**Barkat Rice Mills** 

Petrol prices dropped by Rs 40/ litre

In a relief for the inflation-hit masses, the caretaker government on Sunday reduced the price of petrol by Rs40 per litre and that of high-speed diesel (HSD) by Rs15 for the next fortnight. According to a notification from the Ministry of Finance, the new price of petrol is Rs283.38 and Rs303.18 for HSD. It said that the government has revised the consumer prices of petroleum products in the wake of variations in international prices of the commodity and improvement in the exchange rate.

#### Only 15 days left for illegal immigrants to leave Pakistan

Foreign citizens residing illegally in Pakistan now have only 15 days to leave the country or face deportation. Foreigners living illegally must leave Pakistan by October 31 or law enforcement ting 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

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(a) @daily spokesman



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Called on

ISLAMABAD: The Caretaker Chief Minister of the Punjab Mohsin Nagvi calls on the Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Hag Kakar



# Jilani condemns 'genocide' of Palestinians, asks Israel to honour UN resolutions

#### 跨 Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Foreign Minister Jalil Abbas Jilani has condemned the siege and killing of innocent people of Gaza Strip by the Israeli forces and urged the government to abide by the United Nations resolutions.

During a press conference here on Sunday, the caretaker minister urged the Israeli government not to target civil population.

Jilani expressed anguish at the killing of Palestinian women and children during Israeli forces ground and air attacks on civilian population. He said Israel has been unleashing a reign of terror on Palestinians for the last more than six decades. "Israel is committing genocide of Palestinians."

Pakistan has always supported Palestinians just cause for a state,

Caretaker minister Jilani stressed a separate status of Palestine under the two-state policy as accepted by the international community with an independent state of Palestine having pre-1967 highlighted during the upcoming CPEC (China-Pakistan Econom- and Pakistan had very close rela-



borders with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital.

He categorically maintained that there was no change of Pakistan's policy with regard to Israel, it would continue pursuing the same policy as adopted in the past and would continue in the future till Palestinians get their right to self-determination under the UNSC and OIC resolutions.

To a question regarding the humanitarian aid to besieged Palestinians, he said that they were in touch with the international community and the Muslim countries, but unfortunately, there was a complete siege of Gaza.

He said this aspect would be

OIC executive committee meeting in which they would consider the coordinated response of the OIC member countries as to how to bring an end to the violence perpetrated by Israel and how to provide immediate humanitarian assistance to Palestinians.

Pakistan was ready to provide humanitarian assistance and had been in touch with the Egyptian authorities, he added. He said the OIC committee meeting would make a forceful case for the early resolution of the issue.

About caretaker Prime Minister Anwar-ul-Haq Kakar's visit to Beijing to attend the Belt and Road Forum, Jilani said agreements on bilateral cooperation would be signed during meeting

with Chinese officials. "Kakar is visiting China on the invitation of Chinese Premier Li Qiang," he continued.

He said the caretaker premier would also meet leaders of other nations attending the forum on

ic Corridor) would contribute to tions and coordinated positions prosperity of countries in the

To a query, he advised not to heed propaganda about the CPEC, adding the railways project was the part of ongoing negotiation between the two sides and had been in the advanced stage and expressed the hope that an agreement in this regard would be  $concluded\,soon.\\$ 

About the expulsion of illegal foreigners, he said the policy did not pertain to Afghans only, but it was for all the foreigners living illegally in Pakistan without legal

He said Pakistan always supported Afghanistan in difficult times and there was an ongoing cooperation between the two countries in the economic and trade fields.

He termed his recent meeting with the Afghan interim foreign minister in Azerbaijan as very constructive.

The caretaker foreign minister Jilani was of the view that the said the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

and they always consulted with each other on important issues.

Both brotherly countries had close economic and defence cooperation and also had convergence on different strategic issues, he added.

Jilani criticised the Indian government of not allowing Pakistani spectators and journalists to visit and watch ICC World Cup

He said it showed shortsightedness and was highly condemnable. "India has set a very wrong precedent and violated the international norms and the ICC charter."

About his recent participation in ECO meeting in Azerbaijan, the caretaker foreign minister said the member countries reaffirmed their support to shared prosperity and connectivity.

He said Pakistan and Iran had road and railway corridor network and the land corridor between Iran and Azerbaijan would be another connectivity network that would connect Pakistan with the Central Asian Republics and Russia.

## President calls for urgent action from UN, OIC on Israel's brutal actions against **Palestinians**

#### News Desk

ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi on Sunday strongly condemning the brutalities and massacre of Palestinians in Gaza, urged the United Nations (UN) and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) to meet urgently for cessation of the ruthless actions. He said the UN and the OIC should ensure that necessary medical aid, food and other supplies are urgently sent in to prevent further devastation and the human catastrophe in Palestine.

"Human history has never witnessed such cruelty and barbarism being committed by Israel at a massive level; even water, electricity, food supply and medicine have president added.



been cut off," the president said in a statement issued by the President House. He said Israel had crossed all limits by killing children, women and innocent people.

He regretted that the international community had failed to prevent Israel from the genocide of the Palestinian people. "Pakistan supports the establishment of an independent state for the Palestinian people that is the only solution to bring lasting peace and stability in the region," the

#### Caretaker PM takes notice of purchase price of cotton crop

#### 跨 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Sunday took notice of purchase of cotton yield below the prices fixed by the government to support the farmers and directed Trading Corporation of Pakistan to take cognizance of the issue and submit a report in this regard.

The government had fixed prices of the cotton crop, but it was being observed that the crop was purchased below the fixed minimum price at some places, PM Office Media Wing



The prime minister said that yielding of bumper cotton crop was a blessing for the country and its maximum profit should be reaped by the farmers.

The government had clear instructions over its purchase price so that the farmers' community could be protected against any losses, he added.

#### 14 Nation Air Exercise, *Indus* Shield-2023

#### News Desk



ISLAMA-BAD: Pakistan Air Force's 14 nation air

exercise, Indus Shield 2023, is in full swing at an operational air base of PAF. The top-notch exercise stands out as one of the mega aerial warfare exercises of the region and is marked as a significant milestone in the realization of PAF's commitment to enhance its aerial capabilities alongside bolster ing international cooperation. The participation of the exercise encompasses fighter jets alongside pilots, ground crew and Air Defence Controllers from the leading Air Forces of the world.

Indus Shield-2023 has brought together elite air forces from 14 countries and will serve as a platform to showcase their professional prowess. The participating nations include Pakistan, Turkiye, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, UAE, Egypt, Oman, Bahrain, Azerbaijan, Indonesia, Morocco, Uzbekistan, China and Hungary. The exercise holds great importance as it signifies the leading role of the Pakistan Air Force in spearheading technological advancements, promoting modernization, evolving air combat tactics, and addressing contemporary aerial

#### Massive voter registration drives underway for upcoming General Elections

#### 跨 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Over

800,000 new voters are

being enrolled by the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP), in voter lists using data obtained on October 1, 2023, enabling them to exercise their right to vote in the upcoming general elections. According to an ECP spokesperson, the Commission has already obtained data from the National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA) on October 1, 2023, regarding individuals who received new computerized National Identity Cards (CNICs). The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) has already removed restrictions on voter lists across the country. This allows eligible individuals to register, transfer, or correct their votes until October 25. The suspension of electoral rolls, enacted through clause 39 of the Election Act 2017, was in effect since July 20

Following the unfreezing of electoral lists, eligible individuals now have the opportunity to update their voter information. He urged all eligible citizens to ensure the correctness of their voter registration, modifications, and transfers, and align their particulars with their computerized national identity card details by October 25, 2023.

this year.

#### Caretaker CM Sindh calls on Caretaker CM Punjab

#### 👺 Bureau Report

LAHORE: Caretaker Chief Minister Sindh Maqbool Baqar met with the Caretaker Chief Minister Punjab Mohsin Naqvi at Punjab House Islamabad today in which taking essential steps to bring stability in the cotton price were discussed. It was decided during the meeting to contact the federal government so as to bring stability in the cotton price. Both the Chief Ministers agreed that the farmers in Sindh and Punjab will be facilitated in obtaining real profit of their crop and the Prime Minister of Pakistan will be formally requested for purchasing cotton through the Trading Corporation of Pakistan.

# Gaza braces for Israeli ground assault, fears of conflict spreading grow

#### Agencies

GAZA: Israeli troops prepared on Sunday for a ground assault on the Hamas-controlled Gaza Strip as the country hit back for an unprecedented assault on its territory, and Iran warned of "far-reaching consequences" if Israel's bombardment was not stopped.

Israel responded by subjecting Gaza to the most intense bombardment it has ever seen, putting the enclave, home to 2.3 million Palestinians, under total siege and destroying much of its infrastructure. The expected ground assault

had not begun by the early hours of Gaza authorities said more than

2,200 people have been killed, a quarter of them children, and nearly 10,000 wounded. Rescue workers searched desperately for survivors of nighttime air raids. One million people had reportedly left their homes.



Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's government also told Lebanese militant group Hezbollah not to start a war on a second front. threatening the "destruction of Lebanon" if it did.

