

# Daily The Spokesman

A Leading National Daily

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RAWALPINDI

فرمان رسول  
بم سے ابو حسن محمد بن مقلات نے بیان کیا کہ انہوں نے کہا ہم کو عبد اللہ نے خبری، انہوں نے کہا ہم کو عبید اللہ بن عمر نے خبر دی، انہیں نے کہا: انہیں ان عمر نے کہ عمر رضی اللہ عنہ نے عرض کیا: یا رسول اللہ! میں نے جاہلیت میں مذراہی سنی کہ مسجد الخرام میں ایک رات کا انصاف کروں گا جی کریم ﷺ نے فرمایا کہ ایقن ذرہ پوری کر۔ (صحیح بخاری: صفحہ نمبر 6097)  
Barkat Rice Mills (Pvt) Limited



**Pakistan Independence Day to be celebrated with patriotic zeal in Azad Kashmir: PM**

Prime Minister Azad Kashmir Chaudhry Anwar ul Haq has said that the Independence Day of Pakistan would be celebrated with patriotic zeal and zest on both sides of the Line of Control. He was talking to members of different delegations who called on him today... (Details on Page 3)



**PPP unhappy over appointment of Anwarul Haq Kakar as caretaker PM**

Pakistan People Party (PPP) is unhappy over the appointment of Senator Anwarul Haq Kakar as caretaker Prime Minister (PM). As per details, PPP senior leader Khurshid Shah said that it would have been better if someone was appointed as caretaker PM. He said that the name was picked from the Senate. Khurshid Shah said they were unaware that Senator Anwarul Haq Kakar will be appointed as caretaker Prime Minister. (Details on Page 8)

Muharrumul Haram 25, Sunday, August 13, 2023 [www.dailyspokesman.net](http://www.dailyspokesman.net) @daily\_spokesman Daily Spokesman Vol: 16, Issue: 124 Price Rs. 25.00 Pages 8

## Finalized

ISLAMABAD: Leader of the Opposition Raja Riaz Ahmad meeting Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to finalize the name of Caretaker Prime Minister on Saturday.



Photo: PID

## President approves appointment of Anwaarul Haq Kakar as Caretaker PM

### Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi on Saturday signed a summary to approve the appointment of Anwaar-ul-Haq as the caretaker Prime Minister under Article 224(1A) of the Constitution, at Aiwan-e-Sadr.



on the nomination of Senator Kakar and jointly signed the summary.

Earlier, a summary containing the advice of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif was sent to the President House after the prime minister and opposition leader Raja Riaz, of the outgoing National Assembly, agreed

## Youth future builders of nation: PM

### City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif Saturday congratulated youth on the International Youth Day and said new generation was future builder of the nation.

of youth. But with the grace of Allah Almighty whenever people with their trust gave him the responsibility to serve, he used all his energies for the progress of youth, he added. "In the last 15 months I provided youth with international standard education and sports facilities, international level professional training, large number of scholarships, endowment funds, laptops and easy loans," he remarked. He said, "Youth are our future, they are builders of our country and progress and prosperity of youth is the guarantee of progress of the country."

# Anwaarul Haq Kakar nominated as Caretaker Prime Minister

### Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif and Leader of the Opposition Raja Riaz in the dissolved National Assembly on Saturday agreed to nominate Anwaar ul Haq Kakar as the Caretaker Prime Minister. The decision was taken during a consultation meeting held in the PM House. The consultation process for the appointment of the caretaker prime minister was amicably completed, the PM Office Media Wing said in a press release. The prime minister and the leader of the opposition joint-

ly signed the advice for the appointment of the caretaker PM and sent it to the President of Pakistan, it was added. On the occasion, the prime minister thanked the leader of the opposition for his role in the parliament during the last 16 months and the cooperation extended in the consultation process. Anwaarul Haq Kakar was elected as an independent senator from Balochistan province for a tenure of March 2018 to March 2024 in the general seat. He was also working as chairperson Senate Standing Committee on Overseas Paki-



stans and Human Resource Development and as a member

of the Business Advisory Committee, Finance and Revenue, Foreign Affairs and Science and Technology. Kakar had co-launched a political party Balochistan Awami Party (BAP) and also served as spokesman for the government of Balochistan. The consultation process for the nomination of the caretaker prime minister commenced after the president approved the dissolution of the National Assembly (NA) on August 9, on the advice of the prime minister. The prime minister's advice had sought dissolution of the assembly under Article 58(1) of

the Constitution. On 11 August, the president also wrote a letter to the prime minister and the opposition leader of the outgoing Assembly to propose the name of a suitable person for the appointment of caretaker PM under Article 224 (1A) of the Constitution. The outcome of today's meeting thus paves the way for the transition of government to a caretaker set-up. The proposed caretaker prime minister is expected to take oath of his office soon after which he would announce his caretaker cabinet in a run-up to the next general elections.

## PTI chairman allowed to meet family, lawyers

### Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad High Court (IHC) on Saturday directed the Attock Jail officials to allow Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chairman to hold meetings with friends and family as provided in the law. In its written order, the court also directed Attock jail authorities to provide medical facilities to PTI chairman, a prayer mat and a copy of the English version of the Holy Quran. "He (the former prime minister) may also be provided with the prayer mat and English version of the Holy Quran," the court said. The order reiterated that the former premier be provided with "all the facilities as per his entitlement" under the PPR. IHC summons Toshakhana record The Islamabad High Court (IHC) on Saturday sought the record of the Toshakhana case against the PTI chairman, who is currently incarcerated in Attock Jail. The IHC division bench comprising Chief Justice Aamer Farooq and Justice Tariq Mehmood Jahangiri issued the order on Imran's petition against his conviction in the said case. In a written order issued today, the IHC issued a notice to the district election commissioner of Islamabad.

## PTI censures Shehbaz for lying even after wreaked havoc in the country

### City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) lambasted the puppet outgoing Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif for not shying away from speaking blatant lies even after wreaking havoc with the country due to his 16-month worst, fascist and inept government. PTI spokesperson, in his reaction to puppet PM's conversation with journalists, said that the unlawful government of the imported prime minister, which was imposed on the country through a conspiracy has come to an end, the clown even then did not hesitate to tell a lie after inflicting colossal damage to the country. He said that as usual, the speech of the dummy PM was a collection of lies and rhetoric and a desperate attempt to cover up the abysmal performance of

his worst and incompetent government. PTI spokesperson stated that the statements based on distorted facts to hide their incompetence and worst performance cannot influence the nation in any way, adding that the PDM government proved to be the worst government in history, from the economic murder of the people to the usurpation of their basic rights. He noted that the government of incompetents surged the inflation rate from 11% to the highest rate of 38%, plunging around 24 to 25% more population below poverty line, besides the callous rulers gradually eliminated the poor-centric subsidies compounded the miseries of the people manifold. PTI Spokesperson stated that due to the incompetence of this clique, the growth rate fell from 6%

to negative due to which industries were closed, triggering a flood of unemployment. Moreover, he said that the poverty-stricken and inflation-ridden masses were crushed under the burden of back-breaking inflation as even the people were struggle to arrange two times meals to their children because the tyrannical government jacked up power tariff rates from Rs 16 to Rs 50 per unit, besides increasing alarming the prices of flour, sugar and other food items. PTI Spokesperson said that about 12 lakh people have left Pakistan in utter disappointment because of the atrocities of the ruthless government, adding that the seeds of hatred and chaos were sown in the society through state and government resources by sealing the lips of media.

## Pakistan Independence Day: President approves remission for prisoners

### News Desk

ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi on Saturday approved remission of 180 days for prisoners on the occasion of Pakistan's 76th Independence Day. According to a statement issued from the President's House, President Alvi reduced the sentences under Article 45 of the Constitution. Sentences of those prisoners would be remitted who were serving life sentences. "Sentences would be remitted for those male prisoners who are aged 65 or above or those who have served at least 15 years of their sentence. Similarly, women prisoners aged 60 or above or those who have served at least 20 years of their sentence will get remission," said the statement. Prisoners who were under 18 and had served a third of their sentences would also get remission in sentences. However, the remission will not apply to those convicted of murder, espionage, terrorism, rape, robbery, theft, kidnapping, financial crimes, anti-state activities and those who caused loss to the national exchequer. The nation is all set to celebrate Independence Day on Monday (August 14) with great enthusiasm and fervor across the country including the twin cities.

## Bilawal terms Pakistani youth as guarantee of better future

### Bureau Report

KARACHI: Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari has termed the Pakistani youth as the guarantee of a better future for the country and said that now no power can stop Pakistan from progressing as the youth are determined to face every challenge and lead in every field. In his message on International Youth Day, he said we are confident that for the development of a prosperous, strong, and progressive Pakistan, our young generation has the potential to lead in the field and on the front. "Pakistan is a fortunate country that more than 63 percent of its population is in the age group of 15 to 33 years. Hence, Pakistan's greatest asset is our youth," he pointed out.



Bilawal Bhutto Zardari said that PPP must not miss any opportunity to utilize the talents of the youth for the progress and prosperity of the country and to give them maximum opportunities in this regard. He reminded that Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto, during his tenure as Prime Minister, offered many jobs to the youth, before which the youth did not get jobs in such numbers, adding that Quaid-e-Azam Bhutto arranged for a large number of young people to get employment in friendly countries.

## Eiffel Tower evacuated after bomb threat

### News Desk

ISLAMABAD: Visitors were allowed back in the Eiffel Tower on Saturday about two hours after officials evacuated it due to a bomb threat, a French police source said. "It was a false alarm, people can go back inside," the source said. The Eiffel Tower receives an average of around 20,000 to 25,000 visitors per day. SETE, the body which runs the site, said bomb disposal experts as well as police were

scouring the area, including a restaurant located on one of the floors. "It's a usual procedure in this kind of situation which however is rare," a spokeswoman said. Visitors were evacuated from both the three floors and the square under the monument shortly after 1:30 pm (11:30 GMT). Construction work on the tower began in January 1887 and was finished on March 31, 1889. It received two million visitors during the World's Fair of 1889.

## Inauguration

RAWALPINDI: Ambassador of Azerbaijan to Pakistan Khazar Farhadov cuts the ribbon along with Ambassador of Thailand to Pakistan Chakkrid Krachaiwong, Ambassador of Iran to Pakistan Reza Amiri-Moghaddam and MD PTDC Aftab-ur-Rehman Rana to inaugurate first tourism investment Expo at local hotel in City.



Photo: Online

# KS Relief distributes 26,400 parcels, bringing hope to flood-impacted families in Pakistan

## Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre (KSrelief) on Saturday unveiled the successful culmination of the initial stage of their ambitious food security endeavor for the year 2023-24 in Pakistan.

In an exemplary partnership with the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), the KSrelief has executed a laudable mission by disbursing a remarkable tally of 26,400 food parcels, weighing a substantial 2,508 tons, said a press release.

These invaluable provisions have been allocated to deserving individuals severely impacted by floods, spanning across 12 key districts including Jaffarabad, Usta Muhammad, and Sohbatpur in Baluchistan; Rajgal, Karak, Banu, and Upper Swat in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa; as well as Rajanpur and Dera Ghazi Khan in Punjab, Larkana and Umerkot in Sindh.

According to the KSrelief, this inaugural phase of the altruistic venture has yielded a momentous positive influence



on the lives of an impressive count of 184,800 beneficiaries dispersed across the nation. Each meticulously assembled food parcel, meticulously crafted to weigh 95 kgs, comprises essential sustenance such as 80kg of flour, 5 liters of cooking oil, 5kg of sugar, and 5kg of Daal Chana.

These provisions stood as a beacon of hope, ensuring that families can sustain themselves throughout the entire month, underscoring the true essence of benevolence and solidarity.

# PTI laments over govt's non-seriousness regarding life, health threats to Ex-PM

## Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) core committee expressed great disappointment over the unnecessary and unjustifiable delay of the court decision to transfer PTI Chairman Imran Khan from Attock to Adiala Jail and provide him food and water from home, besides delaying hearing of his bail application.

The PTI core committee meeting held here on Saturday, which strongly condemned the non-serious attitude of the government regarding serious threats to the former prime minister's health, safety and especially to his life in the jail.



