



2nd Death Anniversary of Dr. Abdul Qadeer Khan will be observed today

Condolence events organized by social organizations will be organized across the country in which special prayers will be asked for their forgiveness. Pakistani scientist and creator of atomic bomb Dr. Abdul Qadeer Khan was born on April 1, 1936 in Bhopal, India. Dr. Abdul Qadir Khan passed away on October 10, 2021.

DAYS REMAINING
21

Only 21 days left for illegal immigrants to leave Pakistan
Foreign citizens residing illegally in Pakistan now have only 24 days to leave the country or face deportation. Foreigners living illegally must leave Pakistan by October 31 or law enforcement agencies will ensure their arrest and deportation. In the recent meeting of the Apex Committee of the National 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

Simultaneously published from Islamabad, Lahore and Multan

Meeting

ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar chairs a meeting on matters related to Ministry of Religious Affairs on Monday.



Photo: PID

Major among soldier embraced martyrdom while five terrorists killed in Zhob operation

Adam Khan Wazir



RAWALPINDI: A Pakistan Army officer among a soldier embraced martyrdom while leading an intelligence-based operation (IBO) conducted in Sambaza area of Zhob District, Balochistan that resulted in the elimination of five terrorists amid intense fire exchange. According to the Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR) on Monday, "On night [of] October 8/9, security forces conducted an intelligence-based operation in general area Sambaza, Zhob District, on reported presence of terrorists."
During the conduct of operation, it said the terrorists were surrounded and after an intense exchange of fire, five terrorists were sent to hell. The martyrs were identified as Major Syed Ali Raza Shah (Age 31 years, resident of Sargodha

District), who was leading the operation from the front, and Havaldar Nisar Ahmed (Age 38 years, resident of Vehari District), having fought gallantly, paid the ultimate sacrifice and embraced, Shahadat, in ensuing exchange of fire.
"Security forces of Pakistan are indebted & proud of our brave men and pay homage to their chivalry and sacrifices for the motherland, which further strengthens our resolve to uproot the menace of terrorism from the country," the ISPR said. However, sanitization of the surrounding areas was being conducted to eliminate any other terrorists found in the area.

PM stresses national dialogue on governance, economy & politics

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar, stressing the need to hold national dialogue on important national issues including governance structure, politics and economy, said the parliament could play a leading role in this regard to ensure a healthy and prosperous society in the country.
In an interview with the digital media platform "Talk Shock" on Sunday night, he said to control inflation in the country, the federal

government was taking concrete measures in collaboration with all provinces that would yield positive results in the days to come.
To a question whether the caretaker government would allow all political parties to participate in general elections, he said this was a judicial matter and if the judiciary allows the PTI chairman, he would definitely take part in the electoral process.
On the decision regarding the deportation of foreign nationals, the prime minister said this was meant only for unregistered

persons and without legal documents or forged documents.
The foreigners, he said, who had no legal documents had no legal or moral justification to live in Pakistan.
Asked if the government had taken the United Nations or the United Nations Human Rights Commission (UNHCR) in confidence on the expulsion of the illegal foreigners including Afghans, the prime minister said in this scenario, Pakistan was the only stakeholder, and different relevant domestic organizations and

departments were made part of the consultative process.
Of the three categories of foreigners living in Pakistan, he said 1.8 million registered Afghan people fall in the first category who would continue to live in the country.
In the second category, he said there were illegal aliens who were not only Afghans but also from other nationalities. "They are living in the country without passports, visas or any other legal document."
He said their role was not clear

whether they were criminals or engaged in other such activities as the government had no data about them. "They are not part of the system that is why the State is asking them to leave the country."
The prime minister, however, assured that the government would not humiliate them if they left the country voluntarily.
In the third category, he said were those people who kept forged documents and had illegally become part of the local family trees. "We will scrutinize and eliminate them from our system."

US to send military ships, aircraft closer to Israel



News Desk

GAZA: The United States will send multiple military ships and aircraft closer to Israel as a show of support, Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin said, with Washington believing Hamas' deadly attacks may have been motivated to disrupt a potential normalizing of Israel-Saudi Arabia ties.
Hamas fighters rampaged through Israeli towns as the country suffered its bloodiest day in decades on Saturday. Israel battered Palestinians with air strikes in Gaza on Sunday, with hundreds reportedly killed on both sides. The spiraling violence

threatens to start a major new war in the Middle East.
At least three Americans were among those killed, CNN reported on Sunday, citing a U. S. memo.
Austin in a statement said he ordered the moving of the USS Gerald R. Ford Carrier Strike Group to the Eastern Mediterranean closer to Israel. The force includes the carrier, a guided missile cruiser and four guided missile destroyers.
Austin also said the United States had also taken steps to augment U. S. Air Force F-35, F-15, F-16, and A-10 fighter aircraft squadrons in the region. He said the United States would also provide munitions to Israel.
U. S. President Joe Biden told Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Sunday that additional assistance for the Israeli Defense Force-

Israel, Gaza reel as death toll soars above 1,100 in war

Agencies

GAZA: Israeli troops fought to regain control of the desert around the Gaza Strip and evacuate people from the embattled border area, as the death toll from the war with Hamas surged above 1,100 by Monday, the third day of clashes.
Hamas launched a surprise assault from Gaza over the weekend, firing a barrage of rockets and sending a wave of fighters who gunned down civilians and took over 100 hostages. More than 700 Israelis have been killed since Hamas launched its large-scale attack, the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) said on Monday. Another 1,200 people have been wounded, many critically.
In retaliation, Israeli air strikes hammered an estimated 800 targets in the impoverished and blockaded Gaza Strip, an enclave of 2.3 million people, with officials there reporting at least 413 Palestinian deaths.
IDF spokesperson Lieutenant

US support for Israel

Joe Biden ordered "additional support for Israel in the face of this unprecedented terrorist assault by Hamas".
At least four US citizens were killed in the attack, US Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer said in a statement after a briefing, adding that the toll was likely to rise.
US Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin said Washington "will be rapidly providing the Israel Defense Force-

with additional equipment and resources, including munitions".
Austin directed the USS Gerald R. Ford aircraft carrier and group of warships to the eastern Mediterranean and said that Washington was augmenting fighter aircraft squadrons in the region.
Hamas has said the US aid amounts to "aggression" against Palestinians.
Saturday, which he called "by far the worst day in Israeli history".
"This could be a 9/11 and a Pearl Harbour wrapped into one."
Around 100,000 reserve troops have been deployed to the south as the IDF battles to expel Hamas fighters from Israeli territory, he said, adding that a "very large amount" of Israeli civilians and soldiers were being held inside Gaza.



Colonel Jonathan Conricus estimated around 1,000 Palestinian fighters had participated in Hamas's assault on

Chinese envoy, Planning minister discuss CPEC projects

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan Jiang Zaidong Monday called on Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Muhammad Sami Saeed and discussed projects being executed under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). During the meeting, the two sides discussed the ongoing CPEC projects especially related to energy, infrastructure,

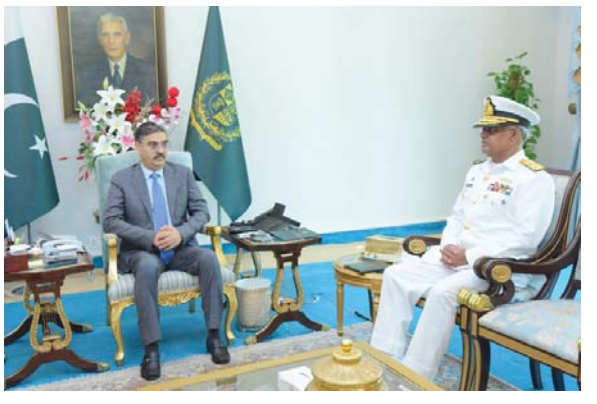
industrial zones; agriculture and information technology, a news release said. Secretary Ministry of Planning Awais Manzoor Sumra also attended the meeting.
The minister apprised the visiting envoy, who assumed the office charge last month, that the caretaker government was fully committed to completing the CPEC projects on a fast-track basis. Sami Saeed said the Planning Ministry reviewed progress on ongoing projects regularly and



Special Economic Zones' work was in full swing. He said the government was taking all possible measures to further improve the security of the staff working on the projects, being executed

under CPEC. The Chinese envoy appreciated the efforts of the Planning Ministry for its active role in carrying forward CPEC projects. Jiang Zaidong said the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) was an extremely important forum where Pakistan's participation carried great significance. He invited the caretaker minister to attend the BRI Forum-2023, scheduled for 17-18th of the current month in Beijing, the capital city of China.

PM, newly appointed naval chief discusses matters of Pak Navy



Spokesman Report

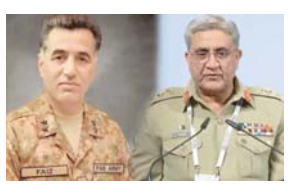
ISLAMABAD: The newly appointed Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Naveed Ashraf called on Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar here on Monday, the PM Office said.
The meeting discussed the

administrative and professional matters pertaining to the Pakistan Navy.
The prime minister expressed confidence that under the supervision of the new naval chief, the Pakistan Navy would play an effective role in the defence of the country.

IHC notices issued to ex-COAS, Faiz Hameed

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad High Court (IHC) Monday issued notices to former Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Retired Qamar Javed Bajwa and former Director General of Inter - Services Intelligence (DG ISI) Lieutenant General Faiz Hameed in the case related to breaking the legal barrier and misrepresenting various events after retirement.
According to details, the petition filed by citizen Atif Ali stated that journalists Javed Chaudhry and Shahid Maitla had written two articles for viewership which had a negative impact on the society. Articles of both have been annexed to the petition.
The petitioner stated: "I was surprised to see how the mafia is ruining the society. Criminal behavior has come out under the guise of freedom of speech, that's why I requested to file a case".
He also took the stand that this criminal act was done with the connivance of



General Retired Bajwa and Lt General Retired Faiz Hameed, therefore Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) should take strict action on it.
Chief Justice of Islamabad High Court (IHC) Aamer Farooq, while issuing a written order on the petition of Atif Ali, said: "According to the petitioner, the FIA was repeatedly requested to register the case, but no action was taken".
The court verdict said that the petitioner's counsel asked that FIA be ordered to register a case and take action.
The Islamabad High Court also issued notices to journalists Javed Chaudhry, Shahid Maitla, Pakistan Electronic Media Regulatory Authority (PEMRA) and other parties including General Retired Qamar Javed Bajwa and Lt General Retired Faiz Hameed.

Meetings of universities

ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi chairing the 6th meeting of the Senate of the COMSATS University Islamabad, at Aiwan-e-Sadr, on Tuesday.



Photo: PID

President for regular senates' meetings of universities; filling of vacancies

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi on Monday stressed upon the need of holding of regular meetings of senates of universities for timely decision making.

He also directed for immediate filling of vacant posts of senate members in different universities.

The president chaired 6th meeting of Senate of the COMSATS University Islamabad, at Aiwan-e-Sadr, President Secretariat Press Wing said in a press release.

The meeting was attended by executive director COMSATS, secretaries of ministries of IT and federal education and senate members.

The president further observed that universities should also commence timely process for recruitment on teaching and administrative vacancies, besides establishing new departments while keeping in view needs of

the market.

Prior to starting of teaching in new departments, an inquisitive analysis of the requirements of the markets should be made, he opined, adding that universities should impart education and skills to their students in conformity with the needs of the market.

The president reiterated that while comparing with other countries of the region, the number of students seeking admissions in universities in Pakistan was very low and emphasized upon the universities to utilize online education system for increasing numbers of qualified graduates.

He also advised that universities should explore new avenues for generating their financial resources whereas for the research grants, they should seek assistance from professionals.

During the meeting, the financial, administration, educational and employees' issues of COMSATS were discussed.

