



Daily The Spokesman

A Leading National Daily

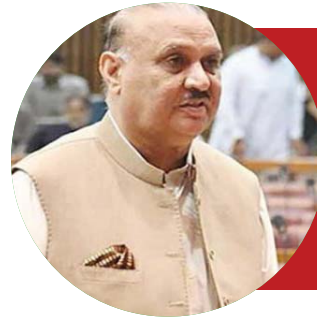


فرمان رسول ﷺ
ہم سے عبد اللہ بن ابی شیبہ نے بیان کیا، انہوں نے کہا ہم سے ابو اسامہ نے بیان کیا، انہوں نے کہا ہم سے شام بن عمرو نے بیان کیا، ان سے ان کے باپ (عروہ بن زبیر) نے بیان کیا اور ان سے عائشہ رضی اللہ عنہا نے بیان کیا اور ان سے عائشہ رضی اللہ عنہا نے بیان کیا کہ نبی کریم صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم طلو اور شہر کو دوست رکھتے تھے۔
(صحیح بخاری، حدیث نمبر 5599)

Barkat Rice Mills (Pvt) Limited

Ahsan accuses PTI of 'harming' CPEC

Planning Minister Ahsan Iqbal on Tuesday accused the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) of damaging the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). Addressing an event, Ahsan took a jibe at the PTI, saying, "The investors' confidence dropped significantly during the PTI-led government". (Details on Page 8)



Raja Riaz opposes Dar as interim PM, elections at the cost of public needs

Leader of the Opposition in National Assembly Raja Riaz said on Tuesday the appointment of Finance Minister Ishaq Dar as caretaker prime minister could rule out the possibility of elections in the country at least for two years. Expressing his views, Riaz said: "Instead of holding immediate elections, there is an urgent need to get the country out of crisis." (Details on Page 8)

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Inauguration

DERA ISMAIL KHAN: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif inaugurates and lays the foundation stone of various infrastructure development projects in Dera Ismail Khan on Tuesday.



Photo: PID

PTI chief's indictment in contempt case deferred till Aug 2

Naveed Ahmad Khan



ISLAMABAD: The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) on Tuesday deferred till August 2 the indictment of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan in a contempt case filed against him.

Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chief earlier today appeared before the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) amid strict security measures.

Yesterday, the Election Commission of Pakistan issued non-bailable arrest warrant for Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chairman in contempt case and ordered the federal capital police to arrest Khan and present him before the commission.

A four-member bench headed by Sindh member Nisar Ahmed heard the case and decided to frame charges against the PTI chief in the next hearing on August 2.

During the hearing today, Khan's legal counsel Shoaib Shaheen requested that the

hearing be adjourned until September.

"I have been appointed the PTI chairman's lawyer since the last hearing, I should be given an opportunity to read the case files," he said.

Later, the court adjourned the hearing till August 2 and ordered Imran's counsel to ensure his presence for the hearing.

In August 2022, the ECP issued notices to Imran Khan and others for allegedly using "intemperate" language against Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Sikander Sultan Raja and the electoral watchdog.

The political leaders repeatedly lambasted the commission and CEC Sikander Raja and termed electoral body as a "subsidiary of the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz".

PM Shehbaz Sharif says 'we staked our politics for state's survival'

Adam Khan Wazir

DERA ISMAIL KHAN: Prime Minister (PM) Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday said Pakistan successfully averted the threat of default and added no matter which government comes in power after elections, together, we will change the fate of this country.

He made these remarks during a ceremony regarding

development projects in Dera Ismail Khan.

While addressing the audience, PM Shehbaz Sharif stated that through our day and night hard work, we will change the destiny of this country. Yesterday, a decision was made to increase electricity prices on the strict conditions of the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

He further mentioned that we had to go through negotiations

and discussions with the IMF to sign the agreement, and conspiracies were also at their peak. The previous government broke the agreement after signing it, and we had to bear the consequences, he maintained.

If God forbid, the country defaults, my forehead would have been marked with shame, and my grave would have borne the inscription.

PM Shehbaz Sharif high-

lighted that when the coalition government took charge, the situation was difficult. During the course of our tenure, the largest and most devastating flood in history struck, affecting three crore (30 million) people across the country. The federal government distributed over 100 billion rupees to the affected families, younger Sharif said.

He stated that the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf chairman was

ready to sacrifice the state for the sake of political showmanship, but our coalition government decided to sacrifice politics and save the state.

Shehbaz Sharif expressed that the Chairman of PTI could have empowered the youth if he wanted to. I served Punjab for ten years and provided jobs to millions of youth and distributed hundreds of thousands of laptops based on merit, he said.

Caretaker gov't powers: Election Act amendments tabled in parliament

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The draft amendments to the Election Act 2017 were tabled in the joint sitting of the parliament for giving additional powers to the upcoming caretaker government.

The federal government tabled the recommended amendments to the Election Act 2017 for giving additional powers to the caretaker government. It was learnt that 54 amendments and Election Act 2017's sub-clause 2-A were included to the draft legislation.

Under the amendments, the caretaker government will get power for signing international agreements.

The ECP will be bound to give a verdict on electoral complaints within 30 days, as well as announce the delimitations before unveiling the election schedule.



Moreover, a returning officer (RO) will be bound to send a copy of the election results to the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) without wasting time and results will not be delayed by 2:00 am.

The presiding officer (PO) will forward the photo of the election results to the RO. In case of issuing results with a delay, the PO will submit solid reasons. Law enforcement agencies will perform duties outside the polling stations.

After the amendments, a political party would face a fine over failure to conduct intra-party elections in the given period.

In case of emergency, the PO can call the security staffs inside the polling station.

Turkey's Erdogan expected to visit Pakistan next month



Naveed Ahmad Khan

ISLAMABAD: Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan is expected to visit Pakistan next month.

Sources privy to the development told The Spokesman that the Turkish president will undertake an official visit to Pakistan in the first week of August. He would be accompanied by a high-level delegation including Turkish Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan.

During his stay in Pakistan, Erdogan will hold a meeting with Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to discuss matters pertaining to mutual interest.

Meanwhile, Turkish Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan will hold a meeting with his Pakistani counterpart Bilawal Bhutto Zardari.

US secretary of state telephones FM Bilawal

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: US Secretary of State Antony Blinken telephoned his Pakistani counterpart Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari to discuss Pakistan's economy and Afghanistan-related issues.

According to State Department's spokesperson Matthew Miller, Secretary Blinken reaffirmed a "productive US-Pakistan partnership" in a phone conversation with FM Bilawal.

The secretary and foreign minister also discussed the destabilising effects of Russia's war against Ukraine as well as the United States and Pakistan's shared interest in a peaceful and stable Afghanistan.

During the call with FM Bilawal, Secretary Blinken underscored the United States' steadfast commitment to the people of Pakistan, highlighting that the



economic success of Pakistan remains a top priority for the US.

The secretary noted that the US would continue to engage with Pakistan through technical and development initiatives and through our robust trade and investment ties.

He also welcomed the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) approval of a programme to support Pakistan and encouraged continued reforms to promote economic recovery and prosperity.

Omar strongly condemns re-arrests of Ali Muhammad Khan

Waseem Khokhar

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Secretary General Omar Ayub Khan strongly condemned the re-arrest of PTI senior leader MNA Ali Muhammad Khan and vowed that they were immediately initiating legal proceedings against those public servants who were involved in misusing their powers.

PTI SG said that there were no words to condemn this behavior of this fascist PDM federal government and illegal KPK provincial government.

Omar said that Peshawar High Court had given clear directions and these directions have been violated, as Ali Muhammad Khan has been re-arrested.

"Blatant contempt of court. It appears that DC Mardan is acting more loyal than the king and is misusing his powers. You cannot defeat an idea whose time has come," he added.

Khawaja Asif's remarks about PTI women create furore in NA

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Defence Minister Khawaja Asif's remarks about Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) women lawmakers created a furore in the National Assembly.

As per details, the federal minister termed the PTI women senators' 'garbage' and 'remains' of PTI in the senate.

At this, Law Minister Azam Nazir Tarar requested the speaker to expunge the words said in a rash of emotions by PTI senator Ali Zafar and Khawaja Asif.

The PTI senator Ali Zafar said that the current members of the assembly are a herd of sheep. However, the speaker said that both words are expunged now from the assembly's proceedings. Earlier, Defence Minister Khawaja Asif landed in hot water over his disrespectful remarks on Vice Chancellors.

In a letter to Speaker National Assembly Raja Pervaiz Ashraf, 22 Vice Chancellors demanded that Defence Minister Khawaja



Asif should publicly apologize for his remarks.

The letter stated that the derogatory remarks used for Vice Chancellors during his speech in the National Assembly, referring to them as "dacoits" should be expunged.

In 2016, Khawaja Asif came under criticism by opposition leaders for referring to Shireen Mazari as a "tractor trolley" when she tried to record her protest following Asif's brief on the state of flood-shedding in the country during Ramadan.

Shireen Mazari, however, had refused to accept the apology read out by Sadiq, saying that she would only do so if Asif came to the house himself and apologised personally.

Governance Forum 2023

ISLAMABAD: Speaker National Assembly Speaker Raja Pervez Ashraf addressing the participants of Pakistan Governance Forum 2023 "Towards a Roadmap for Transparent/Agile/Responsible Governance" on Tuesday.



Photo: PID

PM vows to rid country of loans, put on track of self-sustainability

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday said that the government had established a robust mechanism in form of the Special Investment Facilitation Council to attract investments with a view to do away with the "addiction" of borrowings and put the country on the course towards self-sustainability.

The prime minister, addressing the participants of the third meeting of International Partners Support Group (IPSG), said the government had chalked out an economic revival plan. Its implementation would require foreign investment and technical support from the friendly countries to enhance per acre yield of wheat, sugarcane and other commodities and focus on other areas of action.

He said his government's term was about to end by the next month, the upcoming interim government would also surely be adhering to the IMF deal as the first tranche had already been received.

He thanked the friendly countries and IMF Managing



Director for helping Pakistan to reach the \$3 billion agreement for a nine-month period.

He said the SIFC would focus on promotion of agriculture sector and introduction of value added products which would obviously require an infrastructure to be built from the investment from Gulf nations, America, North America or any other country desiring to invest.

Besides, the Council would also help promote the IT and mining sector as the country was rich with immense potential in both sectors.

Prime Minister Shehbaz assured the meeting that every penny coming from the

received by June 30, 2023 under the pledges made for various projects during the Climate Resilient Pakistan Conference, while \$715 million have been received from donors and friendly countries for these projects. During the current year 2023-24, around \$913.5 million will be spent on construction and rehabilitation projects in flood affected areas under the donors support.

The meeting was further informed that 19 projects have been designed for flood prevention and rehabilitation of victims, including eight for Sindh, seven for Balochistan, three for Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and one for the whole of Pakistan.

The meeting was told that 64 percent of the money received for relief work was being spent in Sindh.

It was told that \$16.2 billion was estimated for reconstruction under the 4-RF (4RF), of which \$8.15 billion are being funded by the federal and provincial governments through PSDP and ADP, while the matching amount will be provided by

friendly countries and international organizations.

On this occasion, UNDP Resident Coordinator Samuel Rizk said that one year had passed since the disastrous floods in Pakistan and the presence of all partners to review the progress of the rehabilitation works was welcoming.

