

Daily The Spokesman

A Leading National Daily



فرمان رسول ﷺ
عائشہ نے یہ بیان کیا کہ رسول اللہ ﷺ نے فرمایا کہ اسے عاتق! مجھے خواب میں دوسرے تم کو دکھائی گئیں۔ ایک شخص (جر اٹکل) تمہاری صورت خیر کے ایک کلبے میں اٹھائے ہوئے ہے اور کہتا ہے کہ یہ آپ کی بیوی ہے میں نے جو اس پہرے کو کھولا اس میں تم تھیں۔ میں نے خیال کیا کہ اگر یہ خوب اللہ کی طرف سے ہے تو ہمارے خور و پروا کرے رہے گا۔ (بخاری: حدیث نمبر 5078)

Barkat Rice Mills (Pvt) Limited



PM pays tribute to Fatima Jinnah on her 56th death anniversary

Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Sunday paid tribute to Madra-e-Milat Mohtarma Fatima Jinnah on her 56th death anniversary. The prime minister said that she was a benefactor of the nation and had been a source of courage for Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah, PM Office Media Wing said in a press release. (Details on Page 8)



May 9 mastermind advances his anti-state agenda through overseas proxies: Marriyum

Minister for information and Broadcasting Marriyum Aurangzeb on Sunday castigated the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chief for furthering his anti-state agenda through his "proxies and puppets" sitting abroad (Details on Page 8)

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Quran Chain

ISLAMABAD: People from different walks of life making Quran Chain organized by the Muslim Talba Mahaz Pakistan at Aabpara against the desecration of Holy Quran in Sweden.



President directs SLICP to improve policy on pre-insurance medical tests



Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi has directed the State Life Insurance Corporation of Pakistan (SLICP) to improve its policy on medical tests before the issuance of Life Insurance policies to prospecting policyholders.

He asked SLICP to constitute a panel of doctors who should suggest as to what were the most prevalent and common diseases in Pakistan and what tests should be conducted before the issuance of the policy.

The president gave these orders in view of the fact that a number of representations were being filed with him by the

insurance companies as well as citizens in cases where insurance companies were denying the payment of death insurance claims to family members of the insured policyholders on the ground that they had willfully hidden ailments at the time of obtaining the policy, President Secretariat Press Wing said in a press release on Sunday.

The payments were being refused despite the fact that the policies had been issued after the policyholders had been declared medically fit by the authorized medical officers as well as the field officers of the insurance companies.

The president issued directives while rejecting two separate representations filed by SLICP against the decisions of the Wafaqi Mohtasib (WM) directing it to pay Rs 3.68 million to the family members of two policyholders to whom SLICP had denied payment on account of them hiding pre-insurance ailments.

PM denounces media campaign against Army Chief

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Sunday vehemently condemned social media campaign about threats of an assassination attempt on Chief of Army Staff General Asim Munir and expressed the resolve to crush every conspiracy against Pakistan and the state institutions.

The prime minister, in a press statement shared by PM Office Media Wing, said that on May 9 (Black Day) similar minds were involved in the conspiracy.

The prime minister directed the relevant authorities to take legal action against those involved in such media campaigns inside the country and abroad.

"It is a clear message to 9th May planners, facilitators and



handlers that conspiracy against Pakistan and its institutions will be crushed", he added.

He further termed the vile, malevolent and malicious media campaigns a result of the planning of miscreants, adding the conspirators had again become active against the political and

economic stability in the country.

The new media campaign was a part and parcel of that abhorrent campaign, which was launched against Shuhada, he maintained.

The prime minister observed that the media drive against armed forces and its chief did

not fall within the domain of freedom of expression, but it was only a conspiracy, and it was a legal responsibility to eradicate such tendency with full strength.

He said the nation would foil such attempts in such a manner as it had frustrated the attempt on May 9 to stir violence and vandalism in the country.

The entire nation was standing behind its armed forces and its chief and resolved not to allow the disappointed and panicked elements to create new crises in the country.

Separately, on his Twitter handle, the prime minister said that Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf chief Imran Khan continued to engage in a vile, sinister and malicious campaign against COAS General Syed Asim Munir.

"His trick of using the prox-

ies to threaten the Army Chief of an assassination attempt has been badly exposed. After his methodically planned attack on the State symbols failed, he is clearly desperate & wants to coerce his way back into power, little knowing that the time of his politics of intimidation, violence & hatred is over," he added.

Through such highly condemnable antics, the prime minister said he (IK) was only exposing himself, the core of which was defined by putting his personal interest (power grab) over everything else.

The people of Pakistan and the political parties stood behind their Army Chief and the armed forces like a rock and would thwart any attempt and conspiracy at undermining their prestige, honour and integrity, he added.

Khawaja Asif says assemblies to dissolve in August

Faisal Butt

SIALKOT: Defence Minister Khawaja Asif said that assemblies will dissolve in August after the completion of their tenure.

While addressing a worker's convention in Sialkot, PML-N leader Khawaja Asif said that the preparation for the elections have been commenced and the assemblies will dissolve in August.

He stated PDM led government had the choice to dissolve assemblies immediately but it would have deepened the economic crisis and Pakistan would have defaulted 14 months ago.

The defense minister



revealed that the reason behind the ouster of the former prime minister and PTI chief through no-confidence motion was their attitude toward allies, they turned their back to their allies.

He lambasted the PTI chairman saying that he dissolved the KP and Punjab assemblies despite disagreement by his party members. The PTI chief planned the May 9 violence and it will be a black day in the history of Pakistan.

PTI had breached IMF pact to get cheap fame: Kiyani

Bureau Report

LAHORE: Prime Minister's Coordinator for Economy and Energy Bilal Azhar-Kiyani said on Sunday that PTI government had breached the IMF agreement to catch up cheap fame, and propagated a false cipher when the PDM's no-confidence motion was passed in National Assembly.

Addressing a press conference here, he added that after ousting from power, the PTI Chairman had tried hard to spread chaos in the country by raising hollow slogan of imported government. Bilal Azhar-Kiyani said, the person who had launched cipher drama, hatched conspiracies and used to say that his government was ousted through America's conspiracy but today, the same person is seen begging America.

India releases 185,000 cusecs of water into River Ravi: NDMA

Naveed Ahmad Khan

ISLAMABAD: India released 185,000 cusecs of water into River Ravi, the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) said Sunday, as it warned that the main deluge would start affecting the area in the next 20 to 24 hours.

Moreover, the NDMA also asked the administration and the relevant departments in the vulnerable area to enhance preparedness.

Last year, the Indian authorities had released 173 cusecs of water into the river - which was handed over to India under the Indus Waters Treaty along with Sutlej and Beas in 1960.

On the other hand, Gujrat deputy commissioner said high flood in Gujrat could affect 59 villages - a seasonal phenomenon after monsoon downpour in the river's catchment area.

The Chenab is flowing at 122,000 cusecs at Marala with low level flood and there is possibility that 170,000 cusecs of water will flow in coming 24 hours.

Similarly water was flowing at 63,000 cusecs near Nowshera.



Earlier, the NDMA said a total of 76 people had so far lost their lives since June 25 - the start of monsoon season - across Pakistan, said

It added that nine more deaths and injuries to another eight were reported during the last 24 hours. Five of these victims were from Punjab, bringing the death toll in the province to 48 which is highest in the country.

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa is second the list with 20 deaths followed by five in Balochistan and three in Azad Kashmir.

Out of the 76 dead people, 30 were men, 15 women and 31 children, the NDMA said, adding that 78 houses

had also been damaged.

As far as the injured people are concerned, the total stands at 133 - men (48), women (38) and children (48).

During the last 24 hours, the highest amount of rain 111 mm was recorded in Nagarparkar (Sindh). In Punjab, Narowal received the heaviest rain with 36mm while it was Kakul 21mm in the case of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

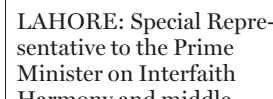
Mainly dry weather is expected in most parts of the country in the next 24 hours. However, rain/thunder-shower is expected in Kashmir, Gilgit Baltistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, upper Punjab and southeast Sindh.

Ashrafi demands Int'l legislation against blasphemy, desecration of Holy Quran

Bureau Report

LAHORE: Special Representative to the Prime Minister on Interfaith Harmony and middle East Maulana Hafiz Muhammad Tahir Mehmood Ashrafi has demanded the international community to ensure legislation against blasphemy and desecration of the Holy Quran in their countries to avoid any religious conflict in future.

He was presiding over a Seminar on Shahadat-e-Hazrat Usman Ghani (RA) held at the Press Club here on Sunday.



Virgin Atlantic ends flight operation in Pakistan



Bureau Report

KARACHI: A British airline, Crawley-based Virgin Atlantic has completely closed its flight operation in Pakistan and its last flight was departed from Islamabad to London today

Flight VS-379, B-789 flew from Islamabad International Airport at 1:08 pm today to London's Heathrow Airport.

Virgin Atlantic had commenced its flight operation in Pakistan in December 2020 with seven flights in a week from Islamabad airport.

In the initial phase, the British airline operated four flights to Manchester and three to London's Heathrow Airport. Later, the number of flights was reduced to three in a week only for Heathrow Airport.

During its flight, the airline provided the best travel facilities to the passengers.

EU mulls extending Pakistan's GSP+ status



Diplomat Desk

ISLAMABAD: European Union (EU) mulling over extending Pakistan's Generalised Scheme of Preferences (GSP) Plus status.

In a video statement, European Union Ambassador to Pakistan Dr Riina Kionka said that Pakistan will continue enjoying the preference in access to the European markets as no changes have been made in the planned extension of GSP regulation.

She said that the report will be presented in the European parliament and the member states and the EU will keep an eye on the proceeding regarding the GSP plus status.

The ambassador highlighted the areas where the EU wants improvement from Pakistan, which include freedom of expression, media freedom, women's rights, minority rights, and gender equality.

Weather

ISLAMABAD: A view of clouds on the sky during pleasant weather in the Federal Capital.



Photo: Online

PM pays tribute to Fatima Jinnah on her 56th death anniversary

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Sunday paid tribute to Madri-e-Millat Mohtarma Fatima Jinnah on her 56th death anniversary.

The prime minister said that she was a benefactor of the nation and had been a source of courage for Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah, PM Office Media Wing said in a press release.

"Despite her senility, she stood firm against dictatorship and played a historic role for the nation, democracy and the country," he added.

The prime minister said

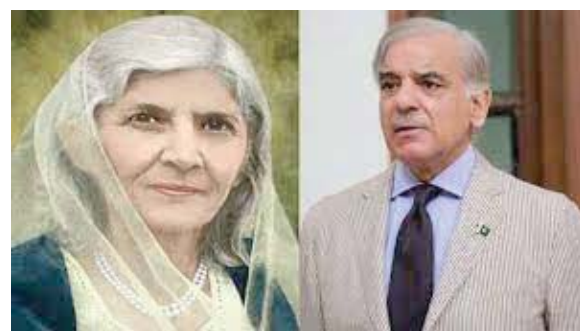
Fatima Jinnah also played an unprecedented role during Pakistan Movement and for the motherland and offered sacrifices.

He said that the personality of Fatima Jinnah was still a beacon of light for the young ladies and women of the country.

The entire nation paid tribute to her contributions and would always stand indebted to her services, he added.

The prime minister prayed for the high ranks of the departed soul and appealed to the nation to pray for her soul.

Bilawal pays homage to Mohtarma Fatima Jinnah on her 56th death anniversary



Meanwhile, Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs Bilawal Bhutto Zardari has paid homage to Mother of the Nation Mohtarma Fatima Jinnah on her 56th death anniversary.

In a statement issued

here on Sunday, he said that Mohtarma Fatima Jinnah played an important role in the Pakistan Movement by supporting the two-nation theory and strongly opposing the British rule.

The foreign minister said

that the lady co-founded Pakistan Women's Association, adding that Mohtarma Jinnah played an important role in the settlement of women immigrants in the newly formed country.

Bilawal said that the entire nation salutes Fatima Jinnah for her outstanding services for the freedom movement of Pakistan and later for the restoration of the country. "Fatima Jinnah's leadership role also inspired Pakistani women," he added. He said the strong-willed Mother of the Nation was the source of strength for her brother Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah (RA).

May 9 mastermind advances his anti-state agenda through overseas proxies: Marriyum

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Information and Broadcasting Marriyum Aurangzeb on Sunday castigated the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chief for furthering his anti-state agenda through his "proxies and puppets" sitting abroad.