Solangi for boosting cooperation with Russia in diverse fields

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Murtaza Solangi on Monday underlined the need for boosting cooperation with Russia in various fields including media, drama, films, joint productions and training programmes.

The minister, in a meeting with Russian Ambassador to Pakistan Danila Ganich, also stressed that a formal invitation would be extended to his Russian counterpart for his visit to Pakistan.

During the meeting, cooperation between the two countries in diverse fields includ-



ing media and the modalities regarding the Russian information minister's visit to Pakistan were also discussed.

Possible signing of agreements between APP and TAAS News Agency, PTV and Russian Television and

Russian Radio and Radio Pakistan during the visit of the Russian Minister also came under discussion during the meeting.

Both Solangi and the Russian Ambassador expressed the commitment of

the two countries to strengthen relations in various fields including security, economy, education, culture and tourism.

Pakistan valued its relations with Russia and it was desirous to expand cooperation with Moscow in the fields of media, drama, and films, the minister said.

They also discussed matters pertaining to organizing a ceremony in Islamabad on the completion of 75 years of diplomatic relations between Pakistan and Russia.

Solangi said both countries enjoyed long-standing ties and the business community and people of Pakistan were keen

to strengthen the bilateral relation and find ways to achieve common goals.

"We are confident that our bilateral relations will continue to grow towards a bright future with the changing global scenario," Murtaza Solangi remarked.

The Russian Ambassador said Pakistan and Russia were cooperating with each other in every sphere of life including the media sector.

Russia wanted to cooperate with Pakistan in other spheres of life besides media, said the ambassador.

He said that Pakistani television dramas were very popular in Russia.

SC practice and procedure act: CJP hints at completing hearing today

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: A full court bench — headed by Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Qazi Faez Isa on Monday resumed hearing petitions challenging the SC (Practice and Procedure) Act.

The proceedings of the case are being broadcast live by state-run PTV.

Headed by CJP Isa, the bench comprised Justice Sardar Tariq Masood, Justice Ijazul Ahsan, Justice Syed Mansoor Ali Shah, Justice Munib Akhtar, Justice Yahya Afridi, Justice Aminuddin Khan, Justice Sayyed Mazhar Ali Akbar Naqvi, Justice Jamal Khan Mandokhel, Justice Muhammad Ali Mazhar, Justice Ayesha A Malik, Justice Athar Minallah, Justice Syed Hasan Azhar Rizvi, Justice Shahid Waheed and Justice Musarrat Hilali.

After assuming charge as

the chief justice, CJP Isa had ordered the hearing to be livestreamed and had implicitly vacated the April 13 suspension of the enforcement of the SC Practice and Procedure Act.

At the outset of the hearing, President Supreme Court Bar, Abid Zuberi in his arguments before the full court said only the SC can formulate the rules regarding Practices and Procedures, the Parliament does not have this authority, he added.

Subject to in the constitution does not indicate that the Parliament will do legislation for the apex court, Zuberi said.

Can the rules formulated by the SC using constitutional powers be overturned? Justice Ijazul Ahsan asked Zuberi. No, the Parliament does not have the right to legislate after this, the respondent said.

At one point, CJP Isa remarked, "The day we hear this case, the weeks we hear this case, our institution



exceeds our disposal. The day we don't, our disposal exceeds our execution. If you think this is a never-ending hearing, this is the last day of the hearing."

He urged the SCBA president to continue his arguments in the case, telling him to move on to the next point. He expressed displeasure with Zuberi submitting documents to the court during the hearing.

"The way in which Article 184(3) is being used, was it correct? [...] If we strike down

this law, so will it be correct if I keep using [Article 184(3)] in the same way as before?" Justice Isa asked Zuberi.

Zuberi said that Article 184(3) was used incorrectly in the past and several questions had been raised about it. He said whether it was used incorrectly or not, it had to be examined who had the competence or jurisdiction to rectify it.

CJP Justice Qazi Faez Isa had questioned how the Supreme Court (Practice and

Procedure) Act 2023 could curtail the powers of the apex court. CJP Isa had regretted how vesting of authority in an individual's hands had destroyed the country.

Imtiaz Siddiqui-CJP heated arguments

Imtiaz Siddiqui, the senior lawyer of one of the respondents in the case, exchanged heated arguments with the CJP for giving a rostrum to the AGP before him.

Siddiqui said, My Lord, you said to give me a chance for arguments before the AGP. He also complained about the 'behavior' of the CJP.

Justice Isa asked where in the order is written that you will get the time for arguments before the AGP. The top judge scolded Siddiqui for asking to review his [CJP] to 'review' his treatment.

There is a way and behavior to talk in the SC, the CJP remarked.

China offers cooperation in construction of smart cities, transportation

Spokesman Report

BELJING: China's one of the earliest enterprises to go global in the field of smart city, has offered cooperation in the construction of smart cities and smart transportation. "Following the Belt and Road initiative, we have provided services to more than 30 overseas countries and regions," said Liu Qianjun, Chairman of Beijing Anlu during a meeting with a Pakistani delegation which recently visited the company. The two sides had in-depth discussion on smart city construction in Pakistan, CEN reported on Monday.

The company has also participated in the construction of the Peshawar BRT Project and Lahore Safe City Project in Pakistan, which gave it a better understanding of Pakistan's current situation and demand in this sector.

"I believe that China and Pakistan

have great potential to cooperate in the construction of smart cities and smart transportation," he added, expressing his wish to further participate in the cooperation. "We appreciate Beijing Anlu's contribution to Pakistan's informatization construction, and welcome more and more Chinese companies to participate in building safe city, intelligent transportation and smart campus in Pakistan.

We also want to invite Beijing Anlu to build connections with Pakistani universities to promote industry-university-research cooperation," Senator Faisal Saleem said in the discussion. The two sides also had exchanges on the existing problems and countermeasures in Pakistan's modern governance and the construction of smart cities. Muhammad Imran Masood, member of the Pakistani Board of Investment (BOD) was also part of the delegation.

President AfK to swear in acting Chief Justice Mian Arif Hussain

Bureau Report

MUZAFFARABAD: President Azad Kashmir Barrister Sultan Mehmood Chaudhry administered oath of office to acting Chief Justice of Azad Jammu and Kashmir High Court Justice Mian Arif Hussain here today. The swearing-in ceremony held at president house was attended by honourable judges of the high court, members of the legal fraternity, bureaucrats and other pertinent officials of the government including Justice Syed Shahid Bahar, Justice Muhammad Ijaz Khan, Justice Chaudhry Khalid Rasheed, Adviser to president Sardar Imtiaz Khan.

Indian CM's remarks on taking back Sindhu region are reprehensible: Spokesperson

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Responding to the media questions regarding the remarks made by the Chief Minister of the Indian state of Uttar Pradesh about taking back 'Sindhu' (the region around the Indus River in Southern Pakistan), the Spokesperson, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mumtaz Zahra Baloch, said:

"We condemn the highly irresponsible remarks made by the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, a key member of India's ruling dispensation and a follower of the bigoted Hindutva ideology, at the National Sindhi Convention in Lucknow.



It is equally condemnable that the so-called reclamation of the 'Ram Jannabhoomi' has been cited by the Chief Minister as a template for reclaiming the region that constitutes part of Pakistan. History bears witness that a Hindu supremacist mob had brazenly demolished the

historic Babri Mosque on 6 December 1992 to take back the claimed birthplace of Lord Rama in Ayodhya.

Clearly, the Chief Minister's provocative remarks are inspired by the gratuitous assertion of 'Akhanda Bharat' (undivided India). These

remarks manifest a revisionist and expansionist mindset that seeks to subjugate the identity and culture of not only India's neighbouring countries but also its own religious minorities. They also reflect a perverse view of history.

It is a matter of grave concern that such ideas are being increasingly peddled by individuals belonging to the BJP-RSS combine to further their divisive and parochial political agenda. Instead of nurturing hegemonic and expansionist ambitions, the Indian leaders should resolve disputes with neighbouring countries, and work with them to build a peaceful and prosperous South Asia."

Barrister Feroz emphasizes equal education opportunities for children

Adam Khan Wazir

PESHAWAR: Barrister Feroze Jamal Shah Kakakhel, the Caretaker Minister of Information, Culture, and Tourism for Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, in his address at a function organized by the Kashmir Orphan Relief Trust (KORT) in Alamabad Swabi has emphasized on equal education opportunities for all children for a positive progress in the society.

Drawing inspiration from the Holy Quran and the life of the Holy Prophet (PBUH), he highlighted the importance of caring for orphans, as exemplified by numerous Quranic verses and the compassionate orders of the Prophet (PBUH).

Minister Kakakhel said that after providing education and training to children, it is essential to reward their hard work and ensure they feel that they will be treated fairly in all forums, with their rights respected. Only through such measures can they take ownership and responsibility for the future of the country he said.



He lauded the caretaker government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa for its commitment to good governance, with a focus on meritocracy and transparency.

The event, attended by a multitude of Pakistani nationals living abroad, as well as high-ranking civil and military officials, featured students from the KORT in Azad Kashmir who showcased their talents through speeches, tableau, drama, qawwali, and national songs.

Minister Information, Culture and Tourism expressed gratitude to KORT institution for the construction

of the education complex in Swabi, commending the exemplary contribution of local residents who provided the land free of charge. He also recognized the vital role played by overseas Pakistanis in supporting orphans and fostering the country's development.

Minister Information identified the violation of merit as a leading cause of brain drain from the province and the country. He underscored that youth would take ownership of the country's system when merit and transparency are upheld.

Addressing the gathering, Caretaker Minister revealed that the tour-

ism department has been tasked with organizing special tours for children with disabilities. Visually impaired children were recently treated to a tour of Galiati he said. He said that special tour will be planned for orphans to enable them to experience the beauty of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

The ceremony featured speeches by Pir Sultan-ul-Arifin, Chief KORT Chaudhry Akhtar, Lt. Gen. (ret'd) Nigar Johar, Air Chief Marshal (r) Sohail Aman, Air Commodore (r) Mohammad Shabbir, Owner Atif Rana of Lahore Qalandar, and other distinguished speakers.

Shaping of plant

ISLAMABAD: A worker of Capital Development Authority is busy in shaping the plants on green belt along the Express Way in Federal Capital.



Photo: Online by Raja Farid

Naat & Qirat ceremony held by DYO in SW Upper

Adam Khan Wazir

WANA: Director of Youth Affairs (DYO) Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Arshad Qayum Burki and Deputy Commissioner Ashfaq Khan South Waziristan Upper, under the direction of Madrasa Arabia Ilya Zaghbir Wam Tehsil Sararogha organized a recitation naat and Qirat competition organized by the Youth Office on Sunday.

Sports Officer Noor Ullah Wazir and Ullamas, students and other people of various schools participated in this program in large numbers.



However, students of thirteen Madrasas participated in Naat and Qirat competition.

The chief guest of the program was District Youth Officer (DYO) Sardar Ali.

There were two position holders for the first, second and third positions in the program competition.

Cash prizes and certificates of appreciation were given to the position holders

by the Youth Office.

The highlight of the event was that both the 1st and 2nd position winners in Naat and Qirat competition were girls.

On the other hand, the students and local tribal elders who participated in the program appreciated the performance of the Youth Office and thanked them for organizing a better program.

Local elders said that it is our hope that Youth Office South Waziristan will continue these types of programs, and such events will help to increase the morale of students

Girls are playing a significant role in the development of Pakistan: Dr Rana Altaf

Kiran Asim

MULTAN: Vice Chancellor of Nishat Medical University Professor Dr Rana Muhammad Altaf Ahmed said Girls are playing a significant role in the development of Pakistan by getting higher education. He said that the female students admitted to Punjab College and their parents have chosen a very good institution and the future of you people is very bright. Punjab college has the highest number of female students taking admission and my daughter also studied from the same college.

