

# Daily The Spokesman

A Leading National Daily



فرمان رسول ﷺ  
ہم سے علی بن عبد اللہ نے بیان کیا کہ کہا  
ہم سے عثمان نے بیان کیا کہ کہا ہم سے ابو الزناد  
نے بیان کیا کہ ان سے اعراب نے اور ان سے  
ابو ہریرہ سے اللہ نے اسے کر رسول اللہ صلی  
اللہ علیہ وسلم نے فرمایا تم اس وقت تک  
تاکم نہیں ہوگی جب تک دو ایسے گروہ آپس  
میں جگمگ کریں جن کا دعویٰ ایک ہی ہو۔  
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RAWALPINDI



## All possible resources to be used to address Karachi issues: PM

Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Tuesday assured that the government would utilise all possible resources to address the issues faced by the Karachi city. The prime minister said this in a meeting with a delegation of the MQM which called on him during his daylong visit here. (Details on Page 8)



## Electricity tariff likely to be hiked again

The power authorities are likely to approve another hike in electricity tariff by Rs2.07 per unit in terms of July's fuel charge adjustment (FCA). The power companies sought the Central Power Purchasing Agency (CPPA) to hike the electricity tariff by Rs2.07 per unit for July fuel charge adjustment (FCA). NEPRA will hear the pleas on August 30. The plea stated that the ratio of power generation from thermal resources was 37.18%, 14.68% from coal, 1.98% from furnace oil and 1967% from Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) in July.

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## Dua

KARACHI: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar offering dua at the Mausoleum of Father of the Nation, Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah on Tuesday.



Photo: PID

## Caretaker govt to ensure transparent, impartial election process: PM Kakar

### Bureau Report

KARACHI: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaarul Haq Kakar on Tuesday reiterated that the interim government would ensure holding of the upcoming general elections in the most transparent and impartial manner, accepted to all. Talking to media after visiting Mazar-e-Quaid to pay tribute and offer Fatcha, the prime minister said that the caretaker government would function in the limited time frame only to ensure the election process. Caretaker govt to ensure transparent, impartial election process.

They would play their part in this regard by holding transparent and impartial polls, so that Pakistan could move through its constitutional transitional period, he added. On the occasion, the prime minister was accompanied by Governor Sindh Kamran Khan Tessori, Caretaker Chief Minister Justice (Retired) Maqbool Baqir and the members of his cabinet. It was the maiden visit of the caretaker prime minister to Karachi after assuming his office. The prime minister

ter said that he along with his few cabinet members came here to pay homage to Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah and reaffirm to work for the progress and prosperity of the country by highlighting the social contract under which a separate state came into being. Caretaker govt to ensure transparent, impartial election process.

Referring to an address of the founder of the nation on August 11, 1947 before the Constituent Assembly, he said it focused on rights of the minorities and equality among individuals. Caretaker govt to ensure transparent, impartial election process.

Prime Minister Kakar expressed the optimism that the people of the country would excel in different fields on the basis of their talents and it was the future of the country. Earlier, the prime minister laid a floral wreath at the grave of the founder of the nation and offered Fatcha. He also penned down his expressions in the visitors' book. Caretaker govt to ensure transparent, impartial election process.

## Five students rescued from Battagram chairlift, operation underway

### Rehman Ullah Khan

BATTAGRAM: The number of rescued students reached five as Pakistan Army Aviation officers and Special Service Group (SSG) commandos managed to pull out three more school students trapped in the chairlift in Battagram. ISPR

The footage showed the rescuer hanging from a helicopter pulling out one of the students trapped in the Battagram chairlift by using the harness. The student was safely shifted to the ground after hours-long rescue efforts.

After rescuing two children, the air rescue operation was suspended due to windy weather and darkness. The children were rescued after the fourth attempt to airlift them.

The Pakistan Army Aviation and SSG teams also decided to continue the chairlift rescue operation from the ground.

Pakistan Army also brought a local cable crossing expert from

the Northern areas. The cable crossing expert will also assist the rescuers.

GOCSSG is leading the rescue operation and a last attempt was made to pull out the trapped students and a teacher via helicopter. The rescue operation via helicopter would be more dangerous and risky due to windy weather and darkness.

All arrangements have been made to continue the operation in the nighttime. Moreover, the SSG commandoes provided food and medicines to the people trapped in the chairlift.

It was learnt that a small-sized chairlift will be installed at the same rope to extract the remaining people from the broken chairlift.

Earlier, a Pakistan Army helicopter reached Battagram, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, to rescue schoolchildren and teachers, who are stranded midair after the cable of a chairlift passing over a river broke in the Allai Jhangray



Pashto area broke on Tuesday.

A rescue operation is being carried out in a "very careful and deliberate manner" by SSGC commandos.

As per details, the chairlift is stuck in Battagram's Tehsil Alai as a result eight schoolchildren and their teachers are stranded in midair for several hours.

Earlier, Commissioner Hazara Sultan Aamir said he has contacted the KP govt and Pakistan Army for helicopter support to rescue the stranded schoolchil-

dren and teacher.

Gulfaraz (from the stuck chairlift) said seven schoolchildren and another man are stuck in the chairlift.

He said they are stuck midair in the chairlift from 7 in the morning and two ropes of the chairlift have already been broken. We are still waiting for help, he added.

The names of the eight people including schoolchildren stuck midair in Battagram cable car include Irfan Omraiz, Osama

Sharif, Rizwanullah, Attaullah, Niaz Zaib, Sher Nawaz, Gulfaraz and Abrar.

Caretaker PM orders immediate closure of chairlifts in dilapidated condition

Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar has directed to immediately rescue the eight persons trapped in a chairlift at Pashto area in Battagram.

According to a statement released by the Prime Minister office, the Prime Minister directed the National Disaster Management Authority, Provincial Disaster Management Authority and all relevant rescue agencies to rescue students and teachers by utilizing all resources.

The Prime Minister also instructed to ensure safety arrangements on all such chairlifts in the hilly areas. He directed to immediately close the chairlifts which are in dilapidated condition and do not meet the safety standards.

## Pakistan summons Indian diplomat to protest killing of a civilian at LoC

### Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The Indian Charge d' Affaires was summoned to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs today, to register Pakistan's strong protest over the killing of a 60-year-old civilian, Mr Ghias, resident of Oli village of Kotli district, as a result of firing by the Indian forces. The incident took place in the Nikial Sector of the Line of Control (LoC) on 21 August 2023.

Emphasizing the need for maintaining peace and tranquillity at the LoC, it was underscored that such acts are in clear violation of the 2003 Ceasefire Understand-



ing, reaffirmed in February 2021.

It was stressed that utmost caution should be exercised by the Indian forces as targeting innocent civilians is contrary to human dignity and international human rights and humanitarian laws.

The Indian side was urged to investigate the incident and respect the Ceasefire Understand-

## ECP barred from taking final decision against PTI chief in contempt case

### Bureau Report

LAHORE: Lahore High Court (LHC) has stopped Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) from taking final decision against Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chief in the contempt case. As per details, LHC Judge Justice Muhammad Wahid Khan heard the plea filed by PTI chief against the ECP proceedings.

LHC stopped ECP from taking the final decision in the contempt case however directed the commission to continue the proceedings.

Furthermore, the PTI chief's petition was referred to Chief Justice LHC and asked to form a larger bench in this case.

## Six soldiers martyred in gun battle with terrorists in South Waziristan: ISPR

### Adam Khan Wazir

RAWALPINDI: At least six Pakistan army soldiers were martyred during an exchange of fire with terrorists in the South Waziristan district of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, the military's media affairs wing said on Tuesday.

In a statement, the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) said that an exchange of fire took place between troops and terrorists in the general area Asman Manza of South Waziristan district on August 22.

"Own troops effectively engaged the terrorists' location and resultantly four terrorists were sent to hell, while two terrorists were injured," it said, "however, during an intense exchange of fire, six brave soldiers having fought gallantly, embraced martyrdom."

"Sanitization of the area is being carried out to eliminate any other terrorists found in the area," the armed forces media wing said in a statement.

The armed forces said that they were determined to eliminate the menace of terrorism and such sacrifices of soldiers further strengthen their resolve.

## SC moved against Amended Official Secrets and Army Acts

### City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The issue of the President's signing/not signing the Official Secrets (Amendment) Bill, 2023 and Pakistan Army Act (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (Amendment) Bill has reached to the Supreme Court with a petition.

A petition, filed by Advocate Zulfiqar Bhutta in the apex court, has pleaded for an inquiry into the issue. The petitioner has made the federal government respondent in the case.

Petitioner has pleaded for a court ruling to the government to contact the Supreme Court within 10 days.

Earlier, a petition filed in the Lahore High Court by Advocate Mohammad Muqsit Saleem, on Monday had challenged the two laws.

The plea filed in the wake of a statement from the President of Pakistan, asserting that he had not signed the Official Secrets Amendment Act bill, casting doubts on its validity and procedural correctness.

## Sami vows to step up CPEC projects' momentum

### City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Minister for Planning, Development, and Special Initiatives Muhammad Sami Saeed on Tuesday vowed to vigorously maintain and step up the momentum of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) projects. He expressed these views while chairing a meeting to review progress made on the CPEC projects, a news release said. Chief Economist and Head of CPEC Dr Nadeem Javaid presented an in-depth overview of the advancements associated with the CPEC projects. The meeting was attended by Planning Secretary Syed Zafar Ali Shah, officials from the CPEC Secretariat, and the ministry.

The minister underlined that the caretaker government would maintain the pace of pivotal development projects. In that regard, Sami Saeed expressed a fervent commitment to sustain the momentum of ongoing CPEC projects. Underlining the transformative potential of CPEC, the minister reaffirmed that the caretaker government was mandated to sustain the acceleration of all development initiatives, with CPEC being accorded the utmost importance.

## Section 144: Punjab information minister withdraws tweet



### Bureau Report

LAHORE: The caretaker Punjab information minister Amir Mir has withdrawn his tweet related to the imposition of Section 144.

Amir Mir clarified that deputy commissioners have been given powers to impose Section 144. The DCs have powers to impose Section 144 citing the situation.

He detailed that the DCs could impose the restrictions under the law for a week or more.

The caretaker government has adopted extraordinary security measures following riots in Jaranwala after an alleged incident of blasphemy. Amid the riots, four churches and several

houses and vehicles were torched by the outrageous crowd.

On August 17, in view of the Jaranwala incident, Deputy Commissioner Faisalabad imposed section 144 in the district.

Deputy Commissioner Faisalabad - Ali Annan - had imposed Section 144 in the district after protests, vandalism, and arson against the alleged desecration of the Holy Quran and Prophet Muhammad in Jaranwala Tehsil of Faisalabad City of Punjab.

Following the attacks and arson on the Christian population and properties on Wednesday, a ban was imposed on gatherings, meetings, rallies and sit-ins for seven days to avoid any untoward incidents.

## Group

## photo

ISLAMABAD: President Dr. Arif Alvi in a group photo with the members of Pakistan Special Olympics Team, who participated in Berlin special Olympics, at Aiwan-e-Sadr on Tuesday.



Photo: PID

## BRICS leaders meet in South Africa as bloc weighs expansion

## Spokesman Report

JOHANNESBURG: Leaders of the BRICS nations—Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa—converged on Johannesburg on Tuesday for a summit where they will weigh expanding the bloc as some members push to forge it into a counterweight to the West.

Heightened global tensions provoked by the Ukraine war and a growing rivalry between China and the United States have added urgency to a drive to strengthen the bloc, which has at times suffered from internal divisions and a lack of coherent vision.

