affairs about the progress on talks with IMF on completion of 9th review. He further apprised her about the positive response of the

various sectors of the economy on the Budget 2023-24, presented by the incumbent government despite difficult economic circumstances.

Ms. Pang Chunxue reciprocated the sentiments and acknowledged the friendly relations between the two countries. She also assured of continuous support from Chinese Government to the people of Pakistan.

The two sides discussed various avenues, available to both countries in order to enhance the existing cooperation to unprecedented levels.

In conclusion, Finance Minister Mr. Ishaq Dar expressed gratitude to Ms. Pang Chunxue, Charge de Affairs for the support and cooperation Pakistan has been receiving from the leadership in Beijing.

Security Forces kill a terrorist; injure two in Spinwam fire exchange

Adam Khan Wazir

NORTH WAZIRISTAN: A statement issued by ISPR said on 12 June 2023, fire exchange took place between its own troops and terrorists in the general area Spinwam, North Waziristan District.

Own troops effectively engaged the terrorists' location and after an intense fire exchange, one terrorist was sent to hell, while two terrorists

were injured.

Weapons and ammunition were also recovered. The killed terrorist remained actively involved in terrorist activities against security forces as well as killing of innocent citizens.

Locals of the area appreciated the operation and expressed their full support to eliminate the menace of terrorism from the area.

Minister of State Hina Rabbani Khar Commences Official Visit to Brussels



City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The visit aims to strengthen bilateral ties between Pakistan and Belgium across all areas of cooperation, with a particular focus on labour mobility from Pakistan to Belgium. Pakistan attaches great significance to its relations with Belgium, that are embedded in history with an important focus on trade, investment and educational cooperation.

Commencing her official engagements, Minister of State Hina Rabbani Khar held a meeting with Belgian Secretary of State for Migra-

tion and Asylum Nicole de Moor. During the meeting, constructive discussions were held on enhancing cooperation in the field of labour mobility.

Minister of State Hina Rabbani Khar also met Senator Alessia Cleas, the Chair of the Pakistan Belgium Parliamentary Friendship Group. The discussions focused on fostering stronger ties between the two nations and exploring avenues for increasing trade and investment cooperation.

Both sides emphasized the mutual benefits of promoting people-to-people contacts as enhancing parliamentary interactions.

PPP's Kashif Shoro elected mayor Hyderabad unopposed

Bureau Report

HYDERABAD: Pakistan People's Party's (PPP) Kashif Shoro has been elected as the mayor of Hyderabad unopposed.

As per details, the Election Commission of Pakistan will issue the official notification of the Hyderabad mayor tomorrow.

Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) did not submit the nomination papers while Tehreek-e-Labbaik's candidate's nomination papers were rejected.

It is pertinent to mention here that Pakistan People's Party (PPP) gained a simple majority for the Hyderabad mayor slot as the unofficial and

unconfirmed results of all 155 Union Committees of Hyderabad had been released, after the local government (LG) polls in Sindh.

On the other side, People's Party and Jamaat Islami's five candidates filed their nomination papers for Karachi Mayor's election on the last day of submitting nominations.

The election of the mayor and deputy mayor will take place on June 15. June 10 (today) was the last day to submit the nomination paper can.

The ECP schedule stated that the Returning Officer checked the nomination papers on June 11 and the finalized list of candidates will be released on June 14.

India continuously violating all int'l laws and conventions in IIOJK

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: Political experts and analysts in Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir have said that India is continuously flouting all international laws and conventions in the territory with impunity.

The political experts and analysts in their interviews and statements in Srinagar said the people of occupied Jammu and Kashmir have been deprived of their basic human rights by India.

Govt endeavors to facilitate poor segment: Musadik Malik

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Minister of State for Petroleum Division Dr Musadik Malik on Monday said the government has increased the budget of the Benazir Income Support Program (BISP) up to Rs 400 billion in order to mitigate the sufferings of the poorest segments of society.

The government has estimated to decline in the inflation rate and also increased wages to minimize its impact on the poor, said Musadik in a talk show on a private news channel.

Due to the best economic policies of the government, he said the current account deficit and trade deficit have witnessed

a significant reduction in the outgoing financial year.

The government initiated several schemes for youth to provide employment opportunities and utilize their energies for the progress of the country, headed. He said around 50000 youth would be imparted training in the IT sector as the taxes on equipment have also been withdrawn to boost the sector.

Musadik said Rs1000 billion has been set aside to provide subsidies on electricity to domestic consumers using less than 100 units per month.

He informed that the government would ink a US\$10 billion investment agreement in the field of oil refinery before the completion of its tenure.

Free media plays crucial role

Marriyum Aurangzeb stresses 'free media' for safeguarding democracy

Naveed Ahmad Khan

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Information and Broadcasting Marriyum Aurangzeb stressed 'free media' for safeguarding democracy from different kinds of threats in the country.

"Nobody can dare to attack democracy if the voice of journalists is powerful and their message is loud and clear," the minister said while addressing a reception organised by the Pakistan Federal Union of Journalists (PFUJ) here at the National Press Club.

The minister said the health insurance scheme for journalists and media workers was introduced in the Federal Budget 2023-24 in line with the vision of Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) supreme Nawaz Sharif.

"This step is continuity of the policies of Nawaz Sharif who also has credit of the constitution of 8th Wage Board after a hiatus of 18 years," Marriyum Aurangzeb added.

When PM Shehbaz Sharif was opposition leader in the National Assembly, many journalists visited his chamber complaining about their health prob-

lems, she recalled while highlighting directives of the prime minister who soon after coming into power ordered the establishment of a fund for the medical treatment of deserving journalists and media workers.

"This is not a favour to anyone since this is your right and our responsibility," the minister remarked. She said owners of media houses could not be absolved of their responsibilities regarding welfare of the journalists and media workers.

Marriyum Aurangzeb said health insurance for journalists and media workers was part of the vision of the coalition government led by PM Shehbaz Sharif who played a crucial role in that regard.

She said the incumbent government had not tortured any journalist during its tenure, nor issued directives to suspend any television programme or current affairs show. "We have not taken any retaliatory measures against any media professionals," she added.

On the contrary, she said, during the previous government tenure, the opposition was not allowed to speak



and even the doors of Parliament were closed upon its leaders. However, the doors of National Press Club remained open for the then opposition leaders at that time.

Nawaz Sharif made the country's

Parliamentary Party meets to discuss upcoming budget

Abdul Majeed Tahir

ISLAMABAD: A Parliamentary Party meeting of the members of like-minded group was held here on Monday with Prime Minister Chaudhry Anwar ul Haq in the chair. The participants of the meeting, while expressing their full faith and confidence in the leadership of the PM, hailed him for resolving the financial and political issues of Azad Kashmir amicably. The meeting held detailed discussions and consultations regarding the formation of the cabinet. The members of the group also shared their views and presented their proposals/suggestions to the Prime Minister regarding the upcoming budget.



Addressing the meeting, Prime Minister Chaudhry Anwar ul Haq said, "Appropriate funds will be allocated under the development budget whereas non-developmental expenses will be curtailed". He said that in the budget special focus would be given to the development of backward areas. Uplift of backward regions, he said, would be the incumbent government's top priority. "Special attention will be given to improving road infrastructure besides promoting the hotel industry in collaboration with the private sector", he said, adding that better traveling facilities and hotels with the best accommodation and food facilities would increase the tourist influx in the region.

"We all have to work for the welfare of the people", the PM said, adding that all available resources would be utilized to improve the lives of the people. Pertinently, the parliamentary party meeting was attended by Abdul Majid Khan, Sardar Mir Akbar, Chaudhry Azhar Sadiq, Chaudhry Nisar Ansar Abdali, Javed Butt, Sardar Muhammad Hussain, Ms. Sabiha Sadiq, Ms. Taqdees Geelani, Ms. Intiaz Naseem, Zafar Malik, Chaudhry Muhammad Arshad, Chaudhry Yasir Sultan, Chaudhry Muhammad Akhlaq, Pir Mazharul Haq and Dewan Ali Khan Chaghatai and Chaudhry Muhammad Rashid whereas Akmal Sargala, Asim Sharif Butt and Chaudhry Akbar Ibrahim participated the meeting via telephone.



ISLAMABAD: Sultana Foundation organized a 5-day scout camp to enhance the skills of scouts for upcoming events and competitions. The chairman of Sultana Foundation is dedicated to the growth of scouting and is determined to increase scout registrations.

Holding a Training Workshop Good Initiative: Rehan Khokhar

Asim Tanveer

MULTAN: Director of Hajj Multan Rehan Abbas Khokhar, Chief Executive of Saudi-Pak Hajj Dr. Tanveer Kausar Sheikh, Lady Director of Hajj Mrs. Shafiqat Ahmarin have said that holding a training workshop for Hajj pilgrims is a good initiative due to which they get better awareness. He further said that the happiness of Hajj is a great happiness to please Allah and his beloved Prophet.

He expressed these views while addressing a training workshop for Hajj pilgrims organized by Saudi-Pak Hajj and Umrah Services Multan. On this occasion, Executive Saudi-Pak Hajj Services Dr. Kausar Tanveer Sheikh and Director of Hajj Multan Rehan Khokhar, Dr. Ghulam Mujtabi, Sheikh Muhammad Afzal (Director General IB), Azad Tanveer, Ahmad Tanveer spoke during the Hajj training workshop and provided information to the pilgrims about useful and important precautions regarding their Hajj. Lady Director of Hajj Dr. Kausar Tanveer Mrs. Ahamreen also informed the ladies about the Hajj precautions and gave important advice.

At the end of the ceremony, literature and passports will also be given to guide the pilgrims. At the end of the ceremony, it was informed that our Hajj convoy will depart from Multan Airport on June 21 at 8 pm. Literature about Hajj was also given to pilgrims.

Handcuffs cannot stop us from Speaking the Truth: Makhdoom Sher Shah



Kiran Asim

MULTAN: An arrest warrant was presented in the court of District Magistrate Muhammad Anis in the case of

Makhdoom Sher Shah, an independent candidate MPA from Multan. Constituency 212, former leader of PTI. Mohammad Anis canceled the arrest warrant. On this occasion, Makhdoom Sher Shah while talking to the journalists said that these handcuffs cannot stop us from speaking the truth.

