

Daily The Spokesman

A Leading National Daily



فہرمان رسول
بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ
جی کریم صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم فرماتے تھے کہ اگر
انسان کو ایک ہادی سونا بھر کے دے دیا جائے
تو وہ دوسری کاٹھواؤں سے بھرے گا اگر دوسری
دے دی جائے تو تیسری کاٹھواؤں سے بھرے گا
اور انسان کا پیٹ مٹی کے سوا اور کوئی چیز نہیں
بھرسکتی اور اللہ پاک اس کی توبہ قبول کرتا ہے
جو توبہ کرے۔
(گنجینہ، ص 6438)

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Canada says it suspects India involved in Sikh leader murder

Canada said on Monday that it was "actively pursuing credible allegations" linking Indian govt agents to the murder of a Sikh separatist leader in British Columbia in June, dealing a further blow to diplomatic ties between the countries. PM Justin Trudeau said to the House of Commons that any involvement of a foreign government in the killing of a Canadian citizen... (Details on Page 8)



Over 110 countries confirm participation in Belt and Road Forum: Mao Ning

The representative from more than 110 countries have so far confirmed their participation in the third Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation in Beijing scheduled to be held this October, Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson, Mao Ning said on Tuesday. "As of today, representatives from more than 110 countries have confirmed their attendance," she said in her regular press conference held here.

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Special Forces exercise

Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Syed Asim Munir witnessed the opening ceremony of the Multi-National Special Forces Exercise "Eternal Brotherhood-II" at Barotha on Tuesday.



COAS witnesses multi-national Special Forces exercise in Barotha

Spokesman Report

RAWALPINDI: Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Syed Asim Munir witnessed the opening ceremony of the Multi-National Special Forces Exercise "Eternal Brotherhood-II" at Barotha.

Special Forces contingents from Pakistan, Kazakhstan, Qatar, Turkiye, and Uzbekistan are participating in the two-week-long exercise, the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) said.

COAS General Syed Asim Munir visited Barotha Garrison and interacted with the exercising participants. The army chief was briefed on the scope and conduct of the exercise by the General Officer Commanding Special Service Group.

The military's press wing the exercise is aimed at further harnessing the historic military-to-military relations among the friendly countries, including nurturing of joint employment concept, while identifying areas of mutu-

al interest for future military collaborations and benefitting from each other's experience against terrorism.

Prior to visiting Brotha, COAS also visited Junior Leadership Academy (JLA) Shinkiani, which is the Centre Excellence for the training of non-commissioned officers. He laid a floral wreath at Yadgaar-e-Shuhada and addressed the participants of the academy.

COAS Munir remarked that "junior leaders are the backbone of Pakistan Army and are key to success in conventional and unconventional warfare."

"Our standard of professionalism and leadership is par excellence compared to any modern army of the world. Junior leaders of Pakistan Army have proven their mettle in the fields of training, operations, and world-class competitions across the world", COAS concluded.

On arrival at JLA and Brotha, COAS was received by Inspector General Training & Evaluation.

President for collective efforts to tackle socio-economic challenges

Bureau Report

KARACHI: President Dr Arif Alvi on Tuesday emphasized for collective efforts to tackle challenges of unemployment, rising stress in society, improving access for differently-abled persons to opportunities, and enhanced female participation in businesses and jobs. He also underscored the importance of volunteerism and active involvement of the chambers, banking sector, and civil society to overcome the socio-economic challenges in the meeting with a delegation of Karachi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCI).

The president urged the business community to play a pivotal role in advancing social sectors and fulfilling their corporate social responsibility by helping those in need. The collaborative endeavours by the public and private sectors could bring about a positive transformation in people's lives, particularly in the realm of



social initiatives, he added. The president stressed for the creation of an inclusive society that actively promoted female participation in socio-economic activities.

He called upon the KCCI members to inspire and support women in becoming future entrepreneurs, fostering confidence and empowerment among them. He also emphasized the importance

of human development and advised the business community to create more employment opportunities for women and persons with disabilities. President Alvi acknowledged the positive impact of information technology on facilitating bank account opening and financial transactions for women. He emphasized the business commu-

nity's role in providing a conducive atmosphere for women at workplace. He also called on the corporate sector to prioritize the welfare of workers and environmental protection, ensuring a better world for future generations. Regarding the performance of the banking sector, President Alvi praised its achievements over the past three years.

He urged the chambers to develop fast-track mechanisms to ensure quantifiable performance, with a specific goal of achieving 20 to 25% female employment within the industry. He commended some banks in the country for achieving a remarkable 30% female employment. The president highlighted that Pakistan had great potential with abundant natural and human resources, but there was need to provide quality education and skills to harness the competitiveness of the industrial and business sectors.

He urged the KCCI members to engage with the government and civil society to find solutions for the challenges faced by them in carrying out corporate social responsibility (CSR) activities. He asked for regular meetings between KCCI and architects to ensure the creation of accessible facilities such as ramps in hospitals, shopping plazas, and industries for differently-abled individuals.

Caretaker PM to participate in 78th UNGA opening session today

Spokesman Report

NEW YORK: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Tuesday will participate in the 78th opening session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA 78). The prime minister will present Pakistan at the high level moot on Global Development Initiative and would address the participants, PM Office Media Wing said in a press release. Besides, he will also attend and address a high level meeting on Sustainable Devel-



opment Goals. PM Kakar is expected to meet Iranian President Sayyid Ibrahim Raisi and President of Turkiye Recep Tayyip Erdogan on the sidelines of the session. The prime minister will also attend a reception hosted by US President Joe Biden in the honour of the global leaders.

Govt committed to promote sports activities: Solangi



Murtaza Solangi

ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Minister for Information and Broadcasting Murtaza Solangi on Tuesday said the caretaker government was committed to promoting sports activities in order to bring about positive change in the society. The minister expressed the resolve during a meeting with Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) Chairman Zaka Ashraf.

Different matters including cooperation between Pakistan Television (PTV) Sports and PCB were discussed in the meeting. Solangi said the PTV Sports had been playing a pivotal role to promote the sports culture and it had gained huge popularity among the viewers across the country. He reaffirmed the caretaker government's resolve and support for promoting the sports, especially cricket. The minister acknowledged the role of PCB in promoting cricket in the country.

PPP may have electoral alliance with PTI, says Wasan

Bureau Report

KARACHI: Pakistan People's Party (PPP) leader Manzoor Wasan hinted that PPP could have an electoral alliance with PTI in general elections as no party could win completely.

Talking to media after holding a meeting with ECP Sindh member Nisar Durrani, the PPP leader said that MQM's ouster was unjustified as it stayed in power with the allies.

He foresaw general elections could be held in January.

Earlier, PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari had made statements against the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) supremo during the two-day meeting of the party's Central Executive Committee (CEC). The meeting was held in Lahore.

He also expressed strong opposition to discussions regarding the future government of the PML-N.

He joked that the constitution should be changed to ensure Sharif's premiership.

SC orders immediate release of prisoners on probation

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Supreme Court of Pakistan on Tuesday ordered immediate implementation of the rules on the release of prisoners on probation.

The SC ordered the federal and provincial governments to ensure the release of all persons eligible for probation and said the prime minister and chief ministers should ensure the implementation of the laws in this regard.

The apex court said the prisoners would have all constitutional rights except freedom of movement.

Justice Athar Manullah issued a five-page decision and said serious violations of human rights were taking place in prisons across the country, due to the overcrowding of prisoners in prisons.

"Provision of constitutional rights has become impossible," he observed.

The court declared the majority of the people suffering from lack of facilities in the jails were the poor and the state was not playing a role in providing cheap and quick justice for the poor people.

Supreme Court gets first-ever lady registrar

The SC said the criminal system has some flaws that encouraged exploitation of the weak at the hand of powerful.

"Such conditions of prisons are intolerable in a constitutional society," the justice took cognisance.

Pakistan, Norwegian FM agree to strengthen bilateral cooperation

News Desk

NEW YORK: Foreign Minister Jilil Abbas Jilani and his Norwegian counterpart Foreign Minister Anniken Huitfeldt have agreed to work towards the enhancement of bilateral cooperation. In a meeting held on the margins of the 78th UNGA Session in New York, both sides appreciated 75 years of Pakistan-Norway friendship.

Both foreign ministers expressed satisfaction on the exchange of ministerial visits between both countries during the first half of 2023 and emphasized increasing the volume of exchange of visits and regular interactions. The two foreign ministers discussed regional and international issues of mutual concern including risks to global peace, and agreed on the importance of multilateralism and a rule-based approach to address regional and global challenges.



Eid Milad-un-Nabi preparation

People busy in purchasing flags in preparation of Eid Milad-un-Nabi (PBUH) celebrations.



Pakistan Navy provides fishing map to ensure fishermen safety

Bureau Report

KARACHI: Pakistan National Hydrographic Office in coordination with Institute of Maritime Affairs (NIMA) and WWF-Pakistan distributed indigenously developed fishing map to local fishermen at Karachi during a ceremony held at Joint Maritime Information Coordination Centre (JMICC).

The maps are specifically designed to identify ghost nets to support safe conduct of fishing activities by local fishermen and preservation of fish in our seas. A ghost net is fishing net that has been lost or abandoned in the ocean and can pose a significant threat



to marine life and vessels of fishermen. The indigenously developed fishing map can easi-

ly be viewed on open source Android and IOS based navigation applications. Copies of fishing map and mobile appli-

cation along with its easily understandable installation procedure have been made available to local fishermen

community through JMICC free of charge.

This initiative is part of the Office of Hydrographer of Pakistan and Pakistan Navy's ongoing efforts to support Pakistan's fishing community and preservation of Pakistan's marine environment.

The fishing map includes vital information such as the precise positions of ghost nets and unsafe fishing areas. This will assist fishermen in making safe maneuvers at sea.

Provision of crucial information about the location of ghost nets will enable fishermen to avoid areas unsuitable for fishing activity and reduce the risk of breakdowns of boats at sea.

Hardeep Singh Nijjar: What is known about the murder of Sikh leader in Canada?

Reuters

CANADA: Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said on Monday Canada was "actively pursuing credible allegations" linking Indian government agents to the murder of a Sikh separatist leader, Hardeep Singh Nijjar, in British Columbia in June.

Canada is home to an influential Sikh community and Indian leaders say there are some fringe groups there that are still sympathetic to the cause of an independent Sikh state called Khalistan, carved out of India. A Sikh separatist movement that was suppressed in India in the 1990s killed some 30,000 people.

Here is what is known about



the probe into the Canadian citizen's murder:

* On the evening of June 18, Canada's Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) received a report of a shooting at the Guru Nanak Sikh Gurdwara, a Sikh place of worship, in the city of Surrey in the Brit-

ish Columbia province.

* First responders located a man, later identified as 45-year-old Hardeep Singh Nijjar, suffering from multiple gunshot wounds inside a vehicle. Nijjar succumbed to his injuries on scene, RCMP said.

* The Integrated Homicide Investigation Team (IHIT) took conduct of the investigation.

* Investigators said that two suspects, described as "heavier set males, wearing face coverings," fled the scene on foot and likely had a vehicle waiting for them closely from the murder scene. Authorities later said there was a third suspect as well. No arrests have been made.