Women University in collaboration with RWO runs 4-day training program for women

Kiran Asim

MULTAN: The Directorate of Career Counselling and Alumni Affairs (CC&AA) and the Department of Sociology at the Women University Multan, in collaboration with Roshni Welfare Organization (RWO), recently orchestrated an enlightening and engaging 4-day training program. The program witnessed enthusiastic participation from students hailing from three diverse departments: Sociology, Mass Communication, and Fine Arts. The comprehensive training program was meticulously designed to delve into critical subjects, including Leadership, Para-legal knowledge, Gender concepts, and the urgent matter of addressing Gender-Based Violence (GBV). Throughout the training, there was a strong emphasis on fostering self-reflection and self-awareness among participants, recognizing these as essential building blocks for personal growth and leadership development. This initiative aligns seamlessly with the "Women's Voice and Leadership-Pakistan" project, generously funded by the Government of Canada through Global Affairs Canada. The project's overarching mission is to empower women and champion gender equality—an objective that resonates deeply with RWO's commitment to catalyzing positive societal transformation. The closing and certificate distribution ceremony was graced by the esteemed presence of Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr. Kalsoom Paracha, the respected Registrar, Prof. Dr. Memona Khan, and the Executive Director of RWO, Mr. Zahid Zahoor. This significant event culminated with the formalization of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between RWO and the Department of Sociology, operating under the aegis of the Directorate of Career Counselling & Alumni Affairs (CC&AA). During the ceremony, the Vice Chancellor shared profound insights on women's leadership, commending the initiative and the dedicated efforts of Dr. Sadaf Mahmood, Chairperson of Sociology and Director of CC&AA, and RWO for their instrumental role in orchestrating such practical and impactful workshops. This collaboration signifies not only a commitment to enhancing the education and awareness of our students but also a shared dedication to fostering leadership, gender equality, and positive societal change.

Subh Nou School is Playing a Revolutionary Role in providing quality Education: Khawaja Mazhar

Kiran Asim

MULTAN: Additional Secretary School Education Department South Punjab Khawaja Mazharul Haq has said that 'Subh Nou School' is playing a revolutionary role in providing quality education to working children. They were inspecting the 'Subh Nou School' established for On this occasion, CEO Education Rajanpur along with the district officers of the Education Department were also with him. The Additional Secretary said that the establishment of 'Subh Nou School' will help in eradicating educational backwardness in the region.



On the arrival of Sobh No School, the Additional Secretary went to the class room and reviewed the quality of the teaching process and discussed with the students.

He exhorted the students of 'Subh Nou School' to study diligently and bring glory to their parents and country. During his visit to Rajanpur, Additional Secretary Khawaja Mazharul Haq visited various schools and also reviewed the process of School Based Assessment under Punjab Examination Commission.

VC Gomal University formally inaugurated hospital for the Faculty of Allied Health Sciences

Adam Khan Wazir

DERA ISMAIL KHAN: Vice Chancellor Gomal University Professor Dr. Shakib Ullah formally inaugurated the hospital for the Faculty of Allied Health Sciences on Monday.

A large number of teachers and students of Faculty of Allied Health Sciences along with Deans of all departments including Registrar were present on this occasion.

Speaking at the opening ceremony, Vice Chancellor Gomal University Prof. Dr. Shakib Ullah said, that today we have inaugurated the hospital for Faculty of Allied Health Sciences.

He said It has all kinds of facilities for treatment and soon we will get it registered with the health department and if there is any other requirement in this regard, we will also fulfill it.

He further said that this hospital will help our Faculty of Allied Health Sciences students in their practical training.

However, here the university employees, students as well as the people of the areas near the university will have better facilities for free medical examination. The Vice Chancellor further said that all the credit for the success of this hospital goes to Dean Faculty of Allied Health Sciences Dr. Asif Nawaz and his team.

He said, by whose hard work day and night all this is possible and they deserve all praise for it. Addressing the ceremony, Dr. Asif Nawaz thanked Vice Chancellor Gomal University Prof. Dr. Shakib Ullah and the university administration.

He said, all the achievements of the Faculty of Allied Health Sciences from NOC to building a hospital are due to the Vice chancellor Professor Dr. Shakib Ullah.

Prompt action reduced smuggling, recovery of billions: Ali Abbas Gardizi

Bureau Report

FAISALABAD: Collectorate of Customs Sargodha took immediate action and caught more cases of smuggling worth Rs 250 million.

According to Customs Enforcement Collectorate Sargodha, Faisalabad and DG Khan Range Spokesman Liaquat Kamal, Collector Syed Ali Abbas Gardizi, Additional Collector Muhammad Tahir Khattak and Inspector Mr. Waqas Sargodha formed four different teams of anti-smuggling squad.

These teams performed very well and effectively made more confiscation cases worth 250 million in the last five days. This is the fourth mega operation against smugglers.

As per further details, the following is the description of the seized goods at this time.

3 NCP cars, 550 tyres, 81 tonnes of scrap, 23000 liters of POL, 5 tonnes of betel nut, 1100 kg of cloth, 380,000 cigarette sticks, 15.6 tonnes of almonds, 440 drums, sulphonic acid, part phonic acid, milk, part Fonic acid, 440 drums included. The Collectorate is doing its best to curb the menace of smuggling with limited resources.

It should be remembered that the Collectorate of Customs had caught smuggled goods worth billions of rupees red-handed just a few days ago. According to the previous output of the Collectorate, the Collector-

South Punjab secretariat project be completed within the deadline: Amjad Khan

Quratul Ain Asim

MULTAN: The under construction project of Civil Secretariat South Punjab is moving towards its completion on a fast track. Infrastructure Development Authority Punjab (IDAP) has started preparations to hand over the residences of government officials (GOR) to the administration. In this connection, a review meeting was held on Monday under the chairmanship of Secretary Services South Punjab Engineer Amjad Shoaib Khan Tareen which was attended by the Additional Secretary Muhammad Farooq Dogar, Director General PHA Asif Rauf Khan, Project Director Faisal Zaman and officials of IDAP. Secretary Services South Punjab instructed to review the timeline of the project on a daily basis and said that the project be

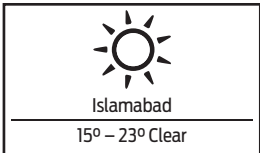


completed within the deadline given by Chief Secretary Punjab and Additional Chief Secretary South Punjab. He asked DG PHA to submit a working plan regarding landscaping of project

while the IDAP authorities were directed to provide water and electricity connection to the PHA at site.

Secretary Services directed IDAP to immediately get technical sanction of

the solar energy project of the Secretariat, while the procedure for the purchase of furniture for the offices be also completed. Director General PHA Asif Rauf Khan told the meeting that PHA has prepared a working plan for landscaping and landscaping of GOR will be completed by October 31st. Project Director IDAP Faisal Zaman, while briefing the Secretary Services said that the residences of government officials will be handed over to the administration by October 31st while the project of the secretariat will be completed by December 31st this year. Road network and boundary wall of the project are in final stages of its completion while finishing work of GOR will be completed on October 15, he added. It was further informed that solarization of Secretariat will also be completed in December this year.



SERVICES

Namaz Timings

Fajr 4:45 am
Zohr 11:55 am
Asr 4:02 pm
Maghrib 5:42 pm
Isha 7:05 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
DHO 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

Zong launches Z-Verse to transform enterprise communications

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: In a bid to transform the way businesses communicate, Pakistan's leading telecommunication network Zong 4G has launched Z-Verse — an innovative, all-encompassing solution for enterprises to streamline customer interactions, ensure performance elevation, and conquer the market like never before.

Z-Verse offers a diverse range of solutions that seamlessly integrate all your digital platforms, including Meta and X "Twitter", as well as emails, SMS, and more — all within a user-friendly interface. It empowers businesses to effortlessly arrange and execute instant campaigns across multiple platforms, providing customers with a cohesive and consistent brand experience.

The platform features a state-of-the-art chatbot that accelerates lead generation, facilitates seamless information transfers between platforms, and promotes enhanced collaboration within internal teams.

On the back of cutting-edge AI-powered analytics, reporting insights, automated customer profiling and sentiment analysis, Z-Verse allows companies to devise growth strategies in order to ensure exponential progress.

Exports must increase for the currency to remain steady

Tariq Khattak

ISLAMABAD: FPCCI's presidential candidate, Atif Ikram Sheikh said on Monday that the efforts of the government are continuously strengthening the rupee against the dollar, which is a great achievement.

Due to the initiatives of the government, the prices of various commodities are decreasing in the market, which is giving relief to the public and the business community, he said.

Atif Ikram Sheikh, who has also served as VP FPCCI, Chairman PVMA, and President ICCI, said in a statement issued here today that while government efforts are laudable, the only way to stabilize the rupee on a permanent basis is to increase exports and discourage unnecessary imports.

Remittances bring huge foreign exchange to the government, but they also encourage unnecessary consumption, he said.

Atif Ikram Sheikh said that consumerism has also been on the rise for decades, and investors have been attracted to non-productive sectors rather than industries where



profits are high. Our economic model is disproportionately dependent on consumption. Pakistan over the last ten years has been maintaining consumption in excess of 80 percent of GDP, and more recently, its contribution to GDP has been as high as 90 percent in FY-22 and 88 percent in FY-23. Reliance on consumption has led to a scenario where consumption is effectively

driven by imports. GDP growth is fueled by consumption, which is inadvertently fueled by imports.

The dollars required to fund these imports are provided by a mix of exports, remittances, and external debt. As consumption continues to take up a significant component of imports, sufficient resources are not available to utilize imports for investments, resulting in a slowdown.

Unless the export sector is made the most profitable, investment in it will remain low, and foreign investment will also be less than desired.

He said that the agricultural sector can be a cause of earning foreign exchange along with improving food security in the country for which this sector should be developed.

Russia is supplying grain to the whole world, while Pakistan's canal system is five times that of Russia, but we have to import wheat, cotton, vegetables, and pulses, which is sad.

If the farmers are protected from substandard seeds, spurious agricultural drugs, substandard fertilizers, and loan sharks, the situation can improve, he said.

Film Festival

ISLAMABAD: Country Representative UNFPA Dr Louy Shabaneh receives award from during award distributing ceremony of "2nd Naqsh Digital Film Festival" by Fatima Jinnah Women University at local hotel in Federal Capital.



Photo: Online by Raja Farid

PM to probe causes of delay in completion of Rathoa Hariyam Bridge

Abdul Majeed Tahir

MUZAFFARABAD: A high-level meeting to review the causes of delay in the completion of leftover work on the Rathoa-Hariyam Bridge was held here with prime minister Chaudhry Anwar-ul-Haq in the chair. The meeting was attended by senior minister Colonel (Rtd) Waqar Ahmed Noor, Principal Secretary Fayaz Ali Abbasi and Secretary Works and other relevant officials. During the meeting, the PM was given a detailed briefing regarding the tendering process and construction work of Rathoa Hariyam Bridge that connects Islamabad with Mirpur city. On the occasion, Prime Minister



Haq directed to constitute a fact-finding committee headed by Chief P&D Aamir Latif to ascertain the causes of the delay. The Committee has been asked to submit its report after

completing the inquiry as soon as possible. The committee was also directed to provide all the records related to Rathoa Hariyam Bridge and the records of the tendering process. The

Prime Minister, while terminating Rathoa Hariyam Bridge as an important project, said that those who were found guilty of negligence in its construction would be punished.

Education seminars held on importance of test to help students achieve higher success: HOD



City Desk

ISLAMABAD: A seminar on "Importance of Test" was organized in Career Coaching Center, which was attended by a large number of students and parents. HOD Score Entry Test Biology Prof. Matiullah Achakzai while addressing the seminar said that students of subjects Get rid of the fear and dread of the test. Tests are the ladder of students' success. Through the test, students can evaluate their performance. The students who evaluate their performance will be motivated to work harder and achieve more success. Principal Career Academy Simly Dam Road Muhammad Adnan Abbasi said that explaining the concept of each subject and planning to take the test is our first priority. We will get top positions in the Federal Board. Students who do not give the test, their chances of success become doubtful. Career Academy Simly Dam Road Bhara Kahu is running a full academy for the first time. In which they are giving tuition for all subjects from ninth to twelfth standard. The students and parents termed the seminar as an educational awareness campaign and said that seminars should be held every two months on different topics for the educational training and awareness of the students.

