

# Daily The Spokesman

A Leading National Daily



فرمان رسول ﷺ  
نبی کریم صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم نے فرمایا جو شخص اللہ اور آخرت کے دن پر ایمان رکھتا ہو اسے اپنے مہمان کی عزت کرنا چاہئے۔ اس کی خاطر داری میں ایک دن اور رات کی سے مہمانی تین دن اور راتوں کی اس کے بعد جو ہو وہ صحت ہے اور مہمان کے لیے جائز نہیں کہ وہ اپنے میزبان کے پاس آئے دن ٹھہر جائے کہ اسے تک کر ڈالے۔  
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## President greets nation, Ummah on blessed day of Milad-un-Nabi (PBUH)

President Dr Arif Alvi on Thursday felicitated the Pakistani nation and the Muslim Ummah on the blessed day of Milad-un-Nabi (PBUH). In a message on the occasion of 12 Rabiul Awwal, he said the arrival of Prophet (PBUH) was good tidings for relieving the suffering of humanity... (Details on Page 8)



**PM urges nation to follow Holy Prophet (PBUH)'s teachings of compassion, unity**  
Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar urged the nation to obey the Holy Prophet (PBUH)'s teachings of brotherhood and compassion besides following his message of unity to become an example of tolerance and coexistence. The prime minister, in his message to the nation on Eid Miladun Nabi (PBUH) 1445 Hijri, extended his greetings to the whole of the Pakistani nation as well as the Muslim world.

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## Illuminated

KARACHI: A stunning view of the New Memon Mosque illuminated with colourful lights during the celebrations of 12 Rabiul Awwal in Provincial Capital on Thursday.



Photo: Online

## Preparations for Eid-e-Milad in full swing across country

**Naveed Ahmad Khan**

in streets according to their passion.

ISLAMABAD: The Muslims all over the world, and in Pakistan, are marking the birth of Prophet Muhammad (Peace be upon him) today (Friday).

Preparations for the celebration of Eid-e-Milad began with the sighting of Rabiul Awwal moon. Enthusiasm of the faithful has peaked across Pakistan; buildings and mosques have been illuminated not only in big cities but in villages also. Streets have been decorated and illuminated to mark the day.

There will be a national holiday on the occasion. Processions will also be taken out in which models of holy Kaaba and the Gumbad-e-Khizra (green dome) will be carried. Children prepare models

Special prayers, gatherings, and recitation of the Quran will also be arranged all over the country. Food will also be shared with the poor.

The Muslims in India, Bangladesh and other countries in the region will also celebrate Eid-e-Milad.

The day holds immense significance for Muslims. It goes beyond a mere celebration; it serves as a moment of deep reflection on the life and teachings of the Prophet Muhammad (Peace be upon him).

Muslims use this day to rekindle their faith, seeking inspiration from his exemplary character, wisdom, and compassion.

## Action against illegal economic activities to continue with full force: COAS



**Bureau Report**

ISPR.

LAHORE: Chief of Army Staff (COAS) Gen Asim Munir emphasised on Thursday that the action against illegal economic activities would continue with full force, said ISPR.

According to the military's media wing, the army chief said the actions would continue in collaboration with the law enforcement agencies (LEAs) and the concerned government departments "to rid Pakistan from the substantial economic losses it continues to suffer due to pilferage done by different methods".

Gen Asim Munir expressed the views in a meeting of the Provincial Apex Committee along with Punjab Caretaker Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi, during his visit to Lahore, said

During the meeting, COAS was briefed about overall security situation, including law enforcement actions against electricity and gas theft, hoarding and foreign currency smuggling.

Forum was also briefed on steps taken for protection of minorities and progress of operations in Kacha area. The forum also reviewed repatriation of illegal foreign nationals.

The meeting was also apprised on progress on SIFC and Green Punjab initiatives. COAS underscored the need for synergy among all relevant departments for gainful effects of the landmark initiatives.

The participants affirmed that state institutions, government departments and people are united for progress and prosperity of the province.

# Around two dozen MoUs expected in a few days as SIFC gets popular: Jilani

**Spokesman Report**

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Foreign Affairs Jilani on Thursday said that around one-and-a-half to two dozen MoUs with different countries were expected to be signed within the next few days as the one-window forum of Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC) had become popular.

The foreign minister, in a news conference, told the media that during the interactions with the foreign delegates including the business community on the sidelines of the UNGA session in New York, the response about the SIFC was very positive.

He said a delegation of the Pak-US businessmen was expected next month which was also the outcome of the SIFC's establishment as well as the positive indicators of Pakistan's economy.

He said as SIFC was focused on the promotion of agriculture, IT and mining, the country was striving to enhance its IT exports

to \$10 billion.

The foreign minister, who appraised the media about his as well as Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar's engagements in New York, rubbished the notions of rolling back the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

"The CPEC is a very transformative project. There is absolutely no question of rolling it back... I can say with 100 percent surety that you will just see progress in CPEC in the coming years. There should be no doubt about it," he remarked.

He told the newsmen that apart from his address at the UNGA session, the prime minister did address the meetings on Sustainable Development Goals, Global Development Initiative, climate change and pandemic, besides holding bilateral meetings with world leaders.

Similarly, Foreign Minister Jilani said he also held around 20 bilateral meetings besides attending the OIC Contact



Group's meetings on Kashmir and Palestine, besides media interactions.

To a question, he reiterated that there had been no change in Pakistan's foreign policy vis-a-vis Palestine and Israel as the country always advocated for the self-determination rights of the Palestinians.

Likening the issue of Kashmir with Palestine, the foreign minister said Pakistan's position was based on the policy of protecting its own interests as both issues involved the denial of self-determination rights.

