



## Turkiye's Erdogan condoles with PM Shehbaz over Greece boat tragedy

Turkiye's President Recep Tayyip Erdogan telephoned Prime Minister (PM) Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday and expressed grief over the death of Pakistanis in a boat capsized off the coast of Greece. The Turkish President prayed to Allah Almighty for the grant of patience to the bereaved families.



## Yadgar, Bagh-e-Dastoor, a symbolic tribute to Pak constitutional ideals: NA Speaker

Speaker National Assembly Raja Pervaiz Ashraf has said that Yadgar-e-Dastoor & Bagh-e-Dastoor were envisioned as symbolic initiatives intended to honor, and uphold the principles enshrined in Pakistan's constitution. They would stand as a testament to the country's unwavering dedication to democracy, justice, and the rule of law, he said while presiding over the 8th meeting of the Advisory Committee.... (Details on Page 8)

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## Inauguration

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif inaugurates Margalla Avenue on Tuesday.



Photo: PID

## President stresses economic diplomacy to boost trade



Spokesman Report

the Aiwan-e-Sadr.

ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi on Tuesday underscored the need to focus on economic and trade diplomacy to enhance the country's exports.

He added that increasing exports and foreign investment could help Pakistan overcome its economic challenges.

The President expressed these views while talking to Pakistan's Ambassador-designate to Denmark and High-Commissioner-designate to Rwanda, who separately called on him, here at

Talking to Ambassador-designate to Denmark, Shoaib Sarwar, the President urged him to especially focus on economic diplomacy initiatives to boost the country's exports. He highlighted that the dairy and agriculture sector were important areas where Danish companies could be invited to invest in Pakistan. He said that Information Technology was also another important area for enhanced cooperation where Pakistan's tech companies could offer services and solutions to Danish companies.

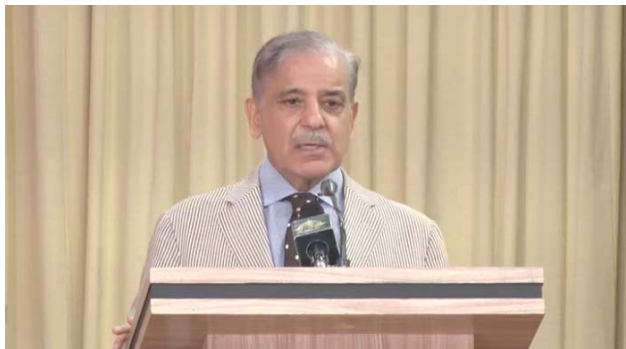
# Govt unveils Economic Revival Plan to exploit Pakistan's potential, facilitate investment

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The Federal Government, in the wake of economic hardships confronting the country, Tuesday unveiled an elaborated 'Economic Revival Plan' with a view to capitalize Pakistan's untapped potential in key sectors, fast-track the development projects and facilitate investment.

The Plan was unveiled during a high-level meeting chaired by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and attended by the Chief of Army Staff (COAS), chief ministers, federal and provincial ministers, and high-level government officials, a PM Office press release said.

The Economic Revival Plan envisages capitalizing Paki-



stan's untapped potential in key sectors of defence production, agriculture, livestock, minerals, mining, information technology and energy, through indigenous development as well as investments from friendly countries.

To fast-track the development of projects, the establishment of

Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC) has been undertaken to act as a 'Single Window' interface for the potential investors as well as to adopt a unified approach.

The setup will shorten heretofore cumbersome and lengthy business processes through

a cooperative and collaborative 'whole of the government approach' with representation of all stakeholders. It is aimed at creating horizontal-vertical synergy between the federation and provinces; facilitating timely decision making; avoiding duplication of effort; and ensuring swift project implementation.

The high-ranking participation from federal and provincial governments, clearly manifests the national resolve to turn around the economy despite all odds.

The COAS, speaking on the occasion, assured the Pakistan Army's all-out support to complement the government's efforts for Economic Revival Plan, considered fundamental

to socio-economic prosperity of Pakistanis and reclaiming Pakistan's rightful stature among the comity of nations.

Prime Minister Shehbaz recalled that his government inherited an economy which was on the brink of collapse. With bold and difficult decisions, it was now being steered towards growth and development, however, there were massive challenges ahead, he added.

He said export-oriented foreign direct investments held the key to economic revival and the government had, therefore, decided to adopt a holistic/whole-of-government approach which fostered partnerships within the federal and provincial governments for effective implementation and execution.

## FM Bilawal discusses tragic ferry disaster with Greek counterpart

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari on Tuesday said that he had a useful telephonic conversation with Foreign Minister of Greece Vassilis Kaskarelis and agreed to closely work together to facilitate Pakistanis in distress and for the identification and repatriation of retrieved bodies.

During the conversation,



they discussed the tragic ferry disaster off the coast of Greece, the foreign minister posted on his Twitter handle.

## Investigation report about Greek ship accident to be submitted within week: Interior Minister

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Interior Rana Sanaullah Tuesday assured that the government would take strict action about Greek Ship accident and investigation report would be submitted within a week by duly fixing responsibility on those involved in negligence. In response to the Greek ship accident, a committee had been constituted under strict directives of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif commenced its investigation, he said while talking to a private news channel. "The investigation committee will present its report in a week and further action will be taken by the federal government", he added. He said the committee will



ascertain facts of the Greece boat tragedy besides identifying loopholes and lapses in the legal mechanism in Pakistan that exposed precious human lives to the vagaries of human trafficking in this particular case and similar incidents in the past. The committee will also analyze similar past incidents and actions will be taken according to the legal framework, adding, International coordination will also help to prevent, control, and punish human smuggling in the future, he added.

Pakistan fails to secure LNG cargoes for Oct-Dec: report

Bloomberg Islamabad: Pakistan has failed to secure liquefied natural gas (LNG) from the spot market in its first attempt in about a year, as no supplier seems to budge to the cash-strapped nation's offer, Bloomberg reported Tuesday.

Traders, on the condition of anonymity, told the publication that Pakistan LNG Limited's (PLL) bid to purchase six shipments for October to December closed Tuesday with no companies responding to the offer. The report said that many overseas banks weren't accepting letters of credit Pakistani counterparts to purchase LNG shipments, making suppliers reluctant to offer cargoes, Bloomberg reported last week.

Pakistan is struggling with a weakening currency, political turmoil, and an increasing risk of a sovereign default. The International Monetary Fund recently criticized the government's budget as insufficient to meet the goals of its bailout program, a sign that a deadline this month to unlock aid will not be met.

## KP caretaker Govt authorizes Rs462.426bn expenditure for 4 months

Bureau Report

PESHAWAR: The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa caretaker Government here on Tuesday authorized Rs462.426 billion expenditure for four months (July 1 to October 31, 2023) and announced 35 percent adhoc relief allowance for its employees BS 1 to 16 and 30 percent from BS 17 and above and 17.5 percent in pension of all pensioners.

Presenting the salient features of authorized expenditure for the above four months, Adviser to the chief minister for finance and energy, Himayat Ullah Mayar here said that Rs350.041 billion was fixed as total authorized current expenditure, Rs309.498 bln for settled current expenditure, Rs40.543 bln for newly merged areas (NMA) current expenditures for the said four months.

On the development side, he said the authorized development expenditure for July 1 to October 31, 2023, is Rs112.385 billion, the

settled development expenditure is Rs92.122 bln and NMA's Rs20.263 bln for the said months.

As many Rs8.667 bln expenditure for the Annual Development Programme, Rs1.263 bln for FPA and Rs10.333 bln for Accelerated Implementation Program of NMAs were authorized for the said four districts.

The Adviser announced 50pc increase in traveling allowance for all Provincial Government employees, 100pc increase in special conveyance allowance for disabled employees and an increase in orderly allowance from Rs14,000 per month to Rs25,000 per month.

Besides 50pc increase in deputation allowances and 100pc in secretariat performance allowance, the Adviser also announced the extension of executive allowance to officers of special duty an increase of minimum wages from Rs26,000 per month to Rs32,000pm and ration allowance of police and jails from Rs681pm to Rs1000pm respectively. Referring to authorized expend-

iture for different departments for July 1 to October 31, 2023, the KP Adviser said that Rs11,633.26 mln expenditure are fixed for Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Cooperatives, Rs1295.72 mln for Aukaf, Religious, Hajj Department, Rs20,729.17mln for Communications and Works, Rs107,953.58 mln for Education, Rs6,941.77mln for Energy and Power Department, Rs3,776.15 Environment and Forests, Rs2400.59 mln for Establishment and Administration Department, Rs614.02 mln for Excise and Taxation, Rs14,631.68 Finance Department, Rs74,597.67 Health Department, Rs18,34.72mln for Home and Tribal Affairs Department, Rs239.59mn for Housing Department and Rs2519.09 mln for industries and technical education.

Similarly, Rs368.77 mln expenditures fixed for Information Department, Rs29.98 mln for IPC, Rs9861.95 mln for Irrigation Department, Rs1692.95 mln for jails and convicts settlement, Rs294.74 mln for Labour Department,

## Grand Hajj Symposium in Jeddah focuses on modern facilities for intending pilgrims



News Desk

JEDDAH: The Saudi government organized a Grand Hajj Symposium in Jeddah on Tuesday to discuss Hajj arrangements and the implementation of modern facilities for intending pilgrims in Makkah Mukar-ma. Minister for Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony, Talha Mehmood, attended the symposium chaired by the Imam of the Kaaba, Sheikh Dr. Abdul Rahman Al-Sudais.

Briefing the participants on Hajj arrangements, the Saudi Minister of Hajj and Umrah highlighted the implementation of modern facilities and streamlined procedures for pilgrims during the Hajj days in Makkah Mukar-ma.

## Chashma-V Nuclear Plant: Chinese company gives Rs30bln discount

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif Tuesday said the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding for the 1,200 Megawatt Chashma-V Nuclear Power Plant is a great step forward in economic cooperation between Pakistan and China. Addressing the signing

ceremony of the Memorandum of Understanding for the construction of the Chashma-V Nuclear Power Plant in Islamabad on Tuesday, he said we will kick start it without any further delay. The premier said under a difficult economic situation, Pakistan is up again for an investment of 4.8 billion dollars from China in this project.



## Groundbreaking Ceremony

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif in a group photo with several Federal Minister, senior officials of Islamabad Police and District Administration after the groundbreaking ceremony of National Police Hospital, on Tuesday.



Photo: Online

## Yadgar, Bagh-e-Dastoor, a symbolic tribute to Pakistan's constitutional ideals: NA Speaker

## Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Speaker National Assembly Raja Pervez Ashraf has said that Yadgar-e-Dastoor & Bagh-e-Dastoor were envisioned as symbolic initiatives intended to honor, and uphold the principles enshrined in Pakistan's constitution.

They would stand as a testament to the country's unwavering dedication to democracy, justice, and the rule of law, he said while presiding over the 8th meeting of the Advisory Committee constituted to oversee the preparations of the Golden Jubilee of the Constitution



here in Parliament House.

During the meeting, the committee thoroughly examined and deliberated upon the proposed designs of Yadgar-e-Dastoor presented by the Capital Development Authority. After extensive consultation and voting among the

Members, a final design was selected and approved.

The meeting also approved the basic design of Bagh-e-Dastoor but instructed CDA to present a comprehensive working design that encompassed all aspects.

Furthermore, the concerned body was directed to ensure that the design aligns fully with the fundamental structure of the Constitution.

During the discussion on the restoration of the Old National Assembly Hall, he emphasized necessity for collective efforts from all stakeholders and urged for the immediate commencement of restoration process.

In response to the suggestion of the Speaker of the National Assembly, the Advisory Committee formed a two-member committee to oversee the aspects of awarding and technicalities involved in the restoration process.

The Advisory Committee emphasized importance of strictly adhering to austerity measures during the execution of all commemoration-related activities, as was practiced in the past.

Besides Speaker, the meeting was attended by MNAs Engr. Sabir Hussain Kaim Khani, Dr. Nafisa Shah, Mohsin Dawar, Asiya Azeem, Senior officers from NA, CDA, NADRA and NCA.

## 5th Round of Pakistan-Russia Bilateral Political Consultations

## Spokesman News

ISLAMABAD: The fifth round of Pakistan-Russia Bilateral Political Consultations was held in Islamabad on 20 June 2023. Foreign Secretary Dr. Asad Majeed Khan and Russia's Deputy Foreign Minister Andrey Rudenko, led their respective sides. Special Representative on Afghanistan, Ambassador Zamir Kabulov was also part of the Russian delegation.

