



Pakistan to write letters to int'l parliaments on desecration of Holy Quran in Sweden

Acting President Sadiq Sanjrani decided to write a letter to the international parliaments regarding the desecration of the Holy Quran in Sweden. Sadiq Sanjrani says that the incident is to be condemned that hurt the sentiments of the entire Islamic world. (Details on Page 8)



Nawaz extends Eid greetings to PML-N leaders in UAE

Former prime minister Nawaz Sharif on Sunday held a meeting with the leadership of the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz's (PML-N) UAE chapter. PML-N's UAE chapter president Ghulam Mustafa Mughal led the delegation. On the auspicious occasion of Eidul Azha, Nawaz greeted the PML-N leaders. Maryam Nawaz, the PML-N's chief organiser, and Ehsanul Haq Bajwa, the leader of the party's Gulf chapter, were also present.

Simultaneously published from Islamabad, Lahore and Multan

Protest

KARACHI: Activists of Majlis Wahdat-e-Muslimeen Pakistan holds protest outside Press Club against the burning of Holy Quran in Sweden.



Photo: Online

PM Shehbaz Sharif summons federal cabinet session



News Desk
ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has summoned the federal cabinet session on Monday (today). PM Shehbaz Sharif summoned the federal cabinet's session on Monday in which the participants will review the political and economic situation of the country. On June 30, PM Sharif said a three billion dollars Stand-By Agreement with the IMF will help in bringing economic stability and growth to the country. Addressing a news conference in Lahore, he said Finance Minister Ishaq Dar and his team made tireless efforts to reach this arrangement. He said the IMF Board will accord formal approval in its meeting scheduled to be held on the 12th of next month. PM Shehbaz Sharif said nations never progress with loans but it was inevitable for the country to go for this agreement with the IMF. He said the PDM parties will leave the government after the completion of tenure however the election will be announced by the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP). Shehbaz Sharif said during the last three months China helped Pakistan significantly by providing about five billion dollars and saved us from default. He also appreciated Saudi Arabia, UAE, Islamic Development Bank and other friendly countries for their generous help during critical times. Mentioning the unnecessary impediments in the exploration of Chinoit ore and Reko Diq, the premier said the Economic Revival Plan would help bring in investment from Gulf states to make Pakistan progress. He said the cheapest LNG during COVID-19 times was not signed and the government of PTI late purchased expensive fuel for the country. The prime minister said the incumbent government has signed an agreement for LNG import with Azerbaijan at a cheaper rate and it will benefit the country.

OIC moot demands urgent action to prevent desecration of Holy Quran

Spokesman Report

JEDDAH: During an emergency meeting held Sunday, the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) stressed the urgent need for collective action to prevent the desecration of the Holy Quran, the holiest book of Muslims. This call for unity comes following a painful incident in Sweden, where the holy book was burned during a protest, causing widespread outrage and concern within the global Muslim community. The OIC, comprised countries with Muslim-majority populations, released a statement after an extraordinary meeting held in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, to address the incident that occurred on Wednesday. OIC Secretary-General, Hissein Brahim Taha, emphasised the importance of reminding



ing the international community about the necessity of adhering to international law, which explicitly prohibits promoting religious hatred. The incident involved a man tearing up and burning the Holy Quran outside Stockholm's central mosque on the first day of the Muslim Eid al-Azha holidays. This act has particularly outraged Turkey, an OIC member,

as Sweden seeks Turkey's support for its entry into the Nato military alliance. Although Swedish police had granted permission for the protest, the individual liable for the burning was subsequently charged with inciting agitation against an ethnic or national group. This event has led to significant protests in Baghdad outside the Swedish Embassy and has attracted condemnation from the United States and different organisations as well. Considering a previous incident in late January, where a Danish far-right politician burned a copy of the Holy Quran near the Turkish embassy in Stockholm, Turkey had already suspended talks on Sweden's Nato application. This recent incident in Sweden has further weakened the relationship between the two countries.

Three terrorists killed in DI Khan IBO: ISPR

City Desk
RAWALPINDI: On 02 July 23, security forces conducted an Intelligence Based Operation in general area Kulachi, DI Khan District. During the conduct of operation, after intense fire exchange, three terrorists were sent to hell. Weapons and ammunition were also recovered from the killed terrorists. The killed terrorists remained actively involved in various terrorist activities against security forces, Police and innocent civilians. They were also highly wanted



ed for conducting a raid on a Police CP in Kulachi on 11 April 2022, which resulted in Shahadat of five brave police constables. Sanitization of the area is being carried out to eliminate any terrorists found in the area. Security Forces of Pakistan are determined to eliminate the menace of terrorism.

Shujaat invites Elahi again to rejoin PML-Q

Bureau Report
LAHORE: Pakistan Muslim League-Quaid (PML-Q) supremo Chaudhry Shujaat Hussain had once more extended an invitation to Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader Chaudhry Parvez Elahi to rejoin the party. Chaudhry Salik Hussain and Chaudhry Wajahat Hussain went with Shujaat to visit the former Punjab chief minister in jail. Elahi replied to the Shujaat's offer by saying he had not made up his mind about it yet. According to sources, Shujaat wished Elahi well and inquired after him. Both leaders also exchanged views over the country's political situation. Last month, Shujaat said the government should continue to provide the textile industry with GSP-Plus incentives. Majid Chatha, a specialist in the power sector, met with PML-Q leader Chaudhry Shujaat Hussain. On this occasion Mr Sarwar and Chaudhry Shafay Hussain were also present. There was a thorough discussion about how to cope with the nation's deteriorating energy status and resolve the people's issues during the meeting.



Sweden govt condemns 'Islamophobic' Quran burning: Ministry

AFP
SWEDEN: Sweden's government on Sunday condemned this week's burning of a Quran outside Stockholm's main mosque, calling it an "Islamophobic" act, after an international Islamic body called for measures to avoid future burnings. "The Swedish Government fully understands that the Islamophobic acts committed by individuals at demonstrations in Sweden can be offensive to Muslims," the foreign ministry said in a statement. "We strongly condemn these acts, which in no way reflect the views of the Swedish government," it added. The condemnation came in response to a call for collective measures to avoid future Quran burnings from the Saudi-based Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC). The 57-member body met at its Jeddah headquarters to respond to Wednesday's incident in which an Iraqi citizen living in Sweden, Salwan Momika, 37, set several pages of Quran alight. The OIC urged member states to "take



Muslim world condemns desecration of Quran in Sweden

Spokesman Report
ISLAMABAD: Muslims across the world have strongly condemned the desecration of the Holy Quran in Sweden's capital during a protest authorised by the police. Pakistan, Turkiye, United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Iran and other Muslim countries have strongly condemned the act. Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan has slammed Sweden over the incident, saying Ankara will never bow down to a policy of provocation or threat. "We will teach the arrogant Western people that it is not freedom of expression to insult the sacred values of Muslims," he said. The United Arab Emirates has summoned the Swedish ambassador to protest against the desecration of Holy Quran. Qatar has also condemned the Swedish authorities' permission to burn copies of the Quran Thursday calling it a "heinous" act to have especially occurred on Eid.



FM Bilawal holds meetings with leadership, business executives



Hinza Asif
TOKYO: Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari has held meetings with Japanese leadership, business executives and the Pakistani diaspora during his ongoing four-day visit to Japan. FM Bilawal Bhutto Zardari held meetings with representatives of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JAICA), Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) and business executives in Tokyo on Sunday. During the meetings, the matters related to bilateral cooperation in trade and investment came under discussion. He also addressed a function organized by the Pakistani diaspora in Tokyo today. FM Bilawal said Pakistan and Japan have the potential to increase bilateral trade in diverse sectors for mutual benefit, Radio Pakistan reported. The foreign minister said both countries can benefit from investment in agriculture and livestock. He said the incumbent government is working on economic diplomacy to bring prosperity to the country. He added Pakistan can learn from Japan's advancement in Information Technology and other fields.

Warm Welcome

FAISALABAD: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ali Anan Qamar receiving the pilgrims warmly with flower garlands as the first Hajj flight landed at Faisalabad International Airport during post-Hajj operation.



Photo: APP

Pakistan to write letters to int'l parliaments on desecration of Holy Quran in Sweden

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Acting President Sadiq Sanjrani decided to write a letter to the international parliaments regarding the desecration of the Holy Quran in Sweden.

Sadiq Sanjrani says that the incident is to be condemned that hurt the sentiments of the entire Islamic world.

He said that the parliament, government and people of Pakistan were deeply saddened



by the incident, the Swedish government should take immediate

action.

The acting president further said that under the guise of freedom of expression, hurting sentiments cannot be allowed. Hateful acts are also a violation of international laws, he asserted.

Sadiq Sanjrani called upon the international community to take notice of the incident inciting them to play role to prevent such incidents.

On the other hand, protests also held in different countries

of the world, including Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Iraq, Kuwait, Syria, Lebanon, and the United Arab Emirates, over the desecration of the Holy Quran in Sweden.

The OIC also called an emergency meeting and strongly condemned the desecration of the Holy Quran.

The European Union also denounced the desecration of the Holy Quran, saying that the incident was offensive, disrespectful and clearly provocative.

PIA to begin post-Hajj flight operation today

Bureau Report

KARACHI: The national flag carrier Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) will begin its post-Hajj flight operation from July 2.

The first post-Hajj flight will bring Hujjaj from Saudi Arabia to Pakistan today. The post-Hajj flight operation will be continued from July 2 to August 2.

The first flight will land at Karachi's Jinnah International Airport at 3:35 pm today.

The pre-Hajj operations – scheduled to take place from Karachi to Jeddah – conducted by Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) had been successfully concluded on June 23, marking an important milestone in facilitating pilgrims.



A significant number of 61,467 pilgrims had been facilitated through a total of 268 flights, serving a total of 41,000 government-sponsored pilgrims, 19,000 private pilgrims and 600 staff

members based in Madina and Jeddah.

It is worth mentioning here that the pre-Hajj operation was commenced by PIA on May 21 and spanned until June 22, allowing ample time for

pilgrims to make their preparations and travel arrangements.

The flights departed directly from major cities including Karachi, Islamabad, Lahore, Multan, Faisalabad, Sialkot, and Peshawar, ensuring convenient

access for pilgrims from different regions.

During the pre-Hajj operations, PIA's achieved impressive punctuality, with a remarkable rate of 94 per cent for timely departures among the 268 flights. Out of the total flights, an impressive number of 249 departed either on time or slightly ahead of schedule, ensuring a seamless travel experience for the pilgrims.

While some delays were encountered during the Hajj operation, they were limited to only 19 flights and were attributed to various reasons. Meanwhile, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), PIA expressed his appreciation and applauded the teams involved in achieving a high rate of timely departures throughout the operation.

Jahangir Tareen returns home from London

News desk

ISLAMABAD: Istikhkam-e-Pakistan Party (IPP) patron-in-chief Jahangir Khan Tareen on Sunday returned to Pakistan after a medical check-up in the United Kingdom (UK).

According to details, Jahangir Khan Tareen reached Pakistan after undergoing several medical tests in London. Jahangir Tareen went to UK before Eid over health issues.