South Africa hosted China's Xi Jinping, the leading proponent of enlarging BRICS, for a state visit on Tuesday morning ahead of meetings with the grouping's other leaders later in the day.

Sitting beside Xi, South African President Cyril Ramaphosa said that the two countries had "similar views" regarding expansion.



"We share your view President Xi that BRICS is a vitally important forum which plays an important role in the reform of global governance and in the promotion of multilateralism and cooperation throughout the world," he said.

Brazil's Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi are also attending the Aug. 22 to 24 summit.

Russian President Vladimir Putin, wanted under an international arrest warrant for alleged war crimes in Ukraine, will not travel to South Africa and instead join virtually.

"I am confident that the upcoming summit will be an important milestone in the development of the BRICS mechanism," Xi said shortly after his arrival in South Africa.

Beyond the enlargement question,

boosting the use of member states' local currencies is also on the summit agenda. South African organisers, however, say there will be no discussions of a BRICS currency, an idea floated by Brazil earlier this year as an alternative to dollar-dependence.

BRICS remains a disparate group, ranging from China, the world's second biggest economy now grappling with a slowdown, to South Africa, this year's host and an economic minnow facing a power crisis that's led to daily blackouts.

While a potential BRICS enlargement remains up in the air, the bloc's pledge to become a champion of the developing "Global South" and offer an alternative to a world order dominated by wealthy Western nations is already finding resonance.

Over 40 countries have expressed interest in joining BRICS, say South African officials. Of them, nearly two dozen have formally asked to be admitted, with some expected to send delegations to Johannesburg.

## Pakistan wins 'Best Business Group Award' at China-Eurasia Expo in Urumqi

## Spokesman Report

BEIJING: Pakistan has won the Best Business Group Award at the China-Eurasia Commodity and Trade Expo recently concluded in Urumqi, the capital city of the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region of China, Commercial Counselor, Pakistan Embassy Beijing, Ghulam Qadir said on Tuesday. "During the five-day event, we had a successful mango festival. Our exhibitors showcased different varieties of sweet and juicy mangoes such as Sindhari, Chaunsa, and Anwar Ratol, among others, allowing a large number of visitors to savour the King of

fruits", he told to media. The six Pakistani delegation was led by Senator Rana Mehmood Ul Hassan at the expo. Former Federal Minister for Planning, Ahsan Iqbal was also there.

"The Pakistani delegation has not only interaction with the general people but also held important meetings with the ruling administration," he added. The commercial counselor informed that during the meetings with the Chairman, of Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region, Erkin Tuniyaz and the Party Secretary General were very productive. Some very good suggestions were floated from the Pakistani side and they had agreed upon. The



Pakistani delegation also held meetings with administrative ministries including the General Administration of Customs of China (GACC), the agriculture department, the commerce department and the foreign affairs department to resolve all related issues. "Now, there are chances that Pakistani mangoes and other fresh fruits will be exported to China through Khunjerab Pass and

also different airports of Xinjiang, for example, Urumqi," he added. About the signing of agreements to enhance the import of mangoes, he said that five MOUs were signed, and many business-to-business interactions were made. And the mango exhibitors also went to the wholesale market and made very good connections with the local importers. "Some exhibitors want to stay in Urumqi to acquire warehouses and do more business over there," he added.

Other Pakistani products showcased at the expo included textiles, handicrafts, and more. Additionally, 20 top mango exporters from Multan

also participated. The expo covered an exhibition area of 70,000 square meters while seven international organizations participated.

The expo also attracted over 1,300 businesses from 40 countries including Pakistan and regions, including 25 of the world's top 500 companies. A total of 33 trade and investment promotional activities took place during the five-day event.

The (China) Eurasia Commodity and Trade Expo has been held three times since 2015, drawing over 3,700 businesses from 47 countries and regions to participate.

## ECP launches efficient Result Compilation System for prompt result sharing

## City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) was informed on Tuesday that a Result Compilation System has been created to swiftly transmit provisional results from the presiding officer to the returning officer using a mobile app. During a session presided over by Chief Election Commissioner Sikandar Sultan Raja, an ECP representative conveyed that the recently introduced Result Compilation System will empower Returning Officers to swiftly compile provisional results while ensuring accurate vote statistics.

The system underwent a thorough Mock Exercise to ensure its functionality, leading to the Election Commission's full confidence in its performance. The meeting also examined the developments in constituencies, and in this context, the Election Commission has dispatched essential letters to provincial governments and the Statistics Department.

## British HC celebrates 40th anniversary of Chevening scholarships

## City Desk

ISLAMABAD: British High Commissioner Jane Marriott CMG OBE celebrated Pakistanis awarded Chevening and Commonwealth scholarships.

This year, the UK awarded Chevening scholarships to 46 outstanding Pakistani scholars through a highly competitive selection process. This includes two female Hindu students, and one trans woman. 23 Commonwealth scholars have also been selected from Pakistan with 21 scholars pursuing a Master's programme and two pursuing a PhD programme. These brilliant scholars were selected from across Pakistan.

To honour the legacy of the late human rights champion Asma Jahangir, the British High Commissioner presented Asma Jahangir award to Chevening top ranking female scholar of the year. This year, there was a tie and three talented females received this award including Anila Yousaf and Zaitoon Kareem from Baluchistan, and Varsha Deepak from Sindh. The British High Commission launched



the award in 2018 and since then nine female Chevening scholars have been awarded Asma Jahangir Scholarship.

This is the first year that UK is offering Chevening scholarships provided by partners in the UK. The first is with Swindon Town Football Club, offering a 1-year Master's degree in Football Coaching or Science either at Solent University or the University Campus of Football Business at Wembley Stadium. The second is with the University of Essex, offering 2 scholarships in either climate change

or heritage and museum studies.

British High Commissioner Jane Marriott CMG-OBE said "On this auspicious year of the 40th anniversary of the Chevening programme, I am proud we are sending 69 Pakistani students to the UK through the Chevening and Commonwealth scholarships.

"The UK is renowned for its world-class higher education, and these scholarships will benefit some of Pakistan's brightest students. In turn, Pakistan will benefit from these

## All possible resources to be used to address Karachi issues: PM

## Bureau Report

KARACHI: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Tuesday assured that the government would utilise all possible resources to address the issues faced by the Karachi city. The prime minister said this in a meeting with a delegation of the Muttahida Qaumi Movement which called on him during his daylong visit here. The delegation members congratulated the prime minister on assuming the office and expressed

good wishes for him.

In the meeting, they discussed country's overall situation including economy, interfaith harmony as well as other matters. The MQM delegation drew the prime minister's attention towards the issues of delimitation in Karachi as well as the shortage of water. The delegation comprised Dr Farooq Sattar, Syed Aminul Haq and Khawaja Izharul Hassan. Sindh Governor Kamran Khan Tessori also attended the meeting.

## Funeral prayers of South Waziristan martyrs offered at Wana



## Spokesman Report

RAWALPINDI: The funeral prayers of martyrs, who embraced Shahadat on Tuesday while fighting valiantly against terrorists during intense exchange of fire between the Army troops and terrorists in the general area Asman Manza, South Waziristan District, were offered at Wana.

The Shuhada would be laid to

rest with full military honours in their respective hometowns, an Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR) news release said. The Corps Commander Peshawar and other senior serving officers attended the funeral prayers. "The Armed Forces of Pakistan stand resolute and committed to eliminate the menace of terrorism from the motherland at all costs," the ISPR said.

## Six Indian smugglers arrested inside Pakistani territory: ISPR

## Spokesman Report

RAWALPINDI: Pakistan Rangers have apprehended six Indian nationals trying to smuggle narcotics, weapons and ammunition into country's territory, the Inter-Services Public Relations said on Tuesday.

According to the army's media wing, the Indian citizens were caught from Pakistan's side of the border. They were detained from July 29 to August 3.

Four of these smugglers, namely Gurmeej son of Guldeep Singh, Shinder Singh son of Bhora Singh, Juginder Singh son of Thakur Singh and Vishal son of Jagga belong to Ferozpur, Rattan Pal Singh son of Mahinder Singh belong to Jalandhar and Garvender Singh son of Mukhtar Singh belongs to Ludhiana.

The statement added that the possible nexus of Indian border security forces with smugglers could not be ruled out. The six suspects would



be tried under Pakistani laws for their alleged anti-state activities.

The ISPR was of the view that the unhindered movement of Indian smugglers across the BSF-guarded border was "surprising".

The ISPR said that these Indian smugglers will be dealt as per law of the land for illegally entering into Pakistan and indulging in nefarious activities.

It said that the security forces of Pakistan will continue to maintain vigil and expect that Indian BSF will act professionally and sever their ties with smuggling rackets operating from their territory.

## Dasu Project land acquisition completed: Chairman WAPDA



## City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Water and Power Development Authority (WAPDA) Chairman Engr Lt Gen Sajjad Ghani (Retd) Tuesday said the pace of construction work will be further accelerated on Dasu Hydropower Project, as the long-delayed process of land acquisition has substantially been completed.

The Chairman during his visit at the project site said that the issue of acquiring the land was the major obstacle in the way to speedy implementation of the project. He appreciated the efforts made by the project management and the support rendered by the district administration and the provincial government to resolve this issue.

The 4320 MW-Dasu Hydropow-

er Project is planned to be completed in two stages.

The under-construction 2160 MW-Stage-I will start electricity generation in 2026. Earlier, the Chairman also visited Diamer Basha Dam Project to review construction activities on the key sites.

CEO Diamer Basha Dam, the GM, and representatives of the Consultants and the Contractors were also present on the occasion. The Chairman was briefed that the construction activities are being carried out simultaneously on 10 sites of the main works, which include a permanent bridge, diversion tunnel, left and right abutments and low-level outlets.

The Chairman directed the project team to complete river diversion phase-1 by November this year as per the schedule. Diamer Basha Dam Project is scheduled for completion in 2027-28. The Dam will have a gross water storage of 8.1 MAF to irrigate 1.23 million acres of additional land. The installed power generation capacity of the project stands at 4500 MW.

# Knowtexas holds annual Stakeholder Conference-2023 at NTU

MA Rashid

FAISALABAD: Annual Stakeholder Conference-2023 of Knowtexas industrial collaborators and academic teams was conducted to review the progress of the project, discussing the development, the ways forward with the operational teams, and devising of a strategy regarding the knowledge-sharing mechanism. 23 faculty members from 03 different universities and 22 industrial collaborators from 17 different industries participated in the conference. The participants discussed in length the overall progress and readiness level of different developments' phenomenon. They also illuminated the valuable feedback to align the research with future based requirements.

On this significant occasion, Prof. Dr. Tanveer Hussain (Rector NTU) inaugurated the conference, followed by presentations from different development teams. Furthermore Prof. Dr. Yasir Nawab (PI KnowTex) thanked all the participants for contributing time to



participate in this conference. Feedback from all the stakeholders is the core value of Knowtexas, which has made it successful, he further expressed.

We are grateful to all the participants, including faculty members, staffers and industry. He informed that they are also thankful to the organizing committee for their excellent arrangements.