* In July, investigators released information to the public of the believed route taken by the two suspects after the murder. Authorities later identified the vehicle which was waiting for the suspects as a Silver 2008 Toyota Camry.

* There were suspicions raised by local community

members that there may have been foreign interference in the murder of the Sikh separatist leader.

* "We understand there is a lot of speculation regarding the motive of this homicide, but we are dedicated to learning the facts and letting the evidence lead our investigation," Timothy Pierotti, an official with IHIT, said in the early stages of the probe.

* Trudeau said on Monday Canada had credible information linking Indian government agents to the murder. Trudeau did not directly accuse India of definitely being involved and Foreign Minister Melanie Joly later used more cautious language, saying "if proven true" the allegations would be unacceptable.

'Farhat Shehzadi, husband own 14 plots in Punjab'

News desk

LAHORE: Farhat Shehzadi, aka Farah Gogi, and her husband Ahsan Jameel Gujjar own 14 plots in Punjab, according to details revealed by Punjab ACE.

According to the Punjab anti-corruption department, the former first lady's close friend, Farhat Shehzadi and Ahsan Jameel Gujjar own 14 plots in Bahawalpur and Gujranwala.

In Bahawalpur, Farhat is the owner of 14, 12, 8, 3 and 2 kanal plots, while the couple also purchased six plots in Gujranwala.

The Punjab ACE said the record was obtained during probe of land records. The department alleged that the properties were bought through money received through corruption.

Separately, Farhat Shehzadi and her husband are facing a National Accountability Board inquiry.

According to the NAB, 117 bank accounts including four foreign currency accounts of Farhat and her husband were also found during the investigation of money laundering and assets beyond known sources of income.

"Huge turnover amounting to Rs847 million has been found in Farah's account during last three years, which does not commensurate with her stated account profile," the anti-corruption body said in a press release.

Hardeep Singh's killing: Bilawal calls India 'rogue, terrorist state'

Bureau Report

LAHORE: Former foreign minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari on Tuesday asserted that India has become a "rogue and terrorist state" after Canada accused New Delhi of involvement in the killing of a separatist Sikh leader Hardeep Singh Nijjar on its soil.

Speaking to journalists in Lahore, the PPP chairman said that India had been "exposed before the world" after Canadian prime minister levelled a "big allegation" against New Delhi of killing a Canadian citizen on its soil.

"Till when the international community will continue to ignore such events involving India," Bilawal said, adding: "It is time for the international community, particularly the West, to accept that India has become rogue and terrorist state."

The former foreign minister

further said that the Foreign Office should also take notice of the episode and issue a "clear" statement.

Read More: Hardeep Singh Nijjar: What is known about the murder of Sikh leader in Canada? He also said that Pakistan People's Party (PPP) stand with the people of Canada and "Pakistan should highlight the atrocities of India before the world."

It is pertinent to mention here that separatist leader, Hardeep Singh Nijjar, was shot dead outside a Sikh temple on June 18 in Surrey, a Vancouver suburb with a large Sikh population.

Nijjar supported a Sikh homeland in the form of an independent Khalistani state and was designated by India as a "terrorist" in July 2020. Read More: Hardeep Singh Nijjar: Who was the Sikh leader murdered in Canada? Subsequently, Canada on Monday

said it was "actively pursuing credible allegations" linking Indian government agents to the murder of the Sikh separatist leader.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said in an emergency statement to the House of Commons that any involvement of a foreign government in the killing of a Canadian citizen was "an unacceptable violation of our sovereignty."

Ottawa also expelled India's top intelligence agent and accused it of a role in the murder of a Sikh separatist leader.

Following the expulsion, India said today it had expelled a Canadian diplomat with five days' notice to leave the country.

Meanwhile, New Delhi also dismissed the Canadian accusation as "absurd and motivated" and urged it instead to take legal action against anti-Indian elements operating from its soil.

KP Election Commission for awareness regarding postal ballot facility



Bureau Report

PESHAWAR: Provincial Election Commission Khyber Pakhtunkhwa to formulate a strategy to run a special awareness campaign regarding the facility of postal ballot paper in the upcoming general elections for registered persons with disabilities in collaboration with the member's organization of the Gender and Disability Electoral Working Group.

It was decided by the Gender and Disability Working Group, said the spokesman for Provincial Election Commissioner Sohail Ahmed on Tuesday. Spokesman Sohail Ahmed, Assistant Director GSI Syed Aun Ahmed Naqvi, Assistant Director NADRA Shahid Ali, Pakistan Women's Zahid and Ibrahim, Arshad Peyman, Hamid Ali PEDO, Abid Khan URDO, Farid Gul, and Zafar Ali Shah participated.

The meeting was told that persons with disabilities are not aware of the facility of postal ballot paper and they face difficulties regarding the procedure of filling and submitting the relevant forms.

NADRA has also started a window operation service for persons with disabilities, so for the awareness of this section, NADRA, Department of Social Welfare Pak women, a special awareness campaign will be conducted with the support of PEDO and Peyman.

In the first phase, focal persons from each district will be trained, who will then educate the disabled about these facilities.

The meeting was further informed that efforts are being made to make all polling stations accessible. So that people can easily go to the polling stations to exercise their right to vote, which is likely to increase the turnout in the elections.

Canada says it suspects India involved in Sikh leader murder

Reuters

CANADA: Canada said on Monday that it was "actively pursuing credible allegations" linking Indian government agents to the murder of a Sikh separatist leader in British Columbia in June, dealing a further blow to diplomatic ties between the countries.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said in an emergency statement to the House of Commons that any involvement of a foreign government in the killing of a Canadian citizen was "an unacceptable violation of our sovereignty."

Hardeep Singh Nijjar, 45, was shot dead outside a Sikh temple on June 18 in Surrey, a Vancouver suburb with a large Sikh population. Nijjar supported a Sikh homeland in the form of an independent Khalistani state and was designated by India as a "terrorist" in July 2020.

"Canadian security agencies have been actively pursuing credible allegations of a potential link between agents of the government of India" and Nijjar's death, Trudeau said.

He said he had raised the murder

directly with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the sidelines of the G20 summit in New Delhi last week, and urged the government of India to "cooperate with Canada to get to the bottom of this matter."

"Canada has declared its deep concerns to the top intelligence and security officials of the Indian government. Last week at the G20 I brought them personally and directly to Prime Minister Modi in no uncertain terms," he said.

Canada also expelled India's top intelligence agent in the country on Monday, Foreign Minister Melanie Joly said, without providing details.

The Indian high commission in Ottawa did not respond to requests for comment.

Trudeau's comments mark a significant escalation in tensions between Canada and the world's largest democracy, with New Delhi unhappy over Sikh separatist activity in Canada.

Modi conveyed his strong concerns to Trudeau at the G20 summit over recent demonstrations in Canada by Sikhs calling for an independent state.

Pakistan rejects Intercept story alleging Pakistani weapons' sale to Ukraine



City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan on Monday rejected the Intercept news story alleging sale of Pakistani weapons to Ukraine to get International Monetary Fund (IMF) bailout package for Pakistan.

Responding to media queries on the latest Intercept story, Spokesperson Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mumtaz Zahra Baloch, termed the story as baseless and fabricated.

She said: "the IMF Standby Arrangement for Pakistan was successfully negotiated between Pakistan and the IMF to implement difficult but essential economic reforms. Giving any other colour to these negotiations is disingenuous."

"Pakistan maintains a policy of strict neutrality in the dispute between Ukraine and Russia and in that context, does not provide

any arms and ammunition to them. Pakistan's defense exports are always accompanied with strict end user requirements", she added.

It is pertinent to mention here that the International Monetary Fund (IMF) approved a \$3 billion loan for Pakistan after signing the staff-level agreement. The loan was approved by the Executive Board of the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

According to an official statement, the International Monetary Fund directed to immediately disburse \$1.2 billion while the remaining \$1.8 billion will be scheduled in November and February in two instalments after reviewing the policies.

The IMF executive board said that Pakistan has to strictly follow the policies which were finalized in the IMF deal and the target set in the budget should also be implemented.

Pakistan govt to launch heritage channel

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Minister for Culture and Heritage Jamal Shah has announced to launch dedicated heritage channel for the promotion of regional literature of Pakistan.

The minister made the announcement while addressing the inaugural session of a two-day conference titled 'Hum Jugnu Taaraj Dharti Ke' at Pakistan Academy of Letters in Islamabad.

The minister said the channel will include translated versions of different genres of regional literature including parables, adages, poetry and music so that youth in every part of the country, speaking any language can understand the essence of folk wisdom of our culturally diverse country.



He said the literature will also be published in the form of books and magazines and services of musicians and linguists of the relevant languages will be hired for this purpose. The minister said the caretaker

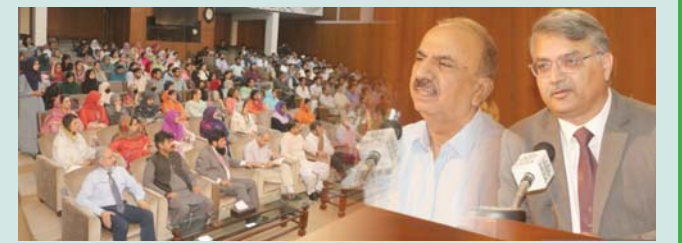
government has a limited tenure, but we will try to complete this project at the earliest.

Jamal Shah called for creating awareness among the young generation about their regional languages and rich lingual identities along with inculcating the spirit of celebrating unity in diversity.

The two-day conference will deliberate on ways to promote children's literature in regional languages.

It is pertinent to mention that Shah's great work in the field of arts is not limited to showbiz, as the great painter and sculptor also holds the credit for sculpting the bronze bust of Pakistani Nobel laureate, Dr Abdus Salam, which was unveiled at the International Atomic Energy Agency last year.

Book 'Pakistan, Education and 21st Century' launches at AIOU



City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The launch of the book 'Pakistan, Education and 21st Century' by the renowned educationist/former Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr. Shahid Siddiqui was held yesterday in Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU). The event was presided over by the Vice Chancellor, AIOU, Prof. Dr. Nasir Mahmood, while the author of the book, Prof. Dr. Shahid Siddiqui was the chief guest. Vice President of International Islamic University Islamabad, Dr. Nabi Bakhsh Jumanji, Head, Department of Education, NUML University, Dr. Wajiha Shahid, Dr. Salmi Nazir from Fatima Jinnah Women University and Dean Faculty of Education AIOU, Dr. Tanzeela Nabil were the guest of honor. Dr. Afshan Huma hosted the event. The author of the book, Shahid Siddiqui, explained the background of his new book in detail.

PTAC meeting held

Spokesman Report

KARACHI:

The Provincial Threat Assessment Committee (PTAC) met under the chairmanship of Sindh Caretaker Minister for Home and Prisons Brig. (Retd.) Haris Nawaz here at the Home Department.



The government of Sindh, in conformity with the instructions of ECP for effective overseeing of the forthcoming general elections and in a peaceful manner to ensure grand operation against the street criminals, drug dealers, illegal immigrants, dacoits, and smugglers in the province, according to a communique here on Tuesday.