The two sides engaged in comprehensive and productive discussions to further strengthen bilateral cooperation and to deepen understanding on regional and global issues of mutual interest. The talks encompassed a wide range of topics including political, economic, defence, energy and people-to-people contacts. The two sides reiterated



their strong desire to deepen and diversify bilateral relations based on the principles of mutual understanding, trust and cooperation. They also expressed satisfaction at the

upward trajectory of cooperation in the field of energy and agreed to expand cooperation in higher education, culture and science and technology. In the realm of security coop-

eration, the delegations reaffirmed their commitment to cooperate in combating terrorism, drug trafficking and organized crime. The two delegations agreed

to enhance cooperation in multilateral forums and exchanged views on regional issues, including the situation in Afghanistan, the Middle East and South Asia. Agreeing that the dividends of peace in Afghanistan would be beneficial for the entire region, they reaffirmed support for efforts for sustainable peace, stability and continued humanitarian assistance to Afghanistan.

The Consultations provided an opportunity to review the trajectory of Pakistan-Russia relations and to explore new areas of cooperation particularly in the context of commemorating the 75th anniversary of Pakistan-Russia diplomatic relations this year. The next round of Pakistan-Russia Bilateral Political Consultations would be held in Moscow on mutually convenient dates.

## India urged to shun brutal policies, pave the way for Kashmir settlement

## City Desk

ISLAMABAD: In Indian illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK), APHC leaders and parties have urged India to shun its anti-Kashmir policies and take sincere steps for the resolution of the Jammu and Kashmir dispute through talks.

APHC leaders Davinder Singh Bhel, Narender Singh Khalsa, Shahid Saleem, Muhammad Aqib, Jammu Kashmir Pirpanchal Freedom Movement and Jammu Kashmir Awami Party in their separate statements issued in Jammu said the oppression was meant to weaken the people of Jammu and Kashmir politically and economically, a Kashmir media service reported.

They said that the Kashmiris' struggle for securing their right to self-determination could not be suppressed through India's

intransigence and brutal policies. They maintained that India should take a cue from Pakistan's unflinching support to the Kashmir cause and seriously engage for the settlement of Kashmir dispute to end uncertainty in the region. The statements also paid glowing tributes to prominent Islamic scholar, Dr Qazi Nisar Ahmad on his 29th martyrdom anniversary.

They said that during the ongoing movement a large number of people, including Hurriyat leaders, religious scholars, academicians and youth had rendered their lives for the Kashmir cause. These sacrifices are precious assets of the liberation movement, they added.

The leaders urged the human rights organizations to take note of the plight of illegally detained Hurriyat leaders and activists languishing in various jails in India and the occupied territory.

## Finance Minister chairs a meeting at FBR Islamabad

## Commerce Report

ISLAMABAD: Federal Finance Minister Mr. Mohammad Ishaq Dar visited the Federal Board of Revenue Headquarters today and chaired a meeting to review the suggestions submitted by the Anomaly Committee-Business and Anomaly Committee-Technical to remove discrepancies identified in the Finance Bill-2023. It may be noted that Chairman FBR Mr. Asim Ahmad had constituted the two Committees on June 13, 2023 to identify and remove the business and technical related anomalies identified in the Finance Bill-2023 and present recommendations to FBR for removal of the same. The meeting was also

## Another anti-Pakistan terrorist, TTP commander Sarbakaf Mohmand dies

## News desk

ISLAMABAD: Another anti-Pakistan terrorist associated with Jamatul Ahrar and Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan Sarbakaf Mohmand has died mysteriously. According to sources, the internal rift between the terrorist outfits has intensified which also resulted into the death of Sarbakaf Mohmand.

Some social media accounts claimed that Sarbakaf was poisoned by unidentified persons. Besides his involvement in terrorist activities, Sarbakaf had been carrying out anti-Pakistan propaganda on social media through Ghazi Media Network handle.

He was also the mastermind of a terrorist attack on Peshawar Police Lines mosque and a score of other terrorist activities.

Considered as a symbol of falsehood and terrorism, he was disliked by the peace-loving



people in the region.

There are also reports that he had differences with his associates owing to his involvement in extortion and immoral conduct.

Another reason behind the differences with Sarbakaf was his earlier association with Jamatul Ahrar thought the group was later merged into Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan. However, despite the merger, the differences prevailed mainly over the dispute over the distribution of area for kidnapping and exploitation of children.

## US Ambassador to Pakistan Donald Blome visited the Gomal Zam Dam



## Adam Khan Wazir

WANA: The US Ambassador to Pakistan Donald Blome visited the Gomal Zam Dam, a multi-purpose water storage facility in the newly merged district of Lower South Waziristan, of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

On this occasion, WAPDA Chairman Lieutenant General Retired Sajjad Ghani and Secretary Agriculture of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

Muhammad Javed Marwat were also with him.

The United States is proud of its \$130 million collaboration with the Government of Pakistan on the Gomal Zam project," said U. S. Ambassador to Pakistan Donald Blome while visiting District South Waziristan Lower.

The dam has provided enough electricity for 20,000 homes. The broader Gomal Zam project has also doubled agricultural production in the region by opening 191,000 acres for local farmers, controlling potential flood damage from impacting more than 30,000 households, and dramatically increasing Pakistan's water storage capacity.

The U. S. and Pakistan continue collaborating under the U. S.-Pakistan "Green Alliance" framework to advance water management, clean energy, and climate-smart agriculture.

## Developing countries trading scheme will boost trade between UK and Pakistan, says Naveed Qamar



## News desk

ISLAMABAD: The Ministry of Commerce of is pleased to announce the launch of the Developing Countries Trading Scheme (DCTS) by the United Kingdom. The DCTS, which replaces the UK's Generalized Scheme of Preferences (GSP), presents significant benefits for Pakistan, further strengthening trade relations between the two countries. While announcing the launch of the DCTS, Syed Naveed Qamar said, "Pakistan will enjoy one of the most generous sets of trading preferences offered by any nation in the world. The scheme offers duty-free access to the UK for 94% of goods exported from Pakistan, significantly

reducing export tariffs. It is projected that Pakistan stands to save approximately £120 million on export tariffs through this scheme." The minister further stated, "Currently, the total trade between the UK and Pakistan amounts to £4.4 billion, and the implementation of the DCTS is expected to enhance these trade ties even further. Pakistan retains its 'Enhanced Preferences' status, which ensures continued preferential access to the UK market." Pakistan, as one of the countries benefiting from the DCTS, is well-positioned to leverage this opportunity for its economic growth. With increased access to the UK market, Pakistani businesses can expand their exports, tap into new consumer bases, and diversify their product offerings. As the DCTS comes into effect, the Ministry of Commerce will work closely with relevant stakeholders to ensure that Pakistani exporters are aware of the scheme's benefits and can capitalize on the new opportunities it presents. The Ministry will provide guidance and support to facilitate the seamless integration of Pakistani businesses into the UK market, further enhancing bilateral trade relations. \*

## Two soldiers martyred in North Waziristan IED blast

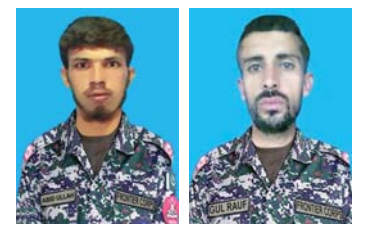
## Adam Khan Wazir

WANA: Two soldiers martyred in an improvised explosive device (IED) blast in Spin Wam North Waziristan. According to Inter Service Public Relations (ISPR), two soldiers Sipoy Gul Rauf and Sipoy Abid Ullah got martyred in the blast.

The army media wing said that the operation was conducted in the area. The ISPR stated that the armed forces of Pakistan are determined to eliminate the menace of terrorism and such sacrifices of our brave soldiers further strengthen our resolve.

In May, a Pakistan Army soldier guarding a polio team embraced martyrdom after an exchange of fire with the terrorists in the North Waziristan district.

On 31 May 2023, terrorists attempted to disrupt the ongoing polio campaign by firing on the members of



the polio team, employed in the Spinwam area of the North Waziristan district.

Security forces, deputed to protect the polio team, effectively engaged terrorists' location ensuring the safety of all members of the team and extricated them unharmed, Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) said in a press release. During the ensuing fire exchange between security forces and the terrorists, Sepoy Saqib Ur Rehman (age 25 years, resident of District Mardan) sacrificed his life in the line of duty, embracing shahadat

## Dairy farmers to hike milk price to Rs280 per liter

## Bureau Report

KARACHI: The dairy farms association is likely to hike the milk price up to Rs280 per litre.

As per details, the meeting between the administration and the dairy farm association to fix the milk price ended without any result.

The Commissioner did not participate in the meeting, however, the Additional Deputy Commissioner and the dairy farm association meeting could not finalize a solution.

The dairy farm association told the administration that the production price of milk is Rs 242 per litre. The dairy farmer pleads to increase

the milk price up to Rs 280 per litre as the production cost has increased.

The Karachi Dairy and Cattle Farmers Association has announced to unilaterally increase milk prices by Rs20 per litre.

According to the Dairy Farmers Association spokesperson, the hike in fuel fodder prices has compelled them to jack up the milk prices.

On February 10, the milk was sold at Rs190 in the metropolitan while the official rate was fixed at Rs180. After the increase, the per litre price of milk soared to Rs210.

Recently, Commissioner Karachi ordered to carry out operations and seal dairy shops selling milk at higher prices.



# Government would provide a people-friendly budget: PMAJK

Abdul Majeed Tahir

MUZAFFARABAD: Prime Minister Chaudhry Anwar ul Haq has said that the government would provide a people-friendly and development-oriented budget in which relief would be given to the poor and economically less privileged class of society.

"Instead of laying a burden on the masses, the government will reduce its expenses to provide relief to lower strata of society", the PM said while



talking to members of different delegations that called on him here today.

He said that the government's main focus was to ensure financial discipline in the state and initiate such projects that tend to generate larger benefits.

"Plans for welfare schemes for poor people have been proposed in the budget", the PM said, adding that a special focus has been given to public-welfare oriented projects to provide basic facilities to ordinary citizens and raise their standard of living.

"An effort has been made to provide maximum relief to the common people", he said, adding that along with further improvement in the health and education sectors, the government was working on a plan to exploit the full potential of tourism and hydel-power generation in Azad Kashmir.

In order to improve the local economy, the PM said that projects have also been proposed in the budget to exploit the tourism potential fully.



Multan Safe train operation meeting is going on under the chairmanship of DS Railway Multan.

## BISP team established more feasible and Easy to access sixteen distribution centers

BANNU: Deputy Director Benazir income support program Bannu region Ishaq wazir has said that they are trying their level best to provide all essential needs in the fixed amount distribution center for deserving beneficiary females.

He added that BISP team established more feasible and Easy to access sixteen distribution centers in the area which are the largest numbers among the any district of the Khyber pakhtunkhwa province.

He expressed these views while checking facilities in BISP amount distribution centers to the beneficiary deserving females, lack of facilities reported in local media on Tuesday. He added that all distribution centers established in Bannu region are more accessible and feasible to all members. He ensured the provision of shades, drinking Water and seating arrangements in all centers.

He also deputed one capable BISP employee per campsite to ensure transparency and to control crowd before emerging any unpleasant situation. Deputy Director BISP Ishaq Khan wazir deputed more than 10 agents per campsites deputed to cater beneficiaries in time

On this occasion he appealed to the masses that they should not bring children in this very much hot weather with themselves to avoid any unexpected incident.

## Officers and Employees Should Active to Ensure Safe Train Operation: Hamad Mirza

Asim Tanveer

MULTAN: Divisional Superintendent Multan Hamad Hasan Mirza has said that the officers and employees should be active all the time to ensure safe train operation, it is our first duty to provide all the facilities to the passengers, win the trust of the passengers and further develop the railway department. While instructing all the officers to work hard and diligently, he said that all the officers must tell all the problems of their respective departments so that they can be solved immediately, while the concerned officers regarding the transfer of railway land and trace passing He expressed these views while presiding over the monthly meeting of divisional officers in the committee room of Railway DS office yesterday while addressing the officers.

On the occasion, DS Railway Multan Division Hammad Hasan Mirza issued instructions to SP Railway Multan Division Shahid Nawaz to speed up the crackdown against trace passing persons.

## Two days holiday notification: A relief for struggling industries

Commerce Desk

KARACHI: It is a relief for the private sector that the efforts and awareness created last time for unnecessary Eid Holidays granted by the government was proved to be fruitful and the Federal caretakers took a wise decision this time around. Chairman Salt Manufacturers Association of Pakistan (SMAP) Ismail Suttar appreciates the government for taking immediate attention to the requests made by industrial stakeholders and the business community.