"Some elements have been engaged in anti-state activities and treason while sitting abroad, but it is the PTI chief who will be held responsible if any incident of political extremism strikes the country," the minister said in a news statement.

She said the relentless campaign of the PTI chief against the state has continued unabated, with only the faces involved being swapped out periodically. The reprehensible and shameless media campaign launched



against the national institutions was a direct result of his malevolent planning and mindset, she added.

Marriyum emphasized that the "foreign agent" was afflicted with an incurable ailment, characterized by an insatiable desire to be in the limelight. He has been suffering from "FOMO" (Fear of Missing Out) syndrome following his ouster from power.

"This person is mentally sick and

should be in a mental hospital," the minister said while lashing out at the PTI chief for resorting to unfounded accusations, mischief, and conspiracies against others.

She said Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif had already made it clear that propaganda against the state institutions would not be tolerated under any circumstances.

The minister said Imran Khan sought another conspiracy to divert attention from his corruption from Tasha Khana whose trial had been commenced unearthing evidence against him.

She said his statement regarding cypher, absurd claim of a planned rocket launcher attack on him, and his references to Hazrat Isa and the Holy Quran served as proof of his sick mentality.

"Back in 2017, I had stated unequivocally that he is mentally ill and should be in a mental hospital," the minister added.

She said the "Fitna", driven by his desire for chaos and disorder, sought nothing but dead bodies and unrest in the country.

In an attempt to divert attention from his own corruption, lies, and failures, she said the PTI chief had now resorted to absurd tactics such as donning buckets, boxes, and dustbins on his head while being in public.

He shamelessly accused officers of plotting his murder, yet when pressed for evidence, he admitted that there was none, relying solely on hearsay.

She said he has been using a group of YouTubers and vloggers as his "proxies" to spread his lies, conspiracy theories, and propaganda.

CTD arrests four 'wanted' terrorists in Hangu

Raja Furqan Ahmed

HANGU: Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) has arrested four wanted terrorists in Torawari Mountains Hangu. According to the details, the terrorist was involved in receiving ransom amount from the local people of the area. The suspects used to make calls from Afghanistan numbers and threaten people for ransom money. The law enforcement agency recovered a machine gun, four Kalashnikov, two rocket-propelled grenades, and an Afghanistan sim. Earlier, security forces gunned down six terrorists during a gun battle in North Waziristan and Tank. According to the military's media wing, the gun battle between militants and security forces took place in the Razmak area of the North

Governor inaugurates 1293rd Urs of Hazrat Abdullah Shah Ghazi

Bureau Report

KARACHI: Sindh Governor Mohammed Kamran Khan Tessori inaugurated the 1293rd Urs of Sufi saint Hazrat Abdullah Shah Ghazi by laying a floral wreath.

The Governor also offered Fateha and prayed for the development, stability and prosperity of the country including Sindh province and nation.

On the occasion, he said that it was necessary to follow the footprints of the Sufi saints for the promotion of religious harmony.

Kamran Tessori said that the religion of Islam spread due to their character. The sufi saints always taught love, tolerance and brotherhood, he added.

Mohsin Naqvi Visits District Head Quarter Teaching Hospital Gujranwala

Bureau Report

LAHORE: Caretaker Chief Minister Punjab Mohsin Naqvi visited District Head Quarter Hospital Gujranwala tonight. Air Conditioners were shut down in the wards for which the patients were in dire conditions. The patients and the attendants complained about openly taking bribe by the staff on entering the hospital and getting wheel chairs. Cleanliness arrangements in the hospital were highly pathetic. The patients and attendants made a pile of complaints before CM Mohsin Naqvi. CM Mohsin Naqvi expressed his severe indignation over witnessing mismanagement in the hospital and removed DMS from his post by taking prompt action.

FIA arrests leading trafficker involved in Greece boat tragedy

Bureau Report

GUJRAT: The Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) claimed on Sunday to have arrested the ringleader of a human trafficking gang from Gujrat.

Muhammad Saleem Sunyara has been involved in Greece boat tragedy that took several lives including of Pakistanis.

The suspect used to send money to his brother Muhammad Asif Sunyara through hundi and hawala for sending Pakistanis abroad illegally. They both earned millions of rupees while sending Pakistanis to Europe.

As many as nine cases have been registered in the FIA Gujrat anti-human trafficking circle. The suspect told police that his brother Asif, who is stationed in Libya, had set up several safe houses for trafficking.

Five killed, several injured in Jhelum cylinder blast



Correspondent

JHELUM: At least five people were killed and several others received critical injuries when a three-storey building collapsed suddenly due to a powerful LPG cylinder blast in Jhelum.

According to details, a cylinder exploded in the kitchen of a three-storey hotel on GT Road, resulting in the collapse of a building.

As a result, five people lost their lives

and as many as 12 people were injured in the tragic incident.

Soon after the incident, the rescue teams, police and other personnel of law enforcement agencies arrived at the site and cordoned off the area.

An emergency has been declared in the District Headquarters Hospital (DHQ) Jhelum.

In another incident, six people were injured in a cylinder blast at a local factory in Gujranwala.

Interim CM Naqvi dispels rumours of flood in Punjab

Bureau Report

LAHORE: Punjab caretaker chief minister Mohsin Naqvi said on Sunday there was no danger of any flood in Punjab as India had released normal water.

Meanwhile, he visited River Ravi to oversee the situation while also ordering the officials to be fully prepared in case of any need.

He said the provincial and local



administrations were keeping a close watch on the flood situation and they were fully prepared to deal with any kind of challenges.

PTI chief appears before Islamabad police JIT in terror probe

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf chairman appeared before the Joint Investigation Team and recorded his statement in terrorism cases.

The former PM reached DIG office Islamabad to appear before JIT who was probing cases of attacks on police

stations Khanna, Shehzad Town, Behara Kaho, Secretariat, Margalla, Ramna, Tarnool, while he was also summoned in terrorism case registered in the Karachi company and Kohsar police stations.

The JIT includes officers from SSP CTD, SSP Investigation and it questioned PTI chairman for two hours regarding the cases.

Siraj says PDM govt fails to deliver

Spokesman Report

LAHORE: Jamaat-e-Islami chief Sirajul Haq said on Sunday the incumbent coalition government failed to deliver.

The JI chief said PDM, PPP and PTI were in agreement on running the economy with loans and the ruling parties were on the same page on continuing the interest system with the religious parties in the government also silent about the interest oriented policy of the government.

As a result, he said, debts have skyrocketed with ever increasing



inflation and poverty.

He said JI wanted to rule the country through Islamic principles while the other parties only wanted status quo.

Elections to be held on time, says Fazl



Bureau Report

PESHAWAR: Pakistan Democratic Movement head Maulana Fazlur Rehman said on Sunday elections would be held on time.

He said hopefully, the nation would not put the country to any test again by electing unpopular leaders.

Talking to senior journalists, the PDM chief said after one month the term of the central government would be completed and the prime minister made it clear that the PDM would dissolve the assemblies after the completion of term.

Sherry calls for precautions as heavy rains expected across Pakistan

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Climate Change Minister Sherry Rehman has urged the citizens and concerned departments to remain alert as heavy rains are expected to hit the country in the next 24-48 hours.

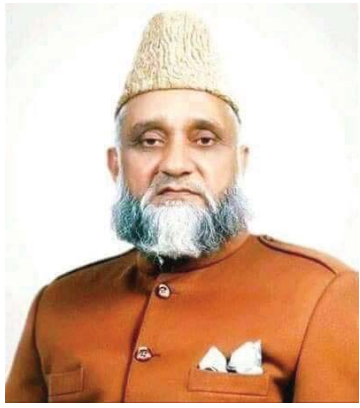
Taking to Twitter, the federal minister said, "Forecast of rain impacts in the 24-48 hours in Pakistan. The highest amount of rainfall will be in Punjab's cities like Lahore, Narawal, Sialkot. Other provinces have been alerted too for heavy to moderate rain."

Forecast of rain impacts in the 24-48 hours in Pakistan. The highest amount of rainfall will be in Punjab's cities like Lahore, Narawal, Sialkot. Other provinces have been alerted too for heavy to moderate rain. Urban flooding alerts issued for cities and municipal areas.

Azad Kashmir Muslim Conference to observe 8th anniversary of Mujahid e Awwal today

Abdul Majeed Tahir

MUZAFFARABAD: All Jammu and Kashmir Muslim Conference Supreme Head, former president of Azad Kashmir, former prime minister of Azad Kashmir and former chairman of the National Kashmir Committee of Pakistan Mujahid e Awwal Sardar Muhammad Abdul Qayyum Khan's 8th anniversary is being celebrated with devotion and respect throughout the country including Azad Kashmir. On the direction of President Muslim Conference, Sardar Attique Ahmad Khan, a Quran reading and prayer ceremony will be held today at the mausoleum of Mujahid e Awwal President Muslim Conference Sardar Attique Ahmad Khan has instructed all the Muslim Conference workers to read the Quran in their respective district headquarters and workers' homes for the anniversary of Muja-



hid eAwwal. Arrangements for the anniversary have been completed.

On this occasion, the leaders of the Muslim Conference, former President Mirza Muhammad Shafiq Jaral Advocate, Secretary General of the Muslim Conference Ms. Mehrul Nisaa, Central Chief Organizer Muslim Conference Raja Saqib

Majeed, Sardar Altaf Khan, Former Minister of Government Shamim Ali Malik, Chairperson Women Wing Samia Sajid Raja, former Chairman Youth Wing Sardar Usman Ali Khan, Raja Muhammad Latif Hasrat, Raja Zareen Khan, Majeed Tahir General Secretary of Muslim Conference District Muzaffarabad Raja Liaquat, President of Muslim Conference City Muzaffarabad Sheikh Maqsood Ahmed, Chairperson Student Wing Ms. Maimona Kayani Advocate, Former President of Muslim Conference Sidhnuti Sardar Abid Razzaq, President of Muslim Conference Women's Department Abida Munir Qureshi, Afshan Saeed Chaudhry Chairperson Women's Wing, Khawaja Riaz Pulhaji, Muslim Conference Finance Board Chairman Syed Nazar Abbas Shah, Muslim Conference Women's Wing Chairperson and Member District Council Bagh Nasreen. Akhtar Raja,



President of Muzaffarabad District Muslim Conference Syedasar Naqvi Advocate, Saleem Awan, Majeed Tahir, Sajjad Anwar Abbasi, Syed Tasoor Mousavi, Colonel Retired Arif Abbasi, Mubasher Jahandad, Haji Muhammad Ashraf Advocate, Syed Arshad Gilani Advocate, Bashira Tabsum Advocate, Kausar Parveen Advocate., Kausar Parveen Advocate, Saima Tariq, Muneeb Qureshi Sagar Azad, Shahida Tabsum Muslim Conference leader Khawaja Aziz and others said in a joint statement

that Mujahid I was a history maker, a revolutionary personality and a religious and spiritual personality. Mujahid e Awwal Sardar Muhammad Abdul Qayyum Khan, a history-making, versatile and far-sighted personality is not only born in centuries, but with his teachings, ideas and theories are surrounded by centuries. Mujahid Awwal started the armed struggle for the freedom of Kashmir by uniting the Kashmiri Muslims and raised a revolt against Dograh at the historical place of

Nila Butt. Mujahideen I started the great struggle for the construction and development of the state in the movement of Azadi Kashmir, the idea of annexation of Pakistan and the stability of Pakistan and this struggle is being continued by President Muslim Conference Sardar Atiq Ahmad Khan. All Jammu and Kashmir Muslim Conference is fortunate in that it had the opportunity to benefit from Mujahid e Awwal's thoughtful, faithful and unparalleled leadership for nearly 60 years. On August 23, 1947, he started the Jihad of Independence from Kunila Butt, and from his leadership stage to the Supreme Head of the Muslim Conference and the President and Vice-President of the Government of Azad Kashmir, Mujahid I's magnificent and historic performance was a beacon for the people of the state. Kajhumar is the forerunner of the history of this region.

Reciting quran

KARACHI: Workers of Markazi Muslim League reciting the Holy Quran to record their protest at Pakistan Avenue against burning the copy of Holy Quran in Sweden.