He said the rehabilitation of flood affected areas was possible only with the cooperation of all partners and UNDP would continue to play its full role in this regard as the Secretariat of the International Partner Support Group.

Federal ministers Ishaq Dar, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, Sherry Rehman, Minister of State Hina Rabbani Khar, Special assistants Tariq Fatemi and Tariq Bajwa, representatives of UNDP, World Bank, European Union, ADB, IMF, USAID, and diplomats from America, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, China, Canada, Qatar, United Arab Emirates, Japan, South Korea, Germany, Azerbaijan, Italy and Norway, and other relevant high officials participated in the meeting.

Raja Riaz opposes Dar as interim PM, elections at the cost of public needs

City Desk

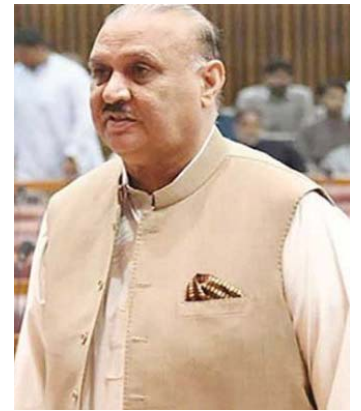
ISLAMABAD: Leader of the Opposition in National Assembly Raja Riaz said on Tuesday the appointment of Finance Minister Ishaq Dar as caretaker prime minister could rule out the possibility of elections in the country at least for two years.

Expressing his views, Riaz said: "Instead of holding immediate elections, there is an urgent need to get the country out of crisis."

"As the Leader of the Opposition, I will recommend three names to the government for the appointment of the interim prime minister. I am consulting with the friends in the opposition to finalise the names for the caretaker prime minister," Riaz said.

"I will make a final decision regarding the name of the caretaker prime minister in the first week of August with the prime minister. The names will be finalised in the first phase for the caretaker setup," he maintained.

On Monday, Defence Minister Khawaja Asif reacted to Finance Minister Ishaq Dar's nomination as



the caretaker prime minister.

Speaking to media, Asif said: "Ishaq Dar is my brother and a friend. Dar and I share a relationship that I very much own. During Pervez Musharraf's era, we both faced jail. The possibility of Dar becoming prime minister is something I also hope for."

"However, my knowledge is that there are objections to Ishaq Dar's appointment as the interim prime minister. The people will raise objections if the caretaker prime minister will be from the ruling party," he said.

Ahsan accuses PTI of 'harming' CPEC



Waseem Khokhar

ISLAMABAD: Planning Minister Ahsan Iqbal on Tuesday accused the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) of damaging the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

Addressing an event, Ahsan took a jibe at the PTI, saying, "The investors' confidence dropped significantly during the PTI-led government."

"The CPEC projects will be taken forward for the welfare of the people. However, concerted efforts were urgently needed to take the CPEC forward," he maintained.

He stressed the need for promoting education, tourism, and culture through the CPEC.

Speaking about the importance of the Belt and Road Initiative, Ahsan said: "The project [the Belt and Road Initiative] is an important project of the CPEC."

Ahsan emphasised the joint efforts to meet the challenges of the world and climate change.

He said that the Russia-Ukraine war had affected the economy of the whole world. "The entire world had to face the consequences of the war," Ahsan added.

Wang Yi appointed foreign minister of China

Spokesman Report

BEIJING: Wang Yi was appointed as foreign minister of China by the country's top legislature on Tuesday.

China's top legislature also voted to appoint Pan Gongsheng as central bank governor, as it convened a session.

Qin Gang was removed from the post of foreign minister he concurrently held; Yi Gang was removed from the post of governor of the People's Bank of China, according to

a decision adopted at the fourth session of the Standing Committee of the 14th National People's Congress (NPC).

Chinese President Xi Jinping signed a presidential order to effectuate the decision.

Zhao Leji, chairman of the NPC Standing Committee, presided over the session, which opened on Tuesday morning. A draft amendment to the Criminal Law was reviewed at the session, Chinese media reported.

The amendment focuses on



better implementing the Party Central Committee's principles and policies regarding the fight against corruption and the protection of private enterprises in accordance with the law.

It refines stipulations concerning the crime of offering bribes as well as corruption conducted by private enterprise personnel.

On Tuesday afternoon, Zhao presided over a meeting of the Council of Chairpersons of the NPC Standing Committee before the closing meeting of the session.

The closing meeting, attended by 169 members of the NPC Standing Committee, approved the personnel appointments and removals.

Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari congratulated Wang Yi on his appointment as China's Foreign Minister.

On his Twitter handle, the foreign minister praised Wang Yi as "an astute and seasoned diplomat" with whom he had the distinct pleasure of interacting twice last year.

"I'm confident that under his watch our all-weather strategic cooperative partnership would grow from strength to strength," he further added.

South Asia deserves peace more than any other region, says Zaheer Janjua

Spokesman Report

Pakistan High Commissioner to Canada Zaheer A. Janjua has hoped the South Asian region will be free from conflicts and the people of the region will be able to live their lives in peace and harmony.

He made these comments while speaking to members of the Sri Chinmoy Oneness-Home Peace Run team that visited the Pakistan High Commission in Ottawa while relaying a peace torch from its birthplace in New York to the World Parliament of Religions in Chicago.

Welcoming the team and receiving the peace torch, the High Commissioner lauded the Peace Run initiative and the idea of using peace torch and running from places to



places to promote peace and foster unity and friendship among the people of all faiths,

cultures and walks of life.

He said Pakistan needs peace more than anyone else

as it is situated in a region that has been ravaged by conflicts for a long time. He particular-

ly referred to the oppressed people of Kashmir who were in dire need of peace after having endured 76 years of occupation. "We need to end conflicts and let the people move on with their lives," he added.

Earlier, members of the Peace Run team were served with drinks and refreshments after they arrived at the Pakistan High Commission. The team leader presented peace torch to High Commissioner who thanked organisers of the Peace Run for letting Pakistan High Commission be part of their peace efforts. Later, the High Commissioner holding the peace torch aloft in his hands, joined the runners and ran some distance with the Peace Run team to show support and solidarity for the cause of peace.

Aamir Dogar shifted to hospital for leg operation



By Asim Tanveer

MULTAN: Former Minister of State and Ex MNA From Tehreek-e-Insaf

Malik Amir Dogar is suffering from severe pain in his leg, which will undergo an operation soon. In this regard, According to Malik Adnan Dogar that those who want to meet or contact Malik Amir Dogar after his release are requested that he is currently undergoing preparations for his leg operation because a long time ago due to an injury, rods and steel plates were inserted in his leg due to lack of proper treatment facilities in the jail. I had increased pain intensity

And before that, after falling from the roof of a jeep in Islamabad on May 25, 2022, Malik Amir Dogar had pain in his leg all the time. On May 8, Former Federal Minister for State Aamir Dogar shifted to hospital for leg operation

Pakistan believes sustainable economic development: Gillani

Kiran Asim

CAMBODIA: Former Prime Minister and Senator Syed Yousaf Raza Gillani participated in the international leadership conference organized by the Universal Peace Federation. Gillani addressed the participants. Former Prime Minister Yousaf Raza Gillani says that Pakistan as a country has made significant progress in strengthening democratic institutions, promoting political stability and maintaining the principles of the rule of law and despite the challenges faced, Pakistan's commitment to democratic values is unwavering.



are very strongly linked with the achievement of peace and development and Pakistan believes that sustainable economic development is the basic condition for stability and development in a society.

Addressing the International Leadership Conference organized by the Universal Peace Federation in Cambodia on the theme of Promoting a Tradition of Peace in the Asia-Pacific and the World through Peace, Democracy, Good Governance, and Development," the former Prime Minister said that in this era of interconnectedness and interdependence, the role of bilateral and multilateral cooperation has become extremely important to maintain peace and harmony throughout the world.

He said that in recent years, our government has given high priority to economic reforms, encouraging foreign investment, and implementing policies that promote an environment conducive to business growth. As a result, Pakistan has experienced positive developments in various sectors, creating opportunities for domestic and international investors.

He said that economic and investment opportunities around the world

The former Prime Minister further said that CPEC, acting as a flagship

project through the Belt and Road Initiative, has played a significant role in promoting regional integration, infrastructure development and economic integration and this initiative has great potential to open up vast opportunities for trade, investment and people-to-people exchanges not only between Pakistan and China but also between Pakistan's neighboring countries.

Yousaf Raza Gillani said that while considering the regional motivations, we should also recognize the importance of Pakistan's relations with India, America and Cambodia. Pakistan is committed to resolving issues through peaceful coexistence, dialogue and diplomacy. We strongly believe that constructive engagement and dialogue is the only way to achieve lasting peace and stability in South Asia.

Talking about India, he said that Pakistan has been continuously stressing the importance of dialogue to resolve all outstanding issues, including the long-standing Kashmir dispute, and is ready to engage in meaningful dialogue with India in the belief that a peaceful solution can be found, which will benefit both nations and contribute to regional stability. He further said that Pakistan's relationship with America is also very important for achieving peace

and development.

He said that as an important ally, Pakistan has promoted cooperation with the United States in various fields including security, trade and investment. And Pakistan strongly believes that a mutually beneficial relationship with the US can contribute to regional peace and prosperity. He said that Pakistan's relations and bilateral cooperation with Cambodia are of great importance.

Praising the Cambodian government for its progress in areas such as good governance and economic development, the former prime minister said that Pakistan and Cambodia share common historical and cultural ties and both countries have great potential to enhance cooperation in trade, tourism, education and people-to-people exchanges. The former prime minister added that it is also imperative to acknowledge the challenges faced while discussing peace, democracy, good governance and development.

He said that we live in a world that is facing multiple global crises including climate change, terrorism, poverty and inequality. To overcome these challenges and promote a culture of peace, we must prioritize inclusive and sustainable development.

District Administration established a Central Control Room: Umar Jahangir

Asim Tanveer



MULTAN: Deputy Commissioner Umar Jahangir has said that the district administration has established a central control room in the context of Muharram. In the control room established in the Deputy Commissioner's office, there will be direct monitoring of processions and gatherings through 180 cameras. 1533 Majlis will be held

While the security red alert has been kept on the occasion of Muharram. Umar Jahangir said that the district administration has also obtained the support of the army and rangers. There will be special monitoring of 101 sensitive processions and 325 sensitive assemblies. Those who take the law into their hands will be dealt with with iron hands.

Five Deputy Directors of Information Department Punjab promoted

Quratul Ain Asim

MULTAN: Information and Culture Department Punjab Secretary Ali Nawaz Malik issued a notification for promotion of 5 Deputy Directors to the post of Directors

Deputy Director Ahmed Naeem promoted to grade 19 and posted as Director Public Relations Multan

Deputy Director Muhammad Tariq Ismail has been promoted to grade 19 and posted as Director Public Relations DGPR Headquarters.

Deputy Director Khurshed Jilani has been promoted to grade 19 and posted as Director Public Relations Faisalabad

Deputy Director Qudratullah has been promoted to grade 19 and posted as Director Public Relations DGPR Headquarters.

Deputy Director Ifikhar Ali Shah has been promoted to grade 19 and posted as Director Public Relations Sargodha.

Golden Ticket for Startup Founders; CIRCLE brings She Loves Tech back for its 7th year



Bureau Report

LAHORE: She Loves Tech is a global startup and tech competition with a strong focus on empowering women entrepreneurs. CIRCLE Women Association, a women-led startup has been bringing She Loves Tech to Pakistan for the last seven years consecutively with support from HBL and building upon the success of previous editions.