The Provincial Home Secretary, Iqbal Memon, Addl. IGP Training, Addl. IGP Karachi, Addl. IGP CTD, Addl. IGP Special Branch, AIGP Operations CPO, Deputy Commandant SSU, SSP Security-I, SSP Security-II and senior officers of other Law Enforcement and Intelligence Agencies, attended the meeting.

The meeting decided to withdraw all deployed police forces for a conclusive operation against the lawbreakers.

The committee assessed properly the level of security threats being faced by prominent persons and places and decided how stringent security cover is required from law enforcement agencies to counter them.

The chair stressed cutting down the "excessive deployment" regarding security protocol.

The PTAC issued directives to the Divisional Threat Assessment Committees to revisit/recommend the need for security and the extent of security to be provided to prominent people under threat.

Divisional Threat Assessment Committees are headed by respective Divisional Commissioners as the body's chairman.

This committee will reassemble on Monday 25th September to streamline the matter justifiably and issue instructions accordingly.

RPO Dera conferred SP rank badges to promoted Ishaq

Adam Khan Wazir

DERA ISMAIL KHAN: Regional Police Officer Dera Ismail Khan Nasir Mehmood Sati and SP CTD Shabbir Hussain Marwat conferred SP badges on Ishaq Khan who was promoted to SP rank.



On this occasion, RPO Dera congratulated the promoted officer and expressed his best wishes.

RPO Dera said that you have achieved this position with hard work and ability and promotion to the next post increases the responsibilities.

He emphasized on newly appointed SP City Dera Ishaq Khan and SP President Dera Umar Hayat to continue the struggle day and night to improve the law and order situation.

Perform your duties with good intentions and honesty, using all your abilities and energies for the service and protection of the general people.

Fresh juice

A vendor extracting juice for customers at Railway Station Road.



All departments should complete development projects on time: Chaudhary Shaukat Ali

Abdul Majeed Tahir

MIRPUR: Commissioner Mirpur Division Chaudhary Shaukat Ali has said that according to the instructions of the Prime Minister of the Azad Government of Jammu and Kashmir, the divisional and district heads of the departments should not neglect their duties, should be implemented within, all departments should complete development projects on time and take special care of quality. 100% attendance of officers and subordinate employees in the offices should be ensured. No officer or employee will be absent from the office during office hours. Immediate steps should be taken regarding the installation of biometric attendance system.

The officers and employees in the offices which have not yet installed the biometric attendance system should keep a manual attendance record. In case of incorrect attend-

ance system, disciplinary action will be taken. If not submitted, they should be submitted and provide a report. Public complaints should be redressed immediately. Electricity meters should be installed in government offices and residences of officers and employees and electricity meters should be submitted monthly according to the readings.

In the offices. There is a complete ban on the use of air conditioning, it should be implemented, government resources should be used correctly and in the light of the orders of the Prime Minister of Azad Kashmir, thrift and financial discipline should be ensured.

He expressed these views while presiding over the meeting of officers of the divisional and district heads of institutions and departments, while Deputy Commissioner Kotli Chaudhary Haq Nawaz participated in the meeting through video link. In the meeting, Director General Mangala Dam Housing Authority Chaudhry

Muhammad Mansha Naqshbandi, Deputy Commissioner Mirpur Chaudhry Amjad Iqbal, SC Electronics Muhammad Nazir Mughal, Deputy Commissioner Rehabilitation Raja Farooq Akram Khan, DHO Dr. Fida Hussain Raja, Divisional Director Colleges Dr. Nazar Hussain, Divisional Director Schools Syed Abrar Hussain, Project Director PMU Nadeem Iqbal, SE Highway Syed Amjad Ali Shah, Director Planning MDA Mirza Kaleem Jaral, Deputy Director PMU Arshad Mehmood, Exein Building Prince Aurangzeb, Exein PHE Inamullah Nadeem, Axin Local Government Chaudhry Muhammad Arif, Director Industries Sardar Sarfaraz Khan, Additional Principal Livestock Dr. Khalid Qayyum Butt, Deputy Director Agriculture Muhammad Asif Jameel, Vice Principal State Nursing College Zainab Khatun, Information Officer Muhammad Javed Malik, In-charge Nazim Awqaf. Shafiqur Rahman Dar,

Assistant Director Niswan Mukhtar Ahmed, Irrigation Officer Muhammad Ali participated.

In the meeting, all the departments presented the progress report regarding their respective departments.

Commissioner Chaudhary Shaukat Ali said that in view of the current financial crisis, all the officers and employees should perform their duties honestly and honestly and promote frugality and end all kinds of reception and farewell ceremonies in the offices. Treat citizens kindly and solve their problems on priority basis. Government officers and employees should act as role models as officers and employees have the responsibility to perform their duties in public service.

Don't miss a minute. Government institutions and departments should improve their services. The directives issued by the Prime Minister and the government for good governance should be implemented immediately.

Aga Khan University Hospital organized World Heart Day

News Desk

KARACHI:- The Aga Khan University and the Aga Khan University Hospital commenced this year's World Heart Day celebrations in full swing as the leadership of AKU, led by President Dr. Sulaiman Shahabuddin, and Section Head of Cardiothoracic Surgery, Dr. Saultat Fatmi, along with many other esteemed faculty members, medical staff, doctors, nurses, and enthusiastic medical and nursing students, came together for a vibrant Mini-Marathon on Sunday, 17 September 2023 at the AKU Sports and Rehabilitation Center, at the AKU Stadium Road Campus.



Themed 'Walk for Your Heart', this spirited event, organized in collaboration with the Society of Cardiac

Sciences Collaboration—a dynamic student-led society at AKU—and Docs on Wheels, aimed to promote heart health

awareness and encourage an active, heart-healthy lifestyle. The event witnessed an enthusiastic turnout, with

participants of all ages donning red, and coming together to take steps toward healthier hearts. The AKU community's dedication to promoting heart health was evident throughout the Mini-Marathon. The top 5 male and female participants in the 'Walk for Your Heart' Mini-Marathon received awards from the leadership in the spirit of recognition and motivation.

The 'Walk for Your Heart' Mini-Marathon marks the beginning of a series of activities and initiatives planned by AKU for World Heart Day, emphasizing the institution's ongoing commitment to promoting heart health awareness.

Bilateral trade activities affected at Angoor Ada border for last 19 months: CCI

Adam Khan Wazir

WANA: Central Member of Pakistan Borders Trade Council and President of South Waziristan Chamber of Commerce and Industry Saif Ur Rahman Wazir said while talking to the media, that 300 vehicles were imported and exported daily at Angoor Ada Border, and from which five crores of rupees were deposited in the national treasury on a daily basis.

He Said, while apart from this, at least 50 lakhs of the labor class and traders had an income of at least 70 lakhs of rupees.

Along with these, hotels, pump service stations, mechanics and other different forms of profit were separate.

President Saif Ur Rehman said that these losses have been happening for the last 19 months, Our administration, other institutions are sitting as silent spectators

He Said the government's silence on the economic carnage of the war-torn people of Waziristan is not only alarming but beyond comprehension.

He said that due to the suspension of commercial activities at the Angoor

Ada border, traders and laborers in the area have become unemployed in large numbers and whose livelihood was related to the border trade.

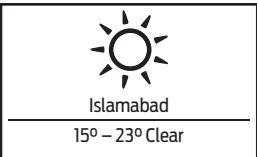
He said that the government should immediately play its effective and positive role in resuming trade activities at the Angoor Ada border.

So that the business community of the most backward region like South Waziristan can be saved from further exploitation.

He further said that the Government of Pakistan is suffering a lot of loss in terms of revenue through Angoor Ada border on a daily basis, which is not a good omen for our national economy.

Therefore, we demand from the platform of Pakistan Border Trade Council and Chamber of Commerce and Industry from the top authorities of the Government of Pakistan and the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan, that business activities should be resumed immediately at Angoor Ada Gate for the promotion of bilateral legal trade.

However, so that the unemployment of the business community and common people can be ended.



SERVICES

Namaz Timings

Fajr 4:30 am
Zohr 12:02 pm
Asr 4:25 pm
Maghrib 6:10 pm
Isha 7:33 pm

EMERGENCY

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

Women Police Stations

Islamabad 9222596
Rawalpindi 9270601-20

ENQUIRY

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

HOSPITALS

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

DEPARTMENTS

CDA 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

Sarhad varsity expands its horizons with launch of Islamabad Campus

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Sarhad University of Science & Information Technology, Peshawar, is pleased to announce the establishment of its Islamabad Campus. The inauguration marks a significant milestone in the University's journey towards providing high-quality education and accessible learning opportunities to students in the capital city and its neighbouring areas. Sarhad University of Science & Information Technology, Peshawar, was established in 2001 through an ordinance of the Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and is a Chartered University, duly recognized by the Higher Education Commission of Pakistan (HEC). The university has achieved the highest category, "W-3," denoting excellence in academic, financial, and physical infrastructure. It is committed to equipping students with the skills and knowledge required to meet local and global challenges in today's competitive job market. With a strong focus on skill development, the University's Undergraduate and Graduate Programs are designed to foster critical, analytical, and logical thinking in students and research scholars.

Govt takes steps to increase immunization program's efficiency: Dr. Nadeem Jan

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The Ministry of National Health Services has decided to take immediate steps to increase the efficiency of the national immunization program.

The decision to take three major steps in this regard was taken on the direction of Caretaker Minister for Health, Dr. Nadeem Jan. It was decided to incorporate the Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine into the immunization program to prevent cervical cancer.

An integrated strategy has been developed to make the HPV vaccine part of the immunization program. In the first phase, 400 health centers in high-risk areas are being shifted to solar energy, Dr. Nadeem Jan said. Later, other centers will also shift to solar energy.

He said that the National Electronic Immunization Registry is being launched, which will help in improving the perfor-



mance of the program. Under the National Electronic Registry, each child's immunization data will be recorded in the system. He said that parents will receive an alert about their child's vaccination date.

He added that parents can also find out which vaccine their child should get. Under this system, the institution can also monitor the attendance and performance of its vaccinators. Dr. Nadeem Jan said that practical steps are being taken to ensure 100% coverage of the immuni-

zation program.

He said that the immunization program is rapidly moving towards universal health coverage. The minister said that all necessary steps are being taken to ensure universal health coverage. The aim of the initiative is that no child or girl should be deprived of vaccination across the country, Nadeem Jan added.

The minister held three meetings with the head of the Federal Directorate of Immunization (FDI) as soon as he assumed the portfolio of the ministry. Dr. Nadeem Jan said, "Important tasks were given for the improvement of the immunization program. I will continue to monitor the targets given to FDI."

The Ministry of Health is taking effective measures to ensure joint coverage with the provincial governments, he added. Special attention is being given to protect children from 12 diseases across the country, he added.

National Day of Malaysia

ISLAMABAD: Artists are performing during ceremony regarding the National Day of Malaysia, in Federal Capital.