Iqra holds national conference on Mult-Faith Harmony in Christchurch



City Desk

IQRA—"National Conference for Multi-Faith Harmony and Legal Safeguards" organized by The International Quran Research Association (International Human Rights Organization) in Christchurch Rawalpindi in which Aneeq Ahmed (Federal Minister for Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony), Dr Qibla Ayaz (Chairman Islamic Ideological Council), Dr Zia-ul-Haq (DG Islamic Research Institute) and domestic and foreign dignitaries including former federal ministers, former senators and in addition, current and former ambassadors attended.

On this occasion, Zain Malik (Country Leader—Iqra Pakistan) said that we have to think of the country as a Pakistani out of this division of majority and minority. Today, in this difficult time, Pakistan needs us more than ever before. Incidents like Jaranwala brought disrepute to Pakistan around the world. I appeal to the Government of Pakistan to bring the perpetrators of the Jaranwala incident to justice.

Dr Safi Qasqas (President Iqra) expressed deep concern over the Jaranwala incident and said that elimination of extremist elements present in Pakistan is the guarantee of Pakistan's progress and survival.

Federal Minister for Religious Affairs Aneeq Ahmed appreciated iqra's initiative and vowed to eliminate extremist elements through consultation and coordination with Iqra in the future.

A resolution was also presented by Iqra Pakistan on the occasion, which was signed by all the honorable participants.

Dr. Abdul Raheman assumes duties as Vice President Academics

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Vice President Academics, Dr. Abdul Raheman after assuming his duties at the office. He was warmly welcomed on his arrival by the officers and staff who were overwhelmed on his appointment. They thanked President IIUI for appointing Dr. Abdul Raheman as Vice president Academics and termed it as another positive step towards university's progress.

Dr. Abdul Raheman visited the new academic block and the Students Facilitation Centre (SFC) where he reviewed the day to day affairs while he was briefed on the nature of work and overall performance of the various offices.

On his maiden day remarks, Vice President Academics said that as per vision of H. E. Dr. Hathal Homoud Alotaibi, President, International Islamic University (IIU), students' facilitation is top priority. He said every possible step will be ensured to facilitate the students under one roof on priority and with the use of a modern and digitized approach.

The IIUI Vice President met the students in various sections of the academic block and students facilitation centre, where he listened to their problems and feedback.

Sindh Minister for Industries announces one window online solution for complaints

City Desk

KARACHI: Caretaker Minister for Revenue, Industries & Commerce, Govt. of Sindh, Muhammad Younus Dagha has announced one-window solution for swift resolution of complaints related to industries. He also announced to form a separate body for SITE like other industrial areas of Karachi for the maintenance of infrastructure in SITE area.

On the matter of agreement signed between SITE Limited and SSWMB, the Minister reiterated that the separate body being formed will take up this matter as well. We are in fact, distributing the work of SITE Limited and the company will be responsible for the maintenance of infrastructure in SITE Karachi alone. He added that a separate account for SSWMB related

collection can also be opened to redress complaints of recovery.

Earlier, SITE President Muhammad Kamran Arbi, while welcoming the Chief Guest, presented a brief introduction of SITE area Karachi and highlighted major issues impeding industrial growth which included need for reforms in SITE Limited, mechanism for maintenance of infrastructure, proper functioning of Oversight Committee for PSDP program, implementation of agreement signed between SITE Limited and SSWMB, supply of water to industries, Combined Effluent Treatment Plant, gas pressure issue, and non-implementation of a Single Window Solution covering all provincial government departments.

Patron-in-Chief Zubair Motiwala, speaking on the occasion, congratulated

Younus Dagha on assuming the portfolio of Industries Minister and remarked that he is the Right Person for the Right Job.

Former President Jawed Bilwani, gave details of income & expenditure of SITE Limited briefed on efforts made in the past to streamline the working of SITE Limited. He in particular mentioned that in Nawabshah and Larkana Industrial Estate, not a single industry has been set up but they still had staff of 60-70 persons.

Former Chairman Younus Bashir, thanked Mr. Dagha for sparing time to visit SITE Association and said that unfortunately, no party has done anything for Karachi and people are leaving the country which is a very serious matter.

Majyd Aziz, Abdul Rasheed, Riaz Uddin, Abdul Kadir Bilwani, Muham-



mad Hussain Moosani, Saleem Nagar-ia, Anwer Aziz, Saud Mahmood, Riaz Dhedhi, Khalid Riaz, Rizwan Lakh-

any, Executive Committee members and general members were also present in the meeting. As a gesture of good-

will, Association's crest was presented to the Chief Guest and vote of thanks was presented by VP Farhan Ashrafi.

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 Email: **spokesmanislamabad@gmail.com**
 Whatsapp: **0346-5008408**

How Hamas Stunted Israel? - I

In the early days of October 2023, an unprecedented escalation of conflict between Hamas and Israel occurred, marked by a large-scale invasion and offensive launched by Palestinian militant groups from the Gaza Strip against Israel's Southern Borders. This significant attack, named "Operation al-Aqsa Storm," was a historic event as it marked the first direct conflict within Israel's boundaries since the 1948 Arab-Israeli War.

What made this offensive particularly stunning was not only its surprise factor but also the fact that it caught not only Israelis, known for their world-class, well-equipped, and highly efficient surveillance and intelligence systems, off guard but also the entire world. The Israeli-Palestinian conflict is closely monitored due to its potential to disrupt peace in the Middle East, a region crucial for global oil supply. The fear of oil supply disruption and its potential to drive up oil prices, thus impacting economies worldwide, especially vulnerable ones like Pakistan, added an extra layer of concern to this already volatile situation.

The audacious and deadly maneuver executed by Hamas has also raised

questions about the effectiveness of Mossad, Israel's renowned intelligence agency, which is traditionally considered one of the world's most formidable agencies, specializing in counterterrorism, covert operations, and intelligence collection. Often compared to counterparts like the CIA (United States), MI6 (United Kingdom), and FSB (Russia), Mossad's inability to anticipate and prevent the surprise attack by Hamas was a notable surprise not only for Israel but also for other global intelligence agencies with a significant presence in the conflict-prone Middle East.

This unprecedented military maneuver involved a clever transformation of civilian machinery such as bulldozers, hang gliders, and motorbikes, effectively challenging the Middle East's most potent army. It marked a significant breach in Israel's defenses, the most serious since the Arab-Israeli conflicts of 1973. Hamas achieved this through two years of strategic subterfuge, concealing its military plans and convincing Israel that it had no intention of engaging in

a major confrontation.

While Israel believed it was pacifying a war-weary Hamas through economic incentives for Gazan workers, the group was covertly and effectively preparing its fighters. This preparation took place in plain sight but under the guise of not being ready for a conflict. Hamas employed unconventional and untraceable intelligence tactics, leading Israel to underestimate its strength and resilience. The result was a shocking and sudden assault that caught Israel off guard, resulting in 700 Israeli casualties and dozens of abductions. Major Nir Dinar, spokesperson for the Israeli Defense Forces, described this surprise move as "Israeli 9/11," admitting that they had been caught completely unaware.

In the lead-up to this audacious maneuver, Hamas constructed a mock Israeli settlement in Gaza for training purposes. Even many Hamas leaders were kept in the dark about the exact plans, and the 1,000 fighters involved had no clear understanding of the exercises' true purpose. The operation was

divided into four parts: an initial barrage of 3,000 rockets fired from Gaza, simultaneous incursions by fighters using hang gliders and motorized paragliders, the securing of terrain by ground troops, and the breach of fortified barriers using explosives and motorbikes. Bulldozers were employed to widen gaps, and commando units attacked key Israeli military installations, disrupting communications.

The final phase involved moving hostages to Gaza, a task largely achieved early in the attack. One such high-profile hostage-taking incident occurred during a raid on party-goers near Gaza, with social media footage capturing the chaos as people fled the scene amid gunshots.

Hamas' remarkable ability to maintain the secrecy of its unconventional warfare capabilities until it unveiled them in a decisive manner and the biggest below to the invincibility of Israel. The speed, precision, and serenity with which Hamas militants breached the Gaza-Israel barrier, penetrated the Gaza border crossings into Israeli settlements and military installations, and launched over 5,000 rockets into Israel within just 20 minutes were indeed remarkable.

To be Continued



Analysis

Qamar Bashir

Tackling climate change requires collective effort

The Caretaker Planning Minister for Planning Development & Special Initiatives, Muhammad Sami Saeed called for coordinated and collective global efforts to counter the climate crisis.

The government, civil society and international partners must join hands to tackle climate crisis through a collective and coordinated efforts to combat the crisis, said Muhammad Sami Saeed while speaking at the Seminar on National Resilience Day organized by the National University of Science & Technology (NUST) on Monday.

Last year, Pakistan faced an unprecedented devastation due to torrential rains and flooding in most parts of the country, affected 33 million people and economic losses worth \$30 billion as a result the government prepared the 4RF framework.

The 4FR document suggested effective coordination and participation arrangement among the federal and provincial governments, development partners, donors, international and national NGOs, and academic and private sectors.

Pakistan has been witnessing a challenging impacts of climate change—ranging from devastating floods to prolonged droughts, from heatwaves to melting glaciers.

These changes pose immense threats to our environment, economy, and the well-being of our people, remarked the Minister, while urging the stakeholders to play their constructive role to combat the crisis.

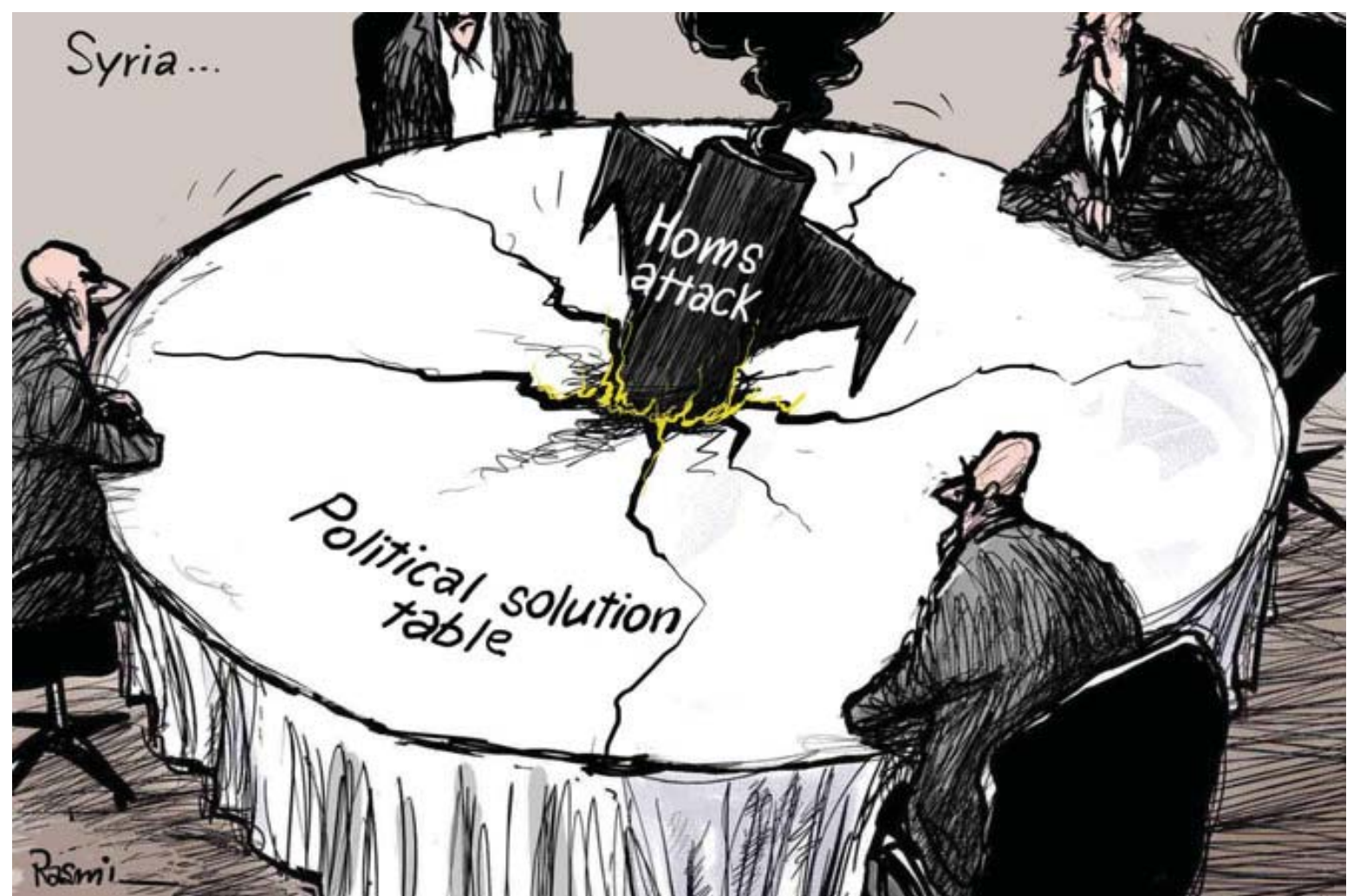
In October 2022, the Post-Damage Needs Assessment (PDNA) – conducted jointly by the Government of Pakistan and its international development partners, including the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank, the European Union, and UN relief agencies — had estimated the aggregate cost of the calamity at \$30 billion.

Pakistan's carbon emission is less than 1% however, it is among the countries that are most vulnerable to the climatic disasters.

Pakistan pleaded this case before the COP27 summit held in Egypt last year.

In January 2023, Pakistan successfully managed to secure pledges of \$10billion from the donor which was committed during the International Conference on 'Climate Resilient Pakistan' jointly hosted by Pakistan and the UN in Geneva.

Recognizing the role of nature in climate adaptation and mitigation, the Planning Minister, said that Pakistan launched robust natural capital restoration efforts, including ambitious tree plantation programs amid only to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions but also to restore ecosystems and enhance livelihood opportunities for the vulnerable, including women and youth.



Cartoon by Amjad Rasmi. (Courtesy of Asharq Al-Awsat)

Charter of Democracy (LONDON), 2006

On May 15th, 2006, the chairperson of Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Ms. Benazir Bhutto and chairman of Pakistan Muslim League (N) Mr. Mohammad Nawaz Sharif jointly signed on Charter of democracy in London, the major objectives as carried by that charter is as follows:

- 1)The structure of the constitution of 1973 should be revised exactly as it was till October 1999.
- 2)Both parties will not do any deal with the running party or mercenaries, so as to win the elections.
- 3)The judiciary, law and election commission shall be made neutral.
- 4)If any party wins the elections then it will not torment opposition, but instead it will invite opposition in offering suggestions in political, social, economic, regional and international affairs. And none of decisions shall be made that will go against the mind of the parliament. And the same liability is for the opposition that it will also not anguish government like what traditionally it is used to doing.
- 5)LFO shall be revoked, and the principles, which say that minimum age of voters should be 18 years, women are permissible to be the parliament member, and seats of parliament can be increased shall be remain unaltered or unmodified.
- 6)Genial relations shall be establish between civil administration and military.

This Charter of Democracy, however, addresses all expected issues and has no clauses that raise the question of its justification for being. Therefore, everything that is stated in the subjective charter is regarded as being absolutely necessary for the establishment of democracy, including the powers of the premier, the restoration of the roles of the federation and the provinces, press freedom, good relations with neighboring countries, pledges to fight corruption, assurances that the elected government will not be opposed, and disclosures of the personal assets of military and civilian officers and members. Thus, either directly or indirectly, this agreement has all the elements required for effective governance.

Because it placed focus solely on the technical concerns, the prologue to the Charter makes it very evident that both sides' attorneys produced it. It neither presented any policy that may improve the current political climate nor did it talk about any kind of contribution or set adjustment for subsequent elections. In addition, it hasn't allocated any procedures or techniques to control or prevent the traditional election fraud that is widely anticipated.

Not only that, but the paper also omitted the correct timeline for the arrival of the two opposition leaders in Pakistan. But Ms. Benazir Bhutto revealed the timing of her visit to the media because, in her words, her party has advised that the upcoming month of November would be appropriate for her entrance since the running assemblies won't have finished their term of operation by then.

However, neither the subjective charter nor the combined news conference mentions when or how Mian Sahab will get here. However, there is important information that is circulating in the political environment that Mr. Nawaz Sharif is currently seeking the legitimacy of Saudi King Abdullah Bin Abdul Aziz regarding his arrival to Pakistan. He is avoiding direct conversation and instead wants the Pakistani people or Ms. Benazir to speak with the King in the event that they need to make preparations and arrangements for his arrival in a manner similar to how they did for his exemption or liberation in 1999-2000. King Abdullah is undoubtedly our true friend, and he will undoubtedly take the proper actions in this respect.

The fact that Ms. Bhutto will become prime minister if this political coalition wins the upcoming election is another item that is not explicitly stated in the charter but has received verbal approval. However, this assumption is also based on the idea that this will only be possible if the constitutional prohibition against becoming prime minister a third time is eliminated. And it is obvious to everyone who pays attention that such an amendment is unattainable absent an enduring partnership between President Musharraf and his government on national security issues. Or, we may claim that such a constitution simply cannot be adopted if the whole political system is governed by the military or is obligated to serve its interests. And if the PPP and PML-N are steadfast in their commitment to the charter's tenet that they would not strike a deal with the current ruling class, then the government will undoubtedly invent strategies in an effort to prevail in this political conflict. And at that time, MMA will significantly cash out its earnings. It is quite evident that MMA leaders are silent experts at striking agreements with the establishment despite playing on the other side of the fence. A few weeks ago, Mr. Qazi Hussain Ahmed of the JUI visited Libya, and shortly after, on May 17, 2006, Mr. Shukat Aziz, the premier of Pakistan, visited Libya. As a result, it is safe to assume that both of these topics have come up in conversation with the Libyan government due to mediator connections.

Benazir and Nawaz Sharif are powerless to do anything other than criticize the President and his initiatives, I should probably say. As far as the issues of illiteracy, corruption, injustice, poverty, unemployment, etc. count, then on this behalf they haven't got such a face to impugn the government, as their past record is worse than that of the current state of affairs. Additionally, both leaders support the current policies regarding Pak-India relations, and they had also attempted to implement those policies while they were in power. They also have no objections to the joint struggle for anti-terrorism.

Speaking about MMA, there is no restriction on chanting against the government, and therefore against the US, and that is what they are often expected to do. They have all the tools and resources necessary to incite religious feelings. They will be free to stir up Muslim anger regarding Indian violations in Kashmir, and they will also receive full government support in secret, just as they did during the 2002 elections in the NWFP and tribal areas.

Therefore, in light of these facts, if MMA succeeds in winning the same number of seats that they currently hold, similarly if the PML (Q) and its supporters win the same number of seats, and similarly if MQM succeeds in securing its fixed positions in the future elections, then obviously it will be totally impossible for any next party to achieve a 2/3rds majority in the parliament. As a result, once the party won't succeed in getting the desired majority the party will fail.

But if we plan forward, it makes logical that Ms. Benazir and Mian Nawaz Sharif would definitely run in the elections despite being unable to become the premier. And in light of this, President Musharraf and his supporting parties are in jeopardy because if these two powerful and well-known political figures are elected to the parliament, they will undoubtedly use their influence to persuade the other lawmakers to introduce a resolution to amend the constitution. So, let's wait and see what the President has planned to do about it. It's possible that the President has instructed Qazi Hussain Ahmed to object at this time. In the event that Qazi Sahab generates a threat by amassing a few hundred thousand voters, it is conceivable that the western bloc, which consists of major powers, will end their mutual mistrust of President Musharraf and permit him to participate in the elections on his own. At that point, the likelihood of extending the voting period will increase. But if the commotion of the major powers continues, then the subjective protest will help to pave the path for new developments, and anything might happen at that point.

Writer is Student of Law College, University of Sargodha

We stand with Palestine, We stand with Humanity

Syeda Mahnoor Fatima

Since 1948, Israel has tried to erase the Palestinians from their lands and to erase the possibility of a Palestinian homeland. The 'catastrophe' was the expulsion of the Palestinians from their homes, which since then has expanded to the apartheid conditions for Palestinians inside Israel, to the occupation of Palestinians who live in East Jerusalem, Gaza, and the West Bank, and to the denial of the right to return of the Palestinians who went into exile. In late April 2021, Human Rights Watch (New York) published an important report with a clarifying headline, A Threshold Crossed. Israeli Authorities and the Crimes of Apartheid and Persecution. In early May, Israel attempted to illegally evict Palestinian families from their homes in Sheikh Jarrah (Jerusalem). The stepfamilies had settled in this part of Jerusalem when they had been expelled by the Israelis from their homes, and now they were to be expelled again.

These families and their neighbors refused to budge. They have the right to resist, since their land is part of what the United Nations designates as the Occupied Palestinian Territory (OPT), land that the occupier – namely Israel – manages but does not have the right to alter. When the Palestinians resisted, they faced harsh violence from Zionist settlers and from the Israeli border police, who entered the al-Aqsa mosque as part of a policy to humiliate the Palestinians. Palestinians in Gaza, also part of the OPT, had warned that if Israel and the Zionists did not stop these outrages, they would face a barrage of rockets; since there was no halt to the

attacks, Palestinians in Gaza fired rockets at Israel.

The rockets did not start or define the brutality that followed. The rockets came as part of a resistance – backed by international law – of an illegal occupation. Constant bombardment of Gaza, one of the world's largest concentration camps, since 2006 has defined Israel's management of the OPT. On 7th October, 2023 The Palestinians entered into the premises of Israel and attacked. This was a reaction to the Israeli grimmess. America has decided to help Israel which is against humanity.

Now, it's time to help our brothers. If we look into the past, when Israel was attacking Palestine no one stood against its illegal occupation and attacks which were killing not only Adults but also Child and women, destroying buildings and Palestinian's homeland. And now, when Palestine is taking revenge against violation of their rights the world is on the stream line. It's time to help our brothers. We stand with the Palestinians, with the right to a homeland, their right to return to their home, and their right to resist the occupation. Our reaction to the terrible violence against the Palestinians is shaped by our reading of the United Nations General Assembly resolution 1514 (1960), 'The process of liberation is irresistible and irreversible and, in order to avoid serious crises, an end must be put to colonialism and all practices of segregation and discrimination associated therewith'. United Nations Should not forget their resolution and the principles of humanity. Everyone has to stand with Palestine.

Write is Student of Law College at University of Sargodha

Chinese Asian Games to promote sports of the youth in Hangzhou: official

Xinhua

HANGZHOU: Hosting large-scale sporting events plays a significant role in promoting the vigorous development of national fitness and the participation in sports of the youth, said an official of the Chinese delegation.

"From Beijing to Guangzhou, and now to Hangzhou, we have seen a surge in the participation of national fitness and the improvement of urban infrastructure," said Liu Guoyong, an official of the delegation, told Xinhua here on Thursday.

The Hangzhou Asian Games has featured multiple non-Olympic sports such as Wushu, dragon boat racing, roller skating, karate, ju-jitsu, sepak takraw, soft tennis, baseball, softball, squash and more, with some having a large number of participants in China.

"These non-Olympic sports with Asian origins were set up by The Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) in accordance with the practice of the Asian



Games," Liu said. "It can effectively promote sports and cultural exchanges in Asia, and enhance solidarity and friendship."

As breaking, also known as break dancing, became available to the Hangzhou public at the Asian Games

ahead of its Olympic debut in Paris next year, Liu believe its introduction to the Asiad will boost the enthusiasm of young people for further participation.

Next up, we will better combine the trendy sports with youth sports, and

explore the inclusion of cross-country, parkour and others in large-scale events such as the National Games," Liu introduced.

As the largest international sporting event held in China since the Beijing 2022 Olympic Winter Games, the Hangzhou Asian Games also aims to deliver benefits that can be shared by the general public. Despite the one-year delay, the 56 competition venues for the Hangzhou Asian Games and Asian Para Games, have been utilized even prior to the Games.

According to the Hangzhou Asian Games Organizing Committee (HAGOC), since May 2022, all available venues have received 10 million visits, allowing the public to engage in fitness activities in these top-tier facilities.

"The concept of sharing with and benefiting the public will continue to be implemented and promoted through the hosting of future events," Liu added.

Pakistan Muslim League UK to meet British officials in London on election

Arif Chaudhary

OLDHAM: Under the chairmanship of the president of Pakistan Muslim League Q UK, Syed Rizwan Hashmi, an important meeting of British officials was held at the central secretariat of Muslim League UK, Oldham, in which the important issues of the party's organization and the agenda for the upcoming general election in Pakistan were discussed.

After the special participation of Muslim League UK General Secretary Dr. Shaukat Ali Shaikh, Party President Syed Rizwan Hashmi gave Ishaya at Piri Piri Kababash Restaurant.

SCO President Rana Hamza-Birmingham President Muhammad Shafiq-London President Muhammad Asif Muslim League Legal Forum Rana Naeem Sarwar-Youth Wing Birmingham President Muhammad Shelzad and other party leaders participated in the meeting. But the party members gave their own opinion.

The participants congratulated caretaker Prime Minister Anwar Haq Kakar and Pakistan Army Chief General Hafiz Asif Muneer for the steps taken by Muslim League UK and Overseas Pakistanis to improve the declining economy of the country.



Muslim League UK President Syed Rizwan Hashmi, General Secretary Dr. Shaukat Ali and others further said that the current caretaker government, army and judiciary are working sincerely to take the economy of Pakistan in the right direction.

In this regard, the party said in a joint statement that the Pakistan Muslim League and its leadership, President

Chaudhry Shujaat Hussain, General Secretary Tariq Bashir Cheema, Chief Organizer Chaudhry Muhammad Sarwar, Chaudhry Shafi Hussain, Chaudhry Salik Hussain and the Overseas Pakistani Brave Army and its commanders.

Hafiz Asif is standing like a leaden wall with Muneer, General Secretary of Muslim League of Great Brit-

ain Dr. Shaukat Ali said in response to a question that elections are the beauty of democracy, but given the current economic situation of the country, if the current setup is given a little more time.

Finally, a special prayer was made for the forgiveness of the late Ramzan Chaudhry, the brother of former Governor Chaudhry Muhammad Sarwar, the chief organizer of the Muslim League.

Commerce Minister and Spanish Ambassador discuss bilateral trade relations

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: for Commerce and Industry, Dr. Gohar Ejaz at the Commerce Ministry today. The meeting was convened to discuss bilateral trade and investment relations.

Minister Ejaz expressed popularity of football in Pakistan, with a particular interest in La Liga, and support for renowned clubs like Real Madrid and FC Barcelona. He emphasized Pakistan's growing sports industry and importance of Pakistani branded sports goods exports to Spain. Minister Ejaz appreciated Spain support for EU GSP Plus.

Spanish Ambassador Jose A. de Ory stressed importance of a mindset shift to boost exports, drawing from Spain's



own successful experience. He highlighted Spain's support for its business-

es to expand abroad, particularly in South America, and emphasized that

Pakistan needs to emulate this policy to assist businessmen in going global.

Ambassador de Ory proposed facilitating trade by providing Pakistan with a list of essential Spanish imports, allowing Pakistani businesses to focus on meeting those demands effectively. Minister Ejaz shared Pakistan's interest in collaboration with Spain to establish solar manufacturing facilities in Pakistan, given Spain's leadership in solar technology. Furthermore, the Ambassador encouraged Pakistan to explore renewable energy opportunities, citing Spain's expertise in wind power.

Spanish Ambassador invited Minister Ejaz to lead a business delegation to Spain to further strengthen bilateral trade and economic ties.

Hyundai SANTA FE Hybrid landed in Karachi for a closer experience

Commerce Desk

LAHORE: Hyundai Nishat Motor Private (Limited) (HNMP) has organized an exclusive event in the city of Karachi on Sunday, 8th October 2023, in a bid to provide a closer experience of company's latest SUV masterpiece, the all-new Hyundai SANTA FE Hybrid.

After the successful launch event of the Hyundai SANTA FE Hybrid SUV in Lahore, last Sunday, the HNMP management decided to equally provide the citizens of the country's biggest cosmopolitan city, Karachi, a chance to get a closer look into the classic high-tech SUV variant.

HNMP Chief Executive Officer Hassan Mansha said "Hyundai SANTA FE Hybrid has received an extremely



overwhelming response nationwide after the launch and we are pleased to provide the people of Karachi to witness the greatest story never told".

The Hyundai SANTA FE Hybrid stands out in the Pakistani market with its hybrid technology, offering fuel efficiency, performance, and reduced emis-

sions. As Pakistan's first AWD 7-seater Hybrid D SUV, it caters to the needs of larger families and environmentally conscious drivers alike.

As a luxury SUV, it provides ample space and a lavish interior, delivering a premium driving experience. Its turbocharged engine ensures dynamic performance and advanced safety features prioritize driver and passenger safety. In summary, the Hyundai SANTA FE Hybrid is a groundbreaking hybrid SUV that combines luxury, power, and safety to redefine the driving experience in Pakistan. The company's vision is to cater to every car segment, and with the introduction of the SANTA FE hybrid, they aim to capture the SUV market in Pakistan, setting new standards for innovation and luxury.



HYDERABAD Palestine students holding the protest against Israel outside press club. APP

China's Red Cross Society to provide humanitarian assistance to Afghanistan

News Desk

BEIJING: The Red Cross Society of China has decided to provide the Afghan Red Crescent with \$200,000 in cash as emergency humanitarian assistance to aid its rescue and disaster relief efforts, CGTN reported on Monday. Two 6.2-magnitude earthquakes jolted Afghanistan on Saturday afternoon local time, resulting in huge casualties and property losses. The death toll from earthquakes in western Afghanistan's Herat and neighboring provinces has risen to 2,445, Herat authorities said Sunday night. The most affected area is the Zanda Jan district in Herat, where 13 villages have been "utterly destroyed," said Mawlawi Musa Ashari, Herat's provincial director for the National Disaster Management Authority.

PRGMEA former chief Ijaz Khokhar hosts reception for Zubair Motiwala

Commerce Desk

LAHORE: Trade Development Authority of Pakistan CEO Zubair Motiwala has stressed the need for more value-addition and exploring new markets in textile exports, besides focusing the Research and Development (R&D) to enhance the productivity and quality of the products.

Addressing a reception hosted in his honor by the PRGMEA former chairman Ijaz A Khokhar, the TDAP Chief said that there is a need to search non-traditional markets, as there are multiple opportunities in the growing economies of African countries since China and India have already focused on these regions.

The meeting was attended and addressed by TDAP Secretary Dr. Fareed Iqbal while Customs Collector Saima Aftab was also present along with the all stakeholders of SMEs hub of Sialkot, who are doing the highest value-addition in their business, including SCCI, PRGMEA, PHMA, Surgical, Sports goods, Glove and Leather Garments Associations. The heads of Sialkot Dry port, Tannery Zone and Air Sial were among the major participants of the high-level meeting.

The TDAP CEO agreed with the views of the stakeholders and ensured them of resolving their issues, terming them one of the most crucial matters faced by the exporters of this great SMEs hub of the country.

Zubair Motiwala observed that the value-added textile exporters are front row soldiers of the economy and despite multiple challenges they are earning billions of dollars foreign exchange for the country. He appreciated the efforts of the Sialkot-based industry and said that they have made the highest value addition through R&D to improve the productivity and quality of the products.

The PRGMEA leader suggested the TDAP CEO to sponsor a 'Made in Sialkot' product exhibition in Islamabad to get liaison with the foreign mission, besides establishing EXPO center in Sialkot, which is already approved by the Former Minister of commerce to facilitate to the business community of Sialkot, Gujranwala and Gujrat.

He added that the participation of exhibitors is need to be enlarged to fetch more business, because currently our exhibitors are about 10% compared to our regional competitors like Bangladesh and India, who are grabbing much more business in exhibitions due to high participation.

British Council launches int'l awards to celebrate UK alumni achievements



Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The British Council is pleased to announce the tenth year of its Study UK Alumni Awards programme, celebrating the outstanding achievements of UK alumni around the world. The award winners and finalists are leaders in their fields who have used their experience of studying at a UK university to make a positive contribution to their communities, industries, and countries.

This year's award categories include science and sustainability, business and innovation, culture and creativity and social action. The call for applications opened 1 September 2023 and closes on 22 October 2023. All eligible applicants will be put forward for the global Alumni Awards and national Alumni Awards which will be hosted in many countries including Pakistan.

The Deputy Director British in Council Pakistan, Maarya Rehman, said: "I am delighted that UK alumni in Pakistan will have the opportunity to win the awards in these four exciting categories. Previous awardees have showcased their commitment to applying the knowledge gained from their UK studies to benefit their local communities.

"We believe that international education and collaboration are essential in creating a more prosperous world for all and are proud to support these individuals in fulfilling their potential."

Global Awards
The finalists and winners of the global Alumni Awards will be announced in 2024 and celebrated in a digital campaign that will raise the profile of their story and successes. Award winners can raise their international profile, expand their professional networks, and to enhance their careers, through a professional networking visit to the UK.

National Awards
In addition to the global awards, national award ceremony will also be hosted Pakistan. Finalists for the national awards will be announced between December 2023 and March 2024. The national awards are generally hosted by the British Ambassador or High Commissioner, with VIPs and royalty attending as special guests, leading to extensive press and PR coverage of finalists.

Bull & Bears
PSX 100-Share
Index Fluctuation

Pakistan: PSX 100-Share Index	
Current	Prev. Close
47,721.79	47,493.57
Day's High	Day's Low
47,775.72	47,217.74
Index Value	Change
5,307,736,987	+228.22
Percentage	Time
+0.48%	9 Oct, 2023 5:00 pm

Europe: FTSE 100 Index	
Index Value	Change
7,492.21	-2.37
Percentage	Time
-0.032%	9 Oct, 4:35 pm GMT+1

USA: Dow Jones Industrial Average	
Index Value	Change
33,378.67	-28.91
Percentage	Time
-0.087%	9 Oct, 12:50 pm GMT-4

Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Average	
Index Value	Change
30,994.67	-80.69
Percentage	Time
-0.26%	6 Oct, 3:15 pm GMT+9

Open Market Forex Rates

Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	176.25	178
Bahrain Dinar	757.11	765.11
Canadian Dollar	210	212
China Yuan	39.1	39.5
Danish Krone	39.69	40.09
Euro	294.1	297
Hong Kong Dollar	36.35	36.7
Indian Rupee	3.46	3.57
Japanese Yen	1.45	1.51
Kuwaiti Dinar	920.53	929.53
Malaysian Ringgit	61.27	61.87
New Zealand \$	166.61	168.61
Norwegians Krone	26.92	27.22
Omani Riyal	739.41	747.41
Qatari Riyal	79.03	79.73
Saudi Riyal	74	74.75
Singapore Dollar	206.00	208
Swedish Korona	26.34	26.64
Swiss Franc	311.36	313.86
Thai Bhat	7.79	7.94
U.A.E Dirham	76.6	77.3
UK Pound Sterling	346	349
US Dollar	278.75	281.5

Production, exports, employment, and revenue will increase, says Mian Zahid Hussain

Tariq Khattak

ISLAMABAD: Chairman of National Business Group Pakistan, President Pakistan Businessmen and Intellectuals Forum, and All Karachi Industrial Alliance, and former provincial minister Mian Zahid Hussain, said on Monday that the production capacity of electricity in the country is 40 thousand megawatts while consumption is only 10 to 12 thousand megawatts in winter.