Iran's mission go the United Nations warned late on Saturday that if Israel's "war crimes and genocide" were not halted immediately, "the situation could spiral out of control" and have far-reaching consequences. Both Hamas and Hezbollah are

backed by Iran.

with Iran's foreign minister on Saturday in Qatar, where they discussed the Palestinian group's attack in Israel "and agreed to continue cooperation" to achieve the group's goals, Hamas said in a statement. U. S. President Joe Biden and

other world leaders warned against any country broadening the conflict. And international organizations and aid groups urged calm and pressed Israel to allow humanitarian assistance to get through.

# Meeting of FM with MD IMF



**News Desk** 

MARRAKECH: The caretaker Federal Minister for Finance, Revenue, and Economic Affairs, Dr. Shamshad Akhtar held a pivotal meeting with Kristalina Georgieva, Managing Director of the IMF, on the sidelines of the annual meeting of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in Marrakech,. The discussion revolved around global economic stability and Pakistan's commitment to financial reforms, with a shared commitment to strengthening economic resilience and fostering international cooperation. defence challenges.

# The Spokesman

# Solidarity KARACHI: Ameer Jamaat-i-Islami Siraj ul Haq addresses "Al Aqsa Palestine March" organized by JI at Shahrah-e-Faisal.

# Interaction between top leadership of China, Pakistan to propel bilateral ties to new heights: Solangi

promote, harmony and sustain-

able development, he added.

"CPEC is the journey

Chinese ambassador to Paki-

projects in the next ten years

What was agreed between

towards economic growth in

the globalized world", he main-

**E** City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Murtaza Solangi has said that interaction in China between the top leadership of Pakistan and China would further enhance the bilateral relationship to the new heights as the caretaker Prime Minister Anwaarul Haq Kakar would leave for China tomorrow to participate in Belt and Road Forum being hosted by the Chinese President Xi Jinping in Beijing.

Speaking at a seminar "CPEC and My Life" the other day, the minister said he was happy to know that people from the gross-root level were invited to speak about the positive other sectors. impact of the CPEC on their

and Gawadar in Balochistan,

Talking about the establishto provide one-window facili-



ties to the investors, the minister said that as the CPEC was entering into the new phase, adding Pakistan was keenly looking forward for more and more bilateral cooperation in tained. mining, agriculture, IT and

He said enhancement of his country's readines to further eographical linkages through promote CPEC in partnership The people had immensely improved road, rail and air with Pakistan, adding "We are as the flagship project of Presibenefitted from various CPEC transportation system would ready to work with our Pakiprojects such as Orange Train boost frequent people-to- stani colleagues from all walks tive (BRI), was the emblem of in Lahore, Thar Coal in Sindh people contacts and enhance of life to further promote the Pakistan-China strategic coopthrough understanding academic linkages.

The higher volume of trade ment of Special Investment and businesses would result President Xi Jinping and two countries to bring our Facilitation Council by Pakistan into integrated develop- the Pakistani leaders for a economic and trade ties at par ment which would eventually high-quality sustainable and with our excellent political rela-

consensus", he said. The ambassador was of the view that Pakistan and China could jointly jointly make the

CPEC, a corridor of love and He said that mutual cooperation in new fields such as indus-

support in the fields of secu-

rity and development, we

can implement with mutual

try, agriculture, mining, science and technology and IT sectors could be increased. "Thus a new chapter can be added in the CPEC which will

bring the people of China and

Pakistan closer to each other in the common future", Jiang Zaidong maintained. while speaking on the occasion stan Jiang Zaidong expressed observed that China-Pakistan Economic Corridor or CPEC.

dent Xi's Belt and Road Initia-

He said the CPEC symbolized coordinated efforts of our

"CPEC has broken new ground in regional connectivity and is multiplying opportunities for economic integration for the entire region, while taking our higher-than-the-Himalayas friendship with China to even greater heights", Syrus Qazi said.

Ghulam Khatoom, a dumper driver from Thar, said the Thar coal project had provided ample opportunities for employment and thus had enhanced the incomes of the people over there.

Muhammad Ashfaq Paracha from Nowshehra maintained that the proposed Special Economic Zone at Rashakai Foreign Secretary, Syrus Qazi under the CPEC had made this area a central point not only for national but also the regional

Ayesha Alam Khan from Hazara University observed that the CPEC projects like Hazara Motorway had eased the lives of the people.

"I lived in Abbotabad and my travel time to Hazara University has been reduced from four hours to just 25 minutes", she

# Sirajul Haq urges Muslim rulers to act before Gaza faces desolation

👺 Bureau Report

KARACHI: Jamaat-e-Islami (JI) chief Sirajul Haq stated Sunday Israel and the United States will encounter a fate similar to that of NATO and Russian forces in Afghanistan.

The JI chief, while addressing the participants of the Palestine March, affirmed that Muslim rulers should not wait until Gaza was reduced to rubble, urging them to take immediate action to prevent such a dire

Haq asserted that the people of Pakistan had demonstrated their unwavering commitment to the Palestine cause, stressing that this spirit had the potential to challenge Israel and America.

The JI chief urged Army Chief Gen Asim Munir to consider the consequences of remaining silent in the face of world events, cautioning that silence might be construed as support for America.

Haq stressed the need for action to safeguard Al-Aqsa Mosque, citing Saudi Arabia's decision to sever ties with Israel and the budding diplomat-

"Now, it's our turn to contribute ing in support of the Palestinians.

what we can. It's time we protect Gaza," avowed the JI chief while highlighting the urgency of the situation. He expressed that the death of honor was preferable to a life of humiliation.

He preached to the participants of the march the insignificance of worldly life in comparison to the hereafter, and argued that the Palestinian mujahideen held the right to protect the Al-Aqsa Mosque by all means.

"I consider it a privilege to address this sea of humanity, and it's heartening to see conscientious people from around the world supporting Palestine," he added.

Haq noted that the Afghans had resisted the presence of the United States, and one year after the troop withdrawal, Afghanistan's currency was performing significantly better than Pakistan's.

The JI chief drew attention to the prolonged siege of Gaza, underlining that, "Israel and America will find themselves in a situation akin to that of NATO and Russian forces in Afghanistan. Our lives are dedicated to the cause of Palestine, Masjid Al-Aqsa, and its people."

He concluded by noting that people from all around the world were unit-

## Finance Minister holds meeting with S&P Global



**Example 2** Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Finance, Revenue, and Economic Affairs Dr Shamshad Akhtar held a meeting with the S&P Global, the independent credit ratings

During the meeting, the emphasized the government's dedication to ensuring financial stability, improving fiscal governance and implementing reforms that will contribute to sustainable economic growth, said a press release issued by the Ministry of Finance.

### **BLA** commander, associate gunned down in Turbat IBO

RAWALPINDI: The security forces on Sunday claimed to have gunned down a commander of banned outfit Baloch Liberation Army (BLA) and his associate in an intelligence-based operation (IBO) in Balochistan's

According to details, the security forces conducted an intelligence-based operation against the Baloch Liberation Army (BLA) in Balochistan's Turbat district and killed Saddam Hussain Muslim, a commander of the Abdul Majeed Brigade of the group.

Saddam Hussain was also known by his aliases Guru and Jabbar. - identified as Maqsood - was also

large quantity of weapons and explo-

sive material from the possession of killed terrorists.

Saddam is said to have joined the BLA in 2008. Several first information reports (FIRs) were registered against him in Turbat and Gwadar. He is also alleged to be running many torture cells in Kech district. Since 2016, terrorist Saddam was

involved in 93 terror incidents in South Balochistan. In such terror activities, almost 131 people lost their lives while 177 people sustained inju-

The terrorist was also involved in the attack on the headquarters of frontier corps (FC) Balochistan a few days ago.

Pakistan has seen an uptick in During the operation, his associate terror activities, especially in KP and Balochistan, after the outlawed Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) The security forces also seized a ended its ceasefire with the government in November.

### Israeli communications minister seeks shutdown of Al Jazeera bureau

News Desk

JERUSALEM: Israel's communications minister said on Sunday he was seeking a possible closure of Al Jazeera's local bureau, and accused the Qatari news station of pro-Hamas incitement and of exposing Israeli soldiers to potential attack from Gaza.

The proposal to shut down Al Jazeera had been vetted by Israeli security officials and was being vetted by legal experts, Shloma Karhi said, adding that he would bring it to the cabinet later in the day.

Al Jazeera and the government in Doha had no immediate comment.

"This is a station that incites, this is a station that films troops in assembly areas (outside Gaza)... that incites



against the citizens of Israel-a propaganda mouthpiece," Karhi told Israel's Army Radio. "It is unconscionable that Hamas

spokespeople's message goes through this station," he said, adding: "I hope we will finish with this today." It was not clear if the latter statement referred to a cabinet discussion or implementation of a closure.