Photo: Online by Raja Farid

Film & Drama Finance Fund to help revive local film industry: Secretary Information

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Secretary Information and Broadcasting Zahoor Ahmed on Tuesday reiterated that the Film and Drama Finance Fund as envisaged in the Film and Broadcasting Policy 2018, was aimed at the revival of Pakistani cinema and will reap favorable results for the filmmakers who can now access the multiple financial sources, grants and loans. He expressed these views while chairing the inaugural meeting of the Fund Management Committee of the Film and Drama Finance Fund at Directorate of Electronic Media and Publications. At the start of the meeting, the Secretary Information and Broadcasting welcomed the participants.



Film and Drama Finance Fund was established on August 5, 2023 after the Rules for the Fund were notified. A seed money of Rs. 1 billion was initially allocated as Technical Supplementary Grant to establish the Fund. A Fund Management Committee, comprising ex-officio members and members of film Fraternity, was later notified by the

Ministry to manage the Fund. The participants of the meeting appreciated the Ministry's efforts for the inclusion of the Fund in the Thirteenth Schedule of the Income Tax Ordinance, 2001 that will enable the contributors to the fund, tax exemptions in similar manner as those granted to companies in the ambit of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR).

Director General Directorate of Electronic Media and Publications, Ms. Samina Farzin, in her welcome address, thanked the Information Secretary and apprised the participants regarding the working of the Film and Drama Finance Fund and the functions of the Fund Management Committee. The meeting was attended by ex-officio members of the Fund Management Committee from Ministry of Finance, FPCCI as well as eminent members of the film fraternity including Chairman PFP, Zulfiqar Ahmed Mana, Nadeem Mandviwalla, Shezad Rafique, Syed Noor, Satish Anand, Aijaz Gul, Bilal Lashari, Wasay Chaudhary and Kamran Jawaid Sarmad Khoosat, Badar Ikram and Irfan Malik among others.

Syndicate meeting of the University of Poonch Rawalakot

Bureau Report

RAWALAKOT: Syndicate meeting of the University of Poonch Rawalakot was held here with President Azad Jammu and Kashmir Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry in the chair. The meeting was attended by Vice Chancellor University of Poonch Professor Dr. Zakaria Zakir, former rector International Islamic University Islamabad Professor Dr. Masoom Yasinzai, ex VC University of Kotli Professor Dr. Ghulam Ghos, former VC University of Home Economics Lahore Professor Dr. Kanwal Amen, Prof. Dr. Azhra Latif, and others. During the meeting, the annual budget of the University was approved. Speaking on the occasion, Professor Dr. Zakaria Zakir thanked the President AJK president Barrister Sultan Mahmood for approving varsity's Chhota Gula Campus in Rawalakot. Prof. Dr. Zakaria also briefed the meeting regarding the administrative affairs, ongoing projects and other issues faced by the university. The meeting also decided to grant one month contract instead of 6 months to the university employees. Addressing the syndicate meeting President Barrister Sultan Mahmood, who is also the chancellor of AJK Universities, asked the VC Dr. Zakaria Zakir to redouble his efforts to raise the standard and quality of education in the University. The president assured him of his all possible support and cooperation in this regard and said that the problems faced by the staff and students of the university would be solved on a priority basis.

Trust, corruption and sustainable development are interconnected issues in public's attitude towards tax

City Desk

LAHORE: The Public Trust in Tax survey which questioned 7,700 members of the public across the globe shows that accountants have a major role to play in addressing corruption, which negatively impact on attitudes towards tax in economies.

Results show that 53.8% consider corruption a major factor, however most people believe the role of professional accountants contributes to improving tax systems by making them more efficient (59%), more effective (57%), and fairer (55%).

The findings follow ACCA (the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants), IFAC (the International Federation of Accountants), and CA ANZ (Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand) expanding their biennial G20 Public Trust in Tax survey – which this time omitted Russia and included New Zealand – to address not only corruption but also the issues of sustainable development and corruption, and how these two interconnect with trust in the tax system. The results are clear. Corruption has a significant impact on attitudes towards tax in economies across the globe, with over half of G20 respondents citing it as a major factor.

At the same time, 68% of respondents in G20 countries see at least some connection between tax and sustainable development, and 57% would be prepared to pay more tax to support it.

In this context, the continued high levels of trust in professional accountants are more important than ever. The results shows that they remain the single most trusted stakeholder in tax in every G20 country, as it has been the case in every biennial G20 Public Trust in Tax survey since the initiative began in 2017.

Kevin Dancy, CEO of IFAC, says: "The impact of corruption on trust in tax has been an emerging theme in our recent surveys, particularly in our 2022 Global Perspectives report, which focuses on jurisdictions outside of the G20. Now, for the first time, we have specific data on that point, and the results are illuminating. Taken together with the continued trust in professional accountants, and additional new data on views about sustainable development, insight into the important interconnections between these issues is starting to come into view."

Helen Brand, chief executive of ACCA, says: "Throughout the course of these surveys, public unease about how tax moneys are spent has been a constant theme in respondents' comments. Perceptions of corruption are a clear barrier to engagement with the tax system. Accountants have a central role to play in countering corruption, bringing transparency and accountability to the collection and spending of taxes across both public and private sectors."

Ainslie van Onselen, CEO of Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand (CA ANZ), says: "As leaders in the global accountancy profession, we are proud to see the sustained high levels of trust in professional accountants, which is hard won, but easily lost. It is vital that we constantly work to maintain and earn trust through both our individual and collective actions. Now, more than ever, the relationship between taxpayers, businesses and governments must be strengthened to provide security and certainty for our broader societies and economies and we look forward to continuing to engage with key stakeholders to drive trust in tax and trust in our profession."

Notorious dacoit Yasin Shar killed in Sukkur encounter

News Desk

SUKKUR: The Sukkur police on Tuesday killed a 'most wanted and notorious dacoit' Yasin Shar during an exchange of fire in Sukkur district. The deceased dacoit was wanted in many cases of heinous crimes, including the killing of several police officials.

The Sindh govt also announced a bounty of millions of rupees for the arrest of notorious terrorist.

On Thursday, the Sindh Cabinet chaired by Chief Minister Maqbool Baqar on Thursday decided to launch operation in katcha area with police, rangers and assistance of Army troops. Caretaker chief minister also ordered termination of internet services in katcha area.

"This year 218 persons were kidnapped and 207 of the abductees were recovered," IG Police informed the cabinet in a briefing on law and order.

Pakistan's renewable energy potential immense to offset expensive fossil fuel imports: Danish Ambassador

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Denmark, Jacob Lencolf on Tuesday said Pakistan's renewable energy potential amid the growing climate crisis was immense and could help the country offset its expensive fossil fuel imports and limit its carbon emissions alongside sustainable resource management.

The Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) organised a high-level policy dialogue on COP-28 and Beyond: Strengthening Climate Action through Public-Private Partnerships that convened the Ambassadors of the United Arab

Emirates and Denmark alongside key civil society, government and private sector officials.

Ambassador Lencolf commended the SDPI for holding important seminars on pertinent agendas and getting the right people on board for dialogue.

The population of Denmark was 5.5 million and that of Pakistan was 240 million, an enormous challenge to be met. He said, "The resources in Pakistan are immense like the wind corridors of Sindh and Balochistan, the sun for solar and hydro-power potential is abundant to embrace ambitious renewable energy solutions. It can go green

if it dares to."

He said the Danish government was willing to roll out its technology on a larger scale, adding, "Pakistan will have to be more open for it to embrace foreign investments at the larger scale. Denmark is all behind Pakistan for its stance on loss and damage at COP-28 and ready to commit finances for that." Ambassador of UAE, Hamad Obaid Alzaabi said COP-28 was one of the main subjects of UAE agenda and the SDPI dialogue was very apt. "I would commend Pakistan's commitment to address climate change and actively seek solutions to address the crisis," he added.

The Emirates' envoy stated that the UAE was actually aware of its responsibility and that it was not just another conference but a moment in the global fight against climate change; an opportunity to reset the course and accelerate global efforts to prepare global stock take and solution-oriented decisions, he added. "We firmly believe that taking this global challenge requires government, public private and international cooperation. Our goal is to create a platform where government and businesses can come together to share ideas and share innovative best practices," he said.

Chairperson, Board of Govern-

nors, SDPI, Shafqat Kakahel in his opening remarks said UAE was not for the first time hosting such bigger environmental moots like the COP as it earlier hosted the UNEP special session in 2005 and has also been holding industrial climate-friendly exhibitions which played a tremendous role in highlighting sustainable energy technology solutions.

He said the COP-28 would be one of the most important sessions with main agenda items including for Pakistan, the operationalisation of the loss and damage fund which was decided at COP-27, global stock take

inter-governmentally negotiated acknowledgment of the successes and the gaps in it, global early warning systems, to ensure the world countries have sufficient warning before a climate disaster to strike, climate finance not only global climate fund of \$100 billion but also other financial facilities as well. Executive Director SDPI, Dr Abid Qaiyum Suleri while setting the scene said climate change is manifesting in different shapes and forms amid a poly crisis irrespective of borders and regions.

"The dialogue has been convened to learn how renewable energy transformation and technology can be adopted to replace carbon-intensive

solutions with renewable," the SDPI Executive Director said. Senior Additional Secretary, the Ministry of Climate Change and Environmental Coordination (MoCC&EC), Syed Mujtaba Hussain said without the support of all stakeholders the government could not do everything on its own.

The National Adaptation Plan was approved by the previous cabinet that was a very comprehensive document stating what to do to adapt to climate change. It identified cross-sectoral relationships in different sectors of development like energy, water, infrastructure, disaster management and others, he added.

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Skills Education Guarantees Brighter Global Future

Technological advancement accelerated changes in all walks of life across the globe. There is an urgent need to implement skills education aligning with contemporary technologies. Nations continuously changing educational programs, including skills components, are thriving better than others. The recent COVID-19 pandemic and technological advancements have made educational models obsolete. We all are witnessing that emerging technologies are geared towards automation. Cloud computing, artificial intelligence, real-time data streaming, machine learning, more intelligent devices, and digitalization have curtailed several traditional jobs. Now, the question arises: how can humans be competitive with these changes? The only answer lies in learning modern skills aligning with these new technologies. One must always be optimistic, as are the global forecasts that modern technologies have created more job opportunities, provided people possess relevant skills.

with the conventional model, which often emphasizes memorization and standardized testing. While traditional education certainly has its merits, the move towards skills-based education, including relevant competencies, is gaining momentum for several compelling reasons.

Skills education brings us close to real-world workplace scenarios and prioritizes problem-solving, critical thinking, and creativity. Such educational programs are paramount where intricate challenges necessitate innovative solutions. Skills education cultivates an entrepreneurial and innovative mindset by fostering critical and creative thinking. It equips individuals with the capacity to adapt to change, embrace uncertainty, and positively contribute to their communities and societies.

Another compelling rationale for embracing skills education is its inclusivity. Traditional education systems frequently rely on standardized testing, which can perpetuate inequalities. Students from disadvantaged backgrounds may need equal access to the resources and opportunities needed to excel in such systems. On the other hand, skills education naturally embodies greater inclusivity. It values various knowledge forms and acknowledges people's diverse learning styles and paces. This inclusivity is vital for ensuring everyone has an equitable chance at success in the modern world.