The committee stated that the former prime minister was imprisoned through a controversial and biased court's decision, adding that due to the successive wrong decisions and controversial trials, the partiality and bias of the Chief Justice Islamabad High Court was now quite evident.

The participants stated that on the special instructions of Chairman Imran Khan, the Core Committee has strongly condemned the new series of crackdowns against PTI workers busy in preparations for the Independence Day celebration.

PTI Core Committee demanded that for the sake of justice and the reputation of the court, Justice Amir Farooq should immediately disassociate himself from the cases related to the former prime minister and give a chance to impartial judges to decide his cases.

The participants stated that on the special instructions of Chairman Imran Khan, the Core Committee has strongly condemned the new series of crackdowns against PTI workers busy in preparations for the Independence Day celebration.

They strongly condemned the ban on the sale of PTI flags and the worst retaliation against the party workers across the country, adding that there is no such precedent of stopping the most popular political party from celebrating the independence.

PTI Core Committee vowed that neither they would bow down to any cruelty and oppression nor they would give up their right of celebrating independence day or achieving the goal of true freedom.

They also examined the possibility of burning the national flag or any similar act of violence during the Independence Day celebrations, adding that no patriot can imagine the desecration of the national flag.

# UN calls for empowering youth with green skills on International Youth Day



## News Desk

UNITED NATIONS: UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres Saturday called on young people to lead the charge for climate justice amid environmental disasters, as he marked International Youth Day.

This year's International Youth Day theme 2023 is 'Green Skills for Youth: Towards a Sustainable World'. The first International Youth Day was observed on August 12, 2000.

In his message, the UN chief said, "Climate change is the fight of our lives - and young people have been on the frontlines leading the charge for climate justice.

"The unrelenting conviction of young people is central to keeping climate goals within reach, kicking

the world's addiction to fossil fuels, and delivering climate justice."

Green skills are "knowledge, abilities, values and attitudes needed to live in, develop and support a sustainable and resource-efficient society," he said.

"These include technical knowledge and skills that enable the effective use of green technologies and processes in occupational settings, as well as transversal skills that draw on a range of knowledge, values and attitudes to facilitate environmentally sustainable decisions in work and in life," the UN chief said.

On this occasion, the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs organised a global webinar in collaboration with the UN Global Initiative on Decent Jobs for Youth and Generation Unlimited.

# IHC summons record of Toshakhana case against PTI chairman

## City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad High Court (IHC) on Saturday sought the record of the Toshakhana case against the PTI chairman, who is currently incarcerated in Attock Jail.

The IHC division bench comprising Chief Justice Aamer Farooq and Justice Tariq Mehmood Jahangiri issued the order on Imran's petition against his conviction in the said case.

In a written order issued today, the IHC issued a notice to the district election commissioner of Islamabad.

"Notice to the respondent. Office is directed to requisition the record of the learned Trial Court," the order read.

On August 5, the District and Sessions Court awarded three years jail term to the PTI chairman in Toshakhana criminal case.

The court also imposed Rs 100,000 fine on the convicted chief



of the PTI. The court also declared the former prime minister ineligible to hold public office for five years.

The court in its verdict said that the accused had been found guilty of corrupt practices and handed the PTI chairman three years jail sentence.

"Imran Khan deliberately submitted fake details [of Toshakhana gifts] to the ECP and is found guilty of corrupt practices," he stated.

The court also declared the former prime minister ineligible to hold public office for five years.

Later, he was arrested from his Zaman Park residence in Lahore and shifted to Attock Jail.

# Sindh Governor hints at possible delay in elections

## Bureau Report

KARACHI: Sindh Governor Kamran Tessori on Saturday hinted at a possible delay in holding of general elections following the dissolution of national and provincial assemblies.

"It would not be a problem if elections are delayed due to constitutional requirements - the delimitation of constituencies as the Census 2023 was notified," Sindh Governor said in a statement.

Kamran Tessori reiterated that the next general elections should be held on time according to the constitution and law, adding that all political parties were agreed on holding of elections on new census.

He also lauded the appointment of Anwarul Haq Kakar as caretaker prime minister (PM), hoping that the latter would carry out his duties



effectively by taking all political parties into confidence.

The upcoming general elections in the country will likely be delayed as the Council of Common Interest (CCI) "unanimously" approved the 2023 census.

Outgoing Federal Ministers Khawaja Muhammad Asif and Rana Sanaullah also hinted at possible delay in holding of general elections.

"I do believe that elections will be held in November. But you asked me if there is a possibility of delay: There is a possibility of a delay but not more than a couple of months on technical grounds," Khawaja Asif said.

# PEMRA imposes ban on airing of 11 'fugitives'

## City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Electronic Media Regulatory Authority (PEMRA) has imposed a ban on airing of 11 people who have been declared as 'fugitives'.

As per details, PEMRA officials stated that people who are declared fugitives and proclaimed offenders are not allowed to air on Television. The ban is imposed on Syed Akbar Hussain, Sabir Shakir, Moeed Pirzada, Wajahat Saeed, Adil Farooq Raja, Haider Raza Mehdi, Shaheen Sehba, Ali Nawaz Awan, Farrukh Habib, Murad Saeed and Hammad Azhar. PEMRA directed to ban all these people from appearing on TV and any news regarding them is also banned.

Earlier, the Senate passed Pakistan Electronic Media Regulatory Authority (PEMRA) Amendment Bill 2023.

The bill was tabled by Federal Information Minister Marriyum Aurangzeb, two days after she had withdrawn the bill over fierce opposition. Following the protest of journalists, Minister for Information and Broadcasting, Marriyum Aurangzeb on August 7 announced to take back the PEMRA Amendment Bill 2023. The minister announced during a meeting of the Senate Standing Committee on Information.

# PPP unhappy over appointment of Anwarul Haq Kakar as caretaker PM

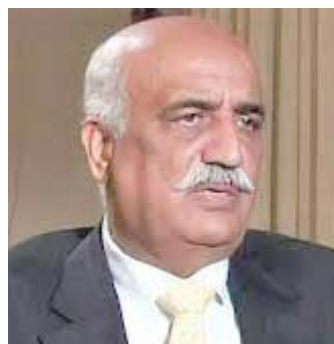
## Bureau Report

KARACHI: Pakistan People Party (PPP) is unhappy over the appointment of Senator Anwarul Haq Kakar as caretaker Prime Minister (PM).

As per details, PPP senior leader Khurshid Shah said that it would have been better if someone was appointed as caretaker PM. He said that the name was picked from the Senate.

Khurshid Shah said they were unaware that Senator Anwarul Haq Kakar will be appointed as caretaker Prime Minister. PPP had finalized five names which included Saleem Abbas, Jalil Abbas, Muhammad Malik and Afzal Khan from KP, he added.

The PPP leader said that as a caretaker prime minister, Senator Anwarul Haq Kakar should ensure a transparent election.



Earlier, Senator Anwarul Haq Kakar was selected as Pakistan's caretaker prime minister, PM Shehbaz and Riaz have sent advice regarding Kakar's appointment as the caretaker prime minister to President Alvi, the statement added.

Shortly afterward, the president approved the summary under Article 224 A of the Constitution.

Who is Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar? Senator Anwarul Haq Kakar, the nominated new caretaker prime minister of Pakistan, is a political figure from Balochistan and a member of Balochistan Awami Party (BAP).

Kakar was elected to the Senate in 2018 and has been a very active politician from Balochistan.

Simultaneously, he served as parliamentary leader for the Balochistan Awami Party — formed in 2018 — within the Senate.

Anwarul Haq Kakar also worked as chairperson of the Senate Standing Committee on Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development and as a member of the Business Advisory Committee, Finance and Revenue, Foreign Affairs and Science and Technology.

# Sit-in for 3G/4G restoration ended after successful negotiations

Adam Khan Wazir

WANA: The protestors went back to their homes peacefully after the three-day sit-in ended in Shakai valley of Lower South Waziristan district, after negotiations between the district administration and the protestors were successful.

On Saturday, Assistant Commissioner Wana Yasir Salman Kundi and DPO District South Waziristan Lower Farman Ullah visited Shakai, where successful negotiations were held with the sit-in organizers, after which the participants called off the sit-in.

It should be noted that for the last three days, the local residents of Shakai had staged a sit-in for the restoration of 3G/4G, and the sit-in participants were



demanding that the internet service be restored for the people's and many difficulties have us.

On the occasion of the negotiation,

DPO Farman Ullah and AC Wana Yasir Salman Kundi told the participants of the sit-in that we are also aware of the unavailability of internet, but the

Government has disconnected it due to some security concerns and reasons.

They added that the Ufone cellular network is functional, the signal will not be suspended while the Jazz network will be restored within a few days. They said that the administration will make all efforts to restore the 3G/4G service by October 1 and also ensure the provision of DSL.

On this occasion, the two officers said that the doors of our offices are always open for the residents of Shakai to solve the problems and will remain open forever.

The local residents of Shakai expressed their full confidence in DPO Farman Ullah Lower Waziristan and Assistant Commissioner Wana Yasir Salman Kundi and thanked them.

## CBD Punjab & LDA forge strategic partnership to transform urban landscape

News Desk

LAHORE: In a historic move towards urban development, Punjab Central Business District Development Authority (PCBDDA), also known as Central Business District Punjab CBD Punjab, and the Lahore Development Authority (LDA) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to jointly embark on transformative projects for the city of Lahore.

The MOU signing ceremony was graced by the presence of Commissioner Lahore and DG LDA, Mohammad Ali Randhawa, and the visionary CEO of CBD Punjab, Imran Amin. The agreement was sealed by Director Marketing CBD Punjab, Waseem Siddique, and Director Admin LDA, Rabia Riasat, who exchanged signed documents, solidifying their commitment to a fruitful partnership.

The MOU signing ceremony was attended by luminaries including Addi-



tional DG Housing Captain (R) Shahmir Iqbal, Chief Engineer LDA Asrar Saeed, Director Finance Kashif Imran, Director Action Rabail Butt, and Depu-

ty Director Legal CBD Punjab, Ahmed Usman.

The partnership between CBD Punjab and LDA marks a significant

step forward in Lahore's urban development journey, promising a brighter and more prosperous future for the city and its residents.

## Computer centers set up all over Pakistan on behalf of Hyderabad Union



Asim Tanveer

MULTAN: WAPDA Hydro Union Central Secretary General Khurshid Ahmed Khan and General Manager Mapco Engineer Nasir Ayaz Gormani said that the computer center established at Bakhhtarwar Labor Hall is nothing less than a blessing for the children of WAPDA employees. Free computer courses are taught here. Because of this, the students

who graduated from here are earning excellent jobs and are making Pakistan and MEPCO famous, he expressed these views while distributing certificates at the computer center yesterday.

On this occasion, Regional Secretary Mahmood Amjad and Regional Vice-Chairman Chaudhry Muhammad Khalid said that computer centers have been set up all over Pakistan on behalf of Hyderabad Union, from

which thousands of students are benefiting and the zonal chairman is playing his role in the development of Pakistan. Chaudhry Rashid Yameen and Zonal Secretary Malik Tanveer, Vice Chairman Chaudhry Ilyas Sindhu said that under the leadership of Central Secretary General Khurshid Ahmed Khan, Hydro Union is taking many steps for its workers as well as their children. In the ceremony, GM Nasir Ayaz

Gormani, Khurshid Khan, Mahmood Amjad, Shakeel Baloch, Chaudhry Khalid, Younis Khan, Mehr Altaf Behar, and Principal Zeeshan Ahmed distributed prizes and certificates to the students who took positions. Secretary Malik Tanveer Ilyas Sindhu, Shabbir Gujjar, Younis Khan, Atif Zaidi, Chaudhry Azhar, Rana Mazhar Latif, Rana Khizr Hayat, Chaudhry Saleem, Ishrat Alvi and others are participating.

## AIOU announces results of 46 academic programs

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU) has announced the results of 46 different educational programs, including ODL programs for Autumn semester 2022 and Face-to-Face programs of Spring semester 2023. For autumn 2022, results of BS Islamic Studies, Quran and Tafsir, Hadith and Hadith Science, Sharia, Seerat, Deen, Library and Information Sciences, Pakistan Studies, Accounting and Finance, Gender and Women Studies, English Language and Literature, Urdu, Mass Communication and Arabic have been announced.