Lawyers Syed Anees Mehdi Advocate, Zafar Abbas Ansari Advocate, Sardar Ashraf Dogar Advocate were also present on this occasion.

Strong reaction to Maryam Nawaz's unjustified criticism of Jamaat-e-Islami

Asim Tanveer

MULTAN: The president of Jamiat Ittehad Ulama, Shaykh Al-Quran Maulana Abdul Malik, has expressed a strong reaction to Maryam Nawaz's unjustified criticism of Jamaat-e-Islami and said that these people have suffered not only from Jamaat-e-Islami but from those who talk about Islam in the country. There is anger. Maryam Nawaz should take a lesson from her father who cheated with Jamaat-e-Islami and laid the red carpet for the arch-enemy of India Vajpayee who is corrupting Pakistan. However, it is not coming to Pakistan.

Maulana Abdul Malik said that Maryam Nawaz and Shehbaz Sharif should also remember that those who put obstacles in the way of serving the religion of Allah and struggling for the implementation of the Islamic system have always been humiliated and humiliated by Allah and their end will always be painful. He said that Maryam should stop making fun of Nawaz Allah's religion and disobedience, otherwise the Islamist people of Pakistan will throw her out of the country like Nawaz Sharif.

Green and clean Pakistan is our preferred agenda: Ameer Mushtaq

Mian Rashid Asghar.

FAISALABAD: Tandlianwala; The Green and clean Pakistan is our preferred agenda. With God's willing, Tandlianwala will be clean, transparent & attractive soon, this was expressed by the Chairman Anjuman Tajran, Ameer Mushtaq Ahmed-

According to the details, under the organization of Anjuman Tajran registered Tandlianwala tehsil, the process of sewage cleaning is going on in the old wood (Lakarr) market.

Under the leadership of the President Haji Shahbaz Bakhtawar Khurana, all the streets and markets of the old wood market were thoroughly cleaned. Chairman Anjuman Tajran Registered Tandlianwala Ameer Mushtaq Ahmad while talking to the media said that the Municipal Committee for cleaning the city would play its due role.



Chief Secretary AJK Muhammad Usman Chachar chairs meeting of Executive Committee Board of Information Technology Azad Kashmir at Muzaffarabad.

Cyclone Biparjoy

KARACHI: Pakistani policemen remove tourists from a beach on the Arabian Sea as Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif ordered officials to put in place emergency measures in advance of the approaching Cyclone Biparjoy in the Arabian Sea.



Photo: Online

Beacon house National University appoints Dr. Moeed Yusuf as VC

Bureau Report

LAHORE: Beacon house National University (BNU), Pakistan's first not-for-profit liberal arts university, has appointed Dr. Moeed W. Yusuf as its third Vice Chancellor. With his extensive expertise in academia and policy making and passion for educational excellence, Dr Yusuf brings a wealth of knowledge and leadership to this prestigious institution.



Dr. Yusuf was welcomed to BNU by Chairperson, Board of Governors, Mrs. Nasreen Mahmud Kasuri along with members of the Board of Governors including Mr. Khurshid Mahmud Kasuri, Mr. Kasim Kasuri, Dr. Parvez Hassan, Mr. Mueen Afzal, and Dr. Ishrat

Hussain. Recognized as one of the leading scholars of his generation, Dr. Yusuf has a rich academic background, having taught Political Science and International Relations at esteemed institutions such as Boston University, George Wash-

ington University, Lahore University of Management Sciences, and Quaid-e-Azam University. He has held several significant positions throughout his career, including most recently as Pakistan's youngest National Security Adviser. He has also been a Research Fellow

at Boston University's Pardee School and Harvard University's Kennedy School and an Associate Vice President at the U. S. Institute of Peace. As an accomplished writer, Dr. Yusuf has published extensively. His last book, Brokered Bargaining, was published by Stanford University Press in 2018. He holds a Master's degree in International Relations and a PhD in Political Science from Boston University.

With his vast and varied experience, diverse perspectives, and exceptional contributions to academia and international affairs, Dr. Moeed Yusuf brings invaluable leadership experience to his role as Vice Chancellor of Beaconhouse National University.

Saints have guided, led nation in every era: Ex-PM

Abdul Majeed Tahir

NERYAN SHARIF: All Jammu and Kashmir Muslim Conference President and former Prime Minister Sardar Attique Ahmad Khan has said that the saints and great elders have guided and led the nation in every era. They have played an important role in the promotion and promotion of Islam. He expressed these views yesterday while addressing the anniversary ceremony of prominent spiritual figure Pir Alauddin Siddiqui. He further said that Pir Alauddin Siddiqui was a true lover of Rasool and a pious person. He was the owner of a rich personality. Pir Alauddin Siddiqui played an important role in the religious training and religious teachings of the people in the region. For the freedom of Kashmir and the exaltation of Islamic values here, scholars played a wonderful role in every period of history. Pir Alauddin Siddiqui was one of the saints of that time. Religious social services are eternal, they have done academic services along with religion, their grace continues and will continue. Thanks to the Saints, the religion spread all over the world. The Saints taught endurance, tolerance, patience.

Saints played an exemplary and fundamental role in the propagation and spread of religion, especially in the sub-continent of Pakistan and India, people got to know Islam through the great Sheikhs and abandoned false religions and accepted Islam. The land of Kashmir is the land of saints. The role of saints is unforgettable for the fulfillment of the rights of the servants and the promotion of humanism. He said that the saints through their teachings brought Islam to the hearts of the people in the region.

The saints played a great role in improving the religious, economic and economic condition of the Muslims of the subcontinent. Meanwhile, President Muslim Conference Sardar Attique Ahmed. Khan attended the wedding of Khawaja Artza Muhammad, son of prominent Kashmiri leader Tanveerul Islam, in Rawalpindi.

Etihad Group organizes property event for Etihad Garden in Rahim Yar Khan

ISLAMABAD: To get insights into local property market and highlight their real estate exclusive project "Etihad Garden", The Etihad Group organized a Property Sales event at Royal Desert Palm Hotel in Rahim Yar Khan.

The event attracted a large number of participants who showed interest in the property market and Etihad Group's projects.

The efforts of the organizers were commended by Etihad Group's Managing Director Chaudry Munir, Group Directors Raheel Munir, Suhail Munir and Faisal Munir, Etihad Group's Chief Executive Officer Chaudry Muhammad Shakeel, Etihad Group's Chief Operating Officer Sheikh Shuja Ullah Khan, and Project Head Sales Syed Adnan, along with other members of the Etihad Management.

On the occasion, Etihad Garden's



Project Head Sales Syed Adnan Khalil welcomed the audience and stated that the project was expected to be a groundbreaking residential and commercial development that will offer a unique opportunity for individuals seeking a

vibrant, modern, and luxurious lifestyle in Rahim Yar Khan. He added that with its prime location and state-of-the-art facilities, Etihad Garden promised to be the epitome of elegance, comfort, and convenience.



Islamabad
15° - 23° Clear

SERVICES

Namaz Timings

Fajr	3:14 am
Zohr	12:07 pm
Asr	5:08 pm
Maghrib	7:18 pm
Isha	9:02 pm

EMERGENCY

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

Women Police Stations

Islamabad	9222596
Rawalpindi	9270601-20

ENQUIRY

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

HOSPITALS

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

DEPARTMENTS

CDA	9221334-43
CDA	9208301-04
Met Office	9250360-6
RDA	5555864
TMA	5770886
Cantonment Board	9270151-3
Islamabad Metropolitan Corporation	9209224
Potohar Town	9209224
Rawal Town	5773343

COMPLAINTS

Water Tanker Service	
E-7, F-10 & F-11	9204654
G-5, G-6, G-7, G-8	9203883
G-9, G-10, G-11, G-12, H-8	9266316
Wapda Islamabad	9217579-80
Sui Gas Complaint	119, 9272249

Commissioner SECP met with Special Secretary Finance GoKPK

Commerce Desk

PESHAWAR: SECP team, led by Commissioner, Mr. Mujtaba Ahmad Lodhi paid a visit to Special Secretary Finance, Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (GoKPK), Mr. Asif Rasheed, in Peshawar today.

Mr. Asif Rasheed provided an update on recently introduced voluntary pension scheme for Government employees and highlighted that almost 30,000 employees have made contributions, amounting to Rs. 800 million, currently placed in a public account in Bank of Khyber.

During the meeting, amendments proposed in the VPS Rules, 2005, to align them with the GoKPK pension scheme, were also discussed. Commissioner SECP informed that SECP has given its NOC for trust deeds to 3 pension Fund Managers, and subsequent to registration of trust deed and approval of offering documents, these funds will become operational.

The Special Secretary Finance extended his gratitude to SECP for its time and support in facilitating the development of KP Contributory Pension Fund, which is expected to provide a secure retirement plan for provincial Government employees.

Agri Sector

Govt's decision to promote agriculture lauded

Tariq Khattak

ISLAMABAD: Former Vice President of the FPCCI, Atif Ikram Sheikh on Monday lauded the measures taken in the budget for the development of the agriculture sector.

"The agriculture sector has been continuously falling for a decade, necessitating imports worth billions of dollars that can be saved if this sector is promoted," he said.

Atif Ikram Sheikh who has also served as President of ICICI and Chairman of PVMA, said in a statement issued here today that Pakistan's agricultural sector has long been the backbone of its economy, providing livelihoods for millions of people and contributing significantly to GDP but in recent years it has faced many serious problems.

Devastating floods, unexpected weather patterns, erratic rainfall, prolonged droughts, high prices of fertiliser, substandard seeds, and fake pesticides have damaged this sector, he added.

He said that extreme climatic events had a negative impact on productivity, threat-



ening food security and exacerbating rural poverty; therefore, it is imperative to develop effective strategies that can enhance the resilience of the agriculture sector.

Pakistan's agriculture is predominantly rain-fed, making it highly vulnerable to fluctuations in rainfall patterns, as the country has witnessed a disturbing increase in the frequency and intensity of

extreme weather events.