In a nation where the percentage of female entrepreneurs is merely one percent according to the World Bank, women who own businesses encounter a wide array of obstacles. On the other hand, She Loves Tech Pakistan tops the list of top 10 rounds with the most applications in 2022 amongst 70+ countries where the competition is taking place.

She Loves Tech, plays a vital role in nurturing young startups and transforming their ideas into tangible realities and stands out for its prize funding of up to \$100,000 connecting female entrepreneurs with a network of 50+ ecosystem partners, inspirational role models and mentors while building their capacity with the help of specialized curriculum. The winner from Pakistan will get the chance to go to Singapore for the She Loves Tech Global finale and Conference.

Sadaf Abid, Founder CIRCLE Women expressed her motivation for bringing the competition to Pakistan, stating, "Supporting women entrepreneurs is not only a choice; it is a vital necessity of our time. By bridging the gender gap in entrepreneurship, we unleash the untapped talent and creativity of our women to solve challenges of our times. Embracing women in their entrepreneurial pursuits goes beyond business creation to building resilience, uplifting families, empowering generations and cultivating vibrant communities."

She Loves Tech 2023 is taking proactive steps to foster dialogue and collaboration between government officials and industry leaders for financial inclusion of women. As part of this effort, round table conferences will be organized, aiming to collectively develop policies that establish a supportive environment for women entrepreneurs and facilitate their thriving participation in the dynamic startup ecosystem.

"It has been a phenomenal experience being part of She Loves Tech Pakistan, all thanks to CIRCLE! She Loves Tech made me realize that I'm not alone as a woman entrepreneur and has given me a community that I can call my own and rely on whenever need be. The guidance provided at the boot camp and by the mentors were monumental in shaping us towards our win!" shares Dr. Sarah Alam, Founder Tibbi.pk and Winner She Loves Tech Pakistan 2022.

She Loves Tech this year is set to include local rounds in Islamabad, Karachi, Lahore, Multan, Faisalabad, Sukkur, Quetta, Hyderabad and Gilgit amongst the 15 participating cities. As a part of the outreach efforts, the She Loves Tech Pakistan team will be traveling to six out of nine cities and hold

Patrolling

KARACHI: Police personnel stand guard at Nomaish Churangi to maintain security during the month of the Muharram-ul-Haram in Provincial Capital.



Photo: Online

Support truthfully the Needy and Poor: Sh. Masood

Mian Rashid Asghar

FAISALABAD: All local & national human organisations will have to play their role transparently for supporting the needy and poor at any cost keeping away personal interests.

It was expressed in the 3rd meeting of the Sheikh community which held at a local hotel accompanied with the Chief Guest General Secretary of Anjuman Tajran City Registered Faisalabad (SCA Group) Sheikh Saeed Ahmed and Founder Punjab Sheikh Community Group Sheikh Badr Alam (Jampur).

According to the details, the guests were warmly welcomed by numbers of sheikhs who participated in this meeting. The meeting turned into the election of office bearers where Sheikh Muhammad Masood, the President of Sheikh Community, Senior Vice President Abid Topra, Vice Presidents Sheikh Muhammad Ashfaq, Sheikh Muhammad Azam, General Secretary Sheikh Salman Khalid, Additional Secretary Information Muhammad Shahzad, Chairman Admin Committee Sheikh Ishti-



aq Rahat, Liaison Secretary Usman Saem, Legal Secretary Majid Topra, executive member Imran Attari, Imran Saeed, Faisal Mumtaz, Adnan Aslam were selected. Sheikh Badr Alam and Sheikh Saeed Ahmad performed the oath taking ceremony and congratulated the officials. Speaking on this occasion, the elected president Sheikh Muhammad Masood expressed that, God willing, the community will be fully developed on the bases of humanitarian relief from this community, while some members have donated wheel chairs and other items as gifts

for the members of the community and if the members take care painfully of the members and relatives of the community & others in this way, however, there is no doubt that the community will continue to grow.

He further said that our leader Khawaja Shahid Razaq has also built a Dialysis Center and our community will also benefit from it, that is, if any sheikh in the sheikh community needs dialysis, free of cost dialysis can be done from Rehman Dialysis Center. Speaking further, he has said that Anjuman Tajran City will take care

of Sheikh Community in every way & in all respect.

He elaborated that, whenever we are needed in any place, certainly we will stand by your side at large.

The Chief guest Sheikh Badr Alam (Jampur) has said that he found the establishment of Sheikh community in Faisalabad fruitfully promoting and all the members in it are doing their best services and my experience has increased immeasurably for further future planning & strategies regarding the real support for the deserving people of this society.

PepsiCo Pakistan and WWF-Pakistan partner to inaugurate coastal clean-up project

Spokesman Report

KARACHI: PepsiCo Pakistan has launched a Coastal Clean-up Project in collaboration with WWF-Pakistan at the Karachi Fish Harbour. This project is a part of PepsiCo's global PepsiCo Positive (pep+) sustainability agenda that encompasses various environmental and sustainability initiatives to do good for people and the planet. It is based on a scoping study conducted by WWF-Pakistan for waste quantification and characterization of coastal sites in Karachi to identify the interventions which will be implemented as part of this project.

The overarching goal of the Coastal Clean-up Project is to collect and

control the dispersal of plastic waste through a comprehensive coastal clean-up activation. In addition, the activation will also generate awareness among the local community and relevant stakeholders about recycling and proper waste disposal.

PepsiCo associates were joined by WWF-Pakistan team members as well as relevant stakeholders from key government organisations including Sindh Environmental Protection Agency, National Institute of Oceanography, Marine Fisheries Department, Sindh Fisheries, Karachi Fisheries Harbour Authority, and the Pakistan Fisherfolk Forum. The event also marks the formal inauguration of a litter boom installation, which is a floating barrier designed

to tactically prevent litter from continuing to float into water sources.

Ghazi Salahuddin, Regional Head Sindh and Balochistan, WWF-Pakistan, while inaugurating the event said, "Our oceans are burdened with waste which is impacting the health of our marine ecosystems. Addressing coastal littering, caused largely by human activity and movement, is paramount if we are to conserve nature."

During the session, Basit Pirzada, Senior Manager Public Policy, Government Affairs and Sustainability at PepsiCo Pakistan, highlighted the need for plastic collection and recycling. He further shared PepsiCo Pakistan's extensive work on advancing the circular economy of plastics with stakeholder

alignment, including various government offices including the Ministry of Climate Change and Environmental Coordination, Government of Pakistan.

Basit Pirzada added, "PepsiCo is committed to tackling plastics collection, recycling, and the circular economy of plastics. Our PepsiCo Positive (pep+) agenda is focused on creating a world in which plastic never has to become waste. We are further galvanizing our efforts by empowering stakeholders such as WWF-Pakistan to implement transformational technologies to address immediate issues and create awareness for long-term impact and meaningful on-ground change. In addition, we are leveraging the power of our brands to mainstream



public awareness about issues of proper waste disposal and recycling to support the safety of our riverine, coastal, and marine habitats."

While concluding the event, Nazifa Butt, Head Climate & Energy Program, WWF-Pakistan, emphasised on the need of such projects by stating, "There is an urgent need for activities and

clean-up projects that enhance public awareness of managing debris along our coastline. Through corporate engagement, we can expedite the deployment of locally manufactured technologies to address the issue of plastics in our oceans and rivers, while also supporting broader policies focused on waste management and plastics reduction."



Islamabad
15° - 23° Clear

SERVICES

Namaz Timings

Fajr 3:37 am
Zohr 12:14 pm
Asr 5:09 pm
Maghrib 7:14 pm
Isha 8:51 pm

EMERGENCY

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

Women Police Stations

Islamabad 9222596
Rawalpindi 9270601-20

ENQUIRY

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

HOSPITALS

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

DEPARTMENTS

CDA 921334-43
CDA 9208301-04
Met Office 9250360-6
RDA 5555864
TMA 5770886
Cantonment Board 9270151-3
Islamabad Metropolitan
Corporation 9209224
Potohar Town 9209224

M/o Education provide financial support to private educational institutions: Dr. Afzal



City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Achieving national and international educational goals is possible only with the support of stakeholders. The Federal Ministry of Education should help finance private educational institutions that increase the standard literacy rate. These views were expressed by the Central President of Private Schools Network Islamabad, Dr. Muhammad Afzal Babar while addressing the ceremony of out-of-school children at the Central Secretariat. But we have to work together

On this occasion Director General Bax Hameed Khan Niazi said that in our movement where all the other sectors of the society have participated, the management of low-income private educational institutions have also actively cooperated. PSN Central General Secretary Maqbool Hussain Dar, Islamabad Board of Education Chairman Chaudhry Muhammad Arshad, Central Vice President Haji Abdul Nadeem Mughal and Raja Imran-ul-Haq Director Backs also expressed their views.

Money of EOBI will not be allowed to go to waste: Sajid Turi

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Overseas Pakistanis Sajid Hussain Turi has disclosed that ten years ago EOBI has paid a huge sum of 2600 million to Park View City a housing society owned by the leader of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Istehkam party, Abdul Aleem Khan) for total 742 plots (684 residential and 58 commercial) and another 226 commercial plots in the River Edge Housing Scheme Lahore, which is now known as Park View Society. At the same time, the housing society Eden owned by the former Chief Justice Supreme Court Iftikhar Chaudhry Arsalan Iftikhar Chaudhry will also have to answer.



It should be remembered that this land was bought at double the price at that time. While three-fourth of this property has not been completed so far. While all payments have been made in lump sum 10 years ago. On which no positive progress could be made so far. It should

be noted that the current value of this property has exceeded more than eight billion rupees. This is a huge loss for the Ministry of Overseas as well as EOBI and a criminal step on the part of the society owners. Which should be stopped in any case.

The federal minister assured that every possible effort will be made to get back the hard earned money of the workers from these possession mafias. It is our effort that the resources of the Ministry of Overseas & EOBI will not be wasted in any case. Along with this, I also request all the relevant institutions including the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Pakistan to take timely notice of the relevant case and bring the culprits to justice.

Probluem

ISLAMABAD: A large number of the employees of Diplomatic Enclave are suffering from a week due to the government policy regarding the entering of bikes to constitution avenue from 1st Muharram till 10th, in Federal Capital.



Photo: Online by Sultan Bashir

PM AJK met Chairman HEC



Bureau Report

ISLAMABAD: Azad Jammu and Kashmir Prime Minister Chaudhry Anwar Haq was met by Chairman Higher Education Commission Dr. Khawaja Mukhtar Ahmed.

On this occasion, Government Ministers Raja Faisal Mumtaz Rathore and Chaudhry Azhar Sadiq, former adviser Sardar Amjad

Yousuf, Vice Chancellor Must Prof. Dr. Muhammad Younis Javed, Registrar Must University Prof. Dr. Khizrul Haque, Director Haveli Campus Prof. Dr. Khawaja Farooq Ahmed were also present.

There was a detailed discussion on other issues including improving the placement. During the meeting, it was agreed on the issues of establishing Didyal Campus and

Abbaspur Campus and further improving the Haveli Campus. On this occasion, the Prime Minister said that HEC should provide support to standardize the performance of universities in Azad Kashmir.