Two days of Eid holidays grant is enough for the citizens in such horrid economic conditions. It is important for us as a nation to resume offices early in order to start business and financial transactions at earliest. The day of ceasing the economy is looming over our heads and the time has long gone where we could afford exclusive holidays, today's situation demands us to be extra vigilant and hardworking than ever before if we wish to come out of this economic turmoil. "I am glad that the government took heed of this situation and considered the wellness of industrialists unlike last time at the occasion of Eid-ul-Fitr," says Ismail.



## Government again issued notice to Hyderabad Chamber

Qayoom Sarohi

HYDERABAD: Government again issued notice to Hyderabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (HCCI) for violation of rules and sought response within 10 days. The Ministry of Commerce has issued an explanatory notice to the Secretary General of the Hyderabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The notice stated that the Hyderabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (HCCI) did not fulfill the licensing conditions under the organizational norms, while the address of Naaz Shopping Mall was approved to the HCCI but the House still use the rejected address. Despite prohibition by Director General Trade Organization (DGTO) Hyderabad Chamber is using the rejected address, while the reply filed by the Chamber is also unsatisfactory, it is directed that within 10 days of this notice. Inside the company as S. ACP certificate should be produced otherwise legal action will be taken.

## World Refugee Day

ISLAMABAD: A woman is displaying handmade items on her stall during a ceremony on World Refugee Day organized by UNHCR at a local hotel in the Federal Capital.



Photo: Online

## Masood Khawaja valuable asset for the artist community: Aasma Butt

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Renowned director and producer Aasma Butt said that Masood Khawaja was a valuable asset for the artist community. Even though he is no more but he still alive in our hearts. Masood Khawaja's services to art will always be remembered.

She said this to the artists of the twin cities after praying ceremony for the first death anniversary of Masood Khawaja, the famous actor of drama, stage and film, at the Rawalpindi Arts Council. A large number of artists from the twin cities participated in the prayer ceremony for Masood Khawaja (deceased) on Tuesday. Rawalpindi Arts Council Patron General Naheed Manzoor, Director Arts



Council Waqar Ahmed, young producer Sulaiman Sunny were also present on this occasion. For Masood Khawaja's reward, Quran was recited. After that, collective prayer was offered.

After the prayer ceremony, director and producer Aasma Butt while addressing the artists said that late Masood Khawaja had excellence in the art of humor. Artists from other coun-

tries related to art including Pakistan also acknowledge his artistic services. Masood Khawaja was invaluable to us. He will be missed forever. He is alive in our hearts even after being separated.

## A protest rally will be held at Faisalabad Railway Station

Mian Rashid Asghar.

FAISALABAD: A protest rally will be held at Faisalabad Railway Station at 10:15 am on Thursday, June 22, as part of the nationwide protest day against non-payment of salaries of railway employees and dues of retired employees, non-permanence of TLA employees,

This was stated by M. Khalid Mahmood Chaudhry, Central Chief Organizer, Pakistan Railway (PR) PREM Union (CBA) Faisalabad Zone, Lahore Division.

According to the sources, said protest will comprise the financial protection of the employees who have always been performing their duties dedicatedly but are deprived of their rights of salaries. Nonpayment of the Emoluments of the retired employees has made life a hard nut to crack for their families. Khalid Mahmood Ch. has also demanded to ensure the services of the adhoc employees as permanent on priority.

# Ericsson rides the next wave of 5G with new RedCap solution

Spokesman Report

KARACHI: Ericsson unveiled today a new reduced capability RAN software that will enable new 5G use cases and enhance existing ones for an array of devices such as smartwatches, other wearables, and industry sensors by lowering complexity and extending battery life.

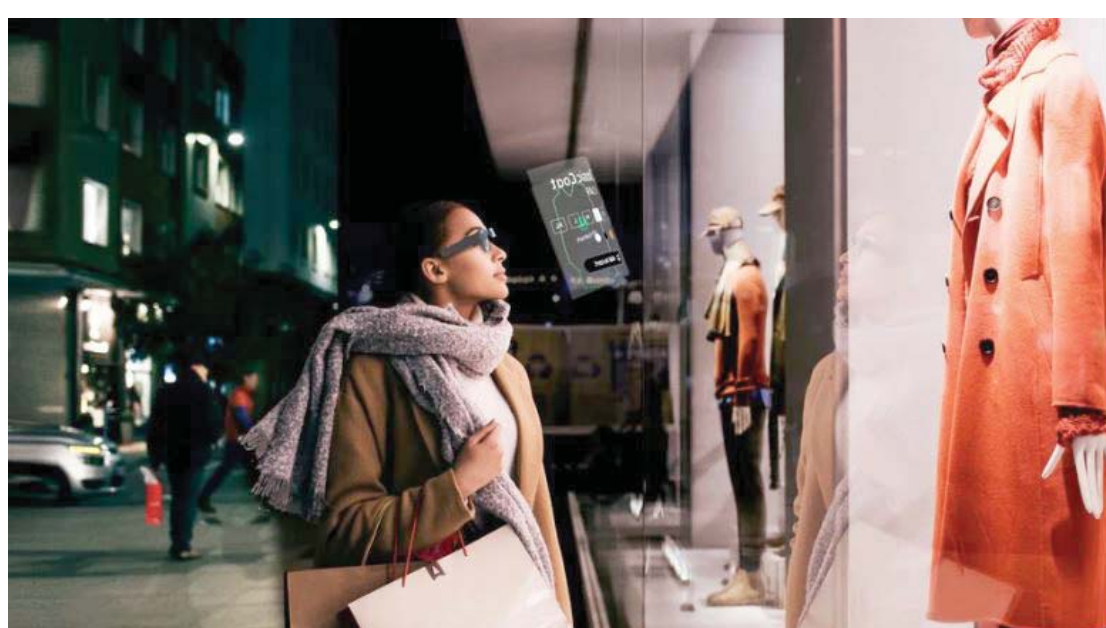
Known as Ericsson Reduced Capability (RedCap), the solution will be commercially ready in November 2023 as a software addition to 5G standalone (5G SA) networks powered by Ericsson, with no need for any new hardware. RedCap will strengthen the ecosystem for new types of devices that can be connected to 5G networks.

An expanded New Radio (NR) device ecosystem with new capabilities will in turn spur the growth of even more 5G use cases. Ericsson RedCap will support leaner procedures for optimizing device energy consumption and enable wearables that are currently only available with LTE devices.

David Hammarwall, Head of Product Area Networks, Ericsson, says: "Ericsson Reduced Capability will open up a new world of possibilities for new types of devices that do not require the full range of 5G's capabilities. The RedCap software will enhance 5G connectivity for everything from consumer wearables to industrial sensors in a way that is both cost- and energy-efficient, unlocking a whole range of new use cases."

With the new 5G radio access network (RAN) software solution, communications service providers can offer more connectivity options for diverse consumer and enterprise use cases and in industrial settings on the FDD (frequency division duplex) and TDD (time division duplex) spectrums.

Ericsson RedCap will support devices with reduced complexity such as low-end augmented reality (AR) wearables, video surveillance equipment, industrial sensors, and smart grids. The new solution is more energy-effi-



cient than existing LTE low categories and it has already caught the attention

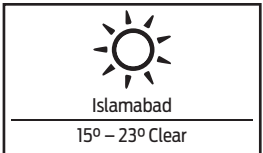
of the wearable OEM (original equipment manufacturer) industry.

Bill Stone, Vice President for Technology Planning at Verizon, says: "5G

is designed fundamentally as a highly customizable service. The evolution of NR RedCap from Ericsson, coupled with the advanced technologies deployed throughout our 5G network, will serve to bring that customization to life for a variety of devices, allowing us to efficiently allocate network resources while giving customers the best possible experience on our network. We look forward to how this advancement will help evolve the 5G ecosystem."

Ericsson is closely collaborating with leading chipset vendors to bring multiple types of 5G devices to the market. HC Hwang, General Manager of Wireless Communication Systems & Partnerships at MediaTek, says: "MediaTek's upcoming solutions supporting 5G RedCap will certainly benefit from Ericsson's infrastructure readiness, ensuring that operators, consumers and businesses can immediately benefit from the next generation of innovative 5G products and services."





**SERVICES**

**Namaz Timings**

Fajr	3:14 am
Zohr	12:09 pm
Asr	5:10 pm
Maghrib	7:21 pm
Isha	9:05 pm

**EMERGENCY**

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

**Women Police Stations**

Islamabad	9222596
Rawalpindi	9270601-20

**ENQUIRY**

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

**HOSPITALS**

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

**DEPARTMENTS**

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

**COMPLAINTS**

Water Tanker Service	
E-7, F-10 & F-11	9204654
G-5, G-6, G-7, G-8	9203883
G-9, G-10, G-11, G-12, H-8	9266316
Wapda Islamabad	9217579-80
Sui Gas Complaint	119, 9272249
Wasa Water Tank	
Rawalpindi	0331-5022125

*SCO is all set to revolutionize the digital landscape of Mirpur Tehsil of AJ&K*

**Commerce desk**

ISLAMABAD: Special Communications Organization (SCO) a leading telecom organization in Azad Jammu & Kashmir (AJ&K) and Gilgit Baltistan (GB) is committed to ushering Azad Jammu & Kashmir into a new era of innovation by driving digitization efforts across the region. With a focus on digitalization, SCO is actively working in over 35 tehsils in Azad Jammu & Kashmir, spearheading the transformation. Mirpur stands fortunate as the first tehsil to experience the benefits of digitization through high-speed optical fiber internet. Currently, the fiber cable work has been completed 100% in all the districts of Mirpur. This initiative is set to revolutionize education, foster online businesses and open up opportunities for online jobs, bringing the region on par with global standards. In the initial phase, 40% of all villages in Azad Jammu & Kashmir will be provided with reliable digital infrastructure.

# Babar Ali Foundation supports LUMSx

**Spokesman Report**

ISLAMABAD: The Babar Ali Foundation (BAF) has pledged its generous support for LUMSx, a digital learning platform launched by LUMS. LUMSx is offering a rich set of diverse courses across various disciplines, making education accessible across socioeconomic and geographic barriers. Through LUMSx, the University will broaden its reach to provide high-quality education.

Recently, LUMSx was formally celebrated, giving thanks to Syed Babar Ali and BAF, members of LUMS senior leadership, and the LUMSx team. Mr. Ali commended the efforts of the University to launch the initiative, saying, "I'd like to thank the Vice Chancellor DR. Arshad Ahmad and Director DR. Suleman Shahid for breathing life into LUMSx. This platform offers the LUMS community an opportunity to learn beyond the classroom, reaffirming LUMS' goal to not only serve its students but also to reach a much wider audience across Pakistan and beyond."

The event was hosted by LUMSx Director Dr. Suleman Shahid, who showcased both completed courses and those in progress, highlighting the collaboration with Arbisoft as well as LUMSx's work



with centres like Continuing Education Studies and the LUMS Learning Institute. Along with Founding Pro-Chancellor Syed Babar Ali, Rector Mr. Shahid Hussain, Vice Chancellor DR. Arshad Ahmad, Executive Director for Strategic Initiatives DR. Mohammed Ali Khan, Provost DR. Tariq Jadoon, Senior Adviser for Strategic Projects Dr. Launa Gauthier, and Dean of the Syed Babar Ali School of Engineering Dr. Sabieh Anwar. Syed Hyder Ali, CEO of Bulleh Shah Packaging, was also present to represent BAF.

Dr. Ahmad highlighted the vital role LUMSx plays in the evolution of Paki-

stan's digital education landscape, stating, "LUMS has consistently been a trailblazer in expanding access to top-tier education and fostering a diverse community. With LUMSx, we aim to establish a benchmark for online education in Pakistan and motivate other institutions to participate."

Mr. Shahid Hussain echoed this sentiment, adding, "I am confident that LUMSx programmes will soon set the standard nationally, and the digital nature of this platform will allow us to transcend geographical limitations. LUMSx represents both a responsibility and an opportunity for all of us to propel this forward."