Photo: Online

Holy Quran is the only inspired book of Allah Almighty: Chaudhary Riaz

Asim Tanveer

MULTAN: Chaudhary Riaz Shaheen, president of Anjuman Tajran Urdu Bazaar outside Bohar Gate, said that we strongly condemn the desecration of the Holy Quran in Sweden. We love more. And we will not hesitate to make any kind of sacrifice for their honor. If the current government does not take any effective legal action against Sweden, Anjuman Tajran Urdu Bazaar Bohar Gate will turn to a peaceful protest strike. Quran is the last inspired book of Allah, which was revealed to the last Prophet and Messenger of Allah, Muhammad, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him. The Quran is the evidence of Allah, the Exalted,



ed, until the Day of Judgment. All the sciences are present in the Holy Quran. Whatever the modern science investigates, it is fourteen and a half hundred in the Quran and Hadith. It has been stated years ago. The Holy Quran is the only inspired book of Allah Almighty which exists and will remain. The most read book in the universe is the Holy Quran. It is preserved in the

hearts of millions of Muslims. Quran guides Muslims in every aspect of life. Chaudhry Riaz Shaheen further said that we demand the current government, the Chief of Army Staff and the Supreme Court of Pakistan to completely stop all trade and diplomatic relations with Sweden. OIC and all other Muslim countries. The leaders of the United Nations

should present a joint resolution against Sweden in the United Nations. Despite being a non-Muslim country, Russia has presented a resolution against Sweden in its parliament. On this occasion, Senior Vice President Sheikh Usman Nabi, Vice Presidents Sohail Rajput, Zar Wali, Bilal Zaheer. Joint Secretary Muhammad Hamza, Finance Secretary Wasim Nawaz.

Our lives are also sacrificed for the sanctity of Holy Quran: Dr Safdar Hashmi



Asim Tanveer

MULTAN: Jamaat-e-Islami Multan a holy Quran caravan was organized from Daulat Gate to Lohari Gate, led by Ameer Jamaat-e-Islami South Punjab Rao Muhammad Zafar, Pir Syed Muhammad Ali Shah, Pir Talha Hussain Shah and Dr. Safdar Hashmi. On this occasion, the recitation of the Holy Quran continued in the caravan. Speakers spoke at Lohari Gate. Speaking on this occasion, Rao Muhammad Zafar said that the enemy of the Quran is an enemy even if the word is recited.

Sardar Attique says journey of Kashmiri people to be continued by keeping the ideas of Mujahid e Awwal

Bureau Report



MUZAFFARABAD: President of All Jammu and Kashmir Muslim Conference and former Prime Minister Sardar Attique Ahmad Khan has said that the journey on the path of the ideas of Mujahid e Awwal Sardar Muhammad Abdul Qayyum Khan will continue and the day will surely come when Kashmir will become independent and become a part of Pakistan. In his special messages on the eve of the 8th death anniversary of Sardar Muhammad Abdul Qayyum Khan, Sardar Attique Ahmad said that Sardar Abdul Qayyum Khan was the advocate and spokesman of Islam, the idea of Kashmir Banega Pakistan and the Kashmir freedom movement. He never compromised on these ideas and promoted these ideas throughout his life. And dedicated to the intellectual development of the nation. Sardar Abdul Qayyum Khan played an important role in establishing a dignified government in Azad Kashmir. He did not compromise on people's rights and started Kashmir by the first shot against Dogra tyranny On 23th Aug 1947. He expressed the sentiments of the Kashmiri people and even today the Kashmiri people are walking on the same path. The All Jammu and Kashmir Muslim Conference is still trying to fulfill the goals of freedom of Kashmir by keeping the ideas of Mujahid e Awwal.

Chaudhry Yasin says great personalities like Mujahid e Awwal Sardar are a source of pride for nation

Bureau Report

MUZAFFARABAD: Pakistan People's Party, Azad Kashmir President Chaudhry Muhammad Yasin has said that history-making, multifaceted and far-sighted personalities like Mujahid e Awwal Sardar Muhammad Abdul Qayyum Khan are not only born in centuries but are surrounded by their teachings, ideas and theories for centuries. The existence of great personalities is a symbol of the dignity and happiness of any nation. These personalities are not only limited to a particular region, nation or country, but are a source of pride for the entire human community. In his messages on the death anniversary he said that Mujahid e Awwal Sardar Muhammad Abdul Qayyum Khan was a big name in the politics of Kashmir. He left an indelible mark on the politics of Pakistan in general. He created a unique position in every department and used it very skillfully. His role in the establishment of Supreme Court, Legislative Assembly, President, Prime Minister and all other institutions in Azad Kashmir cannot be ignored. With the death of Mujahid e Awwal Sardar Muhammad Abdul Qayyum Khan, the Kashmiri nation lost his leadership at a critical time, which is no less than a national tragedy.



Mujahid e Awwal a multifaceted personality: Mehrul Nasa

Abdul Majeed Tahir

MUZAFFARABAD: Secretary General of All Jammu and Kashmir Muslim Conference Mrs. Mehrul Nasa has said that Mujahid e Awwal Sardar Muhammad Abdul Qayyum Khan was a multifaceted personality from Nila Butt Dhirkot to raising the flag of rebellion against Dogra Raj at the age of 22 to becoming the highest post of President of Azad Kashmir. His a practical manifestation of his rich God-given abilities. Mujahid e Awwal Sardar Mohammad Abdul Qayyum Khan has the unique honor of holding the highest positions of Prime Minister, Presidency for the longest period among the politicians of Azad Kashmir. On the eve of 8th anniversary Mujahid e Awwal Sardar Muhammad Abdul Qayyum Khan in her message on the occasion of the 8th anniversary. She said that the Mujahid e Awwal Sardar Muhammad Abdul Qayyum Khan was a Muslim leader of the Kashmir nation, despite ideological differences, his opponents recognized his leadership skills. At the same time, he also protected the ideological borders of Kashmiris and spent his whole life in this continuous struggle. We pay tribute to the services of the late Mujahid e Awwal Sardar Muhammad Abdul Qayyum Khan and pray that Allah Almighty grants the deceased a high place in Jannat al-Firdus.



Head Money fixed fifty million rupees who burned the Holy Book Quran in Sweden: Nadeem Qureshi

Asim Tanveer

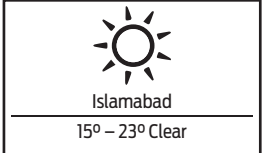
MULTAN: Protest Rally Organized by Anjuman Tajran Sabzi Mandi (Vegetable Market) Shah Rukkan Alam and Jamaat Ahle Sunnat Multan Division, Central Anjuman Tajran Kariana Retailers Punjab organized a protest against the desecration of Holy Quran in Sweden at Sabzi Mandi Shah Rukan Alam Chowk in which hundreds of people participated. The protestors participated and on this occasion, the vegetable and fruit market, Arthian and Qureshi brothers announced to pay five crore rupees to the beheader of the cursed person who desecrates the Holy Quran. The protest demonstration was led by General Secretary of Anjuman Tajran Sabzi Mandi Shah Rukan Alam and Senior Vice President of Central Organization of Traders South Punjab,



Haji Mohammad Nadeem Qureshi, Moderator of Jamaat Ahlesunnat Multan Division Faiz Bakhsh Rizvi, President of Central Anjuman Tajran Grocery Retailers Punjab. Mian Afaq Ansari, while the former member of the Provincial Assembly Haji Javed Akhtar Ansari, Mufti Bashir Ahmad of Salsla Safiya, business leader Sheikh

Ejaz Qureshi, Haji Hameed Akhtar, Muhammad Shafiq Rizvi were present in the protest demonstration. Mahmood Akhtar, Faizan Azim, Adnan Saleem, Haji Azam Sabri, Mirza Arshad Al Qadri of Sunni Tehreek, Qazi Basheer Ahmed Golarvi, Qari Mati Al Rasool Saeedi, Hafizullah Dewaya Lashari, Qari Bashir Swagi, Qari Tariq

Rasool, Qari Khadim Hussain Saeedi, Qari Muhammad Ashfaq Safi, Chairman of Aman Punjab Rickshaw Drivers Union Multan, Sufi Muhammad Siddique, Saqib Saeedi, Hamish Qadri and others participated on this occasion. And announced to the Muslim Ummah to terminate diplomatic and trade relations with Sweden and to expel the ambassadors. Speaking on this occasion, Haji Muhammad Nadeem Qureshi, Qari Faiz Bakhsh Rizvi, Haji Javed Akhtar Ansari, Mian Afaq Ansari, Mufti Bashir Ahmad said that the Muslim Ummah will declare Jihad and destroy Sweden brick by brick. A strong response will be given to the Zionist forces who are doing heinous acts against Islam. They will sit until the execution of the condemned is executed. The government of Pakistan should make a strong protest to Sweden.



SERVICES

Namaz Timings

Fajr	3:23 am
Zohr	12:13 pm
Asr	5:12 pm
Maghrib	7:21 pm
Isha	9:03 pm

EMERGENCY

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

Women Police Stations

Islamabad	9222596
Rawalpindi	9270601-20

ENQUIRY

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

HOSPITALS

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

DEPARTMENTS

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

COMPLAINTS

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

Almarah Foundation Hosted a Dinner

Spokesman Report

LAHORE: The Almarah Foundation organized a fundraising program and hosted the dinner in the Royal Swiss Hotel. The event was the part of its ongoing Fundraising campaign. The Chairman Urban Developers Mr. and Mrs. Tahir Javed, Mr. Usman Anwar, Managing Director Urban Developers were the Chief Guests along with Ex-Governor Ch. Muhammad Sarwar. A large number of donors and supporters also attended this dinner and donated the millions of rupees. Chairperson Almarah Foundation Mrs. Sphila Warraich expressed the views about the trust & Child welfare projects, DIG Punjab Police Mehbood Aslam was also present on this occasion. He also thanked all worth guests and supporters of Almarah Foundation and all the Chief Guests. The other guests who were present in the events included Mian Ibrahim son of Chairman Urban Developers Mian Tahir Javed. Ch. Muhammad Sarwar, GM Litigation. Nasir Majeed, GM Operation, Urban Developers, Umair Qureshi, GM Marketing, Colonel Shahid Alam, Colonel Farrukh Hamayun

Revolutionary steps being taken to promote Pakistan's image: Marriyum

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Information and Broadcasting Marriyum Aurangzeb said on Sunday that revolutionary steps were being taken to implement the vision and directive of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to promote the country's culture and heritage and its narrative through screen tourism.

She said this while addressing a ceremony after performing ground breaking of the site for cinema and inauguration of Classical Musical Research Cell, Digital Broadcast Training Lab and Podcast Studio here at the Radio Pakistan.

She said that through using platforms like Pakistan Television, Radio Pakistan, LokVirsa and Pakistan National Council of Arts, the people especially, the youth could be connected with the country's heritage.

She said that infotainment and entertainment were highly required for people especially the younger generation because during the last four years, hatred and intolerance had been promoted in the country.

Marriyum said that it was a high time when people and especially youngsters should be provided an alternative through which they could engage themselves in positive activities.

She said that in 2017 and 2018, a foundation of the country's first culture policy and film policy was laid, adding that implementation of the policy was started in the 2018 budget which was given by PML-N government.

She said that unfortunately during the last four years, all institutions were ruined, PTV sports was handed over to A-Sports just to deteriorate the department and auction it later.

The minister said that for the first time, slogan was raised in the Parliament to auction PTV and Radio Pakistan buildings and these organizations. She said that those behind such slogans did not know the significance of national broadcasters and the country's heritage. The governments in the past had not patronized the filmmakers, artists, writers, producers, distributors and cinema owners, she added.

She said "Film policy is part of our legislation to promote the country's narrative through screen tourism."

Marriyum Aurangzeb said that tax incentives were available for filmmakers, producers, actors, distributors, cinemas and this would help in producing more films and promoting the country's soft image.

She further said that culture and film policies were introduced when the country was fighting the war on terror adding that as it was the only tool through which the country's image could be improved globally.

She said that setting up of cinemas in Radio Pakistan and PTV premises was aimed at providing affordable entertainment access to the people, especially the classes with meager income. Cinema screens facility will be started at 26 spots not only in main cities but in interior Sindh, interior Punjab and south Punjab, she said.

The FBR tax would be incentivized to a corporate sector if it would make a film, film lab, music lab, broadcasting lab and post-film lab,



LAHORE: Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting, Ms. Marriyum Aurangzeb Inaugurating the foundation stone for the construction of cinema building of projects at Radio Pakistan Station building. APP

she added.