Results of different face-to-face programs offered in the spring semester 2023 include 1.5 and 2 year MBA (New Scheme), MSc (Hons) Livestock Management and Rural Development, MSc (Microbiology, Environmental Design, Botany) BS (Botany, Biochemistry, Microbiology, Environmental Science, Computer Science, Mathematics, Statistics, Physics and Chemistry), MS (Community Health and Nutrition), Computer Science Course Code 7201, Management Sciences, Banking and Finance) MPhil (Urdu, Mass Communication have also been announced.

*We are Breathing in free air today because of efforts and sacrifices of our forefathers: Yaqoob Shera*



Kiran Asim

MULTAN: Yaqoob Shera Member of Cantonment Board and Member of District Peace Committee Multan planted saplings with children in various areas of the cantonment in connection with the 14th August Independence Day. He instructed to celebrate the independence day by planting saplings in the cantonment area. More members said that freedom is a blessing and we should be thankful for the blessing given by Allah. Thanks to Allah, we are breathing in free air today because of the efforts and sacrifices of our forefathers.

Ask the Muslims who were martyred in Faisalteen. Take care, don't spoil national unity by following political parties. On the instructions of Station Commander and President Cantonment Board Rehan Mush-taq and Cantonment Executive Officer Maria Jabeen Khan, children were given plants and flags. The elders of the area, Rehmat Shah and dignitaries also participated in the distribution.

## Imran Muraj DAO posted at AG office Lahore with Masterpiece output



Mian Rashid Asghar

FAISALABAD: LAHORE District account officer Imran Muraj transferred from District Nankana Sahib and posted at AG office Lahore.

According to details, in his tenure at Nankana Sahib, he introduced a specific methodology to ease the works of the people's satisfaction without any hindrance picturizing the method of work like Japanese institutions.

He preferred all tasks including all pending cases on priority to scale down maximum worries.

As per need and necessities under the rules, he obliged the effectees.

Where there he used his knowledge, experience and aptitude, he added honesty, sincerity and sympathy for all those who come to the account office from a long distance in hard seasons.

## Pakistan Independence Day reminds the great sacrifices: Amir Khattak



Asim Tanveer

MULTAN: On the completion of 76 years of independence, colorful celebrations are going on in Multan division. In this regard, a Pakistan Flag ceremony was held at E-Khemat Center in which Commissioner Engineer Aamir Khattak cut the Independence Day cake and planted saplings. He also prayed for development and security. On this occasion, he said that the Independence Day reminds us of the great sacrifices made for our beloved country. The entire nation is determined to sacrifice their lives for this country.

Independence Day is a day of peaceful expression of national spirit. Let the world know that no power can look at this God-given country with an unsympathetic eye. Manager E-Service Center Abdul Rauf said that this day is a reminder to the new generation of the struggle for a free homeland. It is a day of remembrance. The celebration of independence is a day of renewal. The songs played in the ceremony boosted the enthusiasm of the participants.

## Six wanted in murder, attempt murder cases nabbed

Raza naqvi

ATTOCK: Aug Police on Saturday arrested as many as six proclaimed offender (POs) wanted in two murder and one attempt murder cases registered against them in various police station of the Attock district, police spokesman said.

According to the spokesman, Attock Saddar Police arrested a man who shot dead his brother in law and critically injured his sister over honor in Dhoke Shurfa on September 13, 2022. Rozi Khan-a native of Charsadda reported to police she contracted marriage with Umair Badshah against the will of her parents and shifted to Attock. She said that her brother after tracing them entered in to their rented house and showered bullets over them resultantly he husband died on the spot and she received critical bullets injuries. The accused managed to escape from the scene successfully. Police spokesman has said that the nominated accused was traced in Shabqadar area of KP and subsequently arrested. Moreover, Police arrested a man and his father who have allegedly shot dead her wife over infertility in Kawwan village in the limits of Hassanabdal Police station two days ago. Shafqat Khan along with his father Wairas Khan shot dead his wife Najma Alam and fled away. Police traced the accused and send them behind the bars. Police also recovered weapons utilized in coldblooded murder of the lady. Separately, Pindigheb police arrested three nominated accused identified as Muhammad Khan, Muhammad Asif and Naqi Shah who attacked with axes Ghulam Muhammad and his son and critically injuring them over land dispute in village Parri few months ago and went underground. Police traced the nominated accused through human and digital intelligence and arrested them.

## Spotify paying tribute to Ustad Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: As Pakistan celebrates this Independence Day with zeal and fervor, Spotify is honoring "Shehn-shah-e-Qawwali" and the country's legendary singer, Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan, with a befitting tribute in the form of an enhanced and updated version of "This is Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan" playlist, that showcases some of his evergreen hits that even to this day, are being spun with a touch of modern genres to create stunning compositions for audiences to enjoy.

Even after more than two decades of his passing, Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan continues to feature as one of Pakistan's top streamed artists globally. As per



Spotify's data reveal, he is ranked as the 4th most streamed Pakistani artist on the platform this year, with his tracks inspiring generation after generation of listeners and singers alike. Songs

like "Yeh Jo Halka Halka Suroor Hae", "Afreem Afreen", "Mustt Mustt", and "The Long Road" that features Pearl Jam vocalist Eddie Vedder are some of his most listened tracks, along with his work with international producer Peter Gabriel.

"Ustad Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan is by far one of Pakistan's most celebrated artists. He has inspired many emerging and older, local & international artists and has paved the way for Pakistani music globally before music streaming existed. His albums like Night Song with Michael Brook continue to garner a global audience along with remixes by Massive Attack & cover renditions by artists like Jeff Buckley have also helped spread his music further. Qawwa-

li holds a special place in Pakistani traditional music and we're excited to see modern artists like Zain Zohaib keeping the genre alive who themselves are largely inspired by Ustad Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan" said Khan FM, Artist & Label Partnerships Manager, Spotify Pakistan.

To add a special touch to the celebrations, a tribute video featuring a host of modern artists including Momina Mustehsan, who shot to fame after singing a duet of Nusrat's iconic "Afreem Afreen" with his nephew, Rahat Fateh Ali Khan, as well as Ali Zafar, Sanam Marvi, Natasha Baig and Zain Zohaib, will be released on 14th August where they will talk about how Nusrat and his tracks influenced their journey.



Islamabad

15° - 23° Clear

## SERVICES

## Namaz Timings

Fajr	3:55 am
Zohr	12:13 pm
Asr	5:00 pm
Maghrib	6:58 pm
Isha	8:30 pm

## EMERGENCY

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

## Dr. Jamal Nasir hails promotion of tourism in Punjab at first international expo

## Spokesman Report

LAHORE: Minister Primary Secondary Health Care and Population Welfare Punjab Dr. Jamal Nasir has said that there are lot of opportunities of development in the tourism sector and according to the vision of Chief Minister Punjab Mohsin Naqvi, special attention is being given for the promotion of tourism in Punjab.

On this occasion Dr. Jamal Nasir visited handicraft and other stalls set up by the embassies of Iran, Azerbaijan, Malaysia, Thailand and government departments. Taking keen interest in handicrafts, Dr. Jamal Nasir went to various stalls and appreciated their work and said that women are playing an important role in the development and economy of the country.

Earlier inaugural Ceremony of two days tourism investment Expo was held which was participated by High Commission of Malaysia Mr Azhar Mazlan High Commission of Azerbaijan Mr. Khazar Farhadov Ambassador of Royal Thai Mr. Chakkrid Krachaiwong Ambassador of Iran Mr. Reza Amiri Moghaddam Commercial Consular embassy of turkey Enes Malik CETTIN other Diplomats Managing Director Pakistan Tourism Development Corporation CEO's of Corporate Sector and prominent personalities of tourism sector.

MD PTDC Mr. Aftab Ur Rehman Rana briefed about the opportunities of tourism attractions in Pakistan while addressing First International Tourism Conference. He also elaborated initiatives adopted by the government of Pakistan for tourism expansion and said new Tourist Resorts were being developed besides upgrading existing tourist facilities. During the panel discussions about Potential of Pakistan Tourism, Role of Corporate Sector in Tourism and Hospitality Tourism and Infrastructure Development in tourism sector panelists Azim Qureshi Ms Kiran Afzal Mr. Andre Privateer Manzoor Hussain Aqeel Abbasi Mr. Maqbool Hussain Mr Waqas Qayyum Omair Khattak Yasir Hussain Qazi Bilal participated in the deliberations.

## Pakistan Independence Day to be celebrated with patriotic zeal in Azad Kashmir: PM

## Abdul Majeed Tahir

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Azad Kashmir Chaudhry Anwar ul Haq has said that the Independence Day of Pakistan would be celebrated with patriotic zeal and zest on both sides of the Line of Control.

While talking to members of different delegations who called on him here today, the PM said, "The unconditional love for Pakistan is rooted deep into the hearts and minds of the Kashmiri people".

Lauding the sacrifices rendered by the Kashmiri youth in occupied Kashmir, the PM said, "We salute all those brave hearts who lay down their lives for Pakistan in Occupied Kashmir".

He said that despite using all means of oppression and suppression, India could not crush the Kashmiris' undying love for



Pakistan.

Terming the ongoing freedom struggle in Kashmir as part of Tehreek e Takmeel e Pakistan movement, he said that the liberation struggle against India in the occupied Kashmir (IoK) would continue till the people of Kashmir achieve their cherished

goal for which hundreds and thousands of people have sacrificed their lives.

Prime Minister Chaudhry Anwar Haq said that preparations for Pakistan Independence Day were going on in Azad Kashmir.

On the occasion of Independence Day in Azad Kashmir, public and private level events will be organized.

He said that on the occasion of Independence Day, special ceremonies would be held all across the liberated territory in which eulogizing tributes would be paid to the father of the nation, Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah and other leaders of the Pakistan movement. He said that it was the tireless struggle of our founding fathers, which culminated successfully in the shape of a separate homeland for the Muslims of the subcontinent.

## Group photo

ISLAMABAD: Participants pose for a group photo at a dinner party in honor of Justice Dr. Syed Muhammad Anwer, Federal Shariat Court, Islamabad hosted by Advocate Abdul Rafah. Chairman HEC, Dr. Mukhtar Ahmed, Prof. Dr. Sahibzada Sajid-ur-Rehman, Air Marshal (r) Saeed Muhammad Khan, Chairman National Rahmatul-lil-Aalameen Authority, Khurshid Ahmed Nadeem, MNA, Nisar Cheema, former President HCBA, Sajjad Afzal Cheema, Rector CUI, Prof. Dr. Sajid Qamar, Acting VC AIOU, Dr. Nasir Mahmood, VP IUII, Dr. Nabi Bux Jumani, Registrar MIU, Air Commodore (r) Muhammad Saleem and others distinguished guests are seen in the picture.



Spokesman photo by Raja Farid

## Independence day ceremony was held in Islamabad Career College

## News Desk

ISLAMABAD: In the event, the students of primary, middle sections and ninth grade received great appreciation by performing great tableaux, mixed national songs and speeches on the occasion of Independence Day.

In the ceremony, the children were dressed in colorful clothes and held the flags of Pakistan in their hands.

A large number of teachers and students were present in the ceremony.

Addressing the ceremony, Chairman Career Group of Institutions Javed Intizar said that Independence Day is a day of renewal of patriotism.

Students should focus their attention on education. Prin-



cipal ICC Ghauri Garden Campus Afraz Abbasi said

Career is an ideological educational institution which does not compromise on the future

of students.

Today, we remember the sacrifices of those nobles and predecessors who played an unforgettable role in the estab-

lishment of Pakistan.

At the end of the ceremony, the teachers, principal and students of different classes baked Independence Day cake.