On June 8, Jahangir Tareen officially launched the "Istehkam-e-Pakistan" party. Several Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) deserters including former governor Sindh Imran Ismail, Amir Kiani, Sardar Tanveer Ilyas, Mahmood Molvi, Firdous Ashiq Awan, Ali Zaidi, Fayyaz ul Hasan Chauhan, Fawad Chaudhary and Nauman Langrial attended the press conference.

While announcing the new political party "Istehkam-e-Pakistan" Jahangir Tareen said that "We all have one purpose which is to work for the development of Pakistan".



Minister Talha strongly firmly condemns Holy Quran desecration in Sweden



Spokesman Report

MAKKAH MUKARMA: Minister of Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony Senator Talha Mehmood vehemently denounced the desecration of the Holy Quran in Sweden.

In a resolute statement, he emphasized that mere condemnation is insufficient.

Talha strongly stated, "Islamophobia is a stigma on the face of the Western world," stressing that freedom of expression cannot be shielded by such heinous acts that have deeply hurt the sentiments of over 1.5 billion Muslims.

He called upon the OIC (Organization of Islamic Cooperation) to actively engage in effectively addressing such issues.

Over 15 injured as two buses collide on Mehran Highway



News Desk

KHAIRPUR: More than 15 passengers sustained injuries after two buses collided on Mehran Highway on Sunday.

Police said that over 15 passengers including women and children got injured in the horrific road accident. They added that three wounded persons are in critical condition.

The wounded passengers were shifted to the hospital for medical assistance.

A few days ago, at least seven people were killed while ten others sustained injuries in a collision between a bus and car near Moro Sindh.

According to police, all the deceased who were in the car belonged to one family. The bus driver sustained minor injuries.

Monsoon rain spell in country begins from tomorrow: PMD

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD) on Sunday forecast monsoon rainfall in the country from July 03 and will continue till July 08.

The Met Office, in a report stated that moist currents from the Arabian Sea are likely to penetrate in upper parts of the country, and a westerly wave is also likely to enter the country from July 3 (tomorrow).

Islamabad, Rawalpindi, Murree, Galliat, Attock, Chakwal and Jhelum, Azad Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan and other areas will receive rain with thunderstorm from July 4-7.

Rain, wind, thundershower with isolated heavy falls are also expected in Barkhan, Sibbi, Loralai, Kalat, Khuzdar, Zhob, Lasbella and Naseerabad, Bannu, Karak, Waziristan, D. I Khan, Rajanpur, Multan, Bhakkar, Layyah, Kot Addu, Bahawalpur, Bahawalnagar, Sahiwal and Okara from July 5 to 8.

The Met Office also predicted rainfall, wind, thundershower with isolated heavy falls in Sukkur, Jacobabad Ghotki, Shaheed Benazirabad, Larkana, Mithi, Chhor, Padidan, Nagarparkar.

President Arif Alvi pays respects at Roza-e-Rasool (SAW)



Spokesman Report

MADINA: President Dr. Arif Alvi paid respect at Roza-e-Rasool (Peace Be Upon Him) in Madina Munawara and offered Nawafil in Masjid-e-Nabvi.

The president also offered Nawafil at Riaz-ul-Jannah and prayed for the security, progress, and socio-economic development of the country.

In the Masjid Nabvi, a large number of Pakistanis were pleased to

see the president and chanted slogans in favour of Pakistan while Dr. Arif Alvi shook his hand to respond to the slogans being raised by the people.

Earlier, upon arrival at Roza-e-Rasool (PBUH), Dr. Nabil bin Muhammad al-Haydan Colonel Zab al-Badrani and other officials welcomed President Dr Arif Alvi.

It may be noted that the president is performing Hajj along with his family members at his own expense not a government kitty.

JI demands Swedish envoy's expulsion over Holy Quran's desecration

Bureau Report

KARACHI: Jamaat-e-Islami Karachi Emir Hafiz Naemur Rehman demanded the expulsion of the Swedish ambassador over desecration of the Holy Quran in Sweden.

Addressing a press conference in Karachi, Hafiz Naemur Rehman said that the desecration of the Holy Quran in Sweden was condemnable and the United Nations should take up the matter at once.

He said Muslims treated people of all religions with respect. "Islam respects all other religions, no one can be forced into the religion, there is nothing more for us than the Holy Word," he added.

The JI leader said that the government should expel the ambassador of Sweden, the West should know



that the Holy Quran is a holy book. "Our lives are here for our Prophet and the Quran, the West should not insult, Jamaat-e-Islami condemns the Sweden incident," he said.

Hafiz Naemur Rehman said that there were many obstacles in the general sanitation system in the city on the occasion of Eid. The constitution said that all the powers should be lied with the local governments.

He added that the provincial governments should transfer the powers to the local governments.

Fresh wave of inflation from July 12 to further expose Shehbaz govt: Sheikh Rashid

City Desk

RAWALPINDI: Awami Muslim League (AML) chief and former interior minister Sheikh Rashid Ahmed on Sunday said the cash-strapped Shehbaz-led government's downward countdown is expected to begin from July 12 [the start of new wave of inflation including increasing power tariff].

Talking to Twitter, he asked what was the difference between the IMF decisions of former finance minister Miftah Ismail and his successor Ishaq Dar except they are relatives. "Dar's tone was aggressive initially and then he started bowing before the [International Monetary Fund] to get the loan approved for nine months."

He said a new wave of inflation would engulf the masses from July 12, leading to downward countdown of the incumbent government, adding the three governments – the sitting government, the caretaker govern-

ment and the new government – had to fulfill the IMF's strict conditions in nine months and pay back \$11 billion in six months.

The former minister said the time would tell if the deposit assurances given by the friendly countries would reach any practical conclusion, adding there was no room for errors in the IMF agreement as an environment of now or never had been created.

He was of the view that the government had wasted 10 months, signed [staff level] agreement with [the IMF] on the last day [June 30].

"Is it fair that diesel has become expensive by Rs7.50 even on the arrival of Russian oil in the country, the AML leader questioned.

He said the foreign minister of PPP made more than 50 foreign tourism trips but is a silent spectator on the IMF agreement. Nawaz Sharif's coming or not depends on his health and not on politics and the decision of the case..

PTI announces 17-member Karachi caretaker committee

Bureau Report

KARACHI: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) has announced a 17-member Karachi caretaker committee.

As per details, PTI Sindh president Haleem Adil Shiekh issued the notification of the names of caretaker committee members after approval from the PTI chairman.

The committee will finalize the names of members of seven districts and will also complete the organization on town, UCs and block basis.

PTI's Khurram Sherzaman has been nominated as the coordinator and Dr Shahab Imam advocate will be the secretary of the committee.

Earlier, Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader Akram Cheema, who recently made party's Karachi president, announced that he was part-

ing ways with the PTI over the events of May 9.

In a press conference, Cheema – who had been a member of National Assembly (MNA) from Karachi – announced that he had resigned from the party's position.

"I strongly condemn the attack on military installations on May 9. As a Pakistani, I demand that such people should be punished," Cheema

stated. "We should not fight with the institutions," the ex-lawmaker added.

The press conference from Cheema comes a day after an anti-terrorism court granted bail to him in the May 9 rioting and arson case.

Last month, Muhammad Akram Cheema had been appointed as president of the party's Karachi division following resignation of Aftab Siddiqui, who quit politics over May 9 events.

Sardar Attique condemns desecration of Holy Quran in Sweden

Abdul Majeed Tahir

MUZAFFARABAD: All Jammu and Kashmir Muslim Conference President and former Prime Minister Sardar Attique Ahmed Khan has said that the entire world has protested against the desecration of the Holy Quran in Sweden.

Holy Quran is the source of growth and guidance of all humanity, its honor and respect is part of our faith and we cannot tolerate insulting it in any way. Every day such incidents are an attempt to sabotage peace. Legislation should be made on this issue regularly at the global level.

He expressed these views yesterday while talking to various delegations at Mujahid e Awal House Ghaziabad. No matter how much we condemn the desecration of the Holy Quran in Sweden, there is a wave of anger in the entire Muslim Ummah at this time. As many inspired books as there are Torah, Injeel, Psalms and the last book



is the Holy Qur'an, their honor and respect is a part of our faith.

It is part of our faith to believe in all the Prophets from Adam to Prophet Muhammad SAW peace upon him and honoring them is a part of our faith, but we do not understand what these countries want to do and what message they are sending, which is that every few days such actions are taken to inflame the feelings of more than two billion Muslims.

He said that the helplessness and silence of the United Nations interna-

tional organizations regarding Kashmir is regrettable and the credibility of the international system is also becoming a question mark.

On this occasion, a large number of Muslim Conference officials and workers from across Azad Kashmir, besides a large number of women, met the President of the Muslim Conference Sardar Attique Ahmad Khan at the Mujahid e Awal House in Ghaziabad on the occasion of Eid and congratulated them on Eid. Among those who met, Muslim Conference Women's Department Chairperson Ms. Samia Sajid Raja, Student Wing Chairperson Maimoona Kayani Advocate, Syed Amjad Gurdizi, Muslim Conference Muzaaffarabad City's newly elected President of Women's Department Abida Munir Qureshi, Central Leader of Muslim Conference Syed Azhar Ali Shah, Syed Shah Hussain, Khawaja Muhammad Javed, Haroon Azad, Sardar Amjad Aslam, Hasnat Sheikh, Mujahid I's long-time comrade Sardar

Farid Khan, Sardar Sajid Razak, Sardar Javed Abbasi, Sardar Razaq Khan, Sardar Wilayat Khan, Sardar Abdul Al-Samad, Liaquat Ali, Chaudhry Akbar, Sardar Farooq Khan, Former Commissioner Raja Irshad Khan, Raja Mudassar Irshad, Sardar Saeed Abbasi, Sardar Ejaz Abbasi, Raja Raza Khan, Raja Sohail Faizan Abbasi, Sardar Zahid Abbasi, Sarfraz Abbasi, Abdul Ghaffar Abbasi, Haji Sardar Hamza, Maulana Zia-ul-Qadri, Chairman Sardar Aurangzeb Abbasi, Raja Asif Ali Khan, Raja Umar, Raja Owais and others had a meeting and on this occasion they arranged to have a feast for the guests coming from outside to congratulate them on Eid.

Chairman Youth Wing Sardar Usman Ali Khan, former Prime Minister's staff officer Raja Abdul Jabbar, Ashfaq Abbasi welcomed the guests. On this occasion, President Muslim Conference also distributed Eid among the poor and small children.

Due to strong wind & torrential rain, 2 roofs were blown off in valley Shakai



Adam Khan Wazir

WANA: In Lower South Waziristan of valley Shakai yesterday due to torrential rain and strong wind, the roofs of two markets were blown off, including Khoney Khel Market and Khojal Khel Market, three people have been injured due to the roofs falling, while two motorcycles standing next to the shops have also been completely destroyed and many shops have been damaged due to heavy rain and wind.

Residents of valley Shakai have demanded from the federal Government, NDMA and PDMA, to resolve the damages caused by the roofs of the markets in valley Shakai.

It should be clear that earlier there were severe hailstorms in various tehsil of Lower South Waziristan district, which destroyed fruit orchards and standing crops of vegetables. While the district administration has compiled an assessment report and sent it to the provincial Government and PDMA to compensate the farmers for the damages caused by hailstorm.