# Score Entry Test All in one day activity will be held at Islamabad Career College

**City Desk**

ISLAMABAD: Score Entry Test All in one day activity will be held at Islamabad Career College Kayani Road Bhara Kahu Campus and Ghori Garden Campus. The first activity of the competition will be held on June 22 at 9:00 PM at ICC Auditorium Kayani Road Bhara Kahu. The second activity will be held on June 23 at 9:00 PM at ICC Ghori Garden. While regular entry test classes will be started from June 24 in both branches. In the All in one day activity test, the first, second and third position holders will be given a cash prizes. CEO



Islamabad Career Colleges Private Limited Javed Intizar said in the policy statement of SCORE Entrance Test preparation classes that SCORE Entrance Test has provided hostels for the students from remote backward areas of the country like Kashmir, Murree, Gilgit-Baltistan, Balochistan and other areas.

The facility has been arranged. Students from remote areas of the country will be given hostel facilities in separate buildings. Thirty percent scholarship will be given to the students who use the hostel facilities in these areas. The entry test has also given 30% scholarship in fee to the hard working and capable students who get 90% marks in the first year. Javed Intizar said that the entry test has been hired by expert and experienced teachers. Score Entry Test, Students of Islamabad Career Colleges and Academies are studying in the country's renowned medi-

cal colleges and engineering and other universities on merit. Thirty percent scholarship in fee has been decided to honor and encourage career students.

He further said in the Score Entry Test policy statement that Score Entry Test is an affordable and quality education institution.

SCORE has kept the fees lower than other institutes offering entrance tests. SCORE Entry Test is fully capable of taking the top positions of the country. The planning formula of Entry Test Classes Lectures, Test Sessions, Discussions, and Paper Marking, Tips & Tricks is a guarantee of success.

# AkzoNobel debuts its first Dulux Experience Store in Pakistan

**Commerce Desk**

LAHORE: AkzoNobel Pakistan Ltd, a leading global manufacturer of paints and coatings, today inaugurated its first ever Dulux Experience Store in Pakistan in the bustling city of Lahore. Developed on the concept of "See, Touch and Feel", a multi-sensory experience awaits consumers as they step into the first ever Dulux Experience Store in the country. "At AkzoNobel, we are seeing an increasing trend of modern families having different needs for different areas across the home interiors and exteriors. Homeowners are now seeking expert advice on the additional benefits of paints such as enhanced durability, easy maintenance, protecting homes from weath-



er, dust, alkali while providing health and wellness benefits to the family as well. However, getting credible information under one roof is still a challenge. At the Dulux Experience Store in Bahria Town, we hope that customers can experience the benefits of Dulux paint more easily before making a

final purchase decision," said Mubbasher Omar, Chief Executive Officer, AkzoNobel Pakistan Limited.

Guided by experts, homeowners can now see the entire range of Dulux in Pakistan, understand the unique product features across the range, directly touch and feel the

results of Dulux products when applied to walls and choose between the industry's most exhaustive option of 2000+ colour shades, before choosing the most appropriate paint for their family with a new sense of confidence. When implemented, Dulux Experience Store always collaborates with the local store owner. This time, AkzoNobel collaborated with GS Paint for the Dulux Experience Store in Bahria Town locality.

At the Dulux Experience Store, Dulux also aims to elevate the peace-of-mind of homeowners through the Dulux Assurance program. This #DuluxKaWaada gives confidence to consumers that Dulux paint will give them the Perfect Colour, Uniform Finish and the Coverage stated, else the paint will be replaced\*.

# NTDC restores 132 kV transmission line in record time, 03 wind power plants reconnected to the National Grid

**News Desk**

LAHORE: In compliance to the directions of the Federal Minister for Energy (Power Division), Engr. Khurram Dastgir Khan, NTDC has completed the rehabilitation works on eight collapsed towers of the 132kV double-circuit transmission line in record time in the Jhimpir wind corridor near Hyderabad. The transmission line, which evacuates power from the 50 MW Indus, 50 MW Liberty-1 and 50 MW Liberty-2 wind power plants has been successfully energized, last night.

In the aftermath of cyclone Biparjoi, heavy rains and strong winds, 08 towers of the 132 kV transmission line suffered damage, resulting in the disruption of power supply. This transmission line plays a critical role in delivering power from the wind power plants to the 220/132 kV Jhimpir-II grid station.

Engr. Khurram Dastgir Khan, accompanied by Managing Director NTDC, Engr. Dr. Rana Abdul Jabbar Khan, personally visited the site on Thursday, 15th June 2023, to oversee the restoration efforts. The Federal Minister commended the NTDC teams for their exceptional performance and efficiency in restoring the transmission line within a significantly short period of time. MD NTDC expressed his appreciation for the dedication and hard work of the Project Delivery (South) teams, acknowledging their outstanding contribution to the successful completion of the restoration work.

# Public Defence of Iqra University's Ph. D. Scholar will be held on Jun 22, 2023

**News Desk**

KARACHI: Faculty of Business Administration Iqra University's PhD Scholar Mr. Meer Rujab Naseem's Public Defence will be held on Thursday Jun 22, 2023 at 03:00 pm at ORIC. Scholars, Faculty members and students of the same field will participate in it.

Mr. Meer Rujab Naseem completed his PhD Dissertation under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Ayub Mehar. As per HEC requirements, his PhD Dissertation has already been approved by foreign evaluators.

# AIOU to establish Swift centers across Pakistan

**City Desk**

ISLAMABAD: Allama Iqbal Open University has decided to establish "AIOU SWIFT Centers" across the country for the convenience of students and to ensure they have access to essential information related to academics, admissions, and examinations. After the digitization of AIOU, there was a need to provide online facilities to students in remote areas of the country, where internet and computer facilities are not available to students. On the special instructions of Vice Chancellor AIOU, Prof. Dr. Nasir Mahmood, the university established state-of-the-art computer labs in the regional offices of AIOU in the first phase to provide students free internet and computer facilities.

Now in the second phase, AIOU SWIFT Centers are being established across the country, providing all necessary information and facilities to existing and new students. These SWIFT Centers will be duly registered with AIOU to promote the academic services and activities of the university and serve as a digital facility center for students. Applications have been invited for the establishment of these centers. In this regard, an advertisement has been published in the national newspapers yesterday, containing all the information about terms and conditions, and procedures for the establishment of SWIFT centers. Individuals having requisite facilities can apply online at swift.aiou.edu.pk. The last date for submission of the online application is July 7, 2023.

# Open House 2023 held in Foundation University

**City Desk**

ISLAMABAD: The Open House 2023 was held on Tuesday, June 20 at the Foundation University School of Science & Technology (FUSST) The Department of Arts & Media, in collaboration with the Department of English and Psychology led the event and it provided students with opportunities to interact with faculty members, alumni and industry professionals to build their professional networks. Moreover, the event featured student projects, tours of facilities and interactive sessions for prospective students. The event hosted officials from dozens of national and multinational organizations



to further strengthen the liaison between the campus and the industry in order to find appropriate places for its graduates and serve the needs of the ever-evolving industry in today's highly competitive market. In the end, Pro Rector/Director Foundation University Rawalpindi Campus, Brig. Dr Abdul Ghafoor visited the respective stall members and acknowledged them for their efforts.

# IIUI, YJA Hold Interactive Dialogue on Media, Academia Linkage

**City Desk**

ISLAMABAD: International Islamic University Islamabad (IIUI) and Young Journalist Association (YJA) have agreed to initiate mutual cooperation in the fields of professional training, media dialogues and academia & media linkages. An interactive dialogue between IIUI and YJA was conducted here at the new campus of the university that was chaired by H. E. Dr. Hathal Homoud Alotaibi, President IIUI. It was also attended by Vice President Female Campus, Dr. Samina Malik, Vice President Administration and Finance Dr. Nabi Bux Jumani, Head of the Department of Media and Communication Studies Dr. Inam ur Rehman, Officers of Protocol and Public Relations and team of YJA. Speaking on the occasion, H. E.

Dr. Hathal Hamoud Alotaibi said that the university has been put on the track of academic excellence and infrastructural development in recent three years. He mentioned that the university has shined in all leading global university rankings. He said that IIUI is having a distinctive vision across the Muslim world and its services are focused to address the issues of societies through research and dialogue. He said that IIUI has academic figures and experts who are world acclaimed and they are nurturing the Muslim World youth as per modern needs of society. He also mentioned the importance of media in dissemination of variety's vision as well as he discussed the positive use of social and digital media. YJA President hailed the service of the university and vision of Dr.

Hathal Hamoud Alotaibi. He was of the view that university and YJA through conferences, seminars and training workshops can help the graduating students to build their beginning of careers in a positive manner. The representatives of the association underscored the importance of new media stating that its positive and constructive use can lead the youth to build the society and change its fate. On the occasion, Dr. Samina Malik apprised of the university vision, its distinctions, recent achievements and background of the institution. She said the media being the fourth pillar of state has an imperative part in shaping the life of people. She said collaboration between the education sector and media can lead to addressing the needs of society.



Dr. Nabi Bux Jumani said young journalists are the real asset of the media fraternity and their interest in the education sector and its development is a positive omen. He said IIUI and all of its departments shall be among the leading ranks to collaborate with YJA.



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# Through knowledge and action, a person attains honor and dignity

Quotations from Dr. Abdur-Rahman Rafat Pasha, author of Seerat Tabiin: Salman bin Abdul Malik! The Caliph of Muslims, the greatest ruler of the Islamic world. The greatest king, among the kings of the world. He is circumambulating the House of Allah very humbly. Wearing an Ithram and a cloak with bare head and bare feet. The circumambulation is over. Then Caliph Salman bin Abdul Malik asked one of his courtiers, "Where is your benefactor?" The caliph turned in the direction that was indicated and the two sons of the caliph also started following behind. The Caliph's bodyguards moved forward and began to clear the way for him, but the Caliph stopped them. He said, don't say anything to peoples. This is the place where the king and the beggar are equal. The Caliph walked and approached the man who was engaged in prayer. People were sitting behind him, right and left, waiting for him to finish the prayer. If so, get the honor of talking, Caliph Salman bin Abdul Malik also sits on one side. And also makes his sons sit next to him.

religious sciences. Hazrat Ata (ra) was a slave of a woman of Makkah in his childhood. Allah blessed him that even in such a low condition he was attracted towards the acquisition of knowledge. He reached that which cannot be imagined. He benefited a large number of his creatures with his knowledge. Among his audience there were also scholars. Those related to industry and crafts and common people too. To what extent people have benefited from this fountain. We give an example of this below:

Hazrat Imam-e-Azam Abu Hanifah Nu'man (ra) narrates one of his incidents as follows: "When I performed the Hajj, I made five mistakes in connection with the rituals of Hajj and a barber informed me of my mistakes".

"It happened that when I decided to shave my head to be free from the restriction of Ithram, I went to a barber's shop and inquired crossly! What is the cost for shaving the head?" He said. May Allah guide you; there is no bargaining in worship. Give whatever you can accord your ability. I felt very ashamed and sat down, but my face was not towards the Qiblah. Barber, instructed me to face towards Qiblah. I immediately fell turns towards Qiblah and I was ashamed of my other ignorance. When the stage of shaving came, I approached him from the left side to shave my head. He said forward to

the right. I moved forward to the right and he started shaving my hair. I was sitting silently.

The barber said, what has happened to you? Why are you silent? Say Takbeer. I started to say Allahu Akbar, Allahu Akbar. When I finished this, I got up to leave. The barber asked where you are planning to go. I replied to go to the accommodation. He said, first pray two rakats and then go wherever you want.

I prayed two rakats and started thinking; such a learned man should not be a barber. Then I asked, about the rituals of Hajj. Where did you get the things you ordered me to do? He replied. May God bless you; I have seen Hazrat Ata (ra) bin abi Rabah doing the same. I have remembered his actions. And I keep drawing people's attention to act accordingly.

It is narrated that once Hazrat Abdullah bin Hazrat Umar (RA) intended to go to Makkah for the purpose of Umrah and when he reached Makkah, the people broke up to find out the rulings of Sharia about the problems of life. He (RA) said, O people, Macca! I am very surprised by you people that you have gathered around me to find out the issues and rulings of the Shariah, even though you have a personality like Hazrat Ata (ra) bin Abi Rabah. Once Hazrat Muhammad (ra) bin Suqa, a group of his visitors He said: "Shall I not tell you a hadith, perhaps it

will benefit you as it has benefited me?" People said yes, yes, Hazrat Muhammad (ra) bin Suqa said. One day Hazrat Ata (ra) bin Abi Rabah advised me, O nephew! Our forefathers used to disapprove of useless talk. I said, what was useless talk to them. He said, they used to consider every word except the Book of Allah as useless, so that effort should be spent on reading and understanding it "Amar bilmaruf and Nahi an al-Munkar", or knowledge of religion or a discussion based on some personal need or economic need, without which there is no choice. They considered everything useless. Then they looked at my face and wondered. He said in a funny tone:

Do you deny the fact that highly respected angels are tasked with compiling a record of your deeds. Each of you is accompanied by two angels on the right and left. Nothing comes out of your mouth that they do not preserve. He further said: If the Book of Deeds is placed in front of us, we will surely feel ashamed that most of what is in it is of religion and not of this world.