She said that Film Finance Fund Council was being set up for which the Prime Minister had given Rs 2 billion so that filmmaking should not remain limited to a specific groups.

Marriyum Aurangzeb said that this fund would help youngsters to make films and showcase their skills in this field.

never paid attention towards improving things as their motive was to tarnish the country's image.

Radio Pakistan is going to start the talent hunt programme from July 15 to transform regional talent into a national talent.

Steps are being taken to digitalize the Classical Musical Research Centre so that youngsters can come here and see the country's culture and heritage, the minister expressed.

The information minister further said that a platform would be provided to youth and university students so that they could go there for research.

Earlier, Director General Pakistan Broadcasting Corporation, Muhammad Tahir Hassan in his welcome address, thanked the information minister and said that Radio Pakistan was following the digital broadcasting trends and under a collective mechanism, it's all transmission was being digitized including rich audio archive for future generation.

Federal Secretary Information and Broadcasting, Sohail Ali Khan was also present on the occasion.

Poverty-stricken

ISLAMABAD: A woman vendor is selling traditional perfume (Attar) along with her child outside Sunday weekly Bazaar at Aabpara in the Federal Capital.



Photo: Online

Punjab Boy Scouts Association organized Summer Training

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad Boy Scouts Association participated in the Boy Scouts Camp organized by the Punjab Boy Scouts Association at the Summer Training Camp in Ghora Gali Muree from July 3rd to 9th July 2023.

Scouts from 7 Districts of Punjab actively engaged in the camping activities. IBSA achieved the 2nd position in the First Aid competition and secured the 3rd position in the recitation of Quran. Moreover, the camp inspection flag of honor was received by IBSA three times during the camping period. Well done, scouts



of Sultana Foundation and Modren Language School and college.

Sarwer Dogar Sb District

Scout Commissioner Nilor and Bilal Malik Sb District Commissioner IBSA Open

Scout District leads with Aftab

Sb Wood Badger Sultana Foundation and khadum Hussain

Scouts Leader Modren Language School and college

We will not tolerate any desecration of the Holy Quran: Naseer Vohra

Bureau Report

FAISALABAD: 2 crore rupees will be rewarded to whoever brings the head of someone who desecrates Quran in Sweden, said Naseer Yousaf Vohra President Central Cloth Board Ittehad Group Pakistan.

We will not tolerate any desecration of the Holy Quran. Chairman Dr. Mahmood Yousaf.

According to the details, Anjuman Tajran Cloth Board Vakilan Wali Gali No. 4, 5, 6, 7 where the trade leaders organized the Mahfil Mohabbat Quran presenting a collective recitation. In this protest, the host Chairman Dr. Mahmood Yousaf, Chairman Power loom Waheed Khaliq Ramey, Group Chairman Haji Waseem Qadri, President Street No. 7 Haji Imran, Superintendent Haji Zaheer Ahmad Qadri, General Secretary Riaz Ahmed Qadri, Chairman Allama Adeel Yousuf, President Street No. 6 Malik Gulzar Ahmed, General Secretary Sheikh Imran, Chairman Haji Qadeer Ahmed, President Street No. 5 Haji Saifullah, General Secretary Haji Ehsan Elahi, President Street No. 4 Haji Ahmed, General Secretary Sheikh Usman, President Pakistan Muslim League Youth Wing Rana Muhammad Asif, President Education Union Rana Abid, Safi Malik Riaz and business leaders of the city. Apart from businessmen, social and political workers, lawyers and employees of other institutions and the head of the labor union participated in full determination. Businessmen recited the Holy Quran in a protest program against the desecration of the Quran in Sweden. Speaking on this occasion, the Central President of Cloth Board Etihad Group Pakistan, Alhaji Naseer Yousaf Vohra, has said in his full style that the person who brings the head of someone who desecrates Quran in Sweden will be given 2-crore rupees. Naseer Yousaf Vohra has further said that the Muslim rulers should enact legislation to prevent blasphemy actions on international forums. The resolution condemning the blasphemy of Quran in the Parliament is commendable, but practical steps should be taken.

Mughal organizations across the country are united and determined to serve the nation: Sarfraz Mughal

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Sarfraz Mughal, the well-known business leader of Islamabad and the leader of the organization Mughaliya Makraz Pakistan, has said that on July 9, President Fayyaz Mirza of Mughal Supreme Council Pakistan (registered) in Lahore, Chairman Manzoor Hussain Mughal. General Secretary Tanveer Amjad Mughal and his entire team have invited Mughal community organizations from all over Pakistan for the unity of Mughal nation, in which organizations from all provinces of Pakistan, Gilgit Baltistan, Azad Kashmir have participated with enthusiasm in the event. Made a baron. The entire Mughal community pays tribute to the great leaders of the Mughal Supreme Council of Pakistan for organizing this successful event of unity of the Mughal nation in a magnificent manner. Congratulations to all participating organizations. Sarfraz Mughal has further said that registered and unregistered organizations of the Mughal community across Pakistan are serving the people in their respective areas and today the unity of all these organizations organized by the Mughal Supreme Council of Pakistan means only one thing. Finally, Sarfraz Mughal congratulated Mughal Supreme Council President Fayyaz Mirza, Chairman Manzoor Hussain Mughal and their entire team for organizing a successful event.



Railway PREM Union's strongly condemned the tragic incident of desecration of Holy Quran

Mian Rashid Asghar.

FAISALABAD: Pakistan Railway PREM Union's Chairman Ziauddin Ansari, President Sheikh Muhammad Anwar, General Secretary Khair Muhammad Tunio, Chief Organizer Khalid Mahmood Chaudhry strongly condemned the tragic incident of desecration of Holy Quran in Sweden and they have demanded from the government to have social, commercial and diplomatic Audacity of sweden with complete boycott and it shall remain continued until the Swedish government apologizes for this action. Merely passing a resolution will not solve the problem & such malaciously can again rise that needs comprehensive international laws against such countries



The Swedish ambassador should be expelled immediately, they further demanded.

Chairman PREM union PR further said that in the name of freedom of speech, while on one side the western countries are providing protection to those who insult the teachings of Islam, on the other side, the silence, traditional indifference and stubbornness of the Muslim countries

is a matter of concern. This is a war of civilizations in the wretched world, which is a big challenge for the world of President further illuminated that the respect for all religions is necessary, otherwise there will be uncontrollable riots in the world.

Non-Muslim powers are seriously hurting the sentiments of Muslims through high tactics and provocative actions.

So the United Nations should make it a global crime by legislating it. They further said that the forces hostile to Islam are testing the Muslim Ummah through daily offensive actions. Islam and anti-Muslim forces have crossed all their limits & said that Muslims want peace in the world, but under a well-thought-out conspiracy, Islam continues to be defamed? The tragedy is that in the name of freedom of expression, where on one side Western countries are providing protection to those who insult the Holy Prophet (SAW) but on the other hand, the silence, traditional indifference and obstinacy of Muslim countries is a matter of concern.

They said adding that they are waiting for the EU union's agenda on such issues?

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: Azad Awam Tehreek demanded from the government to allow the Pakistani team to play in the Indian cities in the Cricket World Cup, saying that the Pakistani team has the full courage to give a humiliating response to the other teams in the Indian grounds. In the grounds of Hyder Abad, Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Chennai, and Kol Kata, the Pakistani team can do the best bowling and batting. By defeating the enemy and other teams in the ground of the enemy, the fun of the game will be doubled. Chairman Azad Awam Tehreek Javed Intizar In the statement, he said that the committee formed by the Prime Minister under the chairmanship of Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari decided to play in the Indian grounds to hit India's trick in the sports field. He said that in the Cricket World Cup, a group is not ready to give alternative options in view of diplomatic relations to put other teams under pressure. The only answer to their policy is to stay within their decisions and defeat the teams in their grounds. With this decision, India wants to score points for its team and revenue.

Group Chairman/Chief Editor: **Almas Ayoub Sabir**
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 Bureau Chief Karachi: **Saleem Zaman Khan.**
 (mszk786@gmail.com)
 Bureau Chief Lahore: **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-Iqbal, Main Rashid Minhas Road.
 Lahore Office: 7-E,Samanberg, Johar Town.
 Email: **spokesmanislamabad@gmail.com**
 Whatsapp: **0346-5008408**

Running Dry

Muhammad Haider Arif / Furqan Ali

Water is the elixir of life, sustaining every living being on this planet and infusing nature with its fluid beauty. It is essential for human life, agriculture, and economic development.

"Anyone who can solve the problems of water will be worthy of two noble prizes—one for peace and one for science."
 John F Kennedy

Indeed, the water crisis is not just a scientific challenge, but also a crucial step towards global peace and security.

Pakistan is facing a severe water crisis that threatens its economy, environment and people. According to the World Bank, Pakistan is one of the most water-stressed countries in the world, with a per capita water availability of less than 1,000 cubic meters, which is the threshold for water scarcity. The average water consumption per capita in urban areas of Pakistan is estimated to be around 100-120 liters per day and in rural areas, around 60-80 liters per day. The country's average annual rainfall is well below the global average, and around 60% of its land area is classified as arid or semi-arid. Water quality is another major problem; more than 60% of the drinking water supply in Pakistan is contaminated. Considering the situation.

Public Safety Water Testing Facilities

Commercial And Domestic Consumers

Water testing facilities of water tube wells should be facilitated and drinking water allowed after testing. Lack of water supply in Pakistan requires the testing of water boring in the houses of the consumers by the concerned departments. Which can prevent water diseases which can create a healthy society

Public Awareness Mineral Water Supply without Test Report

Private mineral water companies in Pakistan supply mineral water at commercial level to domestic consumers and commercial centers. No mineral water company provides test report of mineral water at the time of supply, it should be strictly followed

The World Health Organization (WHO) recommends that drinking water should not contain more than 10 micrograms per litre of arsenic. However, in some areas of Pakistan, arsenic levels in drinking water are as high as 500 micrograms per litre. That deteriorating water quality, which poses highly significant health risks to the population. This has resulted in the spread of waterborne diseases, such as cholera and typhoid fever, which pose a significant public health challenge.

The water crisis has serious implications for Pakistan's development and stability. Water scarcity not just affects the agricultural sector, which accounts for about 20% of the GDP and employs about 40% of the labour force. But it also affects the energy sector, which relies significantly on hydropower genera-

tion. Moreover, water disputes between provinces and neighbouring countries specially with India on the Indus Water Treaty (IWT) could escalate into conflicts that undermine regional peace and security.

The main causes of this crisis are rapid population growth, urbanization, climate change, inefficient water use, poor governance and lack of investment in water infrastructure.

To address these issues related to the crisis, Pakistan needs to adopt a comprehensive and integrated approach that involves all stakeholders and sectors.

Water and health

Contaminated water and poor sanitation are linked to transmission of diseases such as cholera, diarrhoea, dysentery, hepatitis A, typhoid and polio. Absent, inadequate, or inappropriately managed water and sanitation services expose individuals to preventable health risks. This is particularly the case in health care facilities where both patients and staff are placed at additional risk of infection and disease when water, sanitation and hygiene services are lacking. Globally, 15% of patients develop an infection during a hospital stay, with the proportion much greater in low-income countries.

Inadequate management of urban, industrial and agricultural wastewater means the drinking-water of hundreds of millions of people is dangerously contaminated or chemically polluted. Natural presence of chemicals, particularly in groundwater, can also be of health significance, including arsenic

and fluoride, while other chemicals, such as lead, may be elevated in drinking-water as a result of leaching from water supply components in contact with drinking-water.

Some 829 000 people are estimated to die each year from diarrhoea as a result of unsafe drinking-water, sanitation and hand hygiene. Yet diarrhoea is largely preventable, and the deaths of 297 000 children aged under 5 years could be avoided each year if these risk factors were addressed. Where water is not readily available, people may decide handwashing is not a priority, thereby adding to the likelihood of diarrhoea and other diseases.

Diarrhoea is the most widely known disease linked to contaminated food and water but there are other hazards. In 2017, over 220 million people required preventative treatment for schistosomiasis – an acute and chronic disease caused by parasitic worms contracted through exposure to infested water.

In many parts of the world, insects that live or breed in water carry and transmit diseases such as dengue fever. Some of these insects, known as vectors, breed in clean, rather than dirty water, and household drinking water containers can serve as breeding grounds. The simple intervention of covering water storage containers can reduce vector breeding and may also reduce faecal contamination of water at the household level.