Participation of Mahmood Group of Industries MG Apparel Sapphire Textile Mills Limited-STML Sapphire

Fibres Limited -Denim Division Textiles (Pvt.) Ltd. Crescent Textile Mills Limited Crescent Bahuman Ltd. Arshad Group Interloop Limited US Group Naveena Denim Lahore 'NDL' Artistic Milliners PVT LTD Nizam Sons Pvt Ltd Sialkot Lucky Core Industries Beacon Impex Pvt Ltd. New Saeed Industries Master Textile Mills Midas Safety

Saqib Sohail Shah Rukh S. Salma Farooq Muhammad Qamar Khan Muhammad Nauman Hameed Sanobar

Mushahid Talha Salman Zeeshan Ahmad Muhammad Raza Intizar Ali Tariq Umer Sarmad. BARKAT ALI Fakhar Zaman Muhammad bilal Ali Haider Awan Rana Maqsood Junaid Babar Asim mehmoood Dr. Munir Ashraf Sheraz Ahmad Babar Ramzan Dr. Muhammad Umair Faheem ahmad Dr. Muhammad Kashif Salma Farooq Dr. Yasir Nawab Dr. Khubab Shaker proved a hallmark for future developments.

## Women councilors in Hyderabad agree to form alliance for empowerment of women



Qayoom Sarohi

HYDERABAD: The women councils of the Hyderabad Municipal Corporation have agreed to form an alliance.

A two-day training workshop is being organized by the social organization under the theme "Empowerment of Women in Local Government". In which women councilors and members of Hyderabad Municipal Corporation participated. On this occasion, Zahid Salam, trainer of Government Resource Center Punjab, said that there are financial problems of women councilors in Hyderabad and the attitude of male councilors towards women councilors is also not right. Social organizations give the training to women councilors that how they can become empowered in the local system.

Because women councilors are an important part of the local government system that can play an important role in their areas but unfortunately women members are being neglected in the funds due to which they have to bear the pressure of the local people. On this occasion, women councilors said that the first problem of women councilors is transportation, especially drainage, drinking water, sanitation problems, people bring us but due to lack of resources and powers, we cannot do anything.

On this occasion, women councilors of People's Party Sajida Baloch, Ishrat Mughal and Shabana Khan said that if women councilors belong to any party, when it comes to women's issues, we will raise our voice together. He said that the young mayor of the People's Party, Kashif Shoro, is active, hoping that he will play his role in making women councilors independent to solve the problems of the city. who participated in the training workshop also explained their problems and expressed their opinions.

## Brilliant success in zonal election, is result of the trust of the workers: Ch Mohd Khalid



Asim Tanveer

MULTAN: Central Vice President and Regional Vice Chairman of All Pakistan WAPDA Hydro Workers Union Chaudhry Muhammad Khalid and Zonal Chairman Chaudhry Rashid Yameen have said that people like Zonal Secretary Malik Tanveer and Chaudhry Ilyas Sindhu are the capital of the union. They are the people who do, because of them, the good name of the union is increasing. Recently, their brilliant success in the zonal election is the result of the love of the workers for them. Now nothing will stop the work of the workers and labor in the entire circle and zone.

IFMEPCO is prosperous, prosperity will also come to workers' homes. From the reception, MEPCO Mumtazabad Division Vice Chairman Asif Rasheed Haji Younis Rana Tayyab Division Press Secretary Rana Adnan Division Chairman Chaudhry Irshad Singhida Secretary Haji Ahmed Hasan Vice Chairman Sheikh Bilal Rana Sohail Fayaz Ahir Tayyab Jahangir Zahid Hafeez Saleem Shah Shabbaz Bhatti Shaikat Ali Zahid Bhatta Rana Aslam Salman Wahab Munir Bhatti Ishrat Alvi Rao Aslam and others spoke.

## High Alert issued by Provincial Disaster Management Authority Punjab

Kiran Asim

MULTAN: Commissioner Multan Division Engineer Aamir Khattak has said that according to the High alert issued by the Provincial Disaster Management Authority Punjab, the evacuation of the population from the Flood affected areas in Multan Division should be ensured 100%. He further said that keeping human lives safe from threats is the first priority. He said this while presiding over the review meeting held in the video link room of the Deputy Commissioner's Office, Lodhran, regarding the flood in Sutlej river. Commissioner Multan Division Aamir Khattak made a detailed review of the arrangements taken in the meeting to deal with the flood. The meeting was given a detailed briefing by Deputy Commissioner Lodhran Abdul Rauf Mehr about flood arrangements. Commissioner Multan Division Engineer Aamir Khattak gave special instructions to set up tent villages on a large scale for the convenience of the flood victims in the two tehsils of Kahrupka and Lodhran of the district. Assistant Commissioner Lodhran Ashraf Saleh briefed about the facilities provided in Haveli Nasir Khan Tent City while Assistant Commissioner Karoorpaka Ghulam Hussain gave a briefing about the facilities provided in Bahawalgarh Tent City.

## Merchants and Citizens of Multan City are completely at the Mercy of Thieves

Asim Tanveer

MULTAN: Multan police is with thieves and Bandits. The occupation is mixed with mafia. criminal people on gun point snatch things from people everyday and the police is wearing a hooded cloak. Central President Sultan Mahmood Malik while addressing the meeting, Chairman South Punjab Malik Siddique Thahim, District President Malik Maqbool Khokhar, City Chairman Malik Amjad Syal, City President Malik Iqbal Javed, Sheikh Saleem, Khawaja Faheem Siddiqui Chairman Supreme Council. Malik Altaf Langah

Malik Zubair Naem, Malik Sabir Ali, Tanveer Awan, Sheikh Muhammad Umar, Maqsood Ali Khan, Masood Ali Khan, Rana Ayub, Malik Munir Lakhvira participated on this occasion.

## Peshawai Bricks

ISLAMABAD: A view of the trucks parked along the Lehtar Road as selling Peshawari Bricks in Federal Capital.



Photo: Online by Raja Farid

## South Punjab Muay Thai C'ship Won By Multan Division

Kiran Asim

MULTAN: South Punjab Muay Thai Championship was won by Multan Division. Bahawalpur Division has second and D. G. Khan Division won the third position. Special guest Malik Masroor Haider Usman Syed Anis Mehdi and Mohammad Kishore distributed the prizes.

South Punjab Muay Thai Championship was held at Multan Sports Ground Gymnasium Hall. In which 44.41 kg in the ladies weight category, Multan Division's

Javeria won the first place. And Maryam Tabani got the second position in 48.45 weight category. Zaratah Maryam of Bahawalpur got the first position and Aram of Multan division got the second position. In the 51.48 kg weight category, Umbreen Ibrahim of Multan division won the first position and Mehwish Malik the second position. In the 56.51 kg weight category, Multan Division's Insha and Tayyaba Arshad bagged the second position.

Afaq of Multan got the

second position and Rashid of DG Khan got the third position. In open weight category D. G. Faisal of Khan first. Bahawalpur's Nasrullah got the second position and Multan's Asad got the third position.

Muhammad Naem Khalid in Tournament Minute Committee. Irshad Afridi. Zahar Mughal. Musrat Ali Khan Dasti. Muhammad Shoaib. Muhammad Ahsan Dr. Tahir Javed. Abdul Razzaq was involved. National Champion Az Ahmed performed the duties of main

referee.

Special guest Malik Masroor Haider Usman. Former Advocate General Punjab. Syed Anees Mehdi former General Secretary District Courts Multan distributed the prizes among the players. On this occasion, Muhammad Kishore Secretary Punjab Muay Thai Association encouraged the players. And said that if the government sponsors this game, Muay Thai players can make the name of the country brighter at the international level.

## There is no alternative to Pakistan Army: Nasir Iqbal

Bureau Report



LAHORE: International Human Rights Movement (IHRM) Central Chairman Muhammad Nasir Iqbal Khan has said that there is no alternative to Pakistan Army for Pakistan. The professional services of defense institutions is a bright chapter of our national curriculum. "Islamiat" and "Pakistaniat" of the chiefs are enviable. Insulting the Pakistan Army, the inheritor of thousands of martyrs, will not be tolerated.

## WAWA completed grafting of total '35798' wild olive trees

Adam Khan Wazir

WANA: A private Organization President of Wana Welfare Association (WAWA) Rahmat Ullah Wazir along with other members while addressing a Joint press conference at District Press Club Wana, that at the wild olive grafting campaign proved to be a revolutionary step for forest conservation, olive grafting will lead to general agricultural improvement and economic prosperity of Wana.

Olive grafting was started in Mohmand district and Khyber district under a special project of Department of Agriculture, Provincial Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

On the special request of Wana Welfare Association, Provincial Secretary Agriculture Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Javed Khan Marwat also included Lower South Waziristan under the



jurisdiction of this project.

President Rahmat Ullah Wazir said that the Agriculture Department has decided to graft 10,000 olive trees in Lower South Waziristan during this year's monsoon campaign.

However, in the meantime, WAWA started an awareness campaign to the

community for this good cause. As a result of which Maulana Sabir Ullah, Maulana Mehmood and also members of Badloon Welfare Association in Raghzaia area started this campaign.

In this way, Maulana Mahmood mobilized the students of his seminary and the active youth in Sholam area.

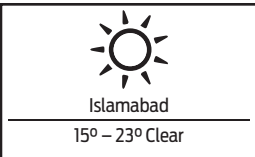
Apart from Mirwali and Kamran Khan, members of WAWA in Shakai area, students of Mehmood Islamia Public High School Shakai participated practically in this campaign.

Every Sunday, the students of Umma Children's Academy Wana participated in this campaign and the Department of Agriculture also participated in this campaign from July 29 to August 6.

However, this campaign was continued by Wawa till August 20, and all expenses of the campaign were covered by WAWA funds.

Meanwhile, the community grafted more than 2,000 olive trees in the Juni Mela area under its own support and with the support of WAWA.

The President said that during this grafting campaign a total of "35798" trees were grafted in Lower South Waziristan.



**SERVICES**

**Namaz Timings**  
 Fajr ..... 4:05 am  
 Zohr ..... 12:11 pm  
 Asr ..... 4:53 pm  
 Maghrib ..... 6:47 pm  
 Isha ..... 8:15 pm

**EMERGENCY**

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

**ENQUIRY**

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

**HOSPITALS**

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

**DEPARTMENTS**

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

**COMPLAINTS**

Water Tanker Service  
 E-7, F-10 & F-11 ..... 9204654  
 G-5, G-6, G-7, G-8, ..... 9203883  
 G-9, G-10, G-11, G-12, H-8 ..... 9266316  
 Wapda Islamabad ..... 9217579-80  
 Sui Gas Complaint ..... 119, 9272249

**AIOU to commence admissions to BA, B. Ed from September 1**

ISLAMABAD: Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU) is commencing admissions for the second phase of the semester Autumn 2023 on September 1. Programs offered in this phase include Teacher Training Programs (Associate Degree in Education and B. Ed Programs), BA (Associate degree) and BS (ODL) programs. It is pertinent to mention here that admissions to MS/ MPhil and PhD programs offered in the first phase have been closed while the admission date for BS (Face-to-Face Programs) has been extended till August 30.

The admissions for Matriculation, FA and I. Com offered in the first phase will continue till September 5. The prospectus for the second phase admissions will be available on the university website from September 1. As per the instructions of the Vice Chancellor AIOU, Prof. Dr Nasir Mahmood, facilitation centers have been established in all the regional campuses of the university for the guidance of the students to assist the students. For further details, students can visit the university website [www.aiou.edu.pk](http://www.aiou.edu.pk).

# Azad Kashmir demands central government's support for development of region: PM

**Bureau Report**

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Azad Kashmir Chaudhry Anwar ul Haq, while apprising the Federal Minister for Planning and Development Muhammad Sami Saeed about the ongoing development projects and future plans of his government, has said that the central government's consistent support and cooperation was direly required for the region's socioeconomic development.