He called the participation in UNGA session the "most cost-effective" way to highlight Paki-

stan's position before the world under one roof and said the delegation comprised the prime minister, foreign minister, and foreign secretary.

He said many countries expressed their condemnations of the Islamophobic incidents which also persuaded Denmark to initiate legislation to criminalize the desecration of holy books with many other countries also mulling over a similar approach.

The foreign minister opposed the notion of Pakistan facing any isolation rather said that except a few, all of the foreign ministers he had met, expressed their desire to interact with Pakistan's delegation, considering the country an important player on multiple forums.

Responding to a query, he said not only Pakistan, but the world was concerned about the terror incidents originating from Afghanistan and that the Afghan side had also committed at the trilateral forum to not allow misuse of their soil against any

other country.

Asked about the oil purchase from Russia, the foreign minister said by doing so Pakistan had not violated any sanction as many other countries were also in the trade relationship with the country.

About the policy of deporting the illegal nationals, he said it was not just about the Afghan nationals but all of those from any country. He said the policy was approved by the cabinet and would be enforced strictly.

The foreign minister said the killing of a Khalistan leader in Canada had unmasked India with some countries also calling for a UN-led probe into the incident. He said India had been carrying out such killings in all South Asian nations and viewed that the matter of Sikh leader's murder would not settle so easily.

To a question, Jilani said Pakistan was in talks with Iranian side to address the impediments in the execution of the Iran-Pakistan gas pipeline project.

## Zardari, Gilani summoned in NAB cases

ISLAMABAD (DUNYA NEWS): An accountability court of Islamabad summoned former President Asif Zardari and former prime minister Yousuf Raza Gilani in separate cases.

Accountability court issued summon notices to both politicians in fake bank accounts and Toshakhana cases.

They were asked to appear on Oct 24. The court directed Asif Ali Zardari and Yousuf Raza Gilani to appear before the court in their personal capacity.

It should be noted that on the last day of his tenure, former chief justice Umar Atta Bandial declared the petition of PTI chairman against the NAB amendments admissible and declared nine out of 10 amendments of the NAB amendments null and void.

## PM offers nawafil at Roza-e-Rasool in Madinah

**News Desk**

MADINAH MUNAWRAH: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaarul Haq Kakar visited Masjid-e-Nabvi (the Prophet's Mosque) in Madinah and paid his respects at Roza-e-Rasool (SAW).

The prime minister offered nawafil at the Roza on Wednesday evening. Afterwards, the caretaker prime minister visited the International Fair and Museum of the Prophet (SAW)'s Biography and Islamic Civilization, located adjacent to Masjid-e-Nabvi.

Dr Nasir Misfir Al-Zahrani, Secretary of the Board of Directors of the Prophet (SAW)'s Museum, warmly welcomed the prime minister.

The prime minister was given a comprehensive briefing on the historical museum, which showcases the life and teachings of Prophet Muhammad (SAW) as well as the Islamic civilization.

PM Kakar expressed his deep



appreciation for the museum and applauded the efforts made to preserve and present the rich Islamic heritage.

As a token of appreciation, Dr Nasir Misfir Al-Zahrani presented the prime minister with a shield and books, symbolising the cherished connection between Pakistan and Saudi Arabia in promoting Islamic heritage and fostering mutual under-

standing.

The museum chronicles the Prophet (SAW)'s journey and highlights significant events and teachings through multimedia. It also showcases Islamic civilisation's achievements in various fields. The museum promotes interfaith dialogue and understanding, fostering respect for diverse beliefs and cultures.

## 'Service to people' always been PML-N's core narrative: Sanaullah

**MA Rashid**

GUJRANWALA: Prominent PML-N figure, Rana Sanaullah, expressed optimism on Thursday that party supreme Nawaz Sharif would lead the country out of its current crises, adding that the former premier would set the nation on a path of progress and development.

Interacting with a group of reporters in Gujranwala, Sanaullah insisted that the PML-N's core narrative had always been "service to the people and Pakistan".

He urged the nation to support the PML-N in the upcoming elections, suggesting that they should grant Nawaz a mandate similar to the one they bestowed upon him in 2013.

## Chief Justice summons high-level team to discuss need for improved SC

**News Desk**

ISLAMABAD: The Chief Justice and Senior Puisne Judge of the Supreme Court invited the Attorney-General for Pakistan, Advocates-General, Prosecutors-General of the provinces and of the National Accountability Bureau.

The Chief Justice welcomed the participants and pointed out that the largest litigants in the Supreme Court are the Federal and provincial governments, which makes their law officers a crucial component of Pakistan's legal system, but one that has historically had little say in how the system operates.

Every law officer was in turn called upon to provide suggestions for improving the efficiency and working of the Supreme Court.

The law officers appreciated the issuance of the month-



ly cause list for October 2023 and hoped that this practice would continue. They also pointed out that supplementary cause lists are issued very late and they are not given sufficient time to prepare their cases. They were assured that their concern would be considered. Other valuable suggestions were made, some of which were accepted, and others would be examined.

The law officers thanked the Chief Justice and Senior Puisne Judge for hosting the meeting, which they said was a first of its kind. Later, conceding to the request of the participants, a group photograph was taken.

## Group photo

ISLAMABAD: President Dr. Arif Alvi in a group photo with a delegation of the members of the British Parliament and representatives of the Pakistani and Kashmiri diaspora in the UK, at Aiwan-e-Sadr on Thursday.



Photo: PID

# President greets nation, Ummah on blessed day of Milad-un-Nabi (PBUH)

## Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi on Thursday felicitated the Pakistani nation and the Muslim Ummah on the blessed day of Milad-un-Nabi (Peace Be Upon Him).