He said that there is a need to improve the quality of education so that the students who graduate from our universities are in tune with the requirements of the modern era and

also meet international standards. There is a need to promote the interaction of the students so that they can get an opportunity to learn from each other's experiences. He said that university campuses have been established across Azad Kashmir with the aim of providing the nearest higher education to the students, HEC should provide full support to them.

Accelerating an end to smoking

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: Nearly 80% of doctors worldwide mistakenly believe nicotine causes lung cancer, thwarting efforts to hold one billion smokers quit, according to a survey conducted in 11 countries.

The survey of 15000 doctors in 11 countries - China, Germany, Greece, India, Indonesia, Israel, Italy, Japan, South Africa, UK, and the US - has been conducted by Sermo and funded by the Foundation for a Smoke-Free World. The survey is aimed at developing actionable insights for accelerating an end to smoking. Sermo is an independent platform and leader in actionable healthcare professional insights.

The physicians surveyed are full time, licensed to practice, with a minimum of two years' experience, who spend at least 50% of their time in direct patient care, seeing a minimum of 20 adult patients per month. They work in a broad range of specialties from family/general practice to internal medicine, cardiology, pulmonology, oncology, and psychiatry.

According to the survey, a significant majority of doctors worldwide mistakenly attributes negative health consequences of smoking to nicotine. Of them, 78% think nicotine causes atherosclerosis, while 77% said it causes lung cancer, followed 76% who hold nicotine responsible for COPD, 72% birth defects, 71% head/neck gastric cancers, and 69% bladder cancer.

In Pakistan also, an overwhelming majority of doctors mistakenly believes nicotine is carcinogenic. In a survey conducted by Alternative Research Initiative (ARI) in 2022, more than two-thirds of doctors (70%) strongly agreed and 17.9% somewhat agreed with the statement that nicotine causes cancer. Almost 80% doctors strongly agreed with the statement that nicotine causes cardiovascular disease while 81.6% held it responsible for COPD. Similarly, 61.7% strongly agreed that nicotine causes birth defects. Majority of doctors who had specific smoking cessation training strongly agreed that nicotine contributed to cancer (73.2%), cardiovascular disease (82.1%), birth defects (64.3%) and COPD (89.3%), respectively. Similarly, doctors with no specific smoking cessation training also strongly agreed that nicotine contributed to cancer (69.4%), cardio-vascular disease (79.4%), birth defects (61.2%), and COPD (80.1%).

Sardar Attique Ahmad Khan met to Mirza Shafiq Jaral



Abdul Majeed Tahir

RAWALPINDI: President of All Jammu and Kashmir Muslim Conference and former Prime Minister of Azad Kashmir Sardar Attique Ahmad Khan met Mirza Muhammad Shafiq Jaral Advocate ex-President Muslim Conference at Mujahid Manzil. During the meeting, President Muslim Conference Sardar Attique Ahmad Khan said that the people of Occupied Jammu and Kashmir are creating an eternal story of sacrifices for Pakistan. The Kashmiris will make sacrifices and soon the people of Occupied Kashmir will get rid of Indian oppression and brutality and join Pakistan. Dozens of Kashmiris are being martyred every day, but despite this, the freedom spirit of Kashmiris is not diminishing. He said that the people of Kashmir love their motherland dearly and they are embracing death with a smile for the love of their country. He said that the people of Occupied Kashmir are still making sacrifices following the footsteps of the martyrs of Kashmir, India is suppressing the voice of truth and truth of Kashmiris like the Dogra rulers. He said that the Kashmir issue has become the flash point of South Asia. Hamza Jaral, Faheem Jaral and Saad Jaral were also present on this occasion.

AIOU reviews admission and exam strategies



City Desk

ISLAMABAD: "We need to take preemptive measures to improve the admission and examination systems" said Vice Chancellor, Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU), Prof. Dr. Nasir Mahmood while presiding over an online meeting of regional directors' yesterday

The Vice-Chancellor said Regional directors should continuously visit examination centers to ensure transparency in the examination system. He further said Regional directors of AIOU need to be more active to convey the message of university to the backward areas of the country so that maximum number of people can be included in the educational network. Vice-Chancellor directed the regional heads to appoint examination staff, especially Distribution Inspectors, Mobile Inspectors, Superintendents, and Invigilators purely based on merit. Dr. Nasir Mahmood also allowed that results awaiting students can apply for admission and directed regional heads to especially focus on continuing students and take necessary steps to retain the students until they complete the program. The Vice Chancellor has set the target of admissions of at least 6 lakh students for the autumn semester 2023 and directed the Regional Directors to play their role in achieving the target. All the regional directors participated online in conference and the principal officers of the university were also present.

Education Minister inaugurates Academics & Examination Block established with Saudi funding at IIUI

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Education Rana Tanveer Hussain inaugurated the Academics and examination Block at International Islamic University (IIU) that is established with the Saudi funding to facilitate the students as per international standards and modern technology requirements.

The Federal Education Minister was received by H. E. Dr. Hathal Homoud Alotaibi, President IIU at the new Academic and examination Block where he apprised him of his vision to facilitate the students on top priority with the use of modern technology and one stop approach. He told that

the new academic block and Students Facilitation centre will be equipped with modern technology, state of the art gadgets and well trained staff. Senator Dr. Hafiz Abdul Karim, Special Assistant to Prime Minister was also present on the occasion.

Speaking on the occasion, Rana Tanveer Hussain said that IIU is one of the best universities in the world, while specially thanked the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, H. E. King Salman bin AbdulAziz Al Saud and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman for extending consistent cooperation to this university since its inception.

He said IIU is a promising seat of learning as it is providing quality education to more than

30 thousand students including foreigner students of more than 40 countries. He appreciated the efforts of Dr. Hathal Homoud Alotaibi saying that his student centric approach is laudable and this new facility to solve the issues of the students with use of modern technology is useful addition. He added that the university is heading towards right direction in his leadership. He called upon the universities to replicate the approach of IIU that university adopted for students facilitation.

Talking about the Saudi assistance to the university, Rana Tanveer Hussain said since inception of IIUI KSA is extending cooperation to university. He said establish-

ment of this facility with the financial assistance of Saudi govt is an omen of that cooperation. He said Pakistan and Saudi Arabia are time tested friends. He furthered that Pakistani have strong emotional attachment to the Holy land of Saudi Arabia. The Education Minister added that brotherly ties between Pakistan and Saudi Arabia are getting stronger by every passing day. The Minister also appreciated the role of the university leadership in its progress and appreciated keen interest of the Pro-chancellor of the university Dr. Prof. Dr. Ahmed bin Salem Al Ameri.

The minister along with the IIU President also visited Students Facilitation Centre, offices of admission, examina-



tion, degree, fee and scholarships. He was briefed about the procedure to solve the academic and examination related issues of the students under one roof without any delay.

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Pakistan's most wanted criminals - II

He finally turned zero. He was accused of financial mismanagement and promoting a family company at state expense. Accused of money laundering and illegally moving funds abroad, the Hudaibiya Paper Mills case and Panama Papers leak defamed him. In the late 1990s, his second term as Prime Minister saw him convicted of contempt. In the Panama Papers case, the Supreme Court of Pakistan disqualified him from public office for corruption and undeclared assets. After his government was ousted in a 1999 coup, he was exiled to Saudi Arabia. He returned to Pakistan in 2007 but was again exiled abroad on medical grounds in 2019. He was declared absconder and the most wanted criminal. He was banned from the media and Pakistani politics.

Imran Khan is one of Pakistan's most famous cricketers and is regarded as one of the finest all-rounders in the sport's history. From the late 1970s to the mid-1990s, he represented Pakistan in international cricket. In 1992, he led Pakistan to its first Cricket World Cup triumph. For his great exploits, he was named Wisden Cricketer of the Year in 1983. He founded the Shaikat Khanum Memorial Cancer Hospital & Research Centre (SKMCH&RC) in Lahore in 1991, and it is now being built in Peshawar and Karachi. He established a planned educational community in Mianwali, which included Namal University as well as a variety of other educational institutions such as a talented school, a research centre, and a library. He has contributed funds to the construction of schools and hospitals, as well as to people and families in need. His altruism has been recognised

by numerous accolades, including the Hilal-e-Imtiaz, Pakistan's highest civilian honour. In addition, he was named one of Time magazine's 100 Most Influential People in the World. He established the Imran Khan Foundation, which provides relief to victims of natural disasters and other emergencies, donates funds to build schools and hospitals in rural Pakistan, provides financial assistance to widows and orphans, and raises awareness about a variety of social issues, including cancer, education, and poverty, that affect the lives of millions of Pakistanis. He founded the Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) in 1996, and after winning the general election in July 2018, became Pakistan's 22nd Prime Minister. He created the Sehat Sahulat Programme, a universal health insurance scheme, maintained an independent foreign policy and repaired strained civil-military relations. It was finally his turn to become the most wanted criminal. He was accused of accepting money from foreign sources, handling the COVID-19 outbreak, illegally keeping the gifts obtained from other governments and making a classified Cypher public. Around 180 cases have been filed against him on as many different allegations as one can think of, including attempted murder, murder, encouraging violence, terrorism, insurgency, violation of the Secrecy Act, violation of election rules, and conspiracy against the state. The state apparatus, the government, the media, and law enforcement agencies such as the NAB, FIA, FBI, and military intelligence are all on the lookout for him in anticipation of his arrest. Almost all politi-

cal leaders and spokespersons are using the full force of their arguments, consuming their entire intellect and reasoning power to prove him the most wanted criminal on the face of the earth. They lament the fact that why is he even allowed to breathe. Security has been increased around his house to the point where barbers are not permitted to enter Zaman Park Area. His party is shattered, his wife is appearing in multiple cases, his relatives, close associates, and workers are in jail, and he, like all other heroes, is likely to face the same end result: murder by some fanatic, forced exile, judicial murder, or life imprisonment.

We as a nation lament the fact that we have not been blessed with a genuine leader, but we will not allow the process of developing leadership to continue; we lament that we either drive them out or teach them such a lesson for entering politics that many of their children will not enter politics. We encouraged our women and youth to enter politics, but when they did, we chased them and sent them back to their homes, or subjected them to such ignominious treatment that they and their families would not dare to do the same for the next generation. Heroes are not born every day, but those born in this country are made zero in all known cases.

Heroes represent a nation's values, ideals, and history, and mistreating them can have serious consequences. Disrespect for military heroes can have major ramifications for armed forces morale and

cohesion. Mistreatment of heroes harms a country's social fabric, political stability, and international status. They are the role models for nations. The tools of disrespect and humiliation, using allegations of treason, corruption, and conspiracy as tools to suppress political opposition or settle political scores, causing irreparable damage to the national psyche. Persecution of heroes can also cause political unrest and instability because fans of these figures may react violently to perceived injustices. When they are charged with crimes, it can weaken public trust in the justice and political institutions. Persecution of heroes may cause some individuals to leave the country, resulting in "brain drain" and talent loss. Such activities can harm a country's international reputation, potentially leading to penalties or isolation. It polarises society even more and exacerbates existing divisions.

Sadly because of our vested interests, we have become insensitive to any setback, illegal conduct, or violation of constitution or constitutional rights. We have lost sight of the distinction between truth and lies, honesty and dishonesty, loyalty and disloyalty, and, most all, the distinction between vested interest and national interest. In reality, Pakistan may be the only country where vested interests trump national interests, and as a result, it has sunk to the bottom of all international ratings and rankings.

