Barkat Rice Mills (Pvt) Limited

(PBUH)'s teachings of compassion, unity President Dr Arif Alvi on Thursday felicitated the Pakistani nation and the

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 his message to the nation on Eid Miladun Nabi (PBUH) 1445 Hijr

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Muslim Ummah on the blessed day of Milad-un-Nabi (PBUH). In a message on

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tidings for relieving the suffering of humanity...(Details on Page 8)



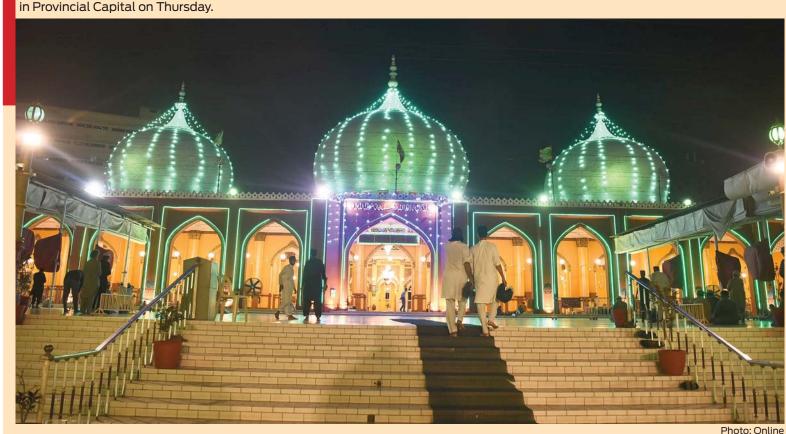
(a) @daily spokesman



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lluminated

KARACHI: A stunning view of the New Memon Mosque illuminated with colourful lights during the celebrations of 12 Rabiul Awwal



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

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Foreign Affairs Jalil Abbas Jilani on Thursday said that around one-and-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, to \$10 billion.

The foreign minister, who apprised the media about his as well as Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-HaqKakar's engagements in New York, rubbished the notions of rolling back the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). "The CPEC is a very trans-

formative 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 IT and mining, the country was 20 bilateral meetings besides



Group's meetings on Kashmir and Palestine, besides media

To a question, he reiterated that there had been no change in Pakistan's foreign policy vis-avis 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-efstan'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 striving to enhance its IT exports attending the OIC Contact fective" way to highlight Paki- misuse of their soil against any stan gas pipeline project.

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

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-Paki-

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

Maveed Ahmad Khan

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

in streets according to their passion.

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

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

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

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.

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

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

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 Masjad-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 civilisation.

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-

The museum chronicles the rophet (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

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 supremo 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

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.

The Spokesman

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.

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

跨 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 Muham- beings. mad (PBUH) was brought to this world as the 'mercy for all



He said the life of the Holy ance for the mankind and pres-Prophet (PBUH) was an ent solutions to uncountable embodiment of obedience to challenges being faced today and (PBUH), the rights given to the Allah Almighty, justice, compasto be faced till the doomsday. sion, and love towards human

He said Holy Prophet (PBUH)'s teachings are univer- for faith and worship, but also sal and undying source of guid- for all aspects of life." President letting down all the forces that our society.

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.

Alvi said teachings of the Holy

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 non-muslims and the agreements with the followers of other

by all Pakistanis.

were keen to destroy the unity

"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

He also prayed to Allah Almighty to shower His blessings on Pakistan and that the teachings of the Holy Proph-Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), religions should be kept in mind et (PBUH) continue to illuminate our paths in the process of The president called for establishing a just and prosper-

Solangi felicitates China on its 74th National Day

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 felicitation 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 Zaidong and other distinguished 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 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 between Pakistan and China.

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

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. Kauser 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. Kauser 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. Kauser 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.

Ambassador of Uzbekistan calls on Jamal Shah

"In the whole life of Hol

we find a perfect model not only

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 Thurs-

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



al sphere, organization of bilat- promotion of tourism poten-

details cooperation in cultur- eral cultural events, mutual

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

tial of Uzbekistan and Pakistan 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 connec-

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.

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 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,

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 for lifting around 800 million 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) and members of the community. as a testament to their trust and



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

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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 disbe-

"It was the time when bloodshed and violence, deceit and deception, iniq- ed the whole world with his knowledge,



uity and immorality reigned supreme over every aspect of human life", he said, adding that the Prophet, who was sent as mercy for humanity, illuminatspread 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 Prophet (peace be upon him)

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 would never go in vain.

The people of Kashmir, he said, have been scripting a new history by following the golden principles of the Holy

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

跨 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) Wagar 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.



coalition government had increased regard. the salaries of government employees

despite facing financial constraints.

The PM said that the incumbent a burden of 19 billion rupees in this

Regarding the appointment of an ADC in the area, the PM said that a He said that the government bore 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 door-

The Prime Minister said that the assembly would complete its full fivevear 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

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 Direc- Qureshi has said that Punjab Group tor Admin Professor Osama Bashir of Colleges Multan Region has been

GOI continuing its endless series of 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 cere-

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, Maheen 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



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 cease, 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 possible plans of actions for ensuring 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, Gulfam Nabi, stressed on the importance of having unions in Sindh. As it will bring empowerment in employment sector especially for Homebase

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 businesses operating within supply chains, aligning with the United Nations Guiding Principles (UNGP).

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.

HomeNet Pakistan under the Hidden worker's project funded by European commission, HomeNet South Asia and Transform Trade with the support of PRGTTI intends to follow up on the sensitization around presence of home workers within supply chains and initiate dialogue between relevant stakeholders. It envisions that the dialogue would provide a platform to ensure collective actions to further ensure inclusion and protection of Home workers across supply chain.

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 Zulfiqar 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 Qasim 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. DGPHA 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

MULTAN: General Secretary of Central Anjuman Tajran Cantt Muazzam 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 Rabiul-Awal, High Commission of Pakistan, Delhi New 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.





Namaz Timings

Maghrib

	EMERGER	ICY
F	Rescue (Police)	15
E	Bomb Disposal	15
F	Fire Services Rawalpino	li/
1	slamabad	1122 & 16
E	Emergency Ambulance	1122 &
8	& Rescue Services	4451122
N	Motorway Police	9266044
N	Motorway Police9	270601-20

Women Police

Stati	IONS
Islamabad	922259
Rawalpindi	9270601-2

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

HOSPITALS

CMH	5611111
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

DEDADTMENTS

PELWUI	MILITIS
CDA	9221334-43
CDA	9208301-04
Met Office	9250360-6
RDA	5555864
TMA	5770886
Cantonment Board	d 9270151-3
Islamabad Metrop	olitan
Corporation	9209224
Potohar Town	9209224
Rawal Town	5773343

COMPLAINTS

Water Tanker Service G-5, G-6, G-7, G-8, G-9, G-10, G-11, G-12, H-8 ..9266316 Wapda Islamabad......9217579-80 Sui Gas Complaint..... 119, 9272249 Wasa Water Tank ...0331-5022125

TRANSFORM Pakistan acrossAll Food *Items*

Example 2 City Desk

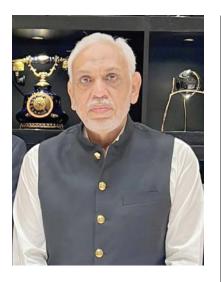
ISLAMABAD: On World Heart Day the coalition partners of the TRANS-FORM Pakistan campaign, including Ministry of National Health Services Regulations and Coordination (MoNHSRC), Pakistan Youth Change Advocates (PYCA), Center for Peace and Development Initiative (CPDI), and Global Health Advocacy Incubator (GHAI), issued a joint statement to address the critical public health issue of unregulated trans-fats in a wide range of dietary sources that affect the heart health of millions of Pakistanis. "We urge the Pakistan Standards and Quality Control Authority (PSQCA) to take immediate action by setting a national mandatory limit of 2 grams of trans fatty acids (TFA) per 100 grams of fats in all food items," read the statement.

TRANSFORM Pakistan campaign partners emphasized their commitment to working collaboratively with PSQCA and other stakeholders to ensure the successful implementation and enforcement of the much-needed TFA limits in all Pakistani dietary sourc-

"On this World Heart Day, we call upon PSQCA to act swiftly and decisively to protect the heart health of all Pakistanis. Together, we can make a significant impact on reducing the burden of heart disease and improving the overall health of our nation."

