(مصحح بناري: حديث نبر 4982) **Barkat Rice Mills** (Pvt) Limited

Govt to resolve issues of exporters: PM

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Sunday directed the formulation of a policy for the establishment of one-window facilitation centers for resolving issues of exporters. He was talking to a delegation comprising members of Parliament and office bearers of the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI) here. (Report on Page 6)



Provision of NFC share imperative for economic development of **Balochistan: Zubaida Jalal**

Member of the National Assembly, Zubaida Jalal has said that the provision of the National Finance Commission (NFC) Award is bring it up to the level of other provinces

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PM youth programme

LAHORE: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif distributing cheques among the recipients of Prime Minister's Youth Business and Agriculture Loan Scheme on Sunday.



Nawaz to make Pakistan 'great' if voted into power again: Shehbaz

Bureau Report

that former premier Nawaz progressive state if his party gets another chance to rule the country.

"Under the leadership of Nawaz, PML-N delivered on ground and those who were conspiring against the state had got their conspiracies buried," he said while addressing a cheques distribution ceremony under the Prime Minister Youth Business and Agriculture Loan scheme.

"If PML-N given an opportunity in the upcoming general elections, former prime minister Nawaz Sharif and the entire leadership of party, would change the destiny of the country by taking it on the path of progress and pros-

perity," he said. The prime minister while

lauding the statesmanship qual- the corruption charges during his the country. ities of his elder brother, regret- four years' tenure but did not prove Shehbaz Sharif said on Sunday and his leader Nawas Sharif was removed from power corridors Rehman said that young segments of the laptop scheme. ousted from power despite the through a constitutional manner had always been a precious asset for Sharif would turn Pakistan into a fact that he had ended hours long crippling load shedding, provided laptops and loans to youth, brought muti-billions China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CEPC) power and road infrastructure projects during 2015.

He further said that all youth programmes were started during the tenure of Nawaz Sharif as alone 50,000 vehicles were provided to the people on merit across Punjab

The success of loan scheme could be gauged from the fact that 99 per cent loans were returned back to banks, he added.

The prime minister elaborated that the PTI chairman who was brought to power through a "fraud elections", kept on chanting

he used dirty language and tactics against the state institutions. The prime minister mentioned

that PTI's tenure was tainted with huge corruption scams including sugar and wheat scams, BRT Peshawar, Malam Jabba, sale of Toshakhana gifts, Rs 60 billion money embezzlement returned by the UK agency, etc and said that no one could deny these stark facts.

He said during his tenure, about one million laptops were given to the youth and the PTI leadership blamed them of using the scheme

The prime minister stressed that these laptops were given purely on merit, and if proved otherwise, he would be held accountable as these resources belonged to

Speaking on the occasion, any country, and the provision of opportunities to them was a must.

He advised the youth to always depend upon truthfulness and facts without being beguiled by sensational and misleading state-

He said all these youth programmes were launched in 2013 which targeted the youth and lauded the efforts of the prime

'Shehbaz's speed' had become an international reference for the accomplishment of public welfare schemes at rapid speed, he added.

The governor further said that numerous information and technology programmes and skills development schemes were launched by the PML-N govern-

ment which bridged the digital divide and enabled the youth to LAHORE: Prime Minister ted that former prime minister them, adding that when he was Governor Punjab Balighur earn their livelihood with the use

> Youth Affairs Shaza Fatima Khawaja informed that under the recent programme, more than 100,000 new entrepreneurs were provided with loans, adding in the last five months, more than Rs30 billion in loans had been provided to young people.

Similarly, in the agriculture sector, loans were also extended for seed, fertilizer and produce, she added.

Shaza further apprised that under a three-tier programme, interest-free loans worth Rs500,000 up to Rs7.5 million were being provided.

She said the youth loan programme was first initiated by former prime minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif.

concludes two-day visit to Islamic Republic of Iran

COAS Asim Munir



跨 Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: COAS General Syed Asim Munir concluded his two days successful visit to the Islamic Republic of Iran.

During his visit, COAS had detailed meetings with the Military leadership of Iran including Chief of General Staff of Armed Forces, Major General Mohammad Bagheri. Military commanders on both sides agreed that Terrorism was a common threat to the region in general and both countries in particular. They vowed to eradicate menace of through intelligence sharing on his arrival.

and effective actions against the terrorists' networks, and explore avenues for enhancing cooperation in security

COAS also called on President of the Islamic Republic of Iran, H. E Ebrahim Raisi and Foreign Minister H. E Hossein Amir Abdollahain. During discussions significance of Pakistan-Iran bilateral relations for regional peace and stability was highlighted.

COAS was presented with the Guard of Honour by a smartly turned out contingent of Iranian Armed Forces terrorism in the border areas at the Military Headquarters

Pakistan seeks Chinese investment to upgrade agriculture, IT, mining. housing sectors: Ahsan Iqbal

Spokesman Report

BEIJING: Federal Minister for Planning, Development, and Special Initiatives, Prof. Ahsan Iqbal has said that Special Economic Zones (SEZs) will provide an opportunity for Chinese investments to take advantage of incentives that Pakistan offers to foreign investment with concessions.

special economic zones. The first Rashakai Special Economic Zone will be inaugurated later this month. Similarly, the other economic zones are also in the advanced stages, in Sindh, Punjab, and Baluch-

istan," he told APP during his

"We are working on nine

recent visit to China. Pakistan, he said, also has a great advantage in low cost of labour. As in China, many industries are experiencing high costs of production due to increased levels of cost and are now moving to Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos. Pakistan also has a great advantage in

terms of low cost of production. The minister said, Pakistan us," he added.

has a very good infrastructure

and then it has the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) framework. So, it becomes a very attractive destination for Chinese enterprises to relocate to these economic zones in Pakistan.

About specific Chinese companies who are looking forward to cooperating in this regard, he said, there are many Chinese companies which are coming. Many have invested in Gwadar free zone.

"But, we are now really looking forward to developing our agriculture sector based on new technologies. We are seeking cooperation to upgrade the quality of our seeds so those companies which have research and seed development can help

Railways minister calls on PM; briefs on reforms

👺 Bureau Report



LAHORE: Minister for Railways and Aviation Khawaja Saad

Rafique on Sunday called on Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif and apprised him of the progress over reforms in Pakistan Intentional Airlines (PIA) and outsourcing process aimed at provision of better services at airports.

During the meeting, they also discussed the matters related to the relevant ministry and the overall political situation of the country, PM Office Media Wing said in a press release.

The minister also briefed the prime minister about the reorganization of National Aviation Policy and the ongoing cooperation between Pakistan and China on ML1 project.

Govt aims to bring out-ofschool children in educational network: Rana Tanveer

跨 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: "Education has always been our priority, it is the mission of the government to bring 20 million out-of-school chil



dren into the educational network, and under the dynamic leadership of the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr Nasir Mahmood, Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU) can play a vital role to make this mission successful," said Federal Minister for Education and Professional Training, Rana Tanveer Hussain while addressing the foundation stone laying ceremony of the academic block of Sheikhupura Regional Campus of AIOU.

Rana Tanveer Hussain briefed about the initiatives taken for Sheikhupura by the government, he said that we had laid the foundation stone for the building of Sheikhupura Regional Campus last year and today laying stone of its academic block. The Federal Minister for Education, Rana Tanveer Hussain directed the Vice Chancellor AIOU to complete the construction work of Sheikhupura Campus in three

Gilgit: Passenger van hurtles into ditch, leaves six dead



Saif ur Rehman

GILGIT: A passenger van hurtled into a ditch leaving six people dead and 11 others injured at Thalechi area near here.

According to Rescue 1122, the injured have been shifted to hospital for medical attendance. There were four deaths and 12

persons injured in the initial report of the incident, however the death toll increased to five after an injured succumbed to injuries.

According to police four women and a child were killed in the deadly incident at Thalechi. Chief Minister Gilgit-Baltistan

Haji Gulbar Khan has expressed sorrow over the traffic accident and directed district administration, health department and Rescue 1122 for prompt rescue operation.

Speaker National Assembly Raja Pervaiz Ashraf has also expressed sorrow and condolence over loss of precious live in road mishap at Karakoram Highway.

Cabinet approves Computer Emergency Response Teams (CĒRTs) Rule 2023: Amin ul Haque

跨 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: for IT and Telecom Syed Amin ul Haque has said that move to strengthen the



country's cybersecurity posture, the Federal Cabinet of Pakistan has given its approval to the Computer Emergency Response Teams (CERTs) Rule 2023.

In a statement, the minister said that the decision comes after a thorough consultation process that involved various stakeholders with the Ministry of IT and Telecommunication (MoITT) taking the lead in formulating the CERT

According to an official statement, under section 51, read with section 49 of the Prevention of Electronic Crime Act (PECA), 2016, and in compliance with the National Cyber Security Policy (NCSP), 2021, the Ministry of IT and Telecommunication (MoITT) as a designated organization of the Federal Government to deal with Cyber Security has formulated the CERT Rules in consultation with the concerned stakeholders.

PPP's Aseefa Bhutto to contest next general elections

跨 Bureau Report

KARA-CHI: Pakistan People's Party (PPP) has decided to field Asee

fa Bhutto Zardari, daughter of former prime minister Benazir Bhutto, in the upcoming general elections.

According to details, PPP leader Aseefa Bhutto will contest the upcoming general elections as the party's think tank has started considering various constituencies of Sindh.

PPP co-Chairman Asif Ali Zardari will make a final decision about the constituency, from which Aseefa will contest the polls. She will also run her election campaign and address rallies in multiple districts.

The decision came after Prime Minister (PM) Shehbaz Sharif announced that the incumbent government will hand over power to the caretaker set-up in August 2023.

PTI govt's wrong economic policies weakened national economy: Kh Asif

跨 Bureau Report

SIALKOT: Defence Minister Khawaja Muhammad Asif said on Sunday the previous Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) government weakened national economy by introducing wrong policies.

Addressing the workers' convention here at Mohallah Water Works, he said: "We are determined and

will soon succeed in bringing the country out of darkness". He said that Prime Minister Muhammad Shahbaz Sharif had gathered all polit-

ical parties to support the national economy. He said that unfortunate-



ly, Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf was brought into power in 2018 through a rigged elections, and those who supported Imran Khan, the performance of Imran Khan and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) was in front of

The Spokesman

Iran, Pakistan confer on expanding defense, security ties

Tehran, IRNA: Commander of Air Force of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran Brigadier General Hamid Vahedi and Pakistani Army chief General Syed Asim Munir have conferred on expanding bilateral interactions as well as military, educational, defense, and security ties.



Muslim leaders praise Saudi Arabia for successful Hajj season

B Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Leaders of the Muslim world and heads of Islamic organizations have commended Saudi Arabia and its leadership for the successful completion of this year's Hajj pilgrim-

The Muslim World League (MWL) extended its congratulations to the Kingdom under the guidance of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Salman, and Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, praising the great efforts in serving the Two Holy Mosques and the pilgrims.

MWL Secretary-General, Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulkarim Al-Issa, emphasized that the success of the Hajj season was a result of meticulous planning, efficient operations, and the dedication of the Saudi government to ensure the best services for the pilgrims.



es and facilities to facilitate the sacred journey.

In Cairo, the Grand Imam of Al Azhar, Sheikh Ahmed Al Tayeb, extended his congratulations to the Saudi leadership and people for the successful Hajj season, emphasizing the vital role played by Saudi Arabia in providing services for pilgrims from around the world.

Kuwait's Emir, Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, Crown Prince Sheikh Mishaal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, and Prime Minister Sheikh Ahmed Nawaf Al-Ahmed Al-Sabah The league also applauded the congratulated King Salman on the continuous improvements in servic- outstanding success of the Hajj season.

They praised the Kingdom's efforts and Al-Asoomi commended the intensive modernization of services, aimed at efforts of the Saudi government in servenhancing the pilgrimage experience.

Leaders from the United Arab Emirates (UAE), including President Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Vice President Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, and Vice President Sheikh Mansour bin Zayed Al Nahyan, sent heartfelt cables of congratulations to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, expressing gratitude for the exceptional care and safety provided to the pilgrims.

In Jeddah, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) praised the Kingdom's services and hospitality towards pilgrims from OIC member states and countries with Muslim minorities. OIC Secretary-General Hussein Ibrahim Taha appreciated the dedicated efforts of King Salman and Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman in maintaining the sanctity and importance of the Two Holy Mosques.

Arab Parliament Speaker Adel tion to Islamic values.

ing pilgrims and ensuring the success of the Hajj. He highlighted the high-quality services provided and congratulated Saudi Arabia and the Islamic world on the triumph of this year's Hajj season.

Secretary-General of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), Jassem Mohamed Albudaiwi, acknowledged Saudi Arabia's efforts in serving the pilgrims and providing them with a safe and spiritual experience. He praised the coordination and partnership between state agencies and the introduction of modern projects that enhanced the organization of this year's Hajj.

These leaders lauded the Kingdom's commitment to serving the Two Holy Mosques, recognizing it as a significant responsibility and an honour. They also expressed gratitude to all workers involved in organizing the Hajj for their humanitarian initiatives and dedica-

PM urges women to ramp up role in economic progress

SIALKOT: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Sunday urged women to come forward and ramp up their vital roles in different fields of life and make contributions to the progress of the economy.

Addressing a ceremony to distribute laptops under PM's Youth Laptop Scheme 2023 at Government College Women University here, he said Rs 5 billion were allocated for projects related to the empowerment of women. "No nation can make progress if women are students and the invest-

Karachiites

forced to buy

flour



medical education of female would be formed.

If people would give not made productive part of ment in women's education chance to them in the next would continue. He said election, our government He said in the past his next month his government would bring revolution in the government had spent a would complete its tenure field of education and a large in the general elections substantial amount on the and a caretaker government number of students would be after evaluating what had in their efforts.

He said the laptops were given as recognition of the hard work and talent of the Minister Ishaq Dar for ensurstudents. The laptops were distributed on the basis of merit in the past as well, he students.

As Khadim e Aala Punjab, he said he always wanted to share the resources with other provinces as the progress and prosperity of the country depended upon shared development.

He said 100,000 laptops had already been distributed while in the current year, another 100,000 laptops would be awarded.

The people should decide

given laptops, he remarked. happened in the country in the last five years, he asserted.

He thanked Finance ing the allocation of funds for the import of laptops for

He said students would be given more laptops and scholarships and laboratories and research institutes would be set up in educational institutions.

Shehbaz Sharif said Muslims were left behind in different fields of education while the West moved ahead and it was time for reflection and action in the right direction. He called on students to work hard and show humbleness and Allah will help them

'most expensive'



Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Flour prices in Karachi have scaled a new peak of Rs3200 per 20-kilogramme bag, ARY News reported on Sunday, quoting data from the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS).

According to Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, 1kg of flour in Karachi now costs Rs320, more than the price of the commodity in Islamabad and Punjab.

The data shows that in the last week, Karachi has witnessed a surge of Rs200 in the price of a 20kg bag of flour, increasing the rates to Rs3,200.

Imamia Council organizes Paigham-e-Karbala Conference

👺 Bureau Report

PESHAWAR: Imamia Council for the Unity of the Muslims (Rejection of Sectarianism) Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in collaboration with Qoumi Aman Jirga organized 'Paigham e Karbala Conference' here the other day, said a press release issued here on Sunday.

Director General (DG), Iranian Cultural Centre, Peshawar Asghar Khusro Abadi attended the conference as the chief guest.

Addressing the participants of the conference, Asghar Khusro Abadi said that the message of Karbala was offering timely and early prayers, which could not be forgotten due to engagements relating to customs, traditions and other routine matters.



Jirga, Iqbal Haidri highlighted the significant events tance of Muharram-ul-Harorganized in Muharram ul am in true sense. Harram and other holv Islamimportance in Islamic history and stressed for highlight- Al-Hussaini Shaheed, shed

Allama Syed Zafar Naqvi martyrdom. highlighted the responsibili-

about Islamic calendar.

Chairman, Qoumi Aman ty of masajid and emphasized presentation of the impor-

Allama Abid Hussain ic months underlining their Shakri, the Principal of Madrasa Arif Hussain ing these golden chapters. He light on the unwavering further stressed for creation of commitment of Imam Aaliawareness amongst the youth e-Maqam, emphasizing the visible and hidden aspects of

Custodians of numerous Islam.

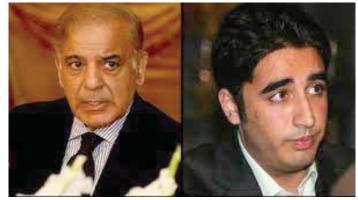
Imam Bargahs, Taiziadars, founders of Majalis, Salars of Matami Sangats and their representatives from Peshawar turned over to the confer-

The unique event successfully brought together Shia and Sunni Muslims under one roof, promoting unity, understanding, and brotherhood.

The speakers at the conference highlighted commonalities, values, tolerance and brotherhood, with a particular focus on strengthening the bonds of Islamic brotherhood through a deeper understanding of Karbala.

By emphasizing shared aspects rather than differences, the aim was to thwart the ambitions of those who perpetuate sectarian tensions and conspiracies against

PM, FM grieved over loss of lives in Karakoram highway bus incident



News Desk

LAHORE / KARACHI: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Sunday expressed his deep grief and sorrow over loss of lives in an unfortunate tourists' bus accident at Karakoram Highway in Thalichi area of Diamer district.

The prime minister expressed his sympathies and condolences with the bereaved families, PM Office Media Wing said in a press release.

He prayed for the departed souls and for the bereaved families to bear recovery of the injured persons and the losses with fortitude.

inquiry to ascertain the facts causing the future.

the fatal accident.

Meanwhile: Chairman of Pakistan People's Party (PPP) and Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari has expressed his grief and sorrow over the loss of precious lives in a Karakoram highway bus incident here on Sunday.

He said, 'I am saddened to hear the news about the incident of a tourist

He condoled with the bereaved families of bus passengers, who lost their lives in the incident.

Bilawal also prayed for the early stressed the need for preparing a The prime minister ordered an strategy to avert such incidents in

Provision of NFC share imperative for economic development of Balochistan: Zubaida Jalal



跨 Bureau Report

QUETTA: Member of the National Assembly, Zubaida Jalal has said that the provision of the National Finance Commission (NFC) Award is imperative for the economic develit up to the level of other provinces.

Talking to members of the busiess community here on Sunday. failed to effectively address the occupation. issues and lift the people out of poverty, said a news release.

share in the NFC Award, despite the elements.

fact that Balochistan constitutes half of Pakistan," she explained.

She said that the provision of security for half of Pakistan is a huge challenge, and the province spends 40 per cent of its resources on maintaining law and order.

"We are asserting our rights in accordance with the law and the Constitution while remaining within our means. We ought not to be found in some unacceptable light said Jalal and added, "We are also demanding our right, and every province demands its right.'

She said that the Iranian diesel and petroleum exchange at the opment of the province and to bring boundary is being facilitated to guarantee the continuation of individuals' jobs, empowering them to keep their ovens consuming in their she expressed that the feder- homes. This action was taken to try al government has acknowledged not to deny our kin of work until we Balochistan's backwardness but can give them elective wellsprings of

She said there were few government jobs and no industries in The main reason for the poverty Balochistan. If people remain and backwardness of Balochistan unemployed, they may fall prey is the lack of funds and not enough to the propaganda of anti-state

Unsung heroes of Religious Ministry overcome odds to deliver flawless Hajj arrangements

ISLAMABAD: The unsung heroes of the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony deserve accolades for accomplishing a remarkable and enchanting feat in successfully organizing the Hajj arrangements, despite facing personal challenges, time limitations, and inadequate support from the local Pak Hajj mission.

Under the guidance of Director Moavineen Sajjad Haider Yaldram, a team of over 1,800 Seasonal Duty Staff (SDS), Moavineen diligently fulfilled their responsibilities in different departments such as transportation, accommodation, lost and found, wheelchair assistance, help centre, and monitoring at the main control office in Makkah and Madinah. Additionally, the ministry ensured that the pilgrims received extensive medical

support throughout their journey. Over 50 accomplished Pakistani women, with diverse professional backgrounds, diligently supported and served Pakistani hajj pilgrims in Saudi Arabia as part of the contingent of Moavineen. Their efforts showcased the increasing empowerment and recognition of Pakistani women in significant roles, contributing to a stronger representation of the nation in Hajj affairs.

A committed team of more than 137 doctors and paramedics provided quality medical services



Ministry Of Religious Affairs And Interfaith Harmony

The Ministry staff collaborated closely with Saudi authorities and hotel establishments to allocate accommodations that effectively meet the diverse requirements and preferences of the pilgrims.

Their unwavering commitment, supported by personnel from departments like the Pakistan Army, police, and high-ranking government officers, played a crucial role in providing comfort to pilgrims.

Serving as Moavineen and Haram guides, they navigated the challenges of scorching heat, efficiently managing transportation, meals, and accommodation while offering comprehensive support to Pakistani pilgrims.

Through their endeavours, pilgrims were able to embark on a profoundly significant pilgrimage journey. An impressive 63 per cent of the pilgrims experienced the advantages of the streamlined shuttle train service, while the remaining 37 per cent were transported to Mina, Muzdalifah, and Arafat using buses.

Published by: Almass Ayoub Sabir from Zero Point Printers Rawalpindi

KP takes lead by completing first CPEC originated project

Bureau Report

PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Economic Zones Development and Management Company (KP-EZD-MC), a public sector company of the KP government, has taken the lead by completing the first phase of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) flag-bearer Rashakai Special Economic Zone (SEZ), at District Nowshera.

Talking to APP here Sunday, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Javed the zone and besides, Chinese several Iqbal Khattak said that the completion of the first phase of the Rashakai SEZ comprising three phases and covering an area of 247 acres, was due in December 2023, but due to better teamwork and coordination with China Road and Bridge Company (CRBC,) it had been completed six months prior of its specified time period.

The Rashakai SEZ is the first CPEC in Pakistan. This marvelous performance shown by a public sector company of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa has of company has initiated construc-



given an edge to the province over other provinces of the country.

So far, an investment to the tone of

Rs.85 billion has already been made in domestic big industrial groups are also investing in it, he said.

The investors are going to set up units for manufacturing Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs) a raw material for the pharmaceutical industrial units while another investor has also shown interest in establishing a vaccine manufacturing unit in the zone while Pakistan Oxygen, a largest oxygen completed project initiated under manufacturing unit has already invest-

The current innovative management

including two special economic zones ment programme (ADP). It has also of Hattar and Rashakai. 90 percent launched new zones including Special infrastructure development work at Hattar Special Economic Zone has been completed and now colonization is also in progress in the facility.

During the current management, the total assets of the company by the end of the year 2022 have increased to Rs.15.8 billion as compared to Rs.13 billion in 2021.

The company has posted a surplus of Rs. 29 million (Rs 35 million in 2021) with total income of Rs.1025 million in 2022 (Rs 926.5 million in 2021).

Javed Iqbal Khattak said the Board of Directors (BoD) has appreciated the financial performance of the company for the period ending June 30, 2022. The company's income and the total assets have also shown a steady increase over the past year, which is a testament to the company's strong management and commitment to excellence.

During 2022, the company had including Rs 541 million received conditions of the people of the province.

tion work on 9 new economic zones in the shape of the annual develop-Economic Zone D. I. Khan and Chitral Economic Zones last year, he expressed.

> The company has also contributed Rs.93 million to the government treasury in the form of duties and taxes during the year. It has now obtained Pakistan Centre for Philanthropy (PCP) Certification inevitable for NPO status under Income Tax Ordinance, 2001.

> During the current financial year, the company is going to launch two sector specific projects including Buner Marble City and Salt and Gypsum City, Karak to make value addition to the mineral sector products of the province.

On completion only, the Rashakai SEZ will generate over 2,50000 direct and indirect employment opportunities for the local population while other ongoing projects will also create over nearly the same number of employment opportunities for industrial workgenerated funds around Rs 3.1 billion ers and the change the socio-economic

PML-N saves country from default: Muqam



Bureau Report

PESHAWAR: Adviser to the Prime Minister for Political and Public Affairs and National Heritage, Engr Amir Muqam here Sunday said that Pakistan Muslim League-N President and Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif have saved the country from default after a successful agreement with IMF besides taking bold economic and fiscal decisions for Pakistan.

Addressing a big public gathering here where ANP leader Sher Rehman along with thousands of supporters joined PML-N, Engr Amir Muqam said that PML-N was the only party that could take the country out of all existing challenges.

He said that PML-N has strong roots in masses in all provinces and would form the next government in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.
Engr Amir Muqam said that PTI has disappointed the people of

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and completely failed to deliver despite its nine years long rule in the province.

He accused the PTI chief of destabilizing the country and destroying the national economy.

Amir Muqam that the entire nation had seen attacks on national institutions and defense installations during May 9 vandalism.

He said that people knew that one party had made a deep conspiracy against Pakistan on May 9 by attacking state institutions while Pakistan Muslim League-N had frustrated the evil designs of the attackers. Amir Muqam said that PTI's chief politics was irrelevant now and

PTI has been shattered in groups due to the negative politics of Niazi. He said Nawaz Sharif had completed Pakistan after the merger of erstwhile Fata in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

The PML-N leader said that the people of Pakistan were looking towards Nawaz Sharif and Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif as they have all the abilities to take the country out of exist-

He said PML-N Vice President Maryam Nawaz Sharif will soon visit Peshawar to address a big public gathering here.

He assured to address the electricity, gas and others problems of

Former Member National Assembly, Shah G Gul Afridi was also

Ombudsman Punjab facilitates 18 individuals in securing government jobs

Bureau Report

LAHORE: In the latest development, the Office of the Ombudsman Punjab has successfully interceded on public complaints to ensure that provincial government departments provide permanent jobs to 18 applicants of different districts under Rule 17-A of the Punjab Civil Servants (Appointment and Conditions of Service) Rules, 1974.

While giving details, the spokesman for the Office of the Ombudsman Punjab reported that Talha Tariq has been appointed as a junior clerk in Attock, Muhammad Ilyas of TT Singh as a gardener and Omar Daraz of Jhang as a watchman. Additionally, Amina Bibi from Vehari has been recruited as bulawi, Abrara Sadia and Chaand Hamza Goraya have been posted as naib gasid in Faisalabad and DG Khan respectively by the education department after the involvement of the ombudsman office.

Furthermore, the health department has recruited Muhammad Waqas Bashir of Jaranwala as a ward boy, Rawalpindi's Sultan Muhammad as a sentry patrol and Muhammad Hamad Ali of TT Singh as a junior clerk in BPS-11.

Similarly, the Superintending Engineer of the Lower Chenab Canal East Circle Sheikhupura has provided Asif Ali with the position of a junior clerk after the ombudsman office interceded to protect the legal right of the applicant, the spokesman added.

Trash Bee, an inspiring start up promoting plastic waste recycling in environment friendly manner

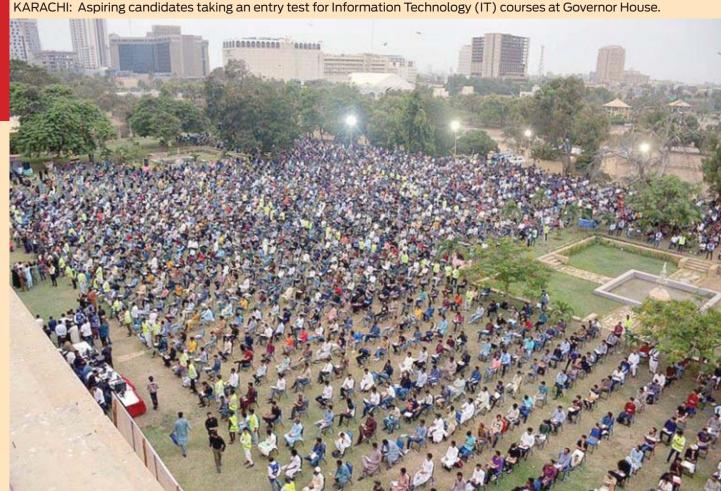
PESHAWAR: Trash Bee, a small production unit set up with the idea of promoting reuse of plastic waste through environmentally sustainable mode of recycling has been serving as an inspiring model for apprising the young generation about much needed green skills to drive environmental change in the country.

Launched by a young engineer, Arsalan Ayaz, the Trash Bee's main objective is promoting practice of recycling of plastic waste in an environment friendly and holistic manner.

"Most of the recycling units in the country are carrying routine practice of recycling plastic along with contaminants which pollutes air and environments and creates health problems for humans," observed Arsalan while talking to a group of journalist during a field trip arranged by Institute of Urbanization.

At Trash Bee, he added, the focus is given on promotion of green skills to drive environmental change and create a sustainable world.

Entry test



83rd Syndicate meeting of Islamia University held

Spokesman Report

BAHAWALPUR: The 83rd Syndicate meeting of the Islamia University of Bahawalpur was held vesterday at Abbasia Campus under the chairmanship of Vice Chancellor Engr. Prof. Dr. Athar Mahboob. The meeting approved the budget for the financial year 2023-24.

The total budget has been estimated Rs. 12930 million, the ongoing expenditure estimated Rs. 10687 million, and the development budget worth Rs. 2242 million. In the meeting, the recommendations of the previ-

In the meeting, the establishment of Seerah Garden and Centre for Women in STEM was approved. The members of the Syndicate approved the recom-



mendations of the Standing Committee for Discipline.

Registrar Prof. Dr. Moazzam Jamil presented a review report on the impleous selection board meetings were mentation of the decisions taken in the 81st and 82nd meetings of the Syndicate. Apart from this, other administrative, financial, and teaching matters

were taken into consideration. Earlier, after the recitation of the

Holy Quran, fatiha was recited in the meeting for Malik Habibullah Bhutta, while paying tribute to his educational and social services, the Vice Chancellor said that his services will be recognised by awarding honorary PhD in the upcoming convocation. In the meeting, Pro Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr. Naveed Akhtar, Prof. Dr. Akram Chaudhry, former Vice Chan-participated.

Prof. Dr. Moazzam Jamil Registrar, Rizwan Majeed, Treasurer, Prof. Dr. Abdul Rauf, Director Institute of Chemistry, Dr. Mughees Amin, Dr. Samina Durrani, Director Finance Higher Education Commission. Shah Sawar, representative Finance Department, Tariq Mehmood, representative Higher Education Department, Bushra Mehboob, Principal Govt. Women College Khanpur, Dr. Muhammad Rafay, Associate Professor, Dr. Samar Fahad, Assistant Professor, and Muhammad Zaman, Lecturer

cellor Sargodha University, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Amjad, Dean Faculty of

Engineering, Prof. Dr. Jawad Iqbal,

Dean Faculty of Management Sciences, Prof. Dr. Shazia Anjum, Dean Faculty

of Chemical and Biological Sciences,

were present in the meeting.

Over population: A call to Action for a better tomorrow

👺 Wajeeha Ashfaq

being among the poorest countries of the world and stuck in the worst economic turmoil, Pakistan has been declared as the 5th largest country in the world in terms of population by United Nations Report of 2022. The census of 2021 revealed the population bloom to hit 231.4 million which is an alarming situation for a country which is already drowned in a number of serious issues, political and economic instability being the major causes leading to other grave issues as as with the fertility rate of more than 3, Pakistan's population is expected to increase by 56% in zero knowledge of family plan-

wrong with overpopulation? For a country like Pakistan where resources are scarce, the growing population serves as a poison for depleting assets. These disturbing statistics need immediate attention and solution before there effects start haunting the state at a greater level.

Among various other reasons for such explosion, religious and cultural issues top the list. The orthodox clerics provide religious grounds for producing more than average children and the concept is deeply rooted among the population which considers it as some sort of religious compulsion to produce children. Moreover, well. The issue doesn't end here our cultural restraints consider open sexual teachings as a taboo. Majority of the population have

2050 as per UN report. What's ning and isn't even considered necessary. Researches show that only 34% population of the country use contraceptives while 17% showed their willingness to use but do not have accessibility to it Moreover, sons are considered as a symbol of pride in our rotten social setting so parents usually do not stop producing kids until they have a son.

Another factor that contributes to overpopulation in Pakistan is child labor. Due to rising inflation, one person's earning cannot be relied on which results in child labor. Producing more children for the sake of earning has become a trend in Pakistan. In addition, repeated migrations from Afghanistan since 1979 have also contributed to the population boom in Pakistan, exerting pressure over

the country. Food insecurity and water insecurity are among the most dangerous causes of over population. Although, Pakistan is an agricultural country but even this cannot serve as a savior in such a case. Moreover, it becomes difficult for state to provide housing, medical, education, health and housing facilities as population increases more and more. Furthermore, more population results in degradation of environment contributing to pollution and ultimately, all these factors combined compromise the overall quality of life. It's about time this danger

must be encountered with a serious approach by the state. Awareness regarding family planning must be promoted through different platforms such may prove to be the best choice for this. In addition, age appropriate knowledge regarding sexual teachings must be provided in schools, colleges and universities rather than treating it as a sort of prohibition. Access to contraceptives must be made easy through reduction in prices and encouraging population for its usage in order to control population. Child labor must be banned completely so that producing children does not equalize having assets for earning more money as the greater number of kids are more linked to greater ratio of poverty as compared to higher class. Moreover, humans must be treated as resources and efforts should be made to develop them and provide them with better facilities. The strain on resourc-

already-depleting resources of as maternity centers in hospitals es may be reduced if we think ble resource distribution. Issues towards using renewable sources for energy including wind and worked upon if our state leadership focuses more on issues at the grass root level rather than boasting a 4 million Rupees flag on independence day which clearly reveals where our leadership stands in terms of priorities.

To recapitulate, the problem of overpopulation is complex and urgent, and it demands our attention and action. Population growth is at an all-time high, putting huge demand on our planet's resources, ecosystems, and social institutions. To properly address this issue, we must take a multidimensional approach and must foster a mindset that values responsible consumption and equita-

at the minute level must be addressed in order to avoid greatsunlight. These factors can be er loss in near future for which serious concerns and efforts from the leadership as well as changed mindsets of the general population are required. This can be achieved through mutual efforts of educated people as well as officials who can join hands to educate and spread awareness among masses. We can work together to create a future in which population growth is balanced with our capacity, ensuring a sustainable and thriving environment for future

> Writer is student of Quaid e Azam University, Islamabad in 5th Semester of BS Political





SERVICES	
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Fajr	
Zohr	12:14 pm
Asr	5:11 pm
Maghrib	7:19 pm
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EMERGENCY

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Rescue (Police) 15
Bomb Disposal15
Fire Services Rawalpindi/
Islamabad1122 & 16
Emergency Ambulance 1122 8
& Rescue Services 4451122
Motorway Police9266044
Motorway Police 9270601-20

Women Police

Stations		tions
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	Dawalnindi	9270601-20

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MH	561116
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Polyclinic	9218300-09
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Cantonment Board	9270151-3
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Corporation	9209224
Potohar Town	9209224
Rawal Town	5773343

COMPLAINTS

G-5, G-6, G-7, G-8, G-9, G-10, G-11, G-12, H-8 ..9266316 Wapda Islamabad......9217579-80 Sui Gas Complaint..... 119, 9272249 Wasa Water Tank ...0331-5022125

Women **Empowerment** Conference held



跨 Tahir Amin Malik

LAHORE: The First Women Empowerment Conference was held at Lahore local hotel.

This is the first time of the history Women **Empowerment Confer**ence was held where large number of Women's took part in the Conference. Mr Naveed Sheikh, Aviary Women Wing Shamsa Hashmi, Were the hosted during the conference.

A large number of Women's took participate in the Conference throughout the country.

The theme of the Conference was to Empower the Women's in the business.

During the event the questions and answers session was held with quiz program and large number of gift were presented to the Women's who participated in the Conference.

Tourists urged to follow traffic rules in Murree

RAWALPINDI: The tourists visiting Murree have been urged to strictly abide by the traffic rules to avoid traffic congestion and road mishaps at the hill station.

According to a City Traffic Police (CTP) spokesperson, the department had finalised all the arrangements for the summer season to ensure the security of the visitors.

He informed that the Rawalpindi City Traffic Officer Taimoor Khan had requested the tourists to observe traffic rules on the roads of Murree to avoid traffic mess and any untoward incidents during the summer

Special teams had been formed to facilitate the tourists and resolve their problems if any in Murree, he said adding that parking vehicles outside parking areas was prohib-

"There was a complete ban on illegal parking on the roads in Murree particularly at exit and entry points besides restrictions on cooking at the roadside."

The spokesperson informed that single and double parking was not being allowed on roads except at designated parking places.

Motorcyclists without safety helmets were not being allowed to enter Murree, he added. Several roads including Bank Road, GPO Chowk to Kashmir Point, Hall Road, Lalazar to Kashmir Point, View Fourth



Road, View Fourth Road to GPO Chowk, Guldana Road, GPO Chowk to Guldana Chowk, Dilkusha Road, Imtiaz Shaheed Road to Lari Adda via Dilkusha Hotel, Cecil Road, Imtiaz Shaheed Road to Cart Road via Cecil Apartments, and Pindi Point had been declared one-way roads to facilitate the motorists, he said

According to a district administration spokesperson, a main control room had been set up at Jinnah Hall to monitor the

provision of facilities to tourists. He urged the tourists to cooperate with traffic police so that the traffic mess could be avoided

Motorists should avoid wrong parking on

roads which would help ensure the smooth flow of traffic, he said.

The beautiful climate of Murree during summer attracts a large number of tourists so motorists face severe traffic congestion, he said adding that traffic moves even slower due to heavy traffic load.

He said the DC had advised the tourists to avoid wrong parking, speeding, and taking selfies in the middle of the roads.

The spokesperson informed that foolproof security was being provided to the tourists

He said all the security and traffic arrangements had been finalised to facilitate the tourists during the summer season.

Garbage

ISLAMABAD: A view of garbage in a Nalla thrown by residents of Bari Imam, that may cause life risk for them causing problems for commuters and residents needs attention of concerned department in the Federal Capital.



Photo: Online by Sultan Bashir

PAC organized classical Mehfil-e-mosiqui

RAWALPINDI: A classical mehfil-e-mosiqui was organized under the auspices of the Puniab Arts Council, Additional deputy Commissioner Coordination Rawalpindi Syed Nuzrat Ali was the chief guest of the program.

Ghulam Abbas Farast captivated the hearts of the audience by reciting the ghazal Faiz Ahmad Faiz and Ahmed Faraz. Nadeem Riaz Khan rendered Raag Rageshri with great skill and got huge applause from the audience.

The chief guest of the program, Additional Commissioner Coordination Rawalpindi Syed Nuzrat Ali said that the identity of any nation is its civilization and culture and



The purpose of culture is to ent and gain an understanding of one's identity. There, its purpose is also to create the

those nations progress that tence of cultural values and are connected to their culture. development in them creates warmth and balance in life. connect the past with the pres- Artists are considered as the message of peace around the

There is no shortage of best society, because the exis- talent among Pakistani asset for us.

Arts Council should continue to shine the name of Pakistan around the world, he added. Director Arts Council Wagar Ahmed said that Punjab is a land of beautiful cultural

The changing lives here share love, if it is said, it will not be out of place that Punjab's regional customs, traditions and cultural traditions are the crown of the society.

The colorful and diverse cultural beauty of various regions of Punjab, Saraiki Wasib, Pothohar region, East Punjab, Soon Valley, DG Khan, Cholistan Bahawalpur desert is an example and the beautiful culture and civilization of these regions is a valuable

Ignition Pro School for Entrepreneurs Shines participated in Education Expo

Tahir Amin Malik

LAHORE: Ignition Pro School for Entrepreneurs Shines participated in the Education Expo at Expo Center, Lahore. In this regards different Universities, Colleges, School, Education Scholarship Institute, and Immigration Advisers to display

 $The \, educational \, organisations$ from across the region congregated to inspire and guide aspiring students under one roof. Among the prominent participants was Ignition Pro School for Entrepreneurs, which left an indelible mark with its unique educational solutions and empowering approach. Ignition Pro stood out and delved



sessions, providing fascinating educational solutions that captivated attendees

Ignition Pro School for Entrepreneurs stood out from the sea and insightful presentations of educational institutions due on various fields of study. The to its distinctive approach and overarching theme revolved ic curriculum that blends theo-

into notable discussions and offerings. They gauged participants through comprehensive career counselling sessions, engaging discussions on higher education opportunities,

empowering students to pursue internationally recognised qualifications without leaving Pakistan. Ignition Pro School introduced unique educational solutions and approaches that captured the interest of attendees. By offering UK degrees through local study programs, they provided an affordable and convenient option for students to pursue higher education. Their emphasis on practical learning, hands-on experience through real-life case studies, and personalised support through their business incubation program showcased their commitment to nurturing entrepreneurial talent. The combination of a dynam-

around expanding horizons and retical knowledge with practical skills, along with experienced faculty members who bring realworld insights, set Ignition Pro School apart. Their Level 3 to Level 6 education in fields such as business management, IT and health and social care showcased their commitment to providing well-rounded entrepreneurial education.

Throughout the Education Expo, Ignition Pro School actively participated in notable discussions and panel sessions. These sessions revolved around topics such as the importance of practical learning, the significance of entrepreneurial education, and the opportunities available for students to obtain UK degrees while studying in Pakistan.

PMAJK hails European Parliament resolution on India's human rights

Majeed Tahir

MUZAFFARABAD: Prime Minister Chaudhry Anwar ul Haq has said that the resolution of the European Parliament condemning the violations of human rights and persecution of religious minorities in India has left Modi and his party exposed at the international level."India has always tried to hoodwink the world through its policy of deceit and deception", the PM said, adding that the ruthless persecution of minorities in India was an eye-opener for the world. While welcoming the European Parliament for condemning human rights violations in India, the AJK premier demanded the European countries to link trade with India to improvement of the human rights situation in the country.

He said that India was an extremist state where religious minorities have been deprived of their basic human rights.

The AJK premier, while referring to continued bloodshed and violence in the Indian occupied territory of Jammu and Kashmir, said that the occupying forces have been involved in massive human rights

He said that Kashmiri people have been the worst victims of India's fascism for the past several decades. He, however, maintained that after August 5, 2019, India has turned the occupied territory into a military garrison, where people live in a state of perpetual fear and anxiety.

Terming India's 5th August action as a violation of the UNSC resolutions, the PM said that after stripping the region of its special status, the Indian government was hectically engaged to change the region's

The Prime Minister said that the civilized world should take notice of the worsening political and human rights situation in occupied Kashmir, and play its much needed role to help resolve the lingering Kashmir dispute in line with the UNSC resolutions.

Shaukat Mir demands urgent meeting on Kashmir to address concerns of Kashmiris

👺 Bureau Report

MUZAFFARABAD: Shaukat Javed Mir, Central Deputy Information Secretary of PPP Azad Kashmir, has demand- ed from the high command of the party, that due to increasing Indian atrocities in Occupied Jammu and Kashmir, the political situation arising from



the deadlock in the general elections of Pakistan and the ongoing ruling coalition in Azad Kashmir, on the stability and organization of the party to convene a joint meeting of the Parliamentary Party and the Central Executive Council to consult on the problems faced by the elected local bodies, including the developments, and said that the chairperson of political affairs Ms. Faryal Talpur should call the meeting without delay. Taking into account the conspiracies against and the collective opinion of the workers, the entire nation has the confidence of the wise decisions according to the glorious traditions of the past. He expressed these views while talking to the media here yesterday and said that a political strategy is indispensable from now to run the election campaign of the nominated candidates in the four provinces of Pakistan and to get the support of 1.5 million Kashmiris residing in Pakistan. Former senior adviser Chaudhry Riaz had made a breakthrough at the national level with the end of the Tehreek-e-Insaf government after the court decisions through his hard work, tactful consultation process and confidence building, but now the situation is to make the tolerance of the People's Party recognizable. Efforts are being made. With the election of Assembly Speaker Chaudhry Latif Akbar and the members of the cabinet, mines have been laid in the way of the fame and good name of the People's Party. Party President Chaudhry Muhammad Yasin, Secretary General Faisal Rathore should be instructed to call a meeting. Shaukat Javed Mir, former senior adviser to the central leader of the People's Party, voice of the workers from Karachi to Kashmir, Chaudhry Riaz's exemplary struggle for the party and leadership, tireless services., has proposed reforms while paying tribute to tolerance, prudence and magnanimity. Chaudhry Riaz worked hard day and night in the Bagh by-elections to beat the billionaires in the election ditch. It is being shown that if billions had been spent like former Prime Minister Sardar Tanveer Ilyas, then the price of milk and water would have been known. It can be given, these weather birds have shown full display of lies, fraud, deceit, trickery and stunts from the party leadership, they will not let "Hinda and Company" succeed in their nefarious purposes.

Mughal community is trying at every level to serve Pakistan: Sarfraz Mughal



ISLAMABAD: A detailed discussion on the arrival of Engineer Arshad Mughal, Senior Vice President of International Mughal Alliance, in

Spokesman Report

Gujranullah, Lahore, Jhelum, Mehrabpur, Sindh, Balochistan, Gilgit-Baltistan, Azad Kashmir and also large gatherings are taking place in foreign countries.

Islamabad (.) Prominent business leader and leader of Mughal Pakistan organization Sarfaraz Mughal has said that according to the census, the Mughal community is the largest community in Pakistan in terms of numbers, which is doing everything possible for the development, prosperity and service of the beloved country of Pakistan. But this conversation is trying with full enthusiasm, the famous Mughal leader, Senior Vice President of International Mughal Alliance, Senior Vice President of Mughalia Kamunki City and Member $of the \, Executive \, Council \, of \, Pakistan \, Mughal \, Supreme \, Council \, Punjab,$ Engineer Arshad Mughal, who is visiting from Kamonki. During the visit to Abad Supermarket and meeting with Sarfraz Mughal, Arshad Mughal said that recently Pakistan Mughal Supreme Council organized a grand event in Lahore in which Mughal organizations from all over Pakistan were invited. The Mughal leaders who participated with happiness and sincerity expressed their organization in a beautiful way and appreciated all the leaders of Mughal Supreme Council in different words for uniting the community to express solidarity. In the end, Sarfaraz Mughal said that the Mughal organizations are established from towns, villages and cities to the international level and in Lahore, Gujranullah, Jhelum, Mehrabpur, Rawalpindi, Islamabad, Sindh, Balochistan, Gilgit-Baltistan, Azad Kashmir in every small and big area of the country.

Monday, July 17, 2023

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Misery deepens for Sudanese civilians

■ he U. N. top humanitarian official has called on warring factions in Sudan to respect international law, protect civilians, and stop targeting relief and aid workers, as the conflict reached its three-

"For three months now, the people of Sudan have endured unspeakable suffering amid violence that is tearing their country apart," Martin Griffiths, UN Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, said in a statement released on Saturday.

"As the conflict enters its fourth month, the battle lines are hardening, making it ever more difficult to reach the millions of people who need urgent humanitarian assistance," he added.

More than 3 million people have been displaced due to the conflict both within Sudan and across its borders; the fighting, which broke out in mid-April has reportedly claimed the lives of more than 1,100 people and injured over 12,000, according to the UN Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA).

Health workers and facilities have also been attacked, severely limiting access for those in need, and with the onset of the rainy season, there is an increased risk of outbreaks of water- and vector-borne diseases, compounded by challenges in waste management and shortages of sup-

Children are among the worst affected, with an estimated 13.6 million – roughly half the number remaining in Sudan – in urgent need of assistance.

Describing Sudan as "one of the world's most difficult places for humanitarian workers to operate," Griffiths emphasized the collaborative efforts of local organizations and international aid groups in delivering life-saving supplies.

However, that work cannot be carried out when relief workers themselves, are at risk.

"But we cannot work under the barrel of a gun. We cannot replenish stores of food, water and medicine if brazen looting of these stocks continues. We cannot deliver if our staff are prevented from reaching people in need."

He underlined that ultimately, the suffering of Sudanese people will end only when the fighting stops, and called on the parties to the conflict to abide by the Declaration of Commitments they signed in Jeddah to protect civilians and respect international humanitarian law.

Each day the fighting continues, the misery deepens for Sudanese civilians

Drawing attention to the recent discovery of mass graves in West Darfur, Mr. Griffiths highlighted the fear of resurgence of ethnic killings in the region.

"Each day the fighting continues, the misery deepens for Sudanese civilians. We must all redouble our efforts to ensure that the conflict in Sudan does not spiral into a brutal and interminable civil war with grave consequences for the region," the UN official stressed.

"The people of Sudan cannot afford to wait," he added.

Pakistan's shifting Afghan Policy - I

chief has shifted from an Afghan Interim Government to an aggressive policy, warning it to rein in the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) militant umbrella group, which has been using Afghan soil to launch attacks in Pakistan, adding that Pakistan has "serious concerns about the safe havens and freedom of action available to the Tehrik-e Taliban Pakistan militant group." He made these remarks after two militant strikes in recent days killed 12 Pakistani soldiers on the Pakistan-Afghan border in Balochistan, when on July 12, TTP attacked a military base in the Zhob area, resulting in the Army's biggest single-day death toll in several months. Three soldiers were martyred in a separate attack on the same day when gunmen targeted an army convoy in Sui, infuriating the Army chief, who warned, "Such attacks are intolerable and will provoke a robust response from Pakistan's security forces." He also expressed his concern about Afghan nationals being involved in terrorist acts in Pakistan.

This is not the first time such heinous and abhorrent actions have been carried out from Afghanistan. TTP has been continuing its attacks with complete impunity since canceling a ceasefire agreement in late 2022, and even earlier. TTP attacks were in full swing across Pakistan between 2007 and 2014, killing 80,000 Pakistanis, including women, children, and security officers. After the TTP assaulted the Peshawar Army Public School and massacred 150 people, including 130 schoolchildren, the Pakistan army launched Zarb-e-Azb operation in December 2014 which drove the

recent statements, the army leaders and fighters of TTP to Afghanistan, where they reorganized themselves appeasement policy with the started re-launching their attack with tacit approval of the Afghan Govern-

> The Army chief who is fully aware of the seriousness of the TTP presence in the safe havens in Afghanistan, did not mince his words when he warned the Afghan Government to abide by the Doha agreement signed on February 29, 2020. The agreement which was aimed at ending the war contained the commit-

for terrorist organizations such as al-Qaeda and the Islamic State but did not specifically say the same thing about TTP and since there was no guarantor of the agreement therefore, soon as US troops withdrew in haste leaving behind war spoils which were looted and

of Afghan Government with suitcases stuffed with dollars, the Doha agreement had died then and there. Talibans have been refusing to comply with any of its provisions including education to women and respecting human rights. In fact, the guarantors of the Doha Agreement were Talibans themselves who now have amazing assets in their hands, the terrorist groups of Pakistani, Indian, Russian, Chinese and Central Asian Republic origins, which they use as trump card to get favorable deals but point blank refusing to take actions against them or banish them to the coun-

close to their hearts and only either slow down or increase their activities when and where it suits them.

With Pakistan, too, they play the Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) card most effectively. They keep the Pakistani government under constant pressure without taking the blame of blatant attacks into Pakistan, directly, while simultaneously providing safe havens for TTP and the freedom to attack inside Pakistan with total impunity. As istan from being used as a safe haven to their demands, they employ TTP to

accomplish their objectives. TTP according to a report by the United Nations Security Council are 6,000 trained and armed fighters in Afghanistan who have been targeting Pakistani security forces, Chinese nationals, and Chinese enterprises in Pakistan. Ironically,

paraded by the Talibans, and fleeing has never been a constant and persistent policy pursued by Pakistan with Afghanistan. Since 1990, Pakistan's policy towards the Taliban in Afghanistan has undergone several shifts due to changing geopolitical dynamics and regional security concerns. In 1990 Pakistan supported the Taliban to establish a friendly government in Afghanistan to counter the influence of its rival, India. After 9/11, from 2001 to 2010, Pakistan shifted its policy and joined the U. S.-led global coalition against terrorism. It pursued a policy of supporting reconciliation efforts in Afghanistan from 2010 to 2014. Prompted by the APS attack, from

towards combating domestic terrorism, and from 2020 to July, 2023, Pakistan intensified its efforts to facilitate talks between Taliban and USA and its allies and in the later period to pursue the policy of engagement and dialogue.

The Army Chief's statement during his visit to Balochistan was indicative of the failure of the prior government's and former army chief's policy of "engagement and dialogue" which was an attempt to forge a fresh path forward ment by the Taliban to prevent Afghansoon as Pakistan refuses to capitulate in the Afghan peace process, with the underlying assumption that the Taliban could be persuaded to come to the negotiating table and agree to a political settlement. It held several meetings with the TTP, some open and others not, and released Taliban prisoners, including some considered high-level commanders, granted amnesty to TTP members who agreed to adhere to the Pakistani Constitution, and allowed the TTP to live in Afghanistan in exchange for the TTP ceasing its terrorist activity against Pakistan. This approach opposed the notion that the Taliban are merely terrorists who should be ignored or forcefully defeated. Instead of achieving the set objectives, this appeasement policy emboldened TTP even more, and as a result, they renewed their attacks inside Pakistan with ferocity, violated and damaged the barbed wire security fence on many points across the entire length of the the Pakistan-Afghan border, caused unrest in Swat, Dir, and northern areas, and escalated their attacks against civilians, security forces, and the army inside Paki-

To be Continued



India- An Emerging Failed State - I

ndia claims to be so called a champion of democracy and a secular state. The ground realities are totally opposite to their claims. India also claims to be a successful nation which is totally wrong. It's perfect time to show the real face

of India to the world. Taking about environment, it's a fact that India is one of the most polluted countries of the world. According to the 2021 World Air Quality Report, India is home to 63 of the 100 most polluted cities, with New Delhi named the capital with the worst air quality in the world. The study also found that PM2.5 concentrations - tiny particles in the air that are 2.5 micrometres or smaller in length - in 48% of the country's cities are more than 10 times higher than the 2021 WHO air quality guideline level.

Freedom of speech is not ensured in India. Media is not allowed to show the real picture of what is going on in Indian Occupied Kashmir, Punjab, Asaam etc. It's a slap on a country which claims to be a secular country.

India is based on Lies and false propaganda. It's not a far incident where 40 Indian paramilitary soldiers were killed in a suicide attack in Pulwama district. India had accused Pakistan of orchestrating the attack which brought the two nuclear powers to the brink of another war. But the Pakistani government denied its involvement in the attack. Satya Pal Malik, who was the governor of Indian-administered Kashmir at the time of the attack, told India's The Wire news

"realised that all the onus of the attack will be put on Pakistan" to reap electoral benefits. India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi had repeatedly cited the Pulwama attack to mobilise voters in the 2019 general elections, in which he returned to power with a larger majority in parliament. In his interview, Malik, the former governor, blamed Pakistan for the attack but added that it happened due to the "incompetence" and "carelessness" of Modi's government. Malik claimed that Modi told him to "stay

quiet" about the security lapses he allegedly raised with the government. He added that India's National Security Advisor Aiit Doval had also told him to remain silent over the alleged lapses. India should look

into the voices coming out from within their countries which clearly shows the lies from their leadership.

According to an article published in times of India, Being a woman is not easy and that too when you live in India. Because in India at every 20 minutes a girl is raped. And if we talked about the current scenario. India is not safe for women not even in this 21st century. This country has been ranked as the world most dangerous place for women.

Remember that heinous crime that occurs in the national capital of India, Delhi at Munirka on 16 December 2012 (Nirbhaya case).

website in an interview that he That leaves everyone in trauma and left a dark stain on women safety and security. She was a physiotherapy intern who had gone to watch a movie with her male friend and has been assaulted on her way back home. She had been Raped on a bus by six people in which she was travelling with her male friend. These monsters had crossed all the limits of brutality. This case got national as well as international raped, Jan.2018 coverage, but nothing had made a big change in the speed of justice of Nirbhaya case as this high profile case had taken 7 years to conclude.

> cial system of India is somewhere responsible for the rising numbers in the rape case in India On the same day of Nirbhava, there was one more

gang-raped happened in Meghalaya where a girl went to the Winter festival at William Nagar with her friends and on her way back she was hit with bricks on her head and raped by 16 people.

Abdul Basit Alvi

According to author, Nirbhaya was not the sole rape case in 2012, as per NCRB report it was one of the 24,923 recorded cases and even the report stated that in the same year more than 68 girls raped every day. He gave some examples of rape cases in India from 2012 to 2020:

16 Dec 2012, Nirbhaya Gang rape by 6 people including a juvenile, 22. Aug.2013

Shakti Mills Gang rape by 5

people including a juvenile, 27. May.2014 Badaun Gang rape by up to 7

people, July 2015 Shivgangai minor girl rape case Accused a police officer, 29.

March.2016 Delta Meghwal rape case 17yrs

old girl accused her hostel teacher, Unnao rape case A minor girl

Kathua Rape Case Minor girl raped by 7 people, Dec.2019 6-year old girl raped on her

way back home from school, 23. April.2020

6-year old girl raped.

Now come to the situation of law & order and treatment with minor-& fought in hard situations and the ities in India. Recently, a former Allies finally had to bid farewell, this member of India's Parliament, was was the loyalty where we sacrifice shot dead on live TV along with his brother while in police custody in the northern city of Prayagraj, raising questions about rule of leave and run off.

law in the state of Uttar Pradesh. According to Al Jazeera reprt, The gunmen, who appeared to have posed as journalists, fired multiple shots at Atiq Ahmed and former state legislator Ashraf Ahmed on Saturday as they were being taken in handcuffs to hospital by police for a medical checkup, authorities said. Three suspects quickly surrendered to the police after the shooting with at least one of them chanting, "Jai Shri Ram," or "Hail Lord Ram," a slogan that has become a battle cry for Hindu nationalists in their campaign against Muslims. The two victims were from India's

Muslim minority. To be continued

Defacto Shortfalls saving with 4- Real Elements

always sacrifices to grow & prosper its individuals not leaving alone her children in all circumstances.

If the untoward time comes to a mother, she should be left alone' and with whose help? More than 1- Million people departing from the homeland is not the demonstration of loyalty to the homeland.

In civilized societies of the world, untoward situations are faced and dealt with to stabilize & scale up the motherland instead of seeing off. Taking a bird eye view? What tactics did the

American army + NATO forces use for a long term in Afghanistan? Did those people say goodbye to their homeland? Never! They faced

even our own self & families' lives. We think & calculate, If the situation was worse like this, then PTI Chairman Imran Khan and his associates should have been the first to

MA Rashid Investigative, scientific minds certainly come to the conclusions because there the matters are seen impartially & honestly.

Let's concentrate on the four elements mentioned in Quranic Surah Al-Asr, which guarantees for your success in all respect;

[With the name of Allah, the All-Merciful, the Very-Merciful.

(I swear) by the Time, man is in a state of loss indeed, except those who believed and did righteous deeds, and exhorted each other to follow the truth, and exhorted each other to observe patience. I

Further the virtue of [Studying] Surah al-Asr! Savvidna Ubaidullah Ibn Hisn (RA) reports that whenever two Companions of the Holy Prophet(Peace be upon him) met, they would not part company until one of them had recited Surah your life has diminished."

he Motherland is an identical state Al- Asr in its entirety to the other. [Transmitted like mother & undoubtedly Mother by At-Tabarni]. Imam Shafi`(RA) says that if people thought about Surah Al-` Asr carefully, it would be enough for their guidance. It is a concise but comprehensive Surah, which in three verses, outlines a complete way of human life based on the Islamic worldview.

In this Surah, Allah swears an oath by the 'Time' and says that mankind is in a state of loss; exception, however, is made of people who are characterized by four qualities: [1] faith; [2] righteous deeds; [3] advising each other for Truth; and [4] advising each other for patience. This is the only path to salvation in this world, as well as in the next world. The Qur'anic prescription comprises, as we

have just seen, of four elements. The first two of them relate to man's own personal betterment, and the other two relate to other people's guidance and reform.

Ibn Kathir J. Relationship between 'Time'

and 'Human Loss' The first point we need to analyze here is the relationship between the 'oath of time' and

'its subject' because there needs to be a relationship between an 'oath' and its 'subject' The commentators, generally, state that all conditions of man, his growth and development, his movements, his actions and morality - all take place within the space of 'Time'. Man will lose the capital of his existence. Hours, days, months, and years of life pass quickly, spiritual and material potentialities decline, and abilities fade. Man is like a person who possesses great capital and, without his permission and will, every day, a portion of that capital is taken away. This is the nature of life in this world; the nature of continual loss. How well this has been put poetically: "Your life comprises a few breaths that can be counted; when one of them is sent out, a part of

WHO report reaffirms safety of aspartame

Spokesman Report

LAHORE: After a comprehensive review, the World Health Organization's International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) and the Food & Agriculture Organization's Joint Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA) have once again concluded that aspartame is a safe ingredient in foods and beverages.

Consequently, the WHO has made no change to the current Acceptable Daily Intake (ADI) levels of aspartame.

The rigorous review concluded that there was there was "no sufficient reason" to change the previously established ADI levels. They "therefore reaffirmed that it is safe for a person to consume within this limit per day".

This robust conclusion from the WHO supporting the safety of aspartame is based on a foundation of extensive scientific evidence, with more than 40 years and over 100 studies supporting the safety of aspartame. Furthermore, the WHO's safety decision is aligned with more than 90 food safety authorities around the world, including the US FDA, the European Food Safety Authority, the UK Food Standards Authority, Health Canada and Food Standards Australia New Zealand, among others.

Since JECFA is global equivalent of

ARTIFICIAL SWEETENERS STUDY TESTED SUGAR-ALTERNATIVES

ASPARTAME SACCHARIN SUCRALOSE **STEVIA GLUCOSE**



Associations (ICBA) President Kate

Loatman applauded the WHO and

world's leading health and food safety

experts once again affirms that aspar-

tame is safe. After rigorous review, this

further strengthens confidence in the

safety of aspartame and will play a vital

role in informing consumers as they

consider all options to reduce sugar and

calories in their diets. JECFA's compre-

hensive conclusion that aspartame is

safe builds on the overwhelming weight

of scientific evidence for more than four

decades, as well as positive determina-

tions by food safety authorities in more

than 90 countries."

FAO finding:

regulators such as food safety agencies such as EFSA and the US FDA, it is the appropriate body to make an informed public health decision about the use of aspartame. It considered the totality of evidence for all potential health outcomes, assessed the risk to human health and gave appropriate weight to

high-quality evidence. The IARC carried out a comprehensive and overlapping review on the safety of aspartame, although its review was a more limited "hazard identification". The IARC classified aspartame as a level "2B" carcinogen, in other words "possibly carcinogenic to humans", and this falls in the same category as aloe vera and pickled vegetables.

International Council of Beverage

scientific body responsible for evaluating the safety of food additives:

'JECFA has once again reaffirmed aspartame's safety after conducting a thorough, comprehensive and scientifically rigorous review. Aspartame, like all low/no calorie sweeteners, when used as part of a balanced diet, provides consumers with choice to reduce sugar intake, a critical public health objec-

International Sweeteners Association Secretary-General Frances Hunt-

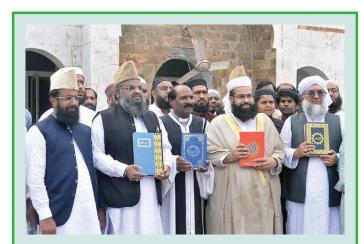
Wood applauded the WHO's reaffirma-

tion of aspartame's safety by its leading

President of the US-based Calorie Control Council Robert Rankin welcomed the ruling:

"The JECFA ruling not only confirms This definitive conclusion by the the four decades of science concluding aspartame is safe but also provides reallife context around the safe consumption of this ingredient. In order to reach landmark WHO and FAO finding JECFA's conservative ADI estimates. the average 150 lb. person would need to consume about 14 12-oz cans of diet beveragesor about 74 packets of aspartame-containing tabletop sweetener every day over the course of their life to raise any safety concern. Obviously, that level of consumption is not realistic, recommended, nor is it aligned with the intended use of these ingredients."

Consumers can have confidence that their foods and beverages are safe.



LAHORE: Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Religious Harmony Maulana Tahir Ashrafi expressing solidarity with holy books at Jamia Manzoorul Islamia. APP

Tribal elders/labours/watchers demand release of funds

Mazir Adam Khan Wazir

WANA: Tribal elders, Labours and Watchers issued a joint statement saying that under the mega project Ten Billion Tree Tsunami under the supervision of South Waziristan Forest Division, many development works like Block Plantations, Avenue Plantations Raising of Nurseries and Enclosurees have been completed, But despite the passage of a long time, the laborers, watchers and closure watchmen of these development works could not get their wages/liabilities, the main reason is non-release of funds by the Government.

The tribal elders strongly demanded the Provincial Minister of Forests and the Secretary of Forests to use their special efforts to ensure the provision of funds for the South Waziristan Forest Division, So that it is possible to pay the liabilities of poor and indigent labourers, watchers and closure watchmen as they have not received funds for

On the other hand, the closure watchers told the media that in this era of inflation, the stoves of our homes have become cold, it has become difficult to feed our children, therefore, the caretaker forest minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and secretary forest KPK should take notice of this basic problem of ours and release the fund so that the stopped wheel of life can continue.

The closure watchers threatened and said that if the provincial government does not release funds for us, we will be forced to protest

Rwp Safe City Project to prove highly effective in combating crime: Secretary HUDP

👺 City Desk

RAWALPINDI: Secretary, Housing and Urban Development Punjab, (HUDP) Sajid Zafar Dall has said that Safe City Project would prove to be highly effective in combating crime in Rawalpindi City.

According to a district administration spokesman, the secretary along with Commissioner Rawalpindi Division Liaquat Ali Chatta and Regional Police Officer (RPO) Rawalpindi Syed Khurram Ali here the other day visited different city areas including Kutchery Chowk, Peshawar Road, IGP Road, Pirwadhai and Liaquat Bagh and reviewed Safe City project.

The Secretary was briefed that the security situation of Rawalpindi city would be improved further through Safe City project.

The project would increase the sense of security among the citi-

The use of technology to improve security had become indispensable, the Commissioner said adding, the Safe City project was being launched in Rawalpindi and Murree.

The project would improve the law and order situation as it was a

project to ensure public safety, the Commissioner said. The administration was fully mobilized regarding the Safe City

15-Member delegation visiting China

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: Upon invitation from Fudan University, Shanghai, a 15-member composite delegation from Pakistan including diplomats, senior academics, researchers and $media\ persons, will\ depart\ for\ China$ today on a week-long visit. Ambassador Sohail Mahmood, Director General ISSI, shall lead the delegation.

The other members include: Prof. Dr. Engr. Attaullah Shah, Vice Chancellor, University of Karakoram; Dr. Ayesha Alam, University of Hazara; Prof. Dr. Ayesha Sohail, University of Azad Jammu and Kashmir; Amb. Babar Amin, Former Ambassador; Mr. Dost Mohammad Barrech, University of Balochistan; Dr. Fouzia Hadi Ali, University of Punjab; Prof. Dr. Kausar Takrim, University of Shaukat Piracha, Senior Anchor, Aaj News; Dr. Tahir Mumtaz Awan, Talat Shabbir, Director China-Paki- well as from Azad Jammu and Kash-



ate ISSI

Peshawar; Mr. Muhammad Ali Baig, stan Study Centre (CPSC), ISSI; Mr. mir, and Gilgit-Baltistan. As prac-Research Fellow, ISSI; Dr. Mukesh Tanveer Hashmi, Jang Group and Ms. titioners and academics, they have collaboration, facilitate knowledge Khatwani, University of Sindh; Mr. Misbah Mukhtar, Research Associlong-standing experience of China exchange, and enhance mutual understudies, regional and global matters The delegation members come Paksitan-China relations, and China in the field of education and beyond. COMSATS University, Islamabad; Dr. from all provinces of Pakistan as Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

The delegates will participate in a abad on July 23, 2023.

Seminar hosted by Fudan University in Shanghai and the 3rd Pakistan-China Think Tank Forum hosted by the China Institutes of Contemporary International Relations (CICIR) in Beijing. Besides, a visit to the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs also scheduled. The delegation shall also visit various academic and commercial facilities and receive briefings for firsthand information.

The delegation's visit would serve to further promote academic and peopleto-people exchanges between Pakistan and China. Interaction with Chinese academicians, scholars and government officials would help identify opportunities for enhanced cooperation in diverse sectors including trade, technology, and infrastructure development.

The delegation's members would also be keen to foster academic standing and bilateral cooperation

The delegation will return to Islam-

Trade facilitation to Afghanistan vital: CEO TDAP

ISLAMABAD: Chief Executive Trade Development Authority Pakistan (TDAP) Muhammad Zubair Motiwala said that Pakistan always attached highest importance to its trade facilitation for Afghanistan.

He was addressing the opening ceremony of Imam Abu Hanifa Exhibition held Sunday in Kabul.

Motiwala shared that Pakistan was the largest trading partner of Afghanistan. In this context, he thanked the Afghan government for providing such business opportunities to Pakistani exhibitors which will further widen the business-to-business relations between largest participation in the fair. the two fraternal neighbors. He further shared that more than 25 leading Pakistani manufacturers are participating fit from the opportunities presented by in the exhibition, making Pakistan's the



He emphasized that traders and businessmen of both sides should bene-

this exhibition. He stated that Pakistan

always supports such bold steps which could generate conducive environment for business communities of the region.

Motiwala stated that Pakistan is also playing all possible facilitation for Afghanistan's smooth global trade through transit facility provided by Pakistan. He shared with the audience that Pakistan has granted massive tariff concession on all Afghan fruits and vegetables export to Pakistan.

He expressed his views that the Afghan government should make business friendly investment policies to attract investment from the bilat-

He also stressed the improvement of supply chain management by Afghan government so that Afghanistan's business community could receive goods on time. At the end, he along with the head of mission visited Pakistani stalls.

UNITED NATIONS: The U. N. top has reportedly claimed the lives of more humanitarian official has called on than 1,100 people and injured over warring factions in Sudan to respect 12,000, according to the UN Office for international law, protect civilians, and

stop targeting relief and aid workers, as the conflict reached its three-month

"For three months now, the people of Sudan have endured unspeakable suffering amid violence that is tearing their country apart," Martin Griffiths, UN Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, said in a statement released on Saturday.

"As the conflict enters its fourth month, the battle lines are hardening, making it ever more difficult to reach the millions of people who need urgent humanitarian assistance," he added.

More than 3 million people have been displaced due to the conflict both within Sudan and across its borders; the fighting, which broke out in mid-April

Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA).

conflict hits 3-month mark: UN relief chief

Misery deepens for Sudanese civilians, as

Health workers and facilities have also been attacked, severely limiting access for those in need, and with the onset of the rainy season, there is an increased risk of outbreaks of waterand vector-borne diseases, compounded by challenges in waste management and shortages of supplies.

Children are among the worst affected, with an estimated 13.6 million roughly half the number remaining in Sudan – in urgent need of assistance.

Describing Sudan as "one of the world's most difficult places for humanitarian workers to operate," Griffiths emphasized the collaborative efforts of local organizations and international aid groups in delivering life-saving

However, that work cannot be carried out when relief workers themselves, are at risk.

"But we cannot work under the barrel of a gun. We cannot replenish stores of food, water and medicine if brazen looting of these stocks continues. We cannot deliver if our staff are prevented from reaching people in need."

He underlined that ultimately, the suffering of Sudanese people will end only when the fighting stops, and called on the parties to the conflict to abide by the Declaration of Commitments they signed in Jeddah to protect civilians and respect international humanitarian law.

Each day the fighting continues, the misery deepens for Sudanese civilians

Drawing attention to the recent discovery of mass graves in West Darfur, Mr. Griffiths highlighted the fear of resurgence of ethnic killings in

EU urged to probe Mediterranean shipwreck killing 700, including Pakistanis

News Desk

NEW YORK: Nearly a month after the sinking of an overloaded boat off the Greek coast where 700 people, including Pakistanis, were killed, a prominent global humanitarian body has called on the European Union (EU) to ensure a "full, transparent" investigation into the tragedy.

"So far, there have been no moves to launch such an investigation into the shipwreck one of the deadliest on record in the Mediterranean Sea – despite calls to do so from NGOs and members of the European Parliament," the New York-based International Rescue Committee (IRC) said in a statement on Saturday.

The IRC stressed the need for the doomed ship. the EU and its member states to urgently expand safe, regular routes for people on the move, including committing to resettle at least 44,000 refugees in 2024.

"The EU and its states must shift their focus from deterring people from reaching Europe, to safeguarding them along their journeys - this includes strengthening search and rescue, providing information to people on the move, and upholding the legal right", the humanitarian body

At the United Nations, Pakistan stepped up pressure for the investigation into huge loss of lives, amid media reports that the Greek Coastguards were slow in responding the distress calls from

"Mediterranean Sea crossings have become increasingly treacherous," Ambassador Aamir Khan, deputy permanent representative of Pakistan to the UN, told a UN Security Council's informal meeting on 'Refugees and Asylum Seekers crossing borders on Land and At Sea: New Wave of Crisis'

The Pakistani envoy highlighted last month's deadly migrant shipwreck, as he underscored the need for developing mechanisms for people in distress at sea.

"As responsible members of international community, it is incumbent on us all to ensure the safety and security of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers, uphold international law includincluding by developing transparing maritime law, and enforce the ent, safe and predictable disem-



nationality or circumstances," Aamir Khan said. "We must undertake all efforts

in distress at sea, while complying with international obligations and without obstructing humanitarian efforts."

in its statement, IRC added, "We're concerned that disasters

barkation mechanisms for people like this horrific shipwreck are becoming increasingly normalized. In the month since this disaster, there have been at least 22 other incidents in the Central Mediterranean (including bodies washing ashore the Libvan coast)

missing, according to the International Organisation for Migration. "At the same time, in the

with more than 50 people dead or

absence of internal agreement on how to better share responsibility for new arrivals, European leaders are pursuing new migration agreements with non-EU countries. "These deals are disproportion-

ately focused on deterring refugees and other migrants from Europe, rather than supporting vulnerable people on the move and addressing the root causes behind their displacement. They risk further undermining people's rights, exposing them to abuse and exploitation, and driving them to risk their lives on even more dangerous routes."

Need stressed to unlock potential of regional economic cooperation: Iftikhar Malik



👺 Bureau Report

ISLAMABAD: SAARC Chambers of Commerce and Industry's former President Iftikhar Ali Malik on Sunday stressed the urgent need of unlocking the potential of regional economic cooperation and integration to boost trade among SAARC member countries, especially with Afghanistan at this critical juncture.

Talking to a delegation of traders led by Muslim Khan Buneri, he said inter-regional trade in South Asia is less than one-third of its potential which indicates 67 percent of trade is not being fully exploited, said. News release.

He said the role of Afghanistan as a connector and as a land bridge between Central Asia, the Middle East and South Asia needs to be reviewed in the prevailing scenario to primarily focus on the promotion of trade and investment.

He said even today, Afghanistan is seen as a viable doorway to South Asian countries for direct access to oil and gas from the republics of Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan and

He said better trade ties will help promote economic growth and to do away with abject poverty in the region especially in Afghanistan thus enhancing its cross-border and transit trade with neighbouring countries.

He said poor trade facilitation at borders and the prevalence of a variety of non-tariff barriers are major hurdles in further enhancing mutual trade manifolds with Afghanistan.

Iftikhar Ali Malik said at the moment what we need is total up gradation and strengthening of existing facilitation, handling and clearance of transport and trade at the Pak-Afghan land borders besides consolidation of initiatives taken by the new regime of Taliban.

He said Pakistan after Iran and China the third largest trading partner of Afghanistan which exports cement, pharmaceuticals products, sulphur, stone, plaster, peel of citrus fruit, melon, vegetable fats, edible fruits and oil etc.

He said Afghanistan's main exports are carpets and rugs 45 percent of the total exports dried fruits constitute 31 percent and medicinal plants 12 per

He said the main export partner is Pakistan 48 percent, India 19 percent and Russia 9 percent other including Iran, Iraq and Turkey.

Base power tariff hike of Rs5/unit to be dangerous for economy: BMP

Example 2 Commerce Desk

LAHORE: Anjum Nisar says burden of power theft, mismanagement should not be shifted to trade, industry

As the government has increased electricity tariff by almost Rs5, taking base tariff up to Rs 29.78 under the IMF condition, the Businessmen Panel (BMP) of the FPCCI has condemned the move, stating the burden of power theft, mismanagement, and inefficiencies should not be shifted to the trade and industry consumers, as it would prove to be dangerous for overall economy.

FPCCI former president and BMP Chairman Mian Anjum Nisar said that in 2022, the previous government raised base tariff by almost Rs8 per unit in three phases due to which base tariff jumped to around Rs25 per unit from Rs17 per unit. After the IMF Board approval of the US 3 billion stand-by arrangement, it asked the Pakistan authorities urgently need to strengthen energy sector viability by aligning tariffs with costs, reforming the sectors cost base, and better-targeting power subsidies.

Mian Anjum Nisar said that Pakistan's industry had been harmed by the high cost of doing business, which discouraged investment in capacity and capability and called for easing the burden of heavy taxes on the power sector. He said that the high cost of doing business has proved to be dangerous for Pakistan's industry, discouraging investment both in capacity and capability, calling for lessening the burden of heavy taxes on the power sector.

Government to resolve issues of exporters: Prime Minister

SIALKOT: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Sunday directed the formulation of a policy for the establishment of one-window facilitation centers for resolving issues of exporters.

He was talking to a delegation comprising members of Parliament and office bearers of the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce and Indus-

The delegation paid tribute to the prime minister on the final approval of the agreement with the International Monetary Fund and the revival of the country's economy.

The prime minister thanked members of the delegation for standing shoulder to shoulder during the hard decisions taken in the interest of the country.

The PM was briefed about the issues faced by the chamber.

He directed the administration in Sialkot for



the construction of highways and their maintenance and restoration.

Minister for DefenceKhawajaAsif, Advisor to Prime Minister AhadCheema, Special Assistants Jehanzeb Khan, Tariq Bajwa, Rana-Shameem Ahmed Khan, former member National Assembly Nielson Azeem, former members provincial assembly ArshadWarraich, RanaLiaquat, ArifIqbal, RanaAfzaal, Abdul Sattar, Chaudhry Ikram Mansha But, MrsShehzadGulnar, ZeeshanRafiq, President Pakistan Muslim League (N) Sialkot Muhammad Rafique Mughal, and former chairman Sialkok Airport KhawajaMaqsoodAkhtar attended the

Office bearers of SCCI including its President Abdul Ghafoor, Senior Vice President Wahab-Jehangir, Vice President Amir MajeedShaikh, President Women Chamber Dr Maryam Nauman, SohailBarlas and SarfrazBhatti were also present in the meeting.

Economic turmoil, IWCCI proposes a technocratic structure

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Samina Fazil, founder president of the Islamabad Women's Chamber of Commerce and Industry (IWCCI) said on Sunday that the current government should be succeeded by a technocrat setup which will be able to take necessary measures imperative for the survival of the country.

Usually, an interim government comes for a short period of time to hold general elections, but it will also be able to steer the country out of problems that is facing an economic freefall, she said.

Talking to the business community, she emphasised the need for a caretaker tech $no cratic\ government\ as\ soon\ as\ the\ tenure$ of the present National Assembly comes to an end.

Samina Fazil said that while the recent financial support from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) has improved the country's financial condition to some extent and minimised the risk of default, a lot still has to be done.

Reading habit



essential for steering the country out of its economic problems, she said, adding that the appointment of technocrats based on their expertise, particularly in vital areas such as finance, commerce, industry, investment, water and power, and women's empowerment, will help change the situation for the better.

Explaining further, Samina Fazil stated that technocrats do not run for office in Handing over power to technocrats is elections. In certain countries, the Prime

KARACHI: People are busy is buying old books from a stall at Frere Hall in Provincial Capital.

Ministers are both economists and technocrats. Sometimes a technocratic setup is introduced when political parties fail to

Samina Fazil acknowledged that technocratic governments are known for making tough decisions that political governments often shy away from, fearing a loss of support.

In some instances, a technocratic government is formed through consensus among all parliamentary parties when a regular government cannot be established. She added that Pakistan has witnessed technocratic governments in the past, during the eras of General Zia and General Pervez Musharraf.

Highlighting the current state of Pakistan's economy, Samina Fazil expressed concern that the nation has fallen behind other developing countries, making the survival of its economy a difficult task.

She emphasized the need to bolster the confidence of the business community, promote exports, and encourage Pakistani expatriates by providing additional

Sugar mafia drives prices to the highest point in nation's history

B News Desk

ISLAMABAD: Dr. Murtaza Mughal, President of Pakistan Economy Watch (PEW) said on Sunday that the influential sugar mafia has pushed the price of sugar to the highest level in the country's history.

If the sugar exports are not stopped, the price will exceed two hundred

open market, he said. In a statement issued here today, Dr. Murtaza Mughal said that allowing exports despite the decline in production is an injustice to the people which benefits the

rupees per kg in the

Sugar will become exports continue at this pace,

If the export of sugar is not immediately banned, it will exceed two hundred rupees per kg, which will be unaffordable for the majority.

He said that the people's interests have been put aside to benefit the sugar mafia, and they have been allowed

ty while sugar smuggling is also on the rise.

The price of sugar in the wholesale market has increased by Rs19 in twenty days, but the authorities are not paying attention to this, which is encouraging hoarders.

In the present circumstances, the price of sugar will rise further, adding to the



sugar mafia. scarce in the country before misery of millions of people. the next crushing season if he warned.

rupees per kg in different allowed, and since January, parts of the country, and its price is continuously increas-

to export the commodi- ing season.

Dr. Mughal said that compared to last year, a 15% reduction in sugar produc-He informed that now tion has been recorded, but ugar is fetching 150 to 160 despite this, export has been more than 222,000 tonnes

> At the same time, a large amount has been smuggled to Afghanistan, providing an opportunity for the hoarders.

> of sugar have been exported.

The situation shows the influence of the sugar mafia, he said, adding that if the sugar export continues as it is, the country may run out of sugar before the next crush-

Incentives for industry can put economy on sustainable growth: **PIAF**

😂 Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Industrial and Traders Associations Front (PIAF), stressing the need for putting the economy on a sustainable growth trajectory by providing incentives to the induslamented

that the economy is facing multiple challenges of falling exports, high inflation, and low growth, with fiscal accounts under immense pressure on account of heavy interest payments.

PIAF Chairman Faheemur Rehman said that the low growth shows the government is finding it difficult to achieve industrial

growth and export target, leading to more pressure on foreign exchange reserves of the country. He asked the government to address the underlying structural vulnerabilities through smooth energy supply at competitive rates, as country's overall export proceeds continued to shrink.

same time, also the subsidy has been phased out, which will further increase the cost of production. Month on month increas-

Faheemur Rehman Saigol

said that the government

has increased the gas and

electricity tariffs and, at the



es in consumer prices may be countered by a further mean reverting international commodity prices and some exchange rate stability due to decreased pace of depreciation. The overall money supply growth remains compatible with a return to low and stable inflation.

Theft, free electricity to the favoured ought to be halted

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: Former President of the Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI) Dr. Shahid Rasheed Butt, said on Sunday that the new increase in the price of electricity is condemnable.

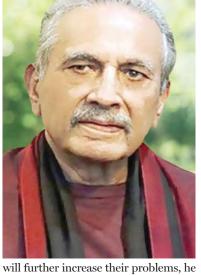
The public and businesses already reeling under unprecedented inflation and other problems cannot afford the new price of electricity, he said.

The decision to revise the power tariff will open floodgates for inflation in the country, because of which poverty and unemployment will increase, he added.

Shahid Rasheed Butt said in a statement issued here today that instead of making electricity more expensive, theft should be controlled, private power plants should not be given massive profits, and the facility of free electricity should be withdrawn from the privileged classes. The business leader said that per unit

price of electricity has been increased by 4 rupees and 96 paisa, which will burden the public by billions of rupees.

Now people will get per unit electricity for more than 50 rupees, which



According to NEPRA, the reasons for increasing the price of electricity include rupee depreciation, inflation, heavy interest rates, interest payments on loans, and

payments to IPPs, but these government agencies have never been concerned about power theft worth billions of rupees per day or the provision of free electricity to privileged people. He noted that the IMF has never asked

to increase electricity rates but has always said that electricity should not be sold at a loss so that the circular debt does not

Government officers and officials are responsible for the losses in the electricity sector and not the public; therefore, they should be made to pay for it.

He said that people are already braving the high price of flour, sugar, pulses, vegetables, fruits, ghee, eggs, milk, and other essential items, and the burden on them is being increased by continuously increasing the electricity and gas tariffs, which is sad.

He said that the government is preparing to increase the price of gas after electricity, which will increase the burden on the public. In these circumstances, the rulers are trying to appease the people by threatening a crackdown on hoarders, but this roar is not having any effect on the profiteers and smugglers.



Photo: Online

1st President PGA Open Golf Championship concludes

➢ Sports Desk

LAHORE: The 1st President PGA Open Golf Championship fully endorsed by Punjab Golf Association (PGA) concluded here on Sunday and Muhammed Shahzad topped in the Professionals Category and Damil Ataullah in the Amateur Section and Hamna Amjad in the Ladies event at the par 72 PAF Skyview Golf Course.

A few other names also deserved a mention and they are Muhammed Akram (Senior Professional Winner), Rehan Babar (Junior Professional Winner) and Lt Col Mohammad Ayub (Senior Amateur Winner). The golfing champions participating in this event found the competition rather brutal and only the most skillful ones ended up winning titles.

As for these high achievers in the six day premier golfing activity Muhammed Shahzad of Lahore Garrison had the honor of prevailing over the otherwise unbeatable 200 titles winner, Muhammed Shabbir Iqbal in a contest of excellence and this hard working champion now finds himself as the new

hero of professional golf in Pakistan.



amongst amateurs, the very young one Damil Ataullah held sway over some strong adversaries to emerge as the best amateur. Vis a vis the ladies, Hamna Amjad, still in her teens found herself up against players like Abeeha Syed and Parkha Ijaz and played dauntlessly to emerge as the Ladies Title winner.

At the conclusion of the President PGA Open Golf Championship, the In the race for high achievement President PGA, Lt Gen Abdul Aziz

Wheelchair Cricket Asia Cup

2023 in September

(Retd) was present to honor the top performers. He also shared that Punjab Golf Association had set up a golf academy at Lahore Garrison Greens and a Summer Coaching Camp was in progress to train selected young ones who will be lent full financial backing and technical support. He also shared that PGA will be sending coaches to schools to familiarize and attract students to the game of golf.

Detailed Results of all events are, Muhammed professionals; Shahzad, winner; Muhammed Shabbir Iqbal, runner up;Mohammad Naeem, third; Senior Professionals; Muhammed Akram, Winner; Nisar Hussain, Second; Muhammed Tariq, third; Junior Professionals; Rehan Babar, Winner; Ashass Amjad, runner up; Abid Iqbal, third; Amateur; Damil Ataullah, Winner; Shahzaib, runner up;Qasim Ali Khan, third; Amateur Net; Nouman Ilyas, first net; Sharaan Ali,2nd net; Hussain Hamid,3rd net; Senior Amateur; Lt Col Mohammad Ayub, first gross; Tariq Mehmood, second gross;Col Raja Asif Mehdi,3rd gross; Senior Amateur Net; Dr Hameed Awan, first net;Saadullah Tiwana, Second net;Col Ikram ul Haq, third net; Ladies Amateur; Hamna Amjad,

The prize distribution ceremony at the PAF Skyview Golf Course was grand indeed and in attendance were Brig Ayyaz Masood, Secretary PGA, Kashif Bhatti, GM of PGA, Imran Pervez, Vice President, PAF Skyview, Mian Safdar, CEO Coppergat Cables and Wires, golf professionals and golf players.

Winner; Abeeha Syed, runner up Prize

arkha Iiaz, third:

Klaasen-inspired Orcas thump Unicorns to top

GRAND PRAIRIE: Henrich Klaasen's magnificent half-century and a effort from the bowlers led Seattle Orcas to a comfortable 35-run victory over San Francisco Unicorns in Major League

Opting to bat first, Orcas' batters backed the decision of their captain and showcased brilliance to piwer their side to

The Orcas had a contrasting start to their innings as they lost Quintin de Kock (7) in the second over with just nine runs

Nauman Anwar and Shehan Jayasuriva launched a recovery for the Orcas with a gritty 44-run partnership before the

Anwar scored 30 off 21 deliveries and smashed five boundaries.

With the Orcas 53/2 inside the power play, Klaasen joined Jayasuriya in the middle and the pair stitched an important partnership, adding 47 runs to the

Corey Anderson got the much-need-

Meanwhile, Klaasen stood his ground partnership for the fourth wicket.

MLC standings 🖒 A Sports

Cricket (MLC).

a commendable total of 177/4 in 20 overs.

on the scoreboard.

former perished in the sixth over.

ed breakthrough for the Unicorns in the 12th over when he got rid of Jayasuriya, who could score 33 from 27 balls.

firm and received subtle support from Shimron Hetmyer amid their 54-run

ongoing month, Pakistan Wheelchair Cricket Council (PWCC) said. The event, being hosted by Pakistan at the neutral venue of Kathmandu, Nepal was earlier scheduled to take

place during the ongoing

ISLAMABAD: The second edition of the Wheelchair

Cricket Asia Cup 2023 has

been pushed to September

due to the expected heavy

rains in Nepal during the

№ News Desk

month. "The month of July is considered a rainy season in Kathmandu. Hence, we have decided to move the tournament to September," the President of PWCC Rookh-

id that it was all set to host the event in Pakistan but due to some issues, it was decided to shift it to Nepal.

effort would be made to of National Assembly Kishmake the event a real success. war Zahra of Muttahida enjoy exciting contests present on the occasion, said during the event," she said. a press release.



Earlier, the PWCC had Afghanistan will participate si, Imran Amin and He said that the preparation in the Asia Cup. Meanwhile, a PWCC dele-

gation met Governor Sindh "We will try to ensure fans Qaumi Movement was also

The PWCC delegation was comprised of captain Muhammad Zeeshan, Warseemuddin Sheikh.

cricket, holding of tourna-Kamran Khan Tessori at the ments at the regional level, Rookhsana said that every Governor's House. Member encouragement of wheelchair cricketers and other issues were discussed in the

promotion of wheelchair cricket were commendable. He assured all possible

Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Ahmed, Sajid Ali Abba- ment of wheelchair cricket. of world-class players was Promotion of wheelchair the need of the hour. Rookhsana told him that

Pakistan was the reigning Asian champion as it won the inaugural edition of the tournament in 2019. We are confident our team Governor Sindh said will repeat their past feat to that PWCC's efforts for the retain the title," she added.

KVSL opens with grand opening ceremony at Sports Stadium in Muzaffarabad

跨 Abdul Majeed Tahir

MUZAFFARABAD: The last phase of Kashmir Volleyball Super League has started, the grand opening ceremony of KVSL was held at Sports Stadium Jalalabad, Chief Secretary Azad Kashmir Dr. Muhammad Usman Chachar attended the ceremony as a chief guest. In the ceremony, young singer Sohail Abbasi sang the theme song of KVSL. presence at the sports complex for um Jalalabad. "Maidan Marle" was presented. The fans danced to the tune of "Maidan Mar of all the teams participating in the cials and people from all walks of life emphasised.

Le". Children performed in the opening ceremony and received applause from the fans. Captains of all the teams participated in the opening ceremony carrying their team flags. In the opening ceremony. National Anthem and Kashmir Anthem were presented. The KVSL trophy was also unveiled in the event. A large number of Muzaffarabad the promotion of KVSL. The players

wise termed consistent Poonch Divi-Poonch Azad and Poonch Shooters. Mirpur Division is represented by fans were participated and remained Campus Chatar Class and Sports Stadi-The civil society, government offi-

event took oath. The AJK Division participated in the opening ceremony. On this occasion, Chief Secretary sion is represented by Poonch Panjal, Dr. Muhammad Usman Chachar, the chief guest, while talking to the players in the event, said that there is a Mirpur Badshah, Sher Mirpur and lot of volleyball talent in Azad Kash-Mirpur Shooters. The matches of the mir. There is, events like KVSL are of event will be held at Azad Jammu and utmost importance for the promotion Kashmir University King Abdullah of sports. He said that the youth should come forward and make time for their healthy activities and participate in sports by showing sportsmanship he

Pakistan Street Child Football team wins exhibition match



Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Street Child Football team outplayed the European Union Ambassadors team in a friendly exhibition match 5-0 here at the Jinnah Stadium of the Pakistan Sports

The final training camp of the Pakistan Street Child Football Team for the world's biggest youth football league 'Norway Cup' was underway here at Jinnah Stadium.

In relation to that, a friendly football exhibition match was organized between the ambassadors of the European Union, donor agencies of the United Nations and the Pakistan Street

Child Football team. In the game, five goals were scored by the Pakistan street child football team. On the occasion, foreign ambassadors appreciated the game of the Pakistan street child football team.

It may be mentioned that the street child football team won the second position in Norway in 2015 and the third position in 2016. The street child football team would leave for Norway on July 27.

Mathews, de Silva recover Sri Lanka after Shaheen's triple strike



₿ A Sports

GALLE: Angelo Mathews's half-century and an unbeaten 94 from Dhananjaya de Silva took Sri Lanka to 242/6 at the stumps on Day 1 against Pakistan despite a ruthless opening session spell by Shaheen Shah Afridi. After opting to bat first in the first Test of the two-match series,

Sri Lanka were 242/6 with Dhananiaya de Silva just six run away from the century. The home side endured the wrath of Shaheen Shah Afridi,

who returned to Test cricket after a year-long hiatus.

The left-arm pacer ran through the Sri Lankan top-order with three wickets in his first spell.

Shaheen's first scalp of the match - Nishan Madushanka (4) also propelled him to breach the 100 Test wickets mark.

Naseem Shah also joined Shaheen and added to the misery of the home side by removing Dinesh Chandimal for a mere one. With Chandimal's dismissal, Sri Lanka slipped to 54/4 but Mathews soon joined hands with Dhananjaya de Silva to launch an astounding recovery.

The pair added 131 runs for the fifth wicket and pulled their side out of trouble before mystery spinner Abrar Ahmed got a much-needed breakthrough in the form of Mathews. The right-handed batter scored a cautious 64 off 109 deliver-

ies, hitting nine boundaries.

Following Mathews's dismissal, de Silva then stitched a 57-run partnership with Sadeera Samarawickrama.

The pair was looking in control to bat through the rain-hit opening day but Samarawickrama fell to Agha Salman on what turned out to be the final delivery.

He played an important 36-run knock which ended courtesy of a sensational catch by Imam-ul-Haq.

Samarawickrama's dismissal in the closing minutes brought Pakistan back into the game but Sri Lanka's mainstay de Silva remained firm at the crease.

He scored an unbeaten 94 from 157 balls, laced up with 10 boundaries and three sixes.

Shaheen Shah Afridi spearheaded Pakistan's bowling charge with three wickets while Naseem, Abrar and Salman made one

Pakistan to start 2023-24 international season in Galle on Sunday

Sports Desk

PESHAWAR: Pakistan is going to launch its busy, challenging and action-packed 2023-24 international cricket season with the first Test of the ICC World Test Championship 2023-25 against Sri Lanka in Galle, Sri Lanka on Sunday.

The second and last Test of the series will be played in Colombo from July 24.

Apart from the ICC World Test Championship matches, Pakistan is also scheduled to participate in the ACC Asia Cup, ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2023, and ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2024 in the next 12 months. With all-format back-to-back international cricket lined up, a good and strong start in Galle is what Babar Azam and his side will be

aiming for. Galle was a venue where Pakistan and Sri Lanka have achieved

to date. Sri Lanka has won four times (2009, 2012, 2014, and 2022), while Pakistan has won thrice - by an innings and 163 runs (2000), 10 wickets (2015) and four wickets (2022).

When Pakistan last won in Galle 12 months ago, the tourists chased down the 342-run target for the loss of six wickets with Abdullah Shafique scoring a memorable 160 not out and Babar Azam following up his 119 in the first innings with 55.

Amongst the bowlers, Shaheen Shah Afridi took four wickets in the first innings before he was injured during the second innings and was ruled out of further participation. However, the best bowling figures of five for 88 from Mohammad Nawaz and Yasir Shah's three for 122 combined in the second innings

to share wickets. From the current squad, 13

toured Sri Lanka 12 months ago. The three newcomers are all-rounder Aamir Jamal, mystery-spinner Abrar Ahmed and middle-order batter Mohammad Huraira.

"Really excited to be back in red-ball format and all eves are on the Galle Test as we are prepared and ready for the challenge," Pakistan captain Babar Azam said, adding: "We are taking one step at a time, but we have to be consistent across all formats. "One of the positives going into

the Galle Test is 13 of our players were here 12 months ago. Abrar Ahmed has identified himself as a good option in our combination. I am sure this tour will be a good learning curve for him as we have high hopes for him in this and future series.

"I am particularly pleased with the return of Shaheen Shah Afridi. Besides his wicket-taking abilities,

mixed results. In the seven Tests players were part of the side that his presence always motivates and lifts the side. I know Shaheen has badly missed red-ball cricket and is now hungry for Test cricket."

Shaheen was sitting on 99 Test wickets and will aim to become the fourth fastest Pakistan fast bowler to complete a century of wickets. He could have achieved this feat last year had he not been sidelined due to a knee injury.

Shan Masood, Babar Azam and Saud Shakeel scored half-centuries, while Hasan Ali, Shaheen Shah Afridi, Abrar Ahmed and Aamir Jamal took wickets against the SLC Board XI in Hambantota.

"Like any host country, Sri Lanka will like to play to their strength, which is spin bowling. We have had good feedback about the Sri Lanka side from their former coach Mickey Arthur and I think we are well-prepared to take them on. We will stick to basics and be patient as this is Test



cricket, which is a test of skills, ICC Men's Cricketer of the Year temperament and stamina.

"Test results in the past 12 months may not have been in our favour, but we have definitely developed and grown as a side." Babar Azam is the holder of the

for 2022. He has to date scored 3,696 runs in 47 Tests with nine centuries and 26 half-centuries. He is the only cricketer to feature inside the top three across all formats - third in Tests, first in Sir Garfield Sobers Trophy for the ODIs and second in T20Is.

Pakistan: Babar Azam (captain), Mohammad Rizwan, Aamir Jamal, Abdullah Shafique, Abrar Ahmed, Hasan Ali, İmam-ul-Haq. Mohammad Huraira, Mohammad Nawaz, Naseem Shah, Noman Ali, Salman Ali Agha, Sarfaraz Ahmed, Saud Shakeel, Shaheen Afridi and Shan Sri Lanka: Dimuth Karuna-

Squads (to be selected from):

ratne (captain), Nishan Madushka, Kusal Mendis, Angelo Matthews, Dinesh Chandimal, Dhananjaya de Silva, Pathum Nissanka, Sadeera Samarawickrama, Kamindu Mendis, Ramesh Mendis, Prabath Jayasuriya, Praveen Javawickrama, Kasun Rajitha, Dilshan Madushanka. Vishwa Fernando, Lakshitha Manasinghe. Match officials -Rod Tucker and Alex Wharf (both on-field), Chris Gaffaney (third umpire), David Boon (match