People and businesses are forced to pay even though some industries are shut down in the winter and do not use electricity.

Mian Zahid Hussain said that instead of shutting down the electricity-generating plants during the four or five months of winter, they should be operated, and this electricity should be sold to cover operating costs only.

Speaking to the business community, the veteran business leader said that cheap

electricity should be provided to the public, commercial establishments, and agricultural and industrial sectors to increase economic activity.

Providing cheap power to industries will increase production, employment, and export earnings, improve foreign exchange reserves, and thereby provide additional resources to the government for capacity payments.

Mian Zahid Hussain said that supporting the industrial sector will increase production and reduce the price of various commodities, which will benefit the people. The government should finalize this matter as soon as possible and get permission from the IMF so that the same can be put into practice.

The business leader said that electricity and gas have been made very expensive, due to which production costs and exports are affected. Implementation of this proposal will result in people benefiting from cheaper electricity



in winter as natural gas is not available everywhere and LPG is very expensive.

Mian Zahid Hussain further said that according to an estimate, by making elec-

tricity cheaper, its use will increase by 25% across the country and up to 35% in Karachi, and the demand for natural gas will decrease accordingly.

He noted that efforts have been made to privatize electricity distribution companies for the past several decades, but there has been no success because, firstly, their size and losses are very high, and secondly, the employees are against privatization.

There is a monopoly of these companies in the country, due to which there is a lot of incompetence and corruption in them. The only solution to these problems is to involve the private sector in this sector by providing specific areas for electricity supply.

In this way, the private sector will enter the electricity market, and an era of competition will begin, which will reduce inefficiency and corruption and provide better service and affordable electricity to consumers.

Sunridge Foods hosts Nutrition International Delegation

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: Sunridge Flour Plant, a leading name in the food processing industry, was honored to welcome a distinguished delegation from Nutrition International led by Ms. Kristin Hall, Global Portfolio Director, Large Scale Food Fortification. The visit, which also included Dr. Irfan Ullah, Deputy Country Director Pakistan, and their team of Provincial Program Managers and Zonal Managers Sindh, aimed to explore the end-to-end manufacturing process of wheat processing into flour and the advanced fortification techniques employed at Sunridge Foods.

Sunridge Foods takes immense pride in being the pioneer of state-of-the-art PESA Swiss technology for flour processing in Pakistan, and it stands as the sole processing plant in the country equipped with this cutting-edge Swiss technology. The Nutrition International delegation had the opportunity to witness and learn about the complete manufacturing and fortification process during their comprehensive tour of the plant.

Following the visit, Ms. Kristin Hall, Global Portfolio Director of Nutrition International, expressed her thoughts on the visit, stated, "We are deeply impressed



by the commitment to food fortification and the stringent quality control measures employed by Sunridge Foods.

Dr. Irfan Ullah, Deputy Country Director Pakistan, Nutrition International, commended Sunridge's pioneering efforts, said, "Sunridge is an exemplar of food fortification, food safety, and quality control in the industry."

Mr. Zia ul Hasan Abidi, Director Supply Chain at Sunridge Flour Plant, added, "We take immense pride in our commitment to food fortification and the maintenance of

the highest food safety standards. We are honored by the visit of Nutrition International and take this opportunity to showcase our state-of-the-art Swiss PESA mill technology."

Sunridge Flour Plant remains dedicated to its mission of promoting food fortification and continues to set new industry standards through its innovative approach and Swiss technology. The visit by Nutrition International further strengthens their resolve to contribute to the health and well-being of the people of Pakistan.

Pink Riders and TPL Insurance launch Bike Insurance Product with Breast Cancer Coverage



Commerce Desk

KARACHI: Pink Riders, a leading organization empowering women rider in Pakistan, and TPL Insurance, today announced the launch of a groundbreaking bike insurance product that redefines the industry. This innovative offering combines motorcycle insurance with an additional layer of breast cancer coverage.

The partnership emphasizes the importance of bike insurance and breast cancer awareness. With Pink Riders and TPL, women riders can protect their motorcycles and their health. Tailored insurance solutions cater to individual needs, providing peace of mind for every journey.

On the occasion, CEO TPL Insurance, Mr. Muhammad Aminuddin said, "The partnership with Pink Riders Pakistan is testament to TPL Insurance's commitment and focus on creating equity and driving financial inclusion for females in Pakistan. Learning to ride a motorbike can open avenues for females to earn more and this would impact not just their family

unit but the broader economy. Aligned with our key shareholders' objectives, DEG, Germany and Finnfund, Finland, TPL Insurance is an active supporter for women empowerment as well as health and well-being of females, both internally and on a community level; this will continue as the company continues to lead the markets we operate in and build sustainable models."

The Founder & Spokesperson of Pink Riders Pakistan Mr. Payyam-e-Khurram, "Women are 52 percent of our population, if they become independent, Pakistan becomes independent. In the last 5 years of operation Pink Riders have trained 9700 Women Bikers across the country. Furthermore, in order to provide hassle free bike insurance to their women bikers on special rates, Pink Riders Pakistan have collaborated with TPL Insurance. TPL Insurance is also offering up to 40% discounts to women on selected insurance plans. To avail of these special opportunities, women can use the code "TPLI4WMN" through the TPLI App. This limited-time promotion is available from 1st to 31st October 2023

Mobilink Bank receives CFA Society Award for Best Digital Banking Services 2022

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Mobilink Bank's outstanding accomplishments have garnered recognition at the prestigious 20th Annual Excellence Awards, hosted by the CFA Society Pakistan. The Bank was honored with the coveted title of "Best Digital Banking Services Award of the Year 2022" within the Microfinance Bank Category, solidifying its position as a trailblazer in the digital banking arena. Furthermore, Mobilink Bank was titled 'Runner-up' in the Gender Balanced Workforce Award category. These accolades not only reflect Mobilink Bank's dedication to excellence but also emphasize its ongoing efforts



to redefine industry standards and drive positive change in the financial sector.

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 countries that are home to more than 8% of the world's population.

Addressing these achievements, President and CEO Mobilink Bank, Ghazanfar

Azzam, said, "Receiving the prestigious Best Digital Banking Services Award reflects the Bank's dedication to delivering cutting-edge financial services. Mobilink Bank remains committed to utilizing technology to enhance its offerings, making it more convenient and efficient for customers to access digital and financial solutions."

Mr. Azzam also highlighted the Bank's commitment to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI), saying, "We are passionately dedicated to advancing gender equality. Our core mission revolves around creating an inclusive workplace where every individual thrives, irrespective of their gender."

Track-II diplomacy

Govt. working hard to promote religious tourism: Federal Minister

Tariq Khattak

ISLAMABAD: Dr. Aneeq Ahmed, Federal Minister for Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony said that the government is working hard to promote the religious tourism that would help improve the economy. He highlighted the need of Track-II diplomacy to promote peaceful relations with neighboring countries that would help promote Pakistan's regional trade and religious tourism. He said that the Prime Minister has approved the Hajj Policy 2024 that would offer two packages for payment of Hajj dues including payment in PKR and in US dollars and stressed that the intended members of business community should make payment of Hajj dues in dollars to help improve the forex

reserves of the country. He said that those who would make payment for Hajj in US Dollars would be sent for Hajj without any balloting. He said that the business community is the backbone of the economy and it should play more effective role in strengthening the economy by promoting trade and exports. He said this while addressing as Chief Guest at the Certificates Distribution Ceremony of Seerat-ul-Nabi Course at Islamabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry.

Speaking on the occasion, Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari, President, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry said that ICCI in cooperation with its Religious Affairs Committee has organized a course on Seerat-ul-Nabi to educate the members about the life

of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). He said that Pakistan has great potential to promote religious tourism and the government should take all possible measures to take exploit this untapped potential for the benefit of the economy. He said that the government should allocate a quota for chambers of commerce in Hajj Policy to facilitate the business community in performing Hajj. He stressed that the public and private sectors should work in collaboration to make Pakistan a progressive and prosperous country.

Mutfi Adnan Kakakhel, renowned religious scholar and Guest of Honor lauded the initiative of ICCI for organizing a course on Seerat-ul-Nabi for the education of the business community and desired that this practice should be continued in future as well.



Faad Waheed Senior Vice President, Engr. Azhar ul Islam Zafar Vice President ICCI, Kanwar Qutbuddin former MNA, Zafar Bakhtawari former President & Secretary General UBG Pakistan, Ajmal Baloch President All Pakistan Anjuman-e-Tajran, Muhammad Kashif Chaudhry President Tanzeem-e-Tajran Pakistan, Muhammad Ejaz

Abbasi, Zahid Maqbool, Tariq Nusrat Wani Convener ICCI Religious Affairs Committee, Rana Muhammad Aslam, Mehmoed Ahmed Warraich and others were present on the occasion. The Chief Guest and the Guest of Honor distributed the certificates to 65 students who completed the Seerat-ul-Nabi course at ICCI.

Spotify features Talal Qureshi on Times Square for a Week



News Desk

ISLAMABAD: Times Square is witnessing another Pakistani artist standing tall as Talal Qureshi, the renowned music producer and singer, steps into the spotlight for an entire week with Spotify starting October 6th. Spotify's backing of Talal's latest album, 'TURBO', has already created waves with an earlier feature at Spain's FC Barcelona Stadium. Following his captivating appearance on LED screens at Estadio Olimpico Lluís Companys, Talal's extended feature in the heart of New York City is a testament to Spotify's commitment to promoting local music talents globally.

Known for his skillful fusion of classical Pakistani music and modern electronic elements, Talal has achieved the remarkable feat of being the first Pakistani artist to receive on-ground support from Spotify for the launch of his album. This support has enabled him to introduce his voice to a worldwide audience.

TURBO is an album that expertly combines eastern and western musical influences, bridging cultural gaps and includes collaborations with other talented artists such as Zaw Ali, Zahoor, Blal Bloch, Natasha Noorani and Maanu.

Hangzhou Asian Games one of the best events: Kuwaiti gold medalist

Xinhua

KUWAIT CITY: The Hangzhou Asian Games were one of the coolest and most beautiful competitions he had ever participated in, Kuwaiti shooter Abdullah Alrashidi said.

In a recent interview with Xinhua, the gold medalist in the men's skeet individual event praised the organization, beauty, and cleanliness of the entire city for the Games.

Alrashidi said he was very pleased that he had won the gold medal, which also matched the world record in the event.

He noted Asia's remarkable progress in the shooting discipline, highlighting its impressive track record of winning numerous world championships.

"Countries such as China, Kazakhstan, Qatar, and Kuwait have a rich



history in this sport on both the continental and global levels," he said.

"China is one of the most important and largest countries represented in all sports," said the Kuwaiti shooter, noting that "China has made great progress and consistently won medals in the Olympics and other world competitions."

On Wednesday, Kuwait's Minister of Commerce and Industry and Minister of State for Youth Affairs, Muhammad Al-Aiban, received Kuwaiti players who had won medals in shooting and athletics competitions at the Hangzhou Asian Games.