In a message on the occasion of 12 Rabiul Awal, he said the arrival of Prophet (PBUH) was good tidings for relieving the suffering of humanity adding that the arrival of the Holy prophet Hazrat Muhammad (PBUH) was the greatest and the most blessed event in history. The president said due to Holy Prophet (PBUH), the humanity was honoured with the reward of guidance and mercy from Allah Almighty.

He said Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) was brought to this world as the 'mercy for all the worlds'.



He said the life of the Holy Prophet (PBUH) was an embodiment of obedience to Allah Almighty, justice, compassion, and love towards human beings.

He said Holy Prophet (PBUH)'s teachings are universal and undying source of guid-

ance for the mankind and present solutions to uncountable challenges being faced today and to be faced till the doomsday.

"In the whole life of Holy Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), we find a perfect model not only for faith and worship, but also for all aspects of life." President

Alvi said teachings of the Holy Prophet (PBUH) with regard to the oneness of Allah Almighty, social justice, human rights, gender equality and welfare of the poor reflected the comprehensiveness and universality of the message of Islam.

He said Pakistan was a country with different cultures and religious diversity.

"We should give importance to this diversity and should work diligently for the promotion of unity and better understanding among the fellow citizens." The president said after the establishment of the Islamic State in Madinah by the Holy Prophet (PBUH), the rights given to the non-muslims and the agreements with the followers of other religions should be kept in mind by all Pakistanis.

The president called for letting down all the forces that

were keen to destroy the unity in Pakistan.

"Let us ponder upon the life and teachings of the Holy Prophet (PBUH)," he said adding that as a nation it was binding upon us that we in our daily life should maintain the good values and promote such atmosphere where rights of all people should be protected.

On the blessing day of Eid Milad-un-Nabi (PBUH), the president called upon every Pakistani to pray to Allah Almighty to shower His blessings on the nation and the whole world.

He also prayed to Allah Almighty to shower His blessings on Pakistan and that the teachings of the Holy Prophet (PBUH) continue to illuminate our paths in the process of establishing a just and prosperous society.

# Ambassador of Uzbekistan calls on Jamal Shah

## City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of the Republic of Uzbekistan to Pakistan H. E Mr. Oybek Arif Usmanov called on Jamal Shah, Interim Federal Minister for National Heritage and Culture at his office on Thursday.

Both sides agreed to focus on strengthening bilateral relations, enhance frequency of cultural exchanges as well as increasing high level contacts and exploring new avenues of cooperation in the field of cultural heritage.

They also discussed in



details cooperation in cultural sphere, organization of bilateral cultural events, mutual promotion of tourism poten-

tial of Uzbekistan and Pakistan as well as on the reconstruction of the Abu Rayhan Al-Biruni's Laboratory at Nandana Fort Jhelum.

Federal Minister Jamal Shah said that the two countries have always had friendly and brotherly relations, adding that there is significant potential for cooperation between the two countries.

The minister said that second phase of China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) Cultural Caravan would be organized, a month long voyage, traversing CPEC with an objective to showcase

rich culture and trade potential of the region.

Jamal Shah said that all the Central Asian states including Uzbekistan would be specially invited to be part of CPEC cultural caravan which would play a key role in promoting regional and cultural connectivity.

Ambassador of the Republic of Uzbekistan to Pakistan H. E Mr. Oybek Arif Usmanov acknowledged the potential for cooperation in the field of culture and literary heritage and expressed his desire to undertake joint ventures on a progressive basis.

# Solangi felicitates China on its 74th National Day

## City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Minister for Information and Broadcasting Murtaza Solangi on Thursday extended heartfelt felicitations to the People's Republic of China and its citizens on the occasion of their 74th National Day.

Solangi extended the felicitations during a special ceremony hosted by the Embassy of China in Pakistan to commemorate its 74th National Day.

On the occasion, Minister Murtaza Solangi highlighted the enduring bond of friendship between Pakistan and China, acknowledging China's unwavering support to his country during its challenging times.

He lauded China for its remarkable journey of development, which, over the course of 74 years, had steered its people out of darkness and led them to an era of progress and prosperity.

The minister said China had achieved substantial progress in areas of economy, science, technology, social development, national unity, and border defence.

He emphasized that China's emergence as a global economic power was a testament to the dedication and efforts of its people.



Solangi commended China's presentation of its development and prosperity plan at the world stage, which had garnered respect and admiration across the globe.

He said China's development and prosperity plan underscored the nation's steadfast commitment to the principles of "shared prosperity and shared development."

The level of development, China achieved during the last 74 years, had the potential to benefit not only Pakistan but also neighbouring countries in the region, he added.

He said the cherished journey of friendship between Pakistan and China would continue to thrive and strengthen in the same spirit.

The minister also joined in Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan Jiang Zaidong and other distinguished guests in the cake-cutting ceremony of China's National Day.

# Newly appointed Chinese envoy calls on FM Jilani



## City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Newly-appointed Chinese Ambassador Jiang Zaidong called on Caretaker Foreign Minister Jalil Abbas Jilani here on Thursday. During the meeting they discussed

bilateral cooperation in multiple domains including China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). The two sides expressed their firm resolve to further strengthen the all-weather strategic cooperative partnership between Pakistan and China.

# Investment in Agri Research and Development is the only solution to economic crisis: Dr. Malik



ISLAMABAD: The federal minister for National Food Security and Research, Dr. Kausar Abdulla Malik, visited National Agricultural Research Centre (NARC), Islamabad on September 28, 2023, to preside over a one-day workshop on Climate Resilient High Yielding and Quality Rice Development. During his address, Dr. Kausar Abdulla emphasized the significance of research and development in the agricultural sector, stating that it is the country's only hope for overcoming the economic crisis. Dr. Kausar urged young scientists and researchers to make use of technology, particularly in the field of genomics and Biotechnology.