It is worth mentioning here that a few years ago there were several heavy hailstorms in different areas and due to which the orchards and standing crops of vegetables were badly affected but till now no affected farmer has received a single pie.

Sarfraz Mughal strongly condemned the desecration of the Holy Quran

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Sarfraz Mughal, a businessman of the city of power, has strongly condemned the desecration of the Holy Quran in Sweden and said that due to the slavery of the Agyars, anti-Islamic forces have desecrated the Holy Quran to Muslims living around the world.



Due to mutual differences and war of interests among Muslims, today we are on the target of hostile and anti-Islamic forces around the world, and anti-Islamic forces not only control our resources by fighting us with each other. Rather, they are seriously hurting our sentiments by adopting an anti-Islamic narrative. The role of OIC has also been limited to condemning. Due to our mutual differences and hatred, this enemy has dominated us and has tied many Muslim countries in other issues including the economy. It is necessary that the Muslim countries of the world unite. Come forward as an Islamic force by promoting harmony and brotherhood so that the West and enemy forces do not dare to hurt our Islamic sentiments. He has demanded severe punishments and said that if Sweden does not punish the perpetrators of desecration, then Pakistan should end its diplomatic relations with Sweden and raise its voice against Sweden at the UN Forum. Muttahida and OIC should play their role to prevent such Islamophobic acts.

Aima Baig shines at Spotify's Times Square billboard as the latest EQUAL Pakistan Ambassador

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: A soulful and charming voice that has become a household name in the country, Aima Baig featured as EQUAL Pakistan's Ambassador for the month of June, and like other EQUAL Ambassadors before her, Aima is also shining bright on Spotify's digital billboard in Times Square, NYC. Her track "Aey Zindagi" has been highlighted on Spotify's EQUAL Pakistan playlist as part of the celebrations.

Aima Baig made her debut in 2016, and since then, she has been on the roll, becoming one of the most celebrated playback singers in the country and receiving numerous accolades including the coveted Tamgha-e-Fakhre-Imtiaz from the government of Pakistan, global recognition, and a massive fandom. Her magical voice, soul-stirring compositions, and efficacy for striking the right chords at the right time have catapulted her career to new heights. She has also collaborated with leading musicians including the likes of Asim Azhar, Ali Zafar, Ali Sethi, and Sahir Ali Bagga.

Aima's tracks have also been featured in numerous movies including Lahore Se Aagay, Na Maloom Afraad 2, Teefa in Trouble, and Jawani Phir Nahi Ani 2.

Armed bandits looted bakery

Raza Naqvi

ATTOCK: Four armed bandits equipped with different weapons looted a famous bakery located on Kohat road in the limits of Fatehjang Police station, police sources said on Sunday. According to the police sources, four armed bandits entered in to the bakery in the guise of customers and made hostage all the staff members and customers present at the shop hostage on gun point. Later they snatched cash, cell phone from staff and customers and fled away successfully with looted booty. The victims told reporters that the outlaws were talking in Pushto while police reached at the crime scene after 20 minutes after making call to police emergency helpline 15. Fatehjang Police registered a case and launched further investigation.

High prices

LAHORE: People are buying vegetables from a vendor at Weekly Sunday Market as the prices here are also out of reach of common people in Provincial Capital.



Photo: Online

Chaudhry Yasin strongly condemns the desecration of the Holy Quran

Abdul Majeed Tahir

KOTLI: President Pakistan People's Party Azad Kashmir Chaudhry Mohammad Yasin has said that he strongly condemns the desecration of the Holy Quran in Sweden. These incidents have hurt the feelings of billions of Muslims.

The Holy Quran is the source of growth and guidance for all humanity, its honor and respect is part of our faith and we cannot tolerate insulting it under any circumstances. All the states of the world should take steps to prevent such acts.

Talking to Haji Latif Minhas, Khaji Arif Minhas, Tayeb Tafar, Sufyan Arif, Zeeshan Arif, Muhammad Mehboob, Muham-



mad Aziz, Halim Minhas, Jameel Minhas, Allah Datta, Hafat Abrar and others who joined the PPP under the leadership of Khaliq Raza.

He said that Islam teaches peace and brotherhood. Islam respects the followers of all religions. There is no room for chaos, mistrust

and hateful activities in Islam.

Remedies for Islamophobia. The Muslim Ummah needs to show solidarity. A Muslim cannot tolerate

insulting the Holy Qur'an, a Muslim cannot tolerate insulting the Holy Prophet Muhammad Rasoolullah sallallahu 'alayhi wa

sallam, and he considers it a part of his faith.

It should be discussed at the global level, today the leadership of the entire Muslim Ummah has put this matter in front of the whole world, a formal law should be made on it and these issues should be put before the United Nations and the OIC.

Desecration of the book will not be tolerated in any case. We need to promote inter-religious harmony and dialogue to develop tolerance towards each other's religious beliefs and values.

The international community should play its role in promoting inter-religious harmony. Creating a cradle requires going beyond hateful actions.

CTD Operation in Multan: One Terrorist Arrested From TTP

Asim Tanveer

MULTAN: The Counter-Terrorism Department (CTD) Operation in Multan in the Punjab province has foiled a terror plot by arresting a suspected terrorist linked with a banned out during operations in different areas of Punjab. According to the spokesman, the CTD Punjab conducted 32 intelligence based operations in different districts of the province to effectively deal with any untoward incident of terrorism, in which 32 suspected persons were interrogated and an alleged terrorist was arrested with weapons, explosives and other prohibited materials.

Among the arrested terrorist a member of Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan Muhammad Kamal included, he said and added that 7 Pumphlets, One Flag, 8 stickers of banned organization and 1230 rupees in cash have been recovered from the possession of the terrorists.

The spokesman said that the terrorist had planned to sabotage across the province and wanted to target important installations and other religious places. The police have registered a cases against the arrested alleged terrorist in Multan and shifted him to an unknown location, he added.

He said that 479 combing operations were also conducted during this week with the help of local police and security agencies, 17396 persons were checked, 25 suspects were arrested, 21 FIRs were registered and 27 recoveries weren't made. The Counter Terrorism Department Punjab is diligently pursuing its goal of a safe Punjab and no stone will be left unturned in its efforts to bring terrorists and anti-ostate elements behind bars

Intense operation against Balochistan terrorists under way in Hoshab area

Spokesman Report

RAWALPINDI: Based on credible intelligence with respect to move of a group of terrorists, linked with firing incidents on Security Forces and civilians besides planting of Improvised Explosive Devices in Hoshab area, a combat patrol of security forces was initiated in gen area Balor.

While establishment of blocking



positions to cut the escape routes was underway, a party of Terrorists tried to ambush closing in patrol and opened fire onto Security Forces.



Islamabad
15° - 23° Clear

SERVICES

Namaz Timings

Fajr	3:18 am
Zohr	12:12 pm
Asr	5:12 pm
Maghrib	7:22 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
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Around 40,000 people thronged 'Lake View' park during weekend



Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: As many as 40,000 thousand people thronged 'Lake View Park' to enjoy barbecue parties after Eidul Azha with their family and friends.

With its spacious location at the shores of Rawal Dam, Lake View Park has started attracting more visitors than other public parks and picnic spots in the twin

cities, reported a private news channel.

Traditionally, people used to go to Ayub Park and Nawaz Sharif Park but now both the places seem too crowded and there is little for enjoyment," there are also other attractions in the federal capital including Japanese Park, the Zoo and the whole track up to Pir Sohawa.

However, Lake View Park has all the

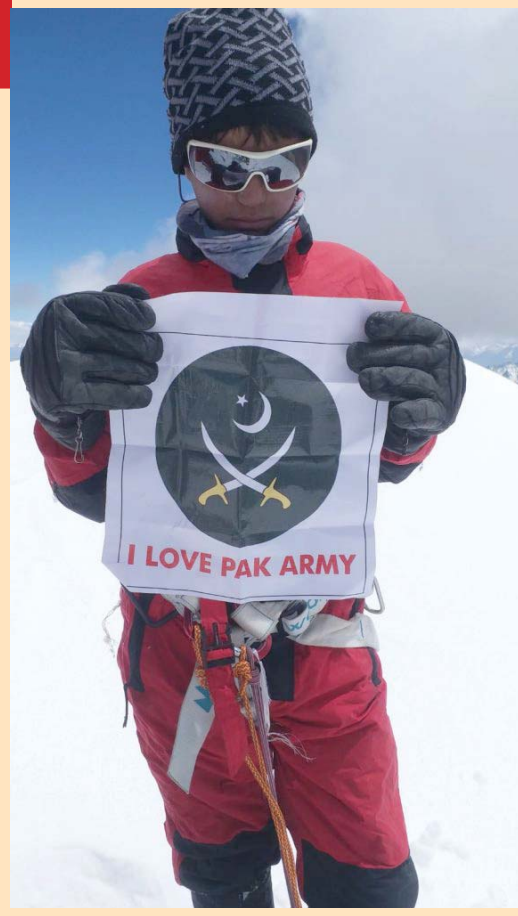
facilities available in one spot, making it the most attractive place for visitors.

Thousands of merrymakers, including families and groups of youngsters, belonging to the twin cities and surrounding areas thronged the limited public places in Rawalpindi and Islamabad.

Visitors also enjoyed boat rides in Lake View Park on weekend.

Solidarity

ISLAMABAD: Young mountaineers eight-year-old Ayan Shigri, and 12-year-old Danish Sadpara, submitted 6400 meters high Khosar Gang mountain, situated in Shigar to show solidarity with the armed forces.



River Kabul continues to flow in low flood: FFC



Federal Flood Commission

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Federal Flood Commission (FFC) has said that River Kabul continues to flow in low flood at Nowshera while rivers Indus, Jhelum, Chenab, Ravi and Sutlej are flowing normal.

According to the daily FFC report issued on Sunday, the existing Combined Live Storage of the country's major reservoirs of Tarbela, Chashma and Mangla is 7.135 MAF of 13.443 MAF.

According to Flood Forecasting Division (FFD) Lahore, trough of Westerly Wave over Kashmir and adjoining areas has earlier moved away eastwards, whereas seasonal low continues to prevail over Northwestern Balochistan.

Mild Moist Currents from Arabian Sea are penetrating into upper parts of the country up to

3000 feet.

For the next 24 hours, mainly dry weather has been predicted by FFD, Lahore over most parts of the country.

However, thunderstorm/rain of Light to Moderate Intensity at isolated places is expected over Islamabad, Punjab, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Balochistan (Kalat Division) and over the upper catchments of all the major rivers during the same period.

A fresh rain bearing system of Moderate to Heavy Intensity is likely to affect the upper catchments of all the major Rivers along with Suleiman range, from July 5. As a consequence, flash flooding in the Hill Torrents of D. G. Khan Division and local nullahs of Northern Balochistan including small rivers of Bannu, Kohat and D. I. Khan Divisions in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa is expected.

AIOU to announce admissions on July 15

ISLAMABAD: Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU) has announced the schedule for the admissions in the semester autumn 2023. Admissions for the first phase of Semester Autumn 2023 will commence from July 15, while the admissions for the second phase will start from September 1 across the country. Vice Chancellor AIOU, Prof Dr. Nasir Mahmood has given the approval to establish information counters, facilitation centers and prospectus sale points across the country to facilitate the students at the nearest places to their residences.