## SDPI and PFLA sign MoU to strengthen and promote freelancing in Pakistan



## Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) and Pakistan Freelancers Association (PAFLA) here today. The MoU was coined with the aim to bridge policy research, policy advocacy, influencing gap to create an enabling environment for freelancing in Pakistan. The cooperation also aims to create awareness about the benefits and importance of freelancing and self-employment, bolster Pakistan's freelancing exports by upskilling the freelancing community with particular focus on the country's youth and women by skill trainings, awareness campaigns about policies and raising the issues faced by freelancers at policy fronts. Under this MoU, SDPI and PAFLA will jointly organize seminars, webinars, trainings and policy dialogues for freelancers and policy makers.

Speaking on the occasion Dr Sajid Amin, Deputy Executive Director (Research), SDPI said that SDPI is well placed as an independent policy think-tank to conduct robust policy influencing. He added that engagement with private sector enables SDPI to develop comprehensive understanding of issues faced by stakeholders, identify policy gaps and build capacity of both private and public sector supplemented by evidence-based policy influencing.

Ibrahim Amin, Chairman, PAFLA said that Pakistan is third largest freelancing market with reported annual size of Rupee 2 Billion, however, he added that only Rupees 700 million worth of freelancing export is documented. He attributed the high undocumented exports to lack of financial and regulatory literacy, low competitive skills and general lack of awareness about freelancing in the country. He stressed that considering the population of youth, increasing internationally competitive freelancing skills, creating a clear and conducive regulatory environment can exponentially increase documented freelancing exports and increase foreign remittances for economic growth.

## DC Bhambar reviews Jandi Chontra Park ahead of Pakistan Independence Day

## Bureau Report

SUMAHNI: Deputy Commissioner Bhambar Mirza Arshad Mahmood Jaral along with SSP Raja Muhammad Akmal Khan visited Jandi Chontra Park and reviewed the cleanliness and other arrangements. Tehsil Dar Farrukh Quddus, SDO Chaudhry Muhammad Tanveer gave a briefing. On this occasion, the Deputy Commissioner said that the Tourism Department should take care of this park and put up a big flag in connection with the Pakistan Independence Day. In view of the arrival of tourists at this central point, a rich message will be given on the occasion of Pakistan's Independence Day.



## DGAfK Tourism directs immediate completion of under-construction huts in Kern/Neelum

## Bureau Report

NEELUM: Director General of Azad Kashmir Tourism, Ms. Tehzeeb-Nisa, directed the concerned firm to speed up the work for the immediate completion of the camping pads and other projects under construction in the tourist destination of Kern/Neelum. She was inspecting the camping pads/huts under construction at Rosecain/Neelum on Friday. She also reviewed the design and construction material of the project and expressed satisfaction over the quality of the camping pads and other projects under construction. Director General of Tourism Ms. Tehzeeb u-Nisa was received by Assistant Director of Tourism Malik Ghulam Murtaza along with the staff and construction of camping pads and departmental briefing. On this occasion, Director of Tourism Khalid Mahmood Saqib was present with her.

Director General Tourism, Ms. Tehzeeb Nisa took a briefing from Tourism Officer Chaudhry Lal, SDO Buildings Amjad Rasheed about the under-construction huts during the inspection of the under-construction projects at the tourist destination of Kern/Upper Neelum. On this occasion, the Director General of Tourism instructed the Assistant Director of Tourism to complete the registration of all the guest houses in the tourist place of Karen, and to plant plantations to make the tourist places more attractive with the cooperation of the administration and other departments.

He said that there is immense potential of tourism in Neelum and

## Maroof Int'l Hospital celebrates 76th Independence Day

## Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: MIH on Saturday celebrated the 76th Independence Day of Pakistan in a dignified manner to highlight the struggle of national heroes for acquiring a separate homeland.

Addressing the ceremony, Chairman MIH, Ch Naseer Amad touched upon the historic significance of 14th August and recounted the sacrifices and struggle which led to the creation of Pakistan.

"I wish to extend the heartiest felicitations on the 76th Independence Day of Pakistan. This day reminds us of the immense sacrifices rendered by our forefathers, under the dynamic leadership of Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah," Ch Naseer said.

He added that the day is an occasion to reaffirm our resolve to live up to the ideals of our founding fathers and pay homage to the heroic struggle of

all workers of the Pakistan Movement. "We need to remain united to overcome challenges faced by the country. Let us pledge that we will remain steadfast to render any sacrifice for the dignity and self-respect of our people and greatness and glory of our beloved homeland."

He urged countrymen to remain steadfast and work wholeheartedly for the development, progress, and prosperity of the country.

He said that the Independence Day of Pakistan is a day of great historical significance and national pride. "It serves as a reminder of the sacrifices made by forefathers for the independence of their beloved homeland."

"While felicitating the nation, I call upon every Pakistani to stand firm and work for the progress and prosperity of the country. We need to stand united to meet all challenges being confronted by the nation, CEO MIH Haroon

Naseer said.

Haroon went on saying that the significance of Independence Day goes beyond the celebration of national pride and patriotism. It is a day to remember the struggles and sacrifices of forefathers who fought for our independence.

"It is also a reminder of the responsibility we as a nation have to preserve and protect our independence by working towards the progress and prosperity of our nation," Haroon Naseer said. He added, "On this auspicious occasion, I must pay tribute to our doctors, nurses, and other hospital staff that saved the precious lives by putting their own lives at risk in pandemics."

Dr Omar Mufti, HOD Maroof Cardiovascular Center said that Pakistan Independence Day is a day of great significance for the people of Pakistan. It is a day to celebrate the country's freedom and honour the sacrifices made by



its founding fathers.

Dr Sohail Naseem, HOD Pulmonology, Critical Care & Sleep Medicine said that the day is marked with patriotic fervour, showcasing the country's

rich culture, traditions, and achievements. It is a day to renew commitment to the country's ideals and work towards making Pakistan a prosperous and peaceful nation.

To commemorate Independence Day, the hospital staff decorated their respective departments with national flags, lights, bunting, and other decorative accessories to attract visitors. A team of management visited all departments and the best-decorated departments were given appreciation certificates and cash prizes.

The jury team fixed a criteria for judging the best decorative department while allocating numbers as 35% for creativity, 20% for Pakistan spirit, 35% for resourcefulness, and 10% for Mgt impact.

As per the decision of the judges, the IPD and Finance and Accounts grabbed the first position while Gynaecology & OBS, Radiology, and Early Intervention Therapy Unit secured the second position. The third position was snatched by the Business Development, Coronary Care Unit, and Intensive Care Unit.

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# Shahbaz a Saviour, or.....

Shahbaz Sharif's government will end at midnight today (10th August, 2023), two days earlier than the customary duration of the government and the assembly, giving the caretaker government an additional month (30 days) of power. The holding of the next general election on the basis of the new census and giving the election commission the power to fix the timing of the government has very successfully and cleverly circumvented the express constitutional provisions to hold elections within 90 days, if the assemblies are dissolved before the mandated period. Surprisingly, there is no qualifier for the government's decision to dissolve the assemblies two days sooner, even in the absence of reason, logic, or appropriateness.

While attempting to list the accomplishments of the outgoing government, I was assisted by none other than the Prime Minister himself, who, in an interview with a renowned anchorperson of a national channel, enumerated his accomplishments, which are as follows.

We restored thousands of flood victims who had lost their lives, cattle, and homes. We waived their electricity payments and assisted them in returning to their normal routine.

The IMF refused to return to the broken accord, and it was only days before the program's expiration that the government persuaded the IMF to sign an agreement for a \$6 billion bailout package, which helped us stabilise the economy and supply much-needed foreign exchange.

We not only protected the political regime, but we also spared the country from another round of martial law.

One of my greatest achievements as Prime Minister has been to keep the implacable coalition of 14 parties that were pooled apart from one other under one umbrella, as well as to keep the establishment in good humour.

The country was experiencing the worst type of foreign isolation. The kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA), which has aided Pakistan during some of its most difficult times, has been estranged following the former prime minister's public declaration that we do not require KSA's assistance to the Kashmir issue. The United States was irritated, China was marginalised, and European countries were dissatisfied. Soon after taking office, our government repaired the broken links and was able to regain their trust.

The government also made tangible efforts to improve the business climate, such as cutting regulations and simplifying the tax system, which would aid in the expansion of foreign investment and job creation.

On the political front, Shahbaz Sharif turned the tables on Imran Khan, who is now facing the same humiliation and indignation that he subjected the PML(N) leadership to, throughout his tenure.

He, like Nawaz Sharif, is imprisoned, and only God knows whether he will see the open sky in his lifetime. Like the PML(N) leadership, the entire PTI leadership is either imprisoned or in hiding to avoid immediate indignation, humiliation, and suspected torture. However, unlike the PML(N) leadership, who did

not defect the party while being subjected to the most heinous forms of torture, the majority of PTI loyalists have left the party and joined newly formed or existing parties. As with the PML(N), the public did not come out of their homes to protest the arrest of the PTI Chairman this time around.

The groundwork has also been set for Nawaz Sharif's fully exonerated homecoming. He will be granted pre-arrest bail, and all cases will be quashed, just as they have been quashed against the whole PML(N) leadership. Interestingly, the former Army Chief was the one who pursued the Sharif family, and now the new army chief is the one pursuing the former prime minister.

The prime minister highlighted the rationale for the foundation of the Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC) as well as its mandate. According to him, whether one realises it or not, the role of the establishment is central to our national discourse. They have been relevant in economic, political, and financial matters during times when martial law was in effect and most of the time while civilian rule was in effect. The SIFC is simply an attempt to formalise this position in four national economic engines: agriculture, information technology, minerals, and defence production, while the rest of the areas fall outside of its jurisdiction. However, article 245 of the constitution states that "the Armed Forces shall, under the direction of the Federal Government, defend Pakistan against external aggress-



Analysis

Qamar Bashir

## Kashmiris demand implementation of UN resolution

Secretary General of World Kashmir Awareness Forum (WKAFA), Dr Ghulam Nabi Fai, has said that Kashmiris demand the implementation of the UN resolution of August 13, 1948 that acknowledged their right to self-determination.

According to Kashmir media service, Dr Ghulam Nabi Fai in a statement issued in Washington said that Kashmiris in Jammu and Kashmir, the US and worldwide will observe the 75th anniversary of the unimplemented UN Commission for India and Pakistan (UNCIP) resolution of August 13, 1948.

He said, that resolution states that "the Government of India and the Government of Pakistan reaffirm their wish that the future status of the state of Jammu and Kashmir shall be determined in accordance with the will of the people."

He said, there was much in the resolution that was controversial between India and Pakistan but the proposal of a plebiscite was not.

"That is clear from the statement made on January 28, 1948 by Ambassador Fernand van Langenhove of Belgium as the President of the Security Council. He said that "the documents at our disposal show agreement between the parties on the following points: the plebiscite must be conducted under conditions which will ensure complete impartiality; and the plebiscite will therefore be held under the aegis of the United Nations," he added.

Dr Fai reminded that the US, the UK, and France have traditionally been committed supporters of the plebiscite agreement as the only way to resolve the Kashmir dispute.