In a statement, Al-Aiban expressed pride in the outstanding achievements of the Kuwaiti medalists at the Hangzhou Asian Games, where they won two gold, three silver, and one bronze medals.

Update on Ihsanullah, Mohammad Hasnain and Naseem Shah: PCB Says

Asim Tanveer

The following is an update on the injuries of the three fast bowlers Ihsanullah, Mohammad Hasnain and Naseem Shah:

Fast Bowler Ihsanullah
Ihsanullah, who has featured for Pakistan in one ODI and four T20Is, suffered an elbow injury. The 20-year-old has been ruled out from international cricket since playing for Pakistan in the ODI series against New Zealand at home this year in April.

Ihsanullah had to undergo surgery in a private hospital in Lahore. A doctor was flown in from England to operate Ihsanullah in the first week of September. After the operation, the fast bowler was placed in an elbow brace for four weeks, with a doctor and physio attending him on a daily basis. His condition is satisfactory and the brace will be removed at the end of fifth week. Afterwards, he will proceed with rehabilitation at the National Cricket Academy in Lahore.

Fast Bowler Mohammad

Hasnain
23-year-old Hasnain sustained an ankle injury while playing in the Sri Lanka Premier League in August. He traveled to England from Sri Lanka and had an MRI. The scans revealed the fast bowler requires rehabilitation for his ankle, which is under process since 13 September in England.

Fast Bowler Naseem Shah
20-year-old Naseem got injured during Asia Cup, ruling him out of the ICC World Cup 2023. Follow-

ing the injury, the fast bowler underwent shoulder surgery earlier last week. During the operation, he remained absolutely stable and was discharged from the hospital the next day.

He will be attended by two physiotherapists for his rehabilitation initially at the hospital and also later at the training ground and gym. During this entire period, he will be continuously monitored and the doctor who operated on him will see him again in the third week of October.

Shubman Gill to miss second ICC World Cup 2023 match with dengue fever

Sports Desk

LAHORE: India batsman Shubman Gill has not recovered from dengue fever and will miss his team's second ICC World Cup 2023 match against Afghanistan, officials said Monday.

Gill sat out the hosts' six-wicket victory against Australia in Chennai on Sunday and will stay back in the southern Indian city "under the supervision of the medical team".

"Team India batter Shubman Gill will not be travelling with the team to Delhi on 9th October 2023," the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) said in a statement.

Rohit Sharma's India will face Afghanistan at New Delhi's Arun Jaitley Stadium on Wednesday.

The team will then leave for Ahmedabad for the hotly-anticipated fixture against arch-rivals Pakistan on Saturday.



Virat Kohli and KL Rahul then scored anchoring half-centuries in a tense run-chase to guide India to a six-wicket victory over Australia in their ICC World Cup 2023 campaign opener. The hosts had a dismal start to their pursuit as they lost three batters with just two runs on the board as Shubman Gill's replacement Ishan Kishan, Rohit Sharma and

Shreyas Iyer all fell for a duck. Kohli and Rahul soaked in the pressure and put India in command with a magnificent 165-run partnership which lasted when Kohli fired his pull shot straight to Marnus Labuschagne at mid-wicket in the 38th over.

Star batter Virat Kohli fell short of his well-deserved century as he scored 85. His 116-ball knock featured six

boundaries.

Meanwhile, KL Rahul held his ground firm and carried his bat all the way through to guide India to a hard-fought victory to launch their ICC World Cup 2023 campaign with a victory.

He also fell just shy of his century, scoring an unbeaten 97 in 115 deliveries with the help of eight boundaries and two sixes.

Sports Board Punjab to begin registration of sports clubs from Oct 10, 2023

Sports Desk

LAHORE: Taking a revolutionary step DG Sports Punjab Dr Asif Tufail, in a statement on Monday, announced that registration of sports clubs across the province will start from October 10, 2023 (today).

Dr Asif Tufail informed that it is mandatory for all sports clubs of the province to get registered with Sports Board Punjab under Article 2 (r) of SBP's constitution. "The campaign of club registration is being launched at teshil level to fulfill this legal requirement," he added.

Highlighting the benefits of club registration, Dr Asif Tufail revealed that after registration, the clubs will be eligible to get government grant, holding of regular trials and competitions, prizes and scholarships for players and free of cost playing grounds and other facilities.

He said that the last date of submitting of registration form is Nov 25, 2023. "Complete details of club registration form (sports/games) are available at SBP's

Khaled Amir Ahmed Khan appointed as Director of Technical & Coaching

Tahir Amin Malik

LAHORE: Mr. Khaled Amir Ahmed Khan has officially been appointed as the Director of Technical & Coaching, and he will assume his duties immediately. His responsibilities will encompass various crucial aspects of dodgeball development, including establishing a national dodgeball calendar, designing the national dodgeball curriculum, creating pathways for players, organizing competitions, developing coaches, and participating in events.

In response to his appointment, Khaled expressed his enthusiasm, saying, "I am extremely proud to be joining the Pakistan Dodgeball Federation at such an exciting time when the game is being introduced nationwide. One of my goals is to introduce and popularize the game in schools, colleges, and universities. I cannot wait to play a key role in the bright future of dodgeball."

This is indeed a promising step for dodgeball enthusiasts in Pakistan!

Journalists and Cricket fans Indian visa issue for World Cricket Cup

Asim Tanveer

LAHORE: PCB Management Committee Chairman Mr. Zaka Ashraf has called upon Pakistan Foreign Secretary Syrus Sajjad Qazi and raised serious concerns and alarm over the delay in fans and journalists visas for India to cover the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup.

The chairman also requested the Foreign Secretary to take up the issue with India's Home Ministry through Pakistan High Commission Office in New Delhi. The PCB has also taken serious notice of security threats being reported in Indian media and requested the government to evaluate players security in India. He emphasised that the well being and safety of the Pakistan squad was of paramount importance.

PCB is extremely disappointed to see that journalists from Pakistan and fans are still facing uncertainty about obtaining an Indian visa to cover Pakistan games in ICC World Cup 2023. In the meantime, PCB has again reminded ICC and BCCI of their respective obligations and terms and conditions stipulated in the Host agreement to guarantee visas for fans and journalists of participating teams.



Pakistan team lands in Cambodia for FIFA WC 2026 qualifiers

Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: The national football team has landed in Cambodia to play match against the hosts on October 12 as part of the FIFA World Cup 2026 qualifiers. The green shirts would play their World Cup qualifier match against Cambodia on a home-and-away basis. The team would play an away leg on October 12 while the home leg was scheduled on October 17 here at Jinnah Stadium. After some rest, the national team would train for the game. Pakistan Squad includes Goalkeepers: Usman Ali, Salman ul Haq and Yousaf Butt; Defenders: Mamoon Moosa Khan, Mohibullah, Sohail Khan, Junaid Shah, Ali Khan Niazi, Rao Umar Hayat, Abdullah Iqbal and Easah Suliman; idfielders: Alangir Ghazi, Ali Uzair, Rajab Ali, Nizamuddin, Harun Hamid and Rahis Nabi; Forwards: Waleed Khan, Mohammad Waheed, Yousuf, Fareed Khan, Abdul Samad, Otis Khan, Moin Ahmed and Shayak Dost.



Third phase of Basketball program concludes

Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: The third phase of the FIBA Foundation's "Basketball for Good program" concluded on Monday with a resounding success, leaving a positive impact on the lives of over 90 girls from diverse schools held here at the Liaquat Gymnasium, Pakistan Sports Complex.

The two-day event aimed to promote sports, teamwork, and empowerment among young girls held under the supervision of Pakistan Basketball Federation (PBBF) Associate Secretary and Federal Basketball Association (FBBA) General Secretary, Ouj E Zahoor, the "Ball In Street" event marked the third segment of the FIBA Foundation's Basketball for Good program, following successful events in Multan and Lahore. National Coaches, Riaz Malik and Umer Mahmood, took the lead with their exceptional coaching skills. They were joined by an illustrious team of coaches, including Naveed Ahmed, Yasir Ghafour, Yasir Mujtaba, and Prem Shehzad, who conducted informative sessions on coaching skills, training, modern techniques, and basketball games, inspiring the young participants to pursue their basketball dreams.

The concluding ceremony witnessed esteemed guests, with Chairperson of Karim Khan Afridi Welfare Foundation (KKAWF) Cristina von Sperling Afridi, and President Federal Basketball Association (FBBA) Ejaz Rafi Butt, serving as the chief guests. Pakistan Basketball Federation (PBBF) Associate Secretary Ouj E Zahoor, National Basketball Team Coach Riaz Malik, PBBF Director Media Azam Dar, and other dignitaries also graced the event with their presence.

As a symbol of achievement and encouragement, certificates were distributed among all the participants at the end of the coaching workshop. Additionally, basketballs were presented to the participating schools, fostering a continued love for the sport among the youth.

The third phase of the International Basketball Federation (FIBA) Basketball for Good program in Islamabad exemplifies the transformative power of sports, promoting gender equality and empowerment among the younger generation.

The organizers and participants alike hope to carry forward the spirit of unity, teamwork and dedication instilled during this memorable event.



Pakistan eyes another victory in Hyderabad

Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan had a perfect start to their ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2023 campaign with a thumping 81-run win over the Netherlands at the Rajiv Gandhi International Stadium thanks to some outstanding performances.

Pakistan found themselves three down for 38 after being inserted, but a sparkling partnership worth 120 off 114 between Mohammad Rizwan and Saud Shakeel, the World Cup debutant, rebuilt the innings before all-rounders Shadab Khan and Mohammad Nawaz put together a 64-run stand for the seventh wicket to lift their side to 286, said a press release.

While Rizwan made 68

off 75, which was his seventh half-century of the year, it was Saud, playing only his seventh ODI, who got the limelight with a 52-ball 68, hitting nine fours and a maximum. The next best score in the innings came from Nawaz, who made 39 off 43, and Shadab scored 32 off 34.

There were initial hiccups in Pakistan's defence as half-centurions Vikramjit Singh and Bas de Leede added 70 off 76 for the third wicket, before Haris Rauf's two wickets in three balls thumped Pakistan's authority in the contest. Hasan Ali, returning to ODI cricket after a gap of over 15 months, finished with two wickets, and Shaheen Afridi, Ifthikhar Ahmed, Nawaz and Shadab picked up a wicket each.

Pakistan managed the net run rate of 1.620 for rolling out the opposition in 41

overs. De Leede, who made 67 off 68, threatened to take the proceedings further deep that could have lowered Pakistan's net run rate but a Nawaz ripper undid the right-hander in the 34th over.

They play Sri Lanka tomorrow in what will be their final outing in Hyderabad in this tournament, and are eager to leave the city with two wins in two matches. Speaking to PCB Digital ahead of the contest, Nawaz, said, "It is very important to start a big tournament on a positive note and that is what we were looking for."

"We have played two practice matches here and our tournament opener in Hyderabad. It all, however, boils down to playing good cricket on the day and executing your skills perfectly. We are hopeful of carrying the

momentum that we have gained by beating the Netherlands and finishing the Hyderabad leg with a win."

That Pakistan were able to set a defendable score after initial dismissals was because of some brilliant rearguard partnerships in the middle and lower-middle order. While reflecting on those partnerships and Saud's incredible half-century, Nawaz said, "It was an outstanding partnership between Rizwan and Saud Shakeel considering the circumstances it came in. Saud played some brilliant counterattacking cricket after going in at 40 for three (38 for three) and it gave us a good stand."

"Shadab and I were looking to take the innings deep and the plan was to keep building the partnership till the 45th, 46th over and then finish on an



attacking note. Unfortunately, we could not provide that finishing but we were able to get a good total for the team."

After that 27th over by Haris, Pakistan had a tight grip on the match, but de Leede continued to provide resistance. He

was finally undone, thanks to a scorcher from Nawaz that had everything that a left-arm orthodox can imagine.