Dr. Nasir Mahmood instructed regional heads to guide the students properly. He directed regional heads, tutors, and resource persons to actively participate in the admission campaign to ensure that no child is left out of school.

Prospectuses and admission application forms for all the programs will be available online on the university website (www.aiou.edu.pk) on July 15, 2023. Admission in BS (face to face), MS/MPhil and PhD programs can only be applied via online system whereas admission application forms for matriculation, intermediate and I Com can be submitted manually as well as via online mode. In case of online submission of admission application form, the candidates are not required to dispatch printed application form to the university.

Waste Management Company Workers Great Work During Eid ul Azha: Shahid Yaqoob

Asim Tanveer

MULTAN: On the occasion of Eid-ul-Azha, the civil society and the business community organized a ceremony in honor of the waste management company officials and sentry workers and acknowledged the exemplary performance. A ceremony was held at Chowk Ghanata Ghar in which the Chief Exec-

utive Officer Shahid Yaqoob and the company officers and staff were garlanded by the citizens.

CEO Shahid Yaqub also gave prizes to the sector in-charges and the best sentry workers. Senior Manager Operations Faheem Lodhi and Manager Operations Anwar Haque were also present on the occasion. Chief Executive Officer of Waste Management Company

Shahid Yaqoob while addressing the ceremony said that Commissioner Amir Khat-tak and Deputy Commissioner Umar Jahangir have given special praise to the cleaning staff. Company employees will be awarded special bonuses and prizes for exemplary cleaning.

CE O said that the company cleaned more than 23 thousand tons of garbage from the streets

in 3 days, which is a record.

While more than 500 sanitation complaints received in the Complaints Cell were immediately redressed. The positive response of all schools of thought was encouraging. He said that the leveling work has also been completed by burying the wastes at the landfill sites. To be protected from contamination

Shugry drinks are a major cause of many diseases besides heart. PANAH

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: PANAH has been working for the last 40 years to protect our countrymen from diseases and those things that cause diseases PANAH is working on their absolute awareness and policies on them.

Shugry drinks are a major cause of many diseases besides heart. PANAH is running a big campaign against shugry drinks.

Today, it is a matter of great joy that PANAH has won another policy victory on this. Despite strong opposition from the industry and false propaganda, the government has increased taxes on juices as they are equally damage as to other shugry drinks. We congratulate the government for increasing the taxes on juices and appreciate their work.

and we would also like to thank our champion parliamentarians, stakeholders, civil society and media friends for this victory. There are those who lent their voice to the PANAH in this work of human welfare and played their role in every forum including the assembly and today's policy is a proof of the day and night hard work of PANAH.

9th May culprits can't be bailed out against a presser: Sarfraz Afzal

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Former Parliamentary Secretary for YASA&T PUNJAB ch sarfraz Afzal has showed his concerns over bail out of those nominated in FIRS Of 9th May incident. In his press release he said 9th May was not only a political incident it was in fact a planned attack on institutes of Pakistan. He questioned the law enforcement agencies ;Provincial and Federal Government that how can they give safe passage to those who are involved in attacks of 9th May.



How can those culprits of nation who burnt down the strategic institutes buildings;offices ;attacked on General HeadQuarters and burnt down Army check posts in Rawalpindi can be spared just against a press conference. The Nation demands justice for martyrs of ARMY and other law enforcement agencies and if justice is not done we will come out in thousands on streets and roads of Punjab to get justice for our martyrs

Bishop of Lahore Nadeem Kamran condemns incident of desecration of Holy Quran

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: Christians in Pakistan and across the world have condemned the incident of desecration of the Holy Quran in Sweden.

Bishop of Lahore Rev Nadeem Kamran in a statement issued here on Sunday condemned the despicable act and termed it as a malicious attempt to create hatred and disturb social and religious harmony.

"Such wilful incitement to hatred and violence cannot be justified under the pretext of freedom of expression and protest. The Christians in Pakistan are shocked and dismayed at such an act," the Bishop said.

He urged the international community and the Swedish government to undertake concrete steps to prevent incidents of anti-Muslim hatred. The Bishop said the burning of the copy of the Holy Quran is a deplorable act and must be condemned in the strongest words so that such acts spreading hatred must be stopped.

Shahzad Ali urges farmers to switch to intercropping for higher agricultural production, profitability



City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Chairman Rice Research and Development Board Punjab Shahzad Ali Malik on Sunday stressed the urgent need for switching over to "Intercropping" for growing two or multiple crops simultaneously in the same field for bumper agricultural production to achieve food autarky besides boosting the profitability of farmers across the country.

Talking to a delegation of progressive farmers led by Pir Saddam Hussain Shah of Pindi Shaikh Musa district Faisalabad, he said Intercropping can significantly enhance overall crop productivity, said a press release.

By growing different crops together, farmers can maximize the use of available resources, such as sunlight, water, and nutrients, he added.

He said the complementary nature of different crops helps in better utilization of the growing space, resulting in higher yields per acre.

"Income from intercropping can improve farm profitability and financial stability," he said.

Intercropping provides a form of insurance against crop failure. If one crop is susceptible to pests, diseases, or adverse weather conditions, the other crops in the mixture can compensate for the losses.

This diversification of crops reduces the risk of complete crop failure and helps farmers maintain a more stable income, he added.

He said different crops have different nutrient requirements and Intercropping allows for the efficient utilization of soil nutrients, as crops with contrasting nutrient needs can be grown together.

He said overall, intercropping offers numerous advantages, including increased yield, risk reduction, efficient resource utilization, weed suppression, pest and disease management, soil improvement, economic benefits, and environmental sustainability.

It is a valuable strategy for optimizing agricultural production and promoting resilient and sustainable farming systems.

Shahzad Ali Malik highlighting its advantages said some crops act as natural repellents or attractants for pests, which can help in pest management without relying solely on chemical interventions.

While concluding he said, on the other hand, Intercropping promotes biodiversity and ecological balance in agricultural systems. By cultivating diverse crops, farmers create habitats for beneficial insects, birds, and other organisms, which helps in natural pest control and pollination.

This approach reduces the reliance on synthetic pesticides and promotes sustainable farming practices.

Agreement with IMF will improve value of Rupee against the dollar: Khawaja Jalalud Din

Kiran Asim

MULTAN: The staff-level stand-by agreement of the current government to provide a loan of three billion dollars from the IMF in a period of nine months is such an achievement of Prime Minister Mian Shahbaz Sharif, Finance Minister Ishaq Dar and other national institutions, which will immediately help the country. But there is a possibility of acceleration in business activities. Along with this, the government has also got an opportunity to reform to restore the economy on a sustainable basis. The efforts made by Pakistan's friendly countries in relation to this agreement



Chambers of Commerce and Industry Multan and Dera Ghazi Khan and former caretaker provincial minister of industry Khawaja Jalalud din Romi while talking to journalists. He said that the current agreement with the

IMF will improve the value of the rupee against the dollar, restore the confidence of domestic and foreign investors and increase economic activity. On the other hand, the IMF Due to the mini-budget that has been presented following the conditions.

Khawaja Jalaluddin Rumi further said that now is the time for all the political parties of Pakistan, all the national security agencies and all the business organizations to come together in one place to restore the economy and come towards a compact economy and at least ten Arrange such a program for the year that will continue its work for the restoration and improvement of the economy. No matter who the government is, the restoration program of the economy will not be affected. In this way, the various financial crises going on in the

country will be able to be controlled. He said that the time has come for the government institutions to control their expenses so that the government should send a message to the people that they are not unaware of their responsibilities.

The former caretaker provincial minister of industry said that at present the wheel of industrialists is jammed, which is having an impact on every sector of life. It is hoped that the agreement of the IMF will start the stopped wheel of the industry again. He said now the entire nation should implement the message of Pakistan made products so that our dependence on foreign currency can be minimized. This is the time when we prove to be patriotic Pakistanis and depend on the products, so that the wheels of the country's industry keep turning.

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Important tasks than elections

Pakistan is facing the worst economic crises in the history. According to a report published in April this year by Shahbaz Rana on the website of United States Institute of Peace, troublingly, Pakistan's official foreign exchange reserves are hovering around \$4 billion, which is insufficient to finance even a one-month of the country's import bill.

Report further said, As of December 2022, Pakistan holds external debt and liabilities of \$126.3 billion. Nearly 77% of this debt, amounting to \$97.5 billion is directly owed by the government of Pakistan to various creditors; an additional \$7.9 billion is owed by government-controlled public sector enterprises to multilateral creditors. A major share of Pakistan's debt is owed to multilateral institutions, amounting to roughly \$45 billion. Islamabad's main multilateral creditors include the World Bank (\$18 billion), the Asian Development Bank (\$15 billion) and the IMF (\$7.6 billion). Pakistan owes smaller amounts to the Islamic Development Bank and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank as well. While a significant amount of Pakistan's total debt, multilateral debt doesn't present major short-term risks for Pakistan. The terms of most loans are largely concessional with a repayment timeline spanning 18 to 30 years; most repayments are spread in many small transactions. In 2022-23, Pakistan repaid a total \$4.5 billion debt to multilateral creditors, which is a fifth of the total debt repayment for the year.

debt servicing burden is likely to be at least \$23 billion; that year Pakistan is to pay back \$8 billion in long-term debt, including repaying \$1.8 billion for a Eurobond and \$1.9 billion to Chinese commercial lender.

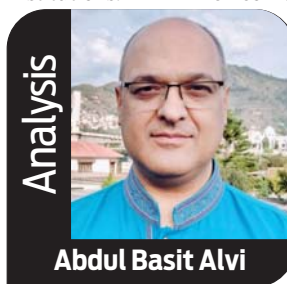
Readers, The facts and figures clearly depict the worst scenario for Pakistan. For Pakistan it is must to come out of these economic crises before going into elections.

Then come to another point. Whole nation have seen what happened on May 9 and how a group of riots attacked on the military and civilian installations. They have done what our worst enemies could not do in 75 years. Whole nation demands that the culprits and terrorist of May 9 should be punished quickly to set an example. Civilian and Army leadership is committed to bring the terrorists of May 9 to court of law.

Recently, the participants of the Formation Commanders' Conference chaired by Army Chief General Asim Munir have expressed their determination that the time has come to strengthen the grip of the law against the planners and masterminds of May 9. According to the Public Relations Department of Pakistan Army (ISPR), a formation commanders conference was held at General Headquarters (GHQ) under the chairmanship of Army Chief General Asim Munir in which Corps Commanders, Principal Staff Officers and all formation commanders of Pakistan Army were present. The ISPR said that the forum paid great tribute to the great sacrifices of the martyrs and said that the state of Pakistan and the armed forces will always hold the martyrs and their families with respect and dignity. ISPR said that Pakistan Army is determined to fulfill its national responsibilities of protect-

ing territorial integrity. Condemning the Black Day events of May 9 in the strongest possible terms, the Forum reiterated its firm determination that those who attacked the Martyrs' Memorials, Jinnah House and military installations should be brought to justice under the Pakistan Army Act and the Official Secrets Act. On this occasion, the Army Chief said that the indisputable evidence collected in abundance cannot be denied or distorted, all attempts to create distortions and all attempts to take shelter behind fake human rights violations are futile. He said that with the full cooperation of the nation, all the noble ambitions will be thwarted. The Army Chief said that the people of Pakistan and the armed forces have a close relationship, which is central to national security. The baseless allegations of rights violations and suppression of political activities are aimed at misleading the public, and are aimed at achieving nefarious political interests by maligning the armed forces. The forum emphasized the need to clamp down on those who foster hatred against the state and state institutions and those who spread chaos in the country and resolved that now is the time to strengthen the grip of the law against the plotters and masterminds. According to the ISPR, the forum also decided that efforts to create obstacles in any quarter and to defeat the nefarious intentions of the enemy forces will be dealt with an iron hand.