In his welcome remarks, Dr. Ghulam Muhammad Ali, Chairman PARC, expressed gratitude to the distinguished guests, government and private sector representatives, media person-

nel, and all workshop participants for their participation to make the event successful. Dr. Ali reiterated the focus on benefiting farmers by maximizing their profits through increased crop yields. He emphasized that NIGAB's newly developed climate resilient rice varieties will reduce not only farmers' reliance on expensive imported hybrid seeds but will also ensure sustainable production.

Chairman PARC at the end thanked government functionaries, policy makers, private sector stakeholders and researchers for their valuable time and ensured provincial institutions, academia and even private sector for utilization of state-of-the-art facilities available at NARC like, next generation sequencing, speed breeding, and digital screening for insect, pest and disease resistance tests.

# Reception held to mark China's 74th National Day

Sanjrani commends China for lifting 800 mln people out of poverty

## Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Acknowledging China's remarkable economic achievements Chairman Senate Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani Thursday commended China for lifting around 800 million people out of poverty—a feat unparalleled in history. Addressing a reception arranged to celebrate the 74th Founding Anniversary of the People's Republic of China, the chairman noted President Xi Jinping's transformative vision, as outlined in China's recent White Paper, emphasizing an innovative and profound approach to international relations and economic globalization.

The event witnessed the presence of Jiang Zaidong, the newly-appointed Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Pakistan, Parliamentarians, Distinguished Guests, and members of the community.

The Chairman extended heartfelt congratulations to President Xi Jinping, the Communist Party of China (CPC), and the people of China on this significant milestone. He highlighted the enduring friendship between Pakistan and China, emphasizing the depth of mutual trust, respect, and shared vision for a brighter future. Expressing gratitude for the warm welcome received, Chairman Senate welcomed Jiang Zaidong to Pakistan.

He conveyed the assurance of complete support and cooperation in diplomatic and bilateral engagements during Ambassador Jiang Zaidong's tenure. The Chairman reflected on the historical ties between Pakistan and China, emphasizing the strength of their bond that has grown over the years. He underscored the importance of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) as a testament to their trust and



ISLAMABAD: Chairman Senate Sadiq Sanjrani and Ambassador of the People's Republic of China Jiang Zaidong are cutting cake along with other officials on the occasion of the 74th Anniversary of the Founding of the People's Republic of China on Thursday. Photo: APP

brotherhood. Chairman Senate expressed confidence that CPEC would symbolize their joint commitment to regional prosperity. Chairman Senate expressed Pakistan's commitment to deepening ties with China based on mutual respect and shared aspirations.

He reiterated his gratitude for China's unwavering support during challenging times, including natural disasters and the global health crisis posed by COVID-19. As a pledge of commitment, the Chairman Senate emphasized the role of parliamentary diplomacy in fostering deeper ties, collaboration, and mutual understanding between the two nations. He concluded by reaffirming Pakistan's unwavering dedication to the unique bond with China, envisioning a future filled with success, growth, and unparalleled friendship.

# Pakistan condemns terrorist attack on Bahrain defense force

## City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan on Thursday condemned the terrorist attack on Bahrain Defense Force position on the Southern border of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia which resulted in the martyrdom of two Bahraini personnel and injured others.

"We extend deepest condolences to the Kingdom of Bahrain, its brotherly people and families of the martyrs. We pray for full recovery of the injured members of the Bahrain Defense Force," the foreign office spokesperson said in a statement.

# Barrister Sultan Muhammad says Rabi'ul Awwal is blessed month

**Bureau Report**

ISLAMABAD: President Azad Jammu and Kashmir Barrister Sultan Muhammad Chaudhry has said that Rabi'ul Awwal is the blessed month in the Islamic calendar as it marks the birth of the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH).

In his message on the occasion of Eid Milad-ul-Nabi, the President said that the prophet Hazrat Muhammad (SAW) came to the world at a time when entire humanity was immersed in the darkness of ignorance and disbelief.

"It was the time when bloodshed and violence, deceit and deception, iniquity and immorality reigned supreme over every aspect of human life", he said, adding that the Prophet, who was sent as mercy for humanity, illuminated the whole world with his knowledge,



spread the message of peace and brotherhood and pulled the humanity out from the abyss of darkness.

He said that the prophet's life is the beacon of light for entire humanity.

In his separate message, the AJK premier Chaudhry Anwar ul Haq, said that the Prophet Muhammad (SAW) is the true benefactor of mankind, who gave back to humanity its lost dignity and guided it to the righteous path.

He said that the prophet Muhammad (SAW) was a great role model for humankind in every field of life.

He said that the salvation of mankind, here and the hereafter, lies in pursuing the life of the prophet

Muhammad (SAW).

Terming Islam as a religion of peace, he said that Islam teaches us self-sacrificing and generosity towards others.

"Our Muslim brothers and sisters in Occupied Kashmir, Palestine and other regions of the world are rekindling the candle of Islam by sacrificing their blood for the exaltation of Islam, their survival and freedom", he said, adding that the supreme sacrifices rendered by our brethren will never go in vain.

The people of Kashmir, he said, have been scripting a new history by following the golden principles of the Holy Prophet (peace be upon him)

# Mega development package for Poonch Division would be announced soon: PM AJK

**Abdul Majeed Tahir**

HAJEERA: Prime Minister Chaudhry Anwar ul Haq has said that a mega development package for Poonch Division would be announced soon.

While addressing a public gathering at Hajeera, the PM said that the issue of inflated electricity bills and shortage of subsidized flour has been resolved amicably.