# Use of principle of universal jurisdiction must be in line with int'l law: Pakistan

UNITED NATIONS: Emphasizing that the principle of universal jurisdiction not be viewed as a license to infringe upon state sovereignty, Pakistan has said its application should be in compliance with international law and the UN Charter. Speaking in the United Nations General Assembly's Sixth (Legal) Committion of impunity, to ensure ous international crimes even tee, Ambassador Usman Iqbal Jadoon, Deputy permanent representative of Paki- to dodge justice. (The prin- ing in a debate on "The scope stan to the UN, the principle ciple of universal jurisdiction and application of the princi-



fact, was a call for the cessa- and prosecute people for serithat jurisdictional loopholes if they were committed in are not exploited as a means another country.) Participat-

principle was not a primary form of jurisdiction, but to be invoked only under exceptional circumstances. "Universal jurisdiction is supplementary to territorial and national jurisdictions, not a replacement for them," he said, adding that emphasis should be placed on domestic legal remedies, which should always be the first line of response. Universal jurisdiction should only apply to severe crimes, such as war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide, which of universal jurisdiction, in allows any state to investigate ple of Universal Jurisdiction, have international repercus-

tions to extradite or prosecute individuals under treaty agreements should not be misconstrued, or used to imply, treaty-based universal jurisdiction, he pointed out. Universal jurisdiction should unquestionably be invoked, especially in instances where crimes are  $committed \, in \, regions \, subjects \,$ to foreign occupation, he said. This is imperative considering the obligations laid out under the Fourth Geneva Convention Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War ].

# Nawaz Sharif to unveil roadmap for economic recovery on Oct 21, says Hamza

👺 Bureau Report

KASUR: Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) Vice President and former Punjab chief minister Hamza Shehbaz Sharif has announced that Nawaz Sharif will unveil a roadmap to pull the country out of its economic quagmire on October 21.

Hamza, while addressing a gathering in Mustafabad here, pointed out the sacrifices made by the elders, mothers, daughters and young individuals when millions of people from India migrated to Pakistan during its inception.

"Today, we must determine the future of Pakistan. Seventy-five years

and it appears that a pivotal moment has arrived in the nation's history. This is a moment where we cannot afford to make mistakes; we must make the right choices when selecting our allies," he continued.

Hamza expressed concern about the high rate of youth unemployment and the challenges faced by the population due to rising electricity bills and soaring food prices.

He also noted Pakistan's status as a nuclear power and criticised the Pakistan Tehreeke-Insaf (PTI) chairman for not adhering to the IMF conditions.

Hamza acknowledged that Pakistan might have faced financial ruin if not have elapsed since Pakistan's creation, for an agreement with the IMF led by



Shehbaz Sharif. He praised his decision to put the party's political interests at stake in order to safeguard the country's honour.

Recalling the 1990s when South Asia had no trace of a motorway, Hamza credited Nawaz Sharif's vision for the construction of a motorway connecting Lahore to Islamabad during the proven against them.

He pointed out the unfulfilled promises made by the PTI chairman, who had vowed to create one billion jobs and construct five million houses, only to admit two years later that he was just beginning to comprehend the economy.

PML-N government's tenure.

Hamza lauded Nawaz Sharif's efforts to address the extensive power outages of up to 20 hours experienced in 2013, highlighting the establishment of power plants to mitigate electricity load shedding during the 2013-2018 period.

Hamza challenged the PTI chairman's claims of corruption within the PML-N leadership, asserting that not a single penny of corruption could be

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#### 👺 Kiran Asim

MULTAN: Former Prime Minister and Senator Syed Yousaf Raza Gillani said that 6 laborers belonging to Shujaabad were killed in a

# PPP strongly condemn 6 labour's men kiiled in Turbat: Gillani

Balochistan for no reason as part of a very tragic incident a deliberate conspiracy. The former prime minister has expressed deep sorrow and concern over the brutal killing of laborers belonging to Saraiki Wasaib Shujaabad in Turbat. Syed Yousaf Raza Gillani said that

terrorist incident in Turbat region of Shujaabad as a result of terrorism is with the bereaved families in this diffiant locate the terrorists.

Former Prime Minister and Senathis incident is a sinister conspiracy to disrupt the peace and order situation in the country

I express my condolences to the

cult time of sorrow and grief

We demand from the provintor Syed Yousaf Raza Gillani said that cial government of Balochistan that the bodies of the martyrs should be brought to Shujaabad as soon as possi-

He further added that the security The killing of 6 laborers of families of the martyred workers, I am forces should investigate the incident

## Hamas have given new life to the resistance movement: Safdar Hashmi

#### 👺 Quratul Ain Asim

MULTAN: Amir Jamaat-e-Islami Dr. Safdar Hashmi has said that Hamas has given a new life to the resistance movement, because in resistance there is life and slavery is death, there is no other way for the success of Islam except jihad and martyrdom. By dropping phosphorous and cluster bombs in Palestine, they have severely violated human rights and crossed all limits of humanity. Most of the targets of Israel's cowardly soldiers are hospitals and residents in Gaza, so today it is necessary that Arab countries, Pakistan and other Muslim countries They should fully stand up against Israel and American aggression. They should play their every role to give the Palestinians their right. victory will be for the righteous.

He expressed these views while addressing the "Unity related to the Palestinians, of Jamiat Talaba Arabia also al of the Ummah. This series Palestine Rally" organ- Laa-il-Allah Allah, the call of participated. Dr. Safdar Hash- has started with the Battle of

Palestine Solidarity Rally

ized under Jamaat-e-Islami Multan. The Palestine Rally started from Daulat Gate Chowk and reached Lohari Gate in which women, students, lawyers and various and others. also addressed. political and social organizations participated. The representatives of Israel also participated, the participants, a remedy for Israel, Al-Jihad Al-Jihad, Jamiat South Punjab, workers

Al-Maqdis, Al-Jihad Al-Jihad, shouted fierce slogans from the Palestine rally, in addition to Naib Amra District, Hafiz Aslam, Engineer Atif Imran The workers of JI Youth, Islami Jamiat Talaba Multan participated in the rally under the leadership of General Secretary

Hamas fired more than 5,000 rockets in 20 minutes, defeating all Israeli technology. The attack of Hamas has disturbed the sleep of Israel, America and India. Today America is the nexus of India and Israel, but the need is that the Muslim Ummah should be united. Jihad is the survivBadr and will continue until the Day of Resurrection. The time has come for all Muslim countries to break the chains of cowardice and declare Jihad against the brutal and illegitimate Zionist state. He said that the Zionist occupying the Land of the Prophets has illegally occupied Palestine. For the past 18 years, Gaza has been under siege by Israel and has been turned into the largest prison in human history.

The leaders of Hamas of Palestine have proved that even today faith is the real power that can defeat any technology by combining great history and the pride of Israel. Solidarity Palestine march in Multan under Jamaat-e-Islami, women, students, lawyers and Others participated

The rally started from Daulat Gate Chowk and ended at Lohari Gate Chowk. On this occasion, Jamaat-e-Islami District Multan Dr. Safdar organ- Laa-il-Allah Allah, the call of participated. Dr. Safdar Hash- has started with the Battle of Hashmi said that

# Historians to hail BRI as significant project for our era, says U.S. scholar

NEW YORK: Historians will hail the ative (BRI) as "something of significance for our era," Robert Lawrence Kuhn, chairman of the Kuhn Foundation, has said.

"Historians 1,000 years from now will look back and will circle the Belt and Road Initiative as something of significance for our era today." Kuhn told Xinhua in a recent interview ahead of the third Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation, as the BRI will mark its 10th anniversary.

The BRI is a "primary" engagement that China has brought to the world, promoted by President Xi Jinping as an international approach, and "it has a remarkable and absolutely essential element," said Kuhn, who has been

The veteran China-hand spoke at early BRI conferences on "The New Silk Road Economic Belt" and "The 21st Century Maritime Silk Road" in 2014 and 2015, respectively.

Kuhn said the BRI leverages China's advantages in constructing infrastructure which developing countries need

"So the Belt and Road Initiative is the foundation to build infrastructure sustainable as the win-win cooperain countries. No country in the world has anywhere near the experience BRI partners has delivered tangible and success that China has in build-



ports, airports, telecommunications, power plants," he said.

"These are all the first stage requirements for development of any kind, certainly industrial development, and improving the standards of living (of) unequaled experience and competitive the people (in) the country. So this is the most significant, all the other initiatives can be built on top of the Belt and

More importantly, the BRI is tion model spearheaded by China and results in the past 10 years, Kuhn said.

"It is not China being a charitable giver to the world... Sure, all of that is true in other countries (that) benefit in many ways. But China benefits itself. And that's good, because that makes it sustainable," he said.

However, the BRI is not all "roses and cheers" and it faces lots of challenges ahead, said Kuhn, the upcoming Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation "is a good mid-course assessment, correction and plan going forward."

Now we're seeing the third international event in which China is reviewing the past, looking at the success-

es, learning from the experience and practices, and determining what is the optimization for future development of these things, said Kuhn.

"What was good in the past is not the same in the future, everything changes. China's own economy is dramatically changing over time, moving to high quality," he added.

By June 2023, China had signed more than 200 BRI cooperation agreements with more than 150 countries and 30 international organizations across five continents, yielding a number of signature projects and small-scale yet impactful projects.

# Nursing Service is a Field of Humanity: Balighur Rehman



MULTAN: The first convocation of Nishtar College of Nursing was held under the chairmanship of Governor Punjab Muhammad Balig ul Rahman. The Governor of Punjab awarded degrees to 100 female students of BS Nursing Post-RN in the convocation and presented gold medals to 11 female students.

Governor Punjab Muhammad Balig ul Rahman while addressing the convocation said that there has been a lot of progress in the field of nursing in Pakistan. Nursing service is a field of humanity. Teachers transfer knowledge, skills and knowledge to students. Nursing plays an important role in the health sector. No doctor in the world can be successful unless there is right care nursing

Nursing plays an important role in bringing the patient back to health. Taking care of the patient is also our religious duty. We have to serve the creation of God. You serve your patient with full attention. The welfare of Pakistan is connected with good health institutions. Governor Punjab Muhammad Balig ul Rahman further said that we all have to take Pakistan on the path of development. We have to bear with each other.