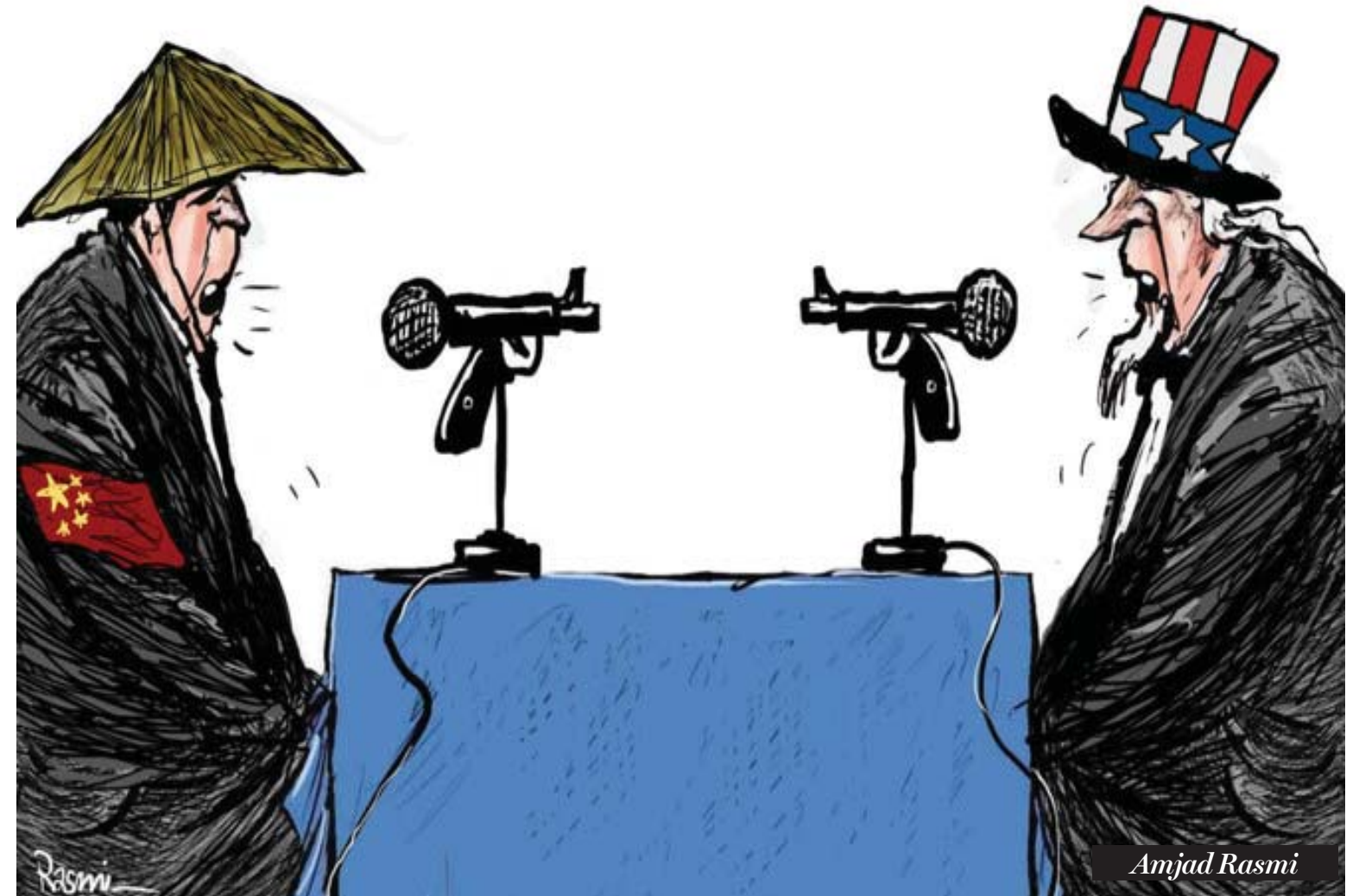
In the form of knowledge and action, Hazrat Ata (ra) bin abi Rabah's goods for the hereafter were very much, rather it should be said that his play was a little more than what people were feeling. Seventy Hajj, were his Tusha hereafter. He was passed away at Makkah. The life of Hazrat Ata (ra) bin abi Rabah Tabie was the best example of knowledge and action.

Writer is senior Analyst and can be reached at [javedullahraja@gmail.com](mailto:javedullahraja@gmail.com)

Analysis



Javed Ullah Raja



Amjad Rasmi

## Work for Pakistan's vital interests

Pakistan's Ambassador to the United States, Masood Khan, on Monday met members of the Pakistani community in Atlanta, capital of the U.S. state of Georgia, and urged them to work for the vital interests of the country.

"You are pillars and pivots of Pak-US relations," the ambassador told a cheering gathering of the community members, calling them "hidden nuggets".

Welcoming the ambassador, the President of the Pakistani-American Friends of Atlanta (PAFA), Sanam Azeem, highlighted that the Pakistani community in Atlanta was the most charitable, hospitable and service-oriented.

Dr Sania Niaz, President APPNA (Association of Physicians of Pakistani descent in North America) Georgia chapter, highlighted the contributions being made by the organization in providing services to the underserved areas of the country along with other humanitarian activities especially during calamities.

Raabia Bhatti, President OPEN Atlanta, said the organization was focusing on developing, connecting and inspiring the Pakistani community in Atlanta. She said OPEN Atlanta was endeavouring to engage the community in all possible ways and to find and create opportunities for the future generations coming to Atlanta.

The President Atlanta Citizen Foundation (TCF), Abdullah Jaffery, said his organization was trying to bring about positive change in the country through education.

The Vice President Carter Centre Kashaf Ijaz, Engro Board Member, Henna Inam, Magistrate Judge with Cobb County Tauqeer Chouhan, Pastor Younus Farhat, Rahim Shah Akhunkhail, Pakistan Business Council (Georgia) and Voices of Muslims, also spoke on the occasion.

Georgia State Senator Shaikh Rahman, a Bangali-American born in Pakistan, also joined in welcoming the ambassador.

Consul General Muhammad Aftab Chaudhry said the Pakistani community was adding to the beauty and diversity of the United States. "You are a bridge between two nations and the two countries."

Underscoring the important role being played by the community in cementing Pak-US relations, Ambassador Masood Khan observed that the Pakistani community was the most reliable factor in the process.

"We must continue upholding good name and honour of Pakistan, especially in foreign lands," the ambassador said. He advised the community to work for the vital interests of the country.

Urging unity among the community for larger interests, the ambassador said the nation-building was a long journey that required perseverance and continued struggle.

He said the Consulate and the Embassy were employing modern technology to better serve the community.

## A nation on the brink: Urgent steps required to safeguard our future

Take note of the challenge's magnitude. In real terms, the economy is contracting and regressing. Our indices of human resources are pathetic. A significant number of our school-age children do not attend. On wellbeing we spend pitifully and what is distributed is wasted or appropriated. There are no plans in place to make good use of the majority of allocations. In a fragile economy and a drifting society, the annual budget is only a pointless exercise because the majority of expenditures are already predetermined as obligatory debt repayments. The economy is only sufficient for subsistence and is based on agriculture. Others have made a niche out of it, advanced to industrial levels, and built on it. We cannot even meet our basic requirements. Instead, we import wheat net of value.

Would could it be that isn't known or perceived by our political initiative to turn the economy around? It requires significant modifications to the matrices that have been shown to fail? Anyone looking to earn foreign currency should follow these guidelines: identify markets and tailor products to those markets. Is it deliberate neglect? Or numbness? Or on the other hand an outlook which is prohibitive?

In services, then. Which of the money makers are they? IT? What have we done to help our youth who are unemployed become productive contributors to the economy by

providing them with training workshops and related education and training? The untalented and the not so knowledgeable can be shown abilities in accommodation and nursing for business sectors in the Center East. Why haven't we been able to move up from base labor to higher-skilled labor? There is unquestionably sufficient literature on improving one's skills in order to fill jobs and earn valuable foreign exchange.

The prime minister, on the other hand, devotes all of his time and energy to disparaging a feared political opposition. He has never spoken about the problems with society or the economy. His method is always straightforward and convenient. A futile plan is for him to borrow more money to pay for more. He never discusses developing more or delivering more and how. That is our problem: uninformed, uneducated, power-hungry, and purposeless politics with a penchant for public relations. Due to a lack of intellectual understanding, political goals are more about power than about serving the public good. Newer or more progressive political approaches that are appropriate to the needs of the economy and society of the twenty-first century are shunned by traditional politics, which tries to maintain the status

quo through tolerance, servile acceptance, and mutual accommodation.

We completely lack vision in leadership. Clearly absent are sincerity—or the lack thereof—and the empathy necessary to relate to the needs of the smallest segments of society. The majority of attention is focused on one's own, familial, or tribal interests. Given that some of the allocations will be used for personal gain and the rest will not be used for the benefit of the public. What is, is generally a cover for what is taken, which is most. Only the already-rich and powerful elites gain from legislation. Society is experiencing disruptions and turmoil as a result of the gap between the haves and the have-nots.

A government that relies on debt and deficits to function will not hesitate to delegate responsibility. The recent tendency of political parties to deliberately burden the economy with errors and costs burdens incoming governments, rendering governance impossible. The innocent majority suffers as a result of this polarized aversion to the other. The rupee lost value as a result of near-hyperinflation and unbearable living costs. There has to be a way out of this perplexing predicament. We face imminent default on our obligations. We are imbued with political machinations to achieve meaning-

less ends rather than investigating how the nation or its government might chart a path out of this situation.

The 1142 individuals who serve as representatives for their constituents in the five legislative assemblies are housed in 500 families. The problem lies there. They primarily rely on their dynastic power to restrict representation to those families. Even when they lose an election, they lose to another family of dynastic politicians who are similar to them. The remaining 99.9% of the nation, who are blatantly neglected and left to their own devices, have been disenfranchised as a result of this power struggle between a small number of individuals. As a result, a nation comes to an apparent end. However, based on the daily press conferences and events in parliament, one might conclude that the most immediate threat to us is a person or party on the opposing side.

Restructuring the entire governance structure is necessary, but special interests prevent anyone from doing so. As a result, we survive on system surplus oxygen. When leadership was lacking the previous time, half of the country was lost; This time, we need to make sure that it won't be the others. We still fall far short of the standard required to safeguard the nation and its people from such evil.

Writer is political science student at Quaid I Azam University in Islamabad.

Analysis



Muhammad Usama

Analysis



Abdul Basit Alvi

## Pak Army on target - II

Although financial audit is the basis yet the work of Defense Audit Department encompasses the entire ambit of the P. M.A. D. Audit Reports, Advance Paras, Draft Paras and discussions etc. are the major tools of accountability by the Defense Audit. Other activity is done by the Services Headquarters, as they have their own scientific sources of information which remain on task to watch the functioning of the P. M.A. D. Where required, the P. M.A. D's working, activities, decisions, policies are reported to the Ministry of Defense either directly or through J. S. Headquarters. Annual inspection of all CsMA is carried out by inspection parties of Dy. M. A.G. In order to check the efficiency and working of CsMA office, yearly inspection is carried out by the teams deputed by the M. A.G and CMAs are bound to ensure the rectification of errors pointed out in the Inspection Reports. The reports are discussed with the CMAs and irregularities are corrected. The audit of all Units/Formations is carried out on half yearly basis. Besides general scrutiny of the accounts for the entire period one month in a half year period is selected for detailed audit.

Readers, Pak Army recruitment system is fully transparent and merit based. Recruitment is being done from across Pakistan including Azad Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan. The recruitment in Pakistan Army for the officer cadre and other ranks is done through a selection system which includes physical, academic and mental tests. After getting tough training at PMA and regimental centers, all ranks are sent to units to face the real action.

