



**Pakistan needs more women in entrepreneurship for sustainable economy: President**

President Dr Arif Alvi on Wednesday stressed the need for gender-responsive policies to ensure women's empowerment and said integration of the country's fifty percent population into entrepreneurship was important for a sustainable economy. (Details on Page 8)



**Education in nation-building is as essential as foundation stone: Mushaal**

Mushaal Hussain Mullick Special Assistant to Prime Minister (SAPM) on Human Rights and Women Empowerment made it clear that the role of education in nation-building is as essential as the foundation stone and our young generation through education can play a significant role in the uplift and development of the country. "We can create awareness about human rights only through education," she added. (Details on Page 3)

Simultaneously published from Islamabad, Lahore and Multan

**SIFC meeting**

ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakarchairs the 6th meeting of the Apex Committee of Special Investment Facilitation Council on Wednesday.



Photo: Online

**SIFC Apex Committee reviews major macro-economic issues**

**Spokesman Report**

ISLAMABAD: The apex committee of Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC) on Wednesday reviewed major macro-economic issues affecting the investment climate including inordinate delays in restructuring/ privatisation of cash bleeding state owned enterprises (SOEs).

The committee also resolved with consensus on fast-tracking the privatisation process and hence, in the larger interest of the country, reduce recurring losses to the national exchequer. The SIFC convened 6th meeting of its apex committee to review various initiatives being spearheaded through the SIFC forum. The meeting was chaired

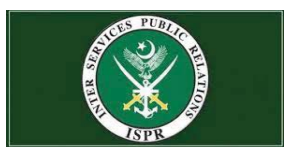
by Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar and was attended by Chief of Army Staff General Syed Asim Munir, members of the cabinet, provincial chief ministers and the high level government officials, PM Office Media Wing said in a press release. The ministries apprised the forum about the practical steps undertaken during the last

one month to improve business and investment environment in the country. The committee expressed overall satisfaction regarding the ongoing negotiations with foreign and domestic investors for timely realisation of various investment prospects. The prime minister appreciated the good work put forth by various minist-

ries and departments and directed to continue with the 'Whole of the Government' approach to overcome economic challenges being faced by Pakistan. The chief of army staff assured unflinching resolve of Pakistan army to support the government's endeavours for a sustainable path towards economic recovery.

**Two innocent Pakistanis martyred by Afghan sentry's fire at Chaman Border crossing**

**Adam Khan Wazir**



RAWALPINDI: Two innocent Pakistani citizens on Wednesday embraced martyrdom after an Afghan sentry employed at the Friend Ship Gate of Chaman Border Crossing along the Pakistan-Afghanistan Border in Balochistan Province opened unprovoked and indiscriminate firing at pedestrians moving from Pakistan to Afghanistan. According to the Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR), the incident occurred at the outbound gate, at 1600 hours, located on the zero line. The two innocents who embraced martyrdom included a 12-year-old child, while another child was injured.

who was immediately evacuated by security forces, was under treatment. The Afghan authorities have been approached to inquire the reason for such irresponsible and reckless acts, apprehend and hand over the culprit to Pakistani authorities, it added.

"IAG (Interim Afghan Government) is also expected to exercise control over its troops and impart discipline to act responsibly in order to avoid the recurrence of such incidents in the future. Pakistan remains committed to contributing towards peace, prosperity, and development through positive and constructive bilateral relations, however, such unpleasant occurrences have the potential to harm the sincere intent and purpose," the ISPR said.

The Pakistan Army troops exercised extreme restraint and avoided any exchange of fire in the presence of innocent passengers to avoid collateral damage. However, the dead bodies of the deceased were shifted to DHQ Hospital Chaman, and the injured child,

**Illegal immigrants have 27 days to leave Pakistan**

**Spokesman Report**

ISLAMABAD: Foreigners residing illegally in Pakistan have only 27 days left to leave the country and face deportation.



Action Plan, it had been decided to take strict action against the illegal immigrants living in Pakistan and the trade and properties of illegal immigrants.

Foreigners living illegally must leave Pakistan by October 31 or law enforcement agencies will ensure their arrest and deportation. It should be noted that in the meeting of the Apex Committee of the National

**FM Jilani, Mongolian Deputy PM discuss bilateral ties**



**City Desk**

ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Foreign Minister Jalil Abbas Jilani on Wednesday held a fruitful meeting with Deputy PM Sainbuyan of Mongolia in Tibet. FM Jilani, Mongolian Deputy PM discuss bilateral ties. The two countries agreed to further deepen mutually beneficial Pakistan-Mongolia relationship, deepen trade and economic cooperation specially in the field of mining, agriculture and textile, FO Spokesperson posted on X.

**Minister spells out govt strategy to meet energy needs**

**Commerce Desk**

ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Minister for Energy Muhammad Ali has spelled out the government strategy to meet the future oil and gas needs in an efficient manner by stepping up hydrocarbon exploration activities in potential areas across the country. "We are coming up with a policy for tight gas, policy for shale gas, we have already announced bids for onshore exploration and in December for offshore exploration," he said in an interview with the Emirates News Agency (WAM) on sidelines of the ADIPEC Conference at Abu Dhabi.



He said Pakistan has a strong presence at ADIPEC this year, with around 10 companies from the exploration, oil marketing, and related sectors. "Indeed, it's a promising start, and on the very first day, we have seen a remarkable response. All our companies are actively engaged, and there's substan-

tial interest in their offerings. The presence here is off to an excellent beginning," he said. Muhammad Ali laid emphasis on decarbonisation and electrification, saying that they were critical components of Pakistan's energy strategy for the future. "While these aspects may not have received sufficient attention in the past, there is now a strong focus on them. Initiatives include energy conservation, electrification efforts, and the re-purposing of natural gas

for power generation to electrify appliances and vehicles," he said. He said that on the decarbonisation front, the Climate Ministry was actively engaged in setting up carbon fund while the Energy Ministry was developing a comprehensive carbon policy. "The ultimate goal is to unite all stakeholders and maximize the potential of these initiatives," he added. He outlined three key priorities for the energy sector.

**Migration deal sealed by EU countries**

**News Desk**

ISLAMABAD: European Union countries on Wednesday sealed a deal on how to handle irregular migration at times of exceptionally high arrivals, taking a step towards overhauling the bloc's asylum and migration rules before a pan-European election next year.

Envoy of the bloc's 27 member states reached the agreement on Wednesday after overcoming the latest spat between Italy and Germany over charity ships picking people up in the sea as refugees and migrants from the Middle East and Africa try to cross the Mediterranean for Europe.

The 27 countries will now negotiate further with the European Parliament. They hope to have a functioning migration system in place ahead of a 2024 European Parliament election that takes place across the union of some 450 million people. The EU has been seeking to reform its asylum system since more than a million people reached its shores in 2015, catching the bloc by surprise and overwhelming countries of first arrival such as Greece and Italy.

Diplomatic sources said Italy agreed to the deal after removing some references to the NGO operations. They added Poland and Hungary - staunchly opposed to hosting any people arriving from the Middle East and Africa - voted against, while their reluctant peers Austria, the Czech Republic and Slovakia abstained. The majority vote went through.

**Cipher case: IHC to hold open hearing on PTI chairman's bail plea**

**Spokesman Report**

ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad High Court (IHC) on Wednesday dismissed FIA's plea and announced holding an open court hearing on the bail plea of the PTI chairman in cipher case.

Announcing the verdict that was reserved on Monday, the Islamabad High Court CJ Justice Aamer Farooq ruled to hold open court hearing of the former PM's bail plea in the cipher case.

The IHC in its verdict said during the hearing sensitive information will be made in-camera on the lawyers' point out.

In the last hearing, FIA Special Prosecutor Shah Khawar pleaded for an in-camera hearing on Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan's bail plea in the cipher case as it is fearful that an open court hearing could harm Pakistan's diplomatic ties with other states if the matter is discussed publicly.

Shah Khawar said even former prime minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto was booked in a case for speaking publicly on a matter.

**Shah Mehmood meets PTI chief during cipher case hearing**

**Spokesman Report**

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan met former foreign minister and party vice chairman Shah Mehmood Qureshi during cipher case hearing.

As per details, the meeting between the PTI chairman and Shah Mehmood continued for a short while during the cipher case hearing.

Furthermore, the PTI lawyer also had a short meeting with former prime minister and party chairman Imran Khan.

Earlier today, the Islamabad High Court (IHC) dismissed FIA's plea and announced holding an open court hearing on the bail plea of the PTI chairman in cipher case.

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**PSO halts fuel supply to PIA over non-payment of dues**

**Commerce Desk**

KARACHI: Pakistan State Oil (PSO) has halted the fuel supply to Pakistan International Airline (PIA) over non-payment of dues.

According to PIA spokesperson, the fuel supply was suspended by the PSO at Lahore airport. The national flag carrier had to face the outburst of

Lahore to Madina PK-747 and PK 305 from Lahore to Karachi's passengers after the delay in flights due to the non-availability of fuel. The spokesperson said that PIA is in talks with the PSO and the delayed flights will take off soon.

Earlier, it was reported that due to the lack of maintenance and repair work, several Boeing 777 aircraft of the national flag carrier Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) developed technical faults during international flights.

The technical faults in PIA aircraft are continuously rising due to the lack of maintenance and repair work by the airline's engineering department.

It is pertinent to mention here that the work on the restructuring plan of Pakistan International Airlines for privatization has been expedited.

As per details, the PIA administration sought applications from legal and corporate firms for the restructuring plan of the national flag carrier.