We have to convince our point with arguments despite different views. To remove the hatreds in the society. To attract the youth towards positive activities. We have to move towards improvement and positivity. In Convocation Vice Chancellor Nishtar Medical University Rana Altaf Ahmed told about the achievements of the university.

Vice Chancellor Nishtar Medical University Rana Altaf Ahmed also took the oath of professional responsibilities from the graduate. Principal Nishtar College of Nursing Rukhsana Parveen presented a report about the performance of the college.

On this occasion, Vice Chancellor Nishtar Medical University Professor Dr. Rana Altaf Ahmed, Pro Vice Chancellor Professor Dr. Mahnaz Khakwani, Vice Chancellor Bahauddin Zakaria University Professor Dr. Muhammad Ali Shah, Vice Chancellor MNS Agriculture University Professor Dr. Muhammad Asif, Vice Chancellor Emerson University Dr. Mohammad Ramzan, Director General Nursing Munaza Cheema,

Secretary Primary and Secondary Health Care South Punjab Meher Muhammad Hayat Lak, Secretary Specialized Health South Punjab Afzal Nasir Khan,

Principal Nishtar Medical University Professor Dr. Rashid Qamar Rao was also present.

#### International White Cane Day Celebrate in Multan



MULTAN: Organized by Mohammad Bin Qasim Blind Welfare Complex Multan, a rally was held at Chowk Kumharan on the occasion of International White Cane Day, which was led by Director Mohammad Bin Qasim Blind Welfare Complex Sadia Kirmani, Chief Traffic Officer Rao Mohammad. Naeem Shahid

In charge RIB Jalil Imran Ghalzai.

Well-known political leader Malik Anwar Ali. Social leader Rao Abdul Qayyum Shaheen. Professor Abdul Majid Vato. Inspectorin-charge Gaddafi Inspector Muhammad Imran, Traffic Education Unit and other traffic staff. Anjaman Tajran Chowk Kumharanwala President Rana Khurshid Ahmed. Shafaq Siddiqui Lions Club. Mehmood Junaid Khan.

Zulfiqar, Junaid Malik, Iskandar, Shahbaz, Safdar Ali Shazia Amin, Basheer Qadir, Sagheer Ahmed, Hafizullah Datta, Zaigham, Sobia Nazir, Samia Nazir, Aqsa, Ayesha Kiran, Kubra, Huma Rubab, Madni Makki, Ahmad Rasheed, Suhail Fahd, and dozens of others. The blind people participated in the event. Speaking on this occasion, the speakers said that the white stick is the eyes of the blind people with the help of which they live their lives.

We should respect the white stick. Mohammad Bin Qasim Blind Welfare Complex is playing a major role in educating and training the blind.

# China's BRI spurs development, champions multilateralism, says Argentine president

BUENOS AIRES: The Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) has promoted development in Argentina and served as a paradigm for the unconditional multilateralism China champions globally, Argentine President Alberto Fernandez said here recently.

In an exclusive interview with Xinhua at the government headquarters, Fernandez said that the China-proposed BRI has shown that the counothers; it is not an attitude of (seeking) submission."

"China is a very large country. It is a country that objectively leads international trade, and it is a country that has really treated Argentina very well," said Fernandez, who will soon come to Beijing to attend the third Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation.

In February 2022, Argentina signed a memorandum of understanding on joining the BRI, an initiative proposed by Chinese President Xi Jinping in

Calling China "a genuine investor in Argentina," a valuable partner and a friend, Fernandez said "there is no Chinese capital that comes to make occasional investments to speculate financially. They are long-term investments. They are investments that provide work. They are investments try has "an attitude of great respect for that clearly express the will to become part of the country, to share Argentine development with Argentina."

> The BRI plays an important role in strengthening people-to-people exchanges and connectivity between countries, and gradually building a community with a shared future for mankind, he said.

"China is the country that best inter-

prets the idea of multilateralism," he said, adding that a major country like China taking on the role of spearheading multilateralism "fills developing countries with hope and expectations."

Recalling his meeting with Xi on several occasions, Fernandez said it has been very helpful to him each time, as Xi has not only proposed the BRI, but also other "valuable" multilateral initiatives, such as the Global Development Initiative, the Global Security Initiative and the Global Civilization Initiative.

"Hegemonism in the world has come to an end... The time has come for multilateralism and all these ideas, all these proposals, make for better multilateralism," he said.

These initiatives are "on the right path, which is to try to achieve an integration where we all respect each other," Noting that the bond between Argentina and China "is very important,"

Fernandez said he has "a particular gratitude towards China.'

China has done many things for



Argentina, making investments and helping develop Argentina's mining and agriculture sectors, and providing Argentina with COVID-19 vaccines, he

said, adding that China "always did so without imposing conditions."

The Argentine president expressed hope that the bond between the two countries can continue to deepen in the future, through working together both under the BRI and within the BRICS mechanism.

"I am convinced that it (the BRI) is a great opportunity for Argentina," Fernandez said, adding that thanks to the Chinese government, his country has joined BRICS recently, which means the two sides can also "work together on

Argentina and China have "a lot to partner with and work together on," he said, calling for more people-to-people exchanges through tourism.

"For us, it would be wonderful if the Chinese saw Argentina as an interesting tourism destination. We have to work on that," he added.

Monday, October 16, 2023

# Above 100 countries ready to attend Trade Expo Indonesia 2023

38th Trade Expo Indonesia will take place on October 18 – 22, 2023 at the Indonesia Convention Exhibition (ICE), in Indonesia's Tangerang city, Banten province



Naveed Ahmad Khan

he Indonesian Ministry of Trade has recorded more than 5,600 international buyers from 100 countries who will attend the 38th Trade Expo Indonesia in 2023, and the number is expected to increase.

The 38th Trade Expo Indonesia will take place on October 18 – 22, 2023 at the Indonesia Convention Exhibition (ICE), in Indonesia's Tangerang city, Banten province, the Indonesian Ministry of Trade said in a written statement quoted by Indonesia Window,

"We note that currently there are more than 5,600 potential international buyers who will attend the 38th Trade Expo Indonesia (TEI). Expanding export markets to non-traditional countries is one strategy to increase non-oil and gas exports amid the challenges of the global economic slow-

Export Development at the Ministry of Trade, Didi Sumedi, noted.

TEI is the largest trade exhibition in Indonesia organized by the Ministry of Trade to promote value-added Indonesian export products, encourage export penetration to non-traditional countries, and increase the country's non-oil and non-gas exports.

To date, the largest number of international buyers registered at the 38th TEI come from India (11.76 percent), followed by Malaysia (7.13 percent), China (2.20 percent), Australia (1.90 percent), and Brazil (1.56 percent).

"At this year's TEI, we see an increase in the participation of potential buyers from countries in Africa, South Asia and Latin America. The prospective buyers come from countries including Nigeria, Ghana, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Peru and Chile," Didi said.

In addition to the physical exhibition, the 38th TEI will also be held online with an interactive website concept based on e-catalogue on October 18 - December 18, 2023.

The online exhibition can be accessed via the official page www.tradexpoindonesia.com. With this concept, Didi is optimistic that transactions between potential buyers and exhibitors will go beyond regional borders.

The implementation of TEI in 2022 recorded transactions of 15.83 billion US dollars. The five countries with the highest transaction value were China (10.78 billion dollars), India (1.51 billion dollars), Japan (843.96 down," Director General of National million dollars), Egypt (492.04 million



H.E. Mr. Joko Widodo President of the Republic of Indonesia

Mr. Didi Sumedi Director General of National Export Development Ministry of Trade of The Republic of Indonesia

dollars), and the Philippines (343.22 numbers soaring from \$6.06 billion in exchange of goods. This highlights million dollar).

The Trade Expo Indonesia (TEI) is gearing up for another highly anticipated year as it seeks to surpass the remarkable \$15.83 billion in transactions achieved last year. TEI, known as Indonesia's largest annual trade fair, provides an invaluable platform for the country's export-oriented producers and small-sized enterprises to showcase their products to international buyers and investors.

TEI has witnessed exponential growth in recent years, with transaction

2021 to an impressive \$15.83 billion in 2022. Building upon this success, the Indonesian government has set ambitious goals for the 2023 expo, aiming to surpass last year's achievements and establish new records. The collaboration and concerted efforts of all stakeholders will be crucial in realizing this

The transactions recorded at the 2022 TEI showcased the diverse potential of Indonesia's trade landscape. The majority of the transactions, totaling

the strength and competitiveness of Indonesian products in global markets. Additionally, investment deals amounted to \$551.5 million, while business matching activities contributed \$204 million to the overall transactions. The expo also facilitated service remittances, which reached \$843,000.

the 2022 TEI was the signing of trade contracts worth a staggering \$12.7 billion with buyers from 31 countries. China emerged as the largest contrib-\$15.28 billion, were related to the utor, with transactions amount-

ing to an impressive \$10.78 billion. India followed closely behind with \$1.5 billion, showcasing the growing economic ties between Indonesia and its Asian counterparts. Japan secured the third spot with transactions valued at \$843.96 million, further strengthening bilateral trade relations.