Then, these elements spread false propaganda about gap and differences between juniors and seniors of armed forces. According to Masud Ahmed Khan, the question is;

why would someone sacrifice their life—the simple reasons are faith, love for their country, discipline and esprit de corps. The word discipline comes from the Latin word disciplina, meaning teaching and training, derived from the word discere, to learn. It is a way of life taught at the PMA which improves conduct of an individual by training, leadership and obedience of orders at all times in letter and spirit, cheerfully. The objective of discipline in the Pakistan Army is to produce quality soldiers who are upright and stand by their subordinates and follow the instructions of their superiors during trying conditions at the cost of life. Today, the difference of opinion is never regarded as an act of disobedience and often officers are encouraged to express their opinion and ask questions from senior officers including the COAS. All ranks fight for the honour and safety of Pakistan. Today, the casualty ratio of officers, especially young officers, is much higher and the role of junior officers has assumed greater importance. They lead from the front; therefore the risk of being killed is greater than their men. During training, all ranks at PMA and regimental centers take pride in the profession and display a high degree of esprit de corps and a high standard of discipline which is evident from the standard of passing out parades.

Readers, it is not good at all to see this false propaganda against our defenders. The sequence and timings of these continuous attempts and their possible link with any specific group, party or sect needs to be thoroughly investigated. No one should be allowed to defame and spread false propaganda against Pak Army. It's time to take solid action against such malicious actions.

Concluded



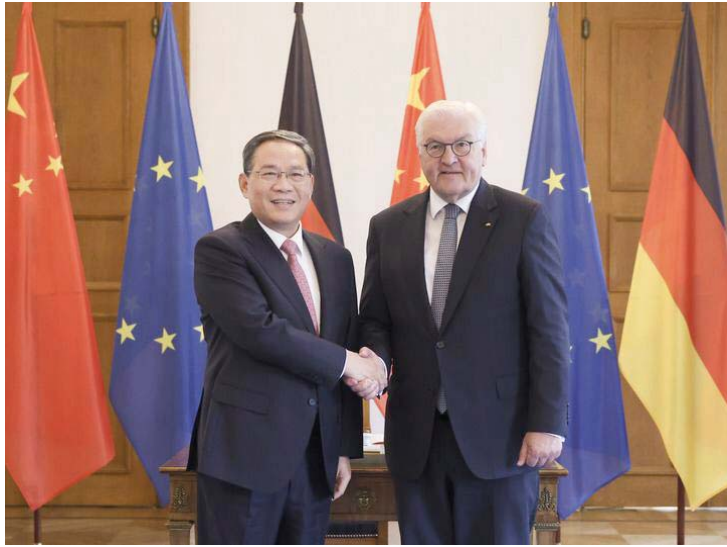
# Chinese premier calls for more cooperation between China, Germany

Xinhua

BERLIN: China is ready to work with Germany to elevate China-Germany relations to a new level, so as to better serve the development of the two countries and inject more positive energy and stability into the world, said Chinese Premier Li Qiang during talks with German Chancellor Olaf Scholz on Tuesday.

Li noted that when Scholz visited China in November last year, President Xi Jinping had in-depth exchanges with him, charting the direction for the future development of China-Germany relations.

As influential countries, China and Germany, who are credible and reliable partners on the road to modernization, should work more closely



together, said Li.

Since the establishment of diplomatic relations 51 years ago, China and Germany have continued to deepen dialogue and cooperation in the spirit of mutual respect and mutual benefit, forged an all-round strategic partnership, and jointly promoted the sound and steady development of China-EU relations, he said.

Li proposed tackling climate change as one of the guiding visions for China-Germany cooperation in the future.

The two countries should promote cooperation in green technology and industry, and explore the establishment of a rational and orderly division of labor in the green energy industry chain, he added.

*Pakistanis have made their mark in the food business of various sectors in UK*



Arif Chaudhary

MANCHESTER: Pakistanis have made their mark in the food business of various sectors in the United Kingdom. Today, Solicitor Ismail, son of Britain's top charted accountant Waseem Yasin, brother of the famous business and literary personality Chaudhry Sikandar, is on Wemsley Road in Manchester. Waseem organized the grand opening of the new restaurant AFRICANA and prayer ceremony in which Kashmiri Pakistanis from all sectors of Greater Manchester participated. Former member of the European Parliament Dr. Sajjad Haider Karim treated the guests with African Halal cuisine. On this occasion, Dr. Sajjad Karim Haider said that we are happy that our Pakistani brothers are doing such big business abroad. And the literary personality Chaudhry Sikandar thanked all the guests for attending the opening ceremony. Prominent journalist anchor Dr. Hamid Khan said that their food is very good. I have made a combination of African food and Pakistani food, I hope people will like the food. There is hope in the community. Will enjoy his food. Especially our young generation will get a good environment along with food

# SAP Discovery Day-Unveil Cloud Path to Become Sustainable and Intelligent

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: SAP, the world-renowned provider of enterprise software solutions, organized Discovery Day event in Karachi with the theme "Become an Intelligent, Sustainable Enterprise." The event aimed to educate and empower businesses with the knowledge and tools needed to embark on a digital transformation journey, to become an intelligent, competitive and sustainable organization.

The SAP Discovery Day brought together industry leaders, experts, and professionals from various sectors to share insights, best practices, and success stories related to digital transformation.

In his welcome remarks, SAP's Senior Vice President Middle East and North Africa, Ahmed Al-Faifi, said, "We gather here to explore the transformative power of digitalization and its potential to shape a more intelligent and sustainable future for businesses."



gent and sustainable future for businesses.

Saqib Ahmad, Managing Director of SAP Pakistan, Iraq, and Afghanistan in his address on Future of Digital Disruption in Pakistan highlighted the immense potential of digitalization and how it is reshaping the business landscape in

Pakistan.

Paul Candy, Head of SAP on Amazon Web Services (AWS) further added, "Technology supports and enables organizations to create new channels to market, improve employee productivity, lift customer engagement and do more with less."

SAP Senior Executives,

Erhan Kani Ergün, Director, Business Development, S/4HANA Cloud COE, EMEA South, and Stamatia Betsi, Climate Action & Sustainability Business Development Expert EMEA South, also shared their expertise and achievements in digitization for charting a stronger course forward.

*German side welcomes China's development and prosperity*



Xinhua

BERLIN: Germany rejects all forms of decoupling and "de-risking" is not "de-sinicization," said German Chancellor Olaf Scholz here on Tuesday.

The German side welcomes China's development and prosperity, which is conducive to world peace and stability, he said during a meeting with visiting Chinese Premier Li Qiang.

He also pledged that Germany is committed to developing stable relations with China, and is willing to further strengthen bilateral exchanges, deepen mutually beneficial cooperation and forge more consensus for cooperation in addressing climate change and boosting green development, among others.

Germany supports two-way investment and will provide a sound business environment for Chinese enterprises to invest in the country, he said.

*PRCS Chairman calls on Ambassador of Germany*

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Chairman Pakistan Red Crescent Society Sardar Shahid Ahmed Laghari held a meeting with the Ambassador of Germany to Pakistan, H. E. Alfred Grannas here on Tuesday. H. E. Alfred Grannas warmly welcomed Sardar Shahid Ahmed Laghari to the German Embassy. Both the dignitaries engaged in discussions encompassing various topics, including bilateral relations and the importance of strengthening cooperation for the betterment of humanity.



During the meeting, Sardar Shahid Ahmed Laghari provided a comprehensive overview of the programs and initiatives of the Pakistan Red Crescent Society, specifically regarding rescue, relief, rehabilitation, and reconstruction efforts in response to the recent floods in Pakistan. He mentioned that PRCS has been actively assisting in 55 districts of the country, benefiting over 2.7 million people through the provision of tents, food, non-food items, shelter, cash assistance, and essential household items to those affected.

The Chairman of PRCS further highlighted the organization's significant contributions since the 2005 earthquake. With the support of the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners and external potential donors, PRCS has responded to over 45 major emergencies and disasters across Pakistan, providing relief to more than 12.4 million beneficiaries.

Ambassador Alfred Grannas praised the exceptional services of PRCS during natural disasters and emergencies, specifically acknowledging their recent humanitarian assistance to flood-affected families. He assured that cooperation with the Red Crescent would be further strengthened to ensure uninterrupted service to humanity.

On this occasion, Sardar Shahid Ahmed Laghari also presented a commemorative shield from PRCS to Ambassador Alfred Grannas.

# Need for creating solutions, integration, and rehabilitation of Refugees, IRC Country Director

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: To highlight the pressing issues of refugees across the world and commemorate the world Refugee Day 2023, International Rescue Committee's (IRC) Country Director in Pakistan, Ms. Shabnam Baloch shared, how Pakistan is responding to the refugee crisis, particularly of the millions of Afghan Refugees in Pakistan. She also

stressed on the need of creating solutions, integration, and rehabilitation for the long term benefit for refugees

IRC is one of the organizations that has worked meticulously and painstakingly across the globe to aid in various refugee crises. In Pakistan there are three variations of refugees from Afghanistan, particularly: registered, Afghan Card Holders and undocumented for which we still do not have

accurate numbers. While each category of refugees has different problems, the overarching issue is of their protection and the protection of their rights including to education and health. IRC ensures that at the very least they provide access to the right resources for refugees in terms of legal, education, and health efforts.

Ms. Shabnam Baloch said, "This refugee crisis has been going on for over

four decades and the problems have not changed at all simply because short term solutions have consistently been implemented for long term problems."

On World Refugee Day, International Rescue Committee reinforced their commitment with the world on their close learning through their humanitarian work. There are a lot of refugee camps along the border of Afghani-



stan in Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. While the beginning of this issue allowed a lot of funding and

attention, the consistent effort did not continue from the international community.

# Iron Lady Benazir Bhutto: Symbol of Democracy



Kiran Asim

Benazir Bhutto was born on 21 June 1953. She was a politician and stateswoman who held the positions of 11th and 13th prime minister of Pakistan from 1988 to 1990 and once more from 1993 to 1996. She was the first woman to be elected to lead a democratic government.

Bhutto was born in Karachi into an affluent, prominent, and political family. She went to Harvard University and the University of Oxford, where she served as the head of the Oxford Union when she was a student.

Benazir's native tongue was English; as a child, she also talked a little bit of Sindhi and fluently spoke Urdu, but less frequently. When she was younger, her

mother taught her some Persian. Benazir Bhutto idolised her father throughout her childhood, and he supported her academic growth in defiance of the prevalent gender stereotypes in Pakistan at that time.

Her father Zulfikar Bhutto, the PPP's leader, won the position of Prime Minister in 1973. She went back to Pakistan in 1977, just before her father was overthrown in a military coup and killed. Both Zulfikar and Benazir believed that the U. S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) had helped Zia's takeover; Zulfikar claimed that in a 1975 meeting, U. S. diplomat Henry Kissinger had warned him that the U. S. would make "a horrible example" of him if he did not stop Pakistan's efforts to develop a nuclear weapon. In September, Zulfikar was charged with the 1974 murder of Muhammad Ahmed Khan Kasuri, the father of Ahmed Raza Kasuri. Benazir Bhutto and her mother encouraged PPP supporters to demonstrate in front of him.

Zulfikar Ali Bhutto was executed by hanging in April 1979. Benazir and Nusrat were then imprisoned for six months, before being

released and placed under house arrest for a further six months. The two women were only fully released in April 1980. Benazir Bhutto was held in Karachi for a while before being transferred to Sukkur prison and then brought back to Karachi. She was kept in solitary confinement for a large portion of this time and dealt with a variety of health difficulties, including anorexia, hair loss, and gynaecological disorders. She was placed under house arrest in December, where she would stay for two years. Benazir Bhutto was exiled, she was not allowed to visit her father's grave, nor was she allowed to see her father's face for the last time.

The United States launched Tehreek Nizam Mustafa against Zulfikar Ali Bhutto. Zia-ul-Haq, who was chosen by Zikr Ali Bhutto from 7th rank, overthrew Bhutto and imposed martial law in the country. BB led the fallen flag of the Pakistan People's Party's and led the party from the front line.

After the martyrdom of Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, the Bhutto family and the PPP faced many trials and difficulties and a cloud



This picture is of her last birthday celebrated in Pakistan before leaving for Dubai at a Karachi restaurant COCONUT GROOVE. She would always celebrate her birthday very privately with few relatives and close friends. Used to tell us jokes in a very jolly mood. She spent 9 long years in Dubai and returned to Pakistan on October 18, 2007 and got assassinated on December 2007

of darkness fell upon them. After BB was jailed, she was then exiled and there was strict media censorship on the Bhutto family and the Pakistan People's Party.

When she returned to Lahore, she received a historic welcome and toured the country, organizing long marches and train marches to make demands from the

government. BB gave many jobs to the people under the organization of People's placement bureau during her regime. In 1996, when Murtaza Bhutto was martyred,

Benazir Bhutto accused the then President Farooq Laghari of killing his brother Murtaza Bhutto.