Importantly, skills education promotes a commitment to lifelong learning and incorporates the element of reskilling, thus remaining relevant and competitive in the rapidly evolving job market. Skills-based learning encourages individuals to embrace an ongoing process of acquiring new competencies and staying attuned to changing demands, ensuring their continued success in a dynamic world.

Pakistan faces several challenges in skill education that hinder its socio-economic progress. Firstly, a significant gap exists between the skills imparted by the existing education systems and the job market requirements. The curriculum often lacks practical, industry-relevant content, leading to a mismatch in graduates' skills and employers' demands. Additionally, the accessibility and quality of skill education are uneven across the country, with rural areas often being underserved. This exacerbates regional disparities in economic development.

Coordination between government bodies, educational institutions, and industries is needed to create a cohesive and effective skill development ecosystem. Finally, the stigma associated with vocational education in Pakistan discourages many from pursuing it, leading to a preference for traditional academic degrees, even if they do not translate into viable job prospects. Addressing these challenges is crucial for Pakistan to harness its demographic dividend and

foster economic growth through a skilled and productive workforce.

Against all odds, the National Skills University Islamabad has emerged as a beacon of hope for contemporary skills education. Under the leadership of Professor Dr. Muhammad Mukhtar, the founding vice chancellor of this university is diligently committed to advancing skill education. This institution is pivotal in equipping individuals with the skills necessary for success in a competitive job market. Dr. Mukhtar's visionary leadership has propelled the university to heights, fostering an environment prioritizing innovation, research, and hands-on learning experiences. In its earlier years, this university has taken on the crucial task of addressing skill gaps in various industries, offering state-of-the-art programs and training modules designed to empower students in their chosen fields. This skills-imparting institution is uniquely honored to be The UNESCO-UNEVOC International Centre for Technical and Vocational Education and Training. Over the past couple of years, approval of this Pakistani skills education center in UNESCO-UNEVOC Coaction initiatives has provided opportunities to work closely with several technologically advanced countries to modernize its skills training curricula and implement better skills training pedagogies. Consequently, the National Skills University Islamabad assumes a pivotal role in shaping the future workforce of Pakistan, thereby driving economic growth and ensuring that its graduates are well-prepared to meet the challenges of emerging job markets.



Rizwan Tahir Chohan

Child nutrition

World Health Organization (WHO) has urged all stakeholders to collaborate in raising awareness, provide accurate information, and create breastfeeding-friendly environments at workplaces.

According to WHO, the organization is also supporting federal and provincial departments of health for promulgation of laws to promote and protect breastfeeding and child nutrition.

It said that championing breastfeeding could contribute to Pakistan's healthier generation.

The organization said that it had also provided lactation management rooms in selected health facilities to provide a conducive environment where mothers would feel comfortable to breastfeed.

It is important to note that counselling on maternal, infant and young child nutrition is done in all 154 WHO supported nutrition stabilisation centres across the country enabling wide dissemination of these crucial messages to mothers and family members.

The organization is supporting government of Pakistan's efforts in promoting, protecting and sustaining breast feeding interventions by among other things setting a network of baby friendly hospitals, provision of breastfeeding corners in health facilities, advocacy and awareness discussions with parliamentarians, media as well as academia on importance of breastfeeding and capacity building of health care workers on maternal infant young child nutrition and lactation management.

While congratulating the Sindh Government, during the commemoration of World Breast Feeding Week 2023, the WHO Representative in Pakistan, Dr Palitha Mahipala remarked "Breast-feeding saves lives of children. It is one of the most cost-effective child survival interventions. Let's join hands to promote and protect breastfeeding."

Pakistan has high levels of stunting at 40% and wasting (low weight for height) at 17%. Despite its manifold benefits, exclusive breastfeeding rates for six months in Pakistan remain suboptimal at 48 percent. Studies have shown that breastfeeding can decrease the risk of ovarian cancer further underlining its significance.

Additionally, it fosters a unique bond between mother and child, promoting emotional well-being for both parties.

Over time, global breastfeeding rates have declined, prompting the World Health Assembly's (WHA) adoption of the International Code for Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes in 1981.

This code emphasizes that infant formula should not be promoted in ways that hinder breastfeeding's protection and promotion. Advertising and public promotion of relevant products are prohibited, and healthcare facilities should not be utilized for formula promotion. The code also prevents manufacturers and distributors from offering inducements to health workers for product promotion.

Since its adoption, multiple WHA resolutions have urged member states to implement policy initiatives for breastfeeding enhancement.

It said that the introduction of the Sindh Protection and Promotion of Breastfeeding Bill, 2023, is a crucial step toward enhancing the health of both children and mothers in the Sindh province.

It sets a valuable precedent for other provinces to emulate by enacting similar legislation.

The WHO said that breast milk, is rich in essential nutrients that are tailor-made for a newborn's delicate digestive system.

It provides a balanced mix of proteins, fats, vitamins, and minerals crucial for optimal growth and development.

"Breast milk contains antibodies and other immune-boosting compounds that offer newborns critical protection against infections and illnesses."

The benefits extend beyond infancy, with breastfed children showing enhanced immunity in their early years, reducing the burden on the healthcare system, it added.



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

The Asim Doctrine in action for Betterment - II

Despite economic growth, Pakistan still grapples with widespread poverty and income inequality. A significant portion of the population lives below the poverty line, with limited access to basic necessities.

Pakistan's current Army Chief is on forefront to tackle these challenges on war foot basis. Army Chief and Pak Army are fully committed to eliminate the element of terrorism. They are taking strict measures to cope with TTP, RAW and militant groups. Army Chief already warned Afghanistan to quit supporting and facilitating TTP. Army Chief and Pak Army have adapted zero tolerance policy against terrorism. It has been decided that the culprits of 9th may will be strictly punished according to laws and regulations which is a good sign to set an example for future. Different mafias are on radar and target of law enforcement agencies which are involved in smuggling, illegal storage, electricity & gas theft so the signs and actions seems to be quite positive. Army Chief and Government are fully committed to do accountability process across the board and without discrimination. Recently, a report of the sensitive organization revealed that 29 politicians are also involved in the Iranian oil business. The civil sensitive body has submitted a report on smuggling to the Prime Minister House in which it has been revealed that the proceeds from oil smuggling are also used by terrorists. According to the report, more than 2 billion 81 million liters of oil is smuggled from Iran to Pakistan annually and due to the smuggling of Iranian oil, Pakistan is losing more than 60 billion rupees annually. According to the report of the civil sensitive organization, 995 pumps are selling Iranian oil across the country, 90 government officials are also involved in Iranian oil smuggling and 29 politicians are involved in Iranian oil smuggling. It has also been revealed in the report that the vehicles of Pakistan State Oil (PSO) are also involved in the transportation of Iranian oil. Oil from Iran is smuggled in Iranian vehicles and comes to Pakistan. The report of the sensitive agency also states that 722 currency dealers are involved in the business of hawala hundi in Pakistan, the most 205 dealers are in Punjab, 183 in Khayber Pakhtunkhwa, 176 in Sindh, 104 in Balochistan, 37 in Azad Kashmir and 37 in Islamabad. 17 dealers are doing business of hawala hundi. It should be noted that the caretaker federal government, together with the provincial governments, has started a crackdown against people involved in large-scale hoarding of dollars and other goods across the country. The same was assured to be done by Army Chief as well. A task force consisting of law enforcement

agencies and intelligence agencies has also been formed to crack down on gold mafia. According to sources, the purpose of the task force is to arrest gold smugglers and mafia and take legal action. Sources say that the task force has prepared lists of gold smuggling mafias and smugglers while work has been started to bring gold dealers into the tax net. According to sources, work has also been started on an emergency basis to computerize the purchase and sale of gold, which will benefit the common citizen and the country. The price of gold is already falling in the market. Talking to the media in Karachi, Malik Bustan said that the nation congratulates the army chief on the crackdown, the army chief took up the burden that the civil government had to take, due to the crackdown, sugar rates are decreasing in Pakistan today. The rates of electricity, petrol will also be reduced, the rate of the dollar



Abdul Basit Alvi

is continuously decreasing, if the operation continues and the smuggling stops, then the dollar can even go up to 250 rupees.

It is first time that Army is taking keen interest in economy revival of our country as well. Army Chief's full support to SIFC is quite evident. An important consultation was held between the Army Chief and businessmen for economic recovery, in which General Asim Munir assured of vigorous measures and said that task forces will be established for economic recovery, money exchanges will be brought into the tax net and dollar exchanges, Transparency will be brought in interbank rates. A representative delegation of the Lahore Chamber of Commerce went to the Corps Commander Headquarters with their suggestions regarding the alarming business scenario and public concerns, where a detailed discussion was held on the Special Investment Facilitation Council. Chief Minister Punjab Mohsin Naqvi was also present in the meeting held at the Corps Commander Headquarters. The delegation gave suggestions that public and business problems including heavy electricity bills should be solved, political parties should sign the Charter of Economy before the elections. Chief of Army Staff General Asim Munir highlighted the important role of the Special Investment Facilitation Council, emphasizing its ability to attract substantial investments of up to \$100 billion from Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait and other countries. He disclosed the creation of task forces focusing on economic issues and various sectors, Kashif Anwar recommended active engagement with all chambers to include the perspective of the business community in the agenda of the task force and power.

To be Continued

'The Waste Land and Pakistani Society'

The Waste Land is a long epic poem composed by Thomas S. Eliot. T. S. Eliot was one of the most influential writers and critics of the 20th century. This poem was published in 1922. He used different kinds of references that were related to history, religion, mythology, and other disciplines of life. Eliot tried to highlight all the prospects of the modern age. This poem has five sections. Each section narrates the various conditions of modern man and the past of human life with strong literary arguments. In the first section, Burial of the Dead, he talked about April by giving a reference from The Canterbury Tales, composed by Chaucer.

According to Chaucer, April is the month of rebirth. Eliot described the season of death because modern man's priorities are different from those of the old time period. Here is a picture of a girl named Marie. Who feels comfortable in the mountains, not in a city populated by people? The reason is that modern man is frustrated by this modernization.

Another reference to Madam Sosostris as a fortune teller Her character shows modern men believe in black magic. They had weak religious beliefs. If we compare these things with our Pakistani society, The same incidents are happening here. 76 years before, when Pakistan was emerging as an independent country. At that time, we had a few pennies to run this whole country, and we survived at that time.

In the present era, we have many facilities and resources, but we are frustrated like Marie and have followed the wrong people, such as Madam Sosostris of our society. We have very few religious values in our daily lives. In the second section of the poem, A Game of Chess, The poet talked about a rich woman who possessed all the luxuries of life, and the picture of Philomel in that room indicates

other three sections of the poem are short, but Eliot portrayed all the negative aspects of modernization in that poem. All these guilty elements are present in our society.

According to Eliot, modern society is corrupted by a lack of religion in its lives. The poet used the Greek mythology character Tiresias in the third section. Who are blind but have the power to predict future happenings. Tiresias saw the sexual activities of modern men and women. In our society, there are many Tiresias; these are our intellectuals who understand all scenarios of life. But they have no power to protect this society. There are many Hira Mandis present in Pakistan. Who corrupted this society? There is a lot of filthy content on the internet that is ruining our youth. At present, there is no difference between waste landers and Pakistani society.