Readers, Election are very costly event and billions of rupees, infrastructure and resources are required to conduct the elections. Is it a wise step to go to elections in such worst economic crises and before punishing the culprits of May 9 (to further encourage them)? Is it a wise step to allow the riots and terrorists to participate in electoral process and come back to parliament? I am leaving these questions to my readers and power hubs of the country to determine the directions and priorities before going into a complex and expensive electoral process.



Abdul Basit Alvi

India's belligerence designs

Experts on Sunday termed India's belligerence as the biggest threat to peace and stability in the region, which is creating war hysteria and deflecting the world attention from serious human rights and war crime situation in the Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK).

They said the dire political and human rights situation in the occupied territory had left India exposed at the international level. Lauding the sacrifices of people living at the Line of control (LoC), experts said that Kashmiris had been braving the brunt of firing at the LoC with the utmost courage.

On June 24, the Indian Army, in a display of usual inhuman approach towards innocent Kashmiris, opened indiscriminate fire on a group of shepherds in Sattwal sector, the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) said in a statement.

"In sequel to Indian Army unprovoked firing today, while adopting an inhuman approach towards innocent Kashmiris at Sattwal sector, one more civilian embraced shahadat while another was critically injured. (Total two martyred and one critically injured)," ISPR statement said.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister of Azad Jammu and Kashmir Chaudhry Anwarul Haq condemned the Indian forces' unprovoked firing in the Sattwal sector of the Line of Control. In a statement issued here, he regrettably noted that on the one hand, the Indian forces had been committing war crimes in Kashmir, while on the other, they had been brazenly violating the ceasefire agreement by targeting innocent civilians along the LoC.

He said that despite Indian shelling, Kashmiri people living near LoC stand shoulder to shoulder with the Pakistan Army in their fight to defend the country's territorial integrity. The AJK PM also hailed the supreme sacrifices rendered by the Pakistani forces. He also paid homage to those who embraced martyrdom and directed the authorities concerned to provide the best medical facilities for the injured in the incident.

He also appealed to the United Nations, Security Council and international organisations to take notice of India's naked aggression.

The Foreign Office (FO), in this connection, summoned the Indian charge d' affairs to register Pakistan's protest and condemn the incident. "It was underscored that such senseless acts were in clear violation of the 2003 ceasefire understanding, reaffirmed in February 2021.

It was further underscored that targeting of civilians was contrary to human dignity and international human rights and humanitarian laws. "The Indian side was urged to respect the ceasefire understanding, investigate the incident, and maintain peace along the Line of Control," the FO said in the release.

Earlier, last month, Indian troops shot dead a 25-year-old inadvertent crosser from Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK). Likewise on May 15, Parveen Fatima, a 65-year-old widow from the Pandu sector of AJK in Jhelum valley district, was also killed by the Indian army, after she had strayed across the LoC while picking some medicinal plants.

The development comes days after the United States (US) and India issued a joint statement on June 22, that was issued as Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi met US President Joe Biden during his visit to the US.

Responding to the statement, Foreign Office Spokesperson Mumtaz Zahra Baloch said in a media talk that India habitually

Hate speech....



Amjad Rasmi

European Attractions Vs Destructions!

What kind of societies are living in Europe & adjacent to it whose norms & values are shear a show maybe seemed attractive for a while but in-depth analysis would provide you the real face hidden in certain layers because where the Holy Quran clearly mentioned the actuality of life to them & real ways for eternal successes.

Instead of concentrating & understanding, they are busy burning Quran & others are laughing while keeping silent?

Surah Gafar's verses clarifies, "Have they not travelled throughout the land to see what was the end of those 'destroyed' before them? They were far superior in might and 'richer in' monuments throughout the land. But Allah seized them for their sins, and they had no protector from Allah."

"Moses replied, "I seek refuge in my Lord and your Lord from every arrogant person who does not believe in the Day of Reckoning."

"They will be told, "This 'punishment' is for being prideful on earth unjustly and for acting arrogantly". "Enter the gates of Hell, to stay there forever. What an evil home for the arrogant!"

"We already sent messengers before you. We have told you the stories of some of them, while others We have not. It was not for any messenger to bring a sign without Allah's permission. But when Allah's decree comes, judgment will be passed with fairness, and the people of falsehood will then

be in 'total' loss." "And He shows you His signs. Now which of Allah's signs will you deny?"

This Surah reminds of God's signs and of His favors and gives sights from the story of Moses and Pharaoh with life-changing lessons that what the people of Mecca trying to do with Muhammad (PBUH) same Pharaoh tried to do with Moses but despite his mighty powers utterly failed.

Let's recall the former president of Libya!

Is Gaddafi's gloomy prophecy in regard to Europe bound to be fulfilled? ALEXANDROVA Lyudmila;

As Europe's migrant crisis grows far and wide, many Russian media are recalling the late Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi's gloom prophecy made several years before his violent death

MOSCOW, September 9. / TASS/. As Europe's migrant crisis grows far and wide, many Russian media are recalling the late Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi's gloom prophecy made several months before his violent death. "Now listen you, people of NATO. You're bombing a wall which stood in the way of African migration to Europe, and in the way of Al-Qaeda terrorists. This wall was Libya. You're breaking it. You're idiots, and you will burn in Hell for thousands of migrants from Afri-

ca and for supporting Al-Qaeda. It will be so. I never lie. And I do not lie now," said Gaddafi in an open letter obtained by the Russian daily Zavtra and published in May 2011 several months before the Libyan leader was killed.

This furious fire wave has started from French & ultimately adjacent Territories additionally will automatically plunge in it.

Europe has been facing numerous challenges due to Russia already externally but now internal confrontation is more dangerous.

On the significance Quran. The Poet of the East Allama Muhammad Iqbal said ;

Bang-e-Darra; Who settled my Kaaba with the cheeks?

Who attached my Quran to his breasts?

Holy Haram, Allah, Quran is also one, It was a big deal, Muslims were also one.

They were respected in their time as Muslims, And you have been humiliated by being away from the Qur'an.

Baal Jibreel; It was very difficult to control this cell of meanings, Qalandar put the mystery of the book at last.

Until the book is revealed in your conscience, Neither Razi, nor Sahib Kashif is untied.

Zarb-i Kalim; Who knows that it has thousands of positions,

The poverty in which there is the naked spirit of the Qur'an.

No one knows this secret except the believer.

The reader sees the Qur'an in reality.

Immerse yourself in the Qur'an, O, Muslim men,

May Allah grant you a new character.

Electricity is halal for love, gain is forbidden for love

Knowledge is the son of the book, love is the mother of the book.

They don't change themselves, they change the Qur'an, At what level did the scholars of Haram fail?

Reveal this secret now, O soul of Muhammad (SAW)

Where should the custodian of the divine verses go?

Allah Almighty does not like the transgressors and the wrongdoers.

This Burning of Quran in Sweden demands from the Sweden's government and the whole world to punish even to punish in such a way that till the doomsday, no one could dare to repeat it.

Allah Almighty is observing each & everything and would also test the role of the concerned authorities? Undoubtedly Allah Almighty is quick to take account.

It is concluded that European luxuries are worldly and irksome which can take you towards hell & fire because they have not understood the dignity of the Quran.

Govt on toes to manage power supply during peak summer

Raziq Ali Shah

Despite the economic recession and pressure by International Monetary Fund to do away with subsidies, the government is pursuing a focused agenda of overcoming power shortage during the peak summer season through a multi-pronged strategy.

Since the uninterrupted power supply is considered crucial for the development of industrial, agricultural and domestic sectors, its smooth supply to domestic consumers is equally important. But it becomes difficult when one's hands are tied to certain international monetary compulsions and there is a shortfall in indigenous supply and demand.

Therefore, the present government is vigorously pursuing arrangements to provide respite to industry and common consumers during the ongoing hot spell.

Rising fuel prices and new energy situation after Ukraine war also necessitated Pakistan to utilize its indigenous resources like hydel, solar, wind and Thar coal as it has already announced not to build any new power projects depending on imported coal and ensure 60 percent of its power through local sources by 2030.

The minister informed that bidding process for installing 1-4MW Solar Micro-Grid stations in rural areas is also on cards as the government has already waived sales tax and duties on the purchase of solar panels. "Easy loans were being disbursed among the people for installing solar panels on minimum interest rate."

As the Prime Minister has already inaugurated 1,100 MW K-3 nuclear power plant in Karachi (KANUP) completed with assistance from China, the government has also embarked on a number of initiatives like cutting short the business time, replacement of inefficient electricity equipment,

solarization, reduce energy consumption at the government buildings, awareness campaigns and approval of Conservation Policy.

An overview of the measures reveals that solarization of the government entities would save 300 to 500 MW per month, massively slashing the fuel import bill.

Under the National Energy Conservation Plan, judicious utilization of energy would be ensured and early closure of restaurants, hotels, and markets and production of incandescent light bulbs and inefficient electricity fans would help the government save around Rs 62 billion annually. Production of inefficient electricity fans will be stopped shortly as they alone consume 12,000MW electricity. Additional duties would be levied on production of such fans to save Rs15 billion.

Moreover, stopping production of incandescent light bulbs is also helping out the government by saving Rs 22 billion.

Usage of streetlights is also being curtailed to 50%, hoping to save Rs 92 billion while all government institutions will install efficient devices to save electricity.

Around 30% reduction in electricity consumption at government institutions would also help overcome the shortage while Pakistan Electronic Media Regulatory Authority (PEMRA) would ensure energy saving campaign through TV and radio channels.

The government has also released Rs 89.536 billion for different projects of National Transmission and Despatch Company (NTDC) and Pakistan Electric Supply Company (PEPCO) under the annual Public Sector Development Program (PSDP) in the current fiscal year 2022-23.

In view of the government's efforts to overcome the power shortage, it is also obligatory for us all to do our bit in supplementing these efforts by conserving as much power as we can for our sustainability and economic revival.

Masjid Rehmat-ul-lil-Alameen provides food to esurients on Eid

By Naveed Ahmad Khan

ISLAMABAD: In extremely hard times of poverty, unemployment, low wages and ever escalating rate of inflation, poor people are suffering the most. To offer solace and relief to such needy ones, Masjid Rehmat-ul-lil-Alameen located at F/8- 4 Main Nazim-ud-Din Road served the meals to the thousands deserving and those who cannot afford to buy food —with dignity and upholding their self-respect on the occasion of Eid-ul-Adha under the slogan that, "No one should go hungry".