Concluded
 The author is the former Press Secretary of the President of Pakistan, the former Press Minister of the Embassy of Pakistan in France and also has been the former MD / CEO Shalimar Recording and Broadcasting Company (SRBC)



Analysis

Qamar Bashir



Cartoon by Amjad Rasmi. (Courtesy of Ashraf Al-Awsat)

Pakistan urges UN to address situations in Kashmir, Afghanistan

Pakistan has urged the Peace building Commission (PBC), the UN body that supports peace efforts in conflict-affected countries, to expand its coverage to include Afghanistan and Jammu and Kashmir.

"Peacebuilding is a growth industry," Ambassador Munir Akram told the UN General Assembly which debated the annual report on the 31-member Peacebuilding Commission and the Peacebuilding Fund.

The Pakistani envoy, recognizing the increasing demands of the Peacebuilding Commission, said its financial resources are only half of what is required.

"Yet we must acknowledge that the PBC's coverage is not universal," he said.

"Significant situations such as in Afghanistan and Jammu and Kashmir are not among those addressed by the Peacebuilding Commission," Ambassador Akram added.

The Commission, he said, must remain responsive to national priorities and enhance national ownership and regional cooperation, while spotlighting its advisory role.

While the Commission advice must be substantive, it should receive bottom-up information and analysis from the Government, the resident coordinator and other stakeholders on country-specific situations.

Further, the Pakistani envoy expressed support for expanding finances through additional and innovative sources, while observing that a percentage of peacekeeping budget funds should be kept for peacebuilding towards the end of peacekeeping mandates.

In addition, the Peacekeeping Fund should be deployed for peacebuilding only; development funds should not be used for this purpose, Ambassador Akram emphasized.

The Commission's performance, he said, should be evaluated on the basis of actual outcomes rather than the number of meetings and engagements.

Most other speakers, underlining the importance of the Commission, spotlighted the value of national experience and ownership, along with the need for adequate funding.

The President of the General Assembly, Csaba Korosi, underscoring the importance of joint efforts before conflict erupts, said: "Peace cannot be kept by force."

Unless Member States place conflict prevention at the core of their peace efforts, the 2030 promise for a safe, sustainable future "will slip beyond the reach of many", he stressed.

Emphasizing that, 18 years after its creation, the Peacebuilding Commission is strategically placed to keep pace with evolving threats, the president encouraged the entity to make greater use of its advisory functions.

Don't Insist but Focus here!

Qur'an depicts: "Those who want evil to spread among the Muslims will have a painful chastisement in this world and the Hereafter, and Allah knows and you know not, and if it were not for the grace of Allah and His mercy upon you, and that Allah is Most Merciful to you, you would have tasted it."

Verily those who want the meaning of this verse is that those who intend and want to spread immorality among Muslims will have a painful punishment in this world and the hereafter. The punishment of this world means setting a limit, so Abdullah bin Ubi, Hazrat Hasan and Hazrat Mustah (RA) were set a limit, and the punishment of the hereafter means that if they die without repenting, then there is hell in the hereafter. He further said that Allah knows the secrets of the hearts and the innermost affairs and you do not know.

Claimer would surely claim his rights & that the talk of indecency spread among Muslims. A true lesson for those & an advice to those involved in publishing prostitution:

(1) It is narrated from Hazrat Jarir, may Allah bless him and grant him peace, that the Holy Prophet (SAW) said: "Whoever introduces a good method in Islam, for him is the reward of those who introduced it and

those who follow it after him, and the reward of those who do it is somewhat less than that. It will not happen, and whoever introduced a bad method in Islam, the sin of those who introduced this method and followed it is on him, and there will be no reduction in the sin of those who do it.

(2)- Sayyid al-Mursaleem, may God bless him and grant him peace, sent the letter to the emperor of Rome Herakles. It was written that (O Herakles!) I invite you to Islam. If you turn your back, the sin of the subjects will also be on you.

(3)- It is narrated from Hazrat Abdullah bin Masoud, may Allah be pleased with him, that the Messenger of Allah, may God bless him and grant him peace, said, "The person who is killed unjustly, in his unjust blood is the first son of Adam, may God bless him and grant him peace." Bel must be part of it because it is "First invented brutal murder."

And if Allah's bounty had not been upon you.} He said, "If Allah's grace and mercy had not been upon you, and that Allah is most kind and merciful to you, then Allah would have made you taste the taste of your act and would not have given you

respite from its punishment." Shakespeare gives us a throng of independent-minded spectators, whom a frustrated porter wants to "knock ... down by th' dozens".

"Power in Shakespeare's history plays depends on legitimisation more than legitimacy. Kingship was not always determined by heredity, and usurping rulers such as Henry IV had to justify their authority"

The difficulty of staging legitimisation is something that today's royal family is certainly familiar with.

May I also enjoy the style of politics where like an actor wearing a vivid red cloak, embroidered with golden lions, sits down, distraught, holding a crown out in their outstretched hand, as another actor looks concerned behind them, but make possible what is happening with the deserving people? Usurping rulers in the world such as Henry IV had to justify their authority, depending on legitimisation more than legitimacy, but we as Muslims need for Caliphate system whom you have been ignoring.

Consider! The media fall-out from the tour was stunning and swift. The royal couple were roundly criticised for

being out of touch with today's anti-colonial sensibilities. And charges of 'poor stagecraft' is something Shakespeare would have understood, since Tudor and Stuart monarchs relied on theatrical displays to legitimise their own power. Can we imagine that history correlates with the current curriculum in Pakistan?

Why should we walk out in the circumstances of sense & sensibilities, it is our real armour.

I will surely be disappointed, but never follow it because being Muslim, we are not so much with the world.

I am habitual of having expectations & hopes with patience.

So, any attempt to manage people's expectations must reckon with the fact that we are more than capable of coming to our own conclusions.

Nation demands constitutional rights from the institutions without any hindrance but personal greed has washed the moral code & waiting for a poise one who may save them from drowning further into marshy water and foul smelling.

Rulers are considered much responsible in all walks of life but what bond has been signed where there is a will, there is NO way?

Nation desires aimful not aimless life & any hurly burly made us a laughing stock? But leave & save in a securable phenomenon.

Imran Khan; the Fascist and Populist...?

Fascism is a political ideology and system that emerged in Europe in the early 20th century. It is characterised by authoritarianism, nationalism, and the suppression of political dissent. While Fascism can vary in its specific manifestations, there are several common characteristics often associated with it:

Authoritarianism: Fascist regimes are characterised by a strong central authority, often led by a single dictator or a small group of leaders who have absolute power. Authoritarian leaders typically exercise significant control over various aspects of society, including political, economic, media, and social institutions. Some of the following points shows the authoritarian nature of Imran Khan like he tried to develop the Single National Curriculum, tried to change the Parliamentary form of Government to Presidential form of government which is against the basic rules of federation, also tried to diminish the 18th amendment just because he got an authority to change something.

Populism is a political ideology or approach that appeals to the interests and concerns of ordinary people. A populist leader presents himself as a champion of the common people against a perceived elite or establishment. Populist movements can bring attention to specific issues and grievances

faced by ordinary people, but there are concerns about their impact on democratic institutions and processes. Populism is a complex and multifaceted phenomenon, and its manifestations can vary across different countries and contexts. Some of the populist leaders of today's world are Narendra Modi (India), Donald Trump (USA), and Tayyip Erdogan (Turkish). The same is true of Imran Khan (Pakistan), who appealed to the common person and believed in the War rhetoric, but the ground reality is something else. He tried many u-turns from his words, like the terms he used when he was in opposition before the 2018 election. One of his famous phrases from which he took a u-turn is "If a public stands against me, I will resign from my authority", but when the time came, he didn't do it and remains on his authority in 2022. Also he said, before he came to the government that "I will suicide, if I go toward IMF for

any help", but still he went for the help.

Totalitarianism is the third characteristic of fascism. Totalitarianism aims to control and regulate all aspects of society, including politics, the economy, education, culture, and the media. Imran Khan wants to control and run all these aspects of society. Throughout the world, we know about the image of Imran Khan in politics. People of Pakistan, especially the students of intermediate and bachelor's degrees. Like the PTI government introduced the PMC, which changed most of the policies of the PMDC, the PTI government also introduced screening tests for competitive examinations like CSS and PMS. Why? Just to take control over the entire education system.

Suppression of oppositions: fascist regimes employ various methods to suppress political oppositions, such as censorship, surveillance, intimidation, and persecution of dissidents. According to our experience, Imran Khan always has the potential to suppress the decisions and approaches of the opposition in the parliament by using terms and abusing languages like choir for the Nawaz family and dakoo for the Zardari family. So an example of his suppression is the case of the lockdown by the Indian Army in Kashmir, in which he completely avoided the decisions of his opposition. The same is true of Abhinandan Varthaman, Vrc; he returned him without asking the opposition.

Undoubtedly, according to the above-mentioned characteristics of a fascist and populist leader that show similarity with the personality of Imran Khan, he should be declared a fascist leader; but there are some characteristics of Fascist leaders that are not part of Imran Khan's personality (i.e., Anti-democracy, militarism, aggression, and corporatism). The question: whether Imran Khan is a fascist or not...?

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Analysis

Mian Rashid Asghar



Analysis

Zakaria Khan

Caspian pipeline will be long-lasting solution for Western gas

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Comments, regarding the possibility of implementing a project for the supply of Turkmen natural gas in the Western direction, began to appear in a number of international media recently. It is about the construction of a gas pipeline along the seabed of the Caspian Sea in order to transport the Turkmen "blue fuel" to European markets (the Trans-Caspian pipeline).

In general, such a "sudden" manifestation of interest in a large-scale project in the current situation is understandable and explainable. But, at the same time, it requires an impersonal and clear factual explanation.

The idea of building a Trans-Caspian gas pipeline, initiated by Turkmenistan, was originally considered by our country not only as an economically and commercially viable project but also as an essential part of the diversification of energy flows as a key condition for global energy security and sustainability based on equal consideration of the interests and benefits of producers, consumers, and transit countries. On which, by the way, all potential participants of the project agree.

A beginning of substantive discussion of this subject started during the official visit of the President of Turkmenistan Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov to Brussels in November 2007, his negotiations with the President of the European Commission, European Commissioners, and heads of various EU structures. In November of the same year and in May 2008, official EU representatives responsible for energy cooperation visited Turkmenistan, during which fundamental agreements were reached on cooperation between Turkmenistan and the European Union in the field of energy. One of the results of the meetings was also the signing in May 2008 of the Memorandum of Understanding and Cooperation in the field of energy between Turkmenistan and the European Union. Mutual readiness to develop a mechanism to ensure the supply of Turkmen energy resources to Europe was also confirmed during the official visit of the then President of the European Commission, Jose Manuel Barroso, to Turkmenistan in early 2011.

At the same time, within the framework of the UN, Turkmenistan initiated a widely interested dialogue on the problem of energy security, which resulted in the consensus adoption by the General Assembly in 2008 of the first resolution "Reliable and stable transit of energy carriers and its role in ensuring sustainable development and international cooperation". 71 states became its cosponsors. In 2013, the UN

General Assembly once again unanimously adopted the Turkmen draft of a similar resolution.