The upcoming Trade Expo Indonesia 2023 is set to take place from October 18 to 22 at the Indonesia Convention Exhibition (ICE) in BSD. This offline exhibition will provide an immersive experience for participants, allowing them to showcase their products, network with industry peers, and explore potential business opportunities. However, the impact of TEI will extend beyond the physical event, as the virtual exhibition will continue until December 18. This extended virtual presence ensures that international buyers and investors have ample time to engage with Indonesian businesses and foster collaborations.

With the continued growth and success of TEI, Indonesia is solidifying its position as a prominent plaver in the global trade landscape. The trade fair serves as a crucial gateway for Indonesian businesses to expand their reach, forge new partnerships, and promote the country's export industry. The 2023 TEI aims to surpass previous One of the notable achievements of milestones, reflecting Indonesia's determination to showcase its diverse range of high-quality products and attract further international investments.

The article based on Indonesia Window reporting and information

# Trade Expo Indonesia Hybrid Edition 2023

or the past few years, Indonesia has experienced a positive trend of export growth across various products and services in the global market. It's crucial to continue and enhance this trend as Indonesia competes with other nations for global opportunities.

In an effort to improve national export performance, the Ministry of Trade has been proactive in inviting buyers and investors to engage directly with Indonesian providers of export products and services at the annual Trade Expo Indonesia (TEI) tradeshow.

Due to the previous pandemic situation, the Ministry of Trade has introduced new strategies to enhance export performance by transforming the conventional TEI into a hybrid event, ience". It aims to promote high-quality combining both online and onsite components, known as "TEI Hybrid

TEI Hybrid Edition is an International B2B-focused trade show designed to foster the growth of export products and expand export markets. The 38th Trade Expo Indonesia Hybrid Edition in 2023 is themed "Sustainable Trade For Global Economic Resil-





products made in Indonesia through a combination of onsite activities (October 18-22) and online activities (October 18-December 18), reaching the global market. The event also seeks to develop business networks, attract investments, and showcase the best Indonesian products and services.

In addition to the exhibition, the Trade Expo Indonesia Hybrid Edition

features a series of parallel activities, including international seminars, business matching, and business counseling.

**Program** Business Matching Business Matching is a matchmaking program exclusively designed for connecting Trade Expo Indonesia

(TEI) buyers and sellers,

fostering win-win agreements. In this program, buyers can find the products they need, and sellers can meet buyers' specific product and service requirements, ensuring the right quantity and

#### **Business Counseling**

Gain the latest information and insights on penetrating foreign markets directly from the Indonesian Trade Attache and the Head of the Indonesian Trade Promotion Center (ITPC) during Business Counseling Day at the Trade Expo Indonesia.

Business Counseling is an integral part of the Virtual Forum for the 38th Trade Expo Indonesia Hybrid Edition 2023. It is facilitated by the Trade Attache and the Head of the ITPC, with the objective of providing valuable information and guidance on entering foreign markets. This resource is valuable for both new and experienced

## Expect China to be main buyer at trade expo: Ministry

irector general of ta on Thursday. national export development at the Trade Ministry, Didi Sumedi, after a press conference on the 2023 Trade Indonesia Expo, at the ministry's office in Jakarta of Indonesian on Thursday (October 5, 2023). The ministry is aiming for total transactions worth US\$11 billion at the expo,

Jakarta (ANTARA)-The Trade Ministry has said that it expects China, one of Indonesia's main export targets, to be the most prominent buyer at the 38th Trade Expo Indonesia, which will be held this month.

At last year's edition of the event, China was the country that conducted the highest number of export transactions with Indonesia, the ministry's director general of national export development, Didi Sumedi, noted.

"This year, we hope that China will during the trade event. once again occupy an important position at Trade Expo Indonesia," he said at the Trade Ministry's office in Jakar-

According China absorbs a significantly high number export products. The East regulartry imports Indonesian products and commodities

that are not available domestically, he added. Sumedi informed that besides China, the ministry will also target Malaysian markets through the expo. He informed that the governments of Indonesia and Malaysia will sign

Countries from the Middle East, he continued, are also expected to record at a press conference on the exhibition numerous transactions at the event, especially following the finalization

a memorandum of understanding

nesia-UAE Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (IUAE-CE-"This (IUAE-CE-

PA) provides both countries another impetus to

enhance bilateral cooperation this year and in the coming years. It should be noted that the United Arab Emirates is a country that can serve as a hub that connects Indonesia with other Middle Eastern states," Sumedi elaborated He further noted that this year,

the Trade Ministry is eyeing a total transaction value of US\$11 billion at the expo. In 2022, the total transaction value was recorded at US\$15.83 billion, exceeding the initial target of US\$10 billion, he pointed out. "This year's target constitutes a

challenge for us because the US\$15.83 billion recorded last year is not a feat that can be easily achieved, especially when the global economy is currently experiencing a slowdown. We should work together to exceed the target of US\$11 billion set by Mr. Trade Minister," he said.

The 2023 Trade Indonesia Expo will feature offline activities from October 18-22 in Tangerang, Banten, and online activities from October 18



Three-day visa processing time is being ensured for the expo visitors which will continue for five days

<u>Kuncoro Hadini</u>ngrat has

invited Hyderabad busi- of Small Traders and Small Indus- seven prominent products of Indo-

Speaking at Hyderabad Chamber ue for five days. According to him, ness community to attend try (HCSTSI) on Tuesday, the diplonesia, including food and beverage; 38th Trade Expo Indonesia which mat assured that a three-day visa home living, digital services, beauty

gy and industrial products; medical equipment and healthcare; fash-

men of Pakistan and Indonesia.

be put on display on the occasion. He expressed hope that the export the two countries, Indonesia has to Indonesia is only \$180 million.

ndonesia Consul Gener- will start in his country from Octo- processing time is being ensured for and personal care, chemical, ener- would boost trade, tourism and exported goods worth more than \$4 ent on the occasion, HCSTSI Presi Hadiningrat noted that with the dent Muhammad Farooq Shaikhani ilateral trade agreement between pointed out that Pakistan's export

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#### Urgent call for civilians' protection in **GAZA**

s Israel's military prepares for a ground assault on Gaza, UNRWA, the UN Palestine refugee agency, issued an urgent call on Saturday for Israel to protect all civilians sheltering in the enclave. The statement came as the Israeli-imposed deadline for some 1.1 million civilians to leave the northern part of Gaza, ahead of what is expected to be a major advance into Gaza by Israeli ground forces, expired. "UNRWA shelters in Gaza and northern Gaza are no longer safe. This is unprecedented," said the statement. The agency reminded that according to the rules of warfare, civilians, hospitals, schools, clinics and United Nations premises cannot be a target. UNRWA is sparing no efforts to advocate with parties to the conflicts to meet their obligations under international law to protect civilians, including those seeking refuge in UNRWA shelters," the agency emphasized. UNRWA pointed out that many of the vulnerable, particularly pregnant women, children, the elderly and persons with disabilities simply will be unable to flee south. "They have no choice and must be protected at all times." More than 2,200 Palestinians have been killed during Israel's aerial offensive on Gaza, while Israel lost 1,300 people in Hamas' attacks. On Friday, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said it would be "impossible" for civilians in Gaza to comply with the evacuation order without devastating humanitarian consequences. The UN chief called on the world to unite in support of the fundamental principle of protecting civilians, and "finding a lasting solution to this unending cycle of death and destruction." An UNRWA school sheltering more than 225 displaced people, including many families, in the Gaza Strip, was directly hit, sustaining severe damages, but no c A plane carrying life-saving health supplies from the World Health Organization's (WHO) logistics hub in Dubai landed in Egypt on Saturday to aid civilians in Gaza – as soon as access across the border into the enclave can be established. The shipment includes trauma medicines, healthcare essentials, and equipment sufficient to treat around 1,200 who have suffered injuries during the bombing raids and around 1,500 chronically ill patients. The cargo also includes basic health supplies to meet the needs of 300,000 others, including pregnant women. With hospitals in Gaza either completely out of action or simply overwhelmed, the supplies will help save the lives of the wounded wherever they can find shelter, WHO said. WHO said it was critical for the Rafah crossing on the Egyptian border to be reopened. "While the Egyptian side of the crossing is accessible, the Israeli side remains closed", said the statement. "Every hour these supplies remain on the Egyptian side of the border, more girls and boys, women, and men, especially those vulnerable or disabled, will die while supplies that can save them are less than 20 kilometres (12 miles) away." WHO said it would be working with the Egyptian and Palestinian Red Crescent Societies to ship the supplies across the border in Gaza, as soon as practicable. WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus met Egyptian President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi on Monday who endorsed the request to facilitate medical aid across the border into Gaza. An independent UN-appointed human rights expert warned on Saturday that Gaza's civilian population was now in grave danger of "mass ethnic cleansing" on the international community to urgently mediate a ceasefire. "The situation in the occupied Palestinian territory and Israel has reached fever pitch," said Francesca Albanese, UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian Territory occupied since 1967. She called on the UN and Member States to intensify efforts to mediate an immediate ceasefire between the parties, before "a point of no return" is reached. The UN Human Rights Council-appointed expert reminded the international community of its responsibility to prevent and protect populations from atrocity crimes. "Time is of the essence. Palestinians and Israelis both deserve to live in peace, equality of rights, dignity and freedom," Ms. Albanese said. "Any continued military operations by Israel have gone well beyond the limits of international law. The international community must stop these egregious violations of international law now, before tragic history is repeated."