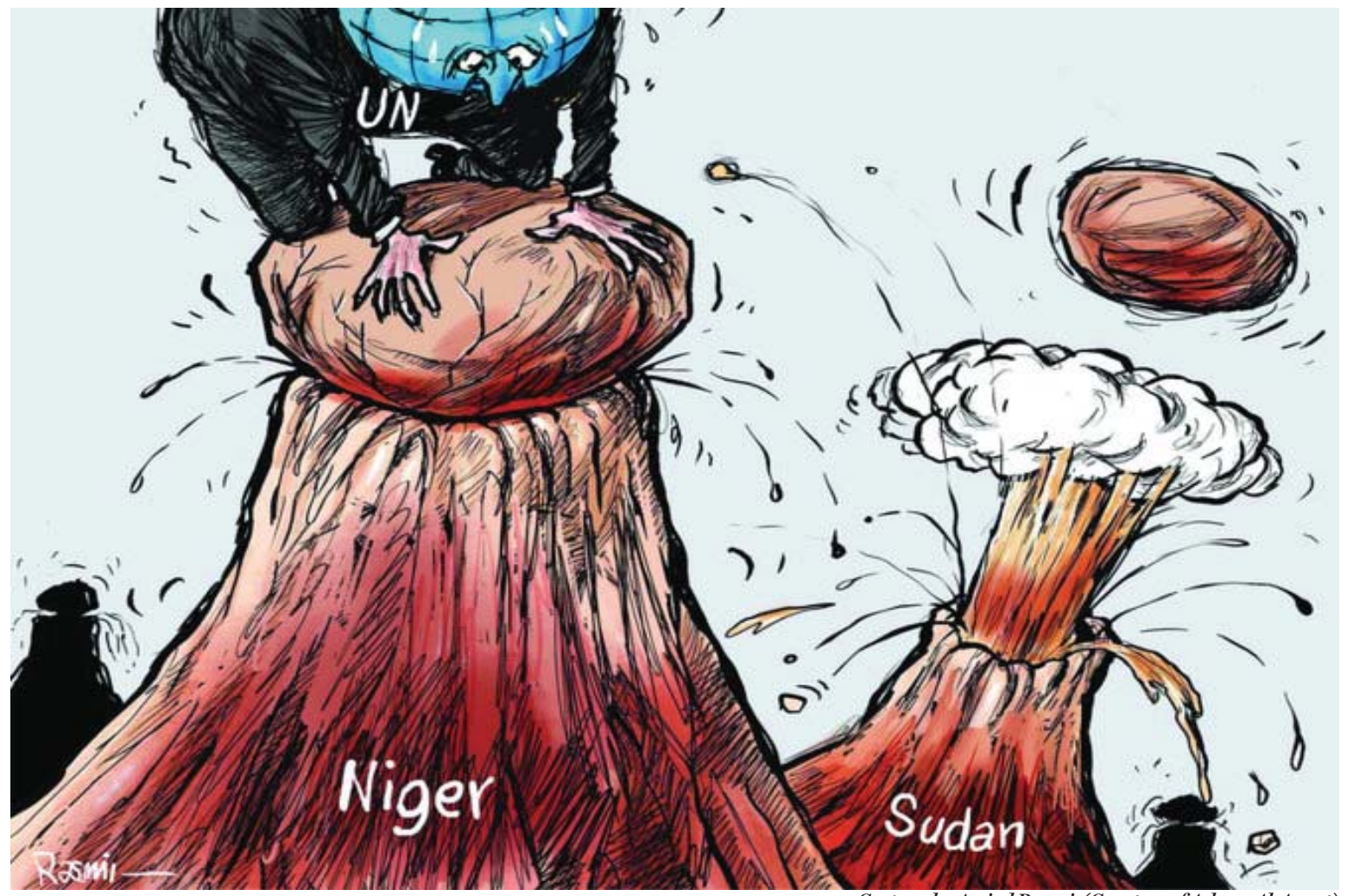
They sponsored all of the Security Council resolutions which called for a plebiscite. Their commitment was indicated by a personal appeal made by America's President Harry Truman and Britain's Prime Minister Clement Attlee that differences over demilitarization be submitted to arbitration by the Plebiscite Administrator, a distinguished American war hero: Admiral Chester Nimitz. In addition, Senator Frank Graham of America visited the Subcontinent as the UN representative to negotiate the demilitarization of Kashmir prior to the plebiscite. India objected to American acting as a Plebiscite Administrator.

Dr Fai said, if this day could be observed in peace, it could have been a fitting tribute to the members of the UNCIP who had adopted the resolution unanimously.

But the studied unconcern by the United Nations has given a sense of total impunity to India. It has also created the impression that the United Nations is invidiously selective about the application of the principles of human rights and democracy. He pointed out that frustration at India's intransigence and the world's hesitation to fulfill its commitment drove the people of Kashmir to be more assertive in their struggle.

He added that in the past 33 years of struggle, since 1990 alone, Kashmiris have suffered the loss of more than 100,000 civilians – men, women and children, and have borne the perpetration of countless atrocities by more than 900,000 Indian military and paramilitary forces concentrated in Kashmir as an army of occupation.

Dr Fai pointed out that India's occupation of Kashmir has been left undisturbed by the international community, even though its validity has never been accepted. At no stage, however, have the people of Kashmir shown themselves to be reconciled to it.



Cartoon by Amjad Rasmii. (Courtesy of Ashfaq Al-Awsat)

## Can AI be harnessed to effectively combat the climate crisis? - II

An endeavor that encountered challenges while utilizing AI to combat climate change is the "Carbon Tracker Initiative," initiated by the European Space Agency. This initiative aimed to monitor greenhouse gas emissions from power plants through satellite data. However, the Carbon Tracker encountered difficulties in precisely identifying and quantifying emissions from specific power plants. Moreover, reluctance from countries and companies to disclose their emissions data posed a hindrance. As a result, constructing accurate global models through machine learning algorithms became a complex undertaking.

In a 2020 study released by the Capgemini Research Institute, various challenges associated with integrating AI into climate action strategies were highlighted. The Paris-based multinational company, specializing in information technology services and consulting, conducted a survey involving 800 industry leaders and 300 experts in both AI and climate change. The findings revealed a scarcity of skills and expertise in this domain, indicating that organizations are likely to encounter difficulties in sourcing the requisite proficiency for the development and implementation of AI solutions aimed at addressing climate issues. Additionally, the report emphasized that the advancement and application of AI demands substantial investments in data, technology, and skilled personnel. Organizations must make substantial commitments to establish the essential infrastructure and capabilities needed to harness AI for climate-related endeavors. Lastly, the study called for the establishment of regulations and standards to ensure the responsible and sustainable development and deployment of AI. This encompasses guidelines pertaining to data quality, transparency, and ethical considerations, which currently lack a comprehensive framework.

In April 2023, the European Union (EU) revised its proposed regulations concerning AI technologies, encompassing provisions for generative AI, such as OpenAI's ChatGPT, while also emphasizing copyright protection as a

fundamental aspect of the regulatory framework. A group of twelve European Parliament members swiftly formulated the initial draft legislation in a mere eleven days. This draft introduced mandates requiring companies employing generative AI systems to divulge any copyrighted material employed during model training. These proposed regulations could introduce a degree of transparency to an industry known for its secrecy. The committee is set to vote on the modified legislation on May 11, and if successful, the process will proceed to the subsequent negotiation phase. Within certain circles, there exists an intrinsic unease towards AI technology, partially stemming from concerns that AI, particularly generative AI, can independently produce content without human involvement. This autonomy raises apprehensions that AI might create counterfeit news or propaganda that closely mimics authentic content, potentially leading to the manipulation of individuals or even the incitement of violence.

Furthermore, when AI is integrated into weaponry systems, there's a risk of malfunctions or hacking, resulting in unintended harm or even the initiation of conflicts.

Undoubtedly, AI stands as a formidable tool with immense potential to significantly contribute to the fight against climate change by enhancing our comprehension of its intricacies and fostering the creation of more impactful solutions. Yet, a crucial imperative lies in executing AI development with a resolute commitment to sustainability, to prevent inadvertently exacerbating the very issue we seek to rectify. Striking a balance between AI's capabilities and its ecological impact demands an approach that prioritizes ethical practices, energy efficiency, and responsible deployment. By intertwining technological advancement with environmental stewardship, we can harness AI's transformative power to address climate change without compounding the challenge.

*The writer is a student in the school of Politics and International Relations at Quaid-I-Azam University, Islamabad. She can be reached at sarwalmalaika18@gmail.com*

Concluded



Analysis

Malaika Sarwar

## Traffic congestion is failure of Traffic Wardens

A few days ago we read a news story which was related to the suspension of 23 traffic wardens. CPO Rawalpindi was stuck in traffic congestion due to negligence and carelessness of the traffic wardens. The CPO suspended 23 traffic wardens, temporarily sealed the traffic office, and established a monitoring cell to keep an eye on wardens and traffic congestion in the city. In addition, vigilance teams have been established to monitor the presence of traffic policemen and traffic employees have been warned that they would be suspended for shirking their responsibilities again. The CPO expressed his displeasure over the traffic situation and ordered strict departmental action against the "guilty officers and officials".

The court ordered that in case, any of the Qingqi Rickshaws is found to be playing on roads without fulfilling the above conditions, the officials of the relevant department shall be proceeded against not only departmentally but also on criminal side.

It is with great sadness that I have to write this in every city of Punjab province and every road, these illegal and unsafe public transports "Qingqi Rickshaws" with gas cylinders installed as fuel are running rampant. All this illegal work is facilitated by traffic wardens.

We are told and taught in the law that the basic aim of traffic police is to regulate traffic, enforce traffic laws, issue driving licenses and render help to road users and accident victims. The main duty of the traffic wardens is to maintain the flow of traffic according to the law, by patrolling the road and removing the vehicles or carriages that obstruct the flow of traffic from the roads. It is very sad to write that the Chief Traffic Officers posted in our cities have never given orders to their wardens to patrol the roads. Due to this, rickshaw stands, rickshaws and illegal parking stands of motorcycle rickshaws at intersections have adversely affected the flow of traffic. When there is a traffic jam at an intersection or road, traffic wardens come forward, but they do not have enough capacity to activate the traffic immediately.

Here are some appropriate proposals to control traffic flow and provide relief to the masses. Implement congestion

pricing charging a fee for driving in certain areas or during peak hours can help reduce the number of cars on the road and improve traffic flow.

Implement and enforce strict traffic laws and regulations. This is an essential step in reducing instances of reckless driving, illegal parking, and other behaviors that contribute to congestion. By cracking down on these violations, cities can help ensure that traffic flows more smoothly and efficiently.

One effective measure is to encourage the use of alternate routes. The resulting delays can be frustrating for motorists and costly for businesses. However, there are steps that cities can take to reduce traffic congestion. By providing motorists with information about less crowded roads, cities can encourage drivers to spread out and ease the pressure on congested thoroughfares.

Traffic Wardens should continue patrolling on the roads regularly and manage to stop wrong side traffic and road blocking vehicles, rickshaws and carts removed from the roads. It is the easiest and most effective method for traffic flow.

We appreciate the courage of CPO Rawalpindi that he took timely action on the traffic congestion. In Multan despite the public complaints, no action was taken against the traffic warden by the CPO and RPO offices. The traffic wardens of our city torture the citizens, file false cases, "it is a sign of moral decline that they tear their uniforms and blame the citizens." We want to draw attention through this column to CTO, CPO and RPO Multan Traffic Wardens should be obliged to treat the citizens in a civil manner, be present on road duty. Do not allow illegal Qingqi Rickshaws on the road as rickshaws have been banned by the Supreme Court. Overloading should be strictly prohibited tractor trolley loading capacity maximum is 10 tons but unfortunately more than 30 tons of loaded trolleys leave the timber market openly. Let them be assured that the duty of wardens is not only to hold challan chit and collecting fine from poor and helpless citizens.

*Writer is senior analyst. He can be reached at zakhanmul-tan@yahoo.com*



Analysis

Zain-ul-Abideen Abid

# Chief of the naval staff official visit to Malaysia

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Muhammad Amjad Khan Niazi called-on Naval Leadership of Royal Malaysian Navy during an official visit to Malaysia. Upon arrival at Ministry of Defence, Chief of the Naval Staff was received by Chief of Royal Malaysian Navy Admiral Tan Sri Abdul Rahman bin Ayob and was presented Guard of Honour.



During meeting with Chief of Royal Malaysian Navy, matters of bilateral naval collaboration and regional maritime security were discussed. The Naval Chief underscored the contribution of Pakistan Navy towards regional maritime peace and stability through its initiative of Regional Maritime Security Patrols (RMSPT) and participation in Combined Maritime Force. The Chief of Royal Malaysian Navy appreciated Pakistan Navy role in support of collaborative maritime security in the region and acknowledged significance of strong bilateral defence collaboration.

Later on Pakistani Naval Chief visited Malaysian National Defence College PUSPAHANAS. Chief of the Naval Staff was received by President of PUSPAHANAS and was presented Guard of Honour.

Thereafter a detailed briefing was given to the Naval Chief on the training being imparted at the college. Chief of the Naval Staff also called-on DG National Hydrographic Center (NHC) and was briefed on the roles and capabilities of National Hydro-

graphic Center. Admiral Niazi sought to enhance collaboration between Malaysian National Hydrographic and Hydrographic Services of Pakistan to learn from each other's experience.