General Assembly once again unanimously adopted the Turkmen draft of a similar resolution. Relying on such a solid international legal base, Turkmenistan has made efforts to create the necessary political,

financial, and organizational conditions that would make it possible to transfer the idea of building a Trans-Caspian pipeline into a practical plane. To this end, tripartite partnership mechanisms were formed between Turkmenistan, the Republic of Azerbaijan, and the European Union, consisting of the heads of the relevant energy departments.

On the part of the EU, in turn, significant efforts were also made, in particular, in the form of the creation of the Caspian Development Corporation as an association of European energy companies, banks and other financial institutions to establish systemic cooperation on the withdrawal of Caspian energy resources in a western direction. It is natural that the European Union included the Trans-Caspian gas pipeline in the list of promising projects.

In general, cooperation on the construction of the Trans-Caspian pipeline has been moving forward consistently and practically, receiving political and functional international support.

The international legal validity of the project is also beyond doubt after the adoption in 2018 by five coastal states of the fundamental document regulating the key principles of policy in the Caspian—the Convention on the Legal Status of the Caspian Sea.

Article 14 of that document, in particular, states:

"1. The parties may lay cables and pipelines along the bottom of the Caspian Sea.

3. Determination of the route for laying underwater cables and pipelines is carried out in agreement with the Party through the bottom sector of which the underwater cable or pipeline is to be laid".

Thus, today the construction of the Trans-Caspian pipeline is directly related to the delimitation of the seabed between Turkmenistan and the Republic of Azerbaijan.

In addition, Turkmenistan is convinced that there are no political, economic, or financial factors hindering the construction of the gas pipeline. On the contrary, the Trans-Caspian pipeline is an absolutely realistic project, justified from an economic point of view, capable of making a tangible contribution to ensuring energy security in Eurasia, providing long-term and uninterrupted access to sources of raw materials for European consumers, while observing the obvious benefits and interests of the transit side.

Based on this, Turkmenistan, being committed to the strategy of diversifying energy flows, expresses its readiness to continue cooperation with partners in the implementation of the Trans-Caspian pipeline project.

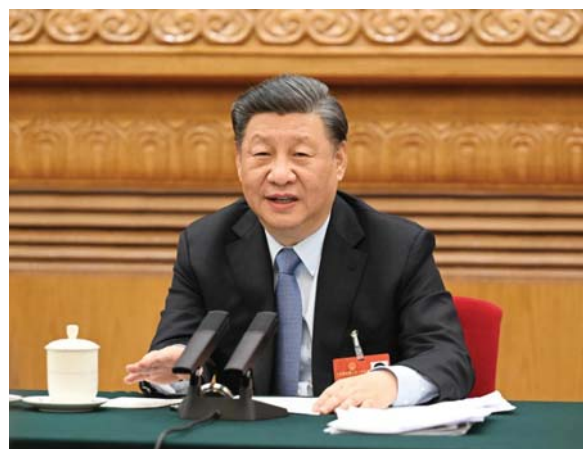
Xi stresses high-quality development of armed forces with high-level governance

Xinhua

BEIJING: Xi Jinping, general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, has stressed promoting high-quality development of the armed forces with high-level governance.

Xi presided over a group study session of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee on Monday.

The session was convened ahead of China's Army Day, which falls on Aug. 1. The day was designated to commemorate the founding of the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA).



all-around military governance as a profound change in the CPC's military governance philosophy and methods, Xi emphasized its crucial role in modernizing China's system

and capacity for governance. Xi demanded efforts in building a modern governance system for the armed forces to provide a strong guarantee for achieving the goals for the PLA centenary.

It is essential to recognize the significance of strengthening all-around military governance, as the PLA, amid rapid advances in global sci-tech revolutions and profound changes in military affairs, is at a crucial juncture in its drive to achieve the goals for its centenary, Xi said.

Noting that strengthening all-around military governance concerns all aspects of national defense and mili-

tary development, Xi stressed efforts to enhance the top-level design and strategic planning of military governance and improve overall coordination.

Xi said efforts should also be made to strengthen military expenditure management and supervision and advance innovation in strategic governance.

Emphasizing the need to integrate military governance with reform and the rule of law, Xi urged efforts to consolidate and expand the achievements in reforming national defense and the armed forces and step up the implementation of rules and regulations and supervision.

Farewell dinner



Arif Chaudhary

MANCHESTER: The Public Consul General Tariq Wazir at the Pakistani Consulate in Manchester organized a farewell dinner ceremony in honor of the High Commissioner of Pakistan to the UK Moazzam Ali Khan at a local restaurant, which was attended by business, political and social personalities from all over the UK. The community of the whole of Britain like North West has always given

him love. They are grateful to him. Pakistanis are playing a key role in every field across the UK. It is commendable. I request all the Pakistani Kashmiri community to play their role by participating fully in local politics. Let Pakistan's politics stay with Pakistan. Because of this, there is a fear of creating a gap between overseas Pakistanis, which Pakistan cannot afford. The government of Pakistan wants you Overseas Pakistanis to work together for Paki-

stan. Lord Wajid Khan Lord Qurban Ahmed Member of Parliament Yasmin Qureshi Andrew Gwynne Lord Mayor of Manchester Yasmin Qureshi paid tribute to the High Commissioner for his services to Pakistan and said that Moazzam Ali Khan has played a positive role for Pakistan abroad. Overseas Pakistanis will always remember him. And the participants present at the event appreciated the services of the High Commissioner

Cultural exchange activities to be held for Chengdu Universiade athletes



Xinhua

CHENGDU: A series of cultural and people-to-people exchange activities will be held during the 31st FISU Summer World University Games in Chengdu, southwest China's Sichuan Province, organizers said.

Named "Blossom of Youth", the exchange activities will be launched at Sichuan University on Wednesday, with Xu Liaojuan, designer

of the Chengdu Universiade torch Rong Huo, renowned writer A Lai and scholar Peng Feng in attendance alongside student representatives.

These activities include a Universiade image program, exhibitions and displays of Chinese intangible cultural heritage. A celebration party named "Youth in Time" for Chengdu Universiade athletes will take place in the Athletes' Village on July 29.

NCRC-UNICEF Empower Young Voices in Pakistan's National Assembly

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The National Commission on the Rights of Child (NCRC), in collaboration with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), took a groundbreaking step towards amplifying children's voices and empowering their rights during a remarkable children-led consultation on child rights at the National Assembly of Pakistan.

The event, titled "Children in the Lead: Voices Unleashed," witnessed dynamic discussions and active participation from young changemakers to pave the way for impactful outcomes.

Children actively engaged in discussions, providing valuable insights and perspectives on matters concerning their own rights and well-being. This included areas such as child labour, child marriage, violence against children, out-of-school children, child online protection, mental health, climate change and its impact on children, gender, disabilities and social inclusion, among others. This event marked a significant milestone in promoting child participation and empowerment, ensuring that children's voices are heard, valued, and acted upon.

The children took charge of the consultation process, expressing their thoughts, concerns, and aspirations regarding their rights. The child-led format of the consultation fostered an inclusive environment from the planning till the execution stage, whereby children decided upon the themes of interest prior to the consultation and felt comfortable sharing their ideas without fear of judgment. They exchanged experiences and perspectives, creating a powerful platform for dialogue.

With the objective of fostering a sense of ownership and advocacy for children's rights, the workshop encouraged children to explore and share their thoughts, experiences, and potential solutions related to various child rights challenges. Through facilitated discussions, young participants delved into issues faced by children, underscoring the

importance of children's voices being at the forefront of decision-making processes. PirbhuSatyani, NCRC member Sindh/minorities,

shared the purpose of the event: to appreciate the values of children in our society and create an encouraging environment for children where they can express

their views and meaningfully participate in the decision-making process that affects their life. He said, "Organizing this activity with children in the National Assembly will yield positive results, and their recommendations will pave the way forward for meaningful policy reforms". Mr. Satyani assured NCRC



CPEC emerges as corridor of opportunity for Pakistan: official

Xinhua

ISLAMABAD: The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) has emerged as a corridor of opportunity, traversing vast terrains



to connect the warm waters of the Arabian Sea with the rich landscapes of China's western regions, a government official said Monday.

Speaking at a two-day international conference that kicked off here earlier in the day, Syed Zafar Ali Shah, secretary of Pakistan's ministry of planning development and special initiatives, said CPEC has improved connectivity between Pakistan and China, reduced transportation costs, and increased trade efficiency.

Themed "Decade of China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) from Vision to Reality" to mark the 10th anniversary of CPEC, the conference aims to exchange ideas and insights related to economic, social, environmental, and geopolitical impacts of CPEC and the BRI.

Addressing the event, Chairman of Pakistan's Higher Education Commission Mukhtar Ahmed said that Pakistan and China are cooperating in several significant initiatives in the field of higher education and research.

"CPEC has evolved from a visionary concept to a reality of immense importance for Pakistan," he said, adding that China is helping Pakistani students meet their dreams by giving them opportunities of studying in China through scholarships in various fields.

Raja Naveed Akhtar met Mayor Tafeen Sharif

Arif Chaudhry

ASHTON: Chairman of Azad Kashmir Mirpur district Raja Naveed Akhtar Goga along with his delegation met Tameside don't Council Mayor Tafeen Sharif in his chamber. Mutual cooperation was discussed. Jammu Kashmir Movement for Self-determination International Chairman Raja Najabat Hussain, Councillor Naila Sharif and others were also present on this occasion. Chairman of Mirpur District Council, Raja Naveed Akhtar Goga, while appreciating the role of women of Pakistani and Kashmiri origin in Britain, said that women should move forward. Raja Najabat Hussain thanked Mayor Tafin Sharif for giving him the opportunity to meet with the precious time. Councillor Naila Sharif said that there was a discussion with the delegation from Mirpur about the role of women in Mirpur. Mayor Councillor Tafeen Sharif said that we had a discussion with the delegation about the similarities and differences between the mutual relations between Pakistan and Great Britain and agreed that how we can learn from each other. Mayor Farhi Sharif gave a special appreciation certificate to the Chairman District Council.

Bull & Bears
PSX 100-Share
Index Fluctuation

Pakistan: PSX 100-Share Index

Current	Prev. Close
46,417.34	46,054.81
Day's High	Day's Low:
46,540.87	46,019.63
Index Value	Change
8,626,969,140	+362.53
Percentage	Time
+0.79%	25 Jul, 2023 5:00 pm

Europe: FTSE 100 Index

Index Value	Change
7,691.80	+13.21
Percentage	Time
+0.17%	25 Jul, 4:35 pm GMT+1

USA: Dow Jones Industrial Average

Index Value	Change
35,502.46	+91.22
Percentage	Time
+0.26%	25 Jul, 1:44 pm GMT-4

Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Average

Index Value	Change
32,682.51	-18.43
Percentage	Time
-0.056%	25 Jul, 3:15 pm GMT+9

Open Market Forex Rates

Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	196	198.5
Bahrain Dinar	760.55	768.55
Canadian Dollar	222	224
China Yuan	39.13	39.53
Danish Krone	42.34	42.74
Euro	320.5	323
Hong Kong Dollar	35.97	36.32
Indian Rupee	3.43	3.54
Japanese Yen	2.01	2.08
Kuwaiti Dinar	928.48	937.48
Malaysian Ringgit	61.87	62.47
New Zealand \$	176.75	178.75
Norwegians Krone	27.95	28.25
Omani Riyal	729.95	737.95
Qatari Riyal	77.21	77.91
Saudi Riyal	78.1	79
Singapore Dollar	210.5	212.5
Swedish Korona	27.5	27.8
Swiss Franc	330.24	332.74
Thai Bhat	8.25	8.4
U.A.E Dirham	80.2	81
UK Pound Sterling	375	378
US Dollar	292	294.5

Rupee crashes for 8th session to 288.52 versus dollar

TLTP

KARACHI: Pakistani rupee witnessed a further decline against the US dollar, eighth in a row, on Tuesday and depreciated by Rs0.60 (-0.21 percent) in the interbank market.