The Department of Contract Management has been directed to forward the applications by October 6.

The assets belonging to the national airline, including property, debts, aircraft, and employees, will be transferred to the new company and PIA will be presented to the investor as free from debt organization for privatization.

## Rising Woman 2023

ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi addressing an event themed 'Rising Women 2023', organized by Women's Business Network (WBN), at Aiwan-e-Sadr, on Wednesday.



Photo: PID

## Pakistan needs more women in entrepreneurship for sustainable economy: President

## Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi on Wednesday stressed the need for gender-responsive policies to ensure women's empowerment and said integration of the country's fifty percent population into entrepreneurship was important for a sustainable economy. "Women need to be given equal opportunities in education, employment, and political domains to help them secure adequate space in mainstream entrepreneurship," he said at an event themed 'Rising Women 2023', organized by

Women's Business Network (WBN). President Alvi called for devising demand-driven policies including a supportive institutional environment and a workplace free from harassment to encourage women to pursue their businesses. The president highlighted making the information about entrepreneurship more accessible to women and pointed out that only five percent of women availed of the reserved quota of business loans from the State Bank due to a lack of guidance.

He stressed the implementation of family-friendly policies for women, such as

opportunities for doing business from home and providing them a welcoming environment when they rejoin work after maternity leave. The president emphasized providing household women with contemporary skill sets such as the usage of internet to meet the current trends of the world. "We need to train these women to adopt innovative entrepreneurial modes through the use of information technology to help them learn from their homes," he said. He mentioned that women could be turned into a productive workforce if provided with equal oppor-

tunities in all fields of life. He said the religion Islam and the country's constitution ensured equal rights for women and supported their progress.

Despite this, he regretted that absurd cultural norms prevailed in the country where women were denied the right to inheritance. Ambassador of Austria in Pakistan Andrea Wicke spoke about the need to end gender discrimination and under-valuation of women's work. She said equal pay, financial literacy, and legal protection were significant for women's economic empowerment. Italy's ambassador

Andreas Ferrarese expressed his country's shared commitment with Pakistan in achieving the goals of gender equality. He said with equal access to resources, women could bring a positive transformation in the society. Founder WBN Sam ALi Dada said her organization was helping rural women rise above challenges and create improvement in their own lives and their communities. She mentioned Khudkafeel Initiative and Women's Sports Gala as the catalyst programmes in making the women in rural areas self-sufficient.

## Commerce Minister terms GCC-Pakistan FTA as breakthrough for trade

## Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Commerce, Dr. Gohar Ejaz here on Wednesday termed the recently signed Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) as breakthrough for trade, making Pakistan the first country to secure such arrangement and providing it access to substantial market.

"This is very positive news for Pakistan exports towards gulf countries," the minister said while addressing a press conference. He was flanked by Federal Caretaker Minister of Information and Broadcasting, Murtaza Solangi, Caretaker Minister for Power and Petroleum Muhammad Ali and Caretaker Federal Minister for Interior Sarfraz Ahmad Bugti.

He said, GCC, the six-country bloc comprising Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, was established in 2009 and it was after 14 long



years that any country was having FTA with the council. The FTA was signed at 5th round of GCC meeting held last week.

The minister said that GCC was market of around \$1 trillion exports and \$550 billion imports, however Pakistan's share in imports from it was \$19 billion dollar average as it was importing energy and petrochemical products while

the exports' share was just \$2.5 billion dollar.

The minister lauded Saudi Arabia for playing important role in materializing the agreement with six gulf countries, adding that all members of all countries were present during the agreement and they even celebrated it to have such agreement with any country.

The minister said that Pakistan also discussed issues of

Pakistani overseas workers in Saudi Arabia. He said, discussion were made for putting in place a mechanism to facilitate workers to have proper certification to comply with new laws of Saudi Arabia.

The minister said that the government had made proper law to facilitate Afghanistan transit trade adding that the smuggling of transit goods from Afghanistan had increased from \$4 billion to \$6.7 billion.

He said, the government took measures to curb this menace and under new law it had also prepared negative list for exports to Afghanistan.

He said, Pakistan was committed to facilitate genuine trade to Afghanistan, however added that the neighbouring country would have to pay bank guarantees equal to duties of goods and 10 percent transit fee for using Pakistani infrastructure.

He said, the government wanted to ensure that the

goods meant for Afghanistan do not come back to Pakistan adding that around \$500 million that were earned by Pakistanis overseas was financing Afghan transit.

He said, even the State Bank of Pakistan did not intervention and even then dollar went up to Rs.330 and now it is around Rs.280 due to government measures and crackdown on hundi-hawala set ups.

He said, money came back to interbank market and the situation has changed now adding the currency would further stabilize.

At the outset of news briefing, Caretaker Minister for Information and Broadcasting Murtaza Solangi said the prime objective of the Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC) was to boost the economic progress of the country by removing all the obstacles.

All the relevant ministers were present at SIFC meeting, he added.

## At UN, Pakistan pushes for defeating terrorism by settling disputes like Kashmir

## Spokesman Report

UNITED NATIONS: Pakistan has called for addressing the unresolved conflicts, foreign occupation and denial of right to self-determination, especially in Kashmir and Palestine, in order to completely wipe out terrorism that has spread across the world.

"To comprehensively defeat terrorism, we must address not only its symptoms but also its root causes," Ambassador Munir Akram told the General Assembly Legal (sixth) Committee during a debate on 'Measures to eliminate International Terrorism' on Tuesday.

In his remarks, the Pakistani envoy spoke about terrorism's emerging trends and underscored both the importance of agreeing on a legal definition and developing a comprehensive convention on combating the menace.

"Any definition of terrorism in the comprehensive convention must also take into account and reflect the new and emerging threats, including violent acts by white supremacist; far right extreme right wing, violent nationalist, xenophobic, Islamophobic, anti-Muslim and Hindutva groups and ideologies in various parts of the world," he said.

The new convention, the Pakistani envoy said, must clearly distinguish between acts of terrorism and a legitimate struggle of peoples under foreign and colonial occupation to the right to self-determination and national liberation.

"We must ensure that fight against terrorism is not misused to violate human rights," he said, noting a recent Amnesty International Report illustrates how one country in South Asia — India — has weaponized the FATF's recommendations to suppress civil society and journalists and intensify oppression.

Ambassador Akram said that over the past two decades Pakistan has played a key role in fighting against terrorism, pointing out that Al-Qaeda was decimated largely due to its efforts.

However, he said that Pakistan was also a principled victim of terrorism, recalling that over the last 20 years it has suffered over 80,000 civilian and military casualties in terrorist attacks, while its economy and development have been severely damaged.

Pakistan continues to suffer from State-sponsored terrorism, he said, adding that on 29 September — on the birthday of Prophet Muhammad



(peace be upon him) — it had suffered two terrorist attacks, which killed 60 and injured over 100 civilians.

Ambassador Akram also called for addressing the emerging threats of terrorism from right-wing, neo-fascist and Islamophobic extremism," while advocating "appropriate changes" in the UN's counter-terrorism architecture and sanctions regimes to cover hate speech, terrorist narratives and provocations to violence.

"The new cyber tools of terrorism, including crypto-currencies and on-line terrorist recruitment; and regulate social media platforms."

To this end, he suggested that the General Assembly should establish a commission to promote the implementation of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

On the other hand, Indian delegate Kajal Bhat reacted to Ambassador

Akram's pointed words, claiming that Kashmir was an integral part of India and accused Pakistan of involvement in terrorism.

Pakistani delegate Muhammad Jawad Ajmal hit back, saying that Jammu and Kashmir is an internationally recognized

disputed territory. The dispute, he said, remains on the UN Security Council's agenda and its final disposition will be determined by the Kashmiri people through a UN-supervised plebiscite.

Ajmal, a first secretary at the Pakistan Mission to the UN, told the committee that the Indian occupation forces were trying to suppress the Kashmiri people's demand for the exercise of their right to self-determination and freedom, with a brutal crackdown.

Since 1989, he said, over a hundred thousand Kashmiris have been killed and a systemic colonial-settler project is in the works.

The Pakistani delegate accused India of sponsoring state terrorism. "Previously, it used to perpetrate terrorism against its immediate neighbors. Now, its terrorist franchise has gone global," he said in an obvious reference to the alleged Indian involvement in the killing of a Sikh leader on the Canadian soil.

## OIC strongly condemns storming of Al-Aqsa Mosque, closure of Al-Ibrahimi Mosque



## News Desk

ISLAMABAD: The General Secretariat of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) on Wednesday strongly condemned the storming of the Blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque by the Israeli occupation forces and the blatant assault on worshippers as well as the arrest of a number of them.

The Muslim world body, in a statement, also condemned the closure of Al-Ibrahimi Mosque in the city of Al-Khalil (Hebron).

"The OIC General Secretariat considers this an extension of the repeated violations of Israel, the occupying power, of the sanctity of the

holy places and freedom of worship, and a blatant violation of the Geneva Conventions and international law," said the statement.

It said that the OIC held the Israeli occupation government fully responsible for the consequences of the continuation of these crimes and systematic attacks that fuel violence, tension, and instability in the region.

The OIC called upon the international community to assume its responsibilities to put an end to these serious violations, stressing the necessity of preserving the historical and legal status of the Islamic and Christian holy sites in the occupied city of Al-Quds.

## 'World Teachers Day' to be observed on October 5

## Bureau Report

PESHAWAR: To celebrate World Teachers' Day, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education will organize a ceremony at Government Hasnain Shaheed Higher Secondary School, City No1, Peshawar on Thursday.