Raja Najmul Hassan

Cooperation between Central Asian countries and the UN on regional security issues

Central Asia in recent years has entered a new stage in the development of cooperation with foreign policy partners and international organizations, among which the United Nations occupies an important place.

The President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Shavkat Mirziyoyev, addressing the world community at the 75th session of the UN General Assembly in September 2020, noted the importance of strengthening cooperation in ensuring the security of Central Asia. Active interaction with the United Nations and its specialized agencies has enabled the countries of Central Asia significantly to strengthen their potential in matters of security and sustainable development and to draw the attention of the world community to the problems existing in the region in these spheres.

The UN Development Program (UNDP), the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the UN Regional Center for Preventive Diplomacy

regional security. The Treaty on CANWEFZ, signed in September 2006 in Semipalatinsk, entered into force in 2009. The signing by the "five" nuclear-weapon states of the most important international document—the Protocol on Security Assurances to the Treaty on the Central Asian Nuclear Weapons Treaty—was a historic event. Thus, Central Asia became the only nuclear-weapon-free zone in the northern hemisphere.

Cooperation with the UN has now reached a whole new level as a result of the process of intensifying regional cooperation in the political, trade, economic, cultural and humanitarian spheres launched in 2017. Among the main challenges that the Central Asian countries and the UN are jointly overcoming are the problems of stabilizing the situation in Afghanistan, countering the threats of terrorism and extremism, radicalization, drug trafficking and organized crime, solving urgent problems in the areas of environmental and water security, etc.

The adoption in June 2018 by the UNGA of the historically



innovations and technologies was a significant contribution of Uzbekistan to addressing these issues. This document reflects the UN support to the establishment of the International Innovation Center of the Aral Sea region under the President of Uzbekistan and the establishment of the Multi-partner Trust Fund on Human Security for the Aral Sea region under the UN auspices.

The UN Regional Center for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia (UNRCCA), based in Ashgabat, plays an active role in the development of cooperation between Central Asian countries and the UN. Since its establishment in 2007, the priority areas of UNRCCA's interaction with the countries of the region in the field of security are cooperation in countering terrorism and violent extremism; border security issues; cooperation on common issues of water-energy-agriculture nexus, as well as continuation of joint efforts to mitigate the consequences of the Aral Sea drying up.

The UN Regional Center actively participates in major



for Central Asia (UNRCCA), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), WHO, UNESCO, ILO, FAO, the International Organization for Migration (IOM), etc. are active in Central Asia today.

The states of the region have made significant progress in finding solutions to many pressing problems of regional development and security during the period of cooperation between the Central Asian countries and the UN. Among them are the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia, active participation in international settlement efforts in Afghanistan, adoption and implementation of the Joint Action Plan of the Central Asian countries for the implementation of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, establishment of the Central Asian Regional Information and Coordination Center for Combating Illicit Trafficking in Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances and their Precursors (CARICC), creation of the UN Special Commission on the Aral Sea, and adoption of the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

The initiative of Tashkent to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia (CANWEFZ), launched from the tribune of the UN General Assembly in 1993, was an important contribution to strengthening the global non-proliferation regime and

important resolution "Strengthening regional international cooperation to ensure peace, stability and sustainable development in the Central Asian region", initiated by the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, was a vivid confirmation of the broad international support for regional cooperation on security and development of Central Asia.

The promotion of the peace settlement process in Afghanistan remains an important aspect of cooperation between the states of the region and the United Nations. Uzbekistan and the countries of the region pay special attention to efforts to engage Afghanistan in regional trade and economic ties designed to promote peace and stability in the country. The intensification of Central Asian countries' participation in international efforts to settle and stabilize Afghanistan was facilitated by the holding of the High-Level International Conference on Afghanistan "Peace Process, Security Cooperation and Regional Cooperation" in March 2018 at the initiative of the President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev. UN Secretary-General A. Guterres addressed the conference participants with a welcoming remark. The Tashkent Declaration adopted at the conference was circulated as an official document of the 72nd session of the UN General Assembly and Security Council.

The International Conference "Afghanistan: Security and Economic Development" held

in July 2022 in Tashkent with the active support of the United Nations made it possible once again to draw international attention to the issues of promoting post-conflict reconstruction of the country and its integration into the world community. The conference participants emphasized the consistent efforts of the UN and its agencies to provide humanitarian assistance to the Afghan people and spoke in favor of continuing assistance programs.

At present, the Central Asian states are actively participating in the implementation of UN programs on humanitarian assistance and peaceful reconstruction of Afghanistan. Through the International Multifunctional Transport and Logistics Hub established in Uzbekistan in the border town of Termez, humanitarian cargoes are regularly sent to the neighboring country by the World Food Program and other UN agencies. Central Asian countries have established supplies of electricity, fuel and food to Afghanistan. Infrastructure projects continue to be actively developed, such as Trans-Afghan transport and energy corridors, including the construction of the Surkhan-Puli-Khumri power transmission line and the Termez-Mazar-e-Sharif-Kabul-Peshawar railroad.

Combating terrorism and extremism remains an important area of security cooperation between the countries of the region and the United Nations.

The Central Asian states are actively participating in the joint implementation of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (GCTS). To date, the countries of the region have completed the second phase of the Joint Plan of Action (JPA) on the GCTS, adopted in November 2011 in Ashgabat.

As UN Secretary General A. Guterres noted, "regional cooperation in Central Asia opens up great opportunities to address common challenges, including those related to combating terrorism, strengthening border security, facilitating dialogue with religious leaders and institutions, countering human trafficking and drug smuggling".

The international conference "Regional cooperation of Central Asian countries within the framework of the Joint Plan of Action for the implementation of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy" was held on March 3-4, 2022 at the initiative of Shavkat Mirziyoyev, which made a significant contribution to the consolidation of efforts of the countries of the region and the world community to implement the UN GCTS in Central Asia.

As a result of the conference, the Tashkent Declaration and the updated Joint Plan of Action for the implementation of the UN GCTS in the region were adopted, and a decision was made to open an office of the UN Counter-Terrorism Office in Central Asia.

The provisions of the Tashkent Declaration and the new

JPA are a logical continuation of previously adopted documents—the Ashgabat Declarations on Countering Terrorism (2011 and 2017), the Samarkand Declaration on Enhancing the Role of Youth in Countering Violent Extremism and Radicalization that Leads to Terrorism (2018), and the Dushanbe Declaration on the results of the international conference "International and Regional Cooperation in Combating Terrorism and Sources of its Financing, including Illicit Drug Trafficking and Organized Crime".

Thus, Central Asia became the first region to fully implement the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, and the Joint Plan of Action became the first UNGCT implementation framework developed on the basis of a regional approach.

In recent years, the UN Office on Drugs and Crime and its regional office, as well as CARICC, have played a significant role in the development of cooperation between the CA countries and the UN in the field of countering threats and challenges of drug production and drug trafficking through the CA countries. In November 2021, UNODC and the foreign ministries of Central Asian countries signed a new Drug Control Cooperation Program in Central Asia for 2022-2025 with a budget of \$90 million.

In 2015-2021, during the implementation of the previous UNODC program, signifi-

cant results were achieved in the fight against drugs, organized crime, corruption and terrorism. National and regional projects totaling about \$15 million were implemented, including the establishment of inter-agency mobile teams and border inter-action offices. Three port control points have been opened, which have succeeded in detecting and suppressing more than 100 serious cases of smuggling worth a total of \$14.6 million.

An important area of interaction between the states of the region and the UN is the development of cooperation between the parties in addressing environmental security issues.

First of all, the Central Asian countries are actively involved in joint implementation of programs on the Aral Sea restoration, climate change control, environmental protection, ensuring the safety of hydropower facilities, etc. The Central Asian states cooperate in this area.

In this direction, the Central Asian states cooperate with the United Nations through such institutions as the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP), the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), the United Nations Special Program for the Economies of Central Asia (SPECA), and the United Nations Regional Conference on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

The adoption in May 2021 of the UNGA Special Resolution on declaring the Aral Sea region a zone of environmental

international events held in Uzbekistan and other countries of the region, and assists in promoting regional cooperation, including in key security spheres. The regular participation of its heads in the Consultative Meetings of the Heads of State of Central Asia and other important regional forums is a testimony to the recognition of the Center's merits in strengthening interaction between the countries of the region and the United Nations.

In general, in recent years there has been a significant intensification of cooperation between the Central Asian countries and the UN and its institutions in the field of security.

The growing activity of Uzbekistan and other states of the region in joint holding of international events, implementation of specific programs of technical assistance and practical interaction in the sphere of international security testify to the strong interest of the countries of the region in further deepening cooperation with the United Nations in implementing important initiatives to ensure peace, security and development in Central Asia.

Zilola Yunusova, Head of Department, Center for International Relations Studies, MEA of the Republic of Uzbekistan
Oleg Limanov, Chief Researcher of the Center for International Relations Studies, MEA of the Republic of Uzbekistan

Bull & Bears PSX 100-Share Index Fluctuation

Pakistan: PSX 100-Share Index		
Current	Prev. Close	
45,910.46	45,803.19	
Day's High	Day's Low	
46,036.03	45,850.20	
Index Value	Change	
3,284,568,651	+107.27	
Percentage	Time	
+0.23%	19 Sept, 2023 5:00 pm	
Europe: FTSE 100 Index		
Index Value	Change	
7,660.20	+7.26	
Percentage	Time	
+0.095%	19 Sept, 4:35 pm GMT+1	
USA: Dow Jones Industrial Average		
Index Value	Change	
34,383.97	-240.33	
Percentage	Time	
-0.69%	19 Sept, 1:28 pm GMT-4	
Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Average		
Index Value	Change	
33,242.59	-290.50	
Percentage	Time	
-0.87%	19 Sept, 3:15 pm GMT+9	
Open Market Forex Rates		
Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	198	200
Bahrain Dinar	789.66	797.66
Canadian Dollar	220	222.20
China Yuan	40.87	41.27
Danish Krone	42.6	43
Euro	320	323
Hong Kong Dollar	37.93	38.28
Indian Rupee	3.57	3.68
Japanese Yen	1.92	1.99
Kuwaiti Dinar	968.3	977.3
Malaysian Ringgit	63.21	63.81
New Zealand \$	175.01	177.01
Norwegians Krone	27.87	28.17
Omani Riyal	771.25	779.25
Qatari Riyal	81.57	82.27
Saudi Riyal	78.9	79.7
Singapore Dollar	217	219
Swedish Korona	26.6	26.9
Swiss Franc	331.2	333.7
Thai Bhat	8.29	8.44
U.A.E Dirham	81.7	82.5
UK Pound Sterling	373.5	377
US Dollar	295.6	298.5

Huawei Connect 2023

Event facilitates discussions on industry best practices and explores pathways to shared success

News Desk

SHANGHAI: Huawei Connect 2023, the premier technology event of the year, is set to take center stage from September 20 to 22 at the prestigious Shanghai World Expo Exhibition & Convention Center and Shanghai Expo Center.