BB signed an agreement with Musharraf in 2007, also known as NRO. In 2007, BB proved that she is a leader, made an agreement to bring Nawaz Sharif back to Pakistan to restore democracy in country.

Throughout the journey of Bibi's exile from jail, her political secretary Naheed Khan accompanied him, who not only encouraged Bibi but also strengthened the party very well.

When BB reached Pakistan on 18th October 2007, after a long-time of exile, she was welcomed by thousands, and millions, of people. And unfortunately, a tragedy happened in the form of karsaaz in which four hundred people were martyred.

Benazir Bhutto knew that she would be martyred and finally on the evening of December 7, 2007 at Liaquat Bagh, her fear came true.

Unfortunately, after 16 years, her killers have not been caught and no one has been punished, but Benazir Bhutto still reigns in the hearts of the people.



**Bull & Bears**  
PSX 100-Share  
Index Fluctuation

Pakistan: PSX 100-Share Index	
Current	Prev. Close
40,653.03	40,621.21
Day's High	Day's Low:
40,739.97	40,507.18
Index Value	Change
3,529,083,773	+ 31.82
Percentage	Time
+ 0.08%	20 Jun, 2023 5:00 pm

Europe: FTSE 100 Index	
Index Value	Change
7,569.31	-19.17
Percentage	Time
-0.25%	20 Jun, 4:35 pm GMT+1

USA: Dow Jones Industrial Average	
Index Value	Change
34,122.55	-176.57
Percentage	Time
-0.51%	20 Jun, 1:38 pm GMT-4

Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Average	
Index Value	Change
33,388.91	+18.49
Percentage	Time
+0.055%	20 Jun, 3:15 pm GMT+9

**Open Market Forex Rates**

Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	202	204
Bahrain Dinar	764.11	772.11
Canadian Dollar	224	226
China Yuan	40.3	40.7
Danish Krone	42.19	42.59
Euro	314	317
Hong Kong Dollar	36.72	37.07
Indian Rupee	3.51	3.62
Japanese Yen	2.1	2.18
Kuwaiti Dinar	933.23	942.23
Malaysian Ringgit	61.67	62.27
New Zealand \$	179.06	181.06
Norwegians Krone	26.72	27.02
Omani Riyal	746.1	754.1
Qatari Riyal	78.21	78.91
Saudi Riyal	76.3	77
Singapore Dollar	218	220
Swedish Korona	26.57	26.87
Swiss Franc	321.81	324.31
Thai Bhat	8.27	8.42
U.A.E Dirham	80.4	81
UK Pound Sterling	366	370
US Dollar	290.5	293

# Discount World partners with Telenor Microfinance Bank (Easypaisa) for strategic alliance

**Spokesman Report**

ISLAMABAD: Discount World (DW) – An organization that caters more than 13 million + customer base of all the leading banks, insurance industry, pharmaceuticals, financial institutes and corporate entities of Pakistan, on Tuesday signed a memorandum of understanding with the Telenor Microfinance Bank (Easypaisa) – the first scheduled micro-finance bank of Pakistan designed to operate as a fintech.

The collaboration between DW and Easypaisa is one revolutionary step forward aimed at facilitating the large consumer base of Easypaisa customers, and this strategic alliance can be termed as one major leap forward in this direction towards strengthening the



digital payment platform of Pakistan.

The MoU was signed by Mr. Sultan Richard, Chairman & CEO; Discount World, and Mr. Farhan Hassan, Head of Easypaisa, in the

presence of senior officials from both organizations.

Speaking at the signing ceremony, Mr. Sultan Richard, Chairman & CEO DW, said,

"We are delighted to partner with Pakistan's leading digital payment platform, and while DW remains at the forefront of providing convenience to the customers of various institutes in Pakistan, today's strategic alliance with Easypaisa is yet another step forward in this direction. This alliance will enable to provide added benefits to the large customer base of Easypaisa."

"We are confident that this partnership will play an instrumental role to our reach and confidence in the market," added Sultan Richard.

The MoU signing ceremony was followed by a networking session where the senior officials from both organizations discussed the details of collaboration and exchanged ideas for future projects.

## Performance of construction sector is example for others: Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari

**Tariq Khattak**

ISLAMABAD: President Islamabad Chamber of Commerce Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari has said that the construction sector in Pakistan has performed excellent services for the last two decades. While this sector has supported the government in providing basic needs like housing to the people, it has also created sustainable employment opportunities for millions of people. Gulberg Green Islamabad made his name on the basis of excellent location, infrastructure and timely delivery. I congratulate the new body on its victory in Gulberg Estate Agents Association elections. Their victory is a reflection of the confidence of all members.

He expressed these views on the occasion of his visit to Gulberg Islamabad yesterday. President Islamabad Chamber along with the delegation congratulated the entire body including President Najeeb Elahi Malik, General Secretary Naveed Malik on the victory in the State Agents Association elections and expressed the hope that the newly elected body will serve the interests of society and citizens.

The society has set new goals in the construction sector in Pakistan, all the famous domestic brands are present in this society, D. Watson has also opened its branch here to serve the citizens. On this occasion, Vice President Chamber Engineer Azhar Islam said that Gulberg Green is one of the most important societ-



ies of Islamabad. I congratulate the newly elected body on behalf of the Chamber and the entire business community on their victory. The newly elected president of Gulberg State Agents Association Najeeb Elahi Malik said that I am grateful to the president of Islamabad Chamber and the entire business community with whose support we got this victory, the trust that our people have shown in us.

Former President FPCCI Zubair Malik said that construction will increase in the coming years due to the development of construction sector and increase in demand. In this way, other industries related to the construction sector will also develop. Secretary General United Business Group Zafar Bakhtawari said that people have expressed their confidence in the body that won the State Agents Association elections.

Newly elected Secretary General Gulberg Green State Agents Association Naveed Malik said that state agents play an important role in the development and reputation of any society. We have already voted on the basis of performance and will keep our performance in front of the people. Former ICCI president Ijaz Abbasi said that such a beautiful society, its construction and settlement is not possible without estate agents. I congratulate the newly elected body for its brilliant performance and overwhelming victory. Secretary General Islamabad Estate Agents Association Chaudhry Zahid Rafique said that our organization stands with the newly elected body, we have solved problems together before and this process will continue in the future.

## ZONG 4G empowers international callers during Hajj

**Spokesman Report**

ISLAMABAD: In a world where staying connected is more important than ever, Zong 4G, Pakistan's leading telecommunication operator, is proud to set new benchmarks with its unparalleled service offerings. Recognizing the importance of seamless communication for those embarking on the sacred journey of Hajj and yearning to stay connected with their loved ones, Zong 4G presents an array of affordable International Direct Dialing (IDD) Saudi Arabia Mobily Bundles.

This promotion allows Zong 4G customers to avail exclusive benefits and competitive rates when making calls to their loved ones in Saudi Arabia on Mobily network.

The package ensures that individuals stay connected with their loved ones throughout the Hajj season and beyond.

Zong 4G understands the importance of reliable and affordable communication,

especially during significant events such as Hajj. Through the IDD Saudi Arabia Mobily Bundles, Zong 4G enables customers to effortlessly connect with their family and friends, sharing precious moments and seeking blessings from afar.

In addition to offering convenience and ease of access, Zong 4G stands out in terms of competitive rates. Customers can enjoy the most lucrative rates available in the market, guaranteeing cost-effective communication with their loved ones.

The official spokesperson for Zong 4G said, "We are committed to delivering exceptional services and ensuring that customers can stay connected globally.

The IDD Saudi Arabia Mobily Bundles demonstrate our dedication to providing seamless connectivity solutions for individuals performing Hajj and those who wish to stay connected with their loved ones in Saudi Arabia."

## MOU

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif witnessing the signing of MOU for Unit 5 of Chashma Nuclear Power Plant (C-5) in Federal Capital.



Photo: Online

## SECP amends Securities & Futures Advisers Regulations to improve investor base

**Commerce Desk**

ISLAMABAD: The Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) has notified amendments to the Securities and Futures Advisers (Licensing and Operations) Regulations, 2017. These amendments aim to develop a resilient market for Securities and Futures Advisers, facilitating ease of doing business, improving financial inclusion, and expanding the investor base.

The introduced amendments align the existing regulations with market developments and eliminate redundancies to facilitate ease of doing business.

One of the significant facilitations provided is reduction in financial resource requirement for Securities and Futures Advisers applying for a license as a distributor to PKR 500,000 in the case of a company and PKR 250,000 for individuals. The requirement

on sponsors of Securities & Futures Advisers to collectively hold shares of 51% or 25 % shares in case of listed company has been eliminated.

In addition, scheduled banks, micro-finance banks, non-bank microfinance companies, and electronic money institutions are exempted from obtaining a separate license as a distributor. The notified regulations enable the distribution of Voluntary Pension Funds offered by pension fund managers other than Asset Management Companies and allows compensation in capacity of distributor to be received from AMC's/Pension Fund Manager barring distributor charging any advisory fees from clients related to distributions services.

For digital advisory/distribution platforms, the regulations now include requirements for compliance with data protection and cybersecurity. The amendments also

introduce the need for 15 days prior intimation to the Commission before launching a platform and submission of information regarding existing digital platforms.

To further decrease regulatory burden, a single consolidated Affidavit is provided. Excessive documentation requirements in Annexure-B of the regulations have been removed, the Fit & Proper criterion has been rationalized and a new Annexure-C relating to contents of the Standard Distribution Agreement for distributors has been inserted.

SECP believes regulatory amendments/reforms are essential for the long-term sustainability of the Securities and Futures Advisers sector in Pakistan. The Notification is available at SECP's website at <https://www.secp.gov.pk/document/sro-742-i-2023-amendments-to-securities-and-futures-advisers-licensing-and-operations-regulations-2017/?wpdmdl=48169>

## With PTI fading, ruling coalition's differences become more apparent

**News Desk**

ISLAMABAD: Saifuddin Sheikh, Executive Director of Pakistan Economy Watch (PEW) on Tuesday said the ruling coalition has taken a sigh of relief after the threat of PTI has been removed.

Now the coalition partners have started putting their hands on each other's throats instead of efforts to improve the country's economy, he said.

Saifuddin Sheikh said that the politicians who claimed to bring the country's economy out of trouble are creating instability for their own interests, which worries the business community.

In a statement issued here today, he said that the political temperature should be lowered instead of raised in the national interest.

There is still some time left in the term of the National Assembly, but the differences among the ruling coalition are increasing, and their leaders have started speaking against each other in public, he said.

Instead of talking about their reservations on the Cabinet meetings, threats are being made in public. Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto threatened to resist approval of the budget if funds are not allocated for the rehabilitation of the victims of the Swat floods.



After the election of Azad Kashmir, the leadership of PML-N is accusing PPP of rigging, Jamaat-e-Islami is frequently accusing PPP of rigging the election of Mayor of Karachi.

Jamaat-e-Islami is bringing its war to Islamabad while its leadership and MQM are not ready to accept the results of census, he observed.

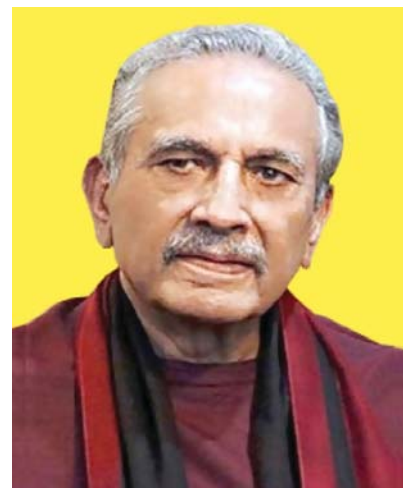
Ji's Naeemur Rehman has said that his party would stage a massive protest outside the ECP office in Islamabad on June 23 against the PPP government's alleged use of force to win the Karachi mayoral election.

The JI says that it will continue to protest unless the elections are declared invalid and all the mistakes are rectified.

Sheikh said that if the major leaders of the ruling alliance do not blame game, this alliance will be disintegrated, which will again spread chaos in the country, which will be difficult to control even through elections.

*The public will bear the consequences of rhetoric of politicians against IMF*

**News Desk**



ISLAMABAD: Former President of Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI) Dr. Shahid Rashid Butt said on Tuesday said that Pakistan has no option but to seek respite from debt repayment.

If China, Saudi Arabia and other friendly countries do not give a few years' time to repay the loans, the country will be bankrupt in a few months, he said.

Shahid Rashid Butt said in a statement issued here today that the politicians want loans from the IMF to save the country from default, but at the same time they are also making continuous accusations against it.