The function was attended and addressed by senior Minister Colonel (Rtd) Waqar Noor and other Government Ministers including Raja Faisal Mumtaz Rathore, Sardar Mir Akbar and Sardar Saud Sadiq and others.

Speaking on the occasion, the PM said that the government was giving a subsidy of about 1500 rupees on a 20 kg bag of flour. He said it was for the first time that the government suspended the notification and withdrew additional taxes imposed on the electricity bills.



The PM said that the incumbent coalition government had increased the salaries of government employees despite facing financial constraints.

He said that the government bore a burden of 19 billion rupees in this regard.

Regarding the appointment of an ADC in the area, the PM said that a formal notification to fill the vacancy

will be issued in a couple of days.

The Prime Minister said that previous governments had announced a number of ADP projects but there were not enough funds to initiate or implement these development programs on the ground.

The PM said that he will abide by the oath and protect the constitution come what may.

About local bodies, the PM said that local government representatives would be strengthened so that the problems of people can be resolved on their doorsteps.

The Prime Minister said that the assembly would complete its full five-year term.

The PM said that he was a strong proponent of Kashmir's accession to Pakistan.

Earlier, the Prime Minister met various public delegations from Hajira and listened to their grievances.

# Punjab Group of Colleges providing modern research for new generation: Prof Osama

**Kiran Asim**

MULTAN: Chairman of Education Board Hafiz Muhammad Qasim and Vice Chancellor Layyah University Prof. Ali have said that Punjab Group of Colleges is the only educational institution in Pakistan which is known for providing modern research opportunities for students and educating the new generation through various digital apps. This institution has innovated according to the current requirements by including digital books, online programs, training portals and IT certifications in its curriculum and all this is for the betterment of the students and the development of Pakistan. He expressed his views yesterday while addressing the welcome party given in honor of the students as a special guest.



On this occasion, Regional Director Admin Professor Osama Bashir

Qureshi has said that Punjab Group of Colleges Multan Region has been

continuing its endless series of achievements for many years. Named himself and got the first position in Punjab College Multan in all educational boards of Punjab in the inter exams with a total of 19 positions in Multan All Pakistan four positions out of five positions were obtained by Punjab College.

And this series will continue. On this occasion, Chief Traffic Police Officer Rao Naeem said that the success of Punjab Colleges can be gauged from the roads of Multan and other cities where the number of Punjab College students is the highest. And the example of discipline is a telling picture. All this is the result of the training of the head of the institution and qualified teachers. Students and teachers also addressed the ceremony.

# Pakistan steps up its profile as it seeks to protect home-based workers

**Special Report**

ISLAMABAD: In a ground-breaking development, Pakistan is setting a new standard for labor rights in South Asia through comprehensive legislation aimed at protecting and recognizing homeworkers. While the implementation phase is yet to be realized, the recent working on Homebased Workers Act in Sindh province (2018) has been followed by similar enactments in Punjab (2023), Baluchistan (2022), and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (2021). These legislative milestones establish vital frameworks poised to grant homebased workers the recognition they deserve and ensure equitable treatment under the law.

The significance of these legislative strides was thoroughly explored during a one-day dialogue held on September 26, 2023. This impactful event brought together home-based workers and contractors to discuss the implications of these transformative legal measures. Maheer Arif, Provincial Coordinator for HomeNet Pakistan, provided valuable insights into the potential of these laws to herald an era of formal recognition and fair treatment for the country's diligent homeworkers.

The dialogue was attended by Brand representative, contractors, CSOs and home based workers to discuss the possible plans of actions for ensuring



the inclusion of HBWs in the garment and textile supply chains. HNP started discussion with due diligence process in Sindh as a "preventative mechanism" which requires businesses "to identify and assess potential or actual adverse impacts and to adopt policies and measures to communicate, prevent, mitigate, monitor, communicate, address, remediate them, and account for how they address those impacts. Which become an important aspect of labour rights of home workers ensure that brands take responsibility of the protection of women in the supply chains. When rights are respected, supply chains are more robust, reliable and resilient stressed by Babar Raza (Program Manager, HNP)

European Parliament sets out its intent to arrive at mandatory human rights due diligence for all EU-based businesses, which would affect the

south Asian countries including Pakistan. A huge export of garment and textile is reported in Pakistan and the recent research conducted shows that the goods are exported to UAE (57.5%) USA(53.8%), UK(56.3%), Saudi Arabia (48.5%) and other EU Countries (12.5%) which includes the work by informal workers in the home base sector, reported by Babar Raza.

Ex labour department and current program manager of ILO project, Gulam Nabi, stressed on the importance of having unions in Sindh. As it will bring empowerment in employment sector especially for Homebase workers.

The UNDP has collaboratively engaged with the federal government in the finalization process of the National Plan of Action on Business and Human Rights (2021-2026). This NAP serves as a pivotal strategy for overseeing busi-

nesses operating within supply chains, aligning with the United Nations Guiding Principles (UNGPs).

Shakeela Asghari, a Trade Union Representative, brought attention to the dire human rights conditions faced by workers. She illuminated the ongoing economic challenges in the country, particularly how factory and homeworkers are bearing the brunt of fluctuating prices.

Perter Williams from Home Workers worldwide shared according to the EU resolution, "comprehensive transparency requirements" are "a crucial element of legislation on mandatory due diligence." Transparency helps to "give suppliers and manufacturers better control and understanding of their supply chains and improve public confidence in production." Further, there needs to be transparency across the chain, with visibility of all value chain actors.