Prime Minister Chaudhry Haq said this during his meeting with Minister for Planning and Development Muhammad Sami Saeed here today. Senior Minister, Finance Minister Colonel (Retd) Waqar Ahmed Noor, Federal Secretary Planning and Development Syed Zafar Ali Shah, Chief Secretary Azad Kashmir Dawood Muham-



mad Barich, Additional Chief Secretary Development/Principal Secretary Fayyaz Ali Abbasi and Special Secretary Masood ur Rehman were also present on this occasion. Speaking on the occasion, the Feder-

al Minister while assuring the AJK Prime Minister of his full cooperation, said that the government would provide all possible resources for the ongoing development projects of Azad Kashmir.

## National Flag Day

ISLAMABAD: Russian Ambassador to Pakistan Danila Ganich holding National Flags posing for a photo graph along with Pakistani Children at Pakistan Monument in order to commemorate National Flag Day of Russia as well as the 75th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Russia and Pakistan.



Photo: Online by Sultan Bashir

## Millennials achieve outstanding result in Cambridge Examinations 2023

**City Desk**

ISLAMABAD: Continuing a legacy of excellence, Roots Millennium Education Group and Future World Schools & Colleges achieved remarkable academic success in the Cambridge Assessment International Education CAIE Examinations 2023 says a press release.

This resounding achievement stands as a testament to Roots Millennium Education 35-year journey of academic excellence and quality education.

Millennials, with their exceptional performance and persistent hard work, have once again secured remarkable results in the IGCSE and A Level May - June 2023 Series. This achievement not only adds another accolade to The Millennium Education repertoire but also showcases the unwavering commitment of the school community and teaching fraternity to effective teaching and learning.

Dr. Faisal Mushtaq TI, CEO of The Millennium Education Group, congratulated all the learners on these significant achievements and urged them to continue pushing boundaries for a brighter future. He emphasized that dedication and learning yield excellent outcomes, affirming our stance as one of Pakistan's best private schools & colleges, committed to holistic growth. These remarkable IGCSE and A Level result are indicative of our learners' readiness for Higher Education. He also expressed his gratitude to all the parental community for their continuous support and to the teaching faculty for their dedicated efforts.

Mrs. Erum Atif, Director Teaching and Learning at The Millennium Education Group extended her heartfelt congratulations to young talented learners. She highlighted the transformative power of education, stating, "School is not just a place to earn good grades; it's a realm where

the journey of self-discovery and personal growth unfolds." She underlined that examinations are not the culmination but a steppingstone for our learners, propelling them forward on a path to embrace greater challenges and assume greater responsibilities.

The CAIE examination result 2023 speaks volume about the A Level and IGCSE programs offered at The Millennium Education Group and Future World Schools & Colleges. The Millennium Education Group cultivates critical thinking, real-life application, and innovative ideas, preparing learners to thrive in the 21st century. Throughout their academic journey, learners are empowered with the mindset and skillset essential for success.

As true trailblazers, The Millennium Education Group extends heartfelt congratulations and best wishes to all the learners, teaching faculty, and parental community for their future endeavours.

## Wasi Shah visits PTDC Head Office

**Spokesman Report**

ISLAMABAD: Renowned poet, media person, columnist and recently appointed Minister for State on Tourism and Chairman of PTDC Board of Directors, Mr. Wasi Shah, paid a visit to the Pakistan Tourism Development Corporation (PTDC) Head Office today. On his arrival he was welcomed by the Managing Director of PTDC, Mr. Aftab ur Rehman Rana. Later MD PTDC gave him a comprehensive briefing on the functions, operations, and role of PTDC as a national tourism organisation.

During his comments, honourable minister, appreciated efforts of PTDC team for the promotion of tourism and developing effective coordination with provincial tourism departments and private sector within their limited resources. He also articulated that tourism fundamentally revolves around the presentation of our cultural richness and national heritage.

He additionally affirmed his commitment to fully leverage his capabilities in order to enhance the tourism sector of Pakistan. In his capacity as Minister for state on Tourism and Chairman of PTDC, he also conveyed his deep condolences and apprehensions regarding the unfortunate demise of Mohammed Hassan, a 27-year-old porter from Pakistan.

Hassan lost his life due to an unfortunate slip and fall along a precarious trail in the treacherous stretch of K2, commonly referred to as the bottleneck. The State Minister conveyed his intention to visit Mohammed Hassan's family and extend support to his family in their time of need.

He also proposed to initiate a special training program for high altitude porters to promote work safety among them. He further added that as part of the interim government, we are here to deal the day to day affairs of the interim government.

## Azad Kashmir government announces increase in salaries

**Bureau Report**



MIRPUR: Azad Jammu and Kashmir Government Minister Chaudhry Azhar Sadiq said that the financial resources of the Azad Kashmir government are very less than those of Punjab or other provinces of Pakistan. The salaries of the employees and pensioners have been increased, while the implementation of the recent increase in electricity bills has been stopped and a committee consisting of ministers has been established to review it. Ensuring supply.

He expressed these views while talking to various delegations at his residence. Government Minister Chaudhry Azhar Sadiq said that some people are trying unsuccessfully to blackmail the government for their personal interests so that the mafia can succeed in their goals, but Prime Minister Chaudhry Anwarul Haq and the government will not engage in any kind of blackmailing. The government is well aware of the problems of the people. There has been a regular notification of the increase in the salaries of pensioners and government employees. Seeing the problems of the people, the government has withdrawn the recent increase in electricity bills, which has been notified and the committee on government ministers.

It was told that the people of Mirpur district have sacrificed their ancestors not once but twice for the construction of Mangala Dam. These sacrifices should not go in vain. Till now the remaining works should be completed in the towns organized by WAPDA. Rathoa. The government of Azad Kashmir is also talking to the government of Pakistan for the completion of Hariyam Bridge, as it is a project of the central government, it should be completed.

## Over 220 billion revenue anticipated due to increased Federal Excise Duty on cigarettes



**City Desk**

ISLAMABAD: Health professionals and advocates have united in support of the Pakistani government's move to raise tobacco taxes, a decision implemented in early 2023. Society for the Protection of the Rights of the Child (SPARC) released a statement highlighting the positive outcomes resulting from the rise in cigarette taxes. Health advocates attribute this progress to the government's prudent decisions and strong determination.

Malik Imran Ahmad, the Country Head of the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids (CTFK), shared that this year, the increased Federal Excise Duty on cigarettes is projected to result in the national treasury generating around Rs. 220 billion in revenue. The potential economic benefits resulting from heightened tobacco taxation are substantial. This move stands to significantly benefit Pakistan by augmenting government revenue and simultaneously shielding the youth from tobacco-related hazards through the maintenance of elevated cigarette prices.

Dr. Ziauddin Islam, Former Technical Head of the Tobacco Control Cell at the Ministry of Health, emphasized the necessity for annual revisions in cigarette taxes to uphold Pakistan's international commitments regarding tobacco control. The supplementary revenue generated through heightened taxes will play a pivotal role in addressing both present and future economic challenges within the nation. The adverse health consequences associated with cigarette smoking are linked to numerous non-communicable diseases.

Khalil Ahmed Dogar, Program Manager SPARC, voiced his support for the government's decision to raise taxes on cigarettes and expressed optimism about the future of Pakistan's youth and economy. He pointed out that this tax increase has brought Pakistan in line with international standards, and with sustained efforts, the country can shield both present and future generations from the harmful effects of tobacco.

## Aasma Butt congratulates Jamal Shah on appointment as Minister

**City Desk**

ISLAMABAD: Aasma Butt, President of All Pakistan Chinese Overseas Youth Federation and well-known director congratulated Jamal Shah on his appointment as Federal Minister of National Heritage and Culture. Expressed good wishes and hoped that as an artist Jamal Shah will devote his full energies for the promotion of culture.

Yesterday, Aasma Butt congratulated Jamal Shah on his appointment as Federal Minister of National Heritage and Culture. Presented a bouquet of flowers. Aasma Butt said that the appointment of Jamal Shah is a good move by the government. We are happy that for the first time an artist has been selected understanding the sensitivities of the ministry. With the appointment of Jamal Shah, there has been a wave of happiness in the artist community. Aasma Butt said that we expect Jamal Shah to play an important role in getting the artists deprived of their basic rights. Everyone is well aware that Jamal Shah, former DG Pakistan National Council of Arts, also took good measures for the welfare of his artists. Kept the culture alive and set an example for all.

## Al Shifa Trust's new plan to deal with the increasing number of patients

**Tariq Khattak**

ISLAMABAD: Al-Shifa Trust has embarked on a new plan to cope with the increasing number of eye patients. An extension block at Chakwal Eye Hospital will be completed by the end of this year with an OPD capacity of 500 patients per day, while another hospital is being planned at Gilgit with the help of a donor organisation.

This was stated by Al-Shifa Trust President Maj. Gen. (Retd) Rehmat Khan while briefing media persons about the development.

He said that the new block at Chakwal Eye Hospital will be completed at a cost of Rs 150 million that has been



donated by one family, which is highly laudable.

The number of patients is increasing every year; therefore, we have to increase our capacity as we are already providing services to 1.3 million people annually, Rehmat Khan added.

Apart from the extension of the Chakwal Hospital, plan for



a new 50-bed hospital is being finalised at Gilgit, and these two projects will enable the trust to provide services to an additional two hundred thousand people, he informed. He said that due to the extension of the hospital at Chakwal,

Retina and glaucoma patients will also be treated.

Maj Gen (Retd) Rehmat Khan said that besides this, an outreach team will be deployed in the villages near Chakwal to conduct school screening. And pick-up and

drop-off facilities will be offered to serious patients. As far as Muzaffarabad Hospital is concerned, the outreach team is already performing duties. The target for this year is 300 OPDs per day and 25-30 surgeries a day, he said.

He informed that 11 eye specialists are already treating patients at Sukkar Hospital, and by October, corneal transplants will be introduced there.

Al-Shifa President told journalists that over the last 30 years, the Al-Shifa Trust has treated 30 million patients free of charge, a service worth Rs 13 billion. Thousands of glaucoma, retina and cancer surgeries are also included in this free treatment.

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## Pakistani businessmen explore opportunities at China

**M**alik Hamza, a Pakistani exhibitor, showcased his exquisite brass handicrafts to visitors at the seventh China-South Asia Expo. To his joy, he found out that a potential customer was referred to him by a satisfied previous client.

“The art craft is handmade in Pakistan, requiring approximately one week to complete each piece,” Hamza said.

The five-day expo, which kicked off on Aug. 16 and ended on Aug. 20 in Kunming, the capital of southwest China’s Yunnan Province, attracted over 30,000 exhibitors as well as representatives and guests from 85 countries and regions and international organizations, China’s state-run Xinhua reported. At a booth showcasing Pakistani jade in the South Asia Pavilion, Khan Muhammad Nasir, a Pakistani representative, engaged in lively discussions with Chinese visitors about product variations and distinctive features.

To enhance the presentation of his offerings, Muhammad Nasir acquired the services of a Chinese translator to assist at the booth. “The morning has brought good business, and we anticipate even more visitors over the weekend,” Muhammad Nasir said. He also mentioned the convenience of logistics, explaining that for visitors who are interested in products that are not easy to carry, the shop can readily pack such products and deliver them to desired locations.

On the other side of the South Asia Pavilion, in front of the booth of Sri Lankan jeweller Mohamed Rikas, customers frequently approached to inquire about products.

“Rest assured about the quality, and we’re open to discussing the price,” Rikas said. A familiar face at the event, Rikas brought a stunning array of jewellery from his Sri Lankan store to this year’s expo. He aimed to connect with his Chinese clients and continue growing his business by presenting some of the best-quality pieces from his collection.