The IMF program does not seem to be restored in any way, and it will expire in ten days as the lender has asked Pakistan to manage six billion dollars, which could not be done.

IMF is also unhappy over Pakistan's interference in the currency market and the budget is not according to their wishes.

Now, Pakistan needs urgent debt restructuring efforts to improve the economic situation and recover the confidence of the business community, which is rapidly going down.



# NA body expresses serious concern on PHF elections

**Sports Desk**

ISLAMABAD: The National Assembly's Standing Committee on Inter-Provincial Coordination (IPC) on Tuesday expressed serious concern regarding the elections held by the Pakistan Hockey Federation (PHF) and directed the Ministry of Inter-Provincial Coordination (IPC) to conduct a thorough audit of the funds provided to the PHF as sports grants.

The committee, which met here at the Ministry of Inter-Provincial Coordination under the chairmanship of Nawab Sher, also directed that the audit report be submitted to it for review.

It emphasized that the Report of the Management Committee, constituted to finalize the recommendations in the matters pertaining to the PHF's affairs, should be submitted to the prime minister as soon as possible.

Furthermore, the committee directed the Secretary Interior and the Director General of Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) to enforce strict measures and



not allow any players or officials of sports federations to leave the country unless they acquire a no-objection certificate (NOC) from the Ministry of IPC and the Pakistan Sports Board (PSB).

At the outset, the committee was informed by the Secretary IPC that there were many audit paras pending in the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) against the PHF.

The PHF Secretary said elections were conducted according to the Federation's constitution. However, the committee noted that the International Hockey Federation allegedly granted permission to the PHF in that regard.

Minister for IPC Ehsan Ur Rehman Mazari pointed out that the prime minister had constituted a high-power committee on the affairs of PHF under the chairmanship of Minister for Defence along with Minister for Economic Affairs Division and Minister for IPC.

The high-power committee, he said, recommended to conduct financial audit of accounts of the PHF by Federal Audit and Performance Audit by the Management Committee headed by the PSB Director General. The said Management Committee unanimously recommended that the prime minister being the Petron-in-Chief of PHF might call for a free and fair election of the Federation and nominate an interim committee for at least six months.

The standing committee emphasized that the report of the Management Committee should be submitted to the prime minister at the earliest. It also directed the Ministry of IPC to conduct a thorough audit of the funds provided to the PHF as sports grants and audit

report thereof should be submitted to the standing committee for its review.

While briefing on the National Sports Policy 2022-2027, the IPC Minister informed the committee that draft of said Sports Policy was under consideration with the Federal Cabinet for its approval. The committee asked the minister to expedite the National Sports Policy 2022-2027 from the Federal Cabinet in order to ensure transparency, accountability, and fair governance within the realm of sports in Pakistan.

The meeting was attended by MNAs/members of the committee including Rana Mubashir Iqbal, Zulfiqar Ali Behan, Shahida Rehmani, Rubina Irfan, Makhdoom Syed Sami-ul-Hassan Gillani, Javairia Zafar Aheer (through video-link), Dr. Mahreen Razzaq Bhutto, MNA/Mover was also present in the meeting. The senior officers from Ministry of IPC, Pakistan Olympic Association, Pakistan Hockey Federation, Pakistan Sports Board and Pakistan Football Federation were also present in the meeting.



Hazara Quetta FC has defeated Great Hazara FC by 2-1 in the men's final to win the National Futsal Cup Phase-II at Aghil Futsal Arena, Quetta.

## Pakistan football team to depart today for SAFF Championship in India



**Sports Desk**

LAHORE: Pakistan men's football team will depart for Mumbai on Tuesday evening to participate in the upcoming South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) Championship, scheduled to take place from June 21 to July 4.

According to the details, the national football team will depart from Mauritius Island in the evening today to Mumbai.

Upon their arrival in Mumbai, Pakistan men's football team will then fly to Bengaluru where the eight-team SAFF Championship 2023 will take place.

Earlier, the Pakistan team received a two-day delay in the issuance of the Visas due to which they could not depart for Bengaluru as per schedule on Sunday.

Pakistan will start their SAFF Championship campaign against arch-rivals India on June 21 before taking on Nepal and invitee Kuwait.

Notably, the Pakistan football team are currently in Mauritius where they participated in the four-nation tournament.

## Lahore Division women team won 30th Inter-Division Women Judo Championship in Gujranwala

**Tahir Amin Malik**

LAHORE: Division women team won 30th Inter-Division Women Judo Championship in Gujranwala on Monday. Gujranwala girls finished runners up while Sargodha bagged 3rd position in the championship.

The girls from Lahore exhibited wonderful performance and clinched six medals including four gold medals and one silver and bronze medal. Lahore's Laiba won gold medal in 40kg weight category, Rukhsar in 44kg weight category, Moazzma in -70kg weight category and Ume Habiba Rashid secured gold medal in +70kg weight category. Lahore's Sumbal Fatima won silver medal in 57kg weight category while Mehwish had to content with bronze medal in 48kg weight category.

Lahore Division women judo team participated in the Inter-Division Women Judo Championship under the supervision of Chairman Ghulam Murtaza Shah, President Punjab Judo Association Asif Iqbal Khan, Manager Anum Shafique and Assistant Manager M Akram.

## Pakistan loses to Bangladesh in five-nation int'l basketball c'ship semifinal

**News Desk**

ISLAMABAD:

Pakistan fell to Bangladesh 65-79 in the semifinal of the five-nation international basketball championship at Male, Maldives on Tuesday.

According to information received here, Pakistan were down 17-25 in the first quarter but were up 19-15 in the second quarter. In the third quarter, Bangladesh were again at the top as Pakistan conceded 11-24. Pakistan fought back in the fourth quarter, moving up 18-15. However, at the end of the fixture, Bangladesh were 13 points ahead of Pakistan to book a spot in the final.



# Galle and Colombo to Host Pakistan in Two-Test Series

**Asim Tanveer**

ISLAMABAD: First Test to begin on 16 July; Singhalese Sports Club in Colombo to host the second Test from 24-28 July

Pakistan will return to Galle - where they recorded the highest-ever chase for the venue last year - for the first of the two-match Test series against Sri Lanka next month. The first Test will commence at the Galle International Cricket Stadium on 16 July and the two teams will then travel to Colombo for the second Test at the Singhalese Sports Club from 24 till 28 July.

For what is Pakistan's first assignment in the 2023-25

cycle of the ICC World Test Championship, the Babar Azam's side will arrive in Sri Lanka on 9 July and play a two-day warm-up game on 11 and 12 July before they head south for the first Test. The venue for the warm-up fixture will be confirmed closer to time.

Pakistan last toured Sri Lanka in July 2022 and that two-match Test series resulted in 1-1. Pakistan scaled the target of 342 to register the best run chase at the ground and win the first Test by four wickets. The hosts pounced back in the second Test to level the series with a 246-run win

Pakistan last played a Test at the Singhalese Sports Club, Colombo in 2014. They have

played six Tests at the ground, winning one, losing one, and the other four matches ended in draw.

**Itinerary of Pakistan's tour of Sri Lanka:**

9 July - Pakistan land in Colombo

11 and 12 July - Warm-up game

16-20 July - First Test at Galle International Cricket Stadium

24-28 July - Second Test at Singhalese Sports Club, Colombo

Pakistan squad: Babar Azam (c), Mohammad Rizwan (vc & wk), Aamir Jamal, Abdullah Shafique, Abrar Ahmed, Hasan Ali, Imam-ul-Haq, Mohammad Huraire, Mohammad Nawaz,

Naseem Shah, Noman Ali, Salman Ali Agha, Sarfaraz Ahmed (wk), Saud Shakeel, Shaheen Afridi and Shan Masood

Player support personnel: Rehan-ul-Haq (team manager), Grant Bradburn (head coach), Andrew Puttick (batting coach), Morne Morkel (bowling coach), Aftab Khan (fielding coach), Abdul Rehman (assistant coach), Drius Saaiman (strength and conditioning coach), Cliffe Deacon (physiotherapist), Ahsan Iftikhar Nagi (media and digital content manager), Lt Col Usman Anwari (Retd) (security manager), Talha Ejaz (analyst) and Malang Ali (masseur).

# Sports Board Punjab (SBP) organised Summer Camps of various games

**Sports Desk**

LAHORE: Sports Board Punjab (SBP), on the directions of Director General Sports Punjab Dr Asif Tufail, organised Summer Camps of various games including swimming, football, archery, hockey and wushu were conducted at different venues of Nishtar Park Sports Complex on Monday.

A large number of young boys and girls are taking part in swimming summer camp at State of the Art Punjab International Swimming Complex where expert coaches are imparting training to camp probables under the supervision of Chief Sports Consultant SBP Hafeez Bhatti and senior provincial coach Rafi uz Zaman.

Overall, thousands of passionate young players are participating in the summer camps of 14 games such as Swimming, Athletics,



Archery, Badminton, Cricket, Football, Hockey, Table Tennis, Lawn Tennis, Self-Defense, Taekwondo, Wushu, Karate and Gymnastics.

Director General Sports Punjab Dr Asif Tufail in a statement on Monday said that the healthy activity of summer camp will play a key role in the growth of games

culture among the younger generation. "The participation of thousands of young players in summer camps reflected the immense craze of sports among our youth," he added.

Director General Sports Punjab Dr Asif Tufail further said that the summer camps of dozens of games are being organized to incline our youth

towards healthy sports activities during their free time of summer vacations. "Definitely, it is the best usage of this free time and we are quite upbeat that thousands of young boys and girls will not only polish their sports skills but also learn valuable games techniques from qualified coaches."

# Sikandar Raza lifts Zimbabwe to crush Netherlands in Cricket World Cup Qualifier

**ASports**

HARARE: Sikandar Raza followed up his sensational four-for with a record century and powered Zimbabwe to thrash Netherlands by six wickets in the Cricket World Cup (CWC) Qualifier.

Sikandar Raza was the hero of Zimbabwe's dominant six-wicket victory over the Netherlands as the home side chased down a mammoth 316-run target in just the 41st over for the loss of four wickets.

Earlier, Zimbabwe captain Craig Ervine sent the Netherlands into bat first after the coin flipped in his favour.

The Netherlands had apparently made him pay for his deci-

sion to field first as the Dutch side piled up a massive 315/6 total on the scoreboard with openers Vikramjit Singh and Max O'Dowd and skipper Scott Edwards leading the charge with half-centuries.

Dutch batters annihilated Zimbabwe bowlers in the first innings as most of them went for plenty but Sikandar Raza remained the exception as he returned with sensational figures of 4/55 in his 10 overs to bar the opposition from amassing a more daunting total.

The Netherlands opener Singh and O'Dowd scripted a promising start to their side as the paid added 120 runs for the first wicket before the latter was castled by Sikandar Raza in the

21st over.

O'Dowd scored 59 off 67 deliveries and hit 10 boundaries.

Raza then struck again in his next over to get rid of Wesley Barresi, who could score just four.

Having dealt with Raza's quick twin strikes, Singh received liable support of his skipper Edwards and the pair stitched a vital 106-run partnership for the third wicket.

The pair appeared to have settled down and Singh moved 12 runs within his maiden ODI century, Raza struck again to crush his century hopes. He scored 88 off 111 deliveries with the help of nine boundaries.

Following his dismissal, the

Netherlands two more wickets in quick successions as Bas de Leede and Teja Nidamanuru perished cheaply.

Skipper Edwards then put out on a vital 59-run partnership with Saqib Zulfiqar, who carried his bat all the way through and remained unbeaten on a 31-ball 34.

Edwards smashed nine boundaries on his way to a 72-ball 83.

Set to chase a massive 316-run target, Sikandar Raza notched up the fastest century for Zimbabwe and made it an easy affair for his side.

He thwacked six boundaries and eight sixes on his way to top-score for Zimbabwe with a 54-ball 102.



Raza's fireworks outshined Sean Williams' magnificent 91-run knock which featured 10 boundaries and two sixes.

In another CWC Qualifier match, spirited Nepal drew alike outcomes as they blew away the United States of America (USA) by six wickets and 42 balls to spare.

Put into bat first in the sixth match of the CWC Qualifier, the USA could only raise 207 before bundling out in 49 overs despite a brisk century by Shayam Jahangir.

The wicketkeeper batter smashed 10 boundaries and three sixes on his way to a 79-ball 100 and remained not out as he ran out of partners.

Besides him, Sushant Modani (42) was the notable run-getter for the side while the rest failed in their second match of the CWC Qualifier campaign.