(Writers are student of *Uquid e Azam* university)

CPEC's projects attract \$25.4 billion of direct investment

The projects under China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) a flagship project of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) are flourishing all across Pakistan and have attracted US\$25.4 billion of direct investment from China during the last 10 years.

"After ten years of development, a '1+4' cooperation layout has been formed, with the CPEC at the center and Gwadar Port, transport infrastructure, energy and industrial cooperation being the four key areas," according to a senior official of the Chinese Foreign Ministry.

The projects under the CPEC framework have created 192,000 jobs, producing 6,000 megawatts of electric power, building 510 kilometers of highways and adding 886 kilometers to the core national transmission network, he added.

Terming the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor a signature project of China-Pakistan cooperation in the new era, he said that it is an important project under the Belt and Road Initiative.

This year marks the 10th anniversary of the launch of CPEC. After ten years of development, a 1+4 cooperation layout has been formed, with the CPEC at the center and Gwadar Port, transport infrastructure, energy and industrial cooperation being the four key areas.

The CPEC has made a tangible contribution to the national development of Pakistan and connectivity in the region. China and Pakistan have also explored new areas for cooperation under the framework of CPEC, creating new highlights in cooperation on agriculture, science and technology, telecommunication and people's well-being.

"China stands ready to work with Pakistan to build on the past achievements and follow the guidance of the important common understandings between the leaders of the two countries on promoting high-quality development of CPEC to boost the development of China and Pakistan and the region and bring more benefits to the people of all countries," the official said.

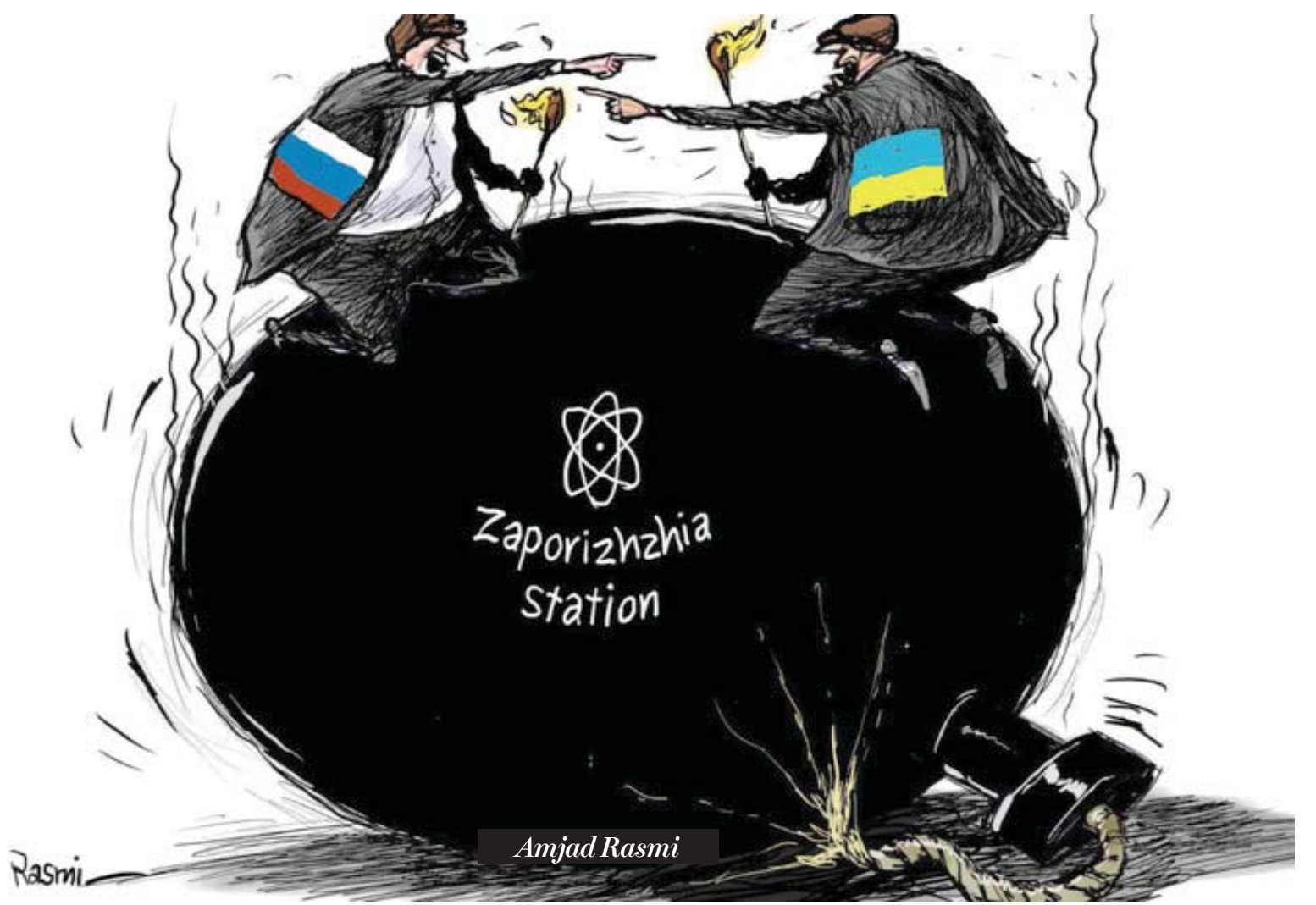
In a recent statement, Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif said that the CPEC has been playing a pivotal role in transforming Pakistan's economic landscape.

The implementation of a number of multi-billion-dollar development projects under the CPEC, has brought socio-economic benefits to Pakistan and helped the country progress in the region and beyond, Shahbaz Sharif said while addressing a ceremony to mark a decade of the signing of CPEC.

Launched in 2013, the CPEC is a corridor linking the Gwadar port in southwestern Pakistan with Kashgar in Northwest China's Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region, which highlights energy, transport, and industrial cooperation.

Over the past 10 years, the CPEC has gathered momentum unheard of in Pakistan's economic history with complete support from the Chinese leadership, the prime minister said.

He said that the pace of work on the CPEC projects will be further expedited in the coming days, and the cooperation between the two countries is being enhanced in various areas including agriculture, special economic zones, information technology, and exploration of mineral resources.



Astana: The Vibrant Heart of Kazakhstan's Cultural Landscape

Astana, the capital city of Kazakhstan, celebrated its 25th anniversary since its foundation, marking a significant milestone in the country's history. This vibrant city, which emerged from scratch after Kazakhstan gained its independence, has quickly risen to become a center of culture and attraction for both local and foreign tourists. Nestled as the vibrant heart of Kazakhstan, Astana emerges as a thriving cultural and diplomatic hub. With its captivating allure and strategic significance, Astana stands tall as the capital city, showcasing the rich tapestry of Kazakh culture while playing a pivotal role on the global stage.

Every year on July 6th, Kazakhstan commemorates Astana Day with a series of cultural events. These festivities include open-air concerts, captivating folk dance performances, and enlightening exhibitions, showcasing the rich heritage and diversity of the city. This occasion holds such importance that the country designates two days as public holidays to honor Astana's founding.

Visitors and locals alike are in for a treat, as Astana's cultural calendar is filled with thrilling and captivating events. Renowned artists grace the city's stages, enchanting audiences with their soul-stirring performances. Additionally, side-splitting evenings of stand-up comedy bring laughter and joy to residents and tourists. The city's commitment to promoting arts and culture is

evident through its diverse offerings, catering to a wide range of interests and tastes.

Astana's rise as a cultural hub has also brought international recognition. The city has played host to various high-profile events, such as the Expo 2017, which focused on future energy solutions. This global gathering showcased Astana's ability to organize and execute large-scale events, leaving a lasting impression on attendees from around the world.

Beyond its cultural significance, Astana has emerged as a center for diplomacy and international engagement. The city hosts high-level summits, forums, and conferences, attracting dignitaries and leaders from around the world. Astana's strategic location and its commitment to fostering global cooperation have solidified its position as a diplomatic powerhouse. Through these international gatherings, Astana facilitates meaningful dialogues and cultivates relationships that contribute to shaping the global landscape.

Astana's cultural calendar is a testament to its vibrant artistic scene. The city hosts a myriad of cultural events, including captivating concerts, enchanting theatrical performances, and thought-provoking exhibitions. Renowned artists from various disciplines converge in Astana, infusing the city with

a dynamic creative energy. These cultural offerings not only inspire and entertain the local population but also captivate the attention of international audiences, further enhancing Astana's reputation as a cultural hub.

In addition to its artistic endeavors, Astana embraces its role as a center for intellectual exchange and innovation. The city houses prestigious educational institutions and research centers, attracting students and scholars from across the globe. This influx of intellectual capital fuels innovation, contributing to advancements in various fields. Astana's commitment to education and research establishes it as a knowledge hub, fostering intellectual growth and enhancing the city's global reputation.

Astana's allure extends beyond its borders through international collaborations and partnerships. The city actively engages in cultural exchange programs, forging connections with other nations and promoting mutual understanding. These initiatives serve as a gateway for Astana to share its vibrant cultural heritage and learn from the diverse cultures of the world. Astana's open-mindedness and global outlook position it as a beacon of cultural exchange, enriching the city and its residents with a global perspective.

As Astana continues to thrive as a cultural and diplomatic hub, it leaves an indelible mark on both the nation and the world. Its architectural grandeur, dynamic cultural scene, and international engagement paint a portrait of a city brimming with possibilities. Astana's role as the capital city elevates it to a position of influence and significance, showcasing Kazakhstan's vibrant culture and fostering connections that transcend borders. It is through Astana that the world glimpses the essence and diversity of Kazakhstan, making it an integral player on the global cultural and diplomatic stage.

As Astana celebrates its 25th anniversary, it stands as a shining example of Kazakhstan's progress and aspirations. The city's transformation from an empty canvas into a thriving cultural capital has been nothing short of remarkable. Astana's impressive architectural landscape, diverse cultural offerings, and economic potential continue to attract attention and admiration.

Looking ahead, Astana's trajectory is promising. With a vision for sustainable development, the city aims to further enhance its cultural scene, promote innovation, and strengthen its position as a leading destination for international business and tourism. As the world sets its sights on Astana, this emerging capital of culture is poised to leave an indelible mark on the global stage.

The writer is Director Centre for Central Asia and Eurasian Studies - Institute of Peace and Diplomatic Studies

Decade of BRI's China Pakistan Economic Corridor-I

Transforming the Landscape of Bilateral Cooperation

China and Pakistan have built a model of economic cooperation for the world to learn from."—Xi Jinping, President of the People's Republic of China. As the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) completes its first decade, it stands as a testament to the enduring friendship between China and Pakistan and the transformative power of strategic partnerships. Launched in 2013 as a flagship project under China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), the CPEC has emerged as a game-changer, reshaping the economic and infrastructural landscape of both nations. A decade of collaboration has brought about remarkable achievements, cementing the foundation for shared prosperity and regional connectivity.

The ambitious CPEC initiative aimed to connect Gwadar Port in southwestern Pakistan with China's northwestern region of Xinjiang, through a network of highways, railways, and pipelines. Its overarching objective was to stimulate economic growth, alleviate poverty, and strengthen regional connectivity. Today, CPEC encompasses various sectors, including energy, infrastructure development, industrial cooperation, and the promotion of Gwadar as a major trade hub.

During the past ten years, CPEC has witnessed the successful completion of several milestone projects. The construction of Gwadar Port, an integral part of CPEC, has transformed it into a bustling international port city. With Chinese investment and expertise, Gwadar Port has become a crucial maritime gateway connecting Pakistan to the world, providing a significant boost to trade and commerce in the region.

The energy sector has also experienced a signif-

icant transformation under CPEC. The establishment of several power projects, including coal, wind, solar, and hydroelectric, has helped bridge Pakistan's energy deficit, reducing load shedding and ensuring a stable power supply for industries and households. These initiatives have not only enhanced the country's energy security but also laid the groundwork for a greener and more sustainable future.

Furthermore, CPEC has played a vital role in boosting industrialization and economic diversification in Pakistan. Special Economic Zones (SEZs) established under the project have attracted both domestic and foreign investments, creating new employment opportunities and fostering economic growth. The transfer of technology and expertise from Chinese companies has been instrumental in enhancing Pakistan's industrial productivity and competitiveness.