With a theme of "Accelerate Intelligence," this event promises to be a game-changer, as it brings together over 100 keynotes, summits, and sessions that delve into the dynamic landscape of AI, networks, and cloud technologies.

In an era where the boundaries of technology are rapidly expanding and reshaping industries, Huawei Connect 2023 aimed to provide a comprehensive perspective on how businesses, industries, and ecosystems are adapting to these transformations. With a focus on both opportunities and challenges, this event will chart a bold new course forward.

Huawei Connect is renowned for being a platform where Huawei unveils its latest cutting-edge products and solutions.



The event facilitates discussions on industry best practices and explores pathways to shared success.

Attendees will have the unique opportunity to engage with Huawei partners, customers, and industry experts to explore the trajectory of intelligent technology, the vast opportunities it presents, and strategies for effectively integrating intelligence into various industrial scenarios.

The impressive lineup of speakers included some of the most influential figures in the

tech industry, such as: Sabrina Meng, Deputy Chairwoman, Rotating Chairwoman, CFO, Huawei

David Wang, Executive Director of the Board, Chairman of the ICT Infrastructure Zhang Ping'an, Executive Director of the Board, Huawei; CEO of Huawei Cloud Yang Chaobin, Director of the Board, President of ICT Products & Solutions, Huawei Peng Song, President, ICT Strategy & Marketing, Huawei, Seaway Zhang, President, Computing Product Line, Huawei, Bruno Zhang, CTO, Huawei

Cloud, Dang Wenshuan, Chief Strategy Architect, Huawei, Kang Ning, President, Huawei Cloud Global Ecosystem,

These esteemed speakers will share their insights and expertise, shedding light on the latest developments in the tech world and the transformative potential of intelligent technology.

In an era where AI, networks, and cloud technologies are converging and revolutionizing the way we live and work, Huawei Connect 2023 promises to be a pivotal event that will shape the future of industries and redefine business models.

The event underscores Huawei's commitment to innovation and collaboration, as it continues to work closely with partners to harness the unprecedented opportunities that lie ahead.

As all industries evolve, the possibilities have never been more exciting, and Huawei is at the forefront, leading the way towards a future where intelligence and technology are seamlessly integrated into our daily lives.

PPL funds Women Vocational Training Centre in Punjab for Transformation of Community

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Petroleum Limited (PPL), a frontline National E&P Company and one of the largest corporate donors has recently financed the establishment of a Women Vocational Training Centre (WVTC) in District Okara, Punjab in collaboration with Behbud Association of Pakistan (BAP). An amount of Rs. 50 million has been earmarked for the project to be run over a five-year period.

BAP, a non-government, non-profit organization, established in 1967, is working for the socio-economic empowerment of women. The Association imparts skills to women which enables them to generate income for their livelihood.

MD & CEO PPL Mr. Imran Abbasi presented the donation cheque of Rs. 10 million as first tranche of the project to President BAP Ms. Abida Salim Malik in Islamabad on September 18.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Abbasi shared that PPL, through its Corporate Social Responsibility programme,



remains committed to the socio-economic empowerment of underprivileged women, with the view of seeking their transformation and leading them to self-earning.

The WVTC aims to conduct vocation-

al training of around 3,000 women, to enable them to earn their livelihood through sale of their products. Through this project, transformation, sustainability, and financial independence of women is envisioned by PPL.

Energy minister directs to redress grievances of Pakistan Business Council

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Minister for Energy Muhammad Ali held a comprehensive meeting with a delegation of Pakistan Business Council here Tuesday and issues related to the industrial tariff and green energy options came under discussion.

The minister acknowledged the fact that the industry is the backbone of the country and to enhance its potential, the issues need to



be addressed on a war footing, said a press release. The minister issued directions to the concerned quarters to take the business community on board and give priority to their issues.

Fuòco brings its renowned rendition of modern European cuisine to Lahore

Commerce Desk

LAHORE: Celebrated fine-dining restaurant, Fuòco, brings its signature rendition of modern European cuisine to the culinary landscape of Lahore, following much acclaim in Islamabad.

With a keen focus on rich Italian food and located in the heart of Gulberg, the introduction of Fuòco in Lahore marks the culmination of its co-owner and executive chef Shamaz Sandhu's vision of creating an exceptional, multi-city, dining experience in Pakistan.

In his journey to understand the essence of traditional European cuisine, Shamaz travelled to iconic culinary hotspots in Spanish Catalonia, the Tucson highlands and the French Riviera, while also sampling their modern evolutions in the United States.

He is joined by his brother, Shahbaz Sandhu, who has



an extensive background in architecture and construction, in creating an ambiance that is in perfect harmony with the food.

"We obsess over every single detail, no matter how small or trivial it may seem. The materials that we use, the colour palette we employ, the seating arrangements that we put in place; it is all done to create a cohesive experience that hits the trifecta - food, service and ambiance."

Beyond culinary excellence, the restaurant has set ambitious long-term sustainability goals, striving to minimize waste and prioritize the use of locally sourced produce in its delectable recipes.

Registration of 16 more life-saving drugs completed

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The health authorities completed the registration of 16 more life-saving drugs on an emergency basis.

The Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (DRAP) board approved the registration of 16 more life-saving drugs on an emergency basis.

The registration process of new life-saving drugs is underway by the health authorities which also expedited efforts to implement the plan for bringing other medicines back to the pharmacies.

Sources told that an alternative drug of another medicine containing rare formula was being registered. The DRAP sources said that out-of-turn drug registration facility is being given to the companies.



The DRAP board approved the registration of Labetalol injection used to treat severe high blood pressure or hypertension. Moreover, another injection was registered to end the calcium deficiency.

The other registered drugs include Digoxin - the injection for the management of heart failure in children, cholesty-

ramine powder - which treats high cholesterol, a medicine for bipolar disorder and drops for eye diseases.

The DRAP also approved the registration of a tablet and injection to treat epilepsy patients, Propofol - an intravenous anaesthetic used for procedural sedation during surgeries, an injection of heparin formula to

prevent blood clots, an injection to treat neonatal rhesus disease and another injection to prevent complications in heart attack.

An injection to treat fatal diarrhoea, carbamazepine medicine for epilepsy patients, a penicillin injection to treat bacterial infection, another injection to prevent bone breakdown and a cream for skin infection.

Sources said that the pharmaceutical companies will start producing the drugs immediately after receiving the registration certifications. The health authorities decided to start out-of-turn registration of the medicines to overcome the shortage of life-saving drugs.

It was decided to introduce new brands in the pharmacies as alternatives to rare medicines.

Raids on houses planned to recover stashed dollars as rupee makes more gains

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: As reversing the rupee depreciation on a sustainable basis has become the biggest challenge for Pakistan, authorities are ready to carry out raids the houses of those involved in hoarding the US dollar.

Security sources say these raids would be carried out by sensitive agencies with the assistance of Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) - the organisation responsible for dealing with financial crimes in the country - as next phase

of the ongoing crackdown designed to curb the practice of hoarding dollar.

The rising exchange rate in Pakistan is basically a product of artificial shortage created by these hoarders who have been making huge profits since 2018 through buying at lower price and later selling the same for higher returns.

Meanwhile, the other factor has been the smuggling of dollar to Afghanistan - a war-torn country where the exchange rate is ironically much lower despite the absence of economic or industrial activity.

However, the crackdown on currency dealers across the country, especially in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan along with strict monitoring along the western borders have helped improving the situation.

According to the sources, a list of the houses, which are suspected to be centres of dollar hoarding, has been prepared with the assistance of the money exchange companies' record which also revealed the names of those buying a huge amount of



dollars.

The decision comes as credible information about using houses for stocking dollar by

the mafia involved in this practice was received during the recently-launched crackdown. The rupee has been moving

in the upward trajectory after the government went for a crackdown on illegal movement of dollar in only licensed but also the black market.

On Tuesday morning, the early morning trading saw the interbank exchange rate dropping by another Rs1.15 as the dollar was available for Rs294.80 against the previous day's closing value of Rs295.95.

It means the dollar has depreciated by Rs12.30 after reaching the historic high of Rs307.10 in terms of official exchange rate.

Systems Limited Partners with Mashreq for Digital Transformation



Commerce Desk

KARACHI: Systems Limited, a leading technology consultancy, is pleased to announce a strategic partnership with Mashreq, one of the leading financial institutions in the MENA region. This alliance aims to capitalize on Systems Limited's agile expertise to develop customer-centric financial solutions for Mashreq.

As part of the partnership, Systems Limited will assist Mashreq in establishing a Pakistan-based agile solution leading to operational excellence. This hub will focus on designing innovative, intuitive, and user-friendly financial products underpinned by design thinking and a commitment to customer satisfaction.

Fernando Morillo, Group Head of Retail Banking at Mashreq, said, "Mashreq has a history of setting the pace for innovation in the financial sector. Partnering with Systems Limited positions us to further accelerate the digital transformation of our products and services, delivering extraordinary experiences and value to our clientele in Pakistan and beyond."

Asif Peer, Group CEO & MD of Systems Limited, added, "This alliance allows us to combine our strengths in data analytics, AI, and design thinking. Our focus on innovation aligns perfectly with Mashreq's vision, and we are excited to contribute our expertise to create unparalleled digital experiences for their customers."

The collaboration will make use of Systems Limited's recently launched design studio, Studio 77. This cutting-edge facility, equipped with state-of-the-art technology, provides an open, collaborative space designed to foster innovation and creativity. The joint team will leverage the studio's resources for brainstorming and crafting unique customer journeys.

Shah commends Austrian Climber for raising US\$ 170,000 in funds for Pakistani porter children

Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: Minister of State on Tourism Wasi Shah on Tuesday commended the efforts of Austrian Climber Wilhelm Steindl for raising US\$ 170,000 in funds for the children of Pakistani porter Muhammad Hassan who lost his life during the K2 expedition.

Wasi Shah, along with Ambassador of Azerbaijan, Khazar Farhadov, Ambassador's Spouse Tarana Farhadova and Dr. Hannes MACHOR, Minister Plenipotentiary/DHM officiating as the Chargé d'Affaires and Managing Director PTDC Aftab ur Rehman Rana in a ceremony held to recognize the efforts of Steindl for the family of the late porter Muhammad Hassan, said a press release.

Hassan tragically lost his life during an expedition on K2. After his death, one of the mountaineers Wilhelm Steindl ended his summit midway and returned to his home country where he started a campaign with the name "Give Me Fund for them" to financially help Hassan's family and collected US\$170,000 to



support them.

Shah expressed his admiration for Steindl's selfless commitment and said, "What truly amazed and inspired me was Steindl's selfless dedication to Hassan and his family, despite not being Pakistani. He took concrete steps to establish a Give Me Fund for them. At a time when many are consumed by self-interest, individuals like Steindl have reaffirmed my

faith in humanity.

"However, despite these efforts, my heart remains heavy as my organization couldn't do everything that should have been done for Muhammad Hassan and his family, he said.

He said there was no formal arrangement for porters however after he assumed charge of the Ministry of Tourism, PTDC made significant progress

in establishing a mountain training center in collaboration with Gilgit-Baltistan University, with Mr. Steindl's full support.