Referring to the best policy practices adopted by many countries across the globe, the statement added, "The harmful effects of TFA on cardiovascular health are well-documented, and many countries have already taken proactive measures to limit their consumption. We commend those efforts but strongly urge PSQCA to cover all foods to adopt the best policy practice through a single regulation, as it will contribute to a healthier Pakistan and save thousands of lives every year."

Karim Malik bids on Eid Milad-un-Nabi greetings to all



'May Allah guide us on path illumined by Holy Prophet (PBUH)'

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Renowned businessman Karim Aziz Malik, CEO, Barkat Rice Mills, Senior Vice President Islamabad Industrial Association, Former Vice President FPCCI, said in his message "I wish to extend my greetings to every one particularly to the Muslims throughout the world and in

Holy Prophet (peace be upon him) with his example and give us the wisdom and the strength to follow his teachings and rekindle our souls with the light lit by him.

The Holy Prophet (PBUH) brought a message of peace, love, compassion and humility and preached tolerance and understanding-virtues that we all need Pakistan. I also pray that Allah Almighty to imbibe today more than ever before. and at all times.

guide us on the path illumined by the The Prophet (PBUH) was the benefactor of entire universe, the President said and adding, it was against the spirit of his teachings if any one sought to monopolise his teachings or forced any exclusive interpretation of it on others. The Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) was sent by Allah Almighty to the entire mankind and that was why homage is paid to him everywhere

PRCS organizes Grand Mehfil-e-Milad to celebrate Eid Milad un Nabi

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS) proudly hosted a splendid Mehfil-e-Milad to commemorate Eid Milad-un-Nabi (S. A. W) at the National Headquarters on Thursday.

Speaking on this occasion, Chairman PRCS Sardar Shahid Ahmed Laghari said that Eid Milad un Nabi is a day of profound renewal of allegiance with the Rehmatullil-Alameen Hazrat Muhammad (Peace Be Upon Him). It serves as an opportunity for the faithful to recommit themselves to living in accordance humanity on the path to his Creator and his life was the embodiment of all the qualets and messengers of Allah", he added.

He went on to express a heartfelt prayer, saying, "May Allah grant us the courage and strength to wholeheartedly follow the life and teachings of the Prophet Muham- a historic moment as PRCS mad (PBUH)."

The event witnessed the guests, Secretary General PRCS Muhammad Abaidullah Khan, representa- ed, adding to the spiritual with the Sunnah (the way of tives from the International fervor of the event. The clos-

divine commands. "Proph- (ICRC), International Federet Muhammad (PBUH) led ation of the Red Cross Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and delegates from other National Societies. Notably, Badr-ul-Isities of the preceding proph- lam Badr had the privilege of reciting the Holy Quran, while Mirza Muhammad Ikram, Shahryar Naqshbandi, Faizan Abbasi, and Muhammad Ibrahim Tanweer graced the occasion as reciters.

This celebration marked commemorated Eid Miladun-Nabi (PBUH) for the very participation of esteemed first time in the history. The poetic beauty of Qaseedah Burda Sharif was also recitlife of the Prophet) and the Committee of the Red Cross ing prayer was led by Mufti and practical service.

honored the Al Furqan Art Exhi-

The event was attended by

notable businessmen & philan-

thropists Mr. Hanif Gohar,

Mr. Bilal Wakeel, Mr. Danish

Aman, Mr. Zahid Hameed, Mr.

Anis Younus Mr. Naeem Qure-

ishi, Mrs. Naushaba Khalil, Ms.

Raunaq Lakhany, Mrs. Farzana

Motiwala, Mrs. Nusrat Allaud-

din & Mrs. Aalia Sarim Burney.

ing Mrs. Alia Hasan, Al Furqan

Members of Executive Coun-

cil Mr. Muhammad Intesarud-

Mrs. Ayesha Intesar, Al Furqan

AFWO President Mrs. Rubi-

bition with their presence

Muhammad Yasir.

Earlier, Chairman PRCS Sardar Shahid Laghari also inaugurated the latest Biosafety level III (BSL-III) lab. This state-of-the-art facility will offer a wide range of laboratory tests to the public at significantly discounted rates, further advancing PRCS's commitment to serving the

PRCS remains dedicated to its mission of providing humanitarian aid, promoting healthcare, and fostering unity among communities. Eid Milad-un-Nabi celebrations serve as a testament to the organization's ongoing commitment to both spiritual

Campaign Urging PSQCA to Regulate Trans Fatty Acids AFWO holds Art & crafts exhibition of Children

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Al Furgan of their school children at local Hotel. Amongst 3000 students, the children interested in arts and crafts participated in a competition between 14 schools. 20 best art & craft creations from each school were selected and displayed in the exhibition.

A live art competition was also held on the premises. The judges were seasoned Artists and professors from Arts Universities.

Roshni public school, a venture under Darakshan Pakistan for underprivileged children also participated in the Art Exhibition.

Over 50 stalls displayed artistic skills of school children that belongs to the marginalized communities of Karachi.

Former Sindh Local Government Minister, Syed Nasir Hussain Shah, has stressed the need for nurturing the creative skills of the children in addition to providing them quality education and learning opportunities.

The former Sindh Local Government minister stated this, while speaking as the Guest at the exhibition of the paintings, artworks, and handicrafts made by the students.



The exhibition was organised Prof Dr. Farhan Essa Abdullah by the Al-Furqan Welfare Organisation (AFWO) in collaboration with the Roshni Public School and magnanimous support of The Froebel School.

Consulate General Malaysia HE Herman Hardynata Ahmed was Chief Guest for the morning event accompanied by his wife Mrs. Noor Razila Abd Razak and daughter and an entourage of the

The CGTurkev HE Mr. Cemal Sangu was the Chief Guest for na Faryal Asif, Director Marketthe evening session accompanied by Vice Consul Mr. Ali Fuat

Rotary International District din, & Mr. Zeeshan Habib, 3271 District Governor Mr. Hanif Khan & PDG & CEO Schools Academic Heads, Princi-Essa Labs & Diagnostic Centre pals & teachers were the Organ-

izers of this event.

Indus Valley School of Art & Architecture Dean Dr. Faiza Mushtag & Associate Professor Ms. Nurayah Nabi, Ex Minister Mr. Saeed Ghani, DIG Mr. Sharjeel Kharal also graced the event.

The former Local Government ministers, the Consuls General and guests appreciated the artistic skills of the children and also purchased artworks crafted by the students.

Al Furqan Schools President told the audience that her welfare organisation has been running a total of 14 schools

Some 3,000 deserving students of these schools are being provided with the facilities of quality education, healthcare services, uniforms, textbooks, and break-time meals. Todate three batches of students from Al Furqan schools have passed the matriculation examinations.

She said the Art exhibition had been organized for the purpose of fundraising for textbooks for deserving students. She said the AF schools also facilitates passing out students to pursue higher education.

She also expressed gratitude to the guests of the event and regular donors for donating to run the AF schools charitable school

All Pakistan Chinese Overseas Federation to celebrate 74th Independence Day of China

ISLAMABAD: President of All Pakistan Chinese Overseas Youth Federation Aasma Butt said that Pakistan-China friendship spans seven decades. This friendship is characterized by mutual respect and extensive cooperation in various



fields, which highlights the background of historical, cultural and selfless love between the two countries.

President of the Federation Aasma Butt said that to pay a heartfelt tribute to our dear friend, a grand ceremony was organized on the occasion of the 74th Independence Day of the Republic of China from the platform of the Federation in Islamabad on Saturday, September 30. In which the officials of the Chinese Embassy as well as important personalities from different walks of life will participate. The aim of the event is to highlight the importance of the relationship between the two countries.

AIOU taking steps to bring out-of-school children in educational network



ISLAMABAD: "Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU) has started a campaign to bring out-of-school children into the education net, we are expanding our educational network in the remote and relatively low literacy areas of the country to achieve this goal. Regional offices and model study centres of AIOU will be established in every part of the country that lacks the basic facilities necessary for education", said Vice Chancellor, AIOU, Prof. Dr. Nasir Mahmood, while presiding over the Regional Directors meeting at Faisalabad Regional Campus yesterday.