# What is the end goal?

he international media and people around the world are now repeatedly asking the question, what is the purpose of the Israeli aggression to boldly commit war crimes and send such a large military force of the entire US and NATO countries into

We analyze the current situation by looking at the statements of the Israeli rulers, their powerful western allies, Netanyahu's politics from the past and the religious point of view.

The general perception is that Israel commits aggression to expand its territory. Looking at the past, it is not wrong to think so, but for this, indiscriminate bombing, in complete disregard of any international law, is full of war crimes. Turning a populated area into a wasteland does not fit in any way.

In the last five or six days, we have seen phosphorus bombs being used everywhere, including bombing schools, hospitals, Red Cross churches. As hypocrisy, but every time in the past. attacks on civilians, attacks on hospitals and schools have been condemned by the West. But this time, instead of condemnation, it is going beyond statements of support.

A US senator even went so far as to say that we should bomb the whole

US Secretary of State Anthony Blanken said that he could not remain neutral on his visit to Israel

"I am not only here as an American representative, but you should all know that I am also a Jew".

said that the European Union president's unnecessary support for Israel

"Keep your mouth shut. It is the government's job to make policy, that

We will give a statement on the Israel conflict.

Italy, Germany, France, Great Britain, Prime Ministers of these countries, completely forgetting Israel's crimes, rather announced their verbal & financial military aid.

After the United States, Britain sends a fleet to protect Israel, while Germany announces the deploy-

ment of its latest drones. On the one hand, all armed organizations and countries in the Middle East are openly threatened by the United States and Israel to remain silent on the massacre of Palestinians in Gaza, otherwise they will face disastrous

consequences. On the other hand, before the Iranian foreign minister's visit to Damascus, the airport was targeted, also an Israeli chief of staff, Halawi, mocks Iran by saying that if you have the courage, show it by retaliating.

When China talks about a two-state solution, the Israeli Foreign Office expresses regret and the very next day an Israeli diplomat is attacked in China.

It is admitted that Israel supplies weapons to ISIS in order to drag Syria into the war.

The British member of parliament these steps showing Israel's willingness to fight.

Netanyahu wants to destroy the United States. He once sat in a bar and said about the United States in 1990 that the world's largest welfare state, the United States, is a golden calf that we should sell to pieces because we hate them. This is how they are being treated. And currently, Netanyahu has the highest number of supporters in the American government. Another reason is the possible Trump administration in 2024. Trump hates Netanyahu, which he also expressed in

the past few days. In the killing of Iranian General Qassem Soleimani, Netanyahu deceived the American government at the last moment and the Americans accomplished the mission, but Netanyahu took credit for the killing of Soleimani, Trump himself says. That he does not trust the information he receives from

Israeli intelligence.

According to another credible source, the Iranian intelligence has managed to obtain such a file related to Netanyahu. There is not only a list of people who received bribes from Netanyahu's supporters in America and Europe, but be martyred by an unnamed rocket or there are also such photos of anti-Yahu politicians. With whom they can be blackmailed, that is why Yahu wants to drag Iran into war.

The Israeli government conducted a DNA test of all the people living in reaction, Iran, Iraq and Turkey will be Let's talk about the reasons behind Israel, according to which 97.5% of the

people living in Israel belongs to the bloodline of Khazarian origin, founded in the 6th century AD.

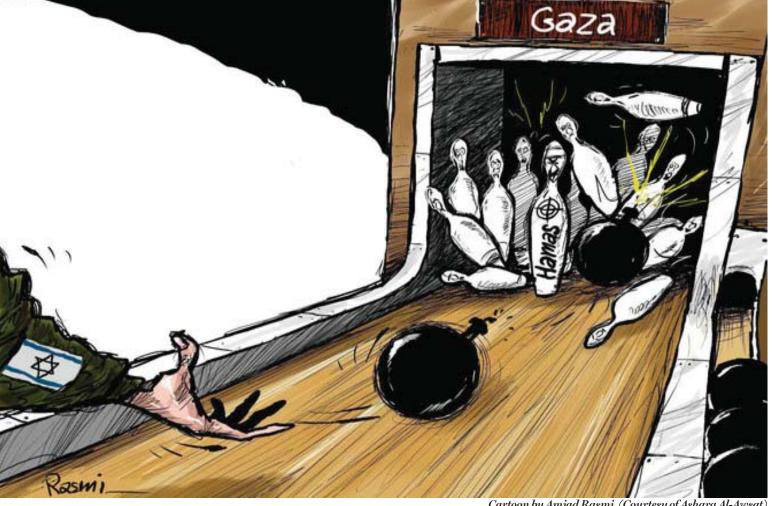
These people do not belong to the twelve tribes of Bani Israel, but their ancestors accepted the Jewish faith in

A book about this by the Jewish writer Arthur Koestler

The 13th Tribe was written. The desire of the recent war is to try to get rid of these counterfeit Jews. The last reason is that the Jewish Rabbi Yisrael Israel said that the Messiah (Dajjal) has not yet come, hurry up.

This rabbi has even said in 2015 that anyone, even Barack Obama, if does not follow Jewish teachings, you can find him in a street and if you have the power, kill him.

We have to conquer Iran, Turkey and Iraq by war. The basic purpose of Israel's full-scale war desire is to build the Soleimani Temple by destroying the Al-Aqsa Mosque under the guise of war. Complete control over the media and lack of access to media representatives plus the Israeli minister's announcement yesterday that Israel is going to cut off internet service in Gaza is a complete blackout plan. In Gaza as well as in Jerusalem, the Internet service will be shut down and the Al-Aqsa Mosque will missile and the blame will be placed on Hamas or Hezbollah. US British forces, fleets and squadrons of advanced aircraft are being deployed to control Middle Eastern regimes Or in case of

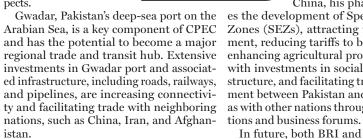


Cartoon by Amjad Rasmi. (Courtesy of Asharq Al-Awsat)

# Belt and Road Forum, Reinforcing Pak-China ties - II

networks built under CPEC have enhanced connectivity within Pakistan and with neighboring countries. Under this project, approximately 888 kilometers of new motorways and highways have been constructed, with another 853 kilometers of high-quality roads currently under construction. Several completed motorways, such as the Peshawar-Karachi Motorway (Multan-Sukkur Section), Hakla-D. I. Khan Motorway, and initiatives like the Main Line-I (ML-I) rail-

way upgrade project and developments in Gwadar, including the New Gwadar International Airport, the Friendship Pak-China Hospital, Gwadar East Bay Expressway, and the Gwadar Technical & Vocational Institute, have further enhanced regional connectivity and economic prospects.



ing over 6,370 MW.

This includes the installation of 880 km of transmission lines, with additional projects expected to be completed by 2023-2024, and connectivity. China has shown interensuring a much-needed power supply for socio-economic and industrial growth. Furthermore, CPEC investments have mental impacts, aiming to improve the created approximately 192,000 jobs and their secondary effects have contributed to economic development.

CPEC is now in its second phase, focusing the Orange Line Metro Train in Lahore, on socioeconomic development, science and have already been operational. Furthermore, technology, agricultural cooperation, and industrialization. Of the 27 agreed-upon

socioeconomic development projects, 17 fast-track projects have been initiated, with seven already completed and five in progress. This illustrates the continued commitment to strengthening economic and strategic ties between China and Pakistan. Valued at approximately \$37 billion and predominantly funded by

China, his phase encompass-Gwadar, Pakistan's deep-sea port on the es the development of Special Economic Zones (SEZs), attracting foreign investment, reducing tariffs to boost trade, and enhancing agricultural productivity, along with investments in social welfare, infrastructure, and facilitating trade and investment between Pakistan and China, as well ty and facilitating trade with neighboring as with other nations through trade exhibi-

In future, both BRI and CPEC are like-CPEC has already achieved remarka- ly to continue development and expansion. prospects of not just bilateral success but ble progress in the energy sector, with the The BRI is expected to continue expanding global cooperation and prosperity.

he motorways and other road completion of eleven power projects total- into more regions and countries. China has expressed its intent to strengthen economic ties with nations along the BRI routes, further deepening economic cooperation est in addressing concerns related to debt sustainability, transparency, and environreputation of the initiative. In future, BRI may expand from infrastructure, trade, and economic development to digital infrastructure, green energy, and technological cooperation.

The relationship between Pakistan and China stands as a beacon of strategic collaboration and shared interests, exemplifying the profound significance of their all-weather friendship.

Their unwavering support for each other on international platforms, particularly on issues such as the Kashmir dispute and Xinjiang, underscores the strength of this partnership.

The resounding success of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) highlights the transformative potential of their cooperation, fostering economic growth, energy security, and regional connectivity.

As Pakistan takes part in the Belt and Road Forum (BRF), it seizes an invaluable opportunity to not only project CPEC as a model of accomplishment but also to further contribute to the global objectives of the Belt and Road Initiative. This forum serves as a platform for Pakistan to amplify its voice on international matters and advocate for multilateralism, ultimately enhancing the

# 'Sociological Evolution: Unraveling the Threads of Change'

The nexus between

industrialization, capitalism,

and colonialism unfolded as

industrial power exploited

African slaves for production.