Pakistan and Malaysia historically enjoy brotherly relations and the visit of Naval Chief will further augment and expand defence ties between the two countries in general and navies in particular.



## 70th Anniversary of Victory in Fatherland Liberation War

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: President Kim Il Sung is an ever-victorious, iron-willed brilliant commander and a great guardian of justice and peace who honourably defended the dignity and sovereignty of the country and set a world-historic example in the anti-imperialist struggle by leading the fierce Fatherland Liberation War to victory.

As an outstanding military strategist, he aroused the army and people of the DPRK to the sacred war for national defence and overpowered the enemy's numerical and military and technical superiority with his unique military ideology, outstanding strategy and tactics and unexcelled art of command, thus humbling the arrogant US imperialists and working military miracles to be recorded in the human history of wars forever.

In the Fatherland Liberation War, a showdown between a rifle and an atomic bomb, the young DPRK defeated the US imperialists boasting of being the "strongest" in the world and



the Korean people proudly emerged as a heroic people in the arena of history. This is a brilliant fruition of the distinguished military wisdom and wise leadership of Kim Il Sung, a legendary hero.

Holding aloft the banner of Juche for decades after the war, he won a brilliant victory in the socialist revolution and construction and the fierce anti-imperialist, anti-US confrontation and turned the DPRK into an invincible socialist country, mighty and

dignified with independent in politics, self-supporting in the economy and self-reliant in national defence.

The undying feats of Kim Il Sung, who defeated the US-led allied imperialist forces to provide the glorious tradition and wealth for eternal victory for the country and people and open a new chapter in the anti-imperialist, anti-US struggle, will shine for all ages.

On the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the victory in the Fatherland

Liberation War, the Standing Committee of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly decided to confer the 70th Anniversary of Victory in the Fatherland Liberation War Medal on Kim Il Sung who won a brilliant victory in the war to make an immortal contribution to the Korean revolution and the human cause of independence against imperialism, in reflection of the unanimous will and desire of all the people and service personnel of the Korean People's Army.

## Challenges and Aspirations: Navigating Democracy's Path

Malik Abdullah

In spite of the historical backdrop, many weak democratic states have managed to address their internal security concerns through the application of legal and constitutional mechanisms. However, regrettably, the present situation seems to mirror the past, with governance largely controlled by influential figures and authoritarian institutions. While I hesitate to criticize the efficacy of the legal and constitutional systems, it's disheart-

ening that our political landscape often lacks the vision necessary to effect meaningful change. The current political climate is a product of a voting populace often swayed by personal interests, leading to a compromised electoral process. The electorate, often grappling with illiteracy, tends to prioritize candidates who can resolve immediate problems, such as local infrastructure and employment. This mode has eroded confidence in the current regime, a sentiment that resonates through the very fabric of our judiciary system. Lately, the political

turmoil, which involves the detention of Imran Khan, has made numerous people doubt the fairness of the legal system and the power of the Constitution. Certain political figures have gone as far as suggesting public votes to avoid the courts, which weakens the core principles of our laws. Because of these difficulties, I strongly urge our political leaders to show caution and realize that our way of governing is different from the Athenian style of democracy. Sir Winston Churchill's assertion that "If the courts are working, nothing can go wrong" remains

a powerful reminder of the importance of upholding judicial integrity.

To address these issues we must foster a deeper understanding of democratic principles among our populace. This includes championing concepts such as the Rule of Law, Accountability, and Transparency. Developing a robust democratic culture should be a paramount goal. This collective endeavor at can guide our country toward a future where governance is transparent, equitable, and founded on the principles of justice.

*The writer is student of*

## US town Herndon proclaims Aug 14 as 'Pakistan Independence Day'

News Desk

UNITED NATIONS: The Town Council of Herndon, a town in the US state of Virginia, has declared August 14 as 'Pakistan Independence Day'.

Naaila Alam, a Pakistani-American member of Herndon Town Council, communicated the 7-member body's decision to Pakistan's Ambassador to the US, Masood Khan, during a meeting at the Pakistani embassy here.

She also presented to the Pakistani envoy the proclamation signed by Mayor Sheila Olem of Herndon, Virginia.

Naaila is the first Pakistani-American to have been elected twice for their own Council in Herndon, Virginia.

Ambassador Masood Khan felicitated Alam over the fruition of her efforts which clearly reflected her deep love for the country of her origin, saying that the move would help cement Pak-US ties, according to a Pakistani embassy press release.

Naaila said, "It is a matter of great honour for her to get elected twice to serve the people of her town, which has a population of about 25,000."

She said that she was committed to working for bringing the people of the two countries closer to each other.

The proclamation said, "The Town of Herndon takes great pride in being the home of many Pakistani-Americans and on this occasion, our community celebrates the hopes, dreams, and vital contributions of Americans of Pakistani origin across all aspects of our society."

"Therefore, the Mayor of the Town of Herndon, Virginia, hereby proclaims the 14th day of August, as Pakistan Independence Day in the Town of Herndon, celebrates the 76th anniversary of Pakistan's independence, and encourages our residents to learn more about the history and culture of Pakistan - honouring their contributions to the Herndon community."

Ambassador Masood Khan wished Naaila even greater success in her political career as well as her social and humanitarian endeavours.



German Director General for Asia and Pacific Petra Sigmund hosted a farewell lunch in honour of Ambassador Dr. Mo-hammad Faisal at the German Foreign Office.

## Pak-Chinese companies sign pack for cultivating red chillies

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: Litong Group, a leading company of China on Friday signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Guard Agriculture Research and Services (GARS) for the cultivation of red chillies in Pakistan and subsequently its export to China under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) framework.

Chen Changwei, Chairman Litong and Chief Executive Officer of GARS, Shahzad Ali Malik signed the MoU on behalf of their respective companies, said a news release issued here.

Shahzad Ali Malik said that the criteria for selecting seed production land shall consider the underlined factors such as long-term feasibility, land and water availability. He said that in a phased program, a total of 200,000 acres of land would be brought under chilli cultivation.

He said that joint efforts would be made to promote chili seed breeding, chili crop production and research with a focus on developing high-quality chili seeds, suitable for the local agricultural conditions and crop production for Litong as per requirement.

Shahzad Ali Malik said it will boost chilli export to China and improve the profitability of chilli growers, adding that Pak-China collaboration in the field of agriculture would be further fortified in the days to come and GARS had over three decades good working relationship with Longping, one of the Chinese pioneer company for first time evolving hybrid rice seed in Pakistan.

## Changan Ford Motor to set up electric car JV with Chongqing Changan Auto

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: Changan Ford Motor plans to set up a new-energy passenger car joint venture with state-owned Chongqing Changan Automobile, a document published by China's market regulator on Friday showed.

Changan Ford Motor will own a 60% stake and Chongqing Changan Automobile the remaining 40% stake. Changan Ford is a 50-50 joint venture between Ford Motor Co (F. N) and Changan Automobile, meaning Chongqing Changan will own more than 50% of the new venture.

In the future, the joint venture plans to engage in the "supply business of mainstream brand new energy passenger vehicles and the distribution business of Ford brand models that Changan Ford has invested in," the statement said. Ford said in a later statement the new venture also will sell existing Ford-brand gas-powered vehicles.

Ford said the venture was being formed "to better grasp the development trend of electrification and intelligence in the auto industry."

## Govt provides Rs 2,953mln for agro-based SMEs

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The government has provided Rs 2,953 million for the modernization of agro-based Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in order to enhance farm output and encourage agricultural sector value addition for enhancing farm income as well as profit maximization.

The amount was disbursed among 177 borrowers under Prime Minister Kissan Package for dairy, livestock food processing, fruit, and vegetable packaging across the country, said an official in the Ministry of National Food Security and

Research. Talking to media here on Friday he said that the government has also provided Rs1,057 million for mark-up subsidy and a risk-sharing scheme for farm mechanization to enhance per-acre farm income in the country. The amount was disbursed among 507 borrowers by the end of the last fiscal year. "Meanwhile, the government has disbursed Rs12,817 million under Prime Minister Youth Agriculture Loan Scheme in order to encourage youth towards agriculture entrepreneurship as well as promote the agriculture and livestock sector in the country, he added."

The official said that over 24,776 applications were approved and out of that 23,857 applications were disbursed, adding that an amount of Rs14,917 million was approved and Rs12,817 million disbursed among the applicants.

The government, he said under the Kissan Package had provided Rs3,830.9 million in interest-free loans by June to landless farmers, which were badly affected due to torrential rains and flash floods last year.

He said adding that by the month of June 2023, interest-free loans were provided to about 35,405 landless farmers in order to revive the agriculture

sector in flood-hit areas across the country, the official added.

"The government has introduced a multi-billion rupee Kissan Package to revive the agriculture sector and enhance the per-acre output of major and minor crops, aiming to achieve sustainable agricultural growth and economic development," he added.

"Moreover, the government disbursed Rs12,817 million under Prime Minister Youth Business and Agriculture Scheme to 23,857 farmers, which provides financial assistance and support to young farmers in agriculture entrepreneurship," he added.



The official further said that recognizing the importance of farm mechanization, the government had provided Rs1,056 million to 507 farmers under the mark-up and risk scheme, he said adding that the initiative aimed to enhance productivity and efficiency in the agriculture sector.

### LCCI demands need for national MSME council to boost SME

Commerce Report

LAHORE: The Progressive Group in the Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI) has stressed the need for setting up a national MSME Development Council that can devise favourable regulations, suggest financial incentives and chalk out policies conducive to boosting such entrepreneurs and their production capacities.

Progressive Group's central leader and LCCI executive committee member, Muhammad Ejaz Tanveer in a statement issued on Thursday said that according to estimates, there were more than five million SMEs in Pakistan and these contribute 40 per cent to the national GDP with a 25 per cent share in overall exports.

While in Pakistan, SMEs constitute nearly 90 per cent of entirely private businesses and employ almost 78 per cent of the non-agricultural labour force. However, there is a need to set up a national level Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise Development Council (MSME) to further boost such entrepreneurs and their production capacity.

"A National MSME Development Council can provide a platform for policymakers, industry experts, and MSME representatives to collaborate and develop policies that support the growth and development of MSMEs. It can advocate for favourable regulations, financial incentives, and business-friendly environments to enhance the MSME ecosystem," he added.

Ejaz Tanveer further said that such a council could act as a monitoring body to assess the impact of various policies and initiatives on the MSME sector. Regular evaluation would help identify areas that need improvement and ensure that resources are utilized effectively. During times of economic downturn or crises, MSMEs were often proved vulnerable. The proposed council could devise strategies to support MSMEs during challenging times and help build their resilience against future shocks.

Similarly, the proposed council could also work with financial institutions to design specialized financing schemes tailored to the needs of small and medium-sized enterprises. This could include promoting alternative financing options, encouraging venture capital investments, and easing credit access.

"Building the capacity of MSME owners and workers is essential for improving productivity and competitiveness. The council can design and support skill development programs, workshops, and training sessions to upgrade technical and managerial capabilities within the sector," Progressive Group's leader said.

### The Bank of Punjab secures top rank in SBP's Agriculture Credit Scoring Model for FY 2023



Commerce Desk

LAHORE: State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) introduced a comprehensive Scoring Model to gauge the agriculture credit performance of the banks. Based on this scoring model, banks are ranked according to their sizes. The Bank of Punjab (BOP) has been ranked at 1st position in the Mid-Size Banks for the FY 2023. It is pertinent to mention here that on an overall basis, BOP's score is the second highest among all commercial banks regardless of their Tier Size.

This score has weightage of outstanding borrowers, regional/geographical disbursements, outstanding portfolio and overall disbursement with regards to Agriculture sector and includes both Farm and Non-Farm Sectors. BOP has not only increased its agriculture customer base but also booked one of the largest Collateral Free Loans portfolios of Agriculture customers whereby loans are extended for Poultry, Dairy and Animal Fattening against personal guarantee of the borrowers.

Introduction of Customer Centric proposition is the heart of bank's strategy. Bank has dedicated branches to cater to Agriculture Sector needs, equipped with well-trained Agriculture Relationship Managers. BOP offers extensive products under the Kissan Dost Umbrella which ranges from Lucrative everyday Banking accounts to Need Specific Loan Products.