Rikas was a participant at the first China-South Asia Expo in 2013 and that was the first time he brought jewellery to China. Rikas quickly recognized the promising business prospects the country offered and has been a consistent participant, taking part in this expo every year since its inception.

Over the years, the expo has seen its exhibition space triple from 51,100 square meters to 150,000 square meters, and the number of participating countries, regions and international organizations more than double from 42 to 85. A total of 338 projects with a combined investment value of 404 billion yuan (about 55.5 billion U. S. dollars) were inked at this year’s expo.

“With each visit, I have new gains and forge connections with fresh clients,” Rikas said, adding that he has successfully cultivated a client base of over 10 Chinese jewellers through these endeavours.

# Legal Realism and its impact in Pakistan

**O**thers may argue that law is what a statute says or law might be what a regulation says explicitly. A legal positivist might argue that law is a command backed by a sanction. A naturalist may argue that law is divine and it is God’s command given to us through his commandments, but nonetheless, what all these definitions have in common is that they argue that law is a command either of a sovereign, or of God. The legal realist on the other hand points out that law is not in the commands of the sovereign, rather law is what courts interpret law to be. Justice Wendell gave this definition of law in a realist sense and his argument further goes on to elaborate that law is found in judgments of the court.

The theory of legal realism is further expanded by a famous legal scholar named Karl N Llewellyn. He builds on the approach of Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes and argues that when cases reach the Superior Courts (in our case the Supreme Court of Pakistan), the courts often do not consider strict legal commands such as statutes and precedents. The court often does give a unique verdict, which may surprise many. Furthermore, Llewellyn points out that judges are human and there are many non-legal considerations at play when judgments are passed. These non-legal considerations include personal biases or political considerations. His quote “Behind decisions stand judges; judges are men; as men they have human backgrounds” beautifully sums up the argument he presents. What this entails is that the judge’s personality has a huge role in the judgment he passes. Furthermore, a quote by KyttheBye adds more depth to the premise presented by Llewellyn by stating “legal realism exposed the role played by politics in judicial decision-making and, in doing so, called into question conventional efforts to anchor

judicial power on a fixed, impartial foundation.”

Llewellyn describes the US example of two contradictory approaches, first, that the court must interpret the statute and not exceed it and second, the approach that if a situation requires the judge to go beyond the statute to achieve the desired result of the legislation, he is free to do so, hence, Llewellyn argues that judges can always have various interpretation of the same law. Lastly, he points that judges are not actually constrained by judicial precedent because they can characterize

facts to avoid the precedent or set the facts in a way to make the past precedent binding. Applying the concept of Legal Realism in the Pakistani Superior Court system, we can observe through various ways that it has a very strong presence. The doctrine is followed by many, and this we can see through the various judgements that have been passed in our judicial history. We can see ignorance for precedence, we can see political biases of judges, as well as at times complete disregard of statutes. The judgments are really reflective of the present political as well as economic order.

Since the inception of Pakistan, the courts have at various times heard the matter of presidential dissolutions. The Supreme Court heard these cases and employed various tests. The tests were surprisingly different for every case, despite having similar material facts altogether. The test in Haji Saifullah case was that for dissolution of assembly, it must be proven that the machinery of the government had completely broken down, however, in the Tariq Rahim case, the test employed was that the government could be dissolved if

there was an “imminent” threat of breakdown of governmental and constitutional machinery. In the third dissolution case, the court ruled in favor of Nawaz Sharif and declared the dissolution invalid, by going back to the Haji Saifullah case precedent. In this case, we can see that the judges leading opinion favoured a “narrow interpretation.” In these cases, the court and judges kept on shifting back and forth from a narrow interpretation to a broad interpretation and vice versa of Article 58(-2)(b). For example Justice Shafiqur Rehman in the Tariq Raheem case penned down his judgement using a broad interpretation but in the Nawaz Sharrif case, the same judge opined using a narrow interpretation. [1] This maneuvering, we can argue, is not based on legal prepositions; the same article and its interpretation was in question, but the judgement of the cases were totally different. We can confidently say that other factors did have a role in these judgements. These factors include personal political beliefs, patronage factors as well as the prevailing political situation at hand. This example perfectly illustrates the points that Llewellyn has put forward.

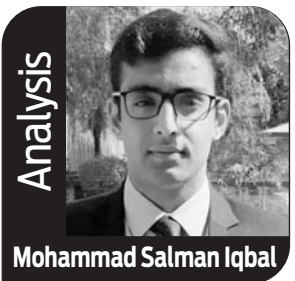
Similarly, from a criminal law perspective, courts have considerable leeway in the interpretation of the statute. It is the courts that derive tests for the statute, and eventually decide if that particular statute applies to the case at hand or not. We can also see that a law does not become operational until the courts allow start to interpret it. [AUK1] A famous example is with respect to grave and sudden provocation. Grave and sudden provocation was initially part of Section 300, PPC. Later on it was declared to be against the provisions of Islam by the

Federal Shariat Court in the Gul Hassan case and eventually it was repealed in 1994. However, even after its repeal the court kept on accepting grave and sudden provocation as a valid defense. The court kept on accepting this defense till 2020, when a bench led by Qazi FaezEsa in Jail Petition No.499 of 2015 outright declared that grave and sudden provocation is not a valid defense and should not be accepted anymore. The court even after the repeal of the statute kept on using these provisions and in PLD 2018 Supreme Court 840, Justice Asif Saeed Khosa decided a case using this doctrine. He contended that the case at hand did not attract the provisions of grave and sudden provocation, but held that it is a valid defense. This example proves well that law is what the courts implement and actual law is found in judgements only. Once the courts stop interpreting or applying a law only then can it become non-operational, or in the opposite case operational.

Another non-legal factor that influences the superior courts in Pakistan is public opinion and public emotions. We have often seen Chief Justices using their Suo Moto powers in cases where there is huge public sentiment. We have noticed that cases that are being followed by the nation are given more importance such as shorter hearing dates etc.

The argument that realism is dying down is not true and even now the courts have considerable discretion when applying the law. Fixed interpretations and precedents do not constrain the Superior Courts. Moreover, every sanction either by a regulatory authority or a law enforcing agency, is up for challenge in a court. So law is actually what is found in the judgment of the courts and law is what the courts say it is.

*The Writer is a law graduate from LUMS and is currently doing his apprenticeship in a law firm.*



Analysis

Mohammad Salman Iqbal



Cartoon by Amjad Rasmī. (Courtesy of Ashraf Al-Awdat)

## Secret Bills Stolen Secretly?-I Nila Butt Day and Kashmir Freedom Movement

**S**tudy again the phenomenon of communication whether it may be verbal or written! When communication has no feedback & socialization enrichment then it is considered as hurdleous & all in vain.

In the institutions there are specific parameters of correspondence from top to bottom vice versa, then who will be held responsible if caused untoward situation in the societal segments?

If communication methodology has not been adopted then automatically passing any bill demands that something wrong is existing at any place which needs the focus of the full bench of the supreme court’s deep considerations to re-evaluate & re-assess such phenomena which has generated a punching type of laughing stock because laws are framed for the betterment of humanity not to tear down the respect & respectability.

According to the President Mr. Arif Alvi: [ I take Allah as my witness that I did not sign the Official Secrets Amendment Bill 2023 and the Pakistan Army Amendment Bill 2023 because I did not agree with these laws. I asked my staff to return the unsigned bills within the stipulated time to render them ineffective. I checked with him several times to see if he had gone back and was assured that he had. However, I found out today that my staff went against my wishes and orders.

Allah knows all, He will forgive, God willing, But I apologize to those who will be affected.]

This affidavit is not a weak solemn vow or declaration. On the other hand the staffers working under the president will also be announced in the same way but in front of the full bench hearing.

From Iqbal;  
 [ Iqbal prays before the Lord!  
 Goodness to the stars of your heavens,  
 Good for the night living people of the lands,  
 Give the young people a heartburn  
 Please forgive my passion  
 Dead turkey insomniacs  
 The hidden longings of a dead heart,  
 Aspirations died, aspirations died,  
 Hopes died, quests died  
 This is what the drunkard and the poor are!

That is why I am poor and I am rich,  
 Lay him dead in the caravan  
 Lay it down and put it away  
 They wish to:  
 Give death to the youth  
 Then give these Shaheen children a hair up  
 Oh God, this is what Arzoo died  
 May the light of my life make the vision common.]  
 Here Iqbal wants to impart wisdom to the youth. He wants to grant life, good health, light vision, which is the condition of their feet with the abundance of manifestation.

Life on the Self or in the unflowing sea of self-consciousness, which they have found in the waters of consciousness. They are eager to put it in their caravan. They want to give the young people the mysticism that gives them the foundations of faith and action. They are wise and divine. Whose taste has been eternalized by La ilaha ila ila ila Allah and has freed them from the constraints of the East and the West.

Humanity is suffering. The solution lies with the East and not with the West. The reason for the troubled state in the political and social life of the West is its lack of basic wisdom. On the one hand, the talisman of the new and contemporary civilization is conscious domination, on the other hand, conservatism, narrow-mindedness and stagnation. This is the cause of conflict, conflict, and gulf between the two generations.

In this chaos, artificial Shirazbandi efforts cannot fail. In such a case, there is a need for a gradual and fundamental revolution, in which eternal and eternal reality works with progress and change.

Our tragedy is that we have lost ourselves in the fabric of this universe. We want to collect the details and see tomorrow. When failure occurs, we determine our place in this self-made box. Which remains low despite being high in it. Hegel offered a solution through mere thought. But his shell was empty of essence and the concept was empty. Marx’s heart was a believer and his mind was an unbeliever, and action was moral. And could not reconcile with intuition. Iqbal is not lost in the universe, but the universal is lost in them. He is the spokesman of the self and reaches the highest point. But the spring nature is from active nature.

To be continued

**E**very year Kashmiris celebrate 23rd August as Nilabat day with great enthusiasm, this day has been suppressed for years due to fear. The first bullet fired in the Nila Butt rally and procession made a hole in the mantle of the Dogra dictatorship, and an organized struggle started and spread. As a result of this struggle, this area was liberated, which we call Azad Kashmir.

Thus, it is right to call Nila Butt the milestone of freedom struggle gained universal fame as Mujahid Awal. You have not only scattered pearls of experience, knowledge, understanding and wisdom in the politics of Azad Kashmir and Pakistan for many decades, but through a one-line interview on India’s ZTV in 1995, He have become the most intelligent Indian anchor. Ranjit accepted Sharma’s tough questions and answered each and every question. On which the world was convinced of his political wisdom. After shining on the horizon of Kashmir’s political science, this sun set on Friday, July 10, at the Quaid-e-Azam International Hospital in Rawalpindi and left behind not thousands but hundreds of mourners. Today, his mausoleum is in Ghaziabad. After the death of the deceased, the reins of the Jamaat were taken over by his son, former prime minister of Azad Kashmir, Sardar Attique Ahmad Khan, and he is still struggling to keep the candle lit by his father.

He is always busy to complete the unfinished mission. Like Sardar Mohammad Abdul Qayyum Khan, the First Mujahid in the Kashmir Azadi Movement, Nila Butt Day is also of fundamental and historical importance, this day is celebrated every year with full enthusiasm and renewal of the pledge that the Kashmiri Mujahid I was led by The movement will continue until the entire Kashmir is freed from Indian rule and becomes a part of Pakistan. is ready to give the last drop, like every year this year also Nila Butt Day is being celebrated with full pomp and ceremony and today a public meeting is being held at Nila Butt in the context of the historical importance of this day, in which a large number of people from all over Azad Kashmir, including the leaders and workers of the Muslim Conference, are expected to participate. This tradition will be kept alive this year as well.