## Chief Justice Lahore High Court inaugurate parking plaza



**Kiran Asim**

MULTAN: Chief Justice Lahore High Court Mr. Justice Muhammad Amir Bhatti spent his first day busy in Multan Bench. Chief Justice Muhammad Amir Bhatti was warmly welcomed and flowers were presented to the Chief Justice Mr. Justice Shujaat Ali Khan Mr. Justice Shahid Karim Mr. Justice Muhammad Sajid Mehmood Sethi Mr. Justice Muhammad Sarfraz Dogar Mr. Justice Muzamil Akhtar Shabbir Mr. Justice Muhammad Waheed Khan Mr. Justice Sadiq Mahmood Khurram Mr. Justice Ahmed Nadeem Arshad Mr. Justice Muhammad Amjad Rafiq Mr. Justice Muhammad Raza Qureshi and Senior Additional Registrar District and Sessions Judge Amjad Ali Shah Principal Staff Officer to Chief Justice Lahore High Court Muhammad Shahzad Gul were also among those who welcomed.

Additional Registrar Sajjad Ahmed Deputy Registrar Protocol Zahid Mahmood Deputy Registrar General Muhammad Zulfikar Awan Assistant Registrar Javed Saeed Protocol Officer Shahid Mehmood Lak Senior PA Umar Hayat were also present. kept The parking plaza will have 9 floors, but initially there will be 6 floors. The parking plaza will cost one billion 51 crore rupees. The Chief Justice inaugurated the renovation of the Multan Bar Hall and later addressed the lawyers in the Bar Hall. Chief Justice Muhammad Amir Bhatti arrived in Multan on a six-day visit on Wednesday night.

## Multan Food Street restoration work in progress: Amir Khattak



**Kiran Asim**

MULTAN: Commissioner Multan Division Engineer Aamir Khattak visited Qila Kohna and surrounding areas. He said that food street restoration work is in progress at a cost of 144.8 million rupees. 46 shops are being renovated, 4 toilet blocks are being constructed. Qila Kohna and the entire area around it is being converted into a tourist spot. New grass is being planted in the stadium, seating area, drainage system is being improved. The sports department has been written about the rent of food street shops. Commissioner Engineer Aamir Khattak also visited Haji Camp, Langar Khana.

He said that the Punjab government has given a historical package to restore the historical status of Qila Kohna Landscaping and wall construction of Qila Kohna and Darbars will be done under the Walled City Authority. Space will be provided. Qala Kohna and adjacent historical sites are being handed over to the Walled City Authority. DGPFA Asif Raza, Additional Deputy Commissioner Faizan Ahmed Riaz, Assistant Commissioner City Simal Mushtaq, Walled City Authority officials were present on this occasion.

[5:58 PM, 9/28/2023] Asim Tanveer Multan: Multan: Commissioner Multan Division Amir Khattak Visit at Qila Kohna Qasim Bagh For Check the Arrangements Of Restoration Of Multan Food Street

## Cantonment traders to protest on fuel crisis: Dr Ghazanfar Malik

**Asim Tanveer**

MULTAN: General Secretary of Central Anjuman Tajran Cantt Muaz-zam Waheed Khawaja, Chief Coordinator Ghazanfar Malik, Zafar Iqbal Khan, Malik Zahid Awan, Ejaz Karim and Club Abid Khan while addressing during the welcome meeting on behalf of Pakistan Business Forum Multan said that IMF's salaried bureaucracy have made Pakistan an experiment. In the name of the energy crisis that is being faced day by day, business misery and unrest are being increased by means of impractical economic and business policies. Cantonment traders reject the policy of early closure of shops

And they demand from the government to give relief to the nation by reducing the prices of petroleum products, electricity and gas and to stop the implementation of public and commercial policies such as protecting the interests of the elite. President Rana Shahd Ahmad, Khawaja Dilshad Ahmad, Basiz Tawqeer Ansari, Rana Maqsood, Mubasher Raees and others were participants.

## High Commission for Pakistan, New Delhi celebrates Eid Milad-Un-Nabi (SAW)



ISLAMABAD: On the auspicious occasion of 12th Rabi-ul-Awal, High Commission of Pakistan, New Delhi celebrated Eid Milad-un-Nabi (SAW) with religious zeal and devotion. Mehfil-e-Milad was arranged where Naats and Qasida Burda Sharif-Darood-o-Salam were recited, said a statement received here on Thursday. Officers, staff and their families attended Mehfil-e-Milad at the Chancery's mosque and the auditorium, respectively.

Special prayers were offered on the occasion for peace, progress and prosperity of the country. The High Commission, on the occasion, wished Muslims in India and across the world a very happy Eid Milad-un-Nabi (SAW). This day commemorates the birth of Holy Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) – mercy for all worlds, Who was sent as a blessing for the whole mankind, the statement added.





# Adopt a healthy lifestyle to prevent heart disease: Dr. Palitha

*Diet plays a very important role in preventing heart diseases: General Kiani*

**Hussna Khattak**

ISLAMABAD: Heart and related diseases are increasing at an alarming rate in Pakistan. More than 240,720 people die annually in Pakistan due to heart diseases. Excessive consumption of unhealthy foods such as sugar, salt, fats and fried foods is one of the major causes of heart diseases. To reduce heart diseases we need to adopt a healthy lifestyle. Make walking and exercise a routine, avoid stress, control obesity, avoid smoking and eat a healthy diet. The speakers said this while addressing the Walk and Symposium organized on the occasion of World Heart Day at Rawalpindi Institute of Cardiology. The event was jointly organized by Rawalpindi Institute of Cardiology and Pakistan National Heart Association (PANAHA). Among the guests were President PANAHA

Major General (retd) Masood ur Rehman Kiani, Medical Superintendent, Rawalpindi Institute of Cardiology Dr. Jawaria Abdullah Malik, Panah Executive Vice President Dr. Abdul Qayyum Awan, Panah Additional Executive Vice President Col. Dr. Shakeel Ahmed Mirza, Consultant at Global Health Advocacy Incubator Munawar Hussain, General Secretary of PANAHA Sanahullah Ghumman, doctors, medical staff, civil society, teachers, students and a large number of journalists. World Health Organization Representative in Pakistan Dr. Palitha Gunarathna Mahipala was the chief guest of the event.