Shah said, previously, there was no provision for insurance of porters in case of accidents, leaving families like Muhammad Hassan's without any financial support however after extensive meetings with stakeholders in Islamabad and Skardu, the government agreed on a minimum insurance coverage of Rs 3 million for porters, but he is still working towards increasing it to Rs 5 million.

He appreciated Steindl, on behalf of every Pakistani, and said "Your actions exemplify the best of what humans can achieve when they come together for a common cause".

In response, Steindl shared his commitment to continue supporting the family of the late porter Muhammad Hassan and announced his plans to establish a school for porters in the near future. He expressed his gratitude to the minister for the warm welcome extended to him in Pakistan.

Nat Sciver top batter in ICC Women's ODI Rankings

Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: England star Nat Sciver-Brunet has consolidated her position as the No.1 batter in the MRF Tyres ICC Women's ODI Player Rankings after her match-winning century in the final ODI of their ICC Women's Championship (IWC) series against Sri Lanka.

The 31-year-old's 74-ball knock of 120 that helped her team win the ODI in Leicester by 161 runs to clinch the series 2-0, has taken her to a career best 807 rating points, which is the highest for an England woman player in ODIs since July 2009, when Claire Taylor had reached 814 points and Sarah Taylor 812 points, said a press release.

Sciver-Brunet, who did not bowl during the series against Sri Lanka, though lost her top position in the all-rounders' rankings, slipping to third. Australia's Ashleigh Gardner regains



the number one position while West Indies' Hayley Matthews is placed second. Sri Lanka's Hasini Perera has gained 26 places to reach 57th position after scores of 31 not out and 32 in the last two matches while England off-spinner Charlie Dean is another notable gainer from the series, her career-best haul of five for 31 in the third ODI taking her to a career-best 12th position.

Leg-spinner Sarah Glenn, who finished with five wick-

ets in the series, has moved up 12 places to 52nd.

In the latest weekly update that also considers performances in the final match of the IWC series between Pakistan and South Africa, Pakistan batters Bismah Maroof and Sidra Ameen have both gained three spots after helping win the match in Karachi by eight wickets.

Bismah is ranked 22nd after her unbeaten 60 and Sidra is 25th after scoring

68. Nashra Sundhu (up one place to 15th), captain Nida Dar (up two places to 19th), Diana Baig (up one place to 24th) and Sadia Iqbal (up 13 places to 50th) are the Pakistani players to move up the bowling rankings.

South Africa, who prevailed 2-1 in the series against Pakistan, see their players Tazmin Brits (up 11 places to 62nd) and Nadine de Klerk (up 16 places to 85th) move up the batting rankings.

Ireland reached Women's World Cup 'in spite' of Pauw, says Caldwell



Sports Desk

GLASGOW, SCOTLAND, BRITAIN: Ireland defender Diane Caldwell said her team reached the Women's World Cup "in spite" of their former coach Vera Pauw and that she had failed to get the best out of the players due to inadequate preparations.

The 60-year-old Dutch coach led Ireland to their first major tournament this year in Australia and New Zealand, where they exited in the group stage.

The Football Association of Ireland (FAI) launched a review of the team's performance and said it would not renew Pauw's contract, which expired at the end of August.

"I think the results and performances that we got were in spite of Vera being our coach," Caldwell told reporters on Monday ahead of Ireland's upcoming match against Northern Ireland.

The 35-year-old, whose only appearance at the World Cup was as a stoppage time substitute in their final game against Nigeria, said preparations were not up to "the standard expected at international level".

"I think preparation for games could have been better, physical preparation, opponent analysis, match tactics, in-game match tactics, changes, systems of play," she said, adding that players had asked Pauw to "professionalise" various aspects of their preparations.

Pauw, who has been replaced by interim coach Eileen Gleeson, has said FAI executives undermined her position at the World Cup.

She also said the FAI's attitude towards her changed after The Athletic published an article in July containing allegations of "abusive and inappropriate" behaviour during her time as manager of Houston Dash in the American top-flight NWSL.

Pauw "absolutely refuted" the allegations.

ICC charges eight T10 players, officials for corruption



On behalf of the Emirates Cricket Board (ECB), the International Cricket Council (ICC) on Tuesday charged eight players and officials for breaching different counts of the ECB's Anti-Corruption Code.

The charges relate to the 2021 Abu Dhabi T10 Cricket League and attempts to corrupt matches in that event.

The ICC was appointed by the ECB as the Designated Anti-Corruption Official (DACO) for the purposes of the ECB's Code for this tournament.

The people charged include Krishan Kumar Chaudhary (co-owner of a team), Parag Sanghvi (co-owner of a team), Ashar Zaidi (batting coach), Rizwan Javed (domestic player), Saliya Saman (domestic player), Sunny Dhillon (assistant coach), Nasir Hossain (Bangladesh player) and Shadab Ahamed (team manager).

PFF name squad for SAFF U19 C'ship

Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Football Federation (PFF) on Tuesday named the men's U19 squad which would be travelling to Nepal for the SAFF U19 Championship 2023.

The green shirts would kick off their campaign against Nepal on September 21 at the iconic Dashrath Stadium in Kathmandu and square off against Maldives on September 23 at the same venue, said a press release.

Pakistan Squad includes Goalkeepers: Sahil Gul, Mohsin Khan and Muhammad Abdullah; Defenders: Muhammad Sadam, Muhammad Adeel, Asad Nasir, Ans Amin, Khurshid Alam, Muhammad Raheel, Shayan Ali, Kamil Ahmad Khan, Abid Ali, Hannan Naveed



and Najeeb Ullah; Midfielders: Ali Zafar, Muhammad Azan and Awais Khan; Forwards: Shahzhan, Muhammad Hassan, Faisal Ahmad, Abdul Wahab, Muhammad Haroon Zafar and Muhammad Adeel Younas; Team Officials:

Shadab Ifthikhar (Head Coach), Mohsan Ul Hussain (Assistant Coach), Khurram Shahzad (Goal Keeper Coach), Aamna (Media), Muhammad Abdullah and Muhammad Samama (Physio) and Zohair Gondal (Team Manager).

China v India soccer clash headlines first day of Asian Games action

Sports Desk

The Asian Games in Hangzhou started on Tuesday with all eyes on hosts China playing India in the men's soccer competition, with each team representing a nation of over a billion people.

China have won silver and two bronze in men's soccer at the Games but never gold, while India won gold in 1951 and 1962.

"The first game is coming soon, and the whole team is looking forward to it," China coach Dejan Djurdjevic said before the 1130 GMT kick off.

"The first game of the competition is very important. The team needs to adjust as soon as possible and enter the game state as soon as possible."

While the opening ceremony does not take place until Saturday, several sports began on Tuesday, including



soccer, volleyball, beach volleyball and cricket.

The first event of the day was a clash between Indonesia and Mongolia in the women's T20 cricket competition,

which Indonesia won by 172 runs after bowling out Mongolia for just 15 runs.

The Asian Games, which was postponed by a year due to COVID-19, takes place from Sept. 23-Oct. 8.

Heartwarming moment as Ronaldo meets young fan during Al-Nassr's Tehran visit



Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: Portuguese football sensation Cristiano Ronaldo made a young Iranian fan's dream come true during the Al-Nassr's visit to Tehran for their AFC Champions League clash against Persepolis on Tuesday. Upon his arrival to the Iranian capital, Ronaldo was welcomed with a thunderous reception from adoring fans who chanted his name and enthusiastically waved to their football hero. However, a touching moment was captured on video which went viral on social media, showing an Iranian child in tears after being unable to meet the football legend. The emotional clip caught the attention of the Al-Nassr Football Club's management.

Responding swiftly to the outpouring of support for the young fan, the club arranged a meeting of the child with Cristiano Ronaldo personally. In a heartwarming encounter, the child had the opportunity to take pictures with his idol, received a signed T-shirt, and, most notably, performed the famous 'Siú' celebration in front of Ronaldo. Al-Nassr FC shared this touching moment on their official social media accounts, emphasizing the deeper significance of football. In a tweet, they wrote, "Football is not just a game. It is much bigger than that. Al-Nassr Saudi Arabia and its star Ronaldo embody that."

Golfing contest for the September 2023 Royal Palm Monthly Medal Golf Event actuated

Tahir Amin Malik

LAHORE: The golfing contest for the September 2023 Royal Palm Monthly Medal Golf Event was actuated at the beautiful par-72 Royal Palm Golf Course yesterday. Competition format was stroke play and with participants like Qasim Ali Khan, Hussain Hamid, Abdul Islam Nazir and Shahid Abbas Awan in the run for honors the prestige seeking golfing pursuit became combative. Undoubtedly talented ones like Shahid Abbas Awan, Rafiqat Hussain, Arif Shah and Haseeb Shah played skillfully, yet could not match the deftness of national level golfers like Qasim Ali Khan and Hussain Hamid and had to concede victory to them.

Qasim Ali Khan is the top ranked golf amateur of the country and during the course of this 18 holes contest, he was eminently prime in his shot making and managed to come up with a score of gross 72 which reflects on his control and command. While Qasim Ali Khan was foremost player in the handicap category 0-12, his nearest adversary Hussain Hamid secured the runners up slot with a score of gross 77. A commendable effort by these two remarkable players.

As for the race in the net category of 0-12 handicap, Mian Rashid attained the first net prize by playing within his handicap range. He won through a score of net 72 and the runner up Abdul Islam Nazir also accumulated the same score of net 72 but lost the first net to Mian Rashid by virtue of the count back rule. Mian Rashid had a better score on the back nine.

In the handicap category 13-18 the upcoming players who ended up contented with their performances are Kashif Gillani and Hassan Naseem in the gross section and Jaudat Hussain and Zaem Haider in the net section.

Honors in Senior Section were achieved by Rana Usman, first gross and Faisal Sayid, first net.

At the conclusion of the Royal Palm Monthly Medal Match, Col (R) Jameel Khalid, Director Golf awarded prizes to the top performers.

Britain drawn to face Serbia in Davis Cup Final 8



Sports Desk

Britain who topped Group B in the Davis Cup after their win over France on Sunday now face Serbia, as the draw for the Final 8 Knockout stage was announced on Tuesday.

Serbia finished second behind Czech Republic, but clinched their place in the Final 8 with a win over Spain.

Novak Djokovic beat Alejandro Davidovich Fokina just five days after winning the U.S. Open to help Serbia to a 3-0 win over Spain in Valencia.

Whoever comes out on top between Serbia and Britain will then face the winner of Italy v Netherlands in the semi-final.

Reigning Davis Cup champions Canada will continue their title defence against Finland, who came through as runners-up in Group D after surprise wins over Croatia and the United States, while Canada topped their group ahead of Italy.

The winner of Canada v Finland will take on either Czech Republic or Australia in the semi-final. Australia finished runners-up to Britain.

The Final 8 takes place in Malaga, Spain, and begins on Nov. 21.

Winner Group A v Runner-up Group D
Canada v Finland
Winner Group C v Runner-up Group B
Czech Republic v Australia
Runner-up Group A v Winner Group D
Italy v Netherlands
Runner-up Group C v Winner Group B
Serbia v Britain