Regional directors of Sahiwal, Sargodha, Jhang, Kasur and Gujranwala participated in the meeting. Regional Director, Faisalabad, Dr. Bashir Ahmad Samim hosted the meeting. Vice Chancellor directed the regional heads to identify areas where AIOU can provide educational facilities. Dr. Nasir said that our goal is to increase the facilities as much as possible. Dr. Malik Tauqir Ahmed Khan briefed Vice Chancellor about the Regional Offices and model study centers of AIOU in Punjab. All the regional heads assured the Vice Chancellor to pay special attention to student facilitation. Dr. Bashir Ahmad Samim gave a detailed briefing to the Vice Chancellor on the services of his region.

Pakistan will uphold its commitments on labour rights: Jawad Sohrab Malik



City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Mr. Jawad Sohrab Malik, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister (SAPM) on Overseas Pakistanis & Human Resource Development has assured International Labour Organization (ILO) and European Union (EU) that Pakistan is resolute to fulfill its commitments with regard to compliance of fundamental labour standards which include elimination child & forced labour, freedom of association and gender discrimination. He was speaking as a Chief Guest at the launch of National Report on the General Scheme of Preferences Plus (GSP+) at Marriott Hotel Islamabad organized by Ministry of Overseas Pakistanis & Human Resource Development with the support of ILO and EU.

The SAPM on OP&HRD Jawad Sohrab Malik reiterated that we are cognizant of the challenges concerning labour rights and committed to overcoming them. Pakistan is on a journey to becoming an ethical and responsive global partner and the GSP+ is a critical part of that journey to which we remain fully dedicated, he added. He also emphasized for close cooperation and coordination amongst all partners to comply with international convention of labour rights successfully for uninterrupted benefits from the GSP+ status which is imperative for export of our goods to EU countries.

The event was attended by Mr. Geir Tonstol, ILO Country Director for Pakistan, and Dr. Stephen Langrell, Head of Rural Development and Economic Cooperation of EU Delegation to Pakistan. Speaking on the occasion, the Country Director ILO to Pakistan assured to providing technical assistance to the Government of Pakistan in undertaking the required reforms to meet GSP+ conditionalities.

SDPI-Cargill joins hands to building a healthy Pakistan and combat Industrial Trans-Fatty Acids consumption

👺 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan, like many other countries, is grappling with the adverse effects of industrial trans-fatty acids (iTFA) consumption, which may cause serious health problems, including heart diseases, diabetes, and obesity.

To tackle this pressing issue of iTFA in Pakistan, Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) and Cargill have formed a strategic collaboration that aims to address the health risks associated with iTFA consumption, promote public awareness, and advocate for policy changes to ensure a healthier food

supply in the country. Speaking on the occasion, SDPI Executive Director Dr Abid Qaiyum Suleri said: This partnership represents a significant milestone in our ongoing efforts to improve public health in Pakistan. He stressed to need to form



effective partnerships and collaboration with industry to address the challenges posed by industrially produced trans-fatty acids and work towards a healthier

"We are excited about our collaboration with SDPI in our joint mission to address the critical issue of industrially produced trans-fatty acids in Pakistan," said Cargill's Country Head in Pakistan Usman Qayyum. "Through this partnership, we aim to make a tangible difference in reducing iTFA consumption, raising public awareness, and bringing about positive changes in the food industry," he said, adding that Cargill and SDPI are committed to driving sustainable change and creating a healthier food environment for the people of Pakistan.

This partnership signifies a shared commitment to promoting public health and well-being through collaborative

Editorial/Opinion

Friday, September 29, 2023

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Israeli settlements 'systematically erode' viability of Palestinian State

he UN Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, Tor Wennesland, has expressed deep concern over the relentless expansion of Israeli settlements in the occupied West Bank, including East Jerusalem.

During the last three months, more than 10,000 housing units were advanced, he told the UN Security Council in New York on Wednesday.

'Settlements further entrench the occupation, fuel violence, impede Palestinian access to their land and resources, and systematically erode the viability of a Palestinian State as part of a two-state solution", the senior UN envoy said.

"I call on the Government of Israel to cease all settlement activity and dismantle outposts immediately, in line with its obligations under international law," he added.

The regular briefings stem from Security Council resolution 2334, adopted in December 2016, which demanded that Israel stop building new settlements on Palestinian land.

Wennesland also expressed concern over escalating violence in the occupied West Bank and Israel, at levels not seen in decades. He bemoaned the use of increasingly lethal weaponry, including in densely populated areas.

There have been casualties on both sides.

Palestinians, including children, were killed or injured during demonstrations, clashes, security operations, and attacks, while Israelis, including members of the security forces, also suffered casualties.

Wennesland called for immediate steps to de-escalate tensions. "I condemn all acts of violence against civilians, including acts of terror. Such acts can never be justified and must be condemned by all. Perpetrators must be held accountable and swiftly brought to justice," he said.

Additionally, Wennesland noted funding shortage affecting UN humanitarian agencies, including the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) and World Food Programme (WFP), calling on Member States to provide more support.

UNRWA urgently needs \$75 million to maintain food assistance through December for 1.2 million Palestinians in Gaza, while WFP requires \$32 million for aid efforts across the Occupied Palestinian Territories (OPT).

Concluding his briefing, the Special Coordinator said there was no substitute for a legitimate political process to resolve the core issues driving the conflict.

He reiterated his commitment to supporting both Palestinand Israelis to resolve the decades of conflict, "in p of the vision of two States – Israel and an independent, democratic, contiguous, viable, and sovereign Palestinian State - living side by side in peace and security within secure and recognized borders, on the basis of the pre-1967 lines, with Jerusalem as the shared capital of both States."

'China's Ascent: The CPEC Connection' - II

Economic (CPEC), a subset of the expansive Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), was formally inaugurated in April 2015, marking a pivotal moment during Chinese President Xi Jinping's visit to Pakistan. Nevertheless, the groundwork for this transformative project had been laid through deliberations spanning several years.

CPEC revolves around the core objective of bolstering connectivity between China's western province, notably Xinjiang, and Pakistan's strategically positioned Gwadar Port in the southern region. Its comprehensive scope encompasses an array of infrastructure undertakings, including the development of highways, railways, energy pipelines, and the expansion of Gwadar Port. At its heart, CPEC seeks to elevate trade ties between China and Pakistan, while concurrently providing China with an alternate trade pathway to the Arabian Sea. It assumes a pivotal role in advancing Pakistan's economic development agenda.

For China, CPEC bears immense strategic significance, as it presents a more streamlined and secure trade route, bypassing the congested South China Sea and the Strait of Malacca. Moreover, CPEC seamlessly aligns with China's

China-Pakistan overarching regional and global econom-Corridor ic and geopolitical aspirations.

The Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and CPEC collectively epitomize China's visionary blueprint for fostering economic integration, fortifying infrastructure development, and augmenting connectivity across diverse regions. These grand initiatives have engendered considerable international discourse, spanning discussions concerning their potential advantages as well as apprehensions regarding facets like debt sustainabil-

ity, transparency, and geopolitical ramifica-

International assessment and monitoring entities, including reputable banks and think tanks, have conducted comprehensive evaluations of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor

(CPEC) within the broader framework of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). CPEC carries the potential to catalyze substantial economic growth and development in Pakistan, with a specific focus concerns and interests of all stakeholdon critical sectors like infrastructure, energy, and trade.

underscored that CPEC has the capacity to uplift Pakistan's economic growth by a Initiative (BRI), signifying a strate-

ally. Likewise, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) has acknowledged the positive prospects CPEC holds for Pakistan's economy, provided its execution adheres to sound principles.

Furthermore, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) has emphasized that CPEC can play a pivotal role in helping Pakistan attain its development objectives. In parallel, the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), a respected U.S. think tank, has character-

ized CPEC as a potential "game-changer" for Pakistan's economic landscape.

However, it is imperative to heed the cautionary perspective presented by the International Crisis Group (ICG), an institution with a specialization in

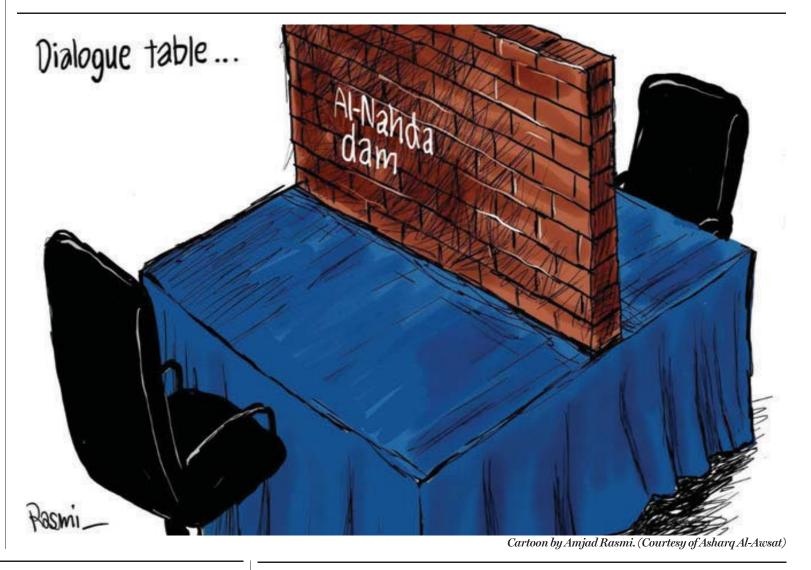
conflict prevention. They have cautioned that CPEC's impact on Pakistan could be destabilizing unless its implementation thoughtfully accommodates the ers involved.

The China-Pakistan Economic The World Bank, for instance, has Corridor (CPEC) stands as a linchpin in China's ambitious Belt and Road

significant 2-3 percentage points annugically crucial corridor. Within this framework, CPEC plays a pivotal role in advancing connectivity, driving economic expansion, ensuring energy security, and bolstering geopolitical influence. Its accomplishments are intrinsically linked to China's comprehensive vision of elevating its economic and strategic presence on the global stage.

Specifically, CPEC offers China a more efficient route to the Arabian Sea and holds the potential for substantial economic growth and development in Pakistan. By addressing energy shortages, streamlining trade, and fostering regional connectivity, CPEC promises to generate employment, promote industrialization, and encourage economic collaboration. However, it is not without its challenges, including concerns about transparency and environmental impacts. In totality, the successful realization of CPEC carries profound significance, offering the prospect of economic advantages, fortified energy security, and enhanced regional connectivity for both nations.

The author is the former Press Secre $tary\, of\, the\, President\, of\, Pakistan,\, the$ former Press Minister of the Embassy of Pakistan in France and also has been the former MD/CEO Shalimar Recording and Broadcasting Compa-



Need to immediately Privatize Loss Making Companies - II

his bureaucratic complexity can deter citizens from accessing public services without resorting to bribery. Politicians sometimes protect corrupt officials in exchange for loyalty and support. This culture of political patronage further erodes accountability and perpetuates corrupt practices. Poverty and limited access to education exacerbate the problem of corruption. Vulnerable individuals may feel compelled to engage in corrupt activi-

ties to secure basic necessities for themselves and their families.

Corruption has profound implications for Pakistan's development and the well-being of its citizens: Corruption diverts valuable resources away from development projects and public services.

Funds that could be invested in education, healthcare, and infrastructure are siphoned off by corrupt officials. Corruption often leads to unequal access to public services, with those who can afford to pay bribes receiving preferential treatment. This perpetuates social and economic disparities. Corruption erodes public trust in government institutions. When citizens perceive government departments as corrupt, they are less likely to engage with public services and institutions, further weakening the state's legitimacy. Corruption discourages foreign investment and stifles economic growth. Businesses may be reluctant to invest in a country with a reputation for corruption, limiting job opportunities and economic development.

Combatting corruption in Pakistan's government departments requires a multifaceted approach: Establishing

independent anti-corruption bodies with the power to investigate and prosecute corrupt officials is crucial. These bodies should operate transparently and without political interference. Adequate remuneration for government employees can reduce their vulnerability to corrupt practices. A fair wage system can help deter bribery and improve the quality of public services. Simplifying bureaucratic procedures and reducing red tape can minimize opportunities for corruption. Digitalization of government services

can also enhance transparency and efficiency. Implementing open data initiatives and ensuring public access to government information can help expose corrupt practices and hold officials accountable. Public awareness campaigns and educa-

tional programs can inform citizens about the detrimental effects of corruption and empower them to resist it. Corruption in Pakistan's government departments remains a significant challenge that impedes progress and undermines trust in public institutions. To address this issue effectively, concerted efforts are required at all levels of society and government. By implementing reforms that focus on accountability, transparency, and socioeconomic development, Pakistan can make strides toward a more just and prosperous future for its citizens. These steps are very difficult to implement in Pakistan's Governmental departments due to many reasons.

Many of our national institutions have been losing money for a long time and are a huge burden on the economy. Companies like Pakistan Steel, Railways and PIA etc are the examples of this scenario. As much as the employees are in a

bad situation, the lavish salaries, perks and royal expenses of the officers are not hidden from anyone. Corruption is separate from that. It is in the minds of government employees and officers in our beloved country that whether you work in the government job or not, you will get salary after a month. After corruption this mindset also played a big role in destroying our national institutions. In addition, the political governments in their respective periods have contributed equally to the destruction of these institutions by recruiting additional employees. Absence of technical officers and heads is also a major reason for the destruction of these institutions.

Today, the Pakistan Steel mill's production is zero. Outdated machinery does not meet the standards set by other leading mills in the steel industry. The technology is far from self-reliant due to administrative and financial constraints. Production at the mills shut down in June 2015, when Sui Southern Gas Company (SSGC) stopped supplying gas due to overdue payment. Additionally, Pakistan Steel Mills is unable to pay the salaries of its employees. Pakistan Steel Mills incurred a loss of PKR 16.9 billion by end of FY 2008. Within 5 years this had ballooned to PKR 118.7 billion. These losses continued to bulge and reached PKR 200 billion in 2018. At present, the total losses and liabilities are approximately PKR 400

One of the primary reasons behind Pakistan Steel Mill's failure is the interference in the mills' affairs by successive political governments. These governments always compromised merit while appointing the CEO's of the organization during all the previous governments, besides inducting incompetent people at various key positions, having political affiliations.

To be continued

Kashmiris stand firm & persistent to resist Indian Occupation

Sheikh Abdul Mateen

odi led BJP came into power in 2014 after a considerable majority in the general election rooting out the United Progressive Alliance. For the subsequent elections in 2019 BJP's manifesto explicitly called for the revocation of the semi-autonomous status of IOJK. On 5th august 2019, BJP implemented their well thought and pre strategies to ensure the annexation of the occupied territory into Indian Union. The implementation of controversial policies intended to subjugate the people of Jammu and Kashmir through fear, denial of their basic human rights and excessive use of force. The Modi led central government believes that the implementation of such types of policies will lead to an end of the long standing international dispute, and to perpetrate demographic transformation of Muslim majority state into minority. Moreover, one of the brazen actions in IOJK that has been termed as violation of fundamental rights isproperty attachment. Indian authorities are attaching properties of pro-resistance leadership, human rights defenders, journalist, academics, and the members of civil society.

Indian authorities label them that their property is being used for the purpose of anti-national activities and has falsely framed them in money laundering and terror financing charges. This policy has spread fear and tension among the masses of Jammu and Kashmir and has affected Kashmiri diaspora too, those people who are struggling for the right of self-determination and were either forced to leave or left due to the fear of being killed or jailed. The central Government backed by Hindu extremist lobbyis clearly following Israel's model of occupation that has been implemented in Palestine, they have initiated the process to establish settler colonies in the IOJK to ensure exclusive Hindu settlements in the region. India, despitebeing a party to the ICCPR and signatory to multiple international treaties and conventions related to human rights are flagrantly violating the international standards and principles on daily basis. All these actions have threatened the peace and stability in the region and sabotaged the implementation of UN resolutions of dispute. The process of attachment of properties is being done as per section 2(g) & 25 of ULP Act [Unlawful Activities Prevention Act J. Sofar several hundreds of properties have been attached through this section and the process is going on

mostly in all districts of IOJK. Moreover, the seizure of property is being done through the orders of the union ministry of home affairs (MHA) of India. The Indian authorities have also listed a number of houses that will be attached or seized very soon. All these actions are being carried out by the national Investigation Agency (NIA) of India. They put upthe boards on property announcing the attachment of property through the orders passed by the NIA courts. In addition Police and paramilitary forces have been given free hand to demolish the houses where the armed freedom fighters are taking refuge after taking up arms in self-defense against India's 900000occupying forces personnel. Moreover the police have also started to book the ownersof such houses under anti-terrorism laws on the grounds of giving shelter toarmed freedom fighters. The police, paramilitary forces, and state agencies including NIA and SIA have widened the unlawful framework of counterinsurgency against the pro-freedom and pro-resistancepeople of IOJK. They are clearly operating under a host of repressive laws, the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA) is one among those repressive laws which is frequently used after the revocation of semi-autonomous status of IOJK to suppress and silence dissent. New tools and techniques are being used by Indian occupying forces to suppress and oppress the resistancemovement of Kashmir. The Modi led central government has been trying to establish its legitimacy in the Indian occupied Jammu and Kashmir and are trying veryhard toportray to the international community a false image of normalcy in the occupied region. But in reality implementing brutal policies and strategy, and hostinginternational events in disputed regions under the shadow of occupying forces willnot restore peace and security or real normalcy in the region. The ground realities of Kashmir are nothidden to the international community while the government backed by Hinduextremist lobby is altering the demography of Muslim majority state. Kashmirisdespite having always demanded peaceful settlement of disputes are least supported by the international community. However, the Kashmiris continue topersevere and are hopeful for the resolution of the Kashmir issue as per theiraspirations under the auspices of UNSC. Kashmiris stand firmly in the face of oppressor and continue persistence in resistance struggle despite facing the worstkind of brutalities at the hands of occupier and oppressor India.

The writer is General Secretary of All Parties Hurriyat Conference-AJK Chapter.

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 (PANAH). Among the guests were President PANAH

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 Munawarr Hussain, General Secretary of PANAH 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 PANAH 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 PANAH 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 PANAH, 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

B Spokesman Report

KARACHI: The Pak Suzki 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-notches 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 align- al Supply Chain and EFS, chain regarding duties and ing the industry with the needs of the hour. The SVC urged the OEMs to open up their A for exporting parts through max or non-localized list for a global supply chain for a vendors and display them at



sized exploring the export-after-market for engine and transmission parts, which had a high replaceability rate. Commenting on the Glob-SVC PAAPAM assured its complete support to OEMs dealership-based replace-PAAPAM to promote localiment parts network. The

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

In his keynote speech, Malik criticized the Government for not providing consistzation. Usman also empha- recently introduced Export ent, industry-friendly poli-

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

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



Example 2 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

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.

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 MoonMoment 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 the fifteenth day of the eighth ber 1st. Festival celebration in Paki- month of the Chinese lunar by the China Cultural Center in Pakistan.



In Chinese culture, the stan, which is being organized calendar, when the moon is Mid-Autumn festival celeat its fullest. The festival this bration always symbolizes year begins on Sept 29 and will reunion. Having great feast in Mid-Autumn Festival, also continue till October combined round-shape tables and admirknown as the Moon Festival or with the Chinese National ing the full moon are the hallthe Mooncake Festival, falls on Day's Celebrations on Octo- mark traditions of this festival



because a round shape symbolizes completeness and reunion.

videos, performances, and for this year's Mid-Autumn Festival will be displayed and in Pakistan

published on Cultural Counsellor and Director China Cultural Activities such as theme Centre in Pakistan H. E. Zhang Heqing's twitter, Cultural other content showcasing Center's Official WeChat Chan-Chinese Nation's celebration nel, as well as Official Facebook Page of China Cultural Centre

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 Gilgit Baltistan. esteemed journalist and curator, Sidra Iqbal. The keynote speaker for the event was Mr. Asif Ullah of responsible tourism, climate 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,

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



environmental impact of tourism, promoting sustainable tourism, government agencies, NGOs, a sustainable future.

tems, strategies to mitigate the the role of local communities in collaborative efforts between and the private sector in shaping

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.



Index Fluctuation			
Pakistan: PSX 1	00-Share Index		
Current	Prev. Close		
46,232.59	46,365.04		
Day's High	Day's Low		
46,469.59	46,177.49		
Index Value	Change		
5,627,528,614	-132.45		
Percentage	Time		
-0.29%	28 Sept, 2023 5:00 pm		
Europe: FTS	E 100 Index		
Index Value	Change		
7,601.85	+8.63		
Percentage	Time		
+0.11%	28 Sept, 4:35 pm GMT+1		
USA: Dow Jones I	ndustrial Average		
Index Value	Change		
33,626.12	+75.85		
Percentage	Time		
+0.23%	28 Sept, 1:38 pm GMT-4		

Open Market	
-1.54%	28 Sept, 3:15 pm GMT+9

Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Average

Change

Time

-499.38

Index Value

31,872.52

Percentage

Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	189	191
Bahrain Dinar	778.84	786.84
Canadian Dollar	220	222.20
China Yuan	40.24	40.64
Danish Krone	41.83	42.23
Euro	307	310
Hong Kong Dollar	37.93	38.28
Indian Rupee	3.57	3.68
Japanese Yen	1.63	1.71
Kuwaiti Dinar	945.27	954.27
Malaysian Ringgit	62.62	63.22
NewZealand \$	174.58	176.58
Norwegians Krone	27.87	28.17
Omani Riyal	762.31	770.31
Qatari Riyal	80.69	81.39
Saudi Riyal	76	76.75
Singapore Dollar	208	210
Swedish Korona	26.62	26.92
Swiss Franc	323.01	325.51
Thai Bhat	8.12	8.27
U.A.E Dirham	80	80.8
UK Pound Sterling	353.3	357
US Dollar	286.15	289

SECP Proposes Simplified Process for All Right Issues

ISLAMABAD: The Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) has notified draft amendments to the Companies (Further Issue of Shares) Regulations, 2020, for eliciting public opinion. The amendments are aimed at providing greater clarity as well as simplifying the procedure for further issuance of shares by listing companies.

In contrast to the existing procedure, which requires customized disclosures on the basis of issue size, SECP has removed these thresholds and put forward a standardized procedure with uniform disclosure and reporting requirements for all right issues, irrespective of their size.

Nevertheless, the draft regulations call for more comprehensive disclosures within the offering document, aiming to empower investors to make well-informed decisions. These disclosures encompass critical information about the issuer, specific risk factors, and the potential implications of these risks on the company's operations and performance.

In cases where the further issuance of shares, other than through a right offer, is contingent upon a future event, compliance with certain requirements becomes impractical when seeking approval under section 83(1)(b) of the Companies Act, 2017. Consequently, proposed amendments are aimed at exempting specific requirements at the time of approval for such transactions. Furthermore, for individuals other than sponsors, it is proposed to reduce the lock-in period for restricting the sale of shares after issuance to six months, as opposed to the current requirements based on shareholding percentage.

The reporting requirements for both right issues and the issuance of shares, excluding right offers, are being streamlined and aligned with the filing requirements stipulated in the Companies Act,

A consultation paper outlining the proposed amendments and key considerations has been published on the SECP website for more detailed coverage at https://www.secp.gov.pk/document/ consultation-paper-on-draft-amendments-to-the-companies-further-issueof-shares-regulations-2020/? wpdm-

ICCI calls for withdrawal of Section 7E to promote investment and revive economy

156 Tariq Khattak

ISLAMABAD: Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari, President, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI) said that the introduction of Section 7E through Finance Act 2022 has emerged as a major disincentive for investment in the real estate sector due to which the economy is suffering and stressed that the government should withdraw it to promote investment in the real estate and construction sector and revive the economy. He said this while addressing a delegation of real estate developers and builders during their visit to

Ahsan Bakhtawari said that after a judgement of the Lahore High Court, the collection of deemed income tax under Sec-7E has been stopped in Punjab and stressed that the government should withdraw it across the country to end such discrepancies. He informed the delethe withdrawal of this tax in the next budget real estate and construction sector.



to facilitate the growth of business and investment activities in the real estate and construction industry. He said that the government can take the country's economy from recession to gation that ICCI is making strenuous efforts for sustainable development by focusing on the

Sardar Tahir Mehmood, President, Federation of Realtors Pakistan said that the overseas Pakistanis prefer to invest in the real estate sector in Pakistan, but hike in taxes is discouraging them.

Sardar Yasir Ilyas Khan, former President taxes on the real estate sector.

ICCI and CEO Centaurus said that the cut in heavy taxes on the real estate sector can bring foreign investment of billions of dollars to Pakistan and help revive the economy.

Khalid Iqbal Malik, ICCI Group Leader said that the real estate sector is the major source of attracting remittances and foreign investment, however, the imposition of unnecessary taxes has led to a significant decline in remittances and investment.

Engr. Azhar ul Islam Zafar, Vice President ICCI said that after the announcement of the construction package in the past, many mega construction projects were started in Pakistan, but due to high construction cost and high taxes, work on many projects is suspended, which is harmful for the investors and the economy.

Ch. Muhammad Masood, Zulqarnain Abbasi, Ch. Zahid Rafiq, Abid Khan Ch. Nadeem ud Din and others also spoke on the occasion and called upon the government to reduce high

Bouquet of flowers

ISLAMABAD: President United Business Group, Zubair Tufail and Shakeel Ahmed Dhingra presenting flowers to Atif Ikram Shaikh, the presidential candidate of UBG for FPCCI Election 2024-25.



OGDCL announces financial results

跨 Tarig Khattak

ISLAMABAD: The Board of Directors of Oil & Gas Development Company Limited (OGDCL), in its meeting held on September 28, 2023, at Islamabad, announced the financial results for the year ended June 30, 2023, of fiscal year 2022-23. Net sales revenue clocked at Rs. 413.594 billion, translating to profit after tax of Rs. 224.617 billion, showing an increase of 59 percent compared to a profit of Rs. 133.783 billion in the same period of last year and earnings per share of the company clocked at Rs. 52.23 from Rs. 31.11.

The Board of Directors announced the final



of accounts for the period ended June 30, 2023 @ 2.75 per share i.e., 27.50 percent. This is an addition to interim dividends already paid @ Rs.5.80 per share, i.e. 58 percent to its shareholders. The dividend will be paid to the shareholders the implementation of the cash dividend for the year whose names will appear 2022-2023 on the basis in the Register of Members ration program.

on Wednesday, October 18, 2023. The share transfer books of the company will be closed from Thursday, October 19, 2023, to Thursday, October 26, 2023.

During the period under review, the company paid Rs. 159.154 billion on account of Taxation. The annual general meeting (AGM) of shareholders of the company will held on Thursday, October 26, 2023, at 09.00 hours in Islamabad. On the exploration and development side, the company recorded significant enhancements in seismic efforts and drilling activities. The Board of Directors appreciated the efforts of the management for taking effective steps for company's aggressive explo-

Mobilink Bank and UN Women join forces to Champion Women's Financial Inclusion

E Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Mobilink Bank and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, Pakistan (UN Women Pakistan) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to ignite a transformative wave across Pakistan's socio-economic landscape, with a steadfast commitment to advancing gender empowerment and revolutionizing the financial ecosystem. Through this partnership, Mobilink Bank endeavours to address the unmet financial needs of half of Pakistan's population - women - to create equal opportunities, enable access to essential financial services and promote women empowerment to drive nationwide economic development.

Mobilink Bank is part of the VEON group, a global digital operator that provides converged connectivity and online services



across seven countries. As part of its digital operator strategy, VEON is transforming people's lives by creating opportunities for increased digital inclusion and by driving economic growth across than 8% of the world's popula-

In this joint effort, Mobilink Bank and UN Women will launch economic empower-

enabling environment tailored to address the financial challenges faced by female entrepreneurs. With a gender-responsive strategy at its core, Mobilink Bank will strive to ensure that all its countries that are home to more products and services champion inclusivity.

At the event, Haaris Mahmood Chaudhary, the Chief Operating Officer (COO) Mobilink Bank, emphasized the organization's ment programs, aligned with central mission, which revolves their respective mandates with around expanding access to a special focus on building an financial services. He particular-

ly highlighted their commitment to empowering women entrepreneurs and women-led small enterprises, drawing inspiration from the remarkable success of their flagship program, the Women Inspirational Network (WIN), which has already positively impacted the lives of more than 2,500 women through customized capacity-building solutions.

Ms Sharmeela Rassool, Country Representative of UN Women Pakistan in her remarks said, "We are delighted to cooperate with Mobilink Bank in this venture. This partnership associates perfectly with our vision of advancing gender equality and women's empowerment, particularly in the domain of economic and financial inclusion. By joining forces, we can collectively drive impactful change and create opportunities for women to thrive as entrepreneurs and leaders in their communities."

22nd Young **Leaders Conference**



Commerce Desk

KARACHI: English Biscuit Manufacturers brought together future leaders for the 22nd time with the Young Leaders Conference (YLC). This edition marks EBM's decades-long commitment to the School of Leadership (SoL) as the founding partner to empower the young leaders of Pakistan.

The 22nd Edition of YLC holds a special significance to EBM, as it saw the launch of 100 "Leaders of Change" Stories, with an emotionally charged exhibit of the transformative journeys of YLC alumni. The impactful showreel

highlighted authentic anecdotes of individuals from previous YLCs, their inspiring journeys and their impact, serving as a reminder of the conference's enduring influence.

Speaking at the inaugural session, Shahzain Munir, Executive Director of EBM, said, "Through 22 years of collaboration with the School of Leadership, we have witnessed the remarkable impact of the YLC on the lives of over 6,500 individuals across Pakistan. Our commitment to social integration, inclusivity, personal growth, and education remains unwavering. In current times, Pakistan needs

SITE Association of Industry elects new office-bearers 2023-24

Example 2 Commerce Desk

KARACHI: The Member of Election Commission of SITE Association of Industry (SAI) Zulfigar Ahmed Chaudhry declared unanimously elected (unopposed) Muhammad Kamran Arbi as President, Muhammad Hanif Ayoob (Tawakkal) as Senior Vice President and Muhammad Farhan Ashrafi as Vice President nue, cesses & levies and, in creation at the 59th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of SAI chaired by Chief Coordinator and former President SAI Saleem Parekh. They were flanked by M. Zubair Motiwala, Chairman taking up the impending issues facing BMG and Patron-in-Chief SAI.

Parekh, while appreciating performance of the outgoing office bearers welcomed the new team of office bearers. The newly-elected office bearers 1st October, 2023.

In his inaugural speech the President-elect Muhammad Kamran Arbi thanked the members of SAI for reposing confidence on him to represent the oldest and the largest Industrial base in the country which was founded by Quaid e Azam in 1947; which has the largest contribution in both federal and provincial reveof jobs. He lauded the efforts made by the outgoing office bearers during

Mr. Arbi outlined his priorities for the industries in SITE area: notably Chief Coordinator SAI Saleem that of dilapidated infrastructure; lack of availability of basic utilities—gas, water and electricity etc. He emphasized the need of taking collective action to resolve the issues facing SITE will assume charge of their offices from industries and requested all members



to engage in the working of the Association.

He expressed grave concern over unfavourable economic conditions prevailing for about a year and

remarked that running of industries is becoming more difficult with every

In his keynote address the Chairman BMG M. Zubair Motiwala spoke at length on the perennial issues faced by the industry and the landslide victory of BMG in the recent KCCI elections. While welcoming the incoming President Muhammad Kamran Arbi and other office bearers Muhammad Hanif Ayoob (Tawakkal) and Muhammad Farhan Ashrafi, M. Zubair Motiwala greatly appreciated the efforts of the outgoing President SAI Riaz Uddin, SVP Abdul Kadir Bilwani and VP Muhammad Hussain Moosani who worked extensively in their tenure to serve the Industries in

Other veterans of SAI present on the occasion were Jawed Bilwani, Younus Bashir, Sikandar Imran, Abdul Hadi, Saleem Nagaria, Zafar Ahmed Sheikh, Muhammad Iqbal Arbi, Muhammad Farooq Arbi, Muhammad Imran, Muhammad Arif Lakhany, Naseem Anwar and others.

Pakistan foil favourites India to set up thrilling last day on pools stage at Hangzhou Asian Games

Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: Seeded No.4 Pakistan produced a spectacular performance to shock top seed India and blow the race to join Malaysia and Hong Kong, China in the semi-finals wide open on the second day of the men's team event at the 19th Asian Games in Hangzhou.

With today's string order 2-3-1, it was up to 19-year-old Noor Zaman to lead out the 2010 champions, with the Peshawar native impressing as he got his side off to a perfect start with a 3-1 win over India's Abhay Singh.

Indian No.1 Saurav Ghosal, part of title-winning 2014 side, quickly restored parity with a 30-minute 3-0 win against Muhammad Asim Khan.

In a frenetic and tense decisive match that wowed the crowd at the



Nasir Iqbal was able to complete the pressure helping him to an 11-6, 13-11, Hangzhou Olympic Sports Centre, upset, with the 29-year-old's grit under 9-11, 11-8 win over Mahesh Manga- events begin October 1.

"It's a really proud moment for me and my country.

We knew how tough this India side is and they're playing very good squash. We really prepared ourselves for

their level and it's a very happy moment for me, my country and my boys," said Pakistan team manager Fahim Gul.

That win for Pakistan ensures a three-way fight tomorrow for the two qualifying positions at the top of Pool

The pools stage of the Hangzhou Asian Games team squash events concludes tomorrow, September 28, with play beginning at 12:30 (GMT+8).

The semi-finals would take place on September 29 and finals on Septem-

The singles and mixed doubles

Pakistan wheelchair team to depart for Nepal on October 2 for Asia Cup

Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan wheelchair cricket team will leave for Nepal on October 2 to participate in the second edition of the T20 Wheelchair Cricket Asia Cup 2023, Pakistan Wheelchair Cricket Council (PWCC) said on Thursday.

The event will take place from October 2 to 8 at the neutral venue of Kathmandu, Nepal.

"A strong 15-member Pakistan team will feature in the five-nation tournament," Rookhsana Rajpoot, President of PWCC told APP.

Teams from Pakistan, India, Nepal, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka will participate in the Asia Cup.

Seasoned Muhammad Zeeshan, who stan but due to some travelling issues led Pakistan to victory in the inaugural edition in 2019 in Nepal, has again been handed over the reins of team's stewardship.

The event, being hosted by Pakistan was earlier scheduled to be held in July but was pushed to October due to rainy season in Kathmandu," Rookhsana said.

of Indian team it was decided to move

Rookhsana said geographically Nepal was the best destination for all the participating teams to arrive.

She said the PWCC would be responsible to cover the event cost, while Nepal's National Disability Sports for "We wanted to hold the event in Paki- All Organization (NDSO) and Physi- October 4, while in the second on the Khalid Shah.

cally Challenged Cricket Association of Nepal (PCCAN) would provide logis-

All the fixtures will be held at Kathmandu's Tu International Cricket

Every day, there will be two matches. The opening match will be held between Nepal and Bangladesh on Adnan, Asif Nadeem, Zulfigar Swati,

same day Sri Lanka will face India.

Pakistan will launch their campaign against Nepal on October 5, whereas in the second match of the day Nepal will face Sri Lanka.

In their second match, Pakistan will meet traditional rivals India on October 6, while in the other match of the day Nepal will clash with Sri Lanka.

On October 7, Bangladesh will meet India in the first match of the day, while in the second match Pakistan will lock horns with Sri Lanka.

Similarly, on October 8 Nepal will compete against India in the first match, whereas the second match of the day will be held between Pakistan and Bangladesh.

The top two teams on the points table will advance to the final, scheduled to be held on October 9.

Pakistan team: Muhammad Zeeshan, Muhammad Fiaz, Muhammad Latif, Muhammad Imran Ameen, Sajid Ali Abbasi, Mozan Nawaz, Ahmed Yar, Umargul, Mohsin Thabel, Muhammad Shahid, Misal Khan, Muhammad

Pakistan outplays Uzbekistan in Asian Games hockey, earns 3rd straight victory

Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan hockey team earned its third consecutive victory in the ongoing 19th Asian Games when it downed Uzbekistan in the extravaganza at Hangzhou, China on Thursday. According to details, the Pakistan team clinched a commanding victory over Uzbekistan, triumphing by a third pool match. Right from the outset, Pakistan established their dominance on



resounding 18-2 win in their Arbaaz Ahmed showcased his Ruman Khan, and Sufyan scoring prowess by netting an impressive five goals, closely followed by Rana Waheed the field, relentlessly slotting and Afraz, each contributconsecutive goals. Impres- ing three goals. Umar Bhatsively, they have amassed a ta and Abdul Rehman exhibtotal of 34 goals across their ited their skill with two goals tion, securing victories in all three pool encounters thus far. apiece, while Arshad Liaquat, three of their matches so far.

Khan each notched one goal in their remarkable performance against Uzbekistan. Pakistan's team remains steadfast in their position at the top of the points table in the hockey competi-

Trailing closely behind was their formidable rival, India, currently holding the second spot, and Japan in third place, both after two matches. The anticipation for an electrifying encounter was building up as the Pakistan hockey team gears up to clash against their arch-rivals, India, in their upcoming fourth pool match scheduled for September 30. The competition boasts a total of twelve participating teams, segregated into two competitive pools. Pool A comprises teams from India, Japan, Bangladesh, Singapore, Uzbekistan, and Pakistan, while Pool B, includes Korea, Malaysia, China, Oman, Thailand, and Indonesia.

Trials of squash players under talent hunt drive

Sports Desk

SARGODHA: Under the Prime Minister Youth Programme, trials of



squash players for Talent Hunt Youth Sports League were held at Squash Complex Sargodha in which 149 players from across the region

participated on Thursday. Participants included 60 male and 89 female players. Chief Selector Director Sports Bahauddin Zakaria University Multan Madam Abida Khan said the selected players would be able to participate in Squash Hunt Youth Sports League, being held in Multan.

She said the aim of the league was to develop skills of squash players all-over the country. President Sports Journalists Association Sargodha Malik Tariq Awan, Director Sports Sargodha University Maher Ahmad Khan Kharl and Madam Shazia were also present.

Squads confirmed for ICC CWC 2023



Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: The squads for the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup2023 in India have been locked in ahead of the tournament opener between England and New Zealand on October 5. Confirmed squads-Pakistan squad: Babar Azam (c), Shadab Khan, Fakhar Zaman, Imam-ul-Haq, Abdullah Shafique, Mohammad Rizwan, Saud Shakeel, Iftikhar Ahmed, Salman Ali Agha, Mohammad Nawaz, Usama Mir, Haris Rauf, Hasan Ali, Shaheen Afridi, Mohammad Wasim. Afghanistan squad: Hashmatullah Shahidi (c), Rahmanullah Gurbaz, Ibrahim Zadran, Reyaz Hassan, Rahmat Shah Zurmati, Najibullah Zadran, Mohammad Nabi Eisakhil, Ikram Ali Khil, Azmatullah Omarzai, Rashid Khan Arman, Mujeeb ur Rahman, Noor Ahmad Lakanwal, Fazalhaq Farooqi, Abdul Rahman Rahmani, Naveen ul Haq Murid. Australia squad: Pat Cummins (c), Steve Smith, Alex Carey, Josh Inglis, Sean Abbott, Cameron Green, Josh Hazlewood, Travis Head, Marnus Labuschagne, Mitch Marsh, Glenn Maxwell, Marcus Stoinis, David Warner, Adam Zampa, Mitchell Starc. Bangladesh squad: Shakib Al Hasan (c), Litton Kumer Das, Tanzid Hasan Tamim, Najmul Hossain Shanto (vc), Tawhid Hridoy, Mushfiqur Rahim, Mahmudullah Riyad, Mehidy Hasan Miraz, Nasum Ahmed, Shak Mahedi Hasan, Taskin Ahmed, Mustafizur Rahman, Hasan Mahmud, Shoriful Islam, Tanzim Hasan Sakib. England squad: Jos Buttler (c), Moeen Ali, Gus Atkinson, Jonny Bairstow, Harry Brook, Sam Curran, Liam Livingstone, Dawid Malan, Adil Rashid, Joe Root, Ben Stokes, Reece Topley, David Willey, Mark Wood, Chris Woakes. India squad: Rohit Sharma (c), Hardik Pandya (vc), Shubman Gill, Virat Kohli, Shreyas Iyer, KL Rahul, Ravindra Jadeja, Ravichandran Ashwin, Shardul Thakur, Jasprit Bumrah, Mohammed Siraj, Kuldeep Yadav, Mohammed Shami, Ishan Kishan, Surya Kumar Yadav. Netherlands squad: Scott Edwards (c), Max O'Dowd, Bas de Leede, Vikram Singh, Teja Nidamanuru, Paul van Meekeren, Colin Ackermann, Roelof van der Merwe, Logan van Beek, Aryan Dutt, Ryan Klein, Wesley Barresi, Saqib Zulfiqar, Shariz Ahmad, Sybrand Engelbrecht. New Zealand squad: Kane Williamson (c), Trent Boult, Mark Chapman, Devon Conway, Lockie Ferguson, Matt Henry, Tom Latham, Daryl Mitchell, Jimmy Neesham, Glenn Phillips, Rachin Ravindra, Mitch Santner, Ish Sodhi, Tim Southee, Will Young. South Africa squad: Temba Bavuma (c), Gerald Coetzee, Quinton de Kock, Reeza Hendricks, Marco Jansen, Heinrich Klaasen, Andile Phehlukwayo, Keshav Maharaj, Aiden Markram, David Miller, Lungi Ngidi, Kagiso Rabada, Tabraiz

Shamsi, Rassie van der Dussen, Lizaad Williams. Sri Lanka squad: Dasun Shanaka (c), Kusal Mendis (vc), Kusal Perera, Pathum Nissanka, Dimuth Karunaratne, Sadeera Samarawickrama, Charith Asalanka, Dhananjaya de Silva, Dushan Hemantha, Maheesh Theekshana, Dunith Wellalage, Kasun Rajitha, Matheesha Pathirana, Lahiru Kumara, Dilshan Madushanka.

A. S. Natural Stone U-16 Inter Zonal Cricket *Tournament*

Sports Desk

KARACHI: Two matches decided in the A. S. Natural Stone Under-16 Inter Zonal Cricket Tournament at various cricket grounds. The Tournament is being organized



by the Regional Cricket Association Karachi Sponsored by A. S. Natural Stone.

The highlights of the days play Brilliant 122 by Adnan Nawaz. **Summarized Scores:** Zone-IV Whites beat Zone-VI Green by 178 runs at Landhi

Gymkhana Ground. Zone-IV Whites 281/6 in 45 overs. Adnan Nawaz 122 with the help of 17 fours and 1 six. M. Masham Hussain 49, Rana Areeb 49. M. Soman Kabir

Zone-VI Green 103 all out in 31 overs. Mudassir 37, Arham

Hussain Qureshi 22. Asad Ahmed (sla) 3/23, Muhammad Masham Hussain (sla) 2/2. In the 2nd Match Zone-II Blues beat Zone-I Blues by 172

runs at Young Fighter Ground, Zone-II Blues 277/6 in 45 overs. Syed Areeb Ali 65 5x4,

Muhammad Hasnain 49, Abdul Hayye 46 not out, Muhammad Ali 29, Faraz Khan 26, Syed Jawad Hasnain 23.

Zone-I Blues 105 allout in 32.2 overs. M. Yaqoob 55 5x4. Abdul Hayye (rlb) 4/19, Syed Areeb Ali (rlb) 3/5, Alyan Zafar 2/10.

Quaid-e-Azam Cricket Trophy 2023-24

Asim Tanveer

LAHORE: Whites' Ali Zaryab and Multan's Zain Abbas struck their maiden double centuries today on the first day of the fourth round matches of the Quaid-e-Azam Trophy 2023-24. Rawalpindi's left-arm fast-bowler Mohammad Faizan bagged a five-wicket haul against Faisalabad on his first-class debut.

Faisalabad v Rawalpindi, Pindi **Cricket Stadium**

After being put into bat, Faisalabad batters were unable to face a fiery spell from left-arm pacer Mohammad Faizan, who in his maiden first-class match took five wickets for 35 and helped his side bowl out Faisalabad for 112 in 39.3

Ali Waqas was the only notable batter for Faisalabad, scoring 26. In reply, Rawalpindi were 77 for four in 32.3 overs when stumps

were drawn. Opening batter nership between Ali Zaryab and Zeeshan Malik top-scored for his side, returning undefeated on 60 off 96 balls, hitting nine fours.

For Faisalabad, Test fast bowler Faheem Ashraf bagged two wickets for seven runs in seven overs. FATA v Multan at Shoaib Akhtar Cricket Stadium, Rawalpindi

After being put into bat, Multan completely dominated the first day's proceedings courtesy an unbeaten double century by Zain Abbas. The left-handed opening batter scored 219 off 268 balls, smashing 30 fours and one six. He knitted an unbroken 312-run partnership for the third wicket with Mohammad Basit, who remained not out on 142 off 166 balls, laced with 23 fours and two sixes.

At stumps, Multan were 405 for two in 86.1 overs.

Karachi Whites v Lahore Whites at **Gaddafi Stadium, Lahore**

A 153-run first-wicket part-

Ahmed Shehzad helped Lahore Whites post 345 for three in 87 overs against Karachi Whites. After being asked to bat first,

left-handed batter Ali Zaryab scored his maiden first-class double century. He returned unbeaten on 204 off 289 balls, studded with 25 fours and one six. Test cricketer Ahmed scored 65, which included nine boundaries, before he was bowled by Test leftarm spinner Noman Ali.

Noman took two wickets for 104 runs from 30 overs.

Lahore Blues v Peshawar at Abbottabad Cricket Stadium, Abbotta-

Lahore Blues captain Imran Butt's decision to bat first backfired as Lahore lost four wickets for 58 runs. At that stage of the match, Hussain Talat was joined by wicketkeeper-batter Junaid Ali and the pair added 138 runs for the fifth

wicket. Hussain top-scored for his side with a 167-ball 87, which included 12 fours.

Junaid scored 82 off 101 balls, hitting 14 fours and one six. Kashif Bhatti, coming to bat at number eight, scored 69 off 91 balls, smashing five fours and four sixes before Lahore Blues were dismissed for 334 in 85.1 overs.

For Peshawar, Mohammad Ilyas and Niaz Khan bagged three wickets apiece. Sajid Khan grabbed two wickets for 91 runs from 29 overs.

Scores in brief:

Rawalpindi won the toss and elected to bowl against Faisalabad at Pindi Cricket Stadium, Rawalpindi Faisalabad 112 all out, 39.3

overs (Ali Waqas 26; Mohammad Faizan 5-35, Mohammad Awais 3-29) Rawalpindi 77-4, 32.3 overs

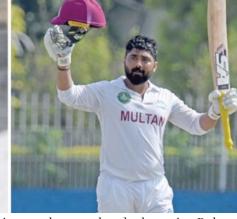
(Zeeshan Malik 60 not out;

Faheem Ashraf 2-7)

FATA won the toss and elected to bowl against Multan at Shoaib Akhtar Cricket Stadium, Rawal-Lahore Whites 345-3, 87 overs

Multan 405-2, 86.1 overs (Zain (Ali Zaryab 204 not out, Ahmed Abbas 219 not out, Mohammad Shehzad 65; Noman Ali 2-104) Basit 142 not out)





Karachi Whites won the toss elected to bat against Peshawar and elected to bowl against at Abbottabad Cricket Stadium, Lahore Whites at Gaddafi Stadium, Lahore

Lahore Blues 334 all out, 85.1 overs (Hussain Talat 87, Junaid Ali 82, Kashif Bhatti 69; Niaz Khan 3-73, Mohammad Ilvas 3-81, Sajid Lahore Blues won the toss and Khan 2-91)