Minister for Elementary and Secondary Education, Dr. Muhammad



Qasim Jan, would be chief guest on the occasion. This year's central event aimed to recognize the dedication and hard work of teachers in Pakistan.

## Pak-Norwegian BPC reaffirm to further strengthen bilateral cooperation

## City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The 12th Round of Pakistan-Norway Bilateral Political Consultations (BPC) were held here on Wednesday in which the two sides reaffirmed to further strengthen cooperation in areas including investment, shipping, climate change, renewable energy and higher education.

Pak-Norwegian BPC reaffirm to further strengthen bilateral cooperation Pakistan delegation was led by Ambassador Muhammad Saleem, AS (Europe) while the Norwegian delegation was led by Vebjørn Dyrsvik, Director General, Department for

Regional Affairs, the Foreign Office Spokesperson posted on X.

Pak-Norwegian BPC reaffirm to further strengthen bilateral cooperation <https://x.com/ForeignOfficePk/status/1709589229074841859?s=20> The BPC also reviewed progress made since last BPC held in 2021.

In a related post, the spokesperson further said that Norwegian side, being a key investment partner of Pakistan, was also briefed on the Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC), recently established by the Government of Pakistan and was invited to explore investment prospects arising out of the Council.

## Rs 69 bln money-laundering identified in 5 years: Senate body informed

## News Desk

ISLAMABAD: The customs authorities Wednesday informed the Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Revenue that inspection teams had identified Rs 69.5 billion money-laundering committed by 63 individuals during last five years.

Member Customs, Zeba Hai Azhar briefed the committee in a meeting, chaired by Senator Saleem Mandvivala, almost seven accused attached with the solar equipment import-business were among those who smuggled billions of rupees to different countries.

The senate body took up various reports on the massive money-laundering by solar panel/equipment importers was also apprised that two accused had deposited Rs 26 billion in cash for import of solar panels.

The customs official said First Information Reports (FIRs) had been registered against six accused for their alleged involvement in the money laundering for causing dent to the national exchequers.

She highlighted that around 59 percent imports were done through green channels and most of the transition cleared in the Post Clear Audit a Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) department.

While briefing on the Deposits

Protection Corporation (DPC) Deputy Governor State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) Inayat Hussain said that the funds of depositors had legal protection worth Rs 500,000.

Earlier its limit was Rs 250,000 and the said amount limit fully covers 94 percent of depositors under the SBP subsidiary Deposits Protection Corporation (DPC).

He said that all the scheduled banks operating in the country were required to be members of DPC to ensure the deposits in these banks come under the umbrella of the deposit protection mechanism.

While briefing on the account opening issue faced by the Politically Exposed Persons (PEP), SBP officials informed that a focal person had appointed in each bank to facilitate the PEP in their account opening procedures.

The SBP also appointed a focal person in the SBP to solve the queries related to the account opening said adding that SBP further instructs banks to fast this procedure.

Senator Kamil Ali Agha said that the PEP faced problems in their account opening this is a violation of fundamental human rights and the constitution Article 10.

He said action should be taken against such officers and persons who obstruct the opening of accounts.

# PM says people need to realize consequences of holding strikes

**Bureau Report**

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Azad Jammu and Kashmir Chaudhry Anwar ul Haq has said that it was imperative that the people need to realize the fact that holding strikes and creating anarchy in the state make problems more complicated rather than solving them.

While talking to public delegations that called on him here today, the PM said that the coalition government was trying to resolve all the problems and provide maximum possible relief to the masses.

He said that efforts were afoot to induct honest people into the system to improve governance in the state.

Referring to the appointment of



CBR chairman Sardar Zafar Khan, he said, "Honest and transparent people are being promoted in the bureaucracy".

Appreciating the CBR chairman for his honesty and integrity, he said that Khan was the person who has the potential and capability to fix the system.

He said that the government was functioning effectively within the ambit of the constitution and rule of law.

He said that reducing electricity prices was not an easy decision. He said that the decision was taken in the wider interests of the people.

He said that it was for the first time that the government had suspended the notification regarding the increase in electricity prices.

"Flour prices had increased during the previous government but after

taking charge I took notice of the matter and withdrew the increase in flour prices", he said, adding that the decision was taken in the larger interest of the people.

"As long as I am in power, I will protect every single penny of the tax-money", he said.

He said that the expenses of the Prime Minister's House have been reduced from one and a half crore to fifteen lakhs.

Referring to the austerity drive, he said, "I don't use government vehicles, have visited Bhimbar twice, in my own car".

He said that all the funds would be used for the welfare of the people of the state.

# Sardar Attique says Prophet Muhammad's (PBUH) life an excellent example for us

**Bureau Report**

DHIRKOT: President of All Jammu and Kashmir Muslim Conference and former Prime Minister Sardar Attique Ahmad Khan has said that the life of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) is an excellent example of life for all of us. He said that societies develop based on social principles as well as moral principles.

He expressed these views while addressing the Milad-ul-Nabi gathering organized by Raja Mushtaq Ahmad Khan, Raja Abdul Jabbar Khan and brothers in Dhirkot. Sardar Attique Ahmad Khan said What did the Holy Qur'an and the Sunnah of the Messenger of Allah (PBUH) are the guidance and guidance for those who come to the Day of Judgment. Allah Almighty has also assigned us responsibilities such as establishing prayer, obtaining



sustenance, zakat, and giving charity.

Bringing the message of Allah that Allah is one and do not commit polytheism, you established a system of justice, listened to the poor. From the biography of the Prophet, we know that you also formed a team despite the elites, oppression and oppression. It brought a revolution that covered the whole world. He said that even today we need similar spirit, movement and sacrifice.

He said that in Islamic society, poor and helpless people have always been taken care of and justice has been ensured. He always advised the rulers to keep their doors open, make their standard of living according to the people there and take care of the poor.

He said that we cannot compete in the world without knowledge, we have to work on it at every level, even now 2 crore children are out of schools, we all have to play our part together, then we will be right direction.

He said that targeting innocent and innocent citizens in the mosque on the occasion of Milad-ul-Nabi is a very cowardly act. He said that the beasts that target innocent and innocent citizens have nothing to do with humanity. He said that the terrorists involved in these heinous acts of terrorism have no religion. Playing with the lives of innocent and innocent citizens

is a very shameful and cowardly act which cannot be condemned as much. Terrorists who target innocent citizens cannot save themselves from the wrath and punishment of Allah Almighty.

President Muslim Conference Sardar Attique Ahmad Khan participated in the Asrana given by Namdar Sardar Idris Kazim in Minhasa. Later, the workers of met President Muslim Conference Sardar Attique Ahmad Khan him at the residence of Sardar Idris Kazim in Minhasa. After the completion of Muzaffarabad tour, President Muslim Conference reached Rawalkot where President Muslim Conference Sardar Attique Ahmad Khan Chapanidhar condoled the death of senior Muslim Conference leader Sardar Latif Khan in Rawalkot with his sons Sardar Murtaza, Sardar Shafiq and other dear relatives and offered Fa-tiha Khwani.

# DG Agriculture urges farmers to implement modern agricultural technology for better wheat production

**Raza Naqvi**

ATTOCK: Dr. Ishtiaq Hassan, Director General Agriculture (Extension) Punjab while addressing a gathering of farmers as a special guest in Hazro has urged upon the farmers to carry out modern agricultural technology which is imperative to achieve better yield of wheat leading towards self-sufficiency in wheat in Pakistan is the guarantor of the country's food security.

He said the purpose of this gathering was to create awareness among the farmers to get better production of wheat. Addressing the farmers on this occasion, Director General of Agriculture Dr. Ishtiaq Hassan said that food management is a very important challenge for the growing population of the country at this time. Improved wheat production is essential to meet this challenge. Dr. Ishtiaq Hassan, Director General Agriculture (Extension) Punjab further said that the time for wheat cultivation in rain fed areas is near and farm-



ers should complete their preparations in this regard.

The Punjab Agriculture Department (Extension) staff is standing by the side of the farmers. In this regard, the farmers should use the seeds of the varieties recommended by the Punjab Agriculture Department for better production of wheat in rain fed areas because better seeds are the primary need for

better production. At present, the price of wheat is also quite good which can bring good income to the farmers.

Director General said that revolutionary measures are being taken by the Punjab government to increase the production of wheat this year. This year, fifteen hundred rupees subsidy is being provided on disease free wheat seed bag and total 1.2 million bags will

be provided to farmers. Ten thousand wheat demonstration plots will be planted and twenty thousand rupees for agricultural inputs would be provided on wheat yield.

This year prizes on wheat yield competition have been increased for the successful farmers in the wheat yield competitions. Across Punjab, the first position winner will be awarded a tractor worth 4.5 million, the second position winner a tractor worth 3.5 million and the third position winner a tractor worth 2.5 million will be provided.

Similarly, at the district level, the farmer who won the first position would be given 6 lakh, the second position 4 lakh and the third position holder would be given 2 lakh rupees subsidy of billions of rupees is being given on potash fertilizers. Addressing the gathering Deputy Commissioner Attock Rao Atif Raza, participating as the guest of honor, said that the availability and quality of fertilizers and agricultural inputs are being ensured to achieve abundant produc-

# Multan Institute of Cardiology Phase 2 completed before time: Amir Khattak

**Kiran Asim**

MULTAN: The Punjab government has given another gift to the residents of Multan and South Punjab. The milestone of completing the Cardiology Hospital Extension Block at a cost of more than 3 billion rupees has been crossed. Commissioner Multan Division Engineer Aamir Khattak congratulated the Building Department and related officers. He said that

33 room OPD has been functionalized and handed over to cardiology hospital management. The entire extension block including wards of 208 beds has been completed. The construction of the hospital consisting of 3 basements, ground floor, 3 floors has increased 208 beds.

A 4 storied inn is being constructed at a cost of 20 crores in cardiology hospital. PC One of the 250-bed inn has been approved by the Punjab government. Commissioner Engineer Aamir Khattak visited the cardiology hospital. Deputy Commissioner Multan Captain R Rizwan Qadeer,



Assistant Commissioner City Simal Mushtaq and other officers were also accompanied.

Commissioner Aamir Khattak checked the availability of medicines

to the patients in the cardiology block and inquired about the facilities available in the hospital. E X N Building Hyder Ali, while giving a briefing, said that the tenders of the inn will

be opened on October 19.

The accommodation for paramedical staff in cardiology extension block will be completed by the end of this year.

## PMLN ideological workers rejected cabinet formed in NW



**Adam Khan Wazir**

WANA: PMLN ideological workers have rejected the cabinet formed in North Waziristan, expressing their displeasure with PML-N provincial president Amir Muqam.

They announced a press conference at the Islamabad Press Club on October 8 in order to convey the plea to the central leadership.

In this regard, a meeting of ideological workers of PML-N was held in a local hotel in Tehsil Mir Ali of North Waziristan under the chairmanship of senior leader Imran Dawar.

Provincial leaders Malik Liaqat Ali Wazir, Arfaq Ullah, Faiz, Nazir Dawar, Naseem Ullah, Ehsan, Younis and others were also present on this occasion.

They said while talking to media representatives after the meeting, that the provincial president PMLN Amir Muqam did not take into confidence the local senior leadership and ideological workers of the Muslim League-N in reconstituting the newly elected cabinet of North Waziristan.

They said, this is a gross injustice to ideological workers which will never be tolerated.

They said that in the new cabinet formed in North Waziristan, office bearers from other parties were honored and ideological workers were lined up.

They further said, the sacrifices are ours, now the positions have been shared among the officials of other parties.

## World Animals and Birds Safe Day Celebrate in Multan: Khalid Mehmood Qureshi



**Kiran Asim**

MULTAN: The International Animals and Vegetarian Day was celebrated under the auspices of Animal Save Movement Pakistan. On this occasion, the rally was held. Stop killing animals and birds. Let the animals and birds live a free and happy life, do not imprison them in cages. Zoos should be demolished and all animals and birds should be freed.

Stop eating meat and eat vegetables and other foods. Meat is harmful to health. Avoid meat, eat vegetables and get rid of thousands of diseases. Love animals and birds they are our friends. Live and live.

The rally was led by Khalid Mehmood Qureshi, President of Animal Save Movement Pakistan.

## Session Judge assured delegation, three judges would soon start work in SWL



**Adam Khan Wazir**

WANA: Waziristan Wana political alliance under the leadership of District Bar South Waziristan President Shafi Ullah Advocate and General Secretary Nawab Ali Advocate held a detailed meeting with Sessions Judge South Waziristan District Shakir Ullah.

A detailed discussion was held regarding the shifting of district courts from Tank district to South Waziristan Lower district, in which all aspects were discussed.

Aman Ullah Wazir from Pakistan People's Party, Nadeem from Jamaat-e-Islami, Noor Zaman Advocate from Awami National Party, Ashfaq from Pakhtunkhwa MAP, Arshad Haroon from Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf, Shah Mehmood from National Democratic movement and Councilor alliance President Sahib Khan participated in this delegation.

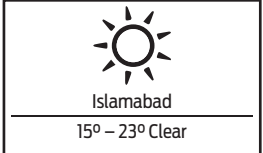
Apart from this, the delegation of Pakistan Qabail Moment members and lawyers was headed by President District Bar District South Waziristan Shafullah Advocate.

## The Iranian theatre play 'TIK TAK' presented in Karachi Arts Council

**Bureau Report**

KARACHI: On the 25th day of the "Pakistan Theatre Festival" theatre play "TIK TAK" by the Iranian theatre group "Petvazh" was presented in the Persian language in Auditorium 1, Iranian Consul General Hassan Nourian, Director of Khana-e-Farhang Cultural Center of Islamic Republic of Iran, Karachi Dr. Saheed Talabi Nia, Consul General of France, Consul General of Indonesia, Consul General of Kuwait, Consul General of Malaysia, Acting Consul General of Afghanistan, Consul General of Saudi Arabia, Consul General of Oman, Consul General of Yemen and other social personalities participated.

Secretary Arts Council Ijaz Farooqi welcomed the distinguished guests, theatre writer Mahdi Salehyar while the director was Ahmed Nadafi, the cast of the drama included Maryam Al Sadat, Alireza Kaghazgaran, Reza Azamirad and Mahdi Sarsangi Aliabad. Drama showed that a soldier is guarding a tower and his wife rushes to the war zone to call her husband as she has no hope of him returning home, at the same time an enemy soldier is captured. It is very similar to the prisoner soldier (husband of the woman), the woman tries her best to explain to both of them that there is no war between you and your commanders have instigated you to fight while the price of war is paid only by your soldiers. Not the commanders you've never fought or met, they're only connected to you wirelessly. In the end, everyone is killed and a new soldier takes his place. The audience applauds the performance of the Iranian theatre group.



**SERVICES**  
**Namaz Timings**

Fajr ..... 4:41 am  
Zohr ..... 11:57 am  
Asr ..... 4:08 pm  
Maghrib ..... 5:49 pm  
Isha ..... 7:12 pm

**EMERGENCY**

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

**Women Police Stations**

Islamabad ..... 9222596  
Rawalpindi ..... 9270601-20

**ENQUIRY**

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

**HOSPITALS**

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

**DEPARTMENTS**

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

**COMPLAINTS**

Water Tanker Service  
E-7, F-10 & F-11 ..... 9204654  
G-5, G-6, G-7, G-8 ..... 9203883  
G-9, G-10, G-11, G-12, H-8 ..... 9266316  
Wapda Islamabad ..... 9217579-80  
Sui Gas Complaint ..... 119, 9272249  
Wasa Water Tank  
Rawalpindi ..... 0331-5022125

**AIOU commences final examinations from October 16**

**Spokesman Report**

ISLAMABAD: Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU) is conducting examinations of Associate Degree (Arts, Commerce, Education) BBA, BS and B. Ed programs offered in the spring 2023 semester from October 16, 2023, to December 15, 2023, throughout the country.

The date sheet is available on the university website (www.aiou.edu.pk). Roll number slips are being uploaded to students' CMS portal.

Vice Chancellor, AIOU, Prof. Dr. Nasir Mahmood has instructed the examinations department to ensure transparency and provide all facilities to the students during the conduct of examinations. Examination centers are being established across the country in nearby and easily approachable vicinities of the students for their convenience.

Special teams will make surprise visits to the exam centers to eradicate the element of cheating and will check the identities of students.

Moreover, a ceremony was recently held at AIOU to celebrate World Translation Day.

The ceremony was presided over by the Vice Chancellor AIOU, Prof. Dr. Nasir Mahmood, while Prof. Dr. Muhammad Saleem Mazhar, Director General of National Language Promotion Department (NLPD) was the chief guest, and Prof. Dr. Shahid Siddiqui, a prominent scholar, columnist, writer, educationist, and former VC AIOU was guest of honor.

The event was hosted by Dr. Ghulam Ali, Director, Center for Languages and Translation Studies (CeLTS) and Dr. Lubna Umar. At the end of the ceremony, "DREAM'S DON'T DIE", the English translation of Dr. Shahid Siddiqui's novel was launched.

# Education in nation-building is as essential as foundation stone: Mushaal

**City Desk**

ISLAMABAD: Mushaal Hussain Mullick Special Assistant to Prime Minister (SAPM) on Human Rights and Women Empowerment on Wednesday made it clear that the role of education in nation-building is as essential as the foundation stone and our young generation through education can play a significant role in the uplift and development of the country. "We can create awareness about human rights only through education," she added.

The SAPM made these remarks while speaking as a chief guest at a ceremony titled the Millennium Education One World Campus, E-11/4 Islamabad hosted by Student Council Investiture Ceremony and High Achievers Awards 2023 aimed at encouraging young individuals to regularise the student body and become

responsible citizens. She said that it was next to impossible to enslave educated people; hence the Indian notorious fascist government was making all-out efforts to deprive the people of education through various coercive tactics.

Mushaal stated that the occupation authorities were well aware of the power of education that a war-like situation was created and a curfew was placed in the Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) under a well-conceived plan so that parents could not send their children to educational institutions because of fear of their detention and torture at the hands of brutal Indian forces. Enlightening the Millennials about progressive education, she said education is not only the name of getting marks but also the name of improving the different abilities of the students. Mushaal encouraged the learners to work hard and put



their best efforts towards their respective clubs and societies.

"New Dawn" could only come from the modern youth who are capable of overthrowing the shackles of external materialism and reawakening their inner fire," she added. Therefore, Mushaal underlined that it was high time to focus on education for the progress and prosperity of the country.

The SAPM on Human Rights and Women Empowerment said: "We are proud of our children who have made Pakistan famous in "OA" levels. During the ceremony, Mushaal, CEO of Roots Millennium Schools, Chaudhry Faisal Mushtaq, Sabina Zakir Director of Communications, Community, and Outreach of The Millennium Education Group, awarded sashes to all the members of the council inclusive of members of Millennium Clubs and Societies.

## Rehmat ul Alameen Conference

ISLAMABAD: Ameer Tanzeem Al-Ikhwani Pakistan Abdul Qadeer Awan addressing during a seminar entitled "Rehmat ul Alameen Conference" at Islamabad Chamber of Commerce in Federal Capital.



Photo: Online

# Religious Scholar calls for curbing smuggling and leakages to improve the economy

**Tariq Khattak**

ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry organized a conference on Rehmat ulil Alameen Hazrat Muhammad (PBUH). Sheikh Silsa Naqshbandiyya Owaisya and Head of Tanzeem Al-Ikhwani Pakistan Hazrat Ameer Abdul Qadeer Awan Madzala-ul-Aali was the chief guest.

Speaking on this occasion, Hazrat Ameer Abdul Qadir Awan Madzala Al Aali shed light on the life of Hazrat Muhammad (PBUH) in detail. He said that Allah SWT had sent Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) as a mercy and a source of guidance for the

people of the whole world and by adopting the principles of his life, we can achieve success in this world and the hereafter. He said that the birth and death of Hazrat Muhammad (PBUH) took place in the month of Rabi al-Awwal, so this month has special significance in Islamic history. He said that the life of Hazrat Muhammad (PBUH) is a book of guidance for the whole of humanity to achieve in this world and the hereafter. He said that Islam has also given golden principles for the economy and emphasized on the circulation of wealth in the society so that the wealth does not accumulate in a few hands. He said that by adopting the system of Zakat and Ushar, Pakistan can

get rid of debts. He said that the example of the interest-based economy like filling water in a strainer, so by getting rid of interest-based financial system and adopting the system of Zakat and Ushar, the economy can be brought out of difficulties. He said that the prevention of smuggling is yielding beneficial results for the economy and stressed that all immoral and illegal sources of revenue leakages should be plugged to improve the economy. He said that despite being an agricultural country, people in Pakistan are facing food inflation which is unfortunate.

Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari, President, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Indus-

try, welcomed Hazrat Ameer Abdul Qadeer Awan Madzala-ul-Aali, Head of Tanzeem Al-Ikhwani Pakistan and hoped that his Bayan on Seerat e Nabi would be very beneficial to the participants. He stressed that the well-to-do of society should take better care of poor people to help reduce poverty and promote prosperity.

Faad Waheed, Senior Vice President ICCI thanked the Chief Guest and all the participants for attending the Seerat conference.

Engr. Azharul Islam Zafar Vice President ICCI, Akhtar Hussain, ICCI Religious Affairs Committee Convener Tariq Nusrat Wani and others were also present on the occasion.

# Holy Help Welfare announces 10 years of success

**Spokesman Report**

ISLAMABAD: Holy Help Welfare Organization, a non-governmental organization active for the education and arrangement of orphans, has completed ten years of success. Chairman Holy Help Welfare Abdullah Sabir On this occasion, he promised the students and parents that they will give the best education to the children studying in the school. So that in the future our children can play their key role in taking Pakistan on the path of development.

Holy Help Welfare Organization, a non-governmental organization active for the education and arrangement of orphans, organized a special event in Chak Jalal Deen, a backward area of Rawalpindi, on the completion of 10 years. In which Peshawar Chamber of Commerce and Industry President Syed Saadat Hussain Shah, Mr. Otto Kurzendorfer General Manager of Serena Hotel, Islamabad. Otto Kurzendorfer General Manager, ISCO Chairman Qamar Islam Raja, Faisal Qayyum Malik, Haji Zafar Iqbal, Dr. Khalil Ahmad Khan,



Project Director CDRS Raja Naseer Abbas Zafar Ali Juha and a large number of local dignitaries participated.

Mr. Otto Kurzendorfer GM of Serena Hotel, who was the chief guest, said that it is a commendable initiative to provide free education to orphans and deserving children. I request the philanthropists to support the organization in this

cause. People's Party executive member Syed Saadat Hussain Shah said that we will continue our support for better education of children. God willing, we will help the school administration in constructing a new school building by taking a canal plot for the school. Later, Chairman Holy Help Welfare Abdullah Sabir thanked the

## Work started on Pakistan's first 'Tourism App': Wasi Shah

**City Desk**

ISLAMABAD: State Minister for Tourism, Wasi Shah has said that the ministry would soon launch a 'tourism app' for the convenience of the public to provide one-click information related to tourism destinations and focus on promoting medical tourism in the country.



In an exclusive talk with journalists, the minister said that tourists visiting Pakistan will soon have an official application providing authentic information and access to the state tourism department," he said.

He specifically said that the app will provide tourists with all the information they want to know and will include all the information regarding restaurants, hotels, transport, travel facilities, culture, entertainment and historical places which will be updated on a regular basis.

He further added that it was a pleasure to see tourists from abroad in Taxila on the occasion of the culture caravan and he is very grateful to the people and the media for their immense reception in public circles.

Talking to the journalists, Minister of State for Tourism Wasi Shah said that as the Minister of State for Tourism, I am taking practical steps to promote tourism and make Pakistan a paradise for tourists, the fruits of which will reach the tourists soon.

## APUBTA announces nationwide protest by university teachers against HEC violations



**City Desk**

ISLAMABAD: The All Public Universities BPS Teachers Association (APUBTA), during a core committee meeting, has announced a nationwide protest by university teachers. The core committee expressed deep concern over the HEC's disregard for the clear directives issued by the National Assembly Special Standing Committee (NASSC), under the chairmanship of Prof. Dr. Mandokhail.

In August, the NASSC instructed HEC to release promotion statutes within 15 days, which HEC failed to do, despite having signed an agreement with teachers. In response to these violations, a show cause notice was issued to the Chairman of HEC by the NASSC.

To address these issues and prevent further violations, the core committee has decided to stage a protest to hold HEC accountable for its breach of HEC ordinances, NASSC directives, Senate guidelines, Ministry of Education directives, and its own signed agreement. The protest plan is as follows:

- Black Ribbons: October 2-6
- University-level Corner Meetings: October 9-13
- University Visits by Leadership: October 3-20
- Walks on Campuses: October 16-20
- Provincial and Central Level Press Conferences: October 23-27
- March to Islamabad: October 31
- Sit-in at Islamabad and Complete Boycott of Classes in Nationwide Universities: October 31-November 3, or until the matter is resolved.

APUBTA emphasizes its commitment to resolving these issues peacefully and has raised concerns at various forums. However, HEC's lack of seriousness and failure to honor signed agreements have left no choice but to take this course of action. The seniority issues and lack of service structure have adversely impacted university teachers.

The government and relevant authorities are urged to address these concerns before the APUBTA's deadline, as resolving these matters through protests would not be in the best interest of both teachers and HEC's reputation.

## Resisting Injustice: University Teachers' Struggle on World Teachers Day

**Dr Imtiaz Ahmad**



On World Teachers Day, which is celebrated internationally on October 5, I recall an important event from 2006. On this day, the former Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz granted a significant scale upgrade to university teachers and coined the term "Salam Teachers Day." Teachers, both in local communities and nations, are revered as the architects of society and are seen as agents of change and moral guidance. While "Salam Teachers Day" is well-suited for educators in advanced countries, in Pakistan, teachers often receive respect primarily within the confines of their classrooms when they are educating or advancing the children of influential individuals. Unfortunately, when it comes to advocating for their own rights, many pass the responsibility to others, and little action is taken.

University teachers in Pakistan face a unique challenge. They are the only government employees who remain stuck in the same pay scale throughout their careers due to the absence of a clear career progression structure, despite provisions in the HEC ordinance. Regrettably, the Higher Education Commission (HEC) has shown reluctance in implementing this provision.

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# Impacts of suicide attack or bombing in Pakistan

**Syeda Mahnoor Fatima**

A suicide strike is carried out by someone, often a terrorist, who expects or wants to murder both oneself and others.

In a religious decision published in April 2002, Sheikh Hamed ai-Aii, a Salafist professor on Islamic culture in Kuwait, defined the circumstances under which it is permitted to kill civilians in the name of jihad without going against the Prophet Muhammad's prohibition against the killing of women and children. The AI-Aii on "Participation in War" said that it is legal to murder civilians in times of war if they actively participate in warfare, advise or urge others to do so, etc. It should be mentioned that a contemporary army fighting a war also consists of non-combatants, some of whom serve in combat support jobs and without the help of whom fighting a war would be impossible.

In Pakistan, a religious celebration honoring the birth of the Islamic Prophet Mohammad turned deadly on Friday when a suicide bomber detonated powerful explosives close to a mosque, killing at least 52 people and injuring at least 70 more in an assault that targeted worshippers and police. At least 5 individuals were killed in a separate incident that targeted another mosque elsewhere in the nation.

If I discuss its effects, it has led to an increase in political unrest, instability, and insecurity in the nation as a result of Pakistan's participation as a "frontline state" in the global fight against terrorism. The

cost of this conflict is quite high for Pakistan. However, little research has been done, particularly in terms of tallying Pakistan's losses throughout this conflict.

Human cost is the most visible effect of any war, and Pakistan is no exception, according to Nadia Mushtaq Ahmad's study. Pakistan has lost 49,000 lives since 2001, according to a report given by security services to the Pakistani Supreme Court on March 27, 2013. We may measure the human cost of terrorism by adding the numbers of victims from terrorist acts, political and ethnic violence, sectarian violence, and target murders, including drone operations. The main reason for this is that today's majority of terrorist, sectarian, and ethno-nationalist organizations have a close-knit relationship with one another.

As a result of terrorism, the Pakistani economy experienced serious harm. Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) is essentially the infusion of cash or investment from foreign nations, whether in the form of partial operations like multinational corporations or other forms of support. FDI's boost productivity in the country they are invested in. The incorporation of foreign technology is where this direct investment's greatest advantages come from. It is believed that military operations in FATA and other parts of KP, along with an excessive rise in the country's credit risk, which has driven up the cost of borrowing from the market, have negatively impacted foreign direct investment, which had been rising sharply for several years. Pakistan's exports have also been impacted by its involvement in the fight against terrorism.

Internally Displaced People (IDPs), The Pakistani government launched five significant military operations against the militants after the Taliban violated the Nizam-e-Adl Regulation 2009 in Malakand Division. As a result of these operations, according to a report released in June 2013 by the International Displacement Monitoring Center (IDMC), approximately 5 million people have been forced to flee their homes within Pakistan.

This protracted conflict has had terrible societal effects on Pakistan. The physical infrastructure was severely damaged by hundreds of suicide bombs that took place across the nation, and the costs associated with maintaining law and order put an even greater strain on the economy, diverting funds from other areas of spending to security. The socio-economic climate of today has probably had a negative impact on the fight against poverty.

Any nation in the world can advance with the right education. It also suffered as a result of the war on terror. Schools for females in general were demolished. The Taliban outright forbade girls from attending school.

Sports: On March 3, 2009, terrorists attacked a visiting Sri Lankan cricket team in Lahore, killing eight Pakistanis, including six police officers and two civilians, and injuring six players. The militants in Pakistan have already attacked other sports. It had a negative effect on Pakistan's reputation.

The most significant variables influencing the number of tourists entering any nation are terrorism, political unrest,

and violence. The Pakistani government relied on tourism as a significant source of income until a few years ago. After certain western nations began issuing Negative Travel Advisories (NTA) for Pakistan, the number of international tourists sharply decreased. A government may issue an NTA to discourage its citizens from traveling to a certain nation. Even when several nations lowered their travel warnings, things in Northern Pakistan have gotten worse.

Pakistan's dilemma of national identity, Pakistan's identity today is divided between being a state on the front lines of the global battle against terrorism and serving as a safe haven for a new generation of terrorists. Regardless of Pakistan's actual circumstances, the country has been portrayed as unstable and in a less than favorable light.

One of the worst effects of the war on terror on Pakistani society has generally been the rise of religious intolerance; people have taken the law into their own hands; weaponization is common; and people have turned against anti-state and law enforcement agencies, including the military, for inflicting this tyranny on the people.

As I've already said, Mam Nadia Mushtaq listed a variety of negative effects of suicide bombing in Pakistan. They are making Pakistan less valuable and fostering unrest there. It must be denounced, and those involved must also be apprehended and given a death sentence so that the lovely nation we live in will prosper.

*The writer is a Student of Law College at University of Sargodha*

## Canada India Conflict

Amid escalating New Delhi-Ottawa tensions, the United States has said that Canada's allegations about India's involvement in the killing of a prominent Sikh leader on the Canadian soil were "serious" and must be investigated fully.

Hardeep Singh Nijjar, who supported the Khalistan movement, was shot dead by unidentified gunmen outside a gurdwara on June 18 in a Vancouver suburb.

India had designated him as a "terrorist" three years earlier.

Asked whether the Canada-India row came up during the meeting, the visiting Indian External Affairs Minister, S.

Jaishankar had with US National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan in Washington last week, John Kirby, the spokesman for the National Security Council at the White House said that the issue was discussed.

"We'll certainly leave it to those two countries to talk about their bilateral relationship," Kirby said in response to a question at his press conference.

"We've been clear, these allegations are serious, they need to be fully investigated and of course, as we've said before, we urge India to participate actively in that investigation," Kirby said.

Meanwhile, at the State Department, Deputy Spokesperson Vedant Patel told his daily news briefing that it's critical that Canada's investigation proceeds and the perpetrators are brought to justice.

"We also have, as we've previously said publicly and privately, urged the Indian government to cooperate in the Canadian investigation and cooperate in those efforts," he said.

When asked about U. S.' policy on the Khalistan issue, all that Patel said was that "broadly across the board, individuals have the right to freedoms of speech, right to peacefully assemble in the United States...".

(India has been pushing the U. S. to curb the activities of Khalistani activists here.) Replying to another question, he said he had seen the reports about India seeking drastic reduction of Canadian diplomatic staff at Canada's High Commission in New Delhi.

"But I don't have anything further to offer on those reports and certainly don't want to get into hypotheticals and take this process one step at a time.

As it relates to our Indo-Pacific strategy and the focus that we continue to place on the region, that effort and that line of work is going to continue," he said.

"With India, we are partners with them in the Quad and in many others, and we continue to work with them and other countries in the region on a number of important issues.

"But as I said, we take these allegations very seriously and we continue to not just work closely with our Canadian partners but have publicly and privately urged the Indian government to cooperate with Canada," Patel said.

## Protocol culture in Pakistan

Revolving-door democracy and the politically challenged economy of Pakistan have been encircled by protocol culture in a deleterious manner to stave off multiple breadwinners. What shocked me was that the richest 1 percent held 9 percent of the country's income of \$314.4 billion in 2018-19. The report found that the poorest 1 percent held just 0.15 percent.

An idea of magnitude is the one-step forward and two-step backward approach of the state to always shore up the protocol culture in Pakistan for the tycoons and bigwigs to have a luxurious lifestyle by enriching a few at the expense of many. The United Nations Development Programme's recommended policies focus on removing privileges and targeting spending on outcomes that provide both structural support for the country's poor and on the infrastructure—such as education and healthcare—that would provide them further economic opportunities. What I find more fascinating is that "if with one hand you are providing a gain that benefits yourself and taking the gain with the other hand, then what we have lost is that sense of separation of powers and oversight." An interesting thought enters the mind: the richest 20 percent of Pakistanis hold 49.6 percent of the national income, compared with the poorest 20 percent, who hold just 7 percent.

Much ink has been spilled on highlighting the disparity in as much as prestige-Craving political leadership and military officials use their privilege to capture more than their fair share, people perpetuate structural discrimination through prejudice against others based on social characteristics, and policies are often unsuccessful at addressing the resulting inequity. The ill-fused attempts of unscrupulous elites to have ubiquity in all spheres always paved the way for them to circulate the money in a few hands and more exasperatingly spend that on unnecessary protocol rather than necessary security. It would be pertinent and safe to say that what we pay for so-called taxes always circulates in the elite's pockets rather than being spent to improve the lifestyle of the needy people. Besides putting a burden on our economy, protocol culture is adding misery to the already suffering common people of Pakistan.

I can unhesitatingly reiterate that their problem is not a security concern; there is a problem with their psyche. They take pride in carrying a lot of policemen with them. In fact, protocol culture has become a symbol of influence and status. It would be more accurate to say that you may have found yourself stuck in traffic or halted by a police officer. You sat back, waited, and

eventually watched a convoy of large vehicles with blacked-out windows speed through the newly emptied street, surrounded by pickups full of men with guns.

More astonishing of all is that, as per the UN Development Programme's (UNDP), Elite privilege consumes \$17.4 billion of Pakistan's economy. Elite groups, including the corporate sector, feudal landlords, the political class, and the country's powerful military, add up to an estimated \$17.4 billion, or roughly 6 percent of the country's economy. The biggest beneficiary of the privileges, which may take the form of tax breaks, cheap input prices, higher output prices, or preferential access to capital, land, and services, was found to be the country's corporate sector, which accrued an estimated \$4.7 billion in privileges. The second and third-highest recipients of privileges were found to be the country's richest 1 percent, who collectively own 9 percent of the country's overall income, and the feudal land-owning class, which constitutes 1.1 percent of the population but owns 22 percent of all arable farmland. Both classes have strong representation in the Pakistani Parliament, with most major political parties' candidates' drawn from either the feudal landowning class or the country's business-owning elite.

The country's powerful military, which has directly ruled Pakistan for roughly half of its 74-year history, was found to receive \$1.7 billion in privileges, mainly in the form of preferential access to land, capital, and infrastructure, as well as tax exemptions. However, Pakistan's military is also "the largest conglomerate of business entities in Pakistan, besides being the country's biggest urban real estate developer and manager, with wide-ranging involvement in the construction of public projects". The poorest and richest Pakistanis effectively live in completely different countries, with literacy levels, health outcomes, and living standards that are poles apart. Pakistan ranks second-to-last in South Asia based on HDI, outperforming Afghanistan but lagging behind all six of its other regional neighbours. This is actually something that the leadership brought up themselves as to this conundrum of feeling like one is stuck at a certain point.

All I am saying is that Pakistan is the richest homeland for the 1 percent elites and tycoons. On cue, this question always remains unanswered: Why not prioritize national interests over personal interests?

*The writer is a student of public administration at Quaid-e-Azam university, Islamabad*

## WASA Multan, path on growth and development

Subsequent to the unsuccessful endeavors of the WASA Multan recovery branch, a decisive step was taken to establish a dedicated committee comprising experienced engineers. The primary objective behind the formation of this committee was to devise a strategic plan and pool their technical expertise to reach the predetermined recovery target.

This development signified a significant shift in approach, reflecting a commitment to address the challenges that had stymied the recovery branch's efforts. By assembling a diverse team of engineers, this committee sought to tap into a wealth of knowledge and fresh perspectives, fostering innovative solutions to enhance the likelihood of success. Their collective efforts aimed to identify and rectify the root causes of the previous setback, thereby charting a more effective and efficient path toward achieving the recovery goals set by WASA Multan.