The impact of CPEC extends beyond Pakistan's borders, encompassing the entire region. As a linchpin of the BRI, the corridor has strengthened connectivity between China, Pakistan, and other countries in the region, fostering regional integration and trade. The development of transport infrastructure, including the Karakoram Highway and the Peshawar-Karachi Motorway, has reduced travel time and improved connectivity, facilitating the movement of goods and people.

As we reflect on a decade of CPEC, the words of President Xi Jinping ring true: "Friendship between China and Pakistan is rock solid and unbreakable." The successful implementation of the CPEC projects demonstrates the depth of this friendship and the mutual benefits derived from it.

To be Continued

Voting concludes in presidential elections of Uzbekistan, turnout exceeds over 70 percent

Spokesman Report

TASHKENT: The voting ended in the presidential elections in Uzbekistan at 8 pm and about 70 per cent of registered voters had cast about 13.46 million votes, by 5 pm, according to the Central Election Commission (CEC).

Polling stations opened at 8:00 am local time and closed at 8 pm. A total of 10,784 polling stations started their work, including 56 stations in 39 countries outside Uzbekistan, and continued election duties till closing time. Citizens had the opportunity to vote until 8:00 pm local time.

The turnout threshold for recognizing elections as valid in Uzbekistan is 33 per cent. The results are expected to be announced tomorrow or the day after tomorrow. The final turnout will be shared later by CEC.

The total number of registered voters eligible to cast votes in the presidential elections was nearly 19.5 million people, as per data



available from the CEC.

Four candidates were taking part in the election and contesting for President of Uzbekistan which include Ulugbek Inoyatov from the People's Democratic Party, Shavkat Mirziyoyev from UzLiDeP Party, Robak-

hon Mahmudova from "Adolat" Social Democratic Party and Abdushukur Hmazayev from the Ecological Party of Uzbekistan.

The incumbent President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Presidential Candidate from the Movement of Entrepreneurs and

Businesspeople – the Liberal Democratic Party of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev visited polling station No. 59 in Tashkent on July 9 and voted in the election.

During the polling time, a citizen Kakhramon Kuldashiev at the polling station while talking to



media said "I am voting for the incumbent President Shavkat Mirziyoyev because he has improved the economy and

governance in Uzbekistan. Now his manifesto is to promote tourism and enhance educational opportunities for the

people of Uzbekistan. I am sure that he would make our country economically and diplomatically stronger at the global level".

UNA to hold virtual workshop on Global Media Congress

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The Union of OIC News Agencies (UNA) is set to host a virtual workshop for news agencies introducing the Global Media Congress on Thursday (July 13, 2023) in cooperation with the Emirates News Agency (WAM) and the Abu Dhabi National Exhibitions Company (ADNEC).

The workshop will aim to present the event in its second edition, which will be hosted by Abu Dhabi on

November 14-16, 2023, under the patronage of H. H. Sheikh Mansour bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Vice President,



Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the Presidential Court, with the attendance of regional and international media industry pioneers, said a press release received here yesterday.

The workshop will also highlight available opportunities for news agencies participating in the congress, including how to

book a space for exhibitions and side events.

UNA Director-General Mohammed Al Yami said the workshop is part of the union's keenness to promote engagement among member news agencies during international media events, which will help to promote their performance and update their tools.

The workshop, the first event of its kind in the region, will also provide an opportunity for member news agencies to exchange ideas, especially amidst the rapid developments in the media sector.

Al Yami said the workshop will also highlight the efforts of member news agencies, most notably WAM, and their significant efforts in organizing similar major media events.

The Global Media Congress, in its second edition, focuses on three themes: environmental media, education in the field of media and innovation, and sports media.

Kashmiris determined to carry on freedom struggle from Indian yoke; APHC



Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The All Parties Hurriyat Conference (APHC) has said that Kashmiris are determined to carry on their struggle for the liberation of their motherland from Indian yoke.

The APHC spokesman in a statement issued in Srinagar in the Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) on Sunday, said the killings, arrests and torture cannot defeat the Kashmiris' urge for freedom and they are ready to face Indian bullets but will not surrender.

According to Kashmir Media Service, the Modi regime cannot defeat the spirit of Kashmiri people to win freedom and they have no option but to fight Indian illegal occupation. Kashmiris will continue sacrificing their lives till freedom from Indian clutches, he added.

The APHC spokesman said that Kashmiri people were united to defeat India's nefarious designs in IIOJK and salute to the Kashmiri people for refusing to accept Indian hegemony.

He maintained that the ongoing people's struggle against Indian tyranny would remain a golden page in Kashmir's history and the day was not far when Kashmiris would see the dawn of freedom.

India's brutal military occupation of Kashmir is a challenge to the international community and it must resolve the lingering dispute according to the United Nations resolutions and aspirations of the Kashmiri people, he added.

Mr. Ammad Rasheed appointed as a new DEAN of Consul's Corps Peshawar

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The Honorary Consul's Corps Peshawar KP, Pakistan is pleased to announce the appointment of newly elected DEAN Mr. Ammad Rasheed who is the (Honorary Consul of the Republic of Tunisia) brings a wealth of experience, insight and expertise to lead the group.

Mr. Ammad Rasheed is the successful entrepreneur, CEO & publisher of WINGS International magazine who continue to push for innovation, evolution and forward thinking while staying true to the commitment and spirit of service to our beloved country Pakistan.

Mr. Ammad Rasheed a key figure in the Diplomatic Corps Islamabad & corporate sector of Pakistan has been deeply committed to His visionary leadership, strategic thinking, and proven track record make him an ideal candidate.

As the DEAN Mr. Ammad Rasheed will assume the responsibility from July 1st 2023.

On behalf of Honorary Consul's Corps KP, we extend our heartiest congratulations to Mr. Ammad Rasheed on his new role as the DEAN. We strongly believe that under his dynamic leadership, unwavering passion and professional dedication will enhance bilateral relations between Pakistan & respective countries.



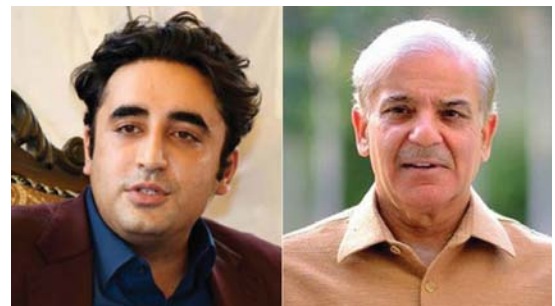
PM, FM to address inaugural session of Gandhara symposium

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif and Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari will address the inaugural session of a three-day Gandhara symposium, being held here from July 11 to July 13.

The symposium titled "Cultural Diplomacy: Reviving Gandhara Civilization and Buddhist Heritage in Pakistan", is being held under the prime minister's vision of interfaith harmony, aiming to raise global awareness about the historical and cultural significance of the Gandhara civilization and Buddhist heritage in Pakistan.

Chairman, Prime Minister's Task Force on Gandhara Tourism Dr. Ramesh Kumar Vankwani and Minister for Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony Senator Talha Mahmood will also address its



different sessions, besides keynotes by different foreign and local dignitaries, said a press release issued here Sunday.

The delegates will also call on President Dr. Arif Alvi.

The symposium is jointly organized by PM's Task Force on Gandhara Tourism, the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony, Pakistan Tourism Development Corporation (PTDC), the National Heritage and Culture Division and Archeology Departments of Punjab

and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The objective of the conference is to promote and preserve the rich historical and cultural Buddhist heritage in Pakistan.

By leveraging the power of cultural diplomacy, the conference further aims to strengthen international relationships, foster mutual understanding, and enhance cultural exchange.

The conference will feature speeches and panel discussions coupled with a field visit to sites of religious significance to the Buddhist community while provid-

ing a platform for networking, collaboration, and the exchange of ideas and best practices.

A number of Buddhist monks from Malaysia, Vietnam, Thailand, Nepal, South Korea and Sri Lanka would attend the symposium.

The sessions would be attended by different foreign panelists including Prof. Ruth Young Professor of Archaeology, University of Leicester, UK, Yi Yun-Jung Member of Korea Cultural Foundation, NsihanthaPushpa Kumara Dir Min. of Buddhasana Religious and Cultural Affairs, Sri Lanka, Prof. Xiang Debao Prof, School of International Journalism & Communication Studies, China, Prof. Dr. HridayaRatna former vice chancellor, Lumbini Buddhist University, Nepal, Kim Yu Tae Dir Multi Culture Museum Seoul, South Korea and others.

Chairman NDMA discusses disaster management cooperation with Swiss Foreign Minister

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Chairman National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), Lieutenant General Inam Haider Malik on Sunday held an interactive meeting with Swiss Foreign Minister Ignazio Cassis to discuss key points related to disaster management and resilience upon his visit here to NDMA headquarters.

The meeting focused on various aspects of disaster preparedness and collaboration between the two countries in the field of disaster management, a news release said.

The Chairman National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) emphasized the

significance of local community engagement in order to enable disaster resilience.

He highlighted the unprecedented Floods 2022 emphasizing the need for an efficient Early Warning System (EWS) in place to mitigate the adverse impacts of such disasters.

He stressed the crucial role of disaster preparedness in Pakistan, stating that managing two simultaneous disasters can be a daunting task and have severe consequences.

He apprised the Swiss delegation of inclusive and people-centric disaster preparedness system, mentioning three National Simulation Exercises (SimExs) conducted by NDMA to enhance disaster

preparedness in Pakistan.

The Chairman NDMA informed about the establishment of NEOC to generate National Common Operating Picture (NCOP) for all relevant stakeholders to mitigate likely impacts of disasters and setting up NDMA's Think Tank, NIDM to collaborate with think tanks, NGOs, INGOs, academia, and industry stakeholders both domestically and globally to develop effective policy recommendations and reduce disaster risk.

He underlined the importance of reaching out to regional universities for knowledge sharing and capacity building. Swiss Foreign Minister, Ignazio Cassis, expressed his

gratitude for MoU on disaster management cooperation between Switzerland and Pakistan.

He highlighted the similarity in topography and challenges faced by both countries, and emphasized the importance of technological knowledge in dealing with complex disaster management challenges and risk management. Minister Cassis expressed his interest in exploring common solutions and collaboration opportunities.

Swiss Minister lauded the development and achievements in disaster management in Pakistan and expressed his anticipation for future cooperation based on the MoU. The



meeting concluded with an agreement to continue to work

closely together to enhance disaster management capabilities

and share best practices in the field.

6th Pakistan Pharma Summit & Awards will be held

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: The daylong 6th Pakistan Pharma Summit & Awards will be held at a hotel in Islamabad on 12th July with a focus on promoting exports of medicines from Pakistan.

The Pakistan Pharmaceutical Manufacturers' Association (PPMA) organizes the Pharma Summit every year to thoroughly discuss the issues related to the drug producers in the country. The theme of this year's conference is "Winning strategies for pharma exports".

PPMA Central Chairman, Syed Farooq Bukhari, said the summit was being organized with the clear objective of the Pakistani pharmaceutical industry to increase its annual exports to US \$ 1 billion.

Federal Commerce Minister, Syed Naveed Qamar, will be the chief guest at the inaugural session of the summit. Also at the inaugural session, the PPMA's Lifetime Achievement Award will be given to the renowned industrialist from the Pakistani pharmaceutical industry, Sardar Yasin Malik. Javed Ghulam Mohammad will deliver a speech on the current state of Pakistan's pharma industry and its export potential.

The keynote speech at the same session will be delivered by Dr Emily Kaine from the USA on key strategies for manufacturing excellence, quality control, and regulatory compliance.

Other key speakers of the conference include the Chairman of Pakistan Pharma Summit, Dr Kaiser Waheed, CEO of the Trade Development Authority of Pakistan Zubair Motiwala, CEO of the Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan Asim Rauf, Federal Health Secretary Iftekhar Ali Shallwani, Federal Commerce Secretary Muhammad Sualeh Ahmad Faruqi, Special Assistant to Prime Minister on government effectiveness Dr Mohammad Jehanzeb Khan, Secretary TDAP Fareed Iqbal Qureshi, FBR Chairman Asim Ahmad, and former PPMA chairman Zahid Saeed.

Also on the occasion, awards will be given to recognize excellence by the medicine producers in Pakistan for enhancing drug exports from the country.

The awards will be given by Federal Commerce Minister Naveed Qamar, and Minister of State for Petroleum Dr Musadik Malik.

Taliban-led Afghanistan starts oil extraction in Qashqari

For the first time ever, the Taliban-led Afghanistan on Sunday started extracting oil from the wells of the Qashqari oilfield, according to Anadolu.

A statement issued by the Mines and Petroleum Ministry said about 200 tonnes of oil is currently being extracted from nine of the 10 wells in the Qashqari basin in Sar-e-Pul. However, the officials hope to increase the capacity of extraction from 200 tonnes to more than 1,000 tonnes.

"Priority will be given to the employment of technical and non-technical staff and the reconstruction of the mine using the revenues of Sar-e-Pul," the Bakhtar News Agency quoted acting Mines and Petroleum Minister Sheikh Shahabuddin Delawar as saying. His comments came during an inauguration ceremony of the wells which was attended by several senior Taliban officials.

Terming the country's mines as an important economic source, Delawar said that the people of Afghanistan should fully harness the sources of the mines.

Mullah Mohammad Nadar Haqjo, who is the acting governor of Sar-e-pul, said that the country is focusing on its development through internal resources. He also assured that the incompleting projects in the last 20 years will be finalised.

The Taliban signed an agreement with a Chinese company last year to extract oil from Sar-e-Pul.

Moreover, the interim Afghan Taliban government and a Chinese firm also closed a 25-year deal for the extraction of oil from the Amu River basin and the development of an oil reserve in the north.

Economic matters must supersede politics: Atif Ikram Sheikh

Tariq Khattak

ISLAMABAD: Former Vice President of FPCCI Atif Ikram Sheikh said on Sunday economic compulsions must overtake politics as the survival of the country is at stake while our future is linked to a strong economy.

The IMF's deal has improved investors' confidence and their tough reform preconditions are a must for economic recovery, which is badly needed, he said.

Atif Ikram Sheikh who has also served as President ICCI and Chairman PVMA said in a statement issued here today that Pakistan was going through economic turmoil since last year and was desperately seeking IMF bailout to avoid a default.

On June 23, the IMF announced an SBA, a bailout package of \$3 billion for nine months;



China provided a rollover of \$3 billion, while Saudi Arabia and UAE also helped Pakistan

with billions of dollars which has improved the overall situation, he observed.

The former government had negotiated the IMF bailout package of a \$6.5 billion loan programme in 2019 to be delivered over three years but decided not to implement the reforms for political reasons, leading to suspension of tranches by the lender.

IMF's loans always draw criticism while loans from other sources which are costly and never debated, he said, adding that many of the bilateral financiers always look to the IMF's decisions before extending the financial bailout packages.

Atif Ikram Sheikh said that many believe IMF's structural adjustment programmes do not consider local realities; its emphasis on a free market economy impacts the poor and their other conditions hurt masses, therefore IMF programmes remain unpopular for the

populist governments worldwide.

In Pakistan, the governments regularly announce subsidies to address rising prices and win over the electorates, but these subsidies are not sustainable and add to the budget deficit.

However, IMF programmes come with several conditionalities that are considered harsh on the poor, as it insists on removing subsidies and reducing the budget deficit and other "non-essential" expenditures.

Many governments criticise IMF conditions, yet they see the lender's support as the only means to gain confidence of creditors' confidence.

We are in an election season, during which the IMF conditionalities will put serious pressure on the populist measure of the government, but hard economic decisions have to be taken to save the country, he said.

Maintenance

TANDO MUHAMMAD KHAN: Syed Naveed Qamar Federal Minister for Commerce visited H/P Bund and issued directives regarding repair and maintenance of H/P Mulaktiyar Bun Bulri Shah Karim.



WAWA arranged a seminar on 'Wild Olive Grafting Campaign' at Shakai



Adam Khan Wazir

WANA: A seminar on "Wild Olive Grafting Campaign" was arranged under the leadership of Non-Government organization Wana Welfare Association (WAWA) HNRD team at Stufa Public School Shikai, District Lower South Waziristan.

In which the local people were given a detailed discussion on the "Wild Olive Grafting Campaign" and the utility of olives.

On this occasion the WAWA team shared their experiences with the people and students regarding the methods of grafting wild olives and educated the local people about the grafting of wild olives, as well as distributed grafting kits to the local people.

Various political and social figures of Wana participated in the seminar arranged by

Wana Welfare association. So informed the students and people about the usefulness of olives, WAWA HNRD team chairman Akbar Khan Wazir said that if the people of Waziristan Wana grafted wild olives, the people here would get employment as well as a great source of livelihood, opportunities will be available.

According to a report, more than 500,000 wild olive plants are found in various areas of Lower South Waziristan and in which thousands of people will get employment opportunities with annual income of billions of rupees by grafting.

The WAWA team is preparing teams at various locations for wild olive grafting, which will conduct a comprehensive campaign at the local level to educate people on wild olive grafting practices.

Indulge in the flavours of Japan: Sakura opens its doors in DHA, Karachi

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Hashoo Hotels, a renowned name in the hospitality industry, proudly announced the grand opening of its celebrated Japanese restaurant, Sakura, in the vibrant heart of DHA, Karachi. Originally located within Pearl-Continental Hotel Karachi, this first standalone branch of Sakura in Phase 6, DHA, will be the fourth Sakura outlet in Pakistan, promising to continue its tradition of unmatched dining experience for all Japanese cuisine enthusiasts.

The prestigious opening ceremony took place on 7th July and was graced by esteemed guests, including His Excellency, Mr. Yasushi Nakagawa, Acting Consul General of Japan to Karachi, renowned celebrities, notable socialites of Karachi, the management teams of Hashoo Hotels, Pearl-Continental Hotel Karachi and Sakura.

Sakura's new establishment in DHA, Karachi, is poised to carry forward the rich tradition of excellence and top-notch service that has become synonymous with its previous branches. Set to captivate diners with its tastefully adorned interior, a team of highly skilled chefs under the expertise of Japanese Chef Fumio Kikuta, and impeccable service, ensuring a seamless overall guest experience. The restaurant aims to become a beloved destination for seasoned food connoisseurs and casual diners.

"Sakura's opening in DHA, Karachi marks an exciting milestone for Hashoo Hotels as we continue our commitment to



providing exceptional culinary experiences to our esteemed guests," said Mr. Haseeb Gardezi, Chief Operating Officer, Hospitality and Education Division, Hashoo Group. "With its exquisite ambiance, skilled chefs, and authentic Japanese flavours, Sakura is set to become a culinary destination of choice for food enthusiasts in Karachi."

Spread over three floors and a seating capacity of 108, Sakura presents a modern and stylish design, perfect for various occasions. Indulge in the flavours of udon noodles or savour the perfection of mouthwatering barbecued delights, expertly grilled over the traditional robata grill—a first in Pakistan. The captivating sushi bar showcases the artistry of the skilled chefs, who meticulously craft each sushi piece

with precision, offering an immersive and fascinating dining experience. Guests can also witness the skilful mastery of Japanese grilling techniques at the live teppanyaki counter, transporting them to the extraordinary East.

"Karachiites, prepare yourselves to embark on a gastronomic journey that will whisk you away to the enchanting land of Japan," said Chef Fumio Kikuta. "Sakura awaits you with open doors and a menu that promises to redefine your culinary expectations."

Experience the unrivalled flavours and ambiance of Sakura in DHA, Karachi. Discover the true essence of Japanese cuisine and immerse yourself in an extraordinary dining experience.

BOP tops with highest score on Banking on Equality in the SCP report

Commerce Desk

LAHORE: BOP is delighted to announce its remarkable achievement as the number one bank with the highest score and green rating in BoE initiative of SBP. This recognition encompasses all commercial banks, including large, mid-sized, and small-sized institutions, further reinforcing BOP's commitment to promoting equality and diversity within the banking sector.

The SBP's BoE program assess through a comprehensive scorecard banks performance based on various criteria, including workforce diversity, gender equal-

ity, accessibility, and inclusion initiatives.

"We are immensely proud to secure pole position amongst all commercial banks in Pakistan with the highest score and green rating on the BoE initiative," said Mr. Zafar Masud, President & CEO of The Bank of Punjab.

"This achievement is a testament to our ongoing commitment to create an inclusive workplace where diversity is celebrated, and everyone has equal opportunities to grow and succeed."

BOP has been steadfast in its efforts to promote equality within its workforce and broader community.

MEPCO appointment and placement of newly recruited: Mehrullah Yar Bharwana

Kiran Asim

MULTAN: Multan Electric Power Company (MEPCO) management has issued orders for appointment and placement of newly recruited Junior Engineers / SDOs. Mehrullah Yar Bharwana, the new junior engineers have been assigned new responsibilities after completing a thorough training program so that they do not have to face problems while performing services in the respective fields. Junior Engineers are imparted awareness about all the technical areas of MEPCO and they are also thoroughly

briefed by Senior Engineers in awareness programs at Regional Training Center.

In the new posting orders, newly recruited engineer Farhan Ali as second sub-division Bahawalnagar, engineer Muhammad Bilal Iftekhar as satellite town sub-division Rahim Yar Khan, engineer Muhammad Shahram Khan as commissioner sub-division Arifwala, engineer Muhammad Abbas as Mian Wali Qureshiyan sub-division Rahim Yar Khan, engineer Muhammad Akram Shahid P&I Sub Division Vehari, Engineer Amanullah Khan First Sub Division Mian Chanun, Engineer Zul Hussain

Zafar Kasowal Sub Division Sahiwal, Engineer Muhammad Irfan Second Sub Division Dahrnawala, Engineer Muhammad Zaem Transmission GSO First Sub Division Multan.

Mohammad Wajuddin Khan to First Sub-Division Bahawalnagar, Mudassar Zaheer to City Sub-Division Lodhara, Engineer Inran Akbar to Assistant Manager (Procurement) Distribution Mepco Headquarters Multan, Engineer Muhammad Amir Sharif to Second Sub-Division Muzaffargarh, Engineer Muhammad Murtaza to First Sub-Division Jahanian, Engineer Asad

Ali to Zahirpir Sub-Division Rahim Yar Khan, Engineer Syed Ali Raza Rizvi to First Sub-Division Kahrupka, Engineer Iftekhar Ali to City Sub-Division Chishtian, Engineer Tanveer Hasan Shah to City Sub-Division Khanpur, Engineer Ali Muhammad to Marut Sub-Division Bahawalnagar, Second Sub-Division Khanawal to Engineer Hezollah.

Civil Lines sub-division Khanawal to Engineer Noman Ali, Abdul Hakeem to Second Sub-division Mailsi, Engineer Talha Ali Khan to Rahimabad Sub-division Sadiqabad, Engineer Umar Shahzad to Liaquatpur Sub-division, Engineer



Mohammad Bilal to Tiba Sultanpur Sub-division, Engineer Mohsin Ghaffar to Engineer Assistant Manager (MI) Planning Mepco Headquarters Multan, Engineer Mohammad Usama Javed has been posted as Bagdad-Jeed Sub-Division Bahawalpur, Engineer Abdulh Khan has been posted as Jampur Sub-Division, Engineer Shahruz Khan has been posted as Rural Sub-Division Khanpur and Engineer Sajid Ali has been posted as DG Khan in Wawasbahe Division. All the recruited Junior Engineers have been assigned the responsibilities on the vacant posts.

President PGA Open Golf Championship from Monday

Sports Desk

LAHORE: The Inaugural President PGA Open Golf Championship endorsed by Punjab Golf Association will swing into action here from tomorrow, Monday at the PAF Skyview Golf Course

This event stretches over six days from 10th to 15th July, with first three days reserved for competitive golfing activity amongst golf professionals while from 13th to 15th July it will be a race for success between amateur golf players, men amateurs, senior amateurs and ladies.

Noticeable is a change in the format of the Open Championship and henceforth all open championships held as per PGF Annual Golf Calendar will have separate segments for professionals exclusively and the amateur category golfers will be in action on other days.

Over the first three days, from 10th to 12th July, the golf professionals are expected to beam in terms of golfing excellence and reap cash rewards. A revealing and purposeful characteristic of this Open Golf Event is that eligibility for participation is restrictive and open only to the top hundred ranked golf professionals of Pakistan, top 30 senior professionals who are aged 50



years and above and top 15 junior golf professionals falling in the age bracket 21 years and below.

That makes this competition an all professional entanglement between dexterous, skillful and masterly golf playing torch bearers of the national golf scene, who have time and again proved their competence and artistry.