Unpredictable rainfall has disrupted cropping cycles, reduced yields, and left farmers grappling with mounting economic losses.

The increasing frequency and intensity of hailstorms in recent months have emerged as a significant threat to this critical sector, which requires strategies to mitigate their effects.

The business leader said that collaborations between government bodies, insurance providers, and agricultural institutions can facilitate the development of comprehensive insurance schemes, which is necessary for improvement in this sector.

Encouraging farmers to obtain crop insurance that covers hailstorm damage is crucial, as it can provide financial assistance to farmers, helping them recover from the losses.

By supporting farmers and implementing effective mitigation strategies, the nation can safeguard its agricultural economy, ensure food security, and maintain its position as a leading exporter of high-quality products.

Punjab government providing mega funds for health sector: Amir Khattak

Kiran Asim

MULTAN: Commissioner Multan Division Engineer Aamir Khattak visited and briefed the under-construction Cardiology Extension Block, Nishtar 2 Hospital. He said that the Punjab government is providing mega funds in the health sector. MS Cardiology should install machinery on the flues. Signboards, name plates, etc. should be installed immediately in the hospital. On this occasion, Axion Building Haider Ali said that the ground floor and first floor have been completed and handed over to the hospital administration.

Complete doors have been installed on 2 floors. Cardiology extension block will be completed by October 30. MS Cardiology Dr. Iqbal, DMS Dr. Asad were present on the occasion. Earlier, Commissioner Engineer Aamir Khattak presided over the review meeting about government hospitals and said that guides should be appointed for patients and relatives in Nishtar. Patients and relatives coming from all over the



country are worried about the absence of a guide. Nishtar 1 should be transferred to solar panel and made functional immediately.

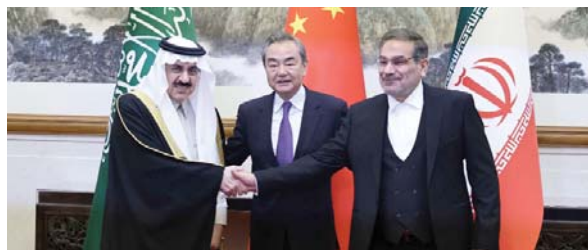
Cardiology block has been moved to solar panel. Signboards, blinders are being installed in cardiology extension

block. Steps should be taken to activate OPD of Nishtar 2. In the meeting, VC Nishtar Professor Dr. Anand Alfat, MS Nishtar Dr. Rao Amjad, Director Development Rubina Kausar, MS Cardiology Dr. Iqbal, officers of the relevant departments were present.

NUST think tank holds webinar on 'Saudi-Iranian Rapprochement'

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Ambassador (Retd) Javid Hussain, former Ambassador of Pakistan to Iran, Netherlands and South Korea, has said that the détente between Saudi Arabia and Iran has the potential to bring about positive changes, countering the negative impacts of competitive and conflict-ridden trends of the Middle Eastern geopolitics. He made these remarks as a keynote speaker at a webinar on "Saudi-Iranian Rapprochement," held by NUST Institute of Policy Studies (NIPS). Mr. Amir Yaqub, Director NIPS moderated the session attended by veteran statesmen, diplomats, academics, researchers and students. Mr. Hussain maintained that the agreement reached between Saudi Arabia and Iran, through



Chinese good offices, is a testament to the victory of pragmatism, which shows that mutual understanding and cooperation are vital to safeguarding national interests.

The other keynote speaker, Professor Ahmet Uysal, Director of Middle Eastern Studies, Center for Middle Eastern Studies (ORSAM), Ankara, said that Türkiye emphasises the importance of maintaining friendly relations with neighbours. He stressed the importance of regional security to foster a harmonious and stable

Middle East. He welcomed the recent rapprochement between nations and hoped for reduction in tensions within the region.

Ensnuing was an extensive discussion session, wherein experts raised cogent points. Mr. Imtiaz Gul, Executive Director, Center for Research & Security Studies, pointed out that regional politics is shifting rapidly, which calls for careful diplomacy on the part of Pakistan to avoid falling behind the geopolitical curve in the region. Lt Gen (Retd)

Societal Indifference Aggravate Child Labor

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: One of the major causes of societal indifference is negligence in accepting and countering child labour. These views were shared by child rights activists in a press released shared by Society for the Protection of the Rights of the Child (SPARC) on the occasion of Child Labour Day 2023.

Asiya Arif Khan, Executive Director SPARC stated that the ratio of child labour in Pakistan has increased as compared to other countries in the region and 22.8 million children are out of school in the country. Situation is exacerbated after floods and natural calamities where many out of school children are forced into child labor.

Drawing attention to child domestic labor, Asiya lamented that every fourth house employs young and needy children to carry out laborious work. Even educated and well-off families employ poor children as young as 7 years to take care of their younger children. These children are paid far less and they are subjected to long working hours with no rest. ICT alone has reported many cases which also includes domestic labor where children are sometimes beaten to death.

SPARC's Program Manager, said this day calls on protecting children against harmful occupation settings, where many children die due to working at risky and unsafe places such as mines, brick kilns. There is a need to check child labour in automobile workshops, road side hotels, transportations where children are at risk of exploitation both physical and sexual.

Khalil also drew attention on Situation of Child Bonded Laborers in Pakistan that has worsened after the 2022 floods as many already indebted families are facing an increase in their debts due to loss of houses, family members, cattle and crops. Their families working as bonded laborers include a large number of children whom are also in debt bondage.

AIOU organizes an extension lecture on Seerat e Tayyiba

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: "Youth needs to be trained in the light of the Holy Prophet (SAWW)'s life to establish a righteous and happy society which will lead the entire humanity towards peace and tranquility," said Prof. Dr. Muhammad Yusuf Farooqui in an extension lecture on "Prophet's (SAWW) style of Education and Training" organized by Vice Chancellor, AIOU, Prof. Dr. Nasir Mahmood yesterday. He said that we should learn the method of education and training from the Holy Prophet. He (SAWW) had adopted the method of teaching by practical to describe the problem in a better way.

This extension lecture was presided over by the Dean, Faculty of Arabic and Islamic Studies, Prof. Dr. Shah Mohyuddin Hashmi presided over the event while Prof. Dr. Muhammad Yusuf Farooqui was the special guest. Head, Seerat Chair, Prof. Dr. Sahibzada Sajid Ur Rehman, Senior Advisor, Center of Excellence, Prof. Muhammad Rafiq Tahir, and Dr. Hafiz Muhammad Sajjad from faculty of Arabic and Islamic Studies hosted the ceremony. Dr. Shah Mohyuddin Hashmi said that the teaching methods of the Holy Prophet (SAWW) are the most important aspect of the Prophet's life. Holy Prophet gave his companions the mission to carry forward the responsibility of education.

Sahibzada Sajid Ur Rehman said that He (PBUH) produced Abu Bakr, Umar, Usman, and Ali through education and training. Muslims ruled half of the world due to the education and training of the Holy Prophet. He said that Seerat Chair started a series of seminars a year ago to promote the teachings of Prophet Muhammad (SAWW), today is the 13th event of this series. Prof. Fateh Muhammad Malik, Head Iqbal Chair, said that the discussion based on Islamic teachings enlightens the mind. We are grateful to Sahibzada Sajid Ur Rahman for providing us with this opportunity.

28th HVACR Expo and Conference mark success

News Desk

KARACHI: The 28th Pakistan HVACR International Expo & Conference 2023 concluded with a success at Expo Centre Karachi.

The 03-day Pakistan's Largest HVACR Exhibition and Conference organized by Karachi Chapter of Pakistan Heating, Ventilation, Air-Conditioning and Refrigeration (PHVACR) Society in collaboration with ASHRAE Pakistan Chapter of American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE). The event showcased the latest technology and developments in local and international HVACR sector.

At closing ceremony, the Chairperson of Organizing Committee said "We are thankful to all of our participants as specially the foreign delegates who shown their interest and trust in 28th HVACR Expo and Conference. Their presence in the expo gave a great opportunity to local participants to network with international exhibitors. More than 15,000 professional visitors visited the event, whereas, more than 150 companies participated through their stalls in the expo, and displayed their products through more than 13,300 square meters exhibiting space in 04 halls in which 1 hall was dedicated for international conference with this year theme "Sustainability through Energy Efficient Approaches".

A mix of international and local participants will be there to showcase the latest technology and innovations in the field of HVACR.

International participation came from China, Turkey, Germany and few other countries. The exhibitor's categories include: Alternative Energy / Suppliers, Cables, Air Curtain Importers / Manufacturers, Ceramic Wool, Centrifugal Fan & Axial Fan, HVACR Green Products, Air Duct System, Boilers-Domestic / Commercial, Air Coolers, Air Filtration & Purification, Fans, Automation, Burners Oil / Gas, and many more.

The expo captured the great success and big number of industry experts, professionals and personalities from Academia visited the expo and attended the conference. 29th PHVACR 2024 is scheduled for next year.

Balloting held for GFS Seven Wonder City Islamabad

A slap on the face of those who were spreading negative propaganda against GFS

Tariq Khattak

ISLAMABAD: As per their commitment, GFS Builders & Developers held the Balloting Ceremony of Journal Block of Seven Wonder City Islamabad in "The Manor Marquee Complex Islamabad" with much fanfare. Renowned GFS Builders of Pakistan are known for fulfilling their commitment and in pursuit of their tradition, despite all negative publicity, this time they again fulfilled their promise, by holding a balloting of Seven Wonder City Islamabad.

The ceremony was attended by famous builders, entrepreneurs, dealers, celebrities including the Brand

Ambassador, Imran Abbas who is an eminent actor in Pakistan.

Speaking on the auspicious occasion, CEO of GFS Builders, Irfan Wahid said that balloting for Seven Wonder City Islamabad shocked the conspirators who were spreading negative propaganda against GFS. Balloting proved that the negative news published and telecast in the media to ruin the good image of GFS were fake and immaterial and tricksters were totally exposed.