The failure of WASA Multan's recovery branch was attributed to rampant corruption and incompetence within the branch. It was evident that water and sewerage bills from favored individuals' factories, plazas, and markets were not being collected into WASA's accounts. Ostensibly, every employee of WASA's recovery branch had become the owner of millions in bank balances, while their children attended private, expensive schools.

WASA's Managing Director, Chaudhry Muhammad Danesh, is enthusiastic about the addition to recovery according to the new tariff. The recovery and engineering departments have jointly mobilized field teams to identify defaulters, recover dues, and detect illegal connections. Teams assess performance on a daily basis.

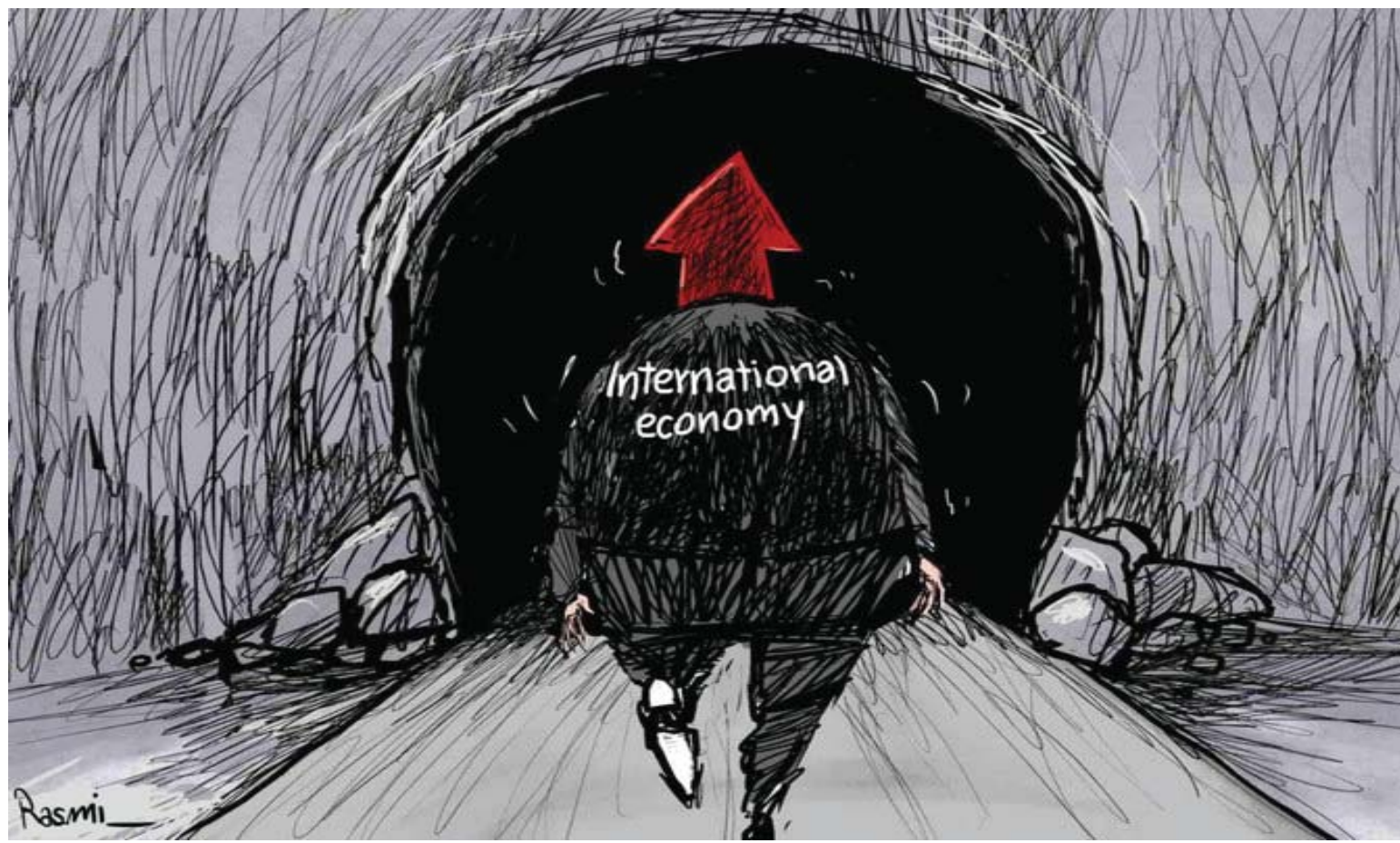
During the performance evaluation the other day, all circle in-charges were directed to conduct field surveys on September 30th and collect detailed reports on survey findings and dues recovery from defaulters. The survey process will be completed promptly. MD Engi-

neering and Chairman Recovery Committee, Jawad Kaleem Allah, Director Admin Ahsan Bilal Qureshi, Director Engineering Abdul Salam, Director Recovery Mansoor Ahmed, Deputy Directors Engineering, and others were present during this occasion.

Meanwhile, circle officers were encouraged to identify more new connections, boost their performance, and integrate them into the billing network based on new tariffs. MD WASA emphasized that consumers should verify their bill details – tariff, category, and area. In case of discrepancies, connections identified in the daily survey reports should be billed in the billing section to increase revenue. MD WASA has issued strict instructions for the recovery department to work diligently and achieve the monthly targets. Consumers have also been informed to ensure the timely payment of their WASA obligations to further enhance the quality of water supply and sanitation services.

Despite WASA agency budgets remaining minimal, the employees had become exceedingly wealthy, while their salaries were meager in comparison. Ordinary clerks owned cars and houses, while WASA Multan suffered losses. Considering all these facts, the MD of WASA took a bold step and entrusted the responsibility of recovery and monitoring to honest and competent engineers. Corrupt and bribe-taking employees have shown strong resentment towards this commendable initiative.

Contrary to the truth, newspapers have been publishing reports against MD WASA and the administration's policies, aimed at spreading falsehoods. WASA consumers have appreciated the new recovery policy, as it is expected to increase revenue through the acquisition of new connections and an expansion in the recovery volume. Consumers assert that the illegally collected funds from factories, plazas, and markets were finding their way into the pockets of WASA employees. Now, a neutral team has emerged to successfully combat this corruption and wrongdoing.



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



**Jalaluddin Kakar**



**Zain-ul-Abideen Abid**

# Karachi included in 'Road to Makkah' project to expedite pilgrims' journey

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony, Aneeq Ahmed on Wednesday expressed gratitude to the Saudi government for their ongoing cooperation and support in Hajj arrangements.

This sentiment was shared during a meeting with Saudi Ambassador, Nawaf bin Said Al-Malki, and Muslim World League Regional Director Saad bin Masood Al-Harsi. The discussion primarily revolved around future Hajj arrangements and mutual interests.

Minister Aneeq acknowledged the successful recent visit to Saudi Arabia and highlighted the improved facilities for Pakistani pilgrims this year.



He mentioned that Karachi had been included in Road to Makkah project, which would streamline the immigration and customs process for pilgrims leaving from the metropolitan city.

He elaborated that this development would expedite

the movement of pilgrims and ensure their swift accommodation upon arrival in Saudi Arabia.

Minister Aneeq also emphasized the groundbreaking establishment of a Seerat Museum in Islamabad, a project that promises to be revolutionary.

Muslim World League Secretary-General Sheikh Dr. Muhammad bin Abdulkarim Al-Issa was scheduled to lay the foundation stone for the Seerat Museum on November 15, he added. He said the Muslim World League continued to play a dynamic and vital role

in various initiatives.

Saudi Ambassador Al-Malki assured that there would be further enhancements in the facilities for Hajj pilgrims in the upcoming seasons. He highlighted the inclusion of Pakistan in the Road to Makkah project, an exclusive programme that currently involves only seven countries worldwide.

Muslim World League Regional Director Saad bin Masood Al-Harsi shared details about the forthcoming construction of the Seerat Museum in Islamabad, which would span an impressive 8,000 square meters. He emphasized the importance of prompt construction and foundation laying activities set to commence next month.

# Learning about China's socio-economic growth is the need of the hour

Bureau Report

PESHAWAR: "Pakistan has prioritized enhancing cooperation in Energy, Mining, Information Technology, and Agriculture, as emphasized by the KP's Minister of IT during the 74th Anniversary event organized by the Pakistan China Friendship Association (PCFA) & China Study Centre (CSC) at university of Peshawar this morning."

Dr. Najeeb Ullah, Minister for Science and Technology, IT, Sports, and Youth Affairs, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa thanked the PCFA & CSC for organizing the event, and bringing both countries close to each other.

Speaking at the occasion, Dr. Najeeb Ullah congratulated the Chinese people on their national day and advised students to pay attention to understanding Chinese culture, history, and civilization. He also said that we have to learn a lot of things from China's expertise. He highlighted different aspects where Pakistan needs to improve and can learn from



China. Science and technology are one of the sectors where we need a lot of improvements. He also stated the Economic Growth have different factors. One is Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) the second is Skilled Labor and Higher Education.

Prof. Dr. Jehan Bakht Vice Chancellor

of Agriculture University of Peshawar congratulated the Chinese people on their national day. The collaboration in higher education strengthened in the wake of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) further galvanized the academic cooperation

among the institutions of higher learning between the two countries.

Prof. Dr. Kausar Takrim, Director, CSC, University of Peshawar welcomed the chief guest, Faculty members, students, and government & media officials to the seminar. She said today, we gathered here to celebrate the foundation day of the People's Republic of China, a nation that has a rich and profound history and has made remarkable strides in the past decades.