The State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) said in a tweet that the rupee opened at 287.92 against the dollar in the interbank market and closed at 288.52. During the last eight sessions, the rupee has weakened against the US dollar by Rs12.06 in the interbank market.

Similarly, the local unit depreciated against the greenback in the open market by Re1 (-0.33 percent). The rupee was quoted in the range of 293-296 against the dollar in the open market as compared to 292-295 a session earlier. In the black market/Hundi, the dollar was quoted at Rs315 against Rs312 a session earlier.

During the current fiscal year 2023-24, Pakistani rupee has shed Rs2.53 against the US dollar in the interbank market, while it plummeted by Rs61.09 against the greenback in the current year.

The fall on Tuesday was the rupee's eighth successive close in the negative zone as euphoria over the International Monetary Fund (IMF) deal faded to make way for fundamentals. The depreciation in the interbank market also reduced the gap with rates in the open market, one of the key metrics of how Pakistan's Stand-By Arrangement (SBA) with the IMF would be judged as the programme moves forward.

Pakistan reported higher foreign exchange reserves during the previous week, but experts believe pressure on the currency will likely stay due to lifting of import restrictions and backlog of inward shipments that would make their way into the country.

In a key development, the United States had said that there is no quick solution to Pakistan's economic problems but it should continue to work with the IMF to overcome its difficulties. The SBP reported last week that its foreign exchange reserves rose by \$4.203 billion to \$8.73 billion during the week ended on July 14, 2023. These have been the highest reserves held by the country since July 29, 2022. Similarly, the country's total reserves have reached \$14.07 billion, including \$5.34 billion held by commercial banks.

Worst economic conditions force people to flee the country

Tariq Khattak

ISLAMABAD: Dr. Hanif Mughal, Senior Vice President of Pakistan Economy Watch (PEW) on Tuesday that the worst economic conditions are forcing people to flee the country to find jobs abroad.

Desperate youth are risking their lives to find work abroad, while the exodus of highly educated and highly skilled people poses a major threat to the economy, he said.

He said that according to official data, 832,000 people have left the country in search of employment in six months this year, half of whom are educated, and about 100,000 are highly educated and experts in their fields.

These figures do not include those who have illegally left the country for America,



Europe, the Middle East, or the Gulf countries, he added.

In a statement issued here today, Dr. Hanif Mughal said that the brain drain is a major threat to the country as it will affect many sectors, including health, education, industry, IT, and services.

Almost one hundred and fifty thousand people are fleeing the country every month due to a lack of employment, record inflation, economic decline, and political instability.

He said that 2.8 lakh people left the country for employment in 2020 and only 2.5 lakh in 2021, but now this trend is increasing as the situation deteriorates.

The government had to take strict measures to avoid default, while there was no expansion in the tax net, neither expendi-

ture was controlled nor taxes were imposed on favoured sectors, which led to a rapid increase in inflation and poverty.

In these conditions, the people have no choice but to escape the country for jobs, no matter how big the risk is.

In these bleak conditions, new industries are not being established, nor are existing industries being expanded, due to which employment opportunities for the youth have ended, while the condition of those who are unemployed is also bad.

He said that frustration among the masses is on the rise, disputes in homes have become routine, and people are suffering from psychological problems.

If the current conditions do not change, both society and the economy will suffer irreparable damage, he warned.

ICCI to play role for tapping investment potential in Gilgit Baltistan

Tariq Khattak

ISLAMABAD: Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari, President, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI) said that the importance of Gilgit-Baltistan has increased due to CPEC as this mega development project will usher in a new era of development and prosperity in the province. However, he said that the province should consider providing more attractive incentives to investors, especially in the tourism sector, so that high-quality hotels, roads and other infrastructures in the area can be developed on modern lines that will attract tourists from all over the world to the region. He said this while talking to SSP Zahoor Ahmed, Chief of Staff to Chief Minister Gilgit Baltistan during his visit to ICCI.

Ahsan Bakhtawari said that ICCI had recently organized a successful Tourism Summit in Skardu with the aim of highlighting the tourism potential of the region for the business community and foreign diplomats and assured that ICCI would cooperate with the GB government in promoting investment in tourism and other sectors in the province. He said that by introducing minerals, dry fruits and other products of GB in the international market, Pakistan's exports can be increased substantially. He said that ICCI will consider taking a delegation to



Gilgit-Baltistan to meet with the Chief Minister and other high officials of GB and see first-hand the business and investment opportunities in the province.

Speaking on the occasion, Gilgit-Baltistan Chief Minister's Chief of Staff SSP Zahoor Ahmed briefed the business community about business and investment opportunities in the province. He said that Gilgit-Baltistan has a great potential to generate 40,000 megawatts of hydropower. Apart from this, the province also has attractive business and investment opportunities in tourism, minerals, agriculture and dry fruit sectors, so ICCI members should try to take full advantage of such opportunities. He said that modern technology and capital are needed to explore minerals and precious stones in Gilgit-Baltistan, so the private

sector should bring technology and capital, while the provincial government will give them all possible support in this regard. He said that ICCI should bring a delegation to Gilgit-Baltistan to explore the business and investment possibilities in the province. He assured that he will help the delegation to meet with the Chief Minister and other high officials. He congratulated Ahsan Bakhtawari and his team for organizing a successful tourism summit in Skardu and said that this effort of ICCI would further promote tourism in the region.

Former President ICCI and Secretary General UBG Zafar Bakhtawari, Khalid Chaudhry, Zulqarnain Abbasi, Babar Chaudhry, Zarif Khan, Nasir Chaudhry and others were also present on the occasion.

COMSTECH Organizes International Seminar on Integrity in Biomedical Research

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: COMSTECH organized an International Seminar on Integrity in Biomedical Research and launched the proceedings of International Workshop on Integrity in Biomedical Research at COMSTECH on Tuesday.

In his welcome address, the Coordinator General COMSTECH, Prof. Dr. M. Iqbal Choudhary said that COMSTECH is working closely with international partners for the promotion of responsible science in OIC countries. He said that the today's launching of the proceedings of the international workshop on integrity in biomedical research organized last year in Cairo is the continuation of this plan. Prof. Choudhary emphasized the importance of the integrity in the biomedical research and stressed the authenticity and transparency of the

entire research process right from the beginning of the research to the publication of the results. He also asked over 150 participants to observe highest ethical principles in their scientific research.

The international seminar was addressed by the Prof. Dr. Khalid Saeed Khan, COMSTECH distinguished scholar, distinguished investigator, University of Granada, Spain. He quoted many examples of the retraction of the research and emphasized the need of integrity and transparency in the biomedical research.

The keynote address was delivered online by the Prof. Dr. Yacoub Khalaf, President of UEARS activities and co-convenor of Cairo consensus group on research integrity, United Kingdom. He talked on the research integrity from Islamic perspective, and highlighted the challenges to address and the opportunities to tap.

Recognized

Karachi: Mr. Kamran Tessori, Governor of Sindh is presenting Best Export Award for Rooh Afza to Ms. Sadia Rashid, Chairperson of Hamdard Laboratories (Waqf) Pakistan in 46th FPCCI Award Ceremony at Governor House. Haji Ghulam Ali, Governor of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK), Abdul Wali Kakar Governor of Balochistan and Irfan Iqbal Sheikh, President the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FPCCI) are also present on this occasion.



Telenor Pakistan announces new Chief Marketing Officer

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Telenor Pakistan today announced a change in its executive leadership team as Umair Mohsin, the current Chief Marketing Officer (CMO), will be stepping down from his position to pursue opportunities outside the company. In light of this change, Omer Bin Tariq, currently Chief Business Officer, will assume the role of CMO effective from 18 August 2023.

As Umair Mohsin embarks on the next chapter of his professional life, the company extends its gratitude for his invaluable contributions and wishes him the very best in his future endeavors.

Taking over the reins as the new CMO will be Omer Bin Tariq, who has demonstrated outstanding



leadership and strategic acumen as the Chief Business Officer of the company, a position he currently holds. His profound understanding of the commercial landscape having led pricing, segments, products, sales & distribution and marketing domains, combined with his innovative approach to business challenges, makes him the ideal choice to lead the marketing division.

Chairman FBR visited the Regional Tax Office Rawalpindi

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Chairman Federal Board of Revenue Mr. Asim Ahmad visited the Regional Tax Office Rawalpindi on Tuesday. He was accompanied by Ms. Zeba Hai, Member Customs (Operations), Malik Anjad Zubair Tiwana, Member (Operations-IR) and other senior officers of FBR.

Ms. Tehmina Aamer, Chief Commissioner RTO Rawalpindi received the Chairman upon arrival. Chairman FBR planted a tree in the lawn of RTO Rawalpindi and addressed the officers of IRS and Pakistan Customs.



He appreciated the successful anti-smuggling operations of Pakistan Customs and encouraged them to continue their actions to eliminate the menace of smuggling.

Later on, Chairman FBR also visited the Large Taxpayer's Office where he was welcomed by Chief Commissioner Yousaf Hyder Shaikh. There, Chairman FBR was briefed on the perfor-

mance and human resource structuring of LTO Islamabad. This was followed by exchange of ideas between the young officers and the Chairman. He praised the efforts of the field formations in achieving the budgetary targets and emphasised that all efforts should be made to meet the challenging revenue target for the current Financial Year. The officers resolved to make all-out efforts to achieve the assigned targets.

The visit ended with a group photograph of the Chairman FBR with the officers of LTO Islamabad and RTO Rawalpindi.

OICCI commends PM's leadership in securing IMF SBA

Commerce Desk

KARACHI: Commenting on the IMF Board approval of IMF SBA for US\$ 3 Billion for next nine months for Pakistan, OICCI President, Amir Paracha, complimented the Prime Minister, Mr. Shehbaz Sharif and his Finance team for timely leadership and initiative in ensuring that the economy was not subjected to additional shocks. Together with IMF's rapid lending of US\$ 1.2 Billion, the friendly countries have also helped uplift the Foreign Exchange reserves, thereby providing a significant step towards economic stability and progress. This sentiment is reflected in the developments at Pakistan Stock

Exchange, currency market and the business environment in general. OICCI members have also appreciated the upgraded Pakistan's long term foreign currency Issuer Default Rating (IDR) to 'CCC' from 'CCC-' by Fitch Rating agency. Pakistan Bonds in the international market have also rallied post the announcement.

While OICCI members remain concerned due to long pending remittances of dividend and other charges, but as responsible foreign investors who have been operating in Pakistan for over 75 years, are supportive of the government actions and look forward to gradual easing of the strict controls on imports and remittances.

Pakistan Street Child Football squad named for Norway Cup

Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan street child football squad has been named for the World Youth Football Cup 'Norway Cup' to be held in Norway from Thursday (July 27).

According to Pakistan Street Child, the training camp of the National Street Child Football Team in preparations for the mega event would continue till Wednesday here at Pakistan Sports Complex.