The proof of the expression of this anxiety was the meeting held on August 23, 1947 in Nilabat, which was presided over by Peer Shamshad Ali Shah. The Jihad that started at



Analysis

Haroon Azad

# Students from Pakistan the highest recipient of Scholarships from Indonesia

## Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia organized a gathering for the recipients of Indonesian scholarships, including cultural exchange non-degree program of Dharmasiswa scholarships. The event served as an exceptional platform to honor academic excellence and facilitate students as they embark on their academic journey to Indonesia.

Indonesian Ambassador Mr. Adam Tugio expressed his heartfelt congratulations to the scholarship awardees. He stated that Pakistan is currently the highest number of Indonesian scholarships in various categories. More than 140 Pakistani students were granted fully funded scholarships in many world's leading universities in Indonesia. "The keen interest of applicants from Pakistan in continuing their higher studies in Indonesia testifies the growing bilateral academic linkages and spirit of friendship between Indonesia and Pakistan," added Tugio.



Addressing the awardees, the Envoy underscored the important of Dharmasiswa programs as it provides an excellent opportunity for the students to cultivate a deeper understanding of rich and diverse culture of Indonesia. "Upon completing your education, you will play more constructive role as a cultural ambassadors of both nations", stated Tugio.

The gathering was also attended by several alumni of previous scholarship programs who engaged in a meaningful interactions with the fresh participants

by sharing their experiences of living and studying in Indonesia. An KNB Alumni, Mr. Muhammad Zalkifal shared his experience that studied in Bogor Agriculture Institute or IPB which has one the best research labs on agriculture in the world. "It was so enriching and has given a life time opportunity for me to learn from research experts and excel in my field", he added. Following the completion of his master degree in IPB, Moh. Zalkifal will pursue doctorate degree in universities in UK.



The event concluded with a Q&A session allowing scholarship recipients to raise queries and concerns, ultimately facilitating a smoother transition

into their educational endeavors which was followed by a memorable group photograph capturing the shared enthusiasm and determination of the scholarship

recipients and alumni. Indonesian government offers fully-funded scholarships on annual basis to Paki-

stani students to pursue higher education on science and social science. Interested applicants are encouraged to check the Embassy's website and its social media.

# UN Resident Coordinator lauds PRCS Humanitarian Services

## Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: UN Resident Coordinator and Humanitarian Coordinator, Mr. Julien Harnais, visited the national headquarters of the Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS) on Tuesday. During his visit, he held a meeting with Chairman PRCS Sardar Shahid Ahmed Laghari to discuss potential areas of cooperation between PRCS and UN entities. Secretary General PRCS Muhammad Abiadullah was also present during the meeting and briefed the UN Resident Coordinator on different interventions.

Chairman Sardar Shahid Ahmed Laghari expressed his gratitude for Mr. Harnais' visit, underscoring its significance as a milestone in the collaboration between PRCS and the United Nations. He emphasized their shared commitment to alleviating human suffering and advancing humanitarian efforts.

The meeting delved into PRCS's



response to the Monsoon Floods of the previous year. Collaborating with IFRC, ICRC, and partners of the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement, PRCS had provided relief to over 2.7 million people across 55 districts in Pakistan, constituting 10% of the

total affected population. Chairman Laghari discussed the challenges faced during the flood response and highlighted PRCS's mobilization of its own resources to assist the flood-affected population in best possible manner. He expressed gratitude to the UN for

its support in alleviating the suffering of vulnerable communities.

In his remarks, UN Resident Coordinator Mr. Julien praised the efforts of PRCS volunteers during floods and other calamities. He commended PRCS's humanitarian initiatives and stressed the importance of collaboration with national and international humanitarian actors. He emphasized early preparedness and disaster risk reduction to bolster community resilience. He proposed the possibility of collaboration between PRCS and UN OCHA. He emphasized the significance of involving youth and volunteers in community services, underscoring the importance of utilizing digital tools for people to provide financial assistance aimed at aiding vulnerable communities.

On this occasion, Chairman PRCS Sardar Shahid Ahmed presented a memento to UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator Mr. Julien Harnais to commemorate the visit.

# World leaders in Artificial Intelligence explain future possibilities

## News Desk

WASHINGTON: A new report by The Millennium Project warns that advanced artificial intelligence systems could emerge sooner than expected, posing unprecedented risks unless prudent governance frameworks are rapidly put in place.

The report titled International Governance Issues of the Transition from Artificial Narrow Intelligence to Artificial General Intelligence (AGI) is a distillation of interviews and collected insights from 55 AI experts from the United States, China, the United Kingdom, Canada, the European Union, and Russia on how to regulate AGI—AI that can handle novel situations as well as, or better than humans. Included among these experts are Sam Altman, Bill Gates, and Elon Musk.

AGI could arise in the next few years, representing an "intelligence explosion" that creates AI surpassing human abilities, the report states. Lack of governance could lead to catastrophic outcomes, including existential threats to humanity if such systems are misaligned with human values and interests. The report finds that no existing governance models are adequately prepared to manage the risks and opportunities posed by artificial general intelligence (AGI). It calls for rapid development of a new kind of flexible governance that can match and anticipate the pace of AI change and provide the necessary safeguards while not stifling the promises of and advance AI.

# 4,000 vendors and buyers throng two-day Pakistan Expo in Canada



## Spokesman Report

VANCOUVER: Nearly 4,000 vendors and visitors thronged a two-day Pakistan Expo held in the Canadian city of Vancouver to showcase Pakistani products to the local buyers and customers and help forge business-to-business collaborations between Pakistan and Canada.

The event was inaugurated by High Commissioner for Pakistan to Canada Zaheer A. Janjua while Consul General of Pakistan to Vancouver Janbaz Khan and a large number of Pakistani Canadian entrepreneurs, vendors, producers, businessmen, tradesmen, ministers and legislators were also present.

The two-day expo was the first of its kind held in Western Canada. It was jointly organized by the Pakistan Western Canada Trade Association (PWCTA) and the Consulate General of Pakistan in Vancouver. A large delegation of Pakistani vendors from various parts of the country also attended the event.

Addressing the opening gala of the event, High Commissioner Zaheer A. Janjua lauded the organisers for visualizing and actualising the Pakistan expo within a short span of time in Canada. He said the participation of a large number of trade delegates and businessmen from Canada and Pakistan and the attendance of thousands of local buyers and visitors was an affirmation of the quality and success of the event.

# Prof. Dr Samina Malik appointed as Rector IIUI

## City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Professor Dr. Samina Malik has been appointed as Rector of the International Islamic University Islamabad (IIUI). She is the first female Rector of the university. The President of Pakistan and Chancellor IIUI, Dr. Arif Alvi, appointed her Rector of IIUI with immediate effect for a period of 4 years in terms of section 12 (1) of the IIUI ordinance, 1985.

She has worked as Vice-President (Female Campus). She has been working as a Professor in the Department of Education at the International Islamic University Islamabad, Pakistan. She possesses diversified experience in administration, research and teaching. She has experience of administration as Dean of the Faculty of Social Science,

Chairperson of the Department of Education, Additional Director, Directorate of Distance Education, IIUI and Director, Female Campus IIUI. She is the winner of HEC best teacher award (2014).

Prof. Dr. Samina Malik has done her PhD (Education) from University of Arid Agriculture, Rawalpindi and Post Doctorate from Coventry University, UK. She has been in the field of education for over 25 years and has dealt with different levels of educational systems from the Secondary to University level. She has been keynote speaker and presenter of papers in many national and international conferences. Moreover, she is member of different professional organizations, board of studies and faculty board of various national level universities. Prof. Dr. Samina Malik has been

guiding research scholars of M. Phil and Ph. D. level in different areas of education. Prof. Dr. Samina Malik has chaired many national and international conferences. Being the head of IIU Department of Education

Prof. Dr. Samina has taken many significant steps to improve the capacity and proficiency of the department.

Prof. Dr. Samina Malik has published several research articles related to field of Education in national and internationally recognized journals. She is Editor of International Journal on Innovation in Teaching and Learning (IJITL) of the Department of Education and Managing Editor of International Journal of Distance Education and E-Learning (IJDEEL) of the Directorate of Distance Education, IIUI.



She has completed various National Projects in the field of Education as well as she has completed

# ILO and PWF join hands for protection of the rights of domestic workers

## Bureau Report

QUETTA, BALUCHISTAN: (ILO News) - Ratification of the International Labour Organization's (ILO) Domestic Workers Convention would confirm the labour rights of Pakistan's 8.5 million domestic workers and recognize them as workers and essential service providers, participants at a consultative workshop heard today.

Supported by ILO, the consultation was organized by the Pakistan Workers' Federation (PWF) in Quetta, Baluchistan. Representatives of Government departments, at both federal and provincial levels, met along with employers' and workers' organizations, to discuss ways to promote the formalization

of domestic workers and advocate for ratification of the ILO Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189).

This step will extend social security benefits and services to domestic workers and improve their working conditions across the country.

"ILO is thankful to the PWF for their commitment to making this dialogue process a reality and carving a way forward for making Decent Work a reality for all domestic workers in Pakistan", said Geir Tonstol, Country Director of ILO Pakistan. "There is no social justice without decent work for domestic worker".

"Takeaways from this discussion will serve as important input to both legislative and policy reforms that will ultimately support the ratification

of Convention No. 189 by Pakistan and increase the protection of domestic workers across the country," he added.

"The vast majority of domestic workers in Balochistan are excluded from labour protection and are vulnerable to exploitation by employers, intermediaries and sometimes even their own families", said Zahoor Awan, Chairman Steering Committee PWF and Worker Member of the ILO Governing Body.

He further said it is high time that all the stakeholders continue to come together and take comprehensive measures to protect and enhance the welfare of domestic workers, aligning with the ongoing global efforts to promote fair and just labour

practices.

The informal economy in Pakistan is characterised by low levels of education and skills, a lack of capital resources, lower incomes, and a high degree of segregation. Domestic workers are also at risk of exploitation due to their high reliance on intermediaries to find domestic work opportunities in the cities.

According to ILO estimates, there are at least 8.5 million domestic workers in Pakistan, the vast majority of whom are women and young girls. Although domestic work is one of the biggest sources of employment in the informal economy, it is unregistered and excluded from the scope of labour legislation as it takes place in private households.



**Bull & Bears**  
PSX 100-Share  
Index Fluctuation

Pakistan: PSX 100-Share Index		
Current	Prev. Close	
47,417.90	47,447.95	
Day's High	Day's Low:	
47,675.21	47,359.17	
Index Value	Change	
4,762,911,683	-30.05	
Percentage	Time	
-0.06%	22 Aug, 2023 5:00 pm	
Europe: FTSE 100 Index		
Index Value	Change	
7,270.76	+12.94	
Percentage	Time	
+0.18%	22 Aug, 4:35 pm GMT+1	
USA: Dow Jones Industrial Average		
Index Value	Change	
34,267.28	-196.41	
Percentage	Time	
-0.57%	22 Aug, 1:17 pm GMT-4	
Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Average		
Index Value	Change	
31,856.71	+291.07	
Percentage	Time	
+0.92%	22 Aug, 3:15 pm GMT+9	
Open Market Forex Rates		
Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	200	202
Bahrain Dinar	789.18	797.18
Canadian Dollar	230	232.3
China Yuan	41.01	41.41
Danish Krone	43.36	43.76
Euro	334	337.3
Hong Kong Dollar	37.85	38.2
Indian Rupee	3.57	3.68
Japanese Yen	2.18	2.27
Kuwaiti Dinar	962.78	971.78
Malaysian Ringgit	63.83	64.43
New Zealand \$	173.22	175.22
Norwegians Krone	27.61	27.91
Omani Riyal	770.69	778.69
Qatari Riyal	79.62	80.32
Saudi Riyal	83.2	84
Singapore Dollar	221	223
Swedish Korona	26.74	27.04
Swiss Franc	337.19	339.69
Thai Bhat	8.19	8.34
U.A.E Dirham	84.7	85.5
UK Pound Sterling	392.1	396
US Dollar	311	313.9

# Dr. Gohar Ejaz proposes Business Park initiative to enhance trade

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: In a bid to consolidate Pakistan's global trade connections, Dr. Gohar Ejaz, Federal Minister for Commerce & Industries has unveiled his intention to establish Business Parks in major cities.