Syed Ali Nawaz Gilani, Secretary General, of PCFA KP delved into China's rich history and highlighted the country's enduring struggles. However, China's persistent efforts have propelled it toward becoming the second-largest economy in the world. He also emphasizes that Pakistan and China share a unique bond and both countries have supported each other in tough times.

At the end of the event, a cutting ceremony was held to celebrate the "74th founding anniversary of the People's Republic of China".

# The Hands Deserve The Books

Zeenat Iqbal Hakimjee

Child Labour is a crime against humanity. At this juncture I am reminded of a very moving story about one of the world's greatest humanitarians Abraham Lincoln. The time, at which this episode took place, Lincoln was a candidate for a congress seat. And on that day, he had an important election speech to deliver. But he also had a far greater task to perform. A noble cause to fight for.

He cancelled his election speech and entered the jam-packed court, which was already in session. Unnoticed, he sat down in the last row. The case being ended, the District Attorney rose and moved the trial of John Wilson for murder. There was a stir through the courtroom. In the doorway appeared the Sheriff, leading a childish figure, a boy of ten, dressed in poor homemade clothes. He was pale and desperately frightened. The judge faced the criminal, paused pityingly and steadied himself. "Have you a lawyer?" He asked. The lad shook his unkempt yellow head. "No, I dunno anybody. I ain't got- Money- to pay".

The boy was in tears, his widowed mother was sobbing near him. "Do you wish the court to assign you a counsel?" In the stillness a boot scraped the floor. The man in the back seat rose, "May it please your honour" he said. "I am a lawyer. I should be glad to act as a Counsel for the Defense". The Judge looked for a moment at the loose-hung, towering figure. "What is your name?" He asked. The man answered quietly "Abraham Lincoln". Lincoln, who gave

his life to abolish slavery, had come that day to re-pay a debt.

Years back, when he was a struggling non-entity, the family of the then well to do little boy, then a baby, had given Lincoln solace and succor. Subsequently, the boy's father died and the family was in a miserable state of abject poverty. The boy, John had to work due to force of circumstances, in a farm of one heartless man who was Shaughnessy by name. He was a cruel tormentor. One day, he started beating the boy so mercilessly that the desperate defenseless boy struck his tormentor's head with a pitchfork. The man died after some time. The boy was charged for murder. This was the story. It was commonly said that the boy was doomed; No lawyer, even a smart one could get him off after some seemingly convincing evidence. But in the courtroom that day was

no ordinary man. It was the great Lincoln, the unique humanist, who had come, jeopardizing his future career by canceling his election speech, for a great cause- even greater than his own magnificence.

"Gentlemen of the jury," began Abraham Lincoln. I am going to try this case in a manner not customary in courts. I shall not call witnesses; the little prisoner over there is all the witness I want. I shall not argue. You know that at an age when this boy's hands should have held schoolbooks or a fishing rod, they held the man's tool that was his undoing; you know how a grown man goaded the child till in desperation he used the tool at hand. All I ask is that you deal with the little fellow, as you would have other men



deal in such a case with little fellow's of your own at home. Before the verdict, for a second, perhaps, no one breathed in that packed mass. 'Not guilty' was the verdict.

It was a momentous Victory for a great cause. The cause of tormented and exploited 'Johns' of America.

My story is an inspiration from the former. It is about the 'Asims' of Pakistan. A familiar figure in the homes of Pakistan. The not so lucky ones in the houses. I differentiate because cold callous concrete houses consist of ruthlessness.

For one such house Asim worked. His mother was a widow and she washed dishes and clothes for her 'Begum Sahiba' who had suggested this couple for Asim's employment. Asim had formerly tried his hand as a motor mechanic, but as circumstances would have it his boss had closed his workshop because of lack of funds.

After getting the job, Asim worked for Amina and Aslam where he was required to do all the dirty and hard jobs. To clean the bathrooms, to sweep outdoors in the harsh summer sun of Karachi. On the face of it everything seemed fine. His masters bullied him sometimes. They would

feed him with leftovers and not give him new clothes to wear, although he tore his own clothes doing the dirty work. Maybe, it was because poor Asim had not experienced the luxury of life. He could not tell that he was being dealt with severely.

Amina was a frustrated woman. Aslam had two wives and she hated sharing him with his other wife. Maybe this was the reason for her being so cruel.

One ill-fated day, Amina entered the house and heard a noise in the kitchen. A glass had slipped from Asim's hands and was in splinters.

In a rage, she ignited a matchstick and placed it on Asim's hands. Stung he ran out, followed by Amina who seemed in a frenzy. Luckily, for him, she was heavy and could not move as fast as he.

In his mother's embrace he told his story, to his mother's mistress who listened patiently. She could not even think that Amina could do this to Asim. She was determined to amend the wrong done to him.

She went to Amina's house, but Amina completely denied that she had been cruel. She knew Amina was scared of being blamed publicly. So Asim's mother's mistress threatened Amina to compensate Asim for her ill-doings or she would go to the Police.

Amina was asked to pay a handsome amount to Asim for a life-time in lieu of her attempt to burn Asim's hand, which escaped several burns because of him not losing his senses and wrapping up his hand tightly so that no air was left to blow the flame.

Asim's mother won the money and with that money Asim joined school with zeal to become something, and look after his mother.

## SCO conference on developing medical, pharmaceutical cooperation



Spokesman Report

BELJING: The Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) conference on development of medical and pharmaceutical cooperation was recently held in Suzhou, China. Attendees included representatives from the public and private sectors related to healthcare from Pakistan, China, Iran, Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Islamic Republic of the Russian Federation, and Uzbekistan. During the conference, issues of strengthening international cooperation in the field of medicine and pharmaceuticals, harmonising quality control and registration of medicines within the SCO, and ensuring that pharmaceuticals have access to the markets of the SCO member states were all discussed, according to SCO Secretariat here. The participants adopted the Suzhou Initiative following the SCO Conference on the Development of Medical and Pharmaceutical Cooperation, which reflects the goals and tasks related to the further promotion of SCO cooperation in pharma and healthcare, as well as ways to create an expanded, open, mutually beneficial and equal partnership aimed at the effective development of the pharmaceutical industry in the SCO space.

## Amb. Amna Baloch meets Rector Rik Van de Walle



News Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Ambassador to Belgium, Luxembourg and the EU, Amna Baloch on Tuesday held discussions with Rector Rik Van de Walle of Ghent University. The ambassador discussed the ongoing engagement tracks related to knowledge partnerships and sought deepening of ties, including collaborations with specialized research consortium, Pakistan Embassy in Belgium posted on X. Amb. Amna Baloch meets Rector Rik Van de Walle <https://x.com/EmbassyPakBel/status/1709225201928417522? s=20> In a related post, the embassy said that the ambassador also held an interaction with the Pakistani students. The students shared their ongoing concerns and challenges and the ambassador assured them of complete support and facilitation. Amb. Amna Baloch meets Rector Rik Van de Walle. Meanwhile, Ambassador Amna Baloch called on Permanent Representative of Croatia to the European Union Ambassador Irena Andrassy. Amb. Amna Baloch meets Rector Rik Van de Walle They exchanged views on areas of mutual interest and greed to explore new avenues of cooperation, another post on X said.

## RAW officials reveal how Indian spies infiltrated West way before Nijjar's murder in Canada

India's external intelligence service has earned a formidable reputation in its immediate region, with Pakistan, Sri Lanka, and Nepal accusing it of meddling in politics and supporting outlawed groups involved in acts of violence.

However, recent allegations by Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau have cast India's secretive Research and Analysis Wing (RAW) into the global spotlight.

Trudeau claimed that Indian government agents played a role in the June killing of Sikh separatist leader Hardeep Singh Nijjar in a Vancouver suburb.

In response, India vehemently denied the allegations and demanded that Canada provide evidence. Ottawa asserted that it had shared proof with its allies but refused to release it publicly.

Reuters conducted interviews with four retired and two serving Indian security and intelligence officials well-acquainted with RAW.

They revealed that the agency became more internationally assertive following the 2008 Mumbai attacks, a tragic event that claimed 166 lives. All these officials spoke anonymously due to the sensitive nature of their discussions.

Several officials disclosed that RAW gradually expanded its presence in Western nations after 2008. A current official highlighted India's failure to extradite a US citizen convicted in connection with the Mumbai attack as a driving factor behind RAW's efforts to gain influence in the West.

While RAW possesses advanced signal and technical intelligence capabilities in its immediate vicinity, its operations in the West are predominantly reliant on human intelligence, as stated by one serving and one former official.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, known for strengthening India's defence capabilities since his 2014 election, has emboldened RAW, according to five officials. However, Modi's office declined to comment on the matter.

RAW Chief Ravi Sinha, the only serving official publicly linked to the agency, did not respond to messages seeking comment. Sinha reports to Modi's office through National Security Advisor Ajit Doval, who also remained silent on the issue.

All six officials categorically denied any involvement of RAW in targeted killings, emphasising that the agency lacks a mandate for such operations.

The fallout from the Vancouver incident has sparked concerns about increased global scrutiny of RAW, as suggested by Indian intelligence officials and analysts.

Dheeraj Paramesha Chaya, an expert on Indian intelligence at Hull University in the UK, believes that greater Western attention to RAW's activities may lead to a better understanding of Delhi's security concerns.

The West has expanded its military and intelligence cooperation with India amid growing tensions with China, including Washington's agreement in 2020 to share sensitive mapping and satellite data.