Addressing the event, Dr. Palitha said that one 17.9 million people die of heart diseases in the world every year. According to WHO 2020 data, 240,720 people died annually in Pakistan due to heart diseases. Today, on the occasion of



World Heart Day, we should reiterate that we should adopt a healthy lifestyle. Make exercise a routine and be careful with your food choices.

Major General Masood ur Rehman Kiani said that World Heart Day gives us a message to be careful about our heart. We have to take care of our heart. He said that PANAHA has been giving the message to his compatriots for the last 40 years through walks, seminars and various

forums that the factors that cause heart diseases including less physical inactivity, consumption of unhealthy food and use of tobacco. Children and youth are increasingly addicted to smoking. The cigarette industry is attracting the youth with various tactics. We have to save our new generation from these tricks.

Col. Shakeel Mirza said that to avoid heart diseases, we should do regular exercise, eat a well-balanced diet, avoid alcohol and tobacco, avoid stressful environment and get treatment from a qualified doctor in case of illness.

Munawar Hussain said that ultra-processed foods are one of the major causes of heart diseases. Such foods lead to obesity, which is a major cause of heart diseases. Along with awareness of the health hazards of ultra-processed foods, the government should make policies that reduce their consumption.

Sanahullah Ghumman said that the PANAHA is also working with the government on policy options to reduce the use of harmful substances along with educating people about heart and related diseases. Due to efforts of PANAHA, government has increased taxes on unhealthy sugary drinks and tobacco to reduce heart and related diseases, but more needs to be done.

Dr. Abdul Qayyum Awan said that heart diseases have increased to an alarming extent. Earlier, most of the heart patients were elderly people, but now young people and children are coming to the hospital with heart diseases in large numbers.

Dr. Jawaria Abdullah Malik thanked the guests that today's walk and this seminar will help to better understand the causes of heart diseases. Our journalist brothers, convey our message to the people of Pakistan

# Suzuki Motors mulling over exporting cars, components from Pakistan: Chief Executive Hiroshi Kawamura

**Spokesman Report**

KARACHI: The Pak Suzuki Motors Chief Executive Hiroshi Kawamura has said that the Suzuki Motors has been working on the export of their cars, which had been upgraded to many WP-29 standards, stating the economic issues were transitory, and they were committed to providing affordable vehicles to a common Pakistani. The CEO also revealed that Suzuki Motors was also working on hybrid variants

He was addressing the second round of interaction meetings with the part-makers, held here under the banner of Suzuki Motors and which was also participated overwhelmingly by the notable parts producers amid economic uncertainties. In the meeting, total consensus was seen to promote localization and go global.

Addressing the meeting, Pakistan Association of Automotive Parts and Accessories (PAAPAM) Senior Vice Chairman Usman Aslam Malik diagnosed the non-availability of primary raw materials, lack of technology, and low level of localization as the core causalities, leading them to that point. Frequent introduction of variants was also a great barrier to localization, SVC PAAPAM remarked. He reminded the industrial top-notchers even the economies much more robust than Pakistan did not have such frequency of variants. He offered the platform of PAAPAM as a catalyst for capacity building and aligning the industry with the needs of the hour. The SVC urged the OEMs to open up their A max or non-localized list for vendors and display them at PAAPAM to promote localization. Usman also emphasized



exploring the export-after-market for engine and transmission parts, which had a high replaceability rate. Commenting on the Global Supply Chain and EFS, SVC PAAPAM assured its complete support to OEMs for exporting parts through a global supply chain for a dealership-based replacement parts network. The recently introduced Export

Facilitation Scheme, replacing the old cumbersome DTRE by the Government, opened up many new cost-cutting venues for the global supply chain regarding duties and tax exemption. It's up to us to respond to these moves to get the regional competitiveness.

Used cars were opened every few years and subsequent governments surrendered repeatedly to traders' lobbies. The deletion programs were replaced with a less effective mechanism, which was a major blow to deletion process. Abdul Hamid, an Executive member of PAAPAM, also highlighted the issues and remedies for the vendors. He highlighted the need for vendors to diversify using their technical strengths.

In its first round, Aziq Abdul Rehman, former Chairman of PAAPAM, also emphasized the Export Global Supply Chain and import substituted as a way forward. Aziq suggested OEMs and vendors based on the Global Supply Chain mechanism attain at least 10% of the export of their local sales volume. Aziq was of the view that collective efforts by OEMs and Vendors could repair the damage.

# Celebrating Union and Harmony – A MoonMent to Remember Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival Celebrations starts in Pakistan

**Spokesman Report**

ISLAMABAD: China Cultural Center in Pakistan launched a series of online activities to celebrate the 2023 Mid-Autumn Festival: 'A MoonMent to Remember' in Pakistan and for people around the world.

The "My Mid-Autumn Festival in China" video series and other colorful events are part of this year's Mid-Autumn Festival celebration in Pakistan, which is being organized by the China Cultural Center in Pakistan.

Mid-Autumn Festival, also known as the Moon Festival or the Mooncake Festival, falls on



the fifteenth day of the eighth month of the Chinese lunar calendar, when the moon is at its fullest. The festival this year begins on Sept 29 and will continue till October combined with the Chinese National Day's Celebrations on Octo-

ber 1st. In Chinese culture, the Mid-Autumn festival celebration always symbolizes reunion. Having great feast in round-shape tables and admiring the full moon are the hallmark traditions of this festival



because a round shape symbolizes completeness and reunion. Activities such as theme videos, performances, and other content showcasing Chinese Nation's celebration for this year's Mid-Autumn Festival will be displayed and

published on Cultural Counselor and Director China Cultural Centre in Pakistan H. E. Zhang Heqing's twitter, Cultural Center's Official WeChat Channel, as well as Official Facebook Page of China Cultural Centre in Pakistan

## MSB Educational Institute celebrates young authors' success with book launch ceremony



**Commerce Desk**

KARACHI: MSB Educational Institute, an international chain of schools for the Dawoodi Bohra community, announced the success of its Young Authors program. Nine talented student authors from MSB Karachi revealed their books at a book launch ceremony today.

The Young Authors program, a unique initiative by MSB, provided students with an eighteen-month writing development program. During this time, the students gained insights into the art of writing fiction and non-fiction, and had the opportunity to learn from, and interact with, established authors. Through this program, MSB aimed to encourage budding writers and enhance their literary skills.

The novels written by these young authors take readers on a captivating journey into their world of imagination. Each book introduces new characters and offers thrilling plots filled with twists and turns. These novels promise to ignite the imaginations of readers and leave them craving for more.

The grand book launch ceremony, at the Al Jamea tus Saifiyah Auditorium in North Nazimabad was attended by prominent individuals from the literary circle, as well as parents, students, and families of the young authors. Khaled Anam, celebrity writer, actor and advocate of children's education, graced the occasion as Chief Guest.

The book launch showcased the talent and hard work of these young authors, and also provided an opportunity for attendees to purchase the newly published books. This event marks a significant milestone for MSB Educational Institute and highlights its commitment to nurturing creativity and fostering a love for literature among its students

## Yusuf H. Shirazi Complex at LUMS to herald a new era of research and learning

**News Desk**

LAHORE: LUMS hosted the groundbreaking ceremony of its first green building, 'Yusuf H. Shirazi Complex', named after the former Chairman of Atlas Group and one of the founding members of LUMS. The Complex will be a hub of research, innovation and intellectual exchange at the University and house high-impact centres collaborating with industry and government to address the grand challenges of South Asia.

The groundbreaking ceremony was attended by the Shirazi family, including Mr. Iftikhar H. Shirazi, Chairman, Atlas Foundation; Mr. Aamir H. Shirazi, President, Atlas Group; Mr. Saquib H. Shirazi, President/Chief Executive Officer, Atlas Honda Limited; and Mr. Ali H. Shirazi, President/Chief Executive Officer, Atlas Battery Limited.

LUMS senior leadership, the Founding Pro Chancellor, Syed Babar Ali; Pro Chancellor, Mr. Abdul Razak Dawood; Rector, Mr. Shahid Hussain; Acting Vice Chancellor and Provost, Dr. Tariq Jadoon; Bilquis Dawood Chair and Dean Mushtaq Ahmad Gurmani School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Dr. Ali Khan; Dean Shaikh Ahmad Hassan School of Law, Dr. Sadaf Aziz; Director Advancement, Ms. Nuzhat Kamran; Executive Director Strategic Initiatives, Mr. Mohammed Ali Khan; and faculty were also present at the event to acknowledge the generous patronage of the Shirazi family.



# Gilgit Serena Hotel Hosts 'Raabta' Panel Discussion on Responsible Tourism and Climate Action

**Spokesman Report**

GILGIT: Tourism Promotion Services (Pakistan) Limited hosted a panel discussion at Gilgit Serena Hotel, "Raabta" a vital platform for engaging in a dialogue on the 'Harmonization of responsible tourism and climate action: Shaping a Sustainable Future,' this event brought together a distinguished panel of experts, community leaders, and government officials to explore the critical intersection of tourism and environmental conservation.

The event was curated by the esteemed journalist and curator, Sidra Iqbal. The keynote speaker for the event was Mr. Asif Ullah Khan, Secretary Tourism Gilgit Baltistan.

The panel discussion featured prominent experts and lead-

ers who are actively engaged in promoting sustainable tourism and environmental conservation namely Raja Azam Khan, President, Town Management Society Shigar, Haider Raza, Director North, WWF Pakistan,

Kausar Hussain, General Secretary, Gilgit Baltistan Hotel Association, Ejaz Karim, Head of Emergency Management, Aga Khan Agency for Habitat, Qandeel Zehra, Scientific Officer, Environmental Protection Agency Gilgit Baltistan and Iqbal Hussain, Director Tourism, Gilgit Baltistan.

The Raabta panel discussion delved into various aspects of responsible tourism, climate action, and sustainable development. Key topics included the importance of responsible tourism in preserving fragile ecosys-



tems, strategies to mitigate the environmental impact of tourism,

the role of local communities in promoting sustainable tourism,

collaborative efforts between government agencies, NGOs,

and the private sector in shaping a sustainable future.

The Raabta panel discussion at Gilgit Serena Hotel served as a platform for insightful discussions and actionable insights on the pivotal role of responsible tourism in combating climate change. The event reaffirmed the commitment of all stakeholders to protect and preserve the natural beauty of Gilgit Baltistan while fostering economic growth through sustainable tourism practices. It served as an enriching platform for in-depth conversations and actionable insights on the pivotal role of responsible tourism in addressing climate change. The event underlined the collective determination of all stakeholders to safeguard the natural splendor of Gilgit Baltistan while promoting economic growth through sustainable tourism practices.