These parks or Facilitation Centres for traders would be designed to serve as hubs for foreign traders, enhancing trade relationships and driving economic growth.

He said this during a meeting held on Tuesday at his office in Islamabad, where he met with prominent exporters and traders Fawad Mukhtar, CEO of Fatima Fertiliser, Anwaar Ahmad Ghani, CEO of Ghani Glass Ltd, Mian M Ahsan US apparel and denim, Shahid Soorti CEO of Soorti textile, Fawad javaid, Din textile, Faisal Afridi, Haier Appliances, to discuss his vision.

The minister reiterated his determination to explore every avenue possible to realise Paki-



stan's export potential.

Dr. Gohar Ejaz observed that the proposed Business Parks would be poised as vital stepping stones in realising Pakistan's economic growth and prosperity on the global stage.

With a focus on immediate solutions, the establishment of buying houses or the utilization of rental buildings managed by the local business community also came under discussions.

These measures would aim at addressing the pressing need for facilitation of foreign traders.

Expressing his resolute commitment to increasing the country's exports, Dr. Ejaz emphasized the necessity to adopt a strategic approach.

The minister proposed targeting specific countries according to their respective sectors, thus maximizing the impact of Pakistan's export efforts.

This tailored strategy, he believes, will yield more favourable results and enhance Pakistan's global trade relationships.

Promising the full support of the government to the business community, the minister assured that their concerns and challenges will be effectively addressed.

To facilitate Pakistani entrepreneurs on the international stage, he directed relevant authorities to ensure comprehensive assistance through the ministry's Trade and Investment Officers posted in Missions abroad.

## Pakistan Baitul Mal ready to work with ICCI on welfare projects

Tariq Khattak

ISLAMABAD: Aamir Fida Paracha, Managing Director, Pakistan Bait-ul-Mal (PBM) said that his organization is ready to work with ICCI on welfare projects, so the Chamber should prepare its proposal for skills development and empowerment of women and send it to him that would be considered for implementation. He said that the PBM is being digitized to promote transparency and increase the confidence of donors.

He said that they are working on devising a scoring system for beneficiaries on the pattern of Benazir Income Support Program, which will greatly facilitate the beneficiaries and reduce documentary requirements. He said that good projects of the previous government including the shelter homes have been continued, but those shelters have been closed which had no beneficiary and were costing great expenses. He said that many welfare projects including 50 sweet homes for orphans and 160 women empowerment centers are working under PBM. He said that the scholarships for poor students in the universities have been further increased while the scholarship for the poor students of Balochistan has been increased to 20%. He said that the government has increased the budget of Pakistan Baitul Mal from 6 billion rupees to carry forward the welfare



projects. He expressed these views while addressing the business community during his visit to the Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari, President, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI), said that Pakistan Baitul Mal is rendering valuable services for the welfare of the poor and needy people of the society, which is laudable. He said that PBM is doing many welfare projects including provision of education & medical treatment to the poor segments of society, so he strongly appealed to the business community and the philanthropists of the society to fully cooperate with PBM so that this institution can better serve the poor and needy members of the society.

Engr. Azharul Islam Zafar, Vice President ICCI said that PBM is carrying out

a great mission by serving the suffering humanity and suggested that it should also play role in providing education to 20 million out-of-school children.

Zafar Bakhtawari, former President ICCI and Secretary General UBG, said that ICCI wants to start a project in collaboration with PBM for skills development and training of young girls for their economic empowerment. If this project is successful in Islamabad, then PBM can start it in other parts of the country.

Khalid Chaudhry, Maqsood Tabish, Chaudhry Javed Iqbal, Intiaz Abbasi, Shahid Zaman Shinwari, Naveed Abbasi, Ms. Nagina Khaliq, Ms. Nasira Ali and others also spoke on the occasion and suggested that PBM should streamline its documentary requirements for the beneficiaries to facilitate them.

## Qatari Charge d'Affaires Calls on Chairman FBR



Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Mr. Essa Mohammad Al-Dasem Al-Kubaisi, Charge d'Affaires of Qatar, visited Federal Board of Revenue Headquarters today and held a meeting with Chairman FBR Malik Amjed Zubair Tiwana.

During the meeting, the two sides agreed to enhance cooperation in areas of customs and tax to further boost trade relations between the two brotherly countries. It was agreed that mutual collaboration would be strengthened by

sharing best practices and expertise of the two countries in these fields.

This exchange of knowledge would help optimize processes, enhance efficiency and facilitate smooth bilateral trade. Streamlining the procedures and reducing trade barriers were identified as essential factors in achieving this goal.

The two sides also discussed several other matters including the possibility of exploring more potential areas for future cooperation between the two countries.

## BankIslami Achieves Remarkable 255% Growth in Profit

Commerce Desk

KARACHI: The first half of 2023 has marked its significance for BankIslami, as it attained a notable milestone by securing a 'AA-' long term entity rating assigned from PACRA. This rating upgrade acknowledges the outstanding performance the Bank has consistently delivered in recent periods. Further, the Bank also takes pride in the distribution of its maiden cash dividend to its valued shareholders during the same period.

The Bank has unveiled its half-yearly results for 2023, showcasing robust expansion in its operational performance. Notably, the Bank's pre-tax profit for the period stands at Rs. 8.3 billion, highlighting a remarkable surge of 208% compared to the corresponding period last year. The post-tax profit has reached to Rs. 5.1 billion, representing an impressive leap from the Rs. 1.4 billion achieved in the first half of 2022, signifying a remarkable growth of 255%. Moreover, the Bank has demonstrated significant headway in cost-efficiency ratio, as evidenced by the improvement in the cost-to-income ratio from 57.9% to 41.9% on a year-on-year basis.

The Bank's deposit book exhibited 11.3% growth during first half of 2023, with current accounts showing a 7.7% increase, while maintaining a healthy CASA (Current Account & Savings Account) mix of 64.3%. The Bank has achieved an expansion of 20.98% in its financing portfolio. This strategic move has consequently elevated the Advance to Deposit ratio (gross) from 53% in December 2022 to 57% by the close of June 2023. Furthermore, given the current economic outlook, the Bank has prudently enhanced provisions against doubtful debts to improve coverage ratio from 96% at the end of December 2022 to 100% as at the end of June 2023.

The diligent expansion of the credit book and the unwavering commitment to recover delinquent portfolio have resulted in a notable decline in the infection ratio. Specifically, this ratio has decreased from 9.0% to 7.9% during the first half of 2023. With increased profitability and an enhanced credit risk profile, the Bank's Capital Adequacy Ratio (CAR) has reached an impressive 19.14%, well above the regulatory threshold of 11.50%.

## Employees of MOL Pakistan join hands with NDMA to provide critical relief

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Employees of MOL Pakistan Oil and Gas Company B. V. has stepped up their efforts to support the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) in alleviating the impact of recent natural disasters across Pakistan through generously donating truckloads of relief supplies and a day's salary to contribute to the NDMA relief fund.

As torrential rains and cross-border rainwater inflows wreak havoc in several cities, causing widespread flooding and affecting countless families, the employees of MOL Pakistan has responded to the developing situation in a timely manner.

A significant handover ceremony transpired at the NDMA headquarters, wherein the representatives from the MOL Pakistan officially presented the relief goods to Col Hamayun Akram, NDMA's Director of Logistics. The event was attended by senior officials from both MOL Pakistan and NDMA.

Col Hamayun Akbar expressed his grat-



itude towards MOL Pakistan's employees, underscoring the active involvement of NDMA in supporting every flood-affected Pakistani. He applauded the swift response of the employees of MOL Pakistan, highlighting the crucial impact of their collective efforts.

Ali Murtaza Abbas, MOL Group Regional Vice President for Middle East,

Africa, and Pakistan conveyed his sentiments stated, "Employees of MOL Group are committed to nurturing the communities in which the group operate worldwide. Likewise, the employees of MOL Pakistan empathize with the plight of every flood-affected individual and remain optimistic that our humble initiative will provide solace during these challenging times."

## Descon aims to boost local economy and global exports

City Desk

LAHORE:— In a momentous event, Abdul Razak Dawood, the Founder of Descon, along with Faisal Dawood, Vice-Chairman of Descon, marked a significant milestone in the company's journey towards agricultural innovation. The occasion celebrated the groundbreaking ceremony of Blume Agri, a PKR one billion pioneering venture that promises to significantly contribute to the Pakistani agriculture landscape. Mr. Zahid Hussain, CEO Rafum Group & Director Blume Agri,

Mustapha Yousaf, CEO Blume Agri were Also present at the occasion.

Scheduled to commence operations in December 2023, the upcoming venture is geared to serve as a catalyst for change in the local market. During its initial two years of operation, the focus will be on catering to the local market while fostering import substitution. This strategic approach is designed to not only fulfill domestic demands but also drive self-reliance in the agricultural sector.

The Blume Agri plant envis-

ages to be a state-of-the-art, fully automated and integrated food processing facility (dehydration of fruits, vegetables and spices) employing global best practices of the industry. The plant aims to produce high-quality dried products that cater to both local consumption and international export markets. The move towards dehydration is a pivotal step in mitigating post-harvest losses, a persistent challenge in the industry, while simultaneously contributing to Pakistan's foreign exchange reserves.

Abdul Razak Dawood emphasized, "Our commit-

ment to the agriculture sector is unwavering. Our vision is driven by the desire to minimize post-harvest losses and harness the vast potential of the global market. We are dedicated to investing in the necessary infrastructure and knowledge to tap into these opportunities."

Speaking at the occasion, Mr. Zahid stated, "This is a pioneering project for us and the country. We hope to contribute towards import substitution as well as boost exports significantly of agri and fruit-based items to Middle East and Europe,"



In a resounding declaration of commitment and ambition, Mustapha Yousaf, has laid out a comprehensive roadmap for the company's journey in the agricultural sector. With a

focus on local employment, import substitution, and global export, Blume Agri is set to make significant strides in shaping the future of agriculture in Pakistan.

# Serena Hotels honour the Special Olympics Squad

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Serena Hotels under the banner of Sports Diplomacy, honoured the Pakistani squad that represented and made history with their spectacular wins for the country at the Special Olympics held in Berlin, Germany, from June 17th to 25th, 2023. These exceptional athletes secured 80 medals, including 11 gold, 29 silver, and 40 bronze medals in total. This achievement has brought pride to Pakistan and garnered admiration from all 176 participating countries.

The Head of the Delegation and Chairperson of Special Olympics Pakistan, Ms. Ronak Lakhani, expressed her gratitude to Allah and praised the outstanding performance of the athletes. She appreciated the hard work put into preparing for this auspicious event, saying how it had paid off in such a massive scale of wins. She mentioned the efforts of unified partners and coaches and how they played a pivotal role. Lakhani also acknowledged the parents for their support in nurturing the athletes and thanked Serena Hotels for making the evening all about the special athletes and celebrating their win as it adds support and bolsters their self-confidence.