As a result of the introduction of this format the top golf professionals feel admired and acclaimed and hope that with this facilitation the flow of the golf game during the three rounds of golf-

ing hostilities will become high spirited and lively.

And in the past when there was a mix of professionals and amateurs competing together the more prominent leading players would yearn for an unruffled flow of game which yields assured shot making and other elements like perfectly timed fairway shots, accurate chipping to the greens from short distances and above all sublime putting on the greens.

To make the event appealing and gripping, Kashif Bhatti of Punjab Golf Association shared that this champi-

onship represents a lucrative source of livelihood for the golf professionals of the country. While the prize money is wholesome and on offer is the sum of 6.5 million rupees to the top performers, an ancillary allurements is a car for the first hole in one and a Honda 125 for the second hole in one.

The Tournament Director, Air Cdre Mohammad Imran Pervez confirmed that right now all players who matter on the golf circuit of Pakistan have converged to the PAF Skyview Golf Course and have gone through the practice routine, measuring up the contours of the golf course, assessing hazards like bunkers and water pools, and finding ways and means of how to avoid out of bounds shots. As golfers know that in a competitive round of golf every shot has to be planned meticulously and those seeking top positions have to be alert and apply their skills in a way that their shot making reflects total excellence.

The Pakistan Air Force managed PAF Skyview Golf Course is in prime condition and the Organizing team of Kashif Bhatti, Sqn Ldr Muhammad Faizan, Amjad Ali and M. Zakir responsible for the arrangements hope to see fulfilling and commendatory performances in the event.

Hammad Azam and Ehsan Adil announce retirements: PCB

Sports Desk

MULTAN: The Pakistan Cricket Board today announced the retirements of fast bowler Ehsan Adil and all-rounder Hammad Azam.

Ehsan made his Test debut in February 2013 in Centurion against South Africa and played two more Tests and six One-Day Internationals till 2015, taking five and four wickets in the two formats, respectively. Before breaking into the national men's side, Ehsan was a member of Pakistan's side in the ICC Men's U19 Cricket World Cup in Australia in 2012. He played 67 first-class (245 wickets), 67 List A (98 wickets) and 68 T20 (86 wickets) matches from March 2012 till October 2021.

All-rounder Hammad Azam featured for Pakistan in the ICC Men's U19 Cricket World Cup 2010 in New Zealand. He played 11 ODIs (80 runs and two wickets) and five T20s (34 runs) from 2011 till 2015. His domestic career spanned from December 2008 till June 2021 in which he played 107 first-class (4,953 runs and 186), 114 List A (2,362 runs and 91) and 98 T20s (1,361 runs and 75) wickets.

The PCB congratulated the two for their services to cricket and wished them well for the future endeavours.

First phase of women's skills camp concludes at the NCA



Tahir Amin Malik

LAHORE: The first phase of the women's skills camp concluded today at the National Cricket Academy in Lahore. 20 players from Lahore and adjoining areas featured in the five-day camp from July 5 to July 9.

The camp proved to be a remarkable platform for skill development, focusing on fitness enhancement and refining cricket techniques. The event was organised under the supervision of Pakistan women's team support staff, led by Head Coach Mark Coles.

Throughout the duration of the camp, the players received comprehensive training and guidance from the skilled coaching staff. Various aspects of the game which include batting, bowling, fielding, and strategic game play, were addressed to enhance the players' overall performance.

Head Coach Mark Coles expressed his satisfaction with the progress made during the camp. He said, "It was truly inspiring to witness the talent and determination displayed by these cricketers. They have showcased tremendous potential, and I am confident that their hard work and commitment will help the coaching staff as well as the selectors to identify future talent in women's cricket."

18-year-old Shawaal Zulfiqar, who represented Pakistan in ICC U19 Women's World Cup in January this year and recently in ACC Women's Emerging Teams Asia Cup 2023 said: "The camp really helped us to improve our skills and fitness. The facilities here at the National Cricket Academy were really impressive which helped us in our training."

"It was great to train alongside senior players in the camp as it helped us to understand the requirements of the game at the international level."

"I have represented Pakistan women at the age-group level and now my focus is to work hard and represent the national team in future."

Meanwhile, the upcoming second phase of the women's skills camp is set to take place in Karachi's Hanif Muhammad High Performance Centre from 13 to 17 July. Like Lahore, this phase will see 20 players including Pakistan's captain Nida Dar, who featured in the first phase of the skills camp in Lahore.

The following is the list of invited players: Karachi (13-17 July)-Anousha Nasir, Aroob Shah, Eyman Fatima, Fatima Sana, Gull Rukh, Humna Bilal, Huraina Sajjad, Khadija Chishty, Lubna Behram, Maham Tariq, Masooma Zehra, Maham Manzoor, Muneeba Ali Siddiqui, Najiha Alvi, Nida Dar, Omaira Sohail, Rameen Shamim, Saima Malik, Yusra Amir and Zaib un Nisa

Coaching staff - Mark Coles (head coach), Taufeeq Umar (batting coach), Saleem Jaffer (bowling coach), Mauhtashim Rashid (fielding coach) and Dr Rabia Siddiqi (physiotherapist).

Pakistan cricket team reaches Sri Lanka to play Test series

Having completed their training camp on Friday, the Pakistan cricket team landed in Colombo, Sri Lanka, Sunday for a two-match Test series against the host country.

After resting for the day, the Shaheens are scheduled to travel to Hambantota tomorrow, where they will play a two-day warm-up match on July 11 and 12.

The two sides will then come face-to-face on July 16 at the Galle International Cricket Stadium for the first Test of the series. Subsequently, both teams will return to Colombo for the second Test at the Sinhalese Sports Club from July 24-28.

Pakistan last toured Sri Lanka in July 2022 for a two-match Test series that ended in a 1-1 draw.

New agreed

David de Gea saves a goal during a match. His contract with Man United expired at the end of June, with no new deal agreed despite talks that took place throughout the season.



Chitral wins Shandur polo tournament

Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: A three-day enthralling colourful celebrations of traditional Shandur polo festival concluded in Chitral valley where thousands of tourists from all across the country and abroad had participated in the event and enjoyed polo matches.

Chitral won the tournament by defeating Gilgit-Baltistan by 7-5. The provincial government in collaboration with Pakistan Tourism Development Corporation (PTDC) made all-out efforts to promote sports and tourism while the polo game found special attention for the tourists, PTV News channel reported. The world's highest polo field, Shandur, Upper Chitral, is the site of the annual polo festival, which features teams from Gilgit-Baltistan and Chitral.

A foreign tourist admired that the unique location of the polo ground makes it a popular destination for adventure seekers and polo enthusiasts.

England beat Australia to keep Ashes series alive

England beat Australia by three wickets in the third Ashes Test at Headingley Cricket Ground on Sunday.

England chased the target of 251 runs in the 50th over on day four as Harry Brook played a crucial knock of 75 runs, guiding his team to their first Ashes win. The Aussies lead the series 2-1.

England started day four batting at 27-0 continuing their chase of 251 runs. Despite a very easy target with two full days to chase, the Englishmen followed their "BazBall" approach and decided to wrap it up within 50 overs in the second session of day four.

Harry Brook became the fastest player to score 1,000 runs in Test Cricket reaching the feat in just 1,058 balls.

Engro Cricket Coaching Project Commences Next Week: PCB

Kahif Minhas

MULTAN: Six foreign coaches including three Test cricketers will be involved in the second year of the Engro Cricket Coaching Project under the PCB Pathway Cricket Programme that commences next week.

Around 120 players from U13 to U19 age group will be provided training by foreign as well as local coaches from 10 July to 10 August in Lahore and Muridke. For the programme, PCB and Engro Corporation entered into a three-year agreement last year, on the basis of which, Engro Corporation is sponsoring the foreign coaches involved in the programme.

The Elite coaches include Australia's Geoff Lawson, New Zealand's Scott McLaren (strength and conditioning coach), South Africa's Herschelle Gibbs, United Kingdom's Gordon Parsons and Julien Fountain and Zimbabwe's Tatenda Taibu. The coaches that have played international cricket include Australia's Lawson (46

Tests, 79 ODIs), South Africa's Gibbs (90 Tests, 248 ODIs, 23 T20Is) and Zimbabwe's Taibu (28 Tests, 150 ODIs, 17 T20Is).

At one time, five coaches will work in the coaching project, with Gibbs working with the U13 and U16 players only. He will depart on 16 July and will



be replaced by Lawson, who will arrive on 22 July to work couple of days with the U16 players before joining the U19 cricket clinic.

Parsons, who has worked as bowling and head coach in South Africa and the UK, was involved in last year's programme and remained bowling coach during Pakistan U19's home series against Bangladesh in November 2022. Parsons will be bowling coach in

the programme, while former Pakistan Men's fielding coach Fountain will work as fielding coach in the programme.

25 U13 players selected for the programme will undergo training at the National Cricket Academy (NCA) from 13 to 25 July.

The players born on or after 1 September 2010 are eligible for selection. Furthermore, the players have been selected considering their performances in the Inter-Region U13 One-Day Tournament which was held this year from 12 March to 5 May and the players who were part of the 100 Programme last year. The players that have performed in the U13 tournament, but are overage have been migrated to U16 level. More details on the

criteria for U13 players selection is available here.

37 U16 players will take part in the programme at the Muridke Country Club (MCC) from 10 to 25 July. The players born on or after 1 September 2007 have been selected to feature in the programme. The players are selected after performing in the Inter-Region U16 One-Day Tournament which was held this year from 12 March to 6 May and who were part of 100 programme last year. Like U13, the players that have performed in the U16 tournament, but are overage have been progressed to U19 level. More details on the criteria for this age-group selection is available here.

Around 58 U19 players in two groups will work under elite coaches at the NCA and MCC concurrently from 26 July to 10 August. The eligibility criteria for the U19 players is 1 September 2004. The names of the players will be announced in due course.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas, Adil Khan s/o Fazal Khan Allottee of plot No. 272-D, Sector I, Khayaban e Sir Syed, Area Development Scheme-I Rawalpindi has appointed General Power of Attorney to Mr. Fazal Khan s/o Umer Khan vide registered deed at No. 5106/4, dated 27-12-2022 from Sub Registrar, Rawalpindi. The General Power of attorney wish to transfer his share in the name of third party.

If anyone have objection of above advertisement submit their objection within fifteen days of this advertisement otherwise objection will not be entertained.

Deputy Director Punjab Housing & Town Planning Agency Sub Region Rawalpindi

Sri Lanka crush Netherlands to win CWC Qualifier

A Sports

HARARE: Dilshan Madushanka-led Sri Lankan bowling attack decimated Netherlands' batting lineup and led their side to CWC Qualifier glory with a crushing 128-run victory.

Put into bat first, Sri Lanka could only pile up a modest 233-run total before being bundled out in the 48th over despite Sahan Arachchige's half-century.

Sri Lankan openers Pathum Nissanka (23) and Sadeera Samarawickrama (19) scripted a decent start before both fell in quick successions to leave Sri Lanka reeling at 44/2 in the 11th over.

Kusal Mendis and Sahan Arachchige then anchored the innings with a subtle third-wicket partner-

ship and added 72 runs to the total before the former perished in the 24th over.

Arachchige then put on another vital partnership for Sri Lanka when he put on a 64-run stand with Charith Asalanka.

The pair put Sri Lanka in complete before both set batters fell in the 36th over.

Arachchige top-scored with a brilliant 57 off 71 deliveries, hitting four boundaries while Mendis scored 43 from 52 balls.

Their back-to-back dismissals triggered a collapse in the Sri Lankan batting lineup and resulted in the former champions to slip from 181/5 to 233 all out.

Logan van Beek, Ryan Klein, Vikramjit Singh and Saqib Zulfiqar bagged two wickets each for the

Netherlands while Aryan Dutt made one scalp.

Set to chase a modest 234, the Netherlands batting lineup faltered and could only raise 105 before being bundled out in the 24th over.

Dutch opener Max O'Dowd waged a lone battle with a cautious 33 from 63 deliveries while Logan van Beek remained the other notable run-getter with an unbeaten 20.

Maheesh Theekshana led the bowling attack for Sri Lanka with 4/31 followed Dilshan Madushanka's 3/18 while Wanindu Hasaranga bagged two wickets.

It is pertinent to mention that both Sri Lanka and the Netherlands had already booked their spots in the ICC Men's World Cup 2023, scheduled to commence on October 5.