👺 Niamat ullah Harifal

he emergence of modern sociological theory finds its roots in the intricate tapestry of societal dynamics cal movements. beginning in the 17th century. French and American colonization, alongside the waves of the industrial revolution. Simultaneously, the intellectual clash between enlightenment and conservatism unfolded, with notable figures like Kant, Hegel, Smith, and Ricardo shaping sociological discourse.

Transitioning into the 1800s, socialism took center stage as a predominant social and political movement, sparking revolutions in France, Germany, Italy, and the Australian Empire. This tumultuous period gave rise to the social sciences, e'itomized by the

era of Marx, Nietzsche, Max Weber, and Darwin in the 18th century and the tionaries. Science and scientists became catalysts feminist movement, World War, and intellectual forces like feminist theory, Western Marxism, and Structural Functionalism in the 19th century. Influential sociological philosophers such as Lukacs, Gramsci, and Parsons played pivotal

roles in shaping sociological thought. Within this timeframe, revolutions, including the French, American, and industrial revolutions, reshaped societal structures. Political and social movements, ranging from socialism and Marxism to capitalism and feminism, exerted both positive and negative impacts on society.

The industrial revolution, spanning the 19th

and 20th centuries, prompted a massive shift from agriculture to bourgeoisie-owned factories, catalyzing urbanization and igniting reactions against capitalism through labor and radi-

The nexus between industrialization, capi-The 1700s witnessed the dawn of talism, and colonialism unfolded as industrial power exploited African slaves for production. This trajectory, initiated in the 15th century with European colonization in Asia, significantly influenced sociologists and their paradigms. The 20th century brought forth feminist move-

ments advocating for female equality beyond traditional roles.

Industrialization fueled urbanization, reshaping societal norms, beliefs, and culture. The Enlightenment era, advocating for rational and empirical decision-making, encountered resistance from the French Catholic counter-revolu-

for societal change, aligning with the Enlightenment's focus on comprehending the world through rational and empirical research.

This comprehensive exploration traces the multifaceted evolution of sociological thought, interwoven with historical events, intellectual forces, and societal movements, ultimately offering a profound understanding of the dynamics that have shaped our modern sociological landscape.

Writer is Student in School of Sociology Quaid I Azam university Islamabad

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# The Spokesman 5

Aggressive marketing to exploit potential of GSP Plus to Pakistan: PIAF



Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Stressing the need for an aggressive marketing plan to exploit the huge opportunity of enhancing exports to the EU countries, the Pakistan Industrial and Traders Associations Front (PIAF) has welcomed the European Union's decision to retain the GSP plus status for Pakistan for another four years till 2027.

PIAF Chairman Faheemur Rehman Saigol said that GSP Plus status holds paramount importance for Pakistan's economy as it has played an important role in expansion of multilateral trade. He said that the GSP Plus status, which Pakistan has enjoyed in the past, has significantly contributed to enhancing our export potential and economic prosperity.

He said that the GSP Plus status offers developing countries duty-free or reduced-tariff access to the EU market for over 6,000 products. It is a significant opportunity for Pakistan to boost its exports and create jobs, he

He appreciated the unwavering efforts of the government in advocating for this extension, further strengthening trade relations and fostering economic growth for our

According to the trade statistics from ITC World Trademap, Pakistan's exports to EU, which were around 6.3 billion dollars in 2013, have increased over the time to 11.3 billion dollars in 2022, primarily due to the deeper market access provided by European Union under GSP Plus.

Faheemur Rehman Saigol said that this essentially meant that due to GSP Plus, the European Union was by far the biggest destination for Pakistan's exports as more than 30 percent of our exports reach EU market.

#### Pakistan created $SIFC\ to\ facilitate$ investors, Masood Khan tells US businessmen



WASHINGTON: Pakistan has established the Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC) as a 'single-window' platform to facilitate investors, forge cooperation among government ministries and departments, and fasttrack project development, Ambassador Masood Khan has told a U. S. forum.

Introducing SIFC to OPEN Chicago, an association dedicated to the promotion of entrepreneurship and professional excellence within diaspora communities, he said that the Council's objectives included revitalization of the country's economy, integrating it with international capital markets, and ensuring continuity of policies by adopting best practices and providing salutary investment milieu.

In this regard, the ambassador identified five areas ripe for investment in Pakistan — IT, energy, agriculture, mining and defence production. "The SIFC will shorten lengthy business processes, develop a whole of the government approach and tap Pakistan's potential in key sectors of information technology, energy, mining, agriculture and defence production by generating and attracting foreign direct investment," he told the forum in Chicago.

Masood Khan said Pakistan and the United States have had strong strategic and economic ties over the past 76 years that continue and "we foresee brighter prospects for its growth."

The two sides, he said, were enhancing the space for economic partnership encompassing trade, investment, energy, climate change, health care, education, agriculture, technology and people-to-people exchanges.

This is an ideal time to invest in Pakistan and to promote the country's products and services in the United States."

# Constant decline in the dollar rate welcomed

ISLAMABAD: FPCCI's presidential candidate, Atif Ikram Sheikh, welcomed the steady decline in the US dollar on Sunday, terming it highly satisfactory for the masses and the business community.

This daily decline has become a routine, improving foreign exchange reserves and the confidence of investors, he said.

He said that despite the higher supply of dollars, the pressure on the exchange rate is still there as demand from importers is increasing each day, which must be controlled and monitored while energy prices should be reduced.

Atif Ikram Sheikh, who has also served as VP FPCCI, Chairman PVMA, and President ICCI, said in a statement issued here today that administrative measures are not enough in the long run; therefore, exports, remittances, and revenue should be increased, and expenses

He recalled that the serious foreign exchange crisis had damaged the economy a lot, but now it seems to be ending. Domestic and foreign investors remained worried for years, and their goods at the port were not being cleared due to a lack of foreign exchange.

He added that due to this crisis, hundreds of containers were piled up at ports while importers were facing demurrage and deten-

The business leader said that our total annual income is sixty billion dollars while imports are almost 80 billion dollars, and therefore it is impossible to run the country without borrowing. He noted that to achieve self-sufficiency, we have to increase income and reduce imports, for lation, and loans are continuously increasing, which economic policies have to be restructured for public welfare as productivity and exports are alarmingly low.

He said that the country's problems, popu-



and the economic system is totally dependent on imports, so whenever the growth rate is more than four percent, the import bill becomes unaffordable.

To improve this situation, we have to make fundamental changes in our economic model and shift to solar and wind energy immediately to reduce the import bill for petroleum products.

Instead of distributing 17 billion dollars or four thousand billion rupees to foreign farmers every year, we have to improve our country's agriculture so that the country is self-sufficient in agriculture.

The welfare of the people must be a priority, and policies should be made so that investors are interested in productive sectors instead of non-productive sectors, which will increase production and exports and provide employment to the people.

The cost of production in the manufacturing sector has to be made competitive in the global market so that they are able to increase exports instead of concentrating on the local market, he demanded.

#### Hard Working

LAHORE: A worker is busy in repairing old helmet in his shop in Provincial Capital. Helmet is now a must for every bike rider as the Lahore High Court (LHC) has ordered the authorities concerned to impose Rs2000 fine upon the violators.



## Higher energy and food prices keep inflation elevated

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The inflation measured by the Sensitive Price Indicator (SPI) continued to increase in the wake of higher prices of food and energy despite a recent cut in the prices of petroleum products, as essential commodities have still not seen a decline in prices, leaving trade and industry frustrated.

FPCCI former president and Businessmen Panel Chairman Mian Anjum Nisar, quoting the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS), observed that the index spiked 38.28% when compared with the corresponding week of last year, as out of the 51 essential commodities covered by SPI, prices of 17 (33.33%) items increased, rates of anoth-



remaining 17 items remained previous week. On a weekly basis, the price of tomato rose salt 2.75%, cooked beef 1.06%, garlic 1.04%, tea (prepared) 0.73%, beef 0.39% and pota-

Among non-food commod-

er 17 decreased and prices of the Q1 rose 8.59%, energy savers 0.55%, shirting 0.47% and unchanged compared to the liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) 0.31%, according to the PBS. The year-on-year trend

6.28%, egg 3.48%, powdered depicted price increases in the range of 58-137% among different items. Mian Anjum Nisar said that Pakistan has been facing a high inflation for the past couple of years partly due ities, the electricity charges for to massive depreciation of the

rupee against the US dollar and partly due to a surge in global commodity prices like energy cost. The country largely meets its energy demand through expensive imports.

The monthly inflation reading, measured by the Consumer Price Index, hit a four-month high at 31.4% in September 2023 after reaching a six-dec-

ade high at 38% in May. Inflationary pressures are expected to slow down from January 2024 onwards. The latest rupee appreciation of 10.62% in the past 27 working days to over three-month high at Rs277.62/\$ is expected to encourage the government to make a deep cut in petroleum product prices in the upcoming fortnightly review for the second half of October.

### **India reviewing** floor price for basmati rice exports



News Desk

NEW DELHI: The Indian government said on Sunday it is actively reviewing the floor price it has set for basmati rice exports even as it continues to curb overseas shipments.