BOP is also focused to use modern day technology and innovative tools for the well-being of its customers. Recent launch of Kissan Digital Portal is the testimony to this fact, followed by its collaboration with different Agritechs for provision of Advisory Services in respect of Weather Forecasts, Cropping, Pesticide spraying and Utilizing Drones for Sprays to the Farmers. Bank has also collaborated with Punjab Land Record Authority for real time lien marking on Agriculture properties situated in Punjab Province. BOP stands committed to promote development and sustainability of agriculture sector by leveraging its Network and State of Art products and services.

## Companies facing surplus staff due to reduced demand: Mian Zahid Hussain

Tariq Khattak

ISLAMABAD: Chairman of National Business Group Pakistan, President Pakistan Businessmen and Intellectuals Forum, and All Karachi Industrial Alliance, and former provincial minister Mian Zahid Hussain said on Friday that despite the inflation, the private sector is unable to increase the salaries of their employees as required due to the increasing cost of doing business.

Increased uncertainty and the rising cost of doing business have put the survival of many companies at risk, he said.

Mian Zahid Hussain said that the country's production and exports have been steadily declining, bringing the GDP close to zero. Due to inflation, demand is also continuously decreasing, and due to the decreased production, thousands of private companies are facing

surplus staff.

Talking to the business community, the veteran business leader said that now the majority of the companies have only the option of laying off the surplus staff and reducing the salaries for their survival, due to which the morale of the employees of these organisations is falling.

Political conditions, a constant increase in the price of everything, including electricity, gas, and petroleum products, and bank markups have brought economic activity to a standstill, so many companies have no option but to downsize to survive, he added.

Masses are paying heavy costs for all these developments with no relief in sight, he said, adding that manufacturers who are unable to reduce their business costs will not be able to withstand the financial pressure for long and will go bankrupt.

Mian Zahid Hussain further said that many



large manufacturers are not retrenching despite the losses as they will not be able to re-hire the laid-off skilled workers after the situation

improves, which will put them at a disadvantage.

Apart from this, some labour laws also prohibit downsizing. Private sector companies that lay off staff are not considered reasonable concerns, and talented people dislike working in such companies.

On the other hand, almost all sectors do not like to employ people who have lost their jobs somewhere else because it is generally believed that they will be incompetent.

Lack of communication between employer and employee also increases misunderstandings, which affect the business environment, he observed.

Companies facing financial difficulties should strengthen their relationships with employees, take them into confidence about the current difficult situation, make them aware of their constraints, and only then make tough decisions, he advised.

### Protest

ISLAMABAD: A view of debris of the demolished Chambers of Lawyers at F-8 Football ground after the Supreme Court ultimatum, which was till 01-05-2021, as the Workers of Anti encroachments cell of the CDA had demolished 200 chambers on the order of Supreme Court.



Photo: Online

## Flag hoisting ceremony at ICCI

Tariq Khattak

ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry organized a flag hoisting and cake cutting ceremony to celebrate the 76th Independence Day of Pakistan. A large number of the business community attended the ceremony.

Speaking on the occasion, Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari, President, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI) said that Pakistan was achieved after making great sacrifices and we have to work hard as a nation to make it a progressive and welfare state. He said that Pakistan has faced many ups and downs during the last 76 years and we have to work on the principles of unity, faith and discipline advocated by Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali to make Pakistan a strong economy of the region. He reiterated that the business community would fully support the government in its endeavors to put the economy on the path of sustainable growth. He stressed for elimination of extremism and terrorism to make Pakistan an attractive destination for investors.

Faad Waheed, Senior Vice President ICCI said that we as a nation should promote Made in Pakistan. He further said that promoting ease of doing business and creating a conducive environment is the key requirement to steer the economy out of current challenges.

Engr. Azhar ul Islam Zafar, Vice President ICCI said that Pakistan is endowed with a lot of natural resources and the government



should cooperate with the private sector in exploiting them in order to transform the country into a rising economy.

Khalid Iqbal Malik, ICCI Group Leader said that the youth should be properly educated about the sacrifices, which were made for the creation of Pakistan. He said that we should learn from the past mistakes and make all possible efforts for a brighter future of Pakistan.

Zafar Bakhtawari, former President ICCI and Secretary General UBG said that Pakistan was created by making a lot of sacrifices and every person of the nation has to play a role for its better development. He said

that the 76th Independence Day of Pakistan reminds us that we as a nation should work hard with honesty and dedication to make Pakistan a progressive and prosperous economy.

Khalid Javed, Muhammad Ejaz Abbasi former Presidents ICCI, DSP Margalla Razaullah Khan, Khalid Chaudhry, Maqsood Tabish, Zahid Qureshi, Raja Hassan Akhtar, Irfan Chaudhry, Ch. Muhammad Ali, Ms. Parveen Khan, Ms. Nagina Khaleeqe and others also spoke on the occasion and congratulated the nation on celebrating the 76th Independence of Pakistan.

## SECP warns public against investing in fraudulent investment schemes

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The SECP warns the public against investing in fraudulent schemes with unrealistic incentives and promises of profits. It clarifies that company registration does not authorize soliciting deposits or offering investment schemes.

It has been observed that a company, namely "M/s Anees Ahmed Enterprises (SMC-Private) Limited and AA Enterprises & Investments," is offering various fraudulent deposit/investment schemes to the public by promising them unrealistic monthly returns through the following social media and digital pages:

Website (<https://aaenterprisesandinvestments.com/>);  
WhatsApp Group @ (0300-2222241);  
Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100092667745743&mbextid=ZbWKwL>; and  
Twitter ([https://twitter.com/AAEnterprise77079?&#038;t=V\\_z0ce9SPYrV9utfchdQ&#038;s=09](https://twitter.com/AAEnterprise77079?)).

The said company is using its registration status with SECP to win public confidence. The general public is once again informed that the "Certificate of Incorporation" of a company merely confirms its registration with SECP and does not allow the company to raise deposits or launch investment schemes.

SECP hereby WARNS THE PUBLIC NOT TO deposit or invest funds with M/s Anees Ahmed Enterprises (SMC-Private) Limited, AA Enterprises & Investments, and AA Enterprises under any arrangement, as these entities are not allowed to accept deposits/investments from anyone.

The SECP has initiated proceedings against Mr. Anees Ahmed and his entities, which include closing down their operations, disqualifying Mr. Anees Ahmed, imposing penalties, and referring the matter to relevant investigation authorities.

## TwentyOne to launch new Grand Bazaar in Karachi

News Desk

KARACHI: TwentyOne Builders and Developers, one of the growing real estate companies, is all set to launch a new commercial mall "Grand Bazaar in Karachi aims to facilitate wholesale and retail businesses under one roof. The project is being designed on the new concept to boost the business and economic activities in the commercial capital of the country in the surrounding of the fastest emerging residential areas on the Northern Bypass.

On the occasion, Chief Operating Officer Musammir Arif Siddiqui said, "The mega shopping malls are catalysts to stir economic and business activities in major cities, but the development of this business hub like Grand Bazaar in Karachi is tantamount to

setting up an engine of business and economic activities for the whole country. I believe this project will attract local and foreign investment and generate hundreds of entrepreneurial and job opportunities in different areas."

From automobiles to toy shops, clothes to groceries, every sector will be allocated a differentiated space under the customized requirement of businesses, Musammir Arif Siddiqui said.

Investors and people in business will purchase plots in the Grand Bazaar in an open policy, but they can be facilitated on demand with our advanced construction and development services by us. The development of this mega project will stir long-term construction activities in the surrounding area.

## TCL and Daraz unveil Grand Azadi Sale: Up to 21% Off, free shipping, and more delights await!

Commerce Desk

LAHORE: Mark your calendars for an extraordinary shopping extravaganza as TCL, the unrivaled leader in LED TVs in Pakistan, joins forces with Daraz, the foremost online retail giant, to unveil the much-anticipated Azadi Sale, running from August 14th to 23rd.

Prepare to be swept off your feet by the unparalleled offerings as TCL and Daraz present a remarkable collaboration, gracing the period of August

14th to 23rd with remarkable deals. Delight in savings of up to 21% on an extensive spectrum of iFFALCON and TCL products, encompassing an enticing array including Mini LEDs, QLEDs, 4K UHD LEDs, Smart Android LEDs, the ingenious Smart Air Purifier Breeva A2, the ever-helpful Robot Vacuum Cleaner Sweeva, immersive Soundbars, and cutting-edge Air Conditioners. The festivities don't stop there; revel in the luxury of complimentary shipping, the convenience

of monthly installments, the assurance of brand warranty, collectible vouchers, and exclusive discounts with partnering banks. This unparalleled opportunity is exclusively available at the prestigious TCL flagship store within the Daraz platform.

Speaking about this collaborative venture, Mr. Majid Khan Niazi, Head of Marketing at TCL Pakistan, shared, "Year after year, TCL and Daraz combine their strengths to bestow exclusive deals and unprecedented discounts



across our entire product spectrum. This Independence Day, we aspire to surpass expectations by making our diverse product line accessible to every Pakistani, through substantial discounts, free shipping, and the ease of monthly installments."

Mr. Ibrahim Khan, Head of Brands at Daraz Pakistan, expressed his pride in presenting the TCL and Daraz Azadi Sale, a fusion of two industry titans committed to revolutionizing your shopping journey.

# Tickets for Asia Cup 2023 go on sale

A Sports

LAHORE: The ticket sale for the Pakistan-leg of the upcoming ACC Men's Asia Cup 2023 kicked off, the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) announced on Saturday.

According to the PCB, the ticket prices have been set at affordable rates keeping in view the return of the Asia Cup in Pakistan after 15 years so the fans can watch the Pakistan and Asian cricket stars in action up close.

Initially, only VIP, Premium and Hospitality tickets were put on sale for the first four Asia Cup matches, scheduled to be held in Pakistan.

Whereas, the first class and general tickets will go on sale on the 76th Independence Day (Monday).

Tickets for the Asia Cup opener between Pakistan and Nepal at the Multan Cricket Stadium on August 30 have been set at PKR 5,000 for the VIP and PKR 2,500 for Premium enclosures.

Ticket prices for Bangladesh versus Afghanistan and Sri Lanka versus Afghanistan matches have been set at PKR



ENCLOSURE	CATEGORY	BAN vs AFG	SL vs AFG	AI vs B2
WAGAR YOUNIS	HOSPITALITY	4000	4000	8500
WASIM AKRAM	HOSPITALITY	4000	4000	8500
WASIM AKRAM GALLERY	HOSPITALITY	7000	7000	30000
IMSHAN KHAN	VIP	2000	2000	4000
FAZAL MAHMOOD	VIP	2000	2000	4000
RAJAS	PREMIUM	1500	1500	2500
SAEED ANWAR	PREMIUM	1500	1500	2500

4,000 each for Wasim Akram and Waqar Younis enclosures, PKR 7,000 for Wasim Akram Gallery, PKR 2,000 and PKR 1,500 for VIP and Premium enclosures respectively.

For the only Super 4s Asia Cup fixture in Pakistan, the ticket prices have been set at PKR 8,500 each for Wasim Akram and Waqar Younis enclosures, PKR 10,000 for Wasim Akram Gallery, PKR 6,000 and PKR 2,500 for VIP and Premium enclosures respectively.

Additionally, the details of

the Sri Lanka leg tickets will be announced in due course.

This year's Asia Cup will kick off with host Pakistan taking on Nepal in the curtain raiser on August 30 in Multan.

Pakistan will host a total of four matches including a Super 4s fixture.

India's group stage matches including the anticipated clash against Pakistan, scheduled on September 2, will be held in Kandy while the rest of the Super 4s matches, including the final will be played in Colombo.



The arch-rivals Pakistan and India will come face to face again on September 10 in Colombo if both manage to qualify for the Super 4s.

Like the previous edition, the Asia Cup schedule holds a possibility of treating the cricket fans with a maximum of three Pakistan-India matches in a single tournament if both arch-rivals, in a first, simultaneously qualify for the final.