The administration has started a novel way by avoiding distribution of meat and cooking all the meat to distribute it in various masjids from where it is served to the needy, including men, women, and kids.

Food was offered to the poor for three days, while the people of the area also participated in this by contributing meat.

Khateeb Jamia Masjid Rehmat-ul-lil-Alameen, Dr. Ubaid-ur-Rehman Basher informed that many of the laborers living in Islamabad have no way to keep meat safe and cook it therefore we are doing it for them.

Earlier, the Jamia Masjid Rehmat ul Alamin has established a free-of-charge marriage hall to help deserving families celebrate their daughters' weddings with respect and dignity. This compassionate initiative aims to make the special day of deserving families even more memorable by providing a free-of-charge marriage hall equipped with a stage for the bride and groom, as well as crockery, tables, chairs, and trained waiters to serve food to the guests of orphan and deserving brides.

Furthermore, the initiative



ensures that newlywed brides are sent to their new homes with respect and dignity. This compassionate initiative by Jamia Masjid Rehmat ul Alamin F/8, Islamabad aims to provide deserving families with a memorable and dignified wedding experience, besides alleviating the financial burden on poor families and enabling them to celebrate their

special occasion with joy and honour.

The hall has a three-hour time limit and includes a stage for the bride and groom. The mosque management allows parents to either solemnize the Nikkah of their daughter themselves or choose a Khateeb of their choice for the ceremony. To book the hall, deserving parents can contact the

mosque management committee. Khateeb Jamia Masjid Rehmat ul lil Alameen Dr. Ubaid-ur-Rehman Basher told the media that the marriage-related activities will continue uninterrupted even during prayer times. He advised people to associate the departure of their daughters with the call to prayer (Adhan) and prayer (Salah) to eliminate some

superstitions and create a blessed environment that will facilitate a new life.

According to Khateeb Jamia, Dr. Ubaid-ur-Rehman Basher the mosque recommends that families planning to attend the event should limit the number of guests to 100 or 120 individuals, with an equal number of men and women, and prioritize Islamic teachings while avoiding extravagance by religious teachings. To ensure a successful event, three men and three women from the family should take responsibility for arranging and maintaining order, with one man and one woman appointed to oversee the event and ensure that the mosque administration does not participate in the ceremony.

Khateeb Dr. Ubaid-ur-Rehman, encouraged families to link their daughters' departure with the call to prayer and salah, adding that superstitions will decrease and wastefulness and burden on poor families will be eliminated. After the ceremony concludes, the mosque must be thoroughly cleaned, and arrangements can be made for a departure ceremony that meets the family's needs. The initiative aims to establish a dignified system for white-clothed people and relieve the burden on poor fathers of marrying off their daughters.

Mosques are institutions that never shut down. They are open 24/7, 365, and that's what makes them a unique resource in times of need. The members of its management are the best data banks for its local community, their issues and all possible solutions to those issues. They know the deserving, the weak and those in need usually on a very personal level, and can identify pretenders quicker than anybody else.



Mosques are centers of spiritual social development. They have the potential to become centers of

Photo Raja Farid

Hong Kong residents travel through time to Tang Dynasty

By Xinhua

HONG KONG: In the Tang culture experience zone at Hong Kong's Victoria Park, women dressed elegantly in Tang Dynasty (618-907) costumes were dancing cheerfully on Saturday.

Dressing as a young girl in Tang Dynasty costume, Miss Lee, a Hong Kong resident, took a selfie with her mobile phone against the backdrop of red lanterns under the sun.

Saturday marked the 26th anniversary of Hong Kong's return to the motherland. Lee and her friends went to the Victoria Park to celebrate this special day.

"The decorations here match the Tang clothes so well," Lee said.

Hong Kong resident Wan Miu-ling, 67, waited two and a half hours in the scorching heat and was finally seated in the makeup section.

"I like the costumes of various Chinese dynasties, and the Tang costumes were the most gorgeous," Wan said she was satisfied with the makeup and hairstyle designed by the makeup artist.

Wan said she loves traditional Chinese culture. "After I retired,



I began to study Yi Jing, or Book of Changes, and the Analects of Confucius. I keep studying because I am Chinese," she said.

Such an immersive cultural experience was greatly loved by Hong Kong people. Many local people flocked to the park to try on Han-style clothing, the traditional dress of the Han Chinese people.

Wang Ning, a representative of the Han-style clothing experience zone in the park, told Xinhua that there were 120 sets of different styles of costumes for people to choose from.

"It seems that Chinese tradition-

al costumes are very popular among Hong Kong people," Wang said.

In another corner, children of different ages sat quietly at the table to do handicrafts.

A sixth-grade primary school student surnamed Lee was making



a moon-shaped fan, which was popular in the Tang Dynasty. Lee decorated the fan carefully and wrote the word "peace" in the blank space.

"I heard there was a traditional culture experience zone here, so I dressed in my Han-style outfit to join the party," said Chui Wai-sze, a local college student.

"I have been to many places in the mainland and the traditional Chinese culture is really beautiful. Young people in Hong Kong should go to the mainland and experience the charm of different Chinese dynasties," Chui said.

At the Algiers International Economic Fair, June 2023

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: After an absence of 18 years, Pakistan participated in the 54th session of the Algeria International Economic Fair, organized under the high patronage of the President of the Republic, Mr. 638 companies, including 473 Algerian companies (157 are public institutions, 316 are private institutions and 165 are foreign from 30 countries in Africa, Europe, Asia, Latin America and the Arab region.



Pakistan participated in an important delegation under the supervision of the Trade Development Authority of Pakistan TDAP with more than 20 businessmen representing 11 companies, active in various fields such as: textile, sportswear, pharmaceutical industry, food industry.

For the first time, the launch of a digital Algerian salon presents the five strategic sectors that Algeria relies on, to achieve an economic leap outside the hydrocarbon sector, which is represented in all kinds of industrial sectors, agriculture, renewable energies, media technologies, knowledge economy and the tourism sector.

Pakistani youth becomes deputy sheriff in US

Spokesman Report

KARACHI: The first Pakistani youth was sworn in as the deputy sheriff of Colorado, United States.

According to details, a youngster from Sindh's Hyderabad, Kashif Sarmad Khalid has been appointed deputy sheriff in Adam County, Colorado after receiving training.



Kashif Khalid holds master's degree in Arts from the University of Sindh and also holds a degree in law. The Pakistani youth also holds a master's degree in Criminal Justice from the United States.

Kashif Khalid remained a crime reporter in Karachi in 2012 and later shifted to the United States in the same year.

Kashif Khalid continued his academic career in the United States and after graduating with a degree in Criminal Justice, he gained a job as a police officer in the US state of Colorado.

Russian embassy shows dismay on article published in Pakistani newspaper

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The embassy of Russia in Pakistan took notice of an article entitled "Russian Disarray" published in the Dawn Newspaper on June 28, 2023. Embassy wrote the letter to Editor DAWN and highlighted the actual Situation.

The Embassy writes the reasons behind the launch of the special military operation were explicitly stated by Russian President Vladimir Putin. In his address dated February 24, 2022, he underscored the fundamental, existential threats posed by irresponsible policy of NATO expansion brazenly pursued by the U. S and its satellites despite their promises not to move NATO eastwards even by an

inch. These vows have been repeatedly broken as we saw five waves of NATO expansion with the alliance moving its military infrastructure closer to the Russian borders.

Nevertheless, over the past 30 years the Russian Federation has been patiently trying to come to an agreement with the leading NATO countries regarding the principles of equal and indivisible security in Europe.

The most recent attempt to bring NATO to reason was made in December 2021 when Russia initiated dialogue with the U. S. and its NATO allies seeking security guarantees that would benefit both Russia and the European continent.

Alas, in response to our proposals we invariably faced cynical decep-



tion and lies.

At the behest of the collective West,

Kiev showed blatant disregard for the Minsk Agreements endorsed by the UN Security Council as a comprehensive way forward to resolve the Ukrainian crisis.

On December 7, 2022 the former German Chancellor Angela Merkel admitted to a German newspaper Die Zeit that the Minsk Agreement were merely an attempt to buy some time for Ukraine's military build-up, which once again demonstrates that the West has not even been trying to find a peaceful solution to the conflict.

As for the tone of the article, an Australian-based so-called "independent expert" went as far as to make misplaced, insulting remarks about the Russian President.

Regrettably, this fact only suggests that the author lacks the basics of decency. Unlike him or the Western leaders, President Putin has never stooped to making such derogatory comments about his foreign colleagues.

In our opinion, the author's insolence is motivated by either his ignorance about the subject at hand or his intent to deliberately manipulate the facts. It is also possible that the author is driven by the Russophobic sentiments raging in the West.

The Embassy of Russia in Pakistan insists that our comment on the aforementioned article must be published in the Dawn Newspaper to convey Russia's stance on the matter to the Pakistani public.

Khawaja Younas strongly condemns Holy Quran desecration in Sweden

News Desk

MULTAN: Former chairman of APBUMA and former president of chamber of commerce & industry Dera Ghazikhan Khawaja Muhammad Younas has vehemently condemned the desecration of Holy Quran in Sweden, calling it an act of racism, xenophobia. He emphasized the importance of delivering a clear message that desecrating the Qur'an and insulting the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) are not ordinary incidents of Islamophobia. He stressed the need for the international community to implement laws that explicitly prohibit the promotion of religious hatred. He said that the Qur'an burning incident in front of the Central Mosque in Stockholm, Sweden, on the first day of Eid Al-Adha is a major crime which cannot be tolerated. Khawaja Muhammad Younas said that this is the fourth time that a similar incident has occurred in Sweden, "under the false pretext of freedom of opinion and expression." The recurrence of such wilful and vile acts is a troubling manifestation of growing hatred, racism and phobia against Muslims and their faith.

Eidul Azha gives boost to leather industry



Commerce Desk

LAHORE: The leather business has increased in Lahore this Eidul Azha, as hides of sacrificial animals are being brought to the leather market for sale in an abundance. The rate of bull skin is set at Rs2500, buffalo at Rs1500, while camel skin is sold at Rs500, goat at Rs450 and the rate of sheep skin is fixed at Rs100. Leather Market Vice President Haji Nasir said the number of sacrifices has increased this year as more skins of small animals were brought to the market. He said the hides must be processed as soon as possible. On the other hand, traders said the hot weather and the delay in the process of preserving the hides had a serious effect on the quality.

Banks to remain closed on July 3

News Desk

KARACHI: The State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) Sunday announced that the banks will remain closed on July 3. "The State Bank of Pakistan will remain closed for public dealing on July 3 (Monday), which shall be observed as Bank Holiday," a notification by the central bank stated. "All banks / DFIs / MFBs shall, therefore, remain closed for public dealing on the aforementioned date," the notification said. However, SBP said that employees of all banks / DFIs / MFBs will attend the office as usual.