Mr. Haseeb Abbasi, the Sargent Shriver International Global Messenger (SSIGM) Athlete Leader 2019-2023 Special Olympics Pakistan and eminent motivational speaker, and winner of 2

gold medals for cycling in the 2013 Special Olympics Asia Pacific Regional games, at age 17 appeared in a TEDx Talk wowed the world through his story and is now a motivational speaker with

a web channel which he uses for motivational messages for people with special abilities spoke about his journey and that of the winners of the 2023 Olympics.

# Haris takes five as Pakistan sink Afghanistan by 142 runs in first ODI

A Sports

HAMBANTOTA: Haris Rauf's maiden five-wicket haul propelled Pakistan to register a crushing 142-run victory over Afghanistan in the first ODI of the three-match series on Tuesday.

Set to chase a modest 202, the Afghanistan batting lineup failed completely against a pace-packed Pakistan attack and could only accumulate 59 runs before being bundled out in the 13th over.

The hosts after having a disastrous start, kept losing at an alarming rate as Pakistan pacers ran riot.

Opening batter Rahmanullah Gurbaz (18) and Azmatullah Omarzai made notable contributions with the bat while the rest failed to make it into the double figures.

Coming out to bat at number seven, Omarzai looked to counterattack the Pakistan bowlers with a brisk knock but could only score 16 before getting retired out in the 17th over.

Haris Rauf spearheaded Pakistan's bowling charge against Pakistan with his maiden five-wicket haul while Shaheen Shah Afridi took two.

Naseem Shah and Shadab Khan, on



the other hand, had a wicket apiece to their names.

Opting to bat first, Afghanistan's spin attack booked Pakistan on a meagre 201 despite Imam-ul-Haq's fighting half-century.

Mujeeb Ur Rahman led the attack with three wickets, including the prized scalp of Pakistan captain Babar Azam. While Rashid Khan and Mohammad

Nabi contributed with one wicket each.

Pakistan went off to a horrible start after winning the toss as they were reduced to 7-2 in two overs, with Babar Azam and Fakhar Zaman back in the pavilion.

Imam-ul-Haq, however, remained calm on his end, anchoring through the innings as he knitted a 33-run partnership with Mohammad Rizwan before

Mujeeb struck again to reduce Pakistan to 40-3, which quickly became 62-4 with the wicket of Agha Salman.

Iftikhar Ahmed and Imam-ul-Haq then stabilized the innings with a formidable 50-run stand in 69 balls.

However, Mohammad Nabi broke the budding stand as Iftikhar was caught by Afghanistan captain Hashmatullah Shahidi.

Iftikhar scored 30 runs from 41 deliveries with the help of two boundaries.

Mohammad Nabi struck again to end Imam's cautious innings at a total of 152, breaking the 40-run stand between Imam and Shadab Khan.

Imam-ul-Haq's 94-ball 61 featured only two boundaries.

Pakistan appeared to be bundled out under 200 runs against Afghanistan as they had slumped to 163-8.

However, Shadab Khan and Naseem Shah stitched a 34-run partnership to drag the total to 198 at the fall of the ninth wicket. Shadab Khan scored 39 runs off 50 balls with the help of three boundaries.

Rahmat Shah picked up the final wicket of Haris Rauf to wrap up the innings at 201.

# PCB to conduct nationwide women trials from today

Tahir Amin Malik

LAHORE: The Pakistan Cricket Board, as part of its continuous effort to unearth women cricketers at the grassroots level, will hold a nationwide women's cricket trials, across eight cricket academies from 23 to 31 August. These trials will provide an exceptional platform for talented female cricketers from various age categories to showcase their skills and progress to the higher levels of the game.

The trials will be conducted by the National Selection Committee, which comprises of chairperson and former Test

cricketer Saleem Jaffar, former international cricketers Asmavia Iqbal and Marina Iqbal. The trials will be conducted for three age groups: U19, in which players who are born on or after 1 September 2004 are eligible; emerging and seniors categories.

The trials will help the selectors identify talent and select squads for Pakistan emerging and Pakistan U19 teams. Pakistan emerging side will compete against West Indies emerging team at home in October this year, while Pakistan U19 will feature in a triangular event involving Bangladesh and Sri Lanka in Bangladesh in January 2024.

Head of Women's Cricket Tania Mallick:

"We have recently awarded first-ever domestic contracts to 74 women cricketers, setting the tone for a brighter future in women's cricket. With the nationwide trials, we are eagerly poised to bring in a new wave of talented individuals forward. "We have a great and exciting amount of women's cricket events ahead, and these trials will help us identify splendid talent that the selectors can consider for the national teams' squads."

The following is the schedule of trials in eight academies.

- Hanif Mohammad High Performance Centre, Karachi - 23 August
- Inzamam-ul-Haq High Performance Centre, Multan - 23 August
- Women Sports Stadium, Bahawalpur - 24 August
- Kinnard College for Women, Lahore - 24 August
- Pindi Cricket Stadium, Rawalpindi/ Islamabad - 28 August
- Quyyum Stadium, Peshawar - 29 August
- Abbottabad Stadium, Abbottabad - 30 August
- Bugti Stadium, Quetta - 31 August

# Asia Cup 2023: Nepal cricket team to reach Karachi tomorrow

Sports Desk

The Nepal cricket team is anticipated to reach Karachi tomorrow morning to kick off their preparations for the ACC Men's Asia Cup 2023, commencing on August 30.

According to the details, Nepal had requested the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) to practice in Pakistan to prepare themselves for the Asia Cup.

Consequently, the associate team will now practice at the National Bank Cricket Arena in Karachi on August 24 and 25. Meanwhile, they will also play a practice match on August 26 in Karachi Gymkhana. Nepal is led by young all-rounder Rohit Paudel and will play host Pakistan in the curtain raiser on August 30 in Multan.

Nepal squad: Rohit Paudel (c), Kushal Bhurtel, Aasif Sheikh, Bhim Sharki, Kushal Malla, Aarif Sheikh, Dipendra Singh Airee, Gulshan Jha, Sompal Kami, Karan KC, Sandeep Lamichhane, Lalit Rajbanshi, Pratik Gc, Mousom Dhakal, Sandeep Jora, Kishore Mahato, Arjun Saud



Pakistan will host a total of four matches including a Super 4s fixture, while the rest of the games including the final will be played in Sri Lanka.

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.

# Tanzim replaces injured Ebadot Hossain in Bangladesh squad for Asia Cup

A Sports

Bangladesh fast bowler Ebadot Hossain has been ruled out of the ACC Men's Asia Cup in Pakistan and Sri Lanka with a knee injury, meanwhile, uncapped fast bowler Tanzim Hasan has received his maiden call-up as Ebadot's replacement.

Ebadot Hussain was named in Bangladesh's squad for Asia Cup, however, he failed to recover in time for the upcoming tournament in Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

Dr Debashis Chowdhury, chief sports physician of Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) has mentioned that Ebadot's rehabilitation is the top priority ahead of ICC Men's ODI World Cup in India, and BCB is looking to explore every option to help him achieve full fitness. "Ebadot had undergone



six weeks of rehab following the injury," Dr Chowdhury said. "We have had multiple MRIs done during this time and the reports suggest that his ACL is still a concern and requires further management. Therefore, he misses out on the Asia Cup,"

"Considering the importance of the Bangladesh

team's next major event, which is the ICC World Cup in October, the BCB is committed to exploring every safe medical option available for getting Ebadot back to full fitness and playing as early as possible, including consultation and treatment overseas." BCB has announced

uncapped Tanzim Hasan Sakib as Ebadot Hossain's replacement for the Asia Cup. The 20-year-old pacer has taken 57 wickets from 37 List A matches, including nine wickets in three matches in the recently concluded ACC Emerging Men's Asia Cup in Sri Lanka. Bangladesh will kick off their Asia Cup campaign against Sri Lanka in Kandy on August 31. Bangladesh squad for Asia Cup: Shakib Al Hasan (captain), Litton Das, Najmul Hossain Shanto, Towhid Hridoy, Mushfiqur Rahim, Afif Hossain, Mehidy Hasan Miraz, Taskin Ahmed, Hasan Mahmud, Mustafizur Rahman, Shoriful Islam, Nasum Ahmed, Mahedi Hasan, Mohammad Naim, Shamim Hossain, Tanzid Hasan, Tanzim Hasan

# Ministry writes to PM for Zaka Ashraf's removal as PCB chief

Sports Desk

LAHORE: The Ministry of Inter-Provincial Coordination on Tuesday sought removal of Zaka Ashraf as Chairman Management Committee of Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) for "being appointed on political basis".

The Ministry of Inter Provincial Coordination has penned down a letter to Principal Secretary to caretaker Prime Minister (PM) Anwaarul Haq Kakar, seeking removal of Zaka Ashraf as Chairman PCB Management Committee.

The letter cited a notification of Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP), stating: "To ensure immediate termination of services of all heads of the institutions appointed on political basis and to send all such cases to the commission for approval of termination or otherwise."

The ministry also sought removal of Peer Syed Ahmed Nawaz Shah as chairman Federal Land Commission.

It is pertinent to mention here that Zaka Ashraf, who was being supported by the Pakistan People's Party (PPP), assumed the charge of the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) Management Committee chairman on July 6.

The elections for the chairman were supposed to be held on June 27 at the PCB headquarters in Lahore. However, stay orders from multiple courts in the country, which included the Balochistan High Court, resulted in the election being postponed.

# 2nd CNS All Pakistan Squash Championship 2023



Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Navy has old and deep rooted association with the game of Squash. This association of Pakistan Navy with Squash dates back to the independence of our mother land. The Game of Squash started with a single Court at Manora and today Pakistan Navy has Pakistan's largest and world class Squash Complex at RKJK Karachi. The journey from single court to present place has been possible by very deep commitment of Pakistan Navy with this game. The Roshan Khan Jahangir Khan Squash Complex (RKJK) was named after two legends of the game. Inaugurated by Admiral Yastur ul Haq Malik on 19 June 1991, this majestic complex comprises of six courts including newly built 4-Sided Glass Court. The inauguration of 4 sided Glass Court at RKJK on 21 July 2023 is also a testament of Pakistan Navy's efforts in promotion of Squash as sport in the country.

1st CNS international Squash Championship was held in the year 2000, since then the championship has been organized without disruption. 2nd Chief of the Naval Staff All Pakistan Squash Championship 2023 is scheduled from 23 to 27 Aug 23 at RKJK Squash Complex. The Championship comprises of 54 Matches. First qualifying round will be comprised of 8 matches played by 16 players each, 8 winning players from both categories (men & women) will join the 8 top ranking National Players in the main round. Top National Players will be seen in action during the tournament. Championship will display spectacular skills and stamina of players throughout the event.

# Pakistan's Hamza Saeed clinch bronze in World Taekwondo Octagon Diamond Games 2023



Sports Desk

CHUNCHEON (KOREA): In a grand display of talent, Pakistan's Hamza Saeed won the bronze medal for Pakistan in the ongoing World Taekwondo Octagon (Octagon) Diamond Games 2023 in Chuncheon, Korea.

Ryong Woo Li of Korea won 2-0 against Hamza Saeed in the semi-final of the event.

Earlier, Hamza Saeed defeated Mohammad Ashraf of Afghanistan by 2-1 in the quarter-final of the event.

Meanwhile, in World Taekwondo Beach Championship G-2, Pakistan's Aqdasullah Qadeer and Naila won bronze medals in the Poomsae Event.