The upcoming edition of the Asia Cup features six teams, divided into two groups, the

top two teams from each group will then qualify for the Super 4s.

The continental event will run from August 31 to September 17. Hosts Pakistan are placed in the same group as arch-rivals India and Nepal while the other group includes defending champions and co-hosts Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Afghanistan.

The Asia Cup 2023 will be played in the ODI format and will serve as an opportunity for the Asian teams to bolster their preparations for the upcoming ICC Men's World Cup.

## Consulate General of Glasgow Extends Support to Pakistan Cycling Federation

Sports Desk

Glasgow, The Honorable Mr. Syed Zahid Raza, Consul General in Glasgow, graciously hosted a meeting at his office to commemorate the participation of two Pakistani cyclists in the UCI World Road Cycling Championships, held in Glasgow, Scotland. Mr. Moazzam Khan Klair, Secretary General of the Pakistan Cycling Federation, and Mr. Haroon General, Manager of the Pakistan cycling team, expressed their gratitude for the Consul General's support.



During the meeting, Mr. Syed Zahid Raza displayed a keen interest in cycling and affirmed his commitment to fully support the Pakistan Cycling Federation in its endeavors to elevate cycling's development. Mr. Klair, on behalf of President Syed Azhar Ali Shah, extended his heartfelt thanks for the Consul General's unwavering support and enthusiasm.

"The support and interest shown by Mr. Syed Zahid Raza are truly remarkable," said Mr. Klair. "With the blessings of Allah Almighty and collective efforts, we are confident that cycling will achieve new heights."

The Pakistan Cycling Federation remains committed to promoting the sport and advancing cycling's stature both nationally and internationally.

## PSG sideline Kylian Mbappe for season-opener as Dembele arrives

Sports Desk

LAHORE: French superstar Kylian Mbappe has been left out of Paris Saint-Germain's season opener on Saturday deepening the stand-off between the France captain and the Ligue 1 champions.



As Mbappe's contract dispute with the Qatar-backed club rumbles on PSG announced a new signing - Ousmane Dembele on a five-year deal from Barcelona.

He is the ninth summer arrival at a side which has lost Lionel Messi to Inter Miami, and may soon be facing up to life without Mbappe.

In an affair that has dominated transfer market headlines, Kylian Mbappe has refused to sign an extension to his PSG deal, meaning he can leave for free next year, with Real Madrid long seen as his preferred destination.

PSG want to sell him now and bring in a significant transfer fee for a player who cost 180 million euros (\$198m) from Monaco in 2017.

"The position is very clear. If Kylian wants to stay, he must sign a new contract. We can't let the best player in the world today leave for free. It's impossible," PSG president Nasser al-Khelaifi said last month.

Kylian Mbappe has not been allowed train with the first team and played only one of PSG's five warm-up games and was not invited to the pre-season tour in Japan and South Korea.

Despite his sidelining Mbappe was one of the first to welcome Dembele to the Parc des Princes.

"Welcome home my brother, so happy to see you here, the adventure begins," Mbappe posted on social media to greet Dembele with whom he won the World Cup in 2018.

26-year-old Ousmane Dembele joined Barcelona in 2017 from Borussia Dortmund and extended his contract last year until 2024.

PSG took advantage of the player's 50 million euros (\$54 million) release clause to sign the former Rennes forward.

"I'm very happy to join Paris Saint-Germain and can't wait to play in my new colours," Dembele said in a PSG statement.

"I hope to continue to grow here and make all who love the club proud."

Dembele, who has 37 caps for France and scored four goals, joins three other World Cup winners at PSG - Mbappe, Presnel Kimpembe and Lucas Hernandez.

He is the club's ninth summer signing after defenders Milan Skriniar and Lucas Hernandez, midfielders Manuel Ugarte and Cher Ndour, forwards Marco Asensio, Lee Kang-in and Goncalo Ramos and goalkeeper Arnaud Tenas.

At Barcelona, despite early problems adjusting to the Catalan side and injuries, Ousmane Dembele scored 40 goals in 185 matches, winning three league titles in 2018, 2019 and 2023 and two Spanish Cups 2018 and 2021.

PSG are bolstering their attacking options with the futures of Mbappe and also Neymar uncertain.

"The passion and determination shown by Ousmane when he joined PSG is fantastic and is the attitude required for all our players," said Khelaifi.

"We are proud to have another French World Cup winner in Paris Saint-Germain at the moment to enter a new great era for our club."

New PSG coach Luis Enrique also left out Brazilian Neymar from Saturday evening's game with the forward suffering a "viral syndrome".

The club are reported to be open to selling the former Barcelona star and Italian midfielder Marco Verratti, who has also not been called up against Lorient.

# Haris blitz sinks Jaffna Kings as B-Love Kandy storm into LPL playoffs

A Sports

COLOMBO: Mohammad Haris's swashbuckling 81-run knock powered B-Love Kandy into the Lanka Premier League (LPL) playoffs with a thrilling eight-run victory over Jaffna Kings on Saturday.

With LPL 2023 playoffs berth at stake, B-Love Kandy put on an all-round show to edge holders Jaffna Kings by eight runs, thanks to a berserk 81-run knock by Haris and Angelo Mathews's 3/10.

Opting to bat first, B-Love Kandy piled up a commendable total of 178/8 in 20 overs with wicketkeeper batter Mohammad Haris leading the way with a brilliant knock.

The opening batter dominated the Kings' bowlers right from the start with the belligerent hitting before finally perish-



ing in the 15th over. Haris smashed 10 boundaries and two sixes on his way to top score for B-Love Kandy with a 51-ball 81.

Mohammad Haris's opening partner Fakhar Zaman and veteran all-rounder Angelo Mathews recorded the next best scores for B-Love Kandy,

scoring 22 each.

Nuwan Thirusara led the bowling attack for the Kings with 3/31, followed by two wickets each from Dunith Wellalage and Dilshan Madushanka.

Set to chase a daunting 179-run target, the Kings came up just eight runs short as they could accumulate 170/6 in the

allotted overs despite Shoaib Malik's gutsy half-century.

The Kings got off to a dismal start to the pursuit as they lost three wickets in quick succession.

Coming out to bat with his side reeling at 16/3 in the fifth, Shoaib Malik knitted an anchoring 35-run partnership with Chris Lynn, who could score 27 off 26 deliveries.

Malik was then joined by hard-hitting batter David Miller, who glimmered a ray of hope for the Kings with a brisk start but could not continue and fell to Isuru Udana in the 13th over.

He scored 24 off 16 deliveries, hitting four boundaries. Kings' captain Thisara Perera then joined Malik in the middle and stitched a vital 60-run partnership before Nuwan Pradeep dismissed him in the 18th over.

Perera's dismissal was a major momentum booster for B-Love Kandy as he was breathing fire amid his brief yet crucial 20-ball 36. His knock featured two boundaries and two sixes.

The Kings missed the firepower in the death overs despite Shoaib Malik being set at the crease and they eventually fell a mere eight runs short of pulling a thrilling victory.

Malik remained unbeaten with his 37-ball 55, laced up with four boundaries and a six. Angelo Mathews led the bowling attack for B-Love Kandy with 3/10 in his three overs while Pradeep had two to his name.

A narrow nine-run victory over Jaffna Kings propelled B-Love Kandy to book their spot in the LPL 2023 playoffs as they sit at the second position with eight points in six matches.

# Rayo Vallecano crush Almeria in La Liga opener as Valencia prevail

A Sports

LAHORE: Home side Rayo Vallecano scripted a flying start to their La Liga 2023-24 campaign with a dominating 2-0 win over Almeria while Valencia edged Europa League champions Sevilla 2-1.

Valencia, who avoided being relegated by a mere two points in the previous La Liga season, started their campaign on a high against momentum-filled Sevilla and soon got their reward at the hour mark when thanks to Mouctar Diakhaby. Guinea international defender Diakhaby produced an exceptional finish after good work by Portuguese teammate Andre Almeida.

Valencia's lead however shortlived as Sevilla pulled one back nine minutes later, courtesy of Morocco's forward Youssef En-Nesyri, who headed in at



the far post from a well-calculated cross by Suso.

Valencia's Javi Guerra then left the home crowd stunned when he fired an

88-minute match-winner, pouncing on the brilliant opportunity set up by Hugo Duro.

Notably, home side Sevilla was a man down for the last 10 minutes of their fixture against Valencia after Frenchman Loic Bade was given a red card for shirt pulling.

Click to watch La Liga 2023-24 Live on ARY ZAP

In the La Liga 2023-24 curtain raiser, hosts Rayo Vallecano handed a 2-0 thrashing to Almeria.

Randy Nteka starred in scripting a perfect start to Rayo Vallecano's campaign as he scored one goal and helped produce another.

Midfielder Isi Palazon opened the scoring for Rayo Vallecano in the 20th minute after Almeria defender Edgar Gonzalez fouled Nteka in the area when the two were squabbling over a ball.

# Australia beat France in penalty thriller to reach Women's World Cup semi-finals

Sports Desk

LAHORE: Co-hosts Australia beat France 7-6 in a thrilling penalty shoot-out to reach the semi-finals of the Women's World Cup for the first time in their history on a night of drama in Brisbane on Saturday.

Australia now go to Sydney on Wednesday to face the winners of the final last-eight tie between England and Colombia.

Cortnee Vine scored the winning penalty to end a remarkable shoot-out that saw both teams take 10 spot-kicks, the third Women's World Cup quarter-final having ended 0-0 after 120 nerve-shredding minutes. Vine held her nerve to send the

crowd into raptures and keep the Matildas' dream of winning the World Cup on home soil alive.

Australia goalkeeper Mackenzie Arnold had missed a chance to win the shoot-out when her kick hit the post but then saved twice from Kenza Dali after the VAR spotted she had both feet off her line the first time.

Vicki Becho missed France's 10th penalty, and it was left to Vine to take Australia through by beating France's substitute goalkeeper Solene Durand, who had been sent on, especially for the shoot-out.

"I'm so freaking proud about this team. The bravery that they showed tonight, unbelievable," said Australia coach Tony Gustavsson.

"I think we'll have maybe tonight to celebrate it and then tomorrow we'll review it and move on to the next game," added Arnold, the player of the match.

It was an agonising way for France to go out of the Women's World Cup after a tense encounter watched by a sell-out crowd of 49,461.

Les Bleues had been hoping to get to the semi-finals for just the second time, following their defeat in the last four in 2011, but instead go home.

"We had a whole stadium and a nation against us. We produced an exceptional performance, but that's football. It was destiny," French coach Herve Renard told broadcaster France 2.

"Good luck to Australia. I think

we deserved more but that's how it is."

Australia's victory was achieved despite Sam Kerr again being left on the bench at kick-off, with the talismanic Matildas captain, now fit after a calf injury, coming on early in the second half and going on to convert her penalty in the shoot-out.

Gustavsson stuck with the same team that started against Denmark in the last 16, while France brought the fit-again Maelle Lakrar back into their defence.

Lakrar really should have given France an early lead to silence the hostile crowd, but the 23-year-old somehow succeeded in diverting a Eugenie Le Sommer shot over the bar with the goal gaping,



That was a let-off for the hosts, who were then grateful to Arnold for tipping a Le Sommer effort behind and for stopping a stingy Lakrar attempt following a corner.

It looked like the occasion was getting to Australia, but they began to threaten in the final minutes of the first half.

They were desperately unlucky not to go ahead in the 41st minute when French defensive hesitancy allowed Emily van Egmond to tee

up Mary Fowler for what seemed like a certain goal, but Elisa De Almeida raced in to produce a miraculous block.

French goalkeeper Pauline Peyraud-Magnin then had to come out to clear in front of Fowler, as it somehow remained goalless at the interval.

Kerr emerged 10 minutes into the second half, replacing Van Egmond to the delight of the crowd, and her introduction provided such a lift that Australia

very nearly went ahead moments later.

Hayley Raso tried her luck with a rasping drive from outside the box, but Peyraud-Magnin saved and the Juventus goalkeeper topped that with a brilliant block to deny Fowler from point-blank range on the hour mark.

That appeared to pierce some of Australia's momentum, and the tension increased as the clock ticked down, making extra time almost an inevitability.