The squad includes Forwards: Tofail Shinwari, Faisal, Shamir Ali, Saud; Midfielders: Abdul Wahab, Muhammad Ali, Ali Asif, Ahmed Raza; Defenders: Muhammad Adeel, Abid Ali, Obaid-ullah, Asad Nasir; Goalkeeper: Abdullah, Sahil.

Pakistan would face Norwegian club Frog Oslo in the first match on July 30.

The management of Pakistan Street Child Football Team organized trials for Norway Cup last month across the country in which thousands of youngsters participated.

It should be mentioned that Pakistan



Street Child Football Team has been named for the World Youth Football Cup held in Qatar and has secured the second position in Norway Cup 2015 and third position in Norway Cup 2016.

Workshop held to save kids from negativities of online games



Sports Desk

LAHORE: A workshop on the negative effects of online gaming on children was organised at City District Government Boys High School under the auspices of Nextgen Champs on Monday. Several educationists and medical experts including M Fayyaz, Umair Qadeer, Dr Syedah Taskeen Zahra, Prof Iqra Kiran, Prof M Umar Sultan and Engineer Mohsin Anwar informed the parents about the negative effects of online gaming on children in the workshop.

Children also underwent various mental and physical exercises to adopt a healthy lifestyle during the event. The participants appreciated the efforts of the organizers and said that more such programmes should be conducted to save the future of younger generation.

Anoosha Nasir and Shawaal Zulfiqar named in the women's squad for the first time

Sports Desk

LAHORE: Left-arm spinner Anoosha Nasir and right-handed batter Shawaal Zulfiqar have been rewarded for their strong performances in the ICC U19 Women's T20 World Cup and Emerging Women's Teams Asia Cup with maiden call-ups in Pakistan's senior women's squad for the Asian Games in Hangzhou, China. The 15-player squad also features Diana Baig who makes a return to international cricket after recovering from a finger injury that she sustained in the third and final One-Day International against Australia in January this year.

Pakistan women's team that have won gold medals in the last two editions, held in Guangzhou, China in 2010 and Incheon, South Korea 2014, and will be aiming for a hat-trick when they feature in this year's event scheduled to take place from 19 to 26 September. The event will be played in T20 format.

Pakistan women's team as per the ICC T20I rankings and tournament's rule will feature in the event from the quarter-finals scheduled to take place from 22 to 24 September. The semi-finals will be played on 25 September, while the final will take place on 26 September. The match for Bronze medal will also



take place on Tuesday, 26 September.

The 15-member squad was finalised after deliberations amongst the women's selection committee led by Saleem Jaffar, head coach Mark Coles and captain Nida Dar.

Squad: Nida Dar (captain), Aliya Riaz, Anoosha Nasir, Diana Baig, Fatima Sana, Muneeba Ali, Najiha Alvi, Nashra Sundhu, Nataliya Parvaiz, Omaira Sohail, Sadaf Shamas, Shawaal Zulfiqar, Sidra Amin, Syeda Aroob Shah and Umm-e-Hani

Before the Asian Games, Pakistan women will feature in the home series against South Africa consisting three T20Is and three ODIs (part of ICC

Women's Championship 2022-25) in Karachi from 1 to 14 September. The squad for the bilateral series will be announced in due course.

Former captain Bismah Maroof has opted out of the Asian Games because of the event's rules and regulations that do not allow athletes to carry their children.

Ayesha Naseem, who featured in the ICC Women's T20 World Cup, expressed her desire to retire from the game, which the board accepted.

Chief Selector Saleem Jaffar: "Our squad for the Asian Games represents the future of women's cricket in Pakistan. With a mix of emerging talent and seasoned campaigners, I expect the play-



ers to do well in the event.

"The Asian Games present a unique opportunity for our young players to showcase their talent on an international stage. We have taken a strategic approach to assemble a squad that complements the conditions of the venue where the matches will take place. Each player's strengths and adaptability to the playing conditions have also been assessed to form a solid squad."

Head of Women Cricket, Tania Mallik: "Being a part of the Asian Games is an exhilarating experience for our team. It's not just about the competition; it's about camaraderie, sportsmanship, and representing the coun-

try with pride. Our players have shown incredible dedication and skill, and now they have a golden opportunity to make history by winning the coveted title for the third time.

"The team is unfortunate to miss out on the services of Bismah Maroof for this event as she would not have been able to accompany her infant daughter to the Games village due to the regulations in place.

"We also wish the best of luck to Ayesha Naseem in her future endeavours as the PCB understands and respects her decision to quit the game for personal reasons."

Pakistan captain, Nida Dar: "The

Asian Games have witnessed some extraordinary moments for Pakistan women's cricket, and it's an immense privilege to be part of that history. As captain, I am confident in the abilities of my teammates, both the experienced ones and the exciting young talents. Together, we aim to create more unforgettable memories and clinch that third consecutive Gold.

"There's a sense of pride and determination within our team as we head to the 19th Asian Games. We know the competition will be tough, but we have a strong belief in our skills and team spirit.

"It's disheartening to hear that Bismah Maroof won't be available to join the team due to the protocol of the organisers. As known her for years, I understand how much representing Pakistan means to Bismah.

"We have a team of incredibly talented and dedicated players who are ready to seize this opportunity and excel on the big stage. Each one of us is determined to give our absolute best and uphold the legacy of Pakistan women's cricket in the Asian Games."

Player Support staff: Ayesha Ashhar (team manager), Mark Coles (head coach), Saleem Jaffer (bowling coach), Mautashim Rashid (fielding coach) and Rifat Gill (physiotherapist).

Ratti Gali Lake: The Ultimate Destination For Nature Lover

Quratul Ain

RattiGali, a glacial lake is one of the most attractive tourist destinations of Azad Kashmir.

The lake is situated at the height of 12,130 feet near Dowarian in Neelum Valley, Azad Kashmir. Rattigali is the name of the mountain pass (gali) or the highest point on the trek where red clay rock formation causes the snow and ice turn to color red (ratti). Dowarian is accessible from Rawalpindi via Mazaffarabad through metaled road of 323Kms. It may take 10-12 hours through public transport and travelling time can be reduced if you use personal vehicle. However, one should be careful while driving along the river.

Dowarian is a small town in Neelum Valley which has become hub of tourists. A few tourist class hotels and restaurants are available ranging Rs.2,000/- to Rs.4000/- per room. You can hire jeep from here which costs Rs.11,000/- for the round trip of the day whereas for night stay Rs.14,000/- have been fixed by the local administration for this



year, as informed by the local guide. From here, the distance of RattiGali is 18 kms jeep road. The capacity of most of the jeeps is 6-8. If you are a group of tourists, hire a jeep with maximum capacity, as they charge almost same price.

The journey from Dowarian to RattiGali is quite adventurous. The road is bumpy and considered one of the dangerous jeep roads in Azad Kashmir. This road is narrow and crossing of vehicle

coming from other side is a big challenge. Sometimes, crossing consume a lot of time. The driver has to reverse for finding sufficient space to give way to the jeeps coming from other side. Due to bad road conditions, the jeeps are also stuck occasionally. In this situation, the jeep drivers are well equipped and work together to clear the road. The narrow, bumpy and steep road along deep valleys create a sense of fear among the tourists.

However, the whole jeep travel is full of adventure, thrill and excitement. The tourists frequently stop to capture the natural beauty with their cameras. After three to four hours, you will reach RattiGali base camp. You will see hundreds of tents providing living facility nearly 1500 tourists. These camps provide reasonably comfortable accommodation, food, toilet and wi-fi facilities. You can pay Rs.600/- for a night stay in the camp. Prices of food

vary from Rs.400 to 700 for one meal; and simple breakfast costs Rs.300 to 400 whereas tea is available @ Rs.100/-.

After reaching the base camp you can have a rest for few minutes and enjoy tea. From here trek to RattiGali Lake is not so difficult and may take 50 minutes. The tourists who do not use to walk in their daily life can opt for hiring of horse which may cost Rs.500 to 600 for both sides depending upon the demand. There are only two steep walks for 8-12 minutes where people lose their courage. Some of them hire horse coming empty from lake and a few can be seen going back to base camp. I recommend one should not miss this opportunity to enjoy the beauty of this mesmerizing lake. After final steep walk of ten minutes, you reach on the top from here the view of the lake nestled within the wilderness, fed by glacial melted crystal water surrounded by snowy mountains, grassy landscape gives majestic views alluring hundreds of tourists every day to enjoy blessing of the nature. Tourists spend some time there and take photographs and enjoy the tea, boiled eggs being sold by locals. Swimming in lake is strict-



ly prohibited.

Most of the tourists are satisfied with the beauty of the lake. But there are much more opportunities for the tourists to explore the surrounding areas for trekking, sight-seeing, lakes, rock climbing. I am lucky enough to meet Mr. Rais Inqabi who is one of the owners of campsite, famous trekker rather explorer and guide who has discovered almost all the remote and wilderness of AJK and Kaghan Valley. He has marked around 70 lakes out of which around 30 are found in Azad Kashmir. While discussions, he enlightened me about the surrounding areas of RattiGali lake. He told that on a full day hiking trip from RattiGali, tourists can enjoy the scenic beauty of seven lakes. A day trip can also enable climbers to climb nearby peak Lalbuti 15000 feet. Similarly, Kala Sar 1 & 2; Hans Raj lakes can be visited comfortably in one day. From here 4-5 days trek also goes to Basel and Burwai 3-4 days both end in Kaghan Valley.

As we all are aware that our domestic tourists do not care about the environment, bottles, wrappers, shoppers and other disposable items are left by them in such tourist places. RattiGali is not an exception. It is however,

observed that such trash is collected on daily basis by the management of the camps and properly disposed of. You will also find Tourist Police of AJK on the trek and lake as well. They are quite supportive and ready to extend their help as and when required by the tourists. They are seen to take care about the environment, as well.

The best time to visit the RattiGali lake is from July to September. However, it's always good to check the weather forecast before you plan. Avoid going to the lake in the rainy season as the hiking trek gets slippery. It's always recommended to be well equipped with trekking shoes, warm clothing, rain coat, sun glasses, cap, sun block, personal hygiene kit and medicines; and hiking sticks. It will not only ensure protection from the bad weather but also ensure your safety to a great extent. I recommend camping site of Mr. Muhamamd Raees Khan which is clean and being run in professional way. He can also provide information regarding surrounding areas and facilitate your further ventures in this region. If you wish to explore. For convenience, his WhatsApp No. 0355-8150711 is being shared.

Hammad Hadi wins diamond category in World Scrabble C'ship



Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's Hammad Hadi Khan has stunned the world with his masterful command on words and won the Diamonds category of the World Scrabble Championship (WESPAC 2023) which entered the final stages at Las Vegas, USA. After the conclusion of Diamonds and Open categories, Hammad Hadi Khan won 21 games out of 24 with a spread of 1854, said a press release.

Hammad's dominance was so pronounced that he was declared a winner with three games to go. Jeremy Khoo of Singapore was the runner-up with 16 wins while Stefan Kac of USA finished 3rd with 15 wins.

Name of Correction

Father name of Muhammad Khalil I D Card No. (6202-8734516-7) and Muhammad Bilal I D Card No. (16202-5033212-3) is Muhammad Ali Khan whereas in Matric certificate of Muhammad Bilal and in the Intermediate certificate of Muhammad Khalil is mentioned as Muhammad Ali instead of Muhammad Ali Khan. Correction of father name in these certificates is requested