Congratulating the lucky winners, CEO Irfan Wahid said that Seven Wonders City Islamabad is one of the modern yet unique housing societies that lie in the premises of Islam-

abad. Moreover, this housing society is different because it promises to develop seven world wonders replicas in one gated community. Seven Wonders City has a land of over 200 acres and investing here is no less than a valuable asset. This housing society's prominent feature is its closeness to the CPEC-Ring Road Interchange and M2-Motorway (Lahore-Islamabad).

He said, "We believe in building long-lasting business relationships with our clients because every client is important to us. Our relationships are built on trust and integrity, providing the best services and delivering nothing but excellence. GFS's business is growing countrywide and we



are implementing our projects and investments in new growth platforms." CEO Irfan Wahid congratulated his

team for organizing such a wonderful event and thanked Sohail, Moin Akhtar, Nadeem Khoso, Ashar Sahib,

Sikandar Sahib, Ma'rifani Sahib, and Lubna for their sincere efforts to make the event successful.

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Orange Line - a source of comfortable, economical journey

Shoaib Ahsan

In an era of soaring petroleum prices and high fuel expense, cheaper and comfortable public transport is no less than a blessing for those commute daily within the city for education, work or other purposes.

Punjab being the most populated province of the country was in dire need of quality public transport system in its major cities to mitigate the sufferings of those affected directly owing to high petroleum prices, and that need was fulfilled to a great extent by the successive governments of Pakistan Muslim League Nawaz during their tenures from year 2008 to 2018.

Metro Bus Service was launched in Lahore, Rawalpindi and Multan for public welfare which facilitated millions of commuters due to its modern design of route and low fare affordable for all.

People of Lahore, the most populated city of the province, are privileged to have a state-of-the-art commuting facility in the shape of Orange Line Metro Train (OLMT) – a landmark project under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, through which up to 0.2 million passengers travel daily to reach their destinations.

No other city in the country has such a fast and comfortable public sector transport facility like the OLMT, which is at

par with the international standards. It is the first-ever electricity-run train, which facilitates dwellers of major parts of the provincial capital.

General Manager (Operations) OLMT Syed Uzair Shah, while talking to APP said the Punjab Masstransit Authority (PMA) had been taking several measures to increase ridership on the train, which was being utilized by many visitors from other parts of the country other than Lahorites.

The train having 26 stations and 27.1-km-long track, travels at maximum 80 km/h speed, and begins operations at 6:15 am which continues till 10:00 pm.

As an early-harvest project of CPEC, the Orange Line was jointly established by the China Railway Group Corporation and China North Industries Corporation, which started its operation on October 25, 2020 in Lahore.

Shah informed that around 200,000 people commute daily on Orange Line Train which had a capacity of 245,000, mentioning that 75 million people had taken ride of the train since its inception.

"The fare was initially fixed at Rs 40, however a revised fare structure had been introduced to further facilitate commuters under which the fare was fixed as per distance travelled. On taking 4-kilometre minimum ride, it would cost Rs 20 only, whereas the maximum fare would be 40 rupees," the general manager said.

He said the provincial government was providing a subsidy of Rs 6.5 billion

annually on the project, out of which Rs 1.5 billion was being paid for electricity as the train run with zero emissions, saving people from pollution.

"Due to rising inflation and increasing petroleum prices, more people are opting for the OLMT journeys," he added.

As it begun operations at 06:15 am every day, the train is a convenient mode of commuting for students who prefer it to save time and get a hassle-free ride to their schools, colleges and universities.

The train provided a very comfortable ride with a central air-conditioning system, and passengers did not have to wait long for their ride; a train arrives every station after every five minutes, the GM explained.

A passenger Tahseen Raza, who uses Multan Road to reach his office at Allama Iqbal Road from McLeod Road, expressed his delight over OLMT service and said his travelling woes came to an end after the train provided him the latest, fast, comfortable and economical travelling facilities.

He said he had been using auto rickshaw or internet based rides which were quite costly for him as he could not use public transport because of its long route and time consuming practice.

Syed Uzair Shah asked for public cooperation for making the multi-billion modern train project more successful.

"The OLMT is the third public sector transport project in the city being managed by the Punjab Masstran-

sit Authority, the government of the Punjab, after the Metro bus and feeder bus service (Speedo)," he explained.

Ahmad Ali, another commuter, said the OLMT was a perfect option for those who had to cover long distances to reach their destinations, as it would cost them less with comfort.

Covering the distance from Ali Town to Dera Gujran in 45 minutes, it would pass through city areas and was the country's first mass rapid transit train system, connecting Raiwind, Multan Road, McLeod Road, Lahore Junction Railway Station and the Grand Trunk Road, he added.

Muhammad Irfan, another commuter, who travels from Chowburji to Allama Iqbal Town daily to reach his office, appreciated the PML-N government for the initiative and said the Orange Line was a modern travelling facility yet economical for working class.

Concluding his remarks, the General Manager (Operations) said regardless of limited resources the government had established such a state-of-the-art project to facilitate masses and now it was the responsibility of people to use it properly.

Where Orange Line Metro Train was useful for many sections of society including students, laborers, office goers and general public, it also passes by some of the cultural and historical sites of the city, helping tourists to get to the sites easily promoting tourism.

Social Media—Curb Misinformation

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres Monday called on member states to address the "grave global harm" caused by the proliferation of hate and lies online, as he launched a key report designed to shore up information integrity on digital platforms.

Alarm over the potential threat posed by the rapid development of generative artificial intelligence (AI) must not obscure the damage already being done by digital technologies that enable the spread of online hate speech, as well as mis- and disinformation, he said.

The policy brief, which was outlined, argues that there should be integral players in upholding the accuracy, consistency and reliability of information shared by users.

"My hope is that it will provide a gold standard for guiding action to strengthen information integrity," he wrote in the introduction.

Although misinformation, disinformation and hate speech, he said, were related and overlap, they were distinct phenomena.

"Hate speech refers to abusive or threatening language against a group or person, simply because of their race, colour, religion, ethnicity, nationality, or similar grounds.

"The difference between mis- and disinformation is intent, though the distinction can be difficult to determine. In general, misinformation refers to the unintentional spread of inaccurate information, while disinformation is not only inaccurate but intended to deceive.

"Regardless, they have all proved to be dangerous and even deadly.

"While traditional media remain an important source of news for most people in conflict areas, hatred spread on digital platforms has also sparked and fueled violence," the report said. "Some digital platforms have faced criticism of their role in conflicts, including the ongoing war in Ukraine."

Given the threat, the Secretary-General called for coordinated international action to make the digital space safer and more inclusive while also protecting human rights.

Constructive responses had largely been lacking, it was pointed out. "Some tech companies have done far too little to prevent their platforms from contributing to the spread of violence and hatred, while governments have sometimes resorted to drastic measures – including internet shutdowns and bans – that lack any legal basis and infringe on human rights."

The report puts forward the framework for global action through a Code of Conduct for information integrity on digital platforms, that outlines potential guardrails while safeguarding the rights to freedom of expression and information.

It will build on principles that include respect for human rights, support for independent media, increased transparency, user empowerment and strengthened research and data access.

The Secretary-General also provided recommendations that could inform the Code of Conduct. They include a call for governments, tech companies and other stakeholders to refrain from using, supporting, or amplifying disinformation and hate speech for any purpose.

Governments should also guarantee a free, viable, independent, and plural media landscape, with strong protections for journalists.

War and Conflicts: A Controversy

Abida Naurin / Gulfam Saleem Yousufzai

The present-day world is claiming to be more advanced and developed than ever. However, war and conflicts, its associated calamities and devastations is a vital challenge confronted to the present-day world. War always brings misery and suffering. Our civilized world has no proper measures to reduce the destruction war brings, both in terms of human and economic fronts, through mitigation and peace keeping processes.

Besides, advanced nations' involvement in the escalation of war and conflicts is very much evident in our surroundings for their personal political and economic benefits. Justification in this regard, can be traced back in the discourse of two schools of thoughts; 'War Renewal' supporting wars for potential economic benefits and 'War Ruin' meaning wars are completely undesirable and detrimental.

Keeping in view the efforts made so far in terms of economic globalization, World has made a significant progress in cross-border investment, trade, and businesses. Armed conflicts deteriorate all such efforts and pose serious threats to the survival of mankind. Presently, there are more than twenty active armed conflicts around the globe causing destruction to humanity at large scale.

Let's take the example of Russia-Ukraine war as a point of reference. Sources confirm more than twenty thousand death tolls of both the adversaries including women and children. Infrastructural damages go beyond \$350 billion and access to key services like power and water is almost hard to get in the war hit areas. One third Ukrainian population is living in exile. Vicious battle is underway and neither side is ready to put an end to the destruction.

Economics concerns for both the adversar-

ies are heartbreaking. Ukraine is an important economy exporting wider range of goods and services to the rest of world including wheat and sunflower oil. Basically, its geo-strategic position has made it vulnerable to the existing crises between the West and Russia. It is the second largest iron reserves economy in the world, estimated to be up to 30 million tons. Since its independence, hundreds of foreign companies have open firms across Ukraine mostly in its western region bordered with EU. One of the biggest investors is German automotive companies making Ukraine an important part of EU's Car component supply chain. Ukraine offers a large consumer market, highly educated and cost-effective natural resource workforce to the rest of world.

On the other hand, Russia is a global player in major commodities including oil, gas, aluminum, steel, wheat, and copper. The importance of Russia in the global economy is based on energy and grain production and export. Having the 11th largest economy in the world, it occupied 1.7% of the world's total output in 2021. Besides its struggle for economy expansion, oil and gas lead Russia's goods exports and contribute a large share to the budget revenue. Trade is another contributor to the Russian economy. Russia ranked 16th among world goods exporters and 21st among importers. Its goods exports are estimated to be about \$492 billion in 2021. Minerals, including oil and gas account for almost 45% of all its exports.

Talking about the impact of Russia-Ukraine war in the global perspective, it is evident that global economy is confronted to serious shockwaves. Energy crisis and associated risks are contributing towards lower global growth, high inflation, weak confidence level and frightening uncertainty. Other factors including supply chain disruption are making the crisis more complicated and challenging. In the words of OECD's Secretary General, "an end to the war and a just peace for Ukraine would be the most impactful way to improve the global economic outlook

right now, otherwise, low-income countries will remain particularly vulnerable to high food and energy prices".

Pakistan is presently compelled to import LNG, edible oil, and wheat from other costly sources with exceeding freight charges due to world supply chain disruption. Now Pakistan's imports of coal, LNG, and fossil fuels from Ukraine have stopped totally and expected frequent energy crises along with food shortages and price hikes in essential commodities in the present and near future. The conflict is also contributing to higher inflation rate in Pakistan and depreciation of local currency rapidly. The jerks and waves are almost visible now. There is no way out except to make further tight monetary policies by SBP and consequently, a huge negative impact is anticipated on the households' living-style. The situation is leading towards financial unrest, wage demand and political instability.

It is now crucial for Pakistan to assess the situation carefully and make timely wise decisions to cope with the situation. It is also important to establish workable relations with the world, maintaining neutrality and focus on self-sufficiency in the agriculture sector to avoid food shortage at least.

But again, it is highly astonishing for the young generation and students like me, that despite having technological advancement, bulk of knowledge and research in every part of life, hundreds of international organizations and peace keeping expertise, the civilized world failed to restore peace in the globe and still, fighting each other for territorial gains and economic benefits not much different than the stone age.

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Sudan



Amjad Rasmi

Complexities of Secularism: Misconceptions and Adaptations in Different Contexts - II

Nevertheless, republicanism in France remained solid. The US political researcher Elizabeth Hurd separates secularisms within the US and most European nations from French secularism, which is additionally alluded to as 'laicite'. Concurring to Hurd, the previous strand of secularism looks for to protect the freedoms of citizens to think, sort out and adore (or not) as they wish; while laicite gives need to the state and to common national personality over religion. But it is in no way anti-religion. Numerous Islamists moreover mixed up the obvious anti-religion arrangements of a few previous communist administrations as secularism.

Researchers of secularism cease from calling these administrations mainstream since they frequently attempted to smother set up religions with an, yet skeptical, ideology built around a religion of identity. Subsequently, Atatürk advanced something that was as of now in movement. This produced a secularism that was defined to suit Turkish society. Turkish knowledge, such as the humanist Ziya Gökalp, played a conspicuous part in maintaining for a common Turkish patriotism as a way to address financial and political turmoil in Turkey. He contributed in coining the word 'laiklik' for Turkish secularism.

Not at all like European and US secularisms, Turkish secularism was not religion-neutral. Instead, it gave the state the power to hoard Islam and control it within the open circle. It acknowledged Islam as being Turkey's major religion, but one that was to be controlled according to the country's advanced patriot and republican aspirations.

Indian secularism as well was defined concurring to India's nationalist goals. It took under consideration the country's religiously different society. Indian secularism isn't approximately erasing religion from the open circle, as such.

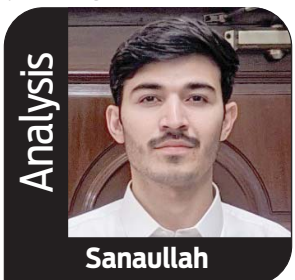
It is approximately treating all Indians as rise to citizens, no matter what their religion. It's another thing that Hindu patriots are 2 of the see that Indian secularism is tilted more towards benefiting non-Hindus. They need to see it gone, or at slightest perceive India's Hindu larger part.

In Muslim-majority Pakistan, its originators conceptualised an extend in which Islam was not utilized as a theocratic expression, but as a concept to define a political personality and patriotism.

According to the Canadian logician Charles Taylor, when religion is utilized to define a patriot thought or character, the custom and religious perspectives of the confidence diminish. Taylor sees this as portion of the secularization handle. Amid the primary two decades of Pakistan, the state defined a secularism which saw the state control Islam within the open circle, but proceed utilizing it as a patriot expression.

This strand of secularism too took shape in different other Muslim-majority nation-states. Islamists abhorred it, since it restricted their cooperation within the venture. Subsequently, they started to clarify it as a Western concept and anti-Islam, some time recently bringing in (from the 1970s onwards) and diverting the project's orientation towards building a more Islamist patriotism.

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Analysis

Sanauallah

World Bank funded pilot project

3 SWAT pilot project starts under testing training by ITRC

Zainab Hyder

KARACHI: World Bank funded pilot project, under Sindh Water and Agriculture Transformation (SWAT) proposed three distributaries among Jariki minor left bank area in Badin, Ghundran at Nara canal in Sanghar and Mirpur minor at Ghotki.

Following the guidelines of the World Bank, renowned International water experts Dr Charles Burt Chairman ITRC and Dylan Goodwin water expert of (ITRC) Irrigation Training and Research Center) California USA started training sessions with irrigation officials of Sindh and Punjab Irrigation department at hydrology Laboratory Hyderabad Sindh.

World Bank Task Team leader Francois Onimus also reached here to monitor the canal modernization in Sindh to introduce distributary modernization systems in irrigation networking system here at Hydrology Laboratory.

Initially, pilot project is being started on the main canals under the management of SIDA-Sindh Irrigation Drainage Authority through SWAT project funded by World Bank.

Jariki minor left bank area in Badin, Ghundran at Nara canal in Sanghar



and Mirpur minor at Ghotki were proposed for pilot project for canal modernization in Sindh initially.

Modernization

Program objectives to improve channel system VS old irrigation systems to cover the losses of water, seepage and the fair distribution of irrigation water for tail end growers.

Managing Director SIDA Pretam Das also discussed pilot project issues and possible change in the training to the experts of irrigation of Punjab and Sindh.

"The total 15 canals will be modernized under the Sindh Water and Agriculture Transformation project to improve the irrigation networking to

channels to maintain the water data through proper and modern way" told MD SIDA.

"Under the management of SIDA, one canal will be selected and tested from the existing Area Water Boards" Pretam Das Managing Director SIDA told.

"Physical Module will be constructed at main Irrigation Hydraulic Laboratory" Pretam Das MD SIDA.

"Representatives of the World Bank reached Pakistan to train the irrigation engineers of Sindh and Punjab on the new pattern of measurement and technicalities of the program" said Pretam Das MD SIDA.

Habib Ursani, the Director at

Hydraulic laboratory of irrigation department Hyderabad told the experts that the "Irrigation engineers of Sindh and Punjab participated in the training organized at the Irrigation Laboratory to implement accordingly".

"Under Canal Modernization, the water level will be maintained by creating a long crest in the canal, which will facilitate equitable distribution of water" Ahmed Junaid Memon UN FAO program manager briefed in the training.

"Water management will be easy under this system, a farmer can also check how much water is running" passing through each steps". Ahmed Junaid Memon said.

"Under the new system, water distribution will be made transparent by maintaining the water level" told Dylan Goodwin water expert US ITRC Irrigation Training and Research Center California, who also briefed to the experts of irrigation of Punjab and Sindh during day long training and activity".

"The experts described flows of water can be maintained with different methods successfully, these practices are also continued in US various regions.

Code for Pakistan Celebrates 10 Years of Using Technology for Civic Good



News Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan was ranked 150 out of 193 countries in the UN's E-Government Knowledge Base in 2022.

Yet Code for Pakistan, a civic tech non-profit, has pioneered e-gov initiatives with both federal and provincial governments. In 2014, CFP launched an innovative Fellowship Program that links young technologists with under-resourced government departments, bridging the technology gap between citizens and the government. This Fellowship Program has run seven high-impact cycles with the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) government and one cycle with the federal government.

Code for Pakistan (CFP), a leading civic tech non-profit organization, is commemorating its 10th anniversary of leveraging technology to create a significant impact in Pakistan this year. With a focus on building a citizen-centered government, CFP's mission is to leverage the potential of technology and people through its four core programs—Fellowships and Internships, Community Engagement, Digital Solutions and Services, and Civic Academy. The organization aims to foster a participatory process of governance that benefits all by uniting the government and its citizens.

In 2021, in partnership with the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Information Technology Board (KPIITB) and World Bank, CFP launched its first KP Women Civic Digital Internship Program as an online fulltime, six-month program for women. With more than 50 interns belonging to some of KP's most remote, conservative areas, the program facilitates women that struggle to leave their homes in pursuit of careers by equipping them with both hard and soft skills to flourish within the technology sector.

PWF stands united on International Child Labour Day 2023

News desk

ISLAMABAD: On the occasion of International Child Labour Day 2023, the Pakistan Workers Federation (PWF) renews its commitment to the eradication of child labour and the protection of the rights of every child in Pakistan. The PWF recognizes the urgent need to address this pressing issue and calls upon all stakeholders to join hands in creating a safe and secure environment for children to thrive.

As a leading workers' Federation, the PWF pledges to advocate for the rights of workers and, in particular, for the elimination of child labour. We will work tirelessly to raise awareness about the detrimental effects of child labour on the physical and mental well-being of children and the long-term consequences it has on society as a whole.

The General Secretary of PWF Ch. Muhammad Yaseen calls upon the government to strengthen legislation against child labour, increase funding for education and social welfare programs, and improve enforcement mechanisms to ensure the effective implementation of existing laws. Additionally, the private sector has a crucial role in promoting ethical business practices and providing their supply chains are free from child labour.

On this significant day, the Pakistan Workers Federation reaffirms its commitment to the rights of every child. We stand united with other organizations, unions, and individuals in our unwavering determination to end child labour and create a society where children can grow, learn, and prosper.



ISLAMABAD: Chairman NDMA Lt. General Indam Haider Malik presiding over meeting for update on Cyclone Biparjoy on Monday.

Situation in Azam Warsak still unresolved after 19 days of sit-in

Adam Khan Wazir

WANA: In the Azamwarsak area of birmal tehsil of Lower South Waziristan District, there is no one to resolve the demands of the sit-in for 19 days.

Apart from local tribal elders, political leaders and people belonging to different schools of thought participated in the protest.

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

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

It should be clear that the people of tehsil birmal Azamwarsak of Lower South Waziristan District had staged a sit-in 19 days ago to meet their demands, which is still going on, their



demands are as follows.

1. 24 hours electricity supply should be ensured to tehsil birmal.

2. In the Pak-Afghan border, the

local people should be allowed to protect their natural crop, (Pine) Chalghoza, and the herdsmen should be given unrestricted access to their cattle.

3. To install mobile towers in certain areas and provide 3G/4G services where there are mobile towers.

4 Government educational institutions and health centers have been dysfunctional for a long time in different areas of tehsil birmal, so they should be functionality.

5. Compensation should be given to the families of those who were injured and martyred in various incidents.

The participants of the sit-in threatened that if the government and the district administration did not resolve our legitimate demands, the sit-in will continue and they will start protesting at various government places.

In this regard, PPP district president Aman Ullah Wazir requested the government to resolve the demands of the sit-in as legitimate.

He said that the government should show seriousness and take concrete steps to resolve the demands, otherwise more problems will arise from the sit-in.

Confiz Hosts MarTech Conference 2023 to Explore a New Era in Customer Engagement

Commerce Desk

LAHORE: Confiz, a global technology services and solutions company, and Dengage, a marketing technology service provider, hosted the highly anticipated MarTech Conference on June 12th, 2023, in Lahore. This conference represented the collaborative synergy between two industry-leading firms, united by a shared passion to set a new standard in customer engagement. Together, Confiz and Dengage have empowered brands to achieve personalized experiences at scale by leveraging the potential of advanced technologies.



the technology and retail industry, including Syed Talal Hassan Rizvi, CIO of Sapphire, Amjad Saeed, CIO of Stylo and Insignia, Zain Farooq, COO of Maria.

B, and Hashim Zulficar, COO of Confiz were present at the conference. The event kick-started with an insightful speaking session by Ahsan Fayyaz, Vice President of Professional Services at Confiz, shedding light on

the transformative impact of technology on the global retail landscape and emphasizing the importance for brands to deliver personalized experiences to customers at every stage of their buying journey.

Aman Dotani, CEO of Dengage, captivated the audience and introduced them to Customer Driven Marketing Solution (CDMS), a solution enabling retail brands in Pakistan to harness the potential of personalization and drive accelerated growth. Trusted by renowned businesses, this solution empowers businesses to seamlessly deliver personalized customer experiences at scale.

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Pakistani students find China's development model inspirational

Xinhua

ISLAMABAD: Amir Bizenjo, a 22-year-old student of Gwadar University in Pakistan's southwest Balochistan province, found China's development quite interesting and inspirational.

He has been witnessing the development in the port city of Gwadar under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), and has now got a vision for the development of his province during his trip to Pakistan's capital Islamabad, in which he met Chinese officials and visited different platforms and consortiums under the collaboration of the two countries.

He was part of a delegation comprising several Gwadar University students and faculty members that visited Islamabad from Thursday to Saturday, which was jointly organized by the Chinese embassy in Pakistan

and the Islamabad-based think-tank Pakistan-China Institute.

"I am thankful to the Chinese for arranging this visit to give us exposure. We exchanged ideas with each other about economic growth and how the two countries can develop together, and seeing how China achieved prosperity gave me a new sense to work for the development of my province," Bizenjo told Xinhua.

According to Bizenjo, the delegation visited the Chinese embassy where they saw presentations on China's path to modernization, the Global Development Initiative, the Global Security Initiative, the Global Civilization Initiative, and Chinese projects in Pakistan, especially the CPEC.

"After knowing about these initiatives and projects, I got a better understanding of China and the Chinese people," Bizenjo said, who had earlier got a

China-funded scholarship at the university.

"They are not just looking for the future of China but are emphasizing that no one should be left behind and to uplift everybody," he added.

The delegates enjoyed the interaction, and exchanged ideas with the Chinese diplomats and explained to them the situation of CPEC projects in Balochistan, particularly in Gwadar.

"Chinese are very nice people. We have seen that they always have smiles on their faces and their hospitality is very good," Rizwan Asghar, a student of the Information Technology Department of Gwadar University, said in a conversation with Xinhua.

The Pakistani delegates appreciated China's investment, especially their efforts under corporate social responsibility like the distribution of solar panels, laptops, health facilities, vocational institutes, etc.

They specifically thanked the Chinese for the educational scholarships, which they believed were very helpful to the youth of Balochistan and they hoped that the scope of such programs would be further expanded in the future.

"Now I want an opportunity to visit China for my capacity building and professional growth in order to learn from the Chinese universities so that I can become a good teacher," Sadia Naseer, Director of Student Affairs at Gwadar University, told the Chinese diplomats.

"On the other hand, highlighting the economy of Pakistan, the Chinese friends told us that youth has the most important role in the economic growth of a country," Bizenjo said.

A country achieves economic growth when its youth becomes energetic and skillful, he quoted



the Chinese diplomats as saying.

The delegates also had engagements, and interactions with the members of the All-Pakistan Chinese Enterprises' Association (APCEA), officials of the Chinese desk at Pakistan's Foreign Ministry, and took a trip to the Confucius Institute at Islamabad-based National University of Modern Languages where they also had a dialogue with its faculty and administration.

Bizenjo said the engagement at APCEA had been very productive as he got a lot of business ideas from it and is now interested in exploring them in Balochistan in the future.

"With the joint efforts made by the Chinese and Pakistani governments, and in particular, the local people, we can make the dream come true," said Wang.

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Bull & Bears
PSX 100-Share
Index Fluctuation

Pakistan: PSX 100-Share Index	
Current	Prev. Close
41,782.92	41,904.20
Day's High	Day's Low:
42,029.14	41,715.31
Index Value	Change
4,509,080,622	+121.28
Percentage	Time
-0.29%	12 Jun, 2023 5:00 pm

Europe: FTSE 100 Index	
Index Value	Change
7,570.69	+8.33
Percentage	Time
+0.11%	12 Jun, 4:35 pm GMT+1

USA: Dow Jones Industrial Average	
Index Value	Change
33,962.84	+86.06
Percentage	Time
+0.25%	12 Jun, 1:51 pm GMT-4

Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Average	
Index Value	Change
32,434.00	+168.83
Percentage	Time
+0.52%	12 Jun, 3:15 pm GMT+9

Open Market Forex Rates

Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	202	204
Bahrain Dinar	763.18	771.18
Canadian Dollar	227	230
China Yuan	40.26	40.66
Danish Krone	41.38	41.78
Euro	320.5	324
Hong Kong Dollar	36.61	36.96
Indian Rupee	3.48	3.59
Japanese Yen	2.1	2.17
Kuwaiti Dinar	934.1	943.1
Malaysian Ringgit	62.19	62.79
New Zealand \$	175.82	177.82
Norwegians Krone	26.68	26.98
Omani Riyal	745.14	753.14
Qatari Riyal	78.863	79.53
Saudi Riyal	80.2	81
Singapore Dollar	220	222
Swedish Korona	26.51	26.81
Swiss Franc	317.75	320.25
Thai Bhat	8.3	8.45
U.A.E Dirham	83.7	84.5
UK Pound Sterling	376	380
US Dollar	303	306

Delay in resumption of IMF programme resumption to trigger inflation

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 said after the preparation and announcement of the budget according to the recommendations of the IMF, the restoration of the IMF programme seems easy.

Getting new loans and rescheduling old loans will also be possible on easy terms after the restoration of IMF programme, therefore the government will not have to depend on local expensive loans to meet the budget deficit of seven thousand billion rupees, he said.

Mian Zahid Hussain said that IMF and other foreign loans will be cheaper, therefore



It will not trigger inflation in the country.

Talking to the business community, the veteran business leader said that the increase in the salaries of government employees will benefit them, but the public

will suffer because it will also increase inflation in the country.

Reviving the IMF program will restore the confidence of the business community, he said, adding that in order to get support from the IMF, the government will have to make its future policies according to the recommendations of the IMF.

He said that privatization of failed government institutions should not be delayed, import substitution should be a preference and losses in electricity and gas sectors should be eliminated for which political will is necessary.

Mian Zahid Hussain further said that if there is no agreement with the IMF, we will have to take expensive loans from commercial banks for defence, development and other expenses, the entire burden of which will have to be borne by the people who are already suffering due to inflation.

Govt believes in facilitating foreign investors: Ch Salik Hussain

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Board of Investment (BOI), Chaudhary Salik Hussain on Monday categorically said that the government believes in facilitating investors in the country and in this regard BOI is there to safeguard the rights of foreign investors.



He expressed these views while talking to a two-member delegation headed by Mr. Kevin McKenna, President and CEO of Authentix Inc. Secretary BOI, Mr. Asad Rehman Gilani and Director General Mr. Nadeem Bashir were also present in the meeting. The minister appreciated the US Company for its willing to continue their business in Pakistan and assured that BOI, being the facilitation body, would listen to their issues and help solving them out on priority basis.

The secretary BOI said that FBR and other state institutions would be taken on board for providing investment friendly environment to M/S Authentix.

Authentix is a US based global technology company that specializes in providing advanced solutions to combat counterfeiting, protect brands, and ensure the integrity of products and supply chains.

Rizq-e-Halal

ISLAMABAD: A street vendor sleeps in await of customers on footpath at Karachi Company area in Federal Capital.



Photo: Online by Sultan Bashir

National Bank offers Interest-Free PM Kissan Package for flood-affected farmers

Commerce Desk

KARACHI: National Bank of Pakistan (NBP) is proud to introduce an interest-free Prime Minister Kisaan Package in response to the recent floods that have severely impacted farmers. This initiative aims to provide crucial financial support to farmers who have suffered losses due to the floods and are in need of assistance.

Farmers with their own agricultural land are eligible for loans of up to 5 lac, which can be utilized to meet their livestock and other agricultural needs. The loan tenure ranges from 6 months to 3 years, allowing flexibility in repayment options based on individual circumstances.

For farmers without their own agricultural land, NBP is offering loans of up to 2 lac specifically for the purchase of seeds and fertilizers. The loan tenure is set at 6 months, ensuring a convenient repayment period for the borrowers.

Furthermore, technical assistance will be provided by dedicated NBP agri officers to guide farmers throughout the application process and offer expert advice.

For more information about the interest-free agricultural assistance program, interested individuals are encouraged to contact NBP at UAN 111-627-627 or visit their nearest NBP branch.

Budget seeks to grow the economy by borrowing

Tariq Khattak

ISLAMABAD: Saifuddin Sheikh, Executive Director of Pakistan Economy Watch (PEW) said on Monday the budget attempts to develop the economy through borrowing which is not a good option.

Almost all the tax revenue will be spent on debt servicing while borrowing will be the only option to run the government, he said.

Imposing withholding tax on cash withdrawals from banks will prove to be a disastrous decision which has damaged the economy in the past, he added.

In a statement issued here today, Saifuddin Sheikh said that imposing tax on bank withdrawals will decrease bank deposits, it will increase money in circulation and the government will have to face difficulty in borrowing from banks.

The central bank will have to print excess currency and hike interest rates, which will increase inflation, he added.

He noted that increase in salaries and pensions will also increase inflation, and in these circumstances the estimate of 21% inflation by the government will prove to be wrong.

The super tax will affect the investment, production, profit



and employment in the industrial sector, he said, adding that the controversial measures will reduce the size of the documented economy while the undocumented economy will

grow. Taxes have not been imposed on retail, wholesale and agriculture sector as expected due to which black money will be directed towards those sectors which will escalate inflation.

Saifuddin Sheikh said that the rate of population growth in the country is the highest in the world and the real income of the people has not been increased since the last five years.

The income of masses is constantly decreasing, and the public will not benefit from the current budget, but on the contrary, there their income will decrease.

ICCI Entrepreneurship Program started for students of Islamabad

Tariq Khattak

ISLAMABAD: President Islamabad Chamber of Commerce Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari has said that women constitute 52 percent of Pakistan's population. Sustainable development is not possible without their full involvement, in the developed countries of the world, women are playing their role in every field of life alongside men, this is the secret of the development of these countries. To deal with unemployment. There is a need to focus on entrepreneurship, it is not possible to accommodate millions of young people who have graduated from universities in the public and private sector, instead of looking for employment, the youth should become job sharers by promoting entrepreneurship. He expressed these views while addressing the launch ceremony of Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry's entrepreneurship program for all students. Chamber members, Director Federal Directorate of Education Prof.



Aftab Tariq, principals and a large number of students of educational institutions of Islamabad participated in the ceremony.

President Islamabad Chamber said that all government schools and colleges of Islamabad are 50-60 years old, their reconstruction has become inevitable, out-of-the-box thinking and concern is needed in this regard.

He said that he will personally provide capital for the IT lab in Islamabad College for Girls, similarly, business personalities of Islamabad should be

included to provide facilities in other colleges. He said that every school and college should allocate a room for the education of out-of-school children and arrange education for them. President Islamabad Chamber said that this program of ICCI is a great opportunity for students of educational institutions of Islamabad to learn business during their studies. He said that IT is the sector that has the most entrepreneurship opportunities for the youth. In the current budget, the government has taken steps to promote entrepreneurship.

Speaking on this occasion, Vice President Engineer Azhar ul Salam said that youth need to work with hard work and honesty, businessman is the real hero of the society due to which millions of people get employment, youth should idealize such people. Who have made their name through hard work and honesty. Speaking on the occasion, Director FDE Prof. Aftab Tariq said that I am grateful to Islamabad Chamber who have taken this excellent step, in fact there is a need to attract our youth towards entrepreneurship.

He said that I hope students will take advantage of this opportunity. In the opening ceremony of the program, former president Zafar Bakhtawari, members of the executive committee, Maqsood Tabish, Parveen khan khalid chudhry, principals of various colleges, Saba Faisal, Dr. Firdous Zahra, Shazia Rizvi, Fatima Mubeen, Sadia Aziz, Farah Hamid, Shazia Wazir, Sadia Abrar, Humira Agha, Zubeera Mughal, Rosina Fahim, Madam Asia and others participated.

Real Estate Consultants Association demands reduction in Filing Fees as part of budget

Asad Hashmi

RAWALPINDI: General Secretary of Real Estate Consultants Association (RECA) Adil Nawaz Bhatti has said that Without reducing the interest rate, the dream of driving the economic wheel in the country will not be fulfilled. Tax culture has to be promoted in the country for which tax reforms have to be brought. Budget 23-24 did not introduce any incentives for filers. Adil Bhatti said that the A significant reduction in withholding tax is necessary for the filers to attract non-filers to the tax net. 100% increase in withholding tax on non-filer is unfair. 0.6% tax on cash withdraw-

al from banks is tantamount to cruelty to the poor man. It needs to be reduced.

The package announced for overseas Pakistanis is incomplete. The \$100,000 per year restriction should also be removed or significantly increase the limit. Adil Bhatti said that the Overseas Pakistanis should also be given the facility to take some of the foreign exchange back to when and wherever they require. The document presented by Real Estate Consultants Association to finance ministry should be made a part of the budget in its entirety otherwise It will not be possible to achieve the revenue goals set for the real estate and construction industry.

Hajj Pilgrims in Saudi Arabia

Ufone 4G brings unbeatable data roaming, unrestricted access to WhatsApp

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistani Telecom Company, Ufone 4G has introduced an unbeatable and best value Data Roaming Offer for its prepaid customers, embarking on the Holy pilgrimage to Saudi Arabia. This exclusive bundle will provide its users with unlimited access to WhatsApp calls for unrestricted communication with friends and family back home.

This rewarding bundle comes with a generous allocation of 7000 MBs of data for just PKR 4000 and exclusively unrestricted access to WhatsApp calls and messages from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The offer once

subscribed is valid for 40 days, which adequately covers the entire period of Hajj.

While Ufone 4G has data roaming services in place for Saudi Arabia around the year, this exclusive offer aims to bring additional ease and enablement to Ufone 4G users by helping them fulfil their necessary communication needs in a convenient manner. The Hajj Data Roaming offer is reflective of Ufone 4G's steadfast commitment to providing the best value for money to its users. The price of this bundle is lowest in industry while the data bucket is enormous to cater the data requirements of customers during the extended validity period of 40 days.

EtiHAD Group says Metro E-Vehicle will have positive impact on Pakistan's economy



Mian Rashid Asghar

FAISALABAD: The Central President Cloth Board EtiHAD Group Pakistan Alhaj Naseer Yousuf Vohra while inaugurating the ceremony of the success of Metro E-Vehicle has expressed that it will have a positive impact on the economy of Pakistan.

He said that Metro E-Vehicle is the largest Chinese company in Pakistan & it will support the common persons easily in view of the ongoing economic untoward situations.

According to the details, CEO Waqas Ahmad Butt of Metro E-Vehicle (China) in this inauguration participation at Vohra Center Jail Road along with the Chief Guest Central President Cloth Board EtiHAD Group Pakistan Alhaj Naseer Yousuf Vohra, Hafiz Owais Ahmed Vohra, Saad Naseer Vohra, General Manager Metro E-Vehicle Mohammad Kashif, Vice President Faisalabad Press Club Ali Ashfaq Hashmi, Umar Imtiaz, Umar Hayat and others were also present on this occasion.

Alhaji Naseer Yousuf Vohra while talking to the Media said that Metro E-Vehicle will play its key role to save energy in the coming period which will not only save petrol but also LPG gas.

President Vohra took start of the journey on Metro E vehicle. A large number of dealers for E-Vehicles from Faisalabad & adjacent areas participated on this occasion.

Finally, prayers were also offered for the forces of Pakistan, the country of Pakistan, traders, dealers and the people of Pakistan to come forward to make the prosperity in Pakistan.

Pakistan to start Women's Emerging Asia Cup campaign tomorrow

Asim Tanveer

MULTAN: Pakistan women's team will be targeting a good display in the ACC Women's Emerging Teams Asia Cup as they begin their journey in the eight-team tournament against Nepal at the Tin Kwong Road Recreation Ground in Hong Kong on Tuesday.

Fatima Sana will be leading the side in the T20 tournament, which began today.

Pakistan are slotted in Group A with Hong Kong, India A and Nepal. After tomorrow's game, Pakistan will play hosts Hong Kong and India A on 15 and 17 June, respectively.

The top two teams from each group will qualify for the semi-finals which will be played on 19 June. The final of the tournament will be held on 21 June.

In the last edition of the ACC Women's Emerging Teams Asia Cup 2019, which was held in Sri Lanka,

Pakistan remained winless in the four-team competition.

Captain and right-arm fast Fatima, leg-spinners Tuba Hassan and Syeda Aroob Shah and wicketkeeper-batter Najiha Alvi featured in the 2019 edition.

Six players apart from captain Fatima (31 ODIs, 24 T20Is) have already represented Pakistan women's team in international cricket.

These include Gull Feroza (2 T20Is), Natalia Parvaiz (3 ODIs, 11 T20Is), Sadaf Shamas (4 ODIs, 2 T20Is), Syeda Aroob Shah (2 ODIs, 5 T20Is), Tuba Hassan (1 ODI, 21 T20Is) and Umm-e-Hani (1 ODI).

Other than Aroob, three players – Anoosha Nasir, Eyman Fatima and Shawaal Zulfiqar – have represented Pakistan U19 in the inaugural edition of ICC U19 Women's T20 World Cup in January this year in South Africa.

Before the 15-day camp in Karachi, the players also represented Strikers



in the first phase of the Pakistan Cup Women's Cricket Tournament held in Karachi last month, where the team under the leadership of Fatima won all three matches.

effort.

"We have worked hard in our preparations, and the roles have been clearly defined to each player. Now is the time for them to step up and deliver their best for the team.

"While individual brilliance can make a difference, I believe in the strength of our team. We have a talented group of players, and I don't want to rely solely on one individual. It's crucial for every player to contribute to the team's success. I have faith that each member will give their all and collectively, we will achieve great results.

"Tournaments like these provide a fantastic platform for our young players to showcase their skills and potentially earn a place in the senior side internationally. It's a golden opportunity for them, and I believe they will grab it both hands."

Squad: Fatima Sana (c), Anoosha Nasir, Eyman Fatima, Gull Feroza,

Gulrukh, Lubna Behram, Najiha Alvi (wk), Natalia Parvaiz, Sadaf Shamas, Shawaal Zulfiqar, Syeda Aroob Shah, Tuba Hassan, Umm-e-Hani and Yusra Amir. Reserves: Amber Kainat, Dua Majid, Fatima Khan and Rameen Shamim.

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

ACC Women's Emerging Teams Asia Cup Pakistan fixtures

13 June v Nepal at Tin Kwong Road Recreation Ground, Hong Kong, 0600 PKT

15 June v Hong Kong at Tin Kwong Road Recreation Ground, Hong Kong, 0600 PKT

17 June v India A at Tin Kwong Road Recreation Ground, Hong Kong, 1030 PKT

British High Commission launches Scholarship for Pakistani players

Sports Desk

LAHORE: The British High Commission in collaboration with Swindon Town Football Club brings a wonderful opportunity for both men and women football team players, current and former along with the coaches.

The initiative was launched at an event hosted by the Pakistan Football Federation at a local hotel in Lahore. PFF NC Chairman Haroon Malik, Head of Internal Communications British High Commission Mr. Shehryar Mirza, Head of Lahore Office, Clara Strandhoj and Chevening Alumni Engagement Officer, Reema Salman graced the occasion.

Swindon Town Football Club UK's Chevening Scholarship will now feature Pakistani players, coaches and professionals enrolling in a fully-funded Master-Degree Program in the UK. The selected players will get the opportunity to study with getting perks includ-



ing fully-funded tuition fees, access to some of the best quality education in the world, exclusive networking opportunities and the chance to explore the UK's diverse culture.

Haroon Malik, speaking on the occasion, said: "We are thankful to the British High Commission for this Swindon Town Football Club UK's Chevening Scholarship for our players, which is no

doubt a good step towards the betterment of football on an academic level. Football is necessary and education should be mandatory for all players. Not only our current stars but former players, professionals and coaches will also be able to utilize the platform and benefit.

Chevening Alumni Engagement Officer, Ms. Reema, emphasized the importance of studying

along with sports. The incentive offered by the Swindon Town Football Club will pan out for Pakistan. This will not only enhance the knowledge of players but also strengthen the ties between the two countries. "Our aim is to further strengthen the ties between the British High Commission and Pakistan Football Federation through sports and education," she added.

Promotion of national sports at the grass root level is our mission: Faisal Moiz

Sports Desk

KARACHI: The 1st Captain Moiz summer hockey camp organized by Al-Sagheer Hockey Club and North Karachi Hockey Academy has started. North Karachi Association Trade and Industries President Faisal Moiz inaugurated the camp on this occasion, he said in his address that the promotion of hockey in North Karachi is not less than a mission for him, organizing the summer camp is a link in this chain, this is the platform where there is a dire need to pay attention, from this place, we will look forward to the future. can get stars.

He said that my father, Captain Moiz, was very fond of sports. He wanted our youth to make positive activities their motto instead of negative ones more than 200 children involved in the camp will receive hockey training for two months, but they want this process to continue throughout the year. our cooperation always be Al-Sagheer Hockey Club



Waseem Qureshi member of the Provincial Assembly of North Karachi Hockey Academy, said that our mission is to regain the lost place in the national game of hockey. How many victories Pakistan has achieved in this game, there was a time when winning became our tradition, we were among the best teams in the world, but now we are ranked 16th

in the world, it is very painful for the youth. Wasim Qureshi said that this summer camp is a sports nursery and I believe that from this platform we will get future's Sohail Abbas, Shahbaz Senior, Samiullah, Hasan Sardar can do.

Nakati vice president and former hockey player Naeem Haider said that we are trying to make austro-turf

facility available to the players in this ground very soon, we hope that we will be successful in this goal, the children involved in the summer camp should see this. Make the most of the experience of the experienced coaches in the camp and become a better player.

Imran Moez, along with KMC Sports Complex Director Aftab Qaimkhani, complex in-charge Faisal Zafar, Deputy Director Nadeem Khan, Ahmed Khan, Zulqarnain, F&A Global Group representative Nauman Khanzada, Municipal Commissioner DMC Central Ms. Shamuna. Al-Sagheer Hockey Club's soulful Syed Sagheer Hussain, Secretary Azmat Pasha, former international player Masroor Javed, Mubasher Mukhtar, Aamir Siddiqui, Chairman of Al-Sagheer Hockey Club Imtiaz Sheikh, Kamran Naseem, Abid Khalil, Adnan Naqvi, Raheel Khan, Junaid Aslam, Adnan Batuka, Arif Hanif, Athar, and others were also present. Finally, the chief guest distributed hockey sticks among the players.

Novak Djokovic reclaims top ranking after French Open triumph

A Sports

LONDON: History-maker Novak Djokovic on Monday, reclaimed the top spot in the ATP Rankings after his historic French Open victory which took him to 23 Grand Slam titles.

Novak Djokovic, fresh from his French Open victory, pipped both Carlos Alcaraz and Daniil Medvedev to be back on the hill.

The Serb will enjoy his 388th week as the top-ranked player after his French Open victory saw him past Rafael Nadal as the leading Grand Slam titles (23).

Novak Djokovic put himself in a position to reclaim the top



spot by defeating Alcaraz in the French Open semi-finals. The 36-year-old then sealed his return by defeating Casper

Ruud in the final. It will be Novak Djokovic's third stint at World No. 1 this year and the second time in

2023 he has climbed to No. 1 by winning a major. He has won both the Australian Open and French Open and returned to the top of the men's Tennis mountain each time.

In February, Novak Djokovic broke Stefanie Graf's record for most weeks at World No. 1 by a men's or women's tennis player (then 377 weeks). Only one other man, Roger Federer (310 weeks), has spent more than 300 weeks as World No. 1.

The 36-year-old Djokovic will now charge towards 400 weeks, which he can reach in September.

Meanwhile, another favourite contender for the French Open title Carlos Alcaraz slipped a spot to second after

his semi-final defeat against Djokovic.

The Spaniard suffered a frustrating injury in the era-defining match and was far away from his absolute best against ruthless Djokovic.

Daniil Medvedev also saw a dip in his ranking after an early exit from French Open, going down to third, while Casper Ruud despite losing in the final retained his fourth position.

Ruud defended his points from a year ago, therefore there has been no change in his ranking.

Apart from Karen Khachanov, who switched places with Felix Auger-Aliassime in the 10th position, there are no other movers in the top 10.

In a first, five Australian cricketers win all major ICC titles

A Sports

LONDON: Five Australian cricketers – Steve Smith, Pat Cummins, David Warner, Josh Hazlewood and Mitchell Starc – all became the first to win all major ICC titles following their World Test Championship (WTC) glory.

The pack of Australian cricketers were part of Australia's last three ICC title victories – ICC World Cup in 2015, ICC T20 World Cup in 2021 and World Test Championship in 2023 – making them grand slam champions.

Australia, having won five ICC World Cups, two ICC Champions Trophy and one T20 World Cup were in pursuit of the one major men's cricket title – World Test Championship – that had previously eluded them.

The Kangaroos completed their trophy cabinet in style as they blew away India in the final by a massive margin of 209 runs. After Travis Head and Steve Smith's magnificent centuries in the first innings, it was Scott Boland who further dented India's hope of title glory.

Boland did the initial damage with two wickets in Sunday's seventh over, including the prize scalp of Virat Kohli, on his way to figures of 3-46 in 16 overs.

Football game promoted by Prime Minister Telnet Hunt Program: Umar Jahangir

Asim Tanveer



MULTAN: Deputy Commissioner Umar Jahangir has said that under the Prime Minister's Talent Hunt program, it has been decided to bring out new talent for the promotion of the game of football in the country. While presiding over the meeting held at the Deputy Commissioner's office yesterday, Additional Deputy Commissioner General Abida Farid and District Sports Officer Farooq Latif gave a briefing on the talent hunt. There will be trials for 18-25-year-old youth on 18th June.

In which citizens including university and college students can also participate. He said that steps should be taken to make the Higher Education Commission and Sports Department trials successful. He said that a camp would be held at Zakaria University and Sports Ground for the registration of players. Football game will be promoted by talent hunt. The Deputy Commissioner said that a campaign will be launched to make citizens aware.



LAHORE: Representatives of leading departments met with the PCB management at the NCA in which they expressed keen interest in the 2023-24 domestic cricket season and promised complete support and cooperation.

Pep Guardiola issues warning to Real Madrid after UCL victory



A Sports

ISTANBUL: Manchester City's manager Pep Guardiola issued a warning to Real Madrid after his side scripted history by winning their maiden UEFA Champions League title on Sunday.

Manchester City edged defeated Inter Milan 1-0 in a hard-fought final, held at the Ataturk Stadium in Istanbul on June 10. Rodri was the hero for Manchester City as he netted one in the 68th minute to separate the two sides who were indulged in a sea-saw battle.

While Manchester City held onto their lead and became the first-ever European champions, Inter Milan lost several golden opportunities to bring the score back to even.

Speaking to the media after a blockbuster season, Pep Guardiola issued a warning to the leading Champions League winner Real Madrid.

"Be careful Real Madrid, we're 13 UCLs away but we're coming for you. We are on our way! If you sleep a little bit, we will catch you," said Guardiola.

Notably, Real Madrid are a record 14-time winners of the treble. Thus, Pep Guardiola's side will have to make plenty of hard yards to catch up with the Los Blancos' tally of titles.

Pep Guardiola's Manchester City also came face to face with the defending champions Real Madrid in the semi-final of the Champions League.

The first leg of the highly-anticipated semi-final saw the two sides settling for a 1-1 stalemate after Kevin de Bruyne's 67th-minute strike levelled Vinicius Jr's first-half goal.

However, Manchester City were at their absolute best in the second leg as they blew away the defending champions Real Madrid by 4-0 to set up a final clash with Inter Milan.

The 1-0 victory over Inter Milan at the Ataturk Stadium was a fitting conclusion to their incredible season. Pep Guardiola's team was outstanding all season and was duly named champions.