Super tax imposed on high income, banking sectors

LAHORE (WEB DESK): The federal government has started enacting on the Finance Bill 2023 and imposed an extra Super Tax (ST) on income and also raised the petroleum levy from Rs50 to Rs55 per litre. The move came after the government and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) reached an agreement. The government raised the threshold for the application of the ST from Rs300 million to Rs500 million, and as a result, income exceeding Rs500 million would now be subject to a 10 percent Super Tax per annum. Furthermore, banking companies with earnings exceeding Rs300 million and major sectors, including petroleum, gas, pharmaceuticals, sugar, textiles, fertilizers, iron, steel, LNG terminals, oil marketing, oil refining, airlines, automobiles, beverages, cement, chemicals, cigarettes, tobacco, and interest income, will also pay a 10% Super Tax on earnings above Rs300 million. A total of 8pc ST will be imposed on companies earning between Rs400 million to Rs500 million annually. The ST rate increased from 4pc to 6pc on income between Rs350 million to Rs400 million. Likewise, there will be a 4pc ST on annual income between Rs300 million to Rs350 million, 3pc on income between Rs250 million to Rs300 million, 2pc on income between Rs200 million to Rs250 million, and 1pc on income between Rs150 million to Rs200 million will be levied.

Consul General Chengdu visit Pakistan pavilion at West China Int'l Fair

Spokesman Report

BEIJING: Acting Consul General, Pakistan Consulate General, Chengdu, China, Agha Hunain visited Pakistan national pavilion at the 19th West China International Fair (WCIF) in Chengdu, the capital of southwest China Sichuan province. A number of Pakistani products including carpets, clothes, marble and wooden decoration pieces have been displayed for the next few days. The Western China International Fair has attracted over 3,500 enterprises from 56 countries and regions. Over 60,000 distinguished guests and



merchants from home and abroad are estimated to attend the event from Thursday to next Monday in person or online, according to Chinese media. The expo has a total exhibition area of 200,000 square meters, showcasing the Belt and Road cooperation and the development of the western regions and the digital economy and hydrogen industry. The organizers plan to hold 50 activities, including over 30 investment promotion activities. Thailand is the guest country of honour at the fair this year, and 17 countries, including Thailand, Belarus, Chile, Australia, and Pakistan, have set up their national pavilions.

Violation of agreements with IMF never benefited Pakistan

Tariq Khattak

ISLAMABAD: Dr. Murtaza Mughal, President of Pakistan Economy Watch (PEW) said on Sunday that after efforts Pakistan got IMF's nod which is the last chance to improve its damaged economy. The IMF has also given a roadmap for economic recovery, which needs to be fully implemented, he said. Violation of agreements with the IMF has never benefited Pakistan but has caused heavy losses, said Dr. Murtaza Mughal, President of PEW. In a statement issued here today, he said that some political figures wasted more than a year in reaching an agreement with the IMF and despite their best efforts, they could not change the stance of the IMF. During this time, the economy suffered



heavy losses and the people suffered from inflation and unemployment. Now the IMF board is likely to approve the loan by the middle of next month, but even before that, the confidence of the

business community is returning, while Pakistan's reputation in the international community and foreign investors is improving. Dr. Mughal said that now Pakistan will be able to get more loans from the World Bank, Asian Development Bank, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates and China, to return old loans. He said that Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif spoke to the head of the IMF three times over the phone and met her thrice, due to which the loan was approved. All credit of saving the country from bankruptcy goes to the PM Shahbaz Sharif, but the responsibility of the government is not over yet, it has a lot to do to fix the broken economy, he said. He said that maintaining this agreement at all costs is very important for the future of Pakistan.

RCCI applauds SBA with IMF crucial for economic stability

Commerce Desk

RAWALPINDI: Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI) has termed that Stand-By Arrangement (SBA) with International Monetary Fund (IMF) crucial for economic stability and a welcome news for Pakistan's ailing economy. The yield will not only send a positive message to investors, but the risk of default has also been averted, said RCCI President Saqib Rafiq. He also applauds PM office and Finance Ministry engagements with IMF and after their tireless efforts, Pakistan managed to secure IMF deal. Saqib Rafiq further remarked that the SBA of \$3 billion will not only provide a breathing space in the recovery of Pakistan's creditworthiness but also enable the resumption of dollar inflow from various



bilateral and multilateral lenders. He said in a statement that the business community hopes that the industry reforms introduced by the government in the budget including the five exports sectors to increase tax net and increase exports will be implemented. The framework for development of five Es, Energy, E-Pakistan, environment, equity and empowerment will be shared with the business community and stakeholders will be taken on board, he added.

Sajji
KARACHI: Workers are preparing the traditional "Sajji" for customers at 5 Star Churangi Food Street during the Bakra Eid Days in Provincial Capital.



Photo: Online

IMF financing good development but reforms must to end economic crisis: BMP

Bureau Report

LAHORE: The Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry's Businessmen Panel (BMP) has termed the agreement with IMF as a positive development for the economy but warned that the multilateral donors financing might not bring any significant impact on struggling economy, as the sustainable solution to Pakistan's economic issues lies in the

structural reforms and consistent policies. FPCCI former president and BMP Chairman Mian Anjum Nisar said the deal would end speculation of a possible default, but the country's debt troubles won't end there, as the more IMF aid will be needed in 2024, he added. He said that the rupee will strengthen which will reduce inflation, so, the IMF agreement is overall a good development. The BMP Chairman expressed his opin-

ion on the agreement with the International Monetary Fund and said that there is positive news at the beginning of the new fiscal year, as it was not expected but the agreement was reached. Now the rupee will strengthen, which will reduce inflation. He said that there is a 9-month agreement which is very positive, as the caretaker government will remain in the facility, however, the IMF conditions have increased the cost of production.

PFC to take part Imam Abu Hanifa 2nd Int'l and National Expo

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Furniture Council (PFC) will take part in the 3-days Imam Abu Hanifa 2nd International and National Expo and Trade Fair Kabul starting from July 16 to discover business opportunities and explore new market access for Pakistani products. Chief Executive Officer PFC Mian Kashif Ashfaq talking to a delegation of industrialists led by Ch Zeeshan Elahi Arain CEO Marvel Cables here on Sunday said that PFC along with Chenone will be participating in this mega event, said a news release. "Chenone will also exhibit its high-quality international standards products to capture their share in the global market besides it's an excellent opportunity to showcase Pak products and develop business deals with international buyers", he added. Mian Kashif Ashfaq said that around over hundreds of Pak companies will be exhibiting their products which included furniture, textile, garments, leather garments,



sportswear, sports goods engineering, etc. He said this expo will also offer professional buyers a sourcing platform with a wide variety of products ranging from basics to the most creative and qualitative. Mian Kashif Ashfaq said PFC and Chenone have already attended several other international fairs in the United States, China, Italy, Sri Lanka etc and introduced its products which are in great demand. He hoped in getting orders from foreign buyers. The Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP) is facilitating the manufacturers of export products. He said he will also hold a series of marathon meetings with tycoons for investment to avail the government unprecedented special package for foreign investors.

\$3b IMF deal to help achieve 2.5% GDP growth in new fiscal year: PIAF

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Industrial and Traders Associations Front (PIAF) Chairman Faheemur Rehman Saigol has said that the new \$3 billion agreement with the IMF will help the economy stabilize and achieve GDP growth of 2.5% in the new fiscal year of 2023-24, taking the country's foreign reserves to \$14 billion. Faheemur Rehman Saigol said that the news comes as a major breakthrough for government that ran from pillar to post to meet conditions of the Washington-based lender only to see an incessant delay on a successful completion of the ninth review. During this time, the public was alienated, heavy taxes were

imposed, and questions were raised on Pakistan's debt obligations. He said that the IMF Executive Board is likely to meet by mid-July to formally approve the new arrangement with Pakistan. The new facility also unlocks access to capital markets for Pakistan, opening up avenues for lending as it looks to finance its external funding gap. Pakistan has budgeted \$1.5 billion as a Eurobond and Sukuk for fiscal year 2023-24. This amount is likely to be dependent on the rates it is offered in the international market. Pakistan's foreign exchange reserves, currently under \$4 billion, are likely to get a boost as Saudi Arabia, UAE, and other bilateral partners also come through. This is a fresh nine-month



program, implying that to move forward, there will be a new set of conditions to keep the SBA going. It gives some room to the government ahead of elections, and takes the onus

off the 'caretaker setup' to take measures for the economy. The IMF will keep a close eye for the next nine months to ensure Pakistan does not sway from its economic

measures. The key things it will look at will be the imposition of the petroleum development levy (the new ceiling is Rs60). The IMF acknowledged that Pakistan's economy faced several external shocks, but was quick to point out that there were some policy missteps including shortages from constraints on the functioning of the FX market. The IMF said the SBP should remain proactive to reduce inflation, and maintain a foreign exchange framework free of restrictions on payments and transfers for current international transactions and multiple currency practices. This could mean that the key policy rate is likely to remain high in the short-term, and anchored inflation will remain a priority.

Naila Kiani becomes the 1st Pakistani woman to summit Nanga Parbat

Sports Desk

LAHORE: Pakistan's pride Naila Kiani successfully summits 8,126-metre Nanga Parbat around 10:00 AM PST, the world's ninth highest mountain. With a death probability of 21%, Nanga Parbat is one of the most dangerous mountains in the world and has also earned the name Killer Mountain. This is definitely an extremely proud moment for the nation.

After this remarkable achievement, she becomes the first ever Pakistani woman to summit the world's seven highest peaks in the world. Not to mention the expedition was fully sponsored by BARD Foundation.

Kiani expresses her sentiments regarding this significant victory, stating, "Given the number of lives lost during this summit, I was filled with fear, yet fully determined to accomplish my mission. It brings me immense joy to



have once again brought global pride to my beloved country. All of my accomplishments are dedicated to my beautiful land, its people, and, most importantly, my sponsors, BARD Foundation, who

consistently went above and beyond to support me on this journey."

Just recently, Kiani etched her name in history by scaling Mount Everest, the world's highest mountain at 8,849 meters above sea level, and Mount Lhotse the fourth-highest mountain in the world at 8,516 meters above sea level. She also summited Gasherbrum-II (8,035m) in 2021, Gasherbrum-I (8,068m) and K2 (8611) in July 2022, and Annapurna I (8,091m) in 2023. Naila Kiani becomes the 1st Pakistani woman to summit 7 x 8,000m+ mountains

We also had a word with the Managing Director of BARD Foundation Mehreen Dawood who was extremely thrilled about this news. She said, "Amidst the limited opportunities available for women in such sports, Naila stands out as a resilient soul who keeps fighting relentlessly to pursue her passion. We are grateful to her for inspir-

ing us and instilling the courage to keep working towards our mission of creating a Pakistan abundant with opportunities for talented individuals. This marks only the beginning of our journey, and we aspire to foster more such exemplary figures who will serve as a source of pride and inspiration."

BARD Foundation has always played a vital role in promoting talent and paving the way for successful careers for many. The initiative undertaken by Bilquis and Abdul Razak Dawood believes in changing fortunes by helping competent individuals realize their potential as champions in their chosen fields. The purpose of the Foundation is to develop strong and confident individuals, with a special emphasis on skill construction and improvement. The Foundation extends assistance to anyone who has the spirit of adventure by becoming a part of their transformative journey.

Sri Lanka beat Zimbabwe to qualify for World Cup

Sports Desk

BULAWAYO: Sri Lanka defeated Zimbabwe by nine wickets after Maheesh Theekshana's astonishing figures of 4/25 and Pathum Nissanka's century to qualify for the ICC Men's World Cup.

After electing to bat first, Zimbabwe's batting lineup collapsed in front of the spin-packed Sri Lankan bowling attack.

The host batters failed against Sri Lankan bowlers and could only raise 165 before being bundled out in the 33rd over.

In-form batter Sean Williams waged a lone battle against Sri Lanka and scored a gutsy half-century.

He scored 56 off 57 deliveries, laced up with six boundaries and a six and top scored for Zimbabwe.

Another in-form batter Sikandar Raza was the second top-scorer in Zimbabwe's dismal batting



display with a 51-ball 31.

The rest of the Zimbabwe batters seemed clueless against dominant Sri Lankan bowlers and made meagre contributions.

Maheesh Theekshana led the bowling attack for Sri Lanka with 4/25, followed by Dilshan Madushanka's 3/15 and Maheesha Pathi-

rana's 2/18.

In response, Sri Lanka comfortably completed the pursuit for the loss of just one wicket and 101 balls to spare, thanks to a magnificent century by Pathum Nissanka.

He struck 14 boundaries on his way to a 102-ball 101 and carried his bat all the

way through.

His fellow opener Dimuth Karunaratne (30) and Kusal Mendis (25) made valuable contributions in the run chase and powered Sri Lanka into the World Cup.

For Zimbabwe, only Richard Ngarava could pick up a wicket.

PCB seeks govt's nod for World Cup 2023 in India

Bureau Report

LAHORE: Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) has sought permission from the federal government to participate in the ICC Men's World Cup 2023 being held in India, later this year.

As per details, the PCB has written a letter to Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif through the Ministry of Inter-Provincial Coordination (IPC) to provide the national team clearance to visit India for the upcoming ICC World Cup 2023.

The cricket body has also requested the government to inspect the security of the five venues offered to Pakistan for their World Cup matches.

"Soon after the World Cup schedule was announced last Tuesday, we wrote to our Patron, Honourable Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif, through the Inter-Provincial Coordination (IPC) Ministry, copying the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Interior, requesting clearance to participate in the World Cup," a PCB spokesperson told the private publication.

The ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2023 will begin on October 5 with holders England taking on New Zealand at the world's biggest cricket stadium in Ahmedabad, which will also host the final. Pakistan will clash with arch-rival India on October 15 in the tournament in Ahmedabad.

Szoboszlai joins Liverpool in 70-million-euro deal

Sports Desk

LIVERPOOL: Liverpool confirmed the signing of Dominik Szoboszlai from RB Leipzig on Sunday after paying the Hungarian's 70-million-euro (£60 million, \$76 million) release clause.

The 22-year-old will further bolster the Reds' midfield options after the arrival of Argentine World Cup winner Alexis Mac Allister last month.

"The last three or four days went really long; it was not that easy. But at the end I'm here, I'm happy and I can't wait to get started," Szoboszlai told Liverpool's website.

"A really historic club, really good players, good coach, everything is good. For me it was perfect to make the next step in a club like this. The fans, the stadium, everything is really good."

Liverpool were in the market to refresh their midfield after a fifth-place finish in the Premier League last season saw them



miss out on Champions League qualification for the first time in seven years.

Midfielders James Milner, Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain and Naby Keita all left the club when their contracts expired at the end of last season.

Szoboszlai will inherit the number

8 jersey vacated by Keita to follow in the footsteps of one of his childhood heroes Steven Gerrard.

"I have a tattoo from Steven Gerrard," he added. "When I was a child, to be honest I didn't watch that much football, but when it was Champions League, I watched and he was one of the biggest."

Szoboszlai scored 20 goals and provided 22 assists in 91 games for Leipzig since joining in January 2021 as he helped them to win the German Cup and finish in the top four of the Bundesliga for the past two seasons. "It has been an intense and above all successful few years at RB Leipzig," Szoboszlai said in a statement released by Leipzig.

"I have met lots of people on and off the pitch who have really helped me in my development. I matured in Leipzig and have been able to learn a lot, so I have a lot to thank the club for."

Szoboszlai is the second Leipzig star to make a big money move to the Premier League in recent weeks following Christopher Nkunku's arrival at Chelsea.

And there could be an even bigger deal to come with Manchester City reportedly keen on a deal for Leipzig centre-back Josko Gvardiol that could make the Croatian the world's most expensive defender.

'Djokovic does nothing wrong,' says Alcaraz



Sports Desk

LONDON: Carlos Alcaraz on Sunday summed up the unique challenge of facing Novak Djokovic by insisting his rival "doesn't do anything wrong".

World number one Alcaraz is seen as the only player possible of preventing Djokovic from claiming an eighth Wimbledon title and 24th Grand Slam.

However, at the French Open, he was swept aside by Djokovic in the semi-finals, admitting the cramping he suffered in that Roland Garros duel was caused by the "stress and tension" of seeing the Serb on the other side of the net.

"He does things really, really easy. He moves really well. He hits the ball well, really clearly," said 20-year-old Alcaraz.

"He has clean shot. It's a mix of everything. I would say he doesn't do anything wrong. It's really tough to find some weakness in his game."

US Open champion Alcaraz made the last 16 at Wimbledon in 2022 in only his second appearance at the tournament.

However, he warmed up for the third Grand Slam event of the season by lifting the Queen's grass-court trophy last weekend.

It was his fifth title of 2023 and allowed him to knock Djokovic off the top of the rankings.

"I started Queen's with no expectation to win and I won it," he said.

"I feel great playing such a great level. The confidence grew up a lot. But obviously for me the main favourite here is Djokovic. That's obvious."

Alcaraz starts his Wimbledon campaign on Tuesday against French veteran Jeremy Chardy who will retire after the tournament.

Stokes, Cummins play down Bairstow run-out controversy after dramatic Lord's Test

Australia captain Pat Cummins and England counterpart Ben Stokes swiftly aimed to move on from a stumping incident that generated long and loud boos from spectators at Lord's during the second Ashes test.

The controversy arose when Australian wicketkeeper Alex Carey stumped Jonny Bairstow as he left his crease, leading to discussions regarding the legality and sportsmanship of the dismissal.

During England's pursuit of a daunting target of 371 with the score at 193-5, Australian wicketkeeper Alex Carey stumped Jonny Bairstow after he ventured out of his crease at the conclusion of an over. The incident stirred a debate about the legitimacy of the dismissal and whether it adhered to the spirit of the game. However, both captains, Pat Cummins and Ben Stokes, downplayed the controversy and defended the action as fair. Cummins pointed out that Bairstow had performed similar manoeuvres in the past, including against renowned players like David Warner and Steve Smith.

Cummins further explained that the act of stumping in such situations was a common occurrence, where keepers take advantage of batters leaving their crease.

He credited Carey for seizing the opportunity and leaving the decision to the umpires.

Stokes echoed a similar sentiment, emphasizing that the first aspect to acknowledge was the dismissal itself. While he admitted that he wouldn't prefer to win a game through such means, he emphasized the importance of focusing on the overall competitiveness and excitement of the match, rather than reducing it to one moment of controversy.

However, during the lunch interval, a group of disgruntled Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC) members directed verbal abuse towards the Australian players as they walked through the pavilion.

The MCC later issued a statement condemning the behaviour, revealing that three members had been suspended as a consequence. Cummins acknowledged the incident and accepted the apology from the MCC, noting that the behaviour displayed by the members was not appreciated.

When asked if there was a risk of his team resorting to unsportsmanlike tactics such as underarm bowling, Cummins responded in a lighthearted manner, suggesting that it would depend on the condition of the wickets. His remark implied that extreme measures might be considered if the wickets flattened out significantly.

In conclusion, both captains sought to move forward from the stumping controversy, emphasizing the exciting nature of the game, which Australia eventually won by 43 runs, taking a 2-0 lead in the five-test series. While the incident sparked intense reactions from the Lord's faithful and led to the abusive behaviour of a few MCC members, the focus remained on the broader context of the match and maintaining the spirit of fair play.



Kyrgios says absence 'brutal' but didn't 'miss tennis'

Sports desk

LONDON: Australian whirlwind Nick Kyrgios will blow back into Wimbledon where he made a storming run to the final in 2022, admitting his injury-enforced absence from tennis has been "brutal".

The 28-year-old firebrand has only played one match in 2023 — in Stuttgart last month — after undergoing knee surgery.

It was the worst possible preparation for a return to the All England Club 12 months after losing the final to Novak Djokovic.

"It's been brutal, it's been hard," Kyrgios said Sunday.

However, he added: "I didn't miss the sport. I was almost dreading coming back a little bit, but it's my job."

At Wimbledon in 2022, the Australian dominated most of the headlines. His high-octane, flamboyant

shot-making was accompanied by signature clashes with rivals and officialdom.

He was fined \$10,000 for spitting and \$4,000 for shouting obscenities — one of which sent the British tabloids into meltdown as it was within earshot of eight-year-old Prince George.

Kyrgios also fought out an explosive third round clash with Stefanos Tsitsipas with the Greek even describing him as "evil" and a "bully".

In the final against Djokovic, he demanded a woman be ejected from the crowd for consuming "700 drinks, bro".

"In a way it was good to be home. Obviously heartbreaking as well," said Kyrgios as he reflected on his time out of the sport.

"Last year I felt like everything kind of came together for me. Finals of Wimbledon. Barely lost a match. Had the third best season on tour.

"Obviously my body was just crying out for some sort of rest."

For Kyrgios, being away from the tennis courts didn't mean an absence from the public view.

Social media 'rabbit hole' In May, his car was stolen from his mother at gunpoint from outside the family home in Canberra.

Before that incident, Kyrgios pleaded guilty in February to assaulting a former girlfriend.

He avoided a conviction for what the magistrate called a "single act of stupidity".

Kyrgios has also been the headliner in the Netflix series "Break Point" where he spoke candidly about his mental health.

He admitted he had considered suicide and ended up in a psychiatric ward in 2019.

"It took me seven, eight years to be able to just open up about that," he explained on Sunday.



"I feel great now. It's hard because I'm putting so much expectation on myself. Compared to that time, I'm feeling a lot better."

Kyrgios says his mental well-being has been aided by reducing the time he spends on social media, describing it as a "rabbit hole".

"It's horrible what athletes have to deal with. I don't think it's normal at all, how much criticism, how much negativity, how much sniping that people have to deal with now. It's out of control."

Despite claiming not to have missed tennis, Kyrgios has been enchanted by

the impact made by world number one Carlos Alcaraz.

"What Alcaraz has been able to put together in such a short period of time is nuts. He's got such discipline and he just loves the sport."

"He's fun to watch. He's got so much discipline but he's got that showman about him, as well, which I like."

"He loves getting people chanting his name, which is pretty cool."

Kyrgios begins his Wimbledon campaign on Monday against former top 10 player David Goffin, who has made the quarter-finals on his last two visits.

He admits there remain "question marks" over his ability to play best-of-five sets after such a lengthy absence.

"I feel like to the outside world, people don't understand. Just because it's not contact, it's not that physical."

"I dare someone to go out there and play four hours with Novak and see how you feel afterwards."