The decision comes after New Delhi, the world's biggest rice exporter, said on Saturday said it will maintain a \$1,200 per ton minimum export price (MEP) on basmati rice shipments, which was first imposed in August to calm local prices.

Saturday's move had raised concerns among

The government's Sunday statement said there was a general decline in prices as the new rice crop has started arriving and the minister for consumer affairs had met exporters who told the government the floor price was adversely affecting

Following the meeting, a review of the floor price "is under active consideration of the government," the statement said. The MEP aims to help

authorities ensure that non-basmati rice is not exported as basmati rice. India in July banned

exporters, who were worried exports of non-basmati about a sharp drop in ship- white rice and later imposed ments due to the govern- a 20% duty on exports of parboiled rice

#### Over 10.80m mobile phones made in Pakistan this year so far

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Around 10.87 million mobile handsets were locally manufactured or assembled during the first eight months of 2023 against a total of 0.84 million units imported commercially.

For the previous calendar year of 2022, the number stood at 21.94 million which was lower than 2021 when 24.66 million handsets for assembled or manufactured. This decline was a product of several reasons mainly attributed to issues in imports on account of restricting the opening of Letters of Credit (LCs).

Meanwhile, the number of imported handsets in the last calendar year was 1.53 million, according to the Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA).

As far as the current year

handsets are 2G with the remaining 3.04 million being smartphones. Currently, the PTA says,

56 per cent of mobile devic-

es are smartphones and 44 percent 2G on the Pakistan Mobile phone imports in Pakistan have witnessed a

staggering 76 percent surge during the first two months of the current fiscal year, according to the latest data released by the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS). The PBS data reveals that

in August 2023, mobile phone imports reached a substantial \$111.34 million, marking a remarkable 77 percent increase compared to the same month in 2022.

Similarly, July 2023 saw mobile phone imports amounting to \$68.13 million, reflecting a substantial 76 percent rise compared is concerned, 7.62 million to July of the previous year.

## Lifetime Cost of Public Servants

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE), A Premier National Think Tank's current study has investigated the burden that each newly recruited individual (ranging from Grade 1-22) brings on the national budget. However, politicians raise political slogans of offering public employment to substantial number of individuals, without acknowledging that Government's job is to create new opportunities and not offering jobs. However, politicians by providing employment opportunities to many individuals, especially within their own party or patronage network, politicians

period of thirty years.

Salary & Pension Expenditure (30 Years) fits (30 Years) 8.0 million 17.0 million 17 49.0 million 136 million can cultivate a base of support- that the sums of PKR 49, PKR

for them in elections.

**BPS** 

the study titled "Life time Cost of Public Servants", it is identified that the net present value of a Grade-1 employee hired in July 2023 would be PKR 8, 17, 27 million including salary & pension, perks & benefits and operating cost respectively. It has also been calculated

PKR 49, PKR 136, and PKR 245 million will be required by the state of Pakistan to afford a Grade-17 officer for a

Politicians by providing employment opportunities cultivate a base of supporters.

It is essential for governments to evaluate the long-term financial implications of immediate job creation and to find a balance between short-term benefits and sustainable fiscal policies.

ers who are more likely to vote 136, and PKR 245 million will be required by the state According to the findings of of Pakistan to afford a Grade-17 officer for a period of thirty years.

Salary & Other bene-

These sums represent what the State and Government of Pakistan will have to spend on a worker. This prompts the question of whether or not we have sufficient revenue streams to support the compensation for the next 30 years; if not, it's a good time to pause and consider the implications of adding a new worker to the system, given that the State of Pakistan and the government will be responsible for covering the cost through taxation.

Release issued from PIDE, it effects.

was said that to break free of its debt spiral, Pakistan needs long-term planning; salaries and pensions are a major expense for the institute, so PIDE has proposed being extra careful and cost-effective before deciding to keep an employee. This way, the institute can figure out how it can afford to pay the person for the rest of his or her working life.

Salary, benefits and

Operating Expenses (30 Years)

27.0 million

245 million

It is essential for governments to evaluate the longterm financial implications of immediate job creation and to find a balance between shortterm benefits and sustainable fiscal policies. While the creation of immediate jobs can have a good effect, it is equally important to note that rapid According to the Press job creation can have negative

#### IMF countries to boost funding by year-end

MARRAKECH: International Monetary Fund countries agreed on Saturday to a "meaningful increase" in the fund's lending resources by year-end as IMF Managing Director Kristalina Georgie-

va warned the Israel-Gaza conflict was adding to global economic uncertainty.

At a news conference following a meeting of the IMF's steering committee, chair Nadia Calvino did not disclose the terms of the increase in quota funding, but said it would ensure that the IMF was able to The final wording of a

statement was still being negotiated, according to a source familiar with the

'Comfortably placed': SBP chief says end-Sept targets with IMF met

It was unclear if the International Financial and Monetary Committee would endorse a widely backed US plan for countries to contribute new funds in proportion to their current shareholdings, which would delay any gains for China and other large, fast-growmaintain global financial ing emerging markets.

Monday, October 16, 2023

# Kazakhstan's Digital Bridge concluded with high hopes for the Central Asia future

Munir Ahmed

(Kazakhstan): Over twenty thousand participants from Kazakhstan, neighbouring countries and companies from the digitally developed world took keen interest in the two-day Digital Bridge 2023. The internal forum was organized by the Astana Hub and Kazakh Ministry of Digital and Space Technology here at the Astana International Expo Centre on 12-13 October.

The forum focused on the importance of "Artificial and Human Intelligence: The Right Balance" with the participation of remarkable personalities from different countries, founders and top managers of technology giants, entrepreneurial startup founders, scientists and students, striving to make the world a better place unitedly through dialogue and to inspire each

Over 250 speakers and more than 300 startups and 100 plus venture capital investors from fifteen countries made the forum an unpresented success. The leading Information Technology (IT) and Artificial Intelligence (AI) industry experts featured the Digital Bridge 2023 included the Venture Investor and co-founder of The Draper Fisher Jurvetson, and founder of the Draper University im Draper, the ICPC (International Collegiate Programming Contest) President Bill Poucher, Director of Barrat Media and an author James Barrat, TIKTOK CEO Shou Chew, film director, producer, screenwriter and tech entrepreneur Timur Bekmambetov, CEO and the co-founder kaspi.kz Mikhail Lomtadze, Freedom Holding Corporation CEO Timur Turlov, chairman of the board of Halyk Bank Umut Shayakhmetova, Kazakhstan minister of digital development, innovation and aerospace industry Bagdat Mussin, founder of the Youtube project d'billions Ernest Umetaliev, managing partner Quest Ventures James Tan, the Microsoft vice president of global market development, worldwide public sector Antonio de Palmas, the Kazakhtelecom chairman of the board Kuanyshbek Esekevey, venture partner Big Sky Capitals Julie Davila, the Draper University president Asra Nadeem, Kazpost JSC chairman of the board Assel Zhanassova, the Draper Associates partner Andrew Tang,

Kazakhstan President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev inaugurated the Digital Bridge 2023 with his futuristic hub in true sense for the Central Asia region in particular.

Tokayev highlighted the significant omy, such as the oil and gas industry, growth of the Digital Bridge Forum energy, agriculture, transport, and over the last five years. It has evolved into the largest platform in Central the transformation of our cities into Asia for discussing the latest trends fully-fledged smart cities, conducive to and prospects in the IT industry. This year, the forum brought together over 20,000 participants, including representatives from more than 300 IT



countries. This strong turnout demonstrates Kazakhstan's leading position as a digital and fintech hub in Eurasia. According to the President, the forum's theme is particularly relevant.

Artificial intelligence is no longer science fiction but a reality. A new era is starting right before our eyes. This revolutionary technology holds transformative power comparable to the impact Meta Security Engineer Renato Lima, of electricity and the Internet in their respective epochs. It has the potential to reshape lifestyles, automate work processes, and generate substantial economic value. Experts project that artificial intelligence could contribute an economic influence equivalent to a quarter of the global GDP, making its widespread adoption a pivotal catalyst for Kazakhstan's progressive development, said the Kazakh President.

In his view, it is imperative to create all the necessary conditions for the rapid development of artificial intelligence. Addressing the forum's participants, Kassym-Jomart Tokayev outlined the key priorities in this direc-

He said, "We must adopt a document regulating the use of AI to establish a nological progress. Our initial focus should be on introducing AI technol-In his speech, Kassym-Jomart ogies into sectors crucial for our econlogistics. AI can significantly optimize comfortable living and work. The widespread use of AI in public services is also of great importance. We've already achieved significant results, includ-

Card, which assesses citizens' social well-being and provides government support. A similar product should be introduced for businesses by Baiterek Holding, which, under my instructions, has already embarked on a large-scale digital transformation.

The President identified the second

priority as the need for AI regulation. He mentioned that more than 120 countries have already enacted various legislative measures to address this issue. "We should expedite the development of legislation that aligns with the best global practices, taking into account both market needs and citizens' interests. The legal framework should approach to make his country a digital sustainable path for our country's tech-encourage international companies to enter our market. Achieving a balance of interests and establishing open and fair rules of engagement is essential. The ultimate goal is to integrate AI into people's daily lives without infringing on their rights and freedoms. I hope that forum participants will contribute to the development of foundational documents in this area, including the draft Digital Code," the President emphasