Barkat Rice Mills

(Pvt) Limited

Ahsan express satisfaction with recent IMF package

Federal Minister for Planning Development and Special Initiatives, Ahsan Iqbal on Wednesday expressed satisfaction with the recent IMF package, which alleviated concerns of an immediate default. However, he emphasized that the deal should be considered as a temporary relief and merely a breather, rather than a lasting solution.

Religious minister urges unity among believers of all religions

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harm Mufti Abdul Shakoor on Monday said there was a fierce con between religious and secular sections of society in tod should unite at one platform and highlight the virtues of their religions in appropriate manners on the globe. (Report on Page 3)

Simultaneously published from Islamabad, Lahore and Multan

Zilhaj 17, Thursday, July 6, 2023



🤐 www.dailyspokesman.net 🔰 @daily_spokesman





Daily Spokesman Vol: 16, Issue: 87

Price Rs. 25.00 Pages 8

10th Anniversary of CPEC

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif, Chargée d'Affaires of the Chinese Embassy in Islamabad Ms Pang Chunxue, and federal ministers cutting a cake marking the 10th anniversary of the signing of the agreement for CPEC on Wednesday.



CPEC's 10 years transformed Pakistan's development landscape: PM

B Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Wednesday said China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) played a key role in transforming the development landscape of Pakistan with the launch of several multi-billion dollar projects.

Addressing a ceremony here to mark a decade of the signing of CPEC, the prime minister said the mega project helped Pakistan progress in the region and the world.

PM Sharif said the country ushered in a new era of development with the completion of hundreds of projects under the umbrella of CPEC, including coal-fired power plants, the Orange Line mass transit project, and road infrastructure.

"The CPEC is all about a story of hard work and untiring commitment between the leadership of Pakistan and China,"

Sharif recalled that in July 2013, then-Prime Minister parent" project, the prime minis- for his unstinted support of the Fund (IMF).



where he signed an agreement pledging to develop a long-term plan for the CPEC

"On July 5, 2013, we witnessed the memorable signing ceremony of CPEC, where President Xi Jinping and PM Nawaz Sharif inked the milestone accord," he

Terming CPEC a "very trans-

Nawaz Sharif visited Beijing, ter said the Chinese government and companies made investments of \$25.4 billion invest-

> ment in various projects. He said thousands of Chinese workers along with their Pakistani counterparts worked day and night to create a history of commitment and exuberance of goodwill between the two sides.

He commended President Xi

CPEC for the well-being of the people of Pakistan.

He also highlighted the dedication of Pakistan Muslim League leader Nawaz Sharif and his team including Finance Minister Ishaq Dar, Planning Minister Ahsan Iqbal, entrepreneurs, and skilled workers, saying their great job would be remembered for all times to

Sharif expressed confidence that CPEC would make a big kickstart in various areas including agriculture, Special Economic Zones, Information Technology, and exploration of mineral

He regretted that the previous government created misconceptions about the project which resulted in its slow implemen-

resources.

The prime minister thanked President Xi and the Chinese government for supporting Pakistan especially when it awaited the staff-level agreement with the International Monetary

He hoped that the agreement would be given final approval during IMF's board meeting on July 12.

Following the IMF deal, he said, Pakistan was secure after averting default and termed it an opportunity for the country

We need to work hard and save the poor people from inflation. Affluent need to play a role in this regard," he said.

He pledged to fulfill the conditions of the IMF which were earlier violated by the previous government.

He also acknowledged the financial support by China including the rollover of its loans and mentioned the backing by Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, and Islamic Development Fund in helping Pakistan

overcome its financial crisis. Finance Minister Ishaq Dar, Planning Minister Ahsan Iqbal, Information Minister Marriyum Aurangzeb and Chinese Charge d'Affaires Pang Chunxue were

Three soldiers embrace martyrdom in suicide blast in **North Waziristan**







👺 🛮 🖊 😂 😂 😂 😂 😂 😂 😂 😂 😂 😂

RAWALPINDI: Three soldiers of Pakistan Army embraced 'Shahadat", while three innocent civilians got critically injured when a vehicle borne suicide bomber exploded himself in general area Miran Shah, North Waziristan District on Wednesday.

According to an Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR) the menace of terrorism and press release issued here, Subedar Sahib Khan (age 41 years, resident of Mianwali), Naik Muhammad Ibrahim (age 40 added.

years, resident of Dera Ismail Khan) and Sepoy Jehangir Khan (age 24 years, resident of Mardan) embraced shahadat. The suicide bomber intend-

ed targeting the security forces' post, however, timely interception of the suicide bomber on suspicion by on-duty soldiers prevented a major catastrophe. Security forces of Pakistan

are determined to eliminate such sacrifices of our brave soldiers further strengthen our resolve, the ISPR press release

Pakistan, Turkiye engage in 6th round of bilateral political consultations

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The 6th round of Bilateral Political Consultations between Pakistan and Turkiye is being held in Ankara on Wednesday (July 5).

Foreign Secretary, Dr. Asad Majeed Khan will lead the Pakistan delegation while the Turkish side will be led by Deputy Foreign Minister, Burak Akcapar, according to a spokesper son of the Foreign Office.

The two sides will review the entire gamut of bilateral relations encompassing the political, economic, security, social and cultural dimensions.

Review of the various institutional mechanisms including the High-Level Strategic Cooperation Council (HLSCC) and

the Strategic Economic Framework (SEF) would be under-

Developments in the region and cooperation at the multilateral for would also come for discussion. These consultations

would set the stage for the next round of the HLSCC, to be held in Islamabad Pakistan-Turkiye relation-

ship is underpinned by abiding bonds of religion, culture and history. Regular high-level consultations remain a defining feature of this strategic part-

China denounces Quran desecration act in Sweden, says it opposes any form of Islamophobia

News Desk

BEIJING: China has strongly denounced the Holy Quran desecration act in Sweden and said it, "Opposes any form of Islamophobia and acknowledges the important contribution made by the Islamic civilization for the world."

Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson Mao Ning in a press briefing said that the faith and religious feelings of Muslims should be respected and so-called freedom of speech should not be used as a reason to incite civilization

clash and create a confrontation. Mao was responding to the Holy Quran desecration incident in Sweden which prompted strong criticism from Arab and Muslim countries.

She said that China has always advocated mutual respect, inclusiveness and understanding among different civilizations, and resolutely opposed extremist acts that attack different religious beliefs and provoke a clash of civiliza-

Mao said. China-proposed Global Civilization Initiative called for the principles of equality, mutual learning, dialogue and inclusiveness among civilizations, and let cultural exchanges transcend





transcends clashes, and inclusiveness transcends any sense of superiority, Mao noted.

China is ready to work with the international community to promote the spirit of the Global Civilization Initiative and take concrete actions to promote dialogue among civilizations and jointly safeguard the diversity of world civilizations, Mao said.

Iran's accession vital step for Iran, SCO: ex-secretary-general



BEIJING: Former secretary-general of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), Bolat Nurgaliyev has said Iran's accession is an important step for both Iran and the SCO.

"When an international organization has many counprove the increasing authority and attractiveness of the organization.

of Iran as a formal member military and political alliances.

of the SCO is not only an important step for Iran but also for the entire SCO," he

Terming China as the main advocate for the establishment of the SCO, he said that China has made significant and invaluable contributions to the establishment and formulation of operating principles for the organization.

"While commenting on Iran's admission into the SCO family, Director, Institute of Russian, Eastern European and Central Asian Studies at the Chinese Academy of Social tries wishing to join, it can Sciences," Sun Zhuangzhi said that the principle of the SCO is very clear.

The organization is open Therefore, the decision to and does not target third admit the Islamic Republic parties, nor will it establish

PTI's own people exposed Panama conspiracy, only Nawaz Sharif can resolve country's problems: Marriyum

👺 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Information and Broadcasting Marrivum Aurangzeb on Wednesday said that Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaaf's own people had exposed the Panama

Addressing a press conference here, she said that characters behind that conspiracy pushed the country towards multiple crises by imposing an incompetent and inefficient person at the helm of affairs.

The minister said that the solution of Pakistan's probelmslied only with Nawaz Sharif who served thrice as Prime Minister.

"During the Nawaz Sharif era, the economy was stabilized, he gave the people a gift of China Pakistan Economic Corridor", she said adding that great injustice was done to the person who had done great service to the country as prime minister.



the shadowy figures and characters who were burning the country today, stood on the container to stop the CPEC project in 2013-14.

Marriyum Aurangzeb said on that Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz Quaid Nawaz Sharif was disqualified under a conspiracy when "Panama verdict was changed to Igama."

During the press conference, she played a video clip of senior Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf leader and legal wizard Hamid Khan who told a private TV channel that it appeared that the decision to disqualify Nawaz Sharif in Iqama case was done some-

She said similar statements had also been given by former interior

minister and senior PTI leader Syed Ijaz Shah who were not related to PML-N in any way. She said that Nawaz Sharif was deposed as Prime Minister through

a conspiracy but the country and the masses suffered the most. The minister said that for the last one year, the coalition government led by Prime Minister Shehbaz

Sharif had been trying to revive the country's economy destroyed during 4 years misrule of the PTI. The present regime was also striving to overcome unemployment, load shedding and terrorism which hit the country during Imran Khan's

tenure, she added. During the last four years, incompetent and inefficient rulers of the past pushed the country towards total destruction.

The Spokesman

Shahadat anniversary SWABI (KP): Commander Peshawer Corps along with Inspector General Frontier Corps (North) and Commander Force Command Northern Areas laid floral wreath at Captain Karnal Sher Khan Shaheed's mausoleum in his native town.

Saudi Arabia says teamwork with Russia is strong

№ News Desk

ISLAMABAD: Russia-Saudi oil cooperation is still going strong as part of the OPEC+ alliance, which will do "whatever necessary" to support the market, Saudi Arabia's Energy Minister Prince Abdulaziz bin Salman told a conference on Wednesday.

OPEC+, a group comprising the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries and allies including Russia which pumps around 40% of the world's crude, has been cutting oil output since November in the face of flagging prices.

Saudi Arabia and Russia, the world's biggest oil exporters, deepened oil supply cuts on Monday in an effort to send prices higher.

Yet the move only briefly lifted the market. On Wednesday, benchmark Brent futures were down more than 1% at \$75.30 per barrel, lower than the \$80-\$100 per barrel than most OPEC

OPEC says it does not have a price

👺 Bureau Report

LAHORE: Prime Minister

Shehbaz Sharif and his son.

Hamza Shehbaz on Wednes-

day filed a plea for acquittal in

Advocate Amjad Pervaiz,

representing Shehbaz Sharif

ted the applications on their

behalf. The legal team empha-

sized that the NAB reference

was false and fabricated, lack-

ing any substantial evidence.

assets were duly declared as per

the law and were transparent-

a money laundering case. According to the details,



oil market to meet the interests of both consumers and producers.

The United States, the biggest oil producer outside OPEC+, has repeatedly called on the group to boost production to help the global economy and has criticised Saudi cooperation with Russia after Moscow's invasion of Ukraine.

But Riyadh has repeatedly rebuffed U.S. calls and Prince Abdulaziz said on Wednesday that new joint oil output cuts agreed by Russia and Saudi Arabia this week have again proven sceptics

"Part of what we have done nations need to balance their budgets. (on Monday) with the help of our colleagues from Russia was also to

in money laundering reference

ly recorded in both the Federal

Board of Revenue (FBR) and

The petitioner asserted that

the NAB failed to provide any

concrete evidence to support

the allegations of money laun-

Furthermore, the legal

team argued that there was

case against Shehbaz Shar-

if and Hamza Shehbaz. They

acquit both individuals from

the reference, considering the

the Election Commission.

PM Shehbaz Sharif, son file acquittal pleas

Accountability Bureau (NAB)

declared Prime Minister

Shehbaz Sharif and his fami-

ly members in a money laun-

and Russia on that specific matter," Prince Abdulaziz said.

"It is quite telling seeing us on Monday coming out with not only our (oil cut) extension... but also with validation from the Russian side," he told a meeting of oil industry CEOs with ministers from OPEC and allies, known as the OPEC International Seminar.

OPEC has withheld media access to reporters from Reuters, Bloomberg and the Wall Street Journal to cover the event, which was partly broadcast online.

After the end of the broadcast, Prince Abdulaziz told the seminar that OPEC+ would do "whatever necessary" to support the market, according to a source who attended the meeting.

The International Energy Agency has said it expects the oil market to tighten in the second half of 2023. partly because of OPEC+ cuts.

Analysts at Morgan Stanley on Vednesday cut their oil price forecast.

tors on what is going on between Saudi decrease in stocks in 2023 they forecast a surplus in the first half of 2024, with non-OPEC supply growing faster than demand.

> Additional oil cuts should be enough to help balance the oil market, United Arab Emirates' energy minister Suhail Al Mazrouei told reporters on Wednesday.

"This (the latest addition output cuts) is enough to assess the market and look at the market balance," Mazrouei told reporters.

He said the UAE would not be contributing to fresh cuts as it was already producing well below its capac-

"There's a bigger thing... I'm seeing a lack of investments in many countries. We will have to invite maybe newcomers to come and join the group. The more countries we have... the easier the job... to ensure that the world has enough oil in the future," Mazrouei

"Imagine if we had 60% of the producers or 80% of the producers target and is seeking to have a balanced mitigate the cynical side of the specta-saying that while they anticipated a We will definitely do a better job."

Qamar-uz-Zaman adjourned

further hearing of the case

Last year in October, an

accountability court had

acquitted Shehbaz Sharif and

his son Hamza Shehbaz in

court Central-I Ijaz Hassan

Awan announced the verdict

related to the acquittal of Sheh-

baz Sharif and Hamza Shehbaz

In November 2020, the FIA

had lodged FIR against Sheh-

baz Sharif and Hamza Shehbaz

for alleged Rs25 billion money

laundering.

money laundering case. The judge of the special

until May 24.

24th Shahadat anniversary of Captain Karnal Sher Khan observed

Spokesman Report

RAWALPINDI: 24th Shahadat anniversary of Captain Karnal Sher Khan Shaheed, Nishan-e-Haider was observed today.

Commander Peshawer Corps along with Inspector General Frontier Corps (North) and Command- tives of Shuhada attended the wreath er Force Command Northern Areas laying ceremony.

laid floral wreath at Captain Karnal Sher Khan Shaheed's mausoleum in his native town Swabi (KP).

A smartly turned out contingent of Pakistan Army presented guard of honour.

People from different walks of life, civil and military officials and rela-

COP28 President to visit Pakistan on Sherry Rehman's invitation



👺 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The incumbent government will welcome the President of COP28 and UAE's Minister of Industry and Advanced Technology H. E. Sultan Ahmed Al Jaber, on July 6 as a distinguished state guest for a day-long official visit.

This is the outcome of an official invitation extended by Senator, Federal Minister for Climate Change & Environmental Coordination Sherry Rehman aimed to share the country's progress on climate Climate Negotiator for both COP27 and environmental goals ahead of the COP28 conference in UAE, and build common ground for the glob-

Pakistan's accelerated climate stress, said a press release on Wednesday.

Minister Al Jaber will call upon Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif during the official visit. The meeting will focus on Pakistan's climate adaptation challenges, specifically its vulnerability to climate-induced disasters, and the need for enabling greater international cooperation at the upcoming COP28 in UAE.

H. E. Mr. Sultan Al Jaber will be accompanied by the UAE Chief and COP28 Hana Sayed Mohammad Alhashimi, as well as Majid Al Suwaidi, the Director-General and al stock-take ahead in the context of Special Representative of COP28.

DRAP to issue warning letters on barcoding violation

Example 2 Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (DRAP) has issued a warning to all those pharmaceutical companies that are not printing barcodes on the packing of their products.

This decision was taken by the Policy Board of DRAP.

Chairing the board meeting, the Secretary of National Health Services has asked for a report on the implementation of barcoding rules. According to these rules, pharma-

ceutical manufacturers and importers must print 2-D barcoding on the packaging of their products.

Putting such measures as a 2-D barcode matrix for the identification of medicinal products help in the eradication of spurious and falsified drugs that pose a serious threat to the health of citizens.

It was decided by the board that medicines.

over the next two weeks printing of barcodes, as per the rules, must be

DRAP will immediately issue warning letters to all those pharmaceutical companies that have not registered their barcode data with DRAP and are not printing 2-D barcodes on the packing of their products.

This is an important step to stop the entry of spurious and counterfeit drugs into the market which can save hundreds of citizens from the harmful effects of such illegal

Bushra Bibi skips ACE appearance in corruption case

and Hamza Shehbaz, submit- no possibility of proving the

The plea stated that all their lack of substantial evidence

against them.

News Desk

OKARA: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chairman's wife Bushra Bibi has skipped her appearance before the Anti-Corruption Establishment (ACE) in development projects corruption case.

Bushra Bibi skipped ACE's appearance in the development projects' corruption case today. She was summoned to the ACE Okara office.

ACE Deputy Director Malik Tasawwur Hussain told the media that the investigators waited for Bushra Bibi till 4:00 pm. He added that the former first lady is accused of illegally awarding contracts to blue-eyed contractors for development projects in her village.

Hussain said that Bushra Bibi's no-show is considered as her absence. He added that the former first lady is going to appear before the Lahore High Court (LHC) on Thursday in the same case.

Earlier, the call-up notice was also received by her lawyers Ali Bhutta and Owais. She has been summoned to the ACE Okara office. In case of her absence, legal action will be taken against the



👺 City Desk

strongly urged the court to here that the National

It is pertinent to mention dering reference.

RAWALPINDI: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chief Imran Khan has been nominated in first information reports (FIRs) registered against May 9 riots and attack on military's General Headquarter (GHQ).

According to details, the former prime minister has been nominated in cases - May 9 riots, vandalism of state properties and GHQ attack - registered at police stations RA Bazar and New Town.

The case of attack on military's General Headquarter was registered in RA Bazar police station. House. 15 people including PTI leader Raja Basharat were already nominated in the case.

ed that the investigators had bearers in Ottawa was found Inspector General (DIG) Oper-

States (US) and Canada who were ters during their visits to the US directly involved in inciting and and Canada. facilitating May 9 riots.

The NAB submitted supple-

mentary report of the money

laundering reference against

the PM and his family in the

Judge

accountability court.

Accountability

Sources told that most suspects were associated with a political party and its office bearers and workers. The identification of the suspects was made through photos and videos in which they chanted anti-Pakistan slogans minister and Pakistan Tehreekand incited people to participate in anti-state activities.

Three out of 41 suspects Court (IHC) on Tuesday. included office bearers of a political party in the UK, whereas, 12 among them were residseen standing outside Avenfield

In Canada, the suspects includical party who are also its support-United Kingdom (UK), United shoes on the government minis-severe injuries while clearing.

In the United States, one of the six suspects was identified as an office bearer of the political party's New York chapter and the other five persons are activists.

Violent clashes broke out across Pakistan after the former prime e-Insaf chief Imran Khan were arrested at the Islamabad High

The protests were held in remote and major cities of Balochistan, Punjab, Khyber ing in London and are usually Pakhtunkhwa, and Islamabad summoning the armed forces to ensure law and order.

Army installations and Corps ed eight office bearers of the polit- Commander's house in Lahore came under attack during a Earlier in June, it was reporters and financers. One of the office protest by PTI workers. Deputy identified 41 people from the involved in planning to throw ations Ali Nasir Rizvi sustained

Published by: Almass Ayoub Sabir from Zero Point Printers Rawalpindi

Govt vows to promote religious tourism across country: Dr Ramesh

ISLAMABAD: Minister of State and Chairman of Prime Minister's Task Force on Gandhara Tourism Dr Ramesh Kumar Vankwani on Wednesday said the government was committed to promoting religious tourism across the country.

Presiding over the 'Round Table Conference' under the auspices of Prime Minister's Task Force for Gandhara Tourism in honour of ambassadors of various countries here, the minister said that a threeday international conference will be held next week from July 11. The arrangements for holding the Gandhara Symposium in Islamabad have been finalized.

He apprised that the chief guest Sharif and Foreign Minister Bilaw- the global conference.



from Buddhist-majority countries including Korea, China, Sri Lanka and Thailand will be present on the

occasions. Dr Ramesh Kumar said the colorful cultural event of Gandhara Media Awards will be held on next week on July 12 (Wednesday) at the Pakistan of the conference would be Prime National Council of Arts (PNCA) Minister Muhammad Shehbaz auditorium, which is also a part of

Mohsin Naqvi made an emergency visit to different parts of Lahore City

Bureau Report

LAHORE: Caretaker Chief Minister Punjab made an emergency visit of different parts of Lahore in torrential rain. Mohsin Naqvi by giving up all his other official engagements reviewed the situation arising out of torrential rain and issued on the spot directions to Commissioner Lahore division and MD WASA for water drainage work. Mohsin Nagyi reviewed the situation arising out of rain in Qaddafi Stadium, Gulberg, Liberty, Kalma Chowk Underpass, Garden Town, Ferozepur Road, Qartaba Chowk, Harbanspura Underpass, Lakshmi Chowk, Railway Station, Circular Road, Urdu Bazar, Islampura, Multan Road, Samanabad, Gulshan Ravi, Bund Road, Yateem Khana Chowk and Allama Iqbal Town.

Caretaker CM Mohsin Naqvi said few hours. We have made proactive administration, WASA and all resourc-"Iam myself overseeing water drainage work. I am concerned about the

issued directions to the concerned officials for early water drainage at Harbanspura Underpass. Mohsin Naqvi directed to clear the Harbanspura Underpass as soon as possible.

CM was informed during the briefing on the occasion that water drainage work at Harbanspura Underpass will be completed in 2 hours. Caretaker CM lauded the performance of administration and WASA on early completion of water drainage work at Lakshmi Chowk. Mohsin Naqvi issued directions for drainage of stagnant water through a machinery on the road in front of Urdu Bazar and Islampura. Mohsin Naqvi met with the shopkeepers and residents in Islampura and asked them regarding water drainage.

The citizens complained about sluggish water drainage work in Islampura on which CM Mohsin Naqvi assured that a record rainfall took place in early completion of water drainage work and apprised them that he is in the field since morning."Your diffies are being utilised for water drainage. culty is my difficulty and have issued direction to WASA to expeditiously complete water drainage work by utildifficulties of citizens". Mohsin Naqvi ising more resources". Mohsin Naqvi



also visited Garden Town, Gulberg and CBD Main Boulevard Underpass.

Mohsin Naqvi inspected Gulberg main pumping station in Gulberg for water drainage and expressed his indignation over showing sluggishness in water drainage work in the Kalma Chowk underpass going towards Liberty. Mohsin Naqvi ordered to take back water drainage work at CBD Main Boulevard from CBD. Mohsin Naqvi directed to hand over water drainage work to WASA.

Mohsin Naqvi asserted that WASA by assuming charge forthwith should complete water drainage work by night. Mohsin Naqvi directed to install more pumps for water drainage work

at CBD Main Boulevard Underpass. Mohsin Naqvi stated that clearance of all projects of Lahore will be conditional with WASA certification in future. Mohsin Naqvi expressed satisfaction over water drainage work in the whole city. Mohsin Naqvi said that water standing in this waterpass tantamounts to negligence. Mohsin Naqvi directed Provincial Housing Minister Azfar Ali to get the work done under his supervision.

Mohsin Naqvi directed Chief Traffic Officer Lahore to make sure all shifts remain present in the field adding that all necessary steps should be taken to maintain traffic flow in the city. Traffic Wardens should perform their duties in a proactive manner in order to help the citizens. Mohsin Naqvi directed to immediately get out stranded in the rain water and no stone should be left unturned in helping the citizens. Provincial Ministers Amir Mir, Azfar Ali Nasir, Secretary Housing, Commissioner Lahore, Deputy Commissioner Lahore, MD WASA and officials of CBD were also present on the occa-

A meeting held under the chairmanship of DC Tank



B Adam Khan Wazir

TANK: In the light of the orders of the provincial government, a meeting was held under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner Tank Muhammad Shoaib in connection with the arrangements for Muhar-

In which Sunni and Shia Ullamas of the entire district, guardians of Imambargahs, Sunni and Shia elders, business community, political and social personalities participated.

Deputy Commissioner Tank Muhammad Shoaib told all the participants on this occasion that any kind of unnecessary announcements, unnecessary activities, unnecessary use of loudspeakers will be completely banned and strict action will be taken against those who incite the public, provocation and those who violate the restrictions on the part of the administration on unnecessary statements based on religion.

All the participants assured to spend Muharram with dignity and respect and expressed their full cooperation.

Additional Deputy Commissioner (General) Tanveer Khan, Assistant Commissioner Aminullah, Additional Assistant Commissioner Jamshed Alam, Additional Assistant Commissioner Shahab Ahmed Khan and DSP Asghar Ali Shah were also present on this occasion.

Provision of facilities, employment priorities of QWP: Sherpao

Bureau Report



PESHAWAR: Provincial Chairman of Qaumi Watan Party (QWP) Sikander Hayat Khan Sherpao has said that the provision of education, health facilities and employment to the youth are the priority of their party.

He expressed these views while

addressing a gathering in Union Council Mirza Dher.

On this occasion, the PTI and JUI-F affiliated workers Rahimullah,

Tahsinullah, Haji Farhad Gul, Sajjad Gul, Sajid Gul, Qari Fayyaz, Abdul Wadood. Manzar, Qasim Jan, Saddam Hussain, Mujeeb-ur-Rehman, Fuji Khalid Khan, Ghofran Khan, Hayat Khan, Kashif Khan, Tajumal Shah, Karamat Shah and Ishaq Khan along with their families and associates announced to join the Qaumi Watan Party after expressing their full confidence in the leadership and policies of Sherpao.

Sikander Sherpao recalled that whenever the Qaumi Watan Party got the opportunity, it employed youth to stand them on their own feet. Expressing concern over price-hike, he demanded the government activate the price control mechanism to control inflation.

Shafiq Shaheed Facilitation Center inaugurated in Ghulam Muhammadabad

跨 Mian Rashid Asghar

FAISALABAD: In the light of the instructions of the Inspector General of Police Punjab and Deputy Inspector General of Police Traffic Punjab ensured the public in continuing to identify the facilities. A Car Driving Training School and Licensing Test Center established in Ghulam Muhammadabad by Chief Traffic Officer Faisalabad Magsood Ahmed Lone also accompanying with

 ${\it Circle \,DSPs \, Khalid \, Aleem, \, Malik \, Muhammad \, Javed, \, Nawaz \, Ahmed}$ Kamokha, Ejaz Shah and DSP Patrolling Malik Muhammad Amin. This driving school and test center is officially named "Shafiq

Shaheed Facilitation Center" after Shaheed Traffic Warden Muhammad Shafiq of City Traffic Police Faisalabad. The families of the martyrs and local dignitaries also participated in the opening ceremony. The inauguration was done by Muhammad Ahad Shafiq (son of Shafiq Shaheed) and prayers were also be offered.

Speaking on this occasion, Chief Traffic Officer Maqsood Ahmed said that the public services are our priorities & dedicatedly this phenomena of positive reinforcement will be continued for the entire satisfaction. He further illuminated that, This project has been completed in a very short period of time and the efforts of the In-charge Establishment City Traffic Police Rana Ali Raza and his team are commendable

He also informed that, their policy is to provide maximum number of facilities on the doorstep.

Women's University Multan Announced the Admissions for the Session 2023-24

Asim Tanveer

MULTAN: Women's University has announced the admissions for the session 2023-24, according to the spokesperson, Associate Degree Programs (ADP two-year) BS four-year, BS Post-ADP, BA, BSc two-year MPhil, in the autumn session. Admissions will be made in PhD programs and diploma, 28 subjects for undergraduate and post graduate, 22 subjects for MPhil and 14 subjects for Ph. D. Diplomas in Modeling and Sculpting and Ceramics will be conducted. The last date for submission of applications has been fixed on August 18. Candidates will have to apply online. All the admission details have been released on the university website.

Train operation of Pakistan Railways continues for the passengers

Kashif Minhas

LAHORE: Despite the Heavy Monsoon rain in Lahore, the train operation of Pakistan Railways continues for the passengers. The current monsoon rains session are continuing.

Due to heavy monsoon rain in Lahore, According To Rescue officials today 7 people died due to House Roof

Collapse. Walls and electric Shock and other incidents. According to the Records of Meteorological Department Punjab Rainfall in Today Lahore city broke the record of last 30 years. The maximum rainfall of 292 mm was recorded in Lahore due to the monsoon rains of the current season. The Meteorological Department has predicted more monsoon rains in the month of July.

Passing out parade

KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah distributes certificates among the position holders at the 117th passing out parade at Shahid Hayat Police Training College, Saeedabad.



Adam Mickiewicz University, UAJK forge historic agreement for academic exchange

MUZAFFARABAD: In a significant development, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań, Poland, and the University of Azad Jammu and Kashmir (UAJK) have entered into a groundbreaking Cooperation Agreement aimed to strengthen scientific research endeavors and forge closer ties between the academic communities of both institutions.

The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed by Dr. Abdul Rauf Janjua, Director ORIC-UA-JK, and Mr. Sowa Powel, Exchange Officer, International Centre, Adam the presence of Vice-Chancellor Prof. Dr. Muhammad Kaleem Abbasi,

other high-ranking officials from both universities at the King Abdullah Campus.

The Cooperation Agreement encompasses various initiatives, including the exchange of academic staff, the organization of engaging summer courses, and facilitating student participation in diverse postgraduate programs. This partnership aims to foster intellectual growth by encouraging the exchange of knowledge and experiences among professors, researchers, and students from both universities.

Notably, the agreement enables joint consultations, reciprocal visits, Mickiewicz University, Poznań, in and thought-provoking lectures by representatives from each university, creating a vibrant platform for shar-

Dr. Ruta Korytowska Karolina, and ing insights and expertise. It also offers would shape the academic trajectory other high-ranking officials from young academic staff members' invaluof students and scholars. able opportunities to present their research findings at conferences and symposia, fostering a dynamic academ-

ic environment. Speaking at the signing ceremony, Vice-Chancellor Prof. Dr. Muhammad Kaleem Abbasi expressed his optimism, stating that the cooperation agreement between Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań and the University of Azad Jammu and Kashmir heralds a new era of collaboration, enriching the academic landscapes of both nations.

Dr. Abbasi anticipated that this momentous partnership would pave the way for groundbreaking research, unparalleled educational opportunities, and cultural exchanges that

It is worth mentioning that UAJK is the first university in the country to sign an MoU with a leading Polish university, showcasing its commitment to expanding international collaborations and providing students and faculty with international exposure and quality research ventures.

During their three days visit, the delegation from Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań engaged in various academic activities, including seminars, meetings with students, and interactions with faculty members from different disciplines, exploring avenues for future collaboration in areas such as linguistics, geology, and

Custom intelligence operation 6.6bn smuggled items recovered: Faiz Ahmad Chadhar

Kiran Asim

MULTAN: Acting on the special instructions of Director General Customs Intelligence and Investigation Faiz Ahmad Chadhar, the officers and staff of Customs Intelligence Multan Directorate seized a huge amount of smuggled goods in the non-customs paid vehicles (51 units), last financial year (2022-23). All the cigarettes (6,768,200 sticks), scrap, smuggled goods are worth more than dry milk (38 tons), harmful drugs, 6.6 billion. Especially in the months of raincoats, shopping bags (43 tons), May and June, the directorate made a cloth (151 tons), blisters (543,996 special effort to crack down on smuggling very effectively and seized goods worth Rs. 1.3 billion.

4.4 billion worth of goods were seized during the last year (2021-22). Thus, the value of goods seized

Following the special instructions of Director General Faiz Ahmed Chadhar, strict monitoring of smuggling routes was increased.

Additionally, there was success in making cases based on specific information. Among the seized goods are pouches), Diesel (427,208 litres), pan-prag, unhealthy Chinese salt, tires (6,535 units), mobile phones, engines, auto parts and other items

Director Multan Asif Abbas Khan

this year is 48% higher than last year. congratulated the staff on this occasion. The director said that the smuggling network has been broken in southern and central Punjab and no concessions have been made or will be made to achieve this goal. Director General Faiz Ahmed Chadhar attributed this year's excellent performance to the tireless work and efforts of Multan Directorate Officers Director Asif Abbas Khan, Additional Director Dr. Mumtaz Ali Raza Chaudhary, Deputy Directors Atrat Hussain Shah, Muhammad Ali Asif and Ali Tauqeer

And encouraged the staff and advised them to perform their duties with more courage and diligence in

Three minors among them two brothers drown in Pindigheb

跨 Raza naqvi

drowned.

ATTOCK: 5th july Three minors among two brothers drowned in a temporary pond in village Parna in the limits of Pindigheb Police station on Wednesday, police sources said. According to Police sources, three children students of Govt primary school Nathial in union council Ikhlas were going home after attending their school. When they reached near their house near Parna- rain water was accumulated in a ditch which was recently dig with excavator for some construction work and turned in to pond due to water accumulation. As they went into the water to beat the heat, they lose control and all of sudden





Namaz Timings .. 7:22 pm ...9:05 pm

EMERGENCY

EMENOLIS I	ı
Rescue (Police) 15	
Bomb Disposal 15	
Fire Services Rawalpindi/	
Islamabad1122 & 16	l
Emergency Ambulance 1122 &	l
& Rescue Services 4451122	l
Motorway Police9266044	l
Motorway Police9270601-20	
	1

Women Police

Statio	ns
Islamabad	9222590
Rawalpindi	9270601-20

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

HOSPITALS

CMH	5611111
MH	561116
MH	561116
Cantt Hospital	9270907-11
DHQ	5556311-4
RGH	9290301-7
Holy Family	9290322-7
PIMS	9261170-79
Polyclinic	9218300-09
Shifa International	4603666

DEDADTMENTS

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

COMPLAINTS

G-5, G-6, G-7, G-8,

Environment & Climate Change **Documentary Series**

Mews Desk

KARACHI: The second season of the documentary series, The Voices from the Roof of the World (VRW), has been selected to participate in the prestigious TV Series Festival Berlin.

The series, produced v Emmy award winner Andrew Tkach, captures the spirit and resilience of the remote communities in the Himalayas who call this region their home, providing an intimate portrayal of their daily lives, traditions, and struggles.

Voices from the Roof of the World is a joint initiative of the Aga Khan Development Network agencies: Aga Khan University, Aga Khan Agency for Habitat, Aga Khan Foundation, and the University of Central Asia. Through this series, select young Asian filmmakers have been trained, mentored and supported to produce groundbreaking environmental films.

The TV Series Festival Berlin is recognized as a leading international platform that celebrates exceptional television series and documentaries. The first season of the Voices from the Roof of the World exploring local climate change solutions in mountainous areas had also won recognition at the TV Series Festival Berlin last year.

Sajid Turi Explores Tourism Opportunities with Chairman of State Tourism Agency

Spokesman Report

BAKU: Federal Minister Sajid Turi along with Secretary overseas Pakistanis and human resources development Zulfiqar Haider, and zulfiqar Ahmad secretary workers welfare fund held a fruitful meeting with Chairman of the State Tourism Agency, Azerbaijan, Fuad Naghiyev, in Baku to discuss extensive tourism prospects for both countries. The meeting predominantly focused on exploring tourism opportunities in the picturesque northern areas of Pakistan, while also shedding light on religious tourism in Punjab, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, and Sindh.

During the meeting, Minister Sajid Turi extended warm invitation to Chairman Fuad Naghiyev to witness Paki-

try. This visit will aim to deepen bilateral cooperation between the tourism authorities of Azerbaijan and Pakistan and foster cultural exchange.

The conversation further delved into discussions surrounding the potential for tour operators in Azerbaijan to explore the incomparable beauty of the northern regions of Pakistan. Recognizing the mutual benefits of such collaboration, Minister Sajid Turi accentuated the importance of strengthening ties between the tourism sectors of both

This significant gathering follows in the footsteps of the recent visit by Pakistan's Prime Minister Shahbaz Shareef to Azerbaijan, showcasing the growing priority placed on bilateral tourism ties. The exchange of ideas and experiences



stan's firsthand by visiting the counthe two nations to enhance the overall tourism sector by sharing best practices and promoting socio-economic growth

ismFurthermore, Minister Sajid Turi underscored the commitment of the Government of Pakistan to promoting tourism with the vision of the Pakistan People's Party.

The government's steadfast dedication towards tourism development mirrors its efforts in job creation, infrastructure development, and sustainable tourism practices.

This meeting between Minister Sajid Turi and Chairman Fuad Naghiyev signifies a progressive step in strengthening the bond between Azerbaijan and Pakistan. As both nations boast rich cultural heritage, breathtaking landscapes, and numerous historical attractions, exploring tourism potentials will undoubtedly pave a path for long-lasting cooperation and exchange.

Group photo

ISLAMABAD: Former Information Minister Mr. Nisar Memon, Mr. Naved Aftab Ahmad, Mr. Rai Riaz and Mr. Nawaz Chaudhry Former ambassador Posing a group photo on the occasion of wedding ceremony of G A Sabri's son.



For economic recovery, the direct flights should be started quickly, Ahsan Bakhtawari

55 Tariq Khattak

ISLAMABAD: President Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari has said that Pakistan is lagging far behind the world in the race of development, which is mainly due to the lack of connectivity at the regional and international level. Pakistan needs to be connected to the region through rail, road and direct air links. PIA has failed to connect Pakistan to the world, the government should announce a fast-track privatization program without wasting more money and capital. Despite its effective presence in various regional and international blocs, Pakistan has not yet been able to benefit at the commercial level.



Work is required on an emergency basis to start direct flights. In a statement issued on Wednesday, he said that Pakistan has lagged far behind in the race of development at which the world is moving forward. In today's world, no country can develop alone, but now interests can be protected through

blocs and regions and this is the

main source of economic development. Regions like the European Union and ASEAN are great examples in this regard. These regions have accelerated economic growth by improving connectivity through rail, direct

air links and road. He said that Pakistan is an important member of several regional and international groups including SAARC, D-8, ECO, SCO, OIC. Due to the lack of railway, road and direct air links of Pakistan with all these countries, despite political activity, Pakistan has not been able to benefit from these groups at the commercial level. He said that in order to advance the current debt-ridden economy of Pakistan, the series of direct flights with different countries of the world should be carried forward rapidly.

He said that the current ruling party PML-N has paid special attention to the Motorway network in each of its terms, but now this project should be used for the promotion of mutual trade. For which their scope needs to be extended to the neighboring countries of Iran, Afghanistan, Central Asia and Turkey. Pakistan has already established a strong connection with China through CPEC. He said that the Shanghai Cooperation Organization's declaration yesterday also talked about improving regional connectivity, which is welcome. Pakistan should play a proactive role in implementing this point of the

Coordination meeting between the Director NHA and Beat Commander Beat 02 M14



News Desk

ISLAMABAD: Today on directions of Sector Commander M14, coordination meeting was held b/w the Project Director NHA Malik Ajaz and Beat Commander Shahid Iqbal Khan at NHA office Pindighep. The participants discussed the matters regarding accumulation of rainy water at locations (67,77,81,89), accumulation of rainy water in under passes, road repair/maintenance work in the AOR of Beat-02 M14. They were also sensitised about the potential threat due to opened U-Turns, illegal cuts, illegal paths, Installation of fence(kund wire)in the area of Beat-02(M-14) and were requested to close the same on urgent basis to avoid any untoward situation.

Women's palliations strongly condemned the desecration of the Quran in Sweden

Abdul MajeedTahir

ISLAMABAD: The Chairperson Women's Commission AJK Mrs. Rehana Khan 'former AJK Minister Mrs Shamim Ali Malik and city president of the Muslim Conference Women's Wing Ms. Abida Munir Qureshi strongly condemned the desecration of the Quran in Sweden and said that this incident has seriously hurt the feelings of the Muslims of the Islamic world. The audacity to desecrate the Holy Quran is condemnable and shameful. The purpose of events like the secration of the Holy Quran is to create outrage and outrage among Muslims. They did not adopt the attitude, but under a systematic conspiracy, anti-Islamic forces are desecrating the religion of Islam, the Holy Qur'an and the prophet of the end of time, Muhammad #, and then show their indifference to it, which inflames the feelings of Muslims. In a joint statement They urged the United Nations and OIC and other international powers should take immediate action on this important religious issue and urge the Swedish government to apologize to the Muslims of the Islamic world, otherwise, if the Muslims also start insulting other religions, a world war will break out. In this regard, the United Nations should take practical measures to prevent such incidents. He said that it is the duty of Muslims to honor the Holy Qur'an and the Last Prophet peace be upon him Muhammad . They neither avoid nor tolerate it. They demanded the government of Pakistan and the world of Islam to take an immediate joint action plan against the desecration of the Holy Quran in Sweden.

UNDP hosts second consultative session on HIV in KPK

Spokesman Report

PESHAWAR: The United Nations Development Program (UNDP) hosted the second consultative session at the KPK, FC premises. The event, dedicated to formulating an engagement strategy to confront HIV stigma and discrimination within law enforcement agencies, brought together an assembly of approximately seventy officials. Representatives from the National Highways & Motorway Police (NHMP), Federal Investigation Agency (FIA), KP Police, Frontier Corps (FC), National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), along with esteemed individuals such as Dr. Yasir Hayat, Dr. Inam of UNICEF KP, Mohammed Shafiq of URDO, Safraz, Arzo Khan, Heer, and Zaheer Khattak, CEO of URDO were among the participants.

Consensus among major parties on APC on political harmony

News Desk

ISLAMABAD:: In a significant step towards fostering a peaceful and violence-free electoral process, Pakistan's major political parties reached a consensus on organizing an All Parties Conference (APC) to address the growing problem of politically motivated extremist language that may incite hatred and violence.

The consensus was reached at a dialogue titled 'Common Resolve Executive Director Pakistan Institute for Political Harmony, organized by Communications Research Strategies (CRS), a pioneer in strategic commuthe dialogue. nications and research-based interventions in Pakistan.

Senior parliamentarians and politicians representing seven prominent political parties, including PML (N), PPP, PTI, ANP, NDM, and MQM, emphasized the need for an all-parties conference (APC) or any other mechdialogue among political forces.

Advisor to the Prime Minister, Qamar Zaman Kaira, Senator Afrasiab Khattak, Senator Pervaiz Rashid, Information Secretary PTI Raoof Hassan, Senator Anwar ul Haq Kakar, SAPM Romina Khurshid Alam, MNA Sabir Qaimkhani, Chaudhry Manzoor Ahmad, member CEC PPP, and Information Secretary ANP (Punjab), Nadeem Sarwar represented their parties. Zafarullah Khan former of Parliamentary Affairs and constitutional literacy advocate, moderated

Welcoming the participants Aniq Zafar, CEO of CRS, highlighted the emerging situation in the country where political discourse was becoming increasingly harsh, with the potential for violence by non-state actors against political forces. Recognizing the gravity of the situation, the participants anism that would enable constructive stressed the importance of exploring



a common ground through Charter of Democracy (CoD) 2 to address kev structural issues that hindered political and economic growth in the country.

One of the primary objectives discussed during the conference was to develop a well-thought-out national consensus against extremism and terrorism, leaving no room for soft

corners for existing or new terrorist groups. The participants strongly advocated against using such groups for political engineering and called for the immediate de-weaponization of society to curtail the potential threat of violence during upcoming elections.

Additionally, the seminar shed light on the 'economy of terrorism,' which

perpetuated the menace of terrorism in the country. Participants acknowledged the need to investigate and address the financial sources that fueled terrorist activities, emphasizing its impact on foreign and strategic policy choices.

To strengthen the political process, participants expressed interest in

establishing a 'Truth and Reconciliation Commission.' Such a commission could play a vital role in facilitating reconciliation and resolving past conflicts, contributing to the overall stability and inclusivity of the political landscape.

In conclusion, the representatives jointly agreed to share the outcomes of the seminar with the leadership of all political parties through a formal letter. They also advocated for the timely convening of an all-parties conference (APC) before the elections for a comprehensive debate on the code of conduct for the next elections, ensuring that all voices are heard and represented.

This concerted effort towards inclusive dialogue and cooperation among political parties reflects a shared commitment to a free, fair, and peaceful electoral process in Pakistan, ultimately fostering national unity, stability, and progress.

Group Chairman/Chief Editor: Almas Ayoub Sabir Vice Chairman: Managing Editor:

Head Editorial Advisory Board: Amjad Mehmood Bureau Chief Karachi:

Bureau Chief Lahore:

Asim Nazir Ahmad Naveed Ahmad Khan Saleem Zaman Khan. (mszk786@gmail.com Syed Afraz Ali Nazish (afrazalishah@gmail.com)

Islamabad Office: Rose Plaza, I-8 Markaz. Karachi office: Flat No.C.3.A.One Comfort, Block No 11. Gulshan-e-Igbal, Main Rashid Minhas Road.

Lahore Office: 7-E, Samanberg, Johar Town. spokesmanislamabad@gmail.com Email:

0346-5008408 Whatsapp:

10-year celebrations of **CPEC**

rime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif, chargée d'affaires of the Chinese Embassy in Islamabad Ms Pang Chunxue, and Federal Ministers cutting a cake marking the 10th anniversary of the signing of the agreement for CPEC. Islamabad, July 5, 2023

The minister is set to embark on a four-day official visit to China from July 8 to attend a special commemorative 12th Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) to be held on July 11 to mark the 10-year celebrations of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), said a press release issued here on Wednesday.

The CPEC enters a significant milestone as it celebrates a decade of remarkable achievements in fostering economic growth, infrastructure development and regional connectivity.

Under the 10-year celebrations, several events are being conducted by the CPEC Secretariat in collaboration with the Planning Ministry which includes international Conferences, academic sessions, cultural shows and others across the coun-

Planning Minister Ahsan Iqbal reviewed progress over the special 12th JCC to be held on July 11.

The meeting was attended by Secretary Ministry of Planning and Development Syed Zafar Ali Shah, Chief Économist of Pakistan, who is also the Executive Director of the CPEC, Dr Nadeem Javaid and representatives from all the relevant ministries and divisions were also present.

The upcoming visit of the planning minister will underscore the importance of Pakistan and China's relationship and their commitment to further strengthening their strategic partner-

During the visit, the minister will hold meetings with key Chinese officials which include China's National Development and Reform Commission NDRC and others. the 10th

It is noted that since the government came into power in April last year, CPEC has been revived which remained halted by the previous government.

Several projects of power, infrastructure, water and others have been completed in Gwadar which are ready for the groundbreaking.

While chairing the meeting to review progress over the special 12th JCC, the planning minister directed the relevant stakeholders to finalize the arrangements for the event.

The minister also asked the relevant ministries to share their pending issues so that they can be taken with Chinese authorities during the visit.

The minister said that the 12th JCC is a special event aimed to commemorate the decade of CPEC celebrations, adding he appreciates the contribution of Chinese officials and workers to execute the CPEC during this whole journey which started in 2013 and continues.

DG ISPR responsibly defended Army's mature response on May 9 - I

Relations (ISPR) in Pakistan has emerged as a pivotal institution, playing an instrumental role in disseminating accurate information, managing crises, and shaping public perception about the country's armed

The foremost role of ISPR is to ensure the effective dissemination of information about the efforts, achievements, and sacrifices made by the Pakistani armed forces. By providing accurate, timely, and transparent updates through press releases, social media, and other communication channels, ISPR bridges the gap between the military and the public. The institution plays an essential role in keeping the citizens well-informed about ongoing military operations, counter-terrorism efforts, and disaster management initiatives. During times of crisis, ISPR assumes the responsibility of managing the situation through strategic communication. Whether it is a natural disaster, terrorist attack, or political unrest, ISPR acts as a central hub for coordinating the response, providing updates to the media and the public, and dispelling rumors or misinformation. Its calm and composed handling of critical situations often minimizes panic and ensures effective crisis management. ISPR frequently organizes events, campaigns, and military parades to promote national unity and patriotism in Pakistan. Through initiatives like Pakistan Day celebrations, armed forces

he Inter-Services Public festivals, and tributes to national heroes, national unity promotion, countering er understanding and appreciation for ISPR fosters a sense of pride and unity extremism, and international engageamong the citizens. Such events showcase the diversity of Pakistan and highlight the sacrifices of its armed forces in safeguarding the nation's sovereignty. One of the most significant tasks undertaken by ISPR is countering the narrative of extremism and terrorism. The institution actively challenges extremist ideologies through its public messaging and aims to eliminate misconcep-

tions that are propagated by extremist groups. By highlighting success stories of the military's fight against terrorism, ISPR creates a counter-narrative that reinforces the image of Pakistan as a resilient and committed nation in the global fight against terror. ISPR significant-

ly contributes to promoting Pakistan's image on the international stage. It plays an active role in arranging visits of foreign dignitaries to Pakistan and facilitating international media to cover military operations and exercises. Through its proactive engagement on social media platforms and press conferences, ISPR ensures that Pakistan's perspective is effectively communicated to the global community.

The role of ISPR in shaping Pakistan's image cannot be overstated. The institution's contributions in information dissemination, crisis management,

ment have been remarkable. By maintaining transparency, ensuring accurate reporting, and projecting a positive image, ISPR serves as a pillar of strength for Pakistan's armed forces. Moving forward, it is crucial for ISPR to continue adapting to the rapidly evolving communication landscape and effectively utilize modern media platforms to further enhance Pakistan's image at

home and abroad. Major General Ahmed Sharif, the current Director General of the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), has played a remarkable role in shaping the image of the Pakistan Armed Forces and ensuring

effective communication with the public. Under his leadership, the $\ensuremath{\mathsf{ISP\bar{R}}}$ has become one of the most dynamic and influential public relations organizations in the country. Major General Ahmed Sharif's tenure as the DG ISPR has been marked by his commitment to transparency, accountability, and professionalism. He has effectively utilized various mediums, including social media, to disseminate information about the armed forces' activities and achievements. His proactive approach towards communication has bridged the gap between the military and the public, fostering a great-

the sacrifices made by the armed forces. One of the noteworthy achievements of Major General Ahmed Sharif has been his efforts in countering misinformation and propaganda against the armed forces. Through strategic communication campaigns, he has successfully debunked fake news and clarified misconceptions, ensuring that the public receives accurate and reliable information. His ability to counter negative narratives has helped to maintain the public's trust and confidence in the armed forces. Furthermore, Major General Ahmed Sharif has greatly emphasized the importance of promoting a positive image of the Pakistan Armed Forces. He has actively promoted the achievements and contributions of the military, emphasizing their role in safeguarding national security and ensuring peace and stability in the region. By highlighting the professionalism and dedication of the armed forces, he has inspired a sense of national pride and unity among the Pakistani population. In addition to his communication skills, Major General Ahmed Sharif has also played a significant role in enhancing the internal cohesion and morale of the armed forces. He has implemented various initiatives to provide support to the troops and their families, ensuring their well-being and motivation. His dedication to the welfare of the armed forces has fostered a strong sense of camaraderie and loyalty within

the military ranks.

To be Continued



'Multan, Mini petrol pump mafia is a challenge for the administration'

the government and its administrative bodies. including the police and bureaucracy, to ensure the safety of the lives and properties of citizens. Implementing this policy practically requires the administration to fulfill its role so that the public remains assured. However, the law enforcement in Multan has failed miserably in protecting the lives and properties of its citizens.

Every day, incidents of theft, robbery, blackmailing, and other crimes are increasing in in Multan city. number in various sectors. The This report has condemnation of these events is not enough. Moreover, there are to the authorcrimes occurring here that are ities, but no facilitated and tolerated by the inefficiency and negligence of the administrative authorities.

In Multan city and its against suburbs, there are thousands of illegal petrol kiosks and fuel stations scattered all over. These establishments pose a serious threat to human lives. According to a cautious estimate, the number of illegal fuel pumps in Multan and its suburbs has exceeded two thousand, which are becoming the cause of accidents every day.

Ground realities make it evident that the administration of Multan, along with public representatives, is complicit with the owners of illegal petrol agencies and unauthorized petrol pumps. This nefarious practice thrives on the support of District Officers, defense officers from the D&I Department. Due to the lack of any security measures on these major accidents have resulted in mafia due to the lack of proper covering an area of five or more country and the nation.

Despite the registration of accidents and complaints, the authorities have been unable to control the illegal agencies and petrol pumps in Multan city. The root cause of this issue lies in the negligence, incompetence, and corruption of the DC Multan and the responsible officials. A government report was submitted two months ago, and it was revealed that there is highlighting that there are more adulteration in the petrol being than two thousand unauthorized

petrol-selling shops and units been presented practical and concrete actions have been taken the

mafia involved in the illegal fuel

In the city, individuals named Chaudhry Sarwar Suraj Maini and Sheikh Farooq, along with Gilani,, are involved in the illegal selling and transportation of Iranian and local petrol in the areas of Chowk Shujaabad Road, Chen Mari, Farooqpura.

These people have also set up several illegal petrol pumps, and these individuals are also selling petrol on the units present in the city. They have no fear of the Multan administration; every complaint against them is ignored by the authorities. The residents of the city are extremely disappointed with the performance of the Commissioner department, and the Labor and Deputy Commissioner of of these illegal petrol units are Iranian petrol and illegal petrol

legal action against this mafia. The continuous increase in the number of these illegal petrol pumps and petrol selling shops is due to the absence of strict and effective legal action against this

A few days ago, Control Price Magistrate Nauman Abid Bhutta checked the rates and quantity of petrol at these petrol pumps sold here. Impure and adul-

terated petrol and diesel are damaging car engines, and pollution increasing. The sale of petroleum products in the outskirts of Multan is being

Zain-ul-Abideen Abid done at rates higher than the prescribed prices by illegal agencies. The petrol being sold here Is substandard. contaminated, and harmful to car engines, posing a danger to the lives of those who buy petrol without proper SOPs (Standard Operating Procedures) and licenses. The owners of these petrol pumps have no safety measures in place, neither for themselves nor for others.

To obtain a license for a petrol pump, a provisional certificate is issued for two years. Before issuing this NOC (No Objection Certificate), the aforementioned authorities inspect the location to determine if it is suitable for a petrol pump and if it poses a risk to the population. Most the city. At present, in Multan, installed on public footpaths. Besides safety measures, petrol

kanals. To prevent fire hazards, petrol tanks, including sand buckets and carbon dioxide reserves, are installed underground. Most petrol pumps have an automated system to prevent fires, but these illegal petrol selling agencies lack all these facilities. The number of shops engaged in illegal petrol sales has increased due to the influence of the current SOLE DEFENCE officer.

They have an automated system for fire prevention, while the agencies involved in the illegal sale of counterfeit petrol at these money petrol pumps are deprived of all such facilities. The current situation has seen an increase in women-owned shops selling illegal petrol.

In Multan, multi-national and national petroleum units are being rapidly established, mostly being set up by untrained individuals in Chowk Shaheedan, Timur Road, City Station Road, and Al Jilan Road. Even the marketing staff of multi-national companies are being coerced by these unlawful elements, otherwise no reputable multi-national company would associate itself with such

counterfeit and low-quality fuel. The common people are being affected by these fake and spurious monogrammed grams and are unknowingly buying adul-

terated oil. Corrupt drivers of government vehicles are selling petrol at these mini illegal petrol pumps. We, the residents of Multan, demand from the authorities that a strict ban be imposed on these mini petrol pumps on a permanent basis, illegal fuel agencies, numerous pumps have taken the form of a pumps are usually built on land as it is in the best interest of the

Fatima Jinnah, first lady dentist and presidential candidate

Mother of the Nation, was the younger sister of the Along with his brother Quaid-e-Azam Muham- ry, he established many institutions including

mad Ali Jinnah (ra), she played an important role in the freedom struggle of Pakistan for the establishment of an independent Muslim state of Pakistan and dedicated his life to the service of the Pakistani nation. His achievements will always be remembered in the history of Pakistan. His father, Poonja Jinnah, ensured that all his children were endowed with a good education. After the death of his

father in 1901, she lived with his brother for the to actively participate in the workforce and polirest of his life and supported him in independence.

the Bandra Convent School in Bombay and later completed her dental degree from Dr. Ahmed education, she went to England with her brother Muhammad Ali Jinnah (ra). She actively particstruggle and became a prominent figure among the women of the subcontinent. She always emphasized on supporting the rights of women so that they continue to play an active role in the development of the country. Fatima Jinnah raised her voice for the rights of women and worked tirelessly to improve their socio-economic conditions. Fatima Jinnah always advocated for women's education and empowerment. Mother of the nation, Fatima Jinnah was a prominent advocate of women's rights and social issues. Fatima Jinnah was an influential Pakistani political figure and activist.

In 1965, he contested for the post of President of Pakistan for the first time representing the joint opposition parties against the then President of Pakistan General Ayub Khan. Although she did not win the election, her campaign played an

atima Jinnah, a prominent political important role in mobilizing opposition support. figure in the history of Pakistan, was She mobilized the opposition against Field born on July 31, 1893 in Karachi to Marshal Ayub Khan's government. She toured Poonia Jinnah, Fatima Ali Jinnah, various cities of the country and addressed public later known as Fatima Jinnah and gatherings and mobilized support for the cause of Pakistan. She became a symbol of the struggle founder of Pakistan Muhammad Ali Jinnah. She for democracy and civilian rule. Fatima Jinnah's was the youngest of her eight siblings. Fatima had services to Pakistan go far beyond her involvement six siblings, Muhammad Ali, Ahmad Ali, Bunde in the freedom movement and political campaigns. Ali, Rahmat Ali, Maryam, and Shireen Jinnah He devoted his life to social work in the fields of She belonged to a prominent Gujarati family. education and health care. After studying dentist-



Fatima Jinnah Dental College in Karachi. She was the first Muslim woman to practice dentistry. However, his most important contribution was in the political arena aimed at establishing an independent Muslim state.

She believed in gender equality and challenged social norms by encouraging women

tics. Fatima Jinnah's efforts laid the foundation Fatima Jinnah received her early education at for women's empowerment in Pakistan, Mother of the Nation Fatima Jinnah She left behind a remarkable legacy. His unwavering commit-Dental College, Calcutta. After completing her ment to the nation and his resilience in the face of adversity will continue to inspire generations of Pakistanis. He is an iconic figure symbolizing ipated in political activities during the freedom perseverance, courage and dedication to the ideals of freedom and equality. Her contribution to Pakistan's history Tehreek-e-Pakistan, his emphasis on education, and his advocacy for gender equality, democracy has left infinite marks on the nation. Fatima Jinnah's unwavering determination and selfless service continue to inspire people to strive for a better future.

Fatima Jinnah died on July 9, 1967 and was buried in Karachi. It is important to recognize and respect the immense services of this extraordinary woman who played a significant role in shaping the destiny of Pakistan. She will be remembered as a symbol of courage, resilience and dedication to the ideals of democracy.

Writer is senior analyst and he can reached on javedullahraja@gmail.com

Uzbekistan's Presidential Elections - 2023: early voting in Pakistan

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: On July 3-4, 2023, the Embassy of Uzbekistan in Pakistan organized early voting in the Presidential Elections of Uzbekistan in Lahore and Karachi. The voting process was organized in accordance with the Electoral Code.

This political event was attended by citizens of Uzbekistan living in these cities and adjacent territories.

In the polling stations voters have got acquainted with the candidates and their pre-election programs.

Republic of Uzbekistan has been distributed among citizens, the new version of endum on April 30, 2023.

The citizens of Uzbekistan noted ly appreciating the priority of protect- construction of a New Uzbekistan.

ing the interests of the citizens in the structure of relations between society

"Today we participated in an important political event and voted for the future of our Uzbekistan. We are confident that the President-electwill serve for the further development of our Motherland", said young compatriots Kamila and Alina Saed.

"Despite the fact that we are abroad, our country ensures the observance of our constitutional rights. We feel our involvement in the reform processes in Uzbekistan, the significance of our The updated Constitution of the choice. This pleases us. Such relations with citizens living abroad increase their sense of personal responsibility for the which was approved at a national refer-future of the Motherland, -said Mrs. Jamila Arifbaeva.

The citizens also expressed hope that the importance of large-scale reforms the results of the Presidential Elections carried out in the country in all spheres will form a solid foundation for the intenof life, their social oriented nature, high-sive implementation of the goals for the

"Elections are the event for common political decision of the people, the beginning of a new stage in the development of statehood. Therefore, it is necessary to take the elections seriously. Citizens of Uzbekistan in Pakistan carefully monitor the election campaign of all candidates, their proposals for the further development of our country. The election platform of all candidates is aimed at ensuring the uninterrupted continuation of the reforms carried out in the country. They differ only in the mechanisms for achieving a common goal. Based on this, today we made our choice-we voted for the candidate whose proposals are close to our ideas about the future. We are confident that the election results will serve to continue the processes of renewal and development of Uzbekistan,",-Albina Kurtbedinova said.

Citizens of Uzbekistan can also take part in the Presidential Elections and vote on July 9 (Sunday) at the Embassy of Uzbekistan in Islamabad.



Kashmiri diaspora in all around the world fully support the Kashmir freedom movement

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The leaders of Tehreek e Kashmir Britain, Europe, Spain, and Scotland have said that the Kashmiri diaspora in Europe and all around the world fully support the Kashmir freedom movement and stand united with brethren of Indian Occupied Jammu & Kashmir.

The Kashmiri leaders including Tehreek Kashmir UK President Raja Faheem Kayani, President Tehreek Kashmir Scotland Bailie Hanif Raja, Vice President Tehreek Kashmir Europe Mahmood Ahmed Sharif, President Tehreek e Kashmir Spain Shafiq Tabassum were addressing the reception hosted by the All Parties Hurriyat Conference ing Kashmir. However, they (APHC) yesterday said that we have succeeded in bringing that if the voice of Occupied together the representatives of all parties under one umbrella. one hundred thousand people

Regarding the freedom move-should protest on the streets of ment of Occupied Kashmir, a London so that the voice reach-26-day historical march was es the United Nations and the stand the reality. Six of the 16

held in all regions of Europe, in European Parliament. which the atrocities on Kashmiris were highlighted by putting up pamphlets, banners, and digital SMDs regardstressed that the time has come Kashmir is to be raised, then

They further added that, In the digital era, Kashmiris have to adopt digital methods to raise their voice. In Europe, Kashmiris have reached first the local governments and then the parliament, to raise their voice for Occupied Kashmir, Students and professors of universities in Europe have been asked to visit Kashmir so that they can underletter to the European Union 18 years ago were from Spain, with whom we are in touch, but the delegation of the APHC needs to meet the European Parliament because the APHC can play an important role.

In his address, Raja Faheem Kayani, the President of Tehreek Kashmir UK, highlighted the unwavering dedication to the

parliamentarians who wrote a constraints of limited resources. President Tehreek Kash-

mir Scotland and Deputy Lord Mayor Scotland Hanif Raja while speaking said that Azadi Base Camp has to play its part. We had established Tehreek e

Mehmood Ahmed Sharif, Senior Vice President of Tehreek e Kashmir Europe, while speaking, said that every one of us has Kashmir cause despite the to play our part, there is a need the APHC, Mohammad Farooq also present.

to work for the cause of Kashmir in foreign countries.

President Tehreek-e-Kashmir Spain Shafiq Tabassum while speaking said that we will reach the parliamentarians there and inform them about the Kash-Kashmir UK for a sacred cause. mir cause and inform them about the situation in Occupied

Jammu and Kashmir. The senior leader of the APHC, and former convener of

Rahmani, while speaking, said that overseas Kashmiris and Pakistanis are playing a very lively and effective role in other foreign countries including the UK. The issue of Kashmir is a humanitarian one and needs resolution on an urgent basis.

Altaf Wani, the senior leader of the Hurriyat Conference, expressed his views and said that the European Union has not yet come up with a lively stance regarding Kashmir.

On this occasion, Senior Hurriyat Leaders: Altaf Ahmad Bhat, Ghulam Muhammad Safi, Muhammad Rafiq Dar, Ghulam Mohiuddin Dar, İmtiaz Wani, Adv Pervez, Raja Khadim Hussain, Haji Sultan Butt, Sheikh Abdul Majid, Mushtaq Ahmad Butt, Gulshan Ahmed, Manzoor Ahmad Dar, Zahid Safi, Dad Yusufzai, Abdul Majeed Lone, Shaukat Hussain Butt, Muhammad Shafi Dar, Syed Mushtaq, Kifayat Hussain Rizvi, Raja Bashir Usmani were

Aasma Butt congratulates China on 102nd anniversary of Communist Party

跨 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: President Xi Jinping and the Generof All Pakistan Chinese al Secretary of the Commu-Overseas Youth Federation nist Party of China And Aasma Ismail Butt congrat- She express good wishes. ulated the current President Aasma Ismail Butt said that of China Xi Jinping and the the Communist Party of General Secretary of the Communist Party of China ing and sole ruling party on the 102nd anniversa- of the People's Republic of ry of the Communist Party China. Which was foundof China. And said that the ed in 1921 in Shanghai, Communist Party of China China. On October 1, 1949, has an important role in the development of China. For Mao Zedong announced the successful governance, devel- establishment of the People's oped countries should adopt Republic of China (PRC). China's strategy.

that on the occasion of the number of members of the 102nd anniversary of the Chinese Communist Party Communist Party of China, is more than 98 million, the platform of the Feder- which shows the popularity

ation congratulates the of the Chinese Communist China (CCP) is the found-Chinese Communist leader Thus we got a best friend Aasma Ismail Butt said in the case of China. The

current President of China Party among the people. The Communist Party of China is the second largest political party in the world in terms of membership. Which is the best example for other democratic countries.

Aasma Ismayeel Butt said that The current President of China, Xi Jinping, is also the General Secretary of the Communist Party of China. Who was elected the President of China for the third time due to his excellent performance. President Xi Jinping is equally popular not only in China but also in Pakistan. China has raised flags of success all over the world. Developed countries should follow China's successful principles.

Serena Hotels & Pakistan Disabled Foundation celebrate 25 years of enabling people with disabilities

ISLAMABAD: Serena Hotels with The Pakistan Disabled Foundation celebrated the silver jubilee of the organisation, which has been instrumental in enabling the disabled communities in Pakistan by ensuring that they know their rights and privileges and become a source of achievement towards the said philosophy and put into practice, it is the first and foremost responsibility of those disabled, themselves to get the disabled community fully acquainted with the training, education, and socialization to plead and protect their rights, privileges, facilities, and securities with full of command and confidence in themselves.

opening sessions



hosted in the Islamabad Serena

The Chairman of the Pakistan ments and milestones of the foun-

commenced on the fifth of July, Disabled Foundation, Mr. Shahid Ahmed Memon, welcomed the guests with a speech on the achieve-

dation. Mr. Hassan Murchie, a fellow advocating for People with Disabilities from South Africa, further expanded upon the importance of such initiatives.

Shields were gifted after the session finished for the special guests. The first business session started at 3:30 and was presided upon by Dr. Habib Bukhari, a second business session with the media was held at 5:00, followed by a Hi-tea for the partic-

Serena Hotels is an equal employer and has inclusive employment for people with disabilities in all its properties and celebrates this commitment of the Pakistan Disabled Foundation wholeheartedly while being an inclusive employer.

Shrines of the Saints are glory of Multan and identity of the Sraiki belt: Amir Khattak

Report & Pictures By Asim Tanveer

MULTAN: Under the chairmanship of Commissioner Multan Division Engineer Aamir Khattak, a review meeting was held on the decoration and restoration of shrines. Commissioner Aamir Khattak while ordering to make PC one of the scheme for restoration of Shah Shamsh Darbar in its original condition, said that work should be started on the decoration and opening of Musa Pak. In the restoration of the shrines, the original infrastructure should not spoil the centuries-old image. The shrines of the saints are the glory of Multan and the identity of the region. People from all over the world come to the doors of the saints to seek spiritual peace. Centuries-old Darbar buildings.



Its architectural style is of special interest to tourists

Water filtration plants at shrines should be functional. He said that anti-dengue surveillance should be accelerated.

should be compensated according to their cultivation, no farmer will be exploited. Commissioner Amir Khattak said that price control should be observed in the magistrate field across the division and Cotton farmers across the division cheap prices of food items. Make



sure the supply. Later, Commissioner Aamir Khattak presided over the review meeting about the

development schemes And directed to complete all fully funded schemes within three months. While giving a briefing

in the meeting, the administra- has been completed. 13 million tor of Awqaf Zia Al-Mustafa said that the upgrading of 4 shrines of the city of Auliya worth 78 million rupees is in progress. 90% of the Rs 30 million scheme of Hazrat Shah Shamsh Reh Mazar



rupees scheme of Hazrat Bahauddin Zakaria Reh Mazar has been completed 85 percent. 75 percent Umar Jahangir, Director Develof the work of Hazrat Shah Rukn Alam shrine scheme of 7 million rupees has been completed.

90% of the 23 million scheme of Bibi Pak Daman Shrine has been completed. DC Multan opment Rubina Kausar in the meeting Officers of the concerned departments were also present.

Bull & Bears PSX 100-Share

'`` Index Fluctuation			
Pakistan: PSX 100-Share Index			
Current	Prev. Close		
43,552.83	43,557.01		
Day's High	Day's Low:		
44,041.26	43,464.06		
Index Value	Change		
9,841,565,843	-4.18		
Percentage	Time		
-0.01%	4 Jul, 2023 5:00 pm		
Europe: FTS	E 100 Index		
Index Value	Change		
7,519.72	-7.54		
Percentage	Time		
-0.10%	5 Jul, 4:35 pm GMT+1		
USA: Dow Jones I	ndustrial Average		
Index Value	Change		
34,284.01	-134.46		
Percentage	Time		
-0.39%	5 Jul, 1:21 pm GMT-4		

Open Market Forex Rates

Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Average

Change

Time

5 Jul, 3:15 pm

GMT+9

-83.82

Index Value

33,338.70

Percentage

-0.25%

Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	184.45	187.25
Bahrain Dinar	761.39	769.39
Canadian Dollar	212	215
China Yuan	37.5	38.8
Danish Krone	41.95	42.35
Euro	304.5	307
Hong Kong Dollar	36.53	36.88
Indian Rupee	3.33	3.38
Japanese Yen	1.91	1.98
Kuwaiti Dinar	928.28	937.28
Malaysian Ringgit	58.14	60
NewZealand \$	175.52	177.52
Norwegians Krone	26.72	27.02
Omani Riyal	743.59	751.59
Qatari Riyal	78.65	79.35
Saudi Riyal	73.2	74
Singapore Dollar	206	208
Swedish Korona	26.94	27.24
Swiss Franc	304.08	309.69
Thai Bhat	7.8	7.92
U.A.E Dirham	76.7	77.50
UK Pound Sterling	353.25	357.25
US Dollar	274.5	281.5

Gold rises by Rs1,000 to Rs206,000 per tola

ISLAMABAD: Gold prices gained traction in the local market on Wednesday, with the price of one tola of 24-karat gold surging by Rs1,000.

According to the All-Pakistan Sarafa Gems and Jewellers Association (APSGJA), the price of one tola of 24-karat gold increased by Rs1,000 to Rs206,000 from Rs205,000. Similarly, the gold rate for 10 grams of 24-karat rose to Rs176,612 from Rs175,754 a session earlier, showing an increase of Rs858. Likewise, 10 grams of 22k gold were being traded for Rs161,894 with an increase of

Similarly, in the international market, as of 1335 hours GMT, gold futures were available at \$1,928.10 per ounce, show-

ing an increase of \$2.40 (+0.12 percent). Out of the \$2.40 per ounce increase, +\$1.70 was due



to weakening of the US dollar and +\$0.70 was due to predominant buyers, according to Kitco

Gold price continued to edge higher and touched a fresh daily top above \$1,930. The US dollar struggled to gather strength despite the cautious market stance, allowing gold price to hold its ground ahead of the release of the Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) minutes. Gold price attracted some dip-buying near the \$1,920 area and climbed to the top end of its intraday trading range during the session. The gold price, however, remained below the weekly high touched on Tuesday.

The disappointing Chinese macro data, along with the worsening US-China relations, temper investors' appetite for riskier assets and turn out to be a key factor that benefits the safe-haven gold price. This comes after China introduced export curbs on two metals-widely used in semiconductors, electric vehicles and high-tech industries-to the United States (US). This marks a potential escalation in a trade conflict between the world's largest economies and might cause more disruption to global trade, which, in turn, could further undermine already weak economic condi-

Every attempt at expansion ended in crisis: Mian Zahid Hussain

Example 2 Tariq Khattak

ISLAMABAD: Chairman of National Business Group Pakistan, President Pakistan Businessmen and Intellectuals Forum, and All Karachi Industrial Alliance, and former provincial minister Mian Zahid Hussain said on Wednesday that the previous government's efforts to develop the economy resulted in a payment crisis and this will happen again in the future.

Our growth depends entirely on imports rather than exports, always leading to an unsustainable current account deficit, he said.

Mian Zahid Hussain said that it is necessary to foster a culture of exports and savings in the country to ensure development without current account deficit.

Talking to the business community, the veteran business leader said that GDP growth on a sustainable basis is impossible until the current savings rate is doubled.

in Singapore it is 53.8 percent, in the United Arab Emirates the savings rate is 47.8 percent, in China it is almost 44.9 percent and in India and Bangladesh it is between 30 and 31 percent, he informed.

However, in Pakistan this rate is only twelve percent which is rapidly decreasing due to current inflation and unemployment, he said. Mian Zahid Hussain said that in 2007-2008,

account deficit was fourteen billion dollars. In 2010-2011, the current account was moved to a modest surplus by reducing imports, bringing the growth rate down to 3.2 percent.

the growth rate was 4.4 percent while the current

In 2012-13 too, the growth rate was reduced to 3.9% to bring the current account under control. The situation was somewhat better from 2013 to 2018, but in 2017-18, the growth rate was increased to 6.1 percent, resulting in a current account deficit of \$19.2 billion.

The savings rate in Congo is 61.4 percent, to 6.1%, but for this, imports were increased to still braving.



80 billion dollars, resulting in a current account deficit of 18 billion dollars, which resulted in The PTI government raised the growth rate the worst financial crisis, which the masses are

By restricting imports and sacrificing GDP, the current government narrowed the current account deficit to \$3.3 billion in the first ten months from \$13.7 billion in the first ten months of last year.

The business leader further said that overseas Pakistanis send 27 to 30 billion dollars to their loved ones and relatives in Pakistan every year, which is eight to nine thousand billion rupees per year in the local currency.

Because there is no culture of investing through savings in the country, this amount is consumed, leading to inflation and the government has to take foreign loans for investment.

Mian Zahid Hussain said that it is very important to further promote exports and foreign remittances along with savings. One of the reasons for the situation in Pakistan is the unbridled consumption of the wealthy classes which either they have to control or the government has to take measures to control it otherwise the situation will never improve.

National Bank of Pakistan selects PTCL for managed data centre hosting

E Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Telecommunication Company Limited (PTCL) and National Bank of Pakistan Limited (NBP) have signed an agreement for provisioning of primary Data Center colocation services at PTCL's Tier-III Data Center facility.

Zarrar Hasham Khan, Group Chief Business Solutions Officer, PTCL & Ufone 4G and Amin Manji, Group Chief ITG & CTO National Bank of Pakistan, signed the agreement at a signing ceremony recently held at PTCL Zonal office in Karachi. Jafar Khalid, Group Chief Technology Officer, PTCL & Ufone 4G, Noman Muzaffar, EVP Divisional Head ITG National Bank of Pakistan, Basharat Qureshi, Group VP Enterprise PTCL, Umer Ilyas, Group VP Data Centers PTCL, Umar Farooqi, Group Director Enterprise PTCL, were also present on the occasion, along with other senior officials.

PTCL is providing National Bank of Pakistan with its state-of-the-art infrastructure and platform solutions that are equipped with latest technology & managed security.

During the signing ceremony, Zarrar Hasham Khan, Group Chief Business said, "We are pleased to enter into a partnership with National Bank of Pakistan to support them in their digital transformation vision. As the national carrier of Pakistan, PTCL aspires to be at the forefront of assisting state owned institutions in their efforts to adopt cutting edge technology solutions to drive the national digi-

On the occasion, Amin Manji, Group Chief ITG & CTO National Bank of Pakistan, stated, "We are pleased to sign this agreement with PTCL as our trusted partner for infrastructure platform solutions as part of the Bank's digital transformation strategy. This partnership signifies a Solutions Officer, PTCL & Ufone 4G, transformative step forward in the Bank's ing eco-system in Pakistan.

tal agenda."

approach to infrastructure, platforms and data management. By leveraging PTCL's advanced infrastructure and telecommunications expertise, NBP aims to achieve an enhanced operating leverage, a stronger security and data protection posture, and reduced time-to-market of products and services as the Bank continues its journey to offer a digitally enabled financial lifestyle for its customers and partners."

ufone 6 optcl BUSINESS SOLUTIONS

PRIMARY DE CENTER CO-LOCATION AT

PTCL endeavors to provide best-inclass services to its corporate customers across various industries in Pakistan. This agreement is part of the growth momentum in the diverse areas of ICT and Security Solutions, which is key to a digital bank-

Fly Jinnah's Inflight Entertainment "SkyTime" will now feature content from **HUM TV**



News Desk

KARACHI: Fly Jinnah, Pakistan's new low-cost carrier (LCC), has collaborated with HUM TV to provide content for its inflight entertainment system "SkyTime".

All Fly Jinnah aircraft are equipped with "SkyTime", a free in-flight streaming service that allows passengers to stream a wide selection of entertainment direct-

Shows and celebrity shows. At present, Fly Jinnah connects five major cities of Pakistan including Karachi, Lahore, Islamabad, Pesha-

war, and Quetta. The carrier currently operates a fleet of three modern Airbus A320 aircraft. In addition to extra comfort provided by the most generous seatpitch of any economy cabin. the carrier offers customized and affordable travel expely to their devices and right riences to its passengers after takeoff. By collaborating through "SkyCafe" onboard with HUM TV, Fly Jinnah menu where passengers can customers can now enjoy a enjoy a wide variety of deliwider selection of content cacies between snacks, sandthat includes HUM TV lead- wiches, and meals at affording dramas, Telefilms, Award able prices.

Meeting

RAWALPINDI: Mr. Khalid Ahadov, Advisor to President of Azerbaijan along with delegation held a meeting with Federal Minister for Defence Production, Muhammad Israr Tareen and officials of MoDP on Wednesday.



TPL Maps – Helping Pakistani businesses curb mobility woes with Hyper-Localized Data Solutions

Example 2 Commerce Desk

KARACHI: As technology advances, so does the way we use and interact with our applications. One of the biggest advances in recent years has been the rise of cloudbased mobility solutions. These solutions enable businesses to access and use mapping data more efficiently and cost-ef-

Cloud-based mobility solutions can also reduce costs while facilitating mobility complexity. For example, companies are creating mobile order solutions that use mapping apps to let their B2B clients sell directly to end customers and also provide access to information when they are not connected to the internet.

In addition, cloud-based mobility solutions are also used in various other industries, such as transportation and logistics, real estate, and emergency services. Delivery companies have been using digital mapping apps and hyper-localized data to

consumption. Whereas, real estate agents use mapping to give virtual tours to potential buyers.

TPL Maps, a company dedicated to developing in-house digital mapping solutions that offer comprehensive local routes on par with international players, is making headlines with its recent launch.

Combining various data sources, such as traffic patterns, demographics, and satellite imagery, into a single platform is another benefit of cloud-based mobility solutions. That makes it possible to get a complete picture of a place and spot trends and patterns that might not have been visible otherwise, it simplifies the process of accessing and analyzing data.

By providing location data for over 380 cities in Pakistan covering more than 95% of the country, TPL Maps can help businesses in the FSI industry target their marketing efforts more effectively and identify new business opportunities. In

optimize their routes while optimizing fuel addition, TPL Maps has a vast route system of more than 850,000+ km of roads and 140,000+ boundaries, which can help logistics companies improve delivery times, reduce fuel cost and increase customer satisfaction. The data collection includes over 400,000 cartographic data points, which can be used in various applications, from detailed and accurate maps for navigation and planning to advanced research and analysis.

"TPL Maps has been an incredible partner in helping us streamline our delivery operations," said Ammar Azhar, CTO and CFO of KFC Pakistan. "TPL's mapping solutions have significantly improved our efficiency, enabling us to deliver our fingerlickin' good with ease. Apart from an efficient product, TPL's team is always available to provide support and act as business partners. We highly recommend TPL Maps for any business looking to optimize their logistics and enhance customer satis-

FPCCI signs MoU with Russia's Sakha Chamber

跨 Bureau Report

KARACHI: Mr. Irfan Iqbal Sheikh, President FPCCI, has apprised that the apex body has signed a significant MoU with Chamber of Commerce & Industry of Russia's largest republic, i.e. Republic of Sakha (Yakutia) - aimed at forging peopleto-people; business-to-business; chamber-to-chamber and government-to-government dimensions of trade, industry and economic cooperation with a very significant part of the Russian Federation.

Mr. Irfan Iqbal Sheikh explained that Republic of Sakha is very rich in natural resources; including, oil, gas, coal, industrially-important

metals; precious stones and numerous other minerals. That's the reason that they have developed worldclass expertise, resources and capabilities in mining and extraction; and, Pakistan, being another natural resource-rich country, has a lot to gain from cooperation with Sakha Chamber.

It is pertinent to note that Mr. Umar Masood Ur Rehman, VP FPCCI, signed the MoU from Pakistani side; and, invited business community of the Republic of Sakha to visit Pakistan for exploring the abundant avenues for investments, joint ventures, industrial collaborations, mining projects and trade promotion activities.

Rupee loses 1.97 to hit 277.41 versus dollar in interbank

₿ TLTP

KARACHI: Pakistani rupee weakened against the US dollar in the interbank market by Rs1.97 (-0.71 percent) on Wednesday.

The State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) said in a tweet that the rupee opened at 275.44 against the dollar in the interbank market and closed at 277.41.

Similarly, the local unit struggled against the greenback in the open market and was quoted in the range of 278-281 as compared to 275-280 a session earlier. In the black market/Hundi, the

During the recently started fiscal year 2023-

US dollar in the interbank market, while it plummeted by Rs50.98 against the greenback in the current The optimism in the

gained Rs8.58 against the

market stemmed from Pakistan narrowly escaping default after the International Monetary Fund (IMF) announced a staff-level agreement with Pakistan worth \$3 billion.

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Wednesday said he is hopeful that the \$3 billion nine-month bailout from the IMF would be approved by the lender's board when it meets on July 12. The staff-level agreement has already been finalised,

dollar was quoted at Rs296. 24, Pakistani rupee has

CM meets athletes of Special **Olympics**

Sports Desk

KARACHI: The athletes of Sindh, who were part of the national team in the World Special Olympic Games held in Berlin, Germany, met the Chief Minister of Sindh Syed Murad Ali Shah.

In the meeting held at the Chief Minister House, the athletes who came under the leadership of the chairperson of Special Olympics Pakistan, Raunaq Lakhani, were dressed in a traditional national green dress, said a news release on Wednesday.

In a briefing regarding the performance of Pakistani players in the games, Raunaq Lakhani said that the players of the national team participating in the games showed great skills in sports including athletics, badminton, basketball, hockey, table eleven tennis and swimming. They Won 10 gold, 29



silver and 40 bronze medals.

Appreciating the performance, the chief minister called the efforts of Special Olympics Pakistan commend-

He said that special children were an important part of the society, while the Sindh government will construct a ground for special players and these players will be provided with world-

In this regard, he also issued necessary instructions to Chief Secretary, Minister for Social Welfare Sajid Jokhio and Special Assistant for Sports Arbab Lutfullah.

The chief minister also announced the employment in the Chief Minister's House for Safeer Abid, a Special Olympic cyclist working in the IT department. The chief minister also took self-

Pakistan Men and Women cricketers to tour England in May 2024

S Asim Tanveer

ISLAMABAD: ICC Men's ranked second on the ICC T20 World Cup 2022 finalists will go head to head in May 2024 in the Unit-ed Kingdom in the buildup to the ICC Men's T20 Pakistan will play a three-World Cup 2024 in the West Indies and the United States of America (USA).

champions England will host Pakistan in a four-T20I series from 22-30 May before both the sides will depart for the tournament. The matches will be played in Leeds (22 May), Birmingham (25 May), Cardiff (28 May) and The Oval, London (30 May).

England had defeated Pakistan by five wickets with one over to spare in the T20 World Cup 2022 final in Melbourne. Prior to the Australia event, Pakistan had match T20I series in Karachi tively.

and Lahore with the visitors winning by 4-3. England is and Pakistan seventh in the T20I Team Rankings, while Pakistan is ranked fourth five points behind.

Before arriving in the UK, T20I series against the Netherlands and two-T20I series against Ireland, details of which will be announced in due course.

In addition to the men's side, Pakistan women's squad will also tour England in May 2024 for three T20Is and three ICC Women's Cham-

the remaining two matches in Northampton (17 May) and Leeds (19 May). Derby, Taunton and Chelmsford will stage the three ODIs on hosted England for a seven- 23, 26 and 29 May, respec-

pionship 2022-25 fixtures. The tour will commence with the first T20I in Birmingham on 11 May with

England is ranked second series to date, Pakistan have defeated Sri Lanka (2-1) and ICC Women's T20I Team Ireland (3-0), while they Rankings, while Pakistan were beaten 3-0 by world (10 points) is currently champions Australia earlithird in the ICC Women's er this year. Pakistan to England 2024 Championship 2022-25 and England seventh (six Women's series

points) with one less series of three ODIs. England's third series in the Championship is against Australia from 12-18 July. against The series

ICC Women's Championship 2022-25. They will kickstart their 2023-24 season by hosting South Africa in Karachi from 1-14 September, which will be followed by series against Bangladesh (October/November, away), New Zealand (November/ December, away) and West

England will be Pakistan

women's last series in the

Indies (April/May, home). In the three ICC Women's Championship 2022-25

At Nanga Parbat, rockfall slows down rescue of Profess Bhatti



Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: A rockfall at Nanga Parbat on Wednesday halted the rescue operation to bring back the Pakistani mountaineer Asif Bhatti who became stranded on the rock due to snow blindness.

Bhatti, who is also a university professor, had managed to descend to camp three on Tuesday after getting stuck at camp four on

The mountaineer is accompanied by Israfyl, a climber from Azerbaijan, on their descent from the mountain.

Climbers Shah Daulat and Mohammad onus are the volunteers who are part of the rescue team looking to bring Bhatti to

"The two volunteer climbers who went for upper slopes of NP [Nanga Parbat] last night couldn't go any further from C1 due to rockfall which started on the mountain last

night," tweeted by a Club on Wednesday. "The weather seems to be getting worse and Heli [helicopter] rescue is the only hope unless a miracle happens and climbers are able to come down on their own. Prayers for everyone on the mountain and

the basecamp," it added. Meanwhile, Asif Khoja, Social Media Incharge and point of contact for Bhatti, has stated that "Dr bhatti's health is deteriorating and helicopter sling operation seems the only solution".

"Immediate actions and decisions are required to save the life of Professor Bhatti," he added.

The 8,126-metre Nanga Parbat, the ninth-highest mountain in the world, is considered dangerous due to its high fatality rate. The mountain has a daunting ascent along with the risk of unstable glaciers, avalanches and storms.

Before its first ascent in 1953, 31 people died attempting to climb the peak, which is why it was nicknamed "the Killer Moun-

The mountain is also called "the western anchor of the Himalayas." It has a 22.3% death ratio, making it the third most dangerous mountain peak in the world.

Women's Skills Camp to begins: PCB

Kashif Minhas

MULTAN: Pakistan women cricketers will attend the skills camp scheduled to take place in Lahore and Karachi from 5 to 17 july

The first phase of the skills camp will take place at the National Cricket Academy in Lahore from 5 to 9 July where 20 players from Lahore and adjoining areas, will take part, providing them with a platform to showcase their skills and abilities.

Following the completion of the fiveday Lahore leg, the focus will shift to

Karachi as Hanif Muhammad High Performance Centre will be the venue for the camp from 13 to 17 July. The players for the Karachi camp will be announced in due course

The women's skills camp will feature a series of intensive training sessions, led by the Pakistan women's team support staff. Players will have the opportunity to sharpen their skills, receive valuable guidance, and exhibit their capabilities through various practice matches and scenarios. The selectors and coaching staff will closely evaluate the participants to identify those who display exceptional talent, technical proficiency, and a competitive spirit. The following is the list of invited players:

Aliya Riaz, Amber Kainat, Anam Amin, Bismah Maroof, Diana Baig, Dua Majid, Fatima Khan, Ghulam Fatima, Gul Feroza, Nashra Sundhu, Natalia Parvaiz, Nida Dar, Sadaf Shamas, Sadia Iqbal, Shawaal Zulfiqar, Sidra Amin, Sidra Nawaz, Tuba Hassan, Umm-e-Hani and Waheeda Akhtar

Coaching staff - Mark Coles (head coach), Taufeeq Umar (batting coach), Saleem Jaffer (bowing coach), Mauhtashim Rashid (fielding coach), Zubair Ahmed (analyst), Rifat Asghar Gill (physiotherapist) and Asfand Khan (strength and conditioning coach)

King's century scripts West Indies' consolation win in CWC Qualifier



₿ A Sports

HARARE: Brandon King's century after a tight bowling display lifted West Indies to claim a seven-wicket consolation victory over Oman in the ongoing Cricket World Cup (CWC) Quali-

Set to chase a modest target, West Indies amassed 222 runs for the loss of just three wickets with 62 balls to spare at the back of a calculated century by their opener King.

The former champions got off to an unwanted start to the nursuit as they lost their opener Johnson Charles (4) in the second over with just seven on the scoreboard. West Indies, however, soon recovered from the early dismissal

courtesy of a brilliant second-wicket partnership between King and Keacy Carty. The pair batted sensibly on a challenging surface and added 80 runs before Carty got run out in the 17th over after scoring

29 off 49 deliveries with the help of three boundaries. Skipper Shai Hope then joined King in the middle and further solidify West Indies' command on the game as the duo added 97

runs before King perished briefly after completing his hundred. He smashed 15 boundaries on his way to a 104-ball 100. Hope, on the other hand, carried his bat all the way through and steered his side to the consolation victory after an unbeaten 39-run partnership with Nicholas Pooran, who scored 19 not out.

Click to watch CWC Qualifier Live on ARY ZAP West Indian captain remained unbeaten with a 65-ball 63

which featured four boundaries and two sixes. Kaleemullah and Bilal Khan could pick a wicket apiece for

Oman, who remained winless in the CWC Qualifier Super Six. Put into bat first, Oman's batting lineup struggled against a dominant West Indian bowling attack and could raise 222/9 in the allotted 50 overs. Shoaib Khan and Suraj Kumar batted brilliantly and scored

half-centuries, however, vile support from the rest of the batters barred the two from guiding his side to a competitive total. Shoaib scored 50 from 54 balls, hitting five boundaries and

a six while Suraj top-scored for Oman with an unbeaten 53 off 65 deliveries and struck as many boundaries.

Romario Shepherd led the bowling attack for the West Indies with 3/44, followed by Kyle Mayers who returned with 2/31.

It is worth mentioning here that the two-time champions West Indies have already been knocked out of contention to qualify for the ICC Men's World Cup following their shocking defeat against Scotland in the CWC Qualifier Super Six.

Haris Rauf's wedding festivities begin

Sports Desk

LAHORE: The wedding festivities of Pakistan's speedster Haris Rauf began on Tuesday with a glittering Dholki ceremony which took the internet by storm.

As the couple's wedding rituals got underway on Wednesday with a Dholki event, a video of Haris Rauf sitting and enjoying the Qawalis, made rounds on social media platforms.

According to the details, the event was attended by Rauf's close friends and relatives.

It must be noted that Rauf's wedding ceremony will be held on Friday and is anticipated to be attended currently partaking in the training camp in Karachi for the upcoming two-match Test series against Sri Lanka.



that the participating players will be released from the training camp on Friday to attend the pacer's wedding ceremony.

return to Karachi on Saturday and will depart for Sri by his teammates, who are Lanka, via Dubai, on the

Pakistan pacer Haris Rauf Masood in a close-knit affair

ber last vear. The bride was a class fellow of the pacer.

The hush-hush affair was attended by several of his teammates and crick-The squad will then et celebs including another groom-to-be Shaheen Shah Afridi, and pictures from the international debut in 2020, daytime ceremony made Haris Rauf has represent-

rounds on social media. Both Rauf and his in white ensembles for the

into a white and gold ensemble by an unknown designer and paired it with gold traditional jewellery. She was dolled by cele-

brated makeup artists at Allure Salon who shared the anticipated first look of Masood in the morning today, not to miss the adorable 'HR150' on her henna

big day. The star wife slipped

11 May: 1st T20I

County Ground, Northamp-

ingley, Leeds

Taunton

Chelmsford

ingley, Leeds

Oval. London

Men's series

17 May: 2nd T20I - The

19 May: 3rd T20I - Head-

23 May: 1st ODI -Derby 26 May: 2nd ODI -

29 May: 3rd ODI -

22 May: 1st T20I - Head-

25 May: 2nd T20I

Edgbaston, Birmingham

Sophia Gardens, Cardiff

28 May: 3rd T20I

30 May: 4th T20I - The

Edgbaston, Birmingham

The groom on the other hand looked dapper in his cream and white sherwani.

The fellow players of the Pakistan cricket team sent heartwarming wishes for the couple on their big day.

It is worth mentioning here that since making his ed Pakistan in 62 T20Is, 22 ODIs and one Test. He got nikkahfied to Muzna now-wife Muzna twinned has taken 123 wickets in his rising career thus far.

Usman Khawaja subjected to abuse in Lord's long room

A Sports

LAHORE: Fresh footage from Lord's Long Room has emerged, revealing that Australian cricketer Usman Khawaja was subjected to abuse by MCC members as he and other players climb up the stairs to their dressing room on day five of the second Ashes

The controversial dismissal of England wicketkeeper Jonny Bairstow on the fifth day of the second Ashes Test ignited the home crowd, leading to boos and chants of "same old Aussies, always cheating" towards he is going up the stairs. the Australian players throughout the rest of the game.

Things took an ugly turn during the lunch break when Pat Cummins and his teammates entered the Long Room,

their displeasure with Alex Carey's stumping.

In the footage that was out in the public domain earlier, Usman Khawaja and David Warner were seen confronting one of the abusive members in the Long Room.

New footage recorded on a mobile showed how Usman Khawaja was a target in the Long Room, leading to him confronting a member and calling security.

Usman Khawaja can be seen stopping and pointing out one of the members to security as

The video - which was shared with Australian media was from a different angle from the one that was broadcast live

during the game. The left-handed batter

saying that he was "disappointed by some of the stuff that came out of the member's

Speaking to international media, he said: "The Lord's crowd is great, particularly the members are great, but some of the stuff coming out of the members' mouths was really disappointing.

"I wasn't going to stand by and cop it, so I just talked to a few of them. A few of them were throwing out some pretty big allegations and I just called them up on it," he said.

In the aftermath of the incident, the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC) took strict action and suspended its three

The MCC released a state-

where MCC members voiced himself has come out and ment and apologised "unreservspoken about the incident, edly" to the Australian cricket team.

> "MCC can confirm it has suspended three Members identified from earlier today. They will not be permitted back to Lord's whilst the investigation takes place," said MCC in a press release.

> 'We maintain that the behaviour of a small number of Members was completely unacceptable and whilst there was no suggestion by Pat Cummins in the post-match press conference that there was any physical altercation, it remains wholly unacceptable to behave in such a way, which goes against the values of the Club.

> "MCC condemns the behaviour witnessed and once again we re-iterate our apology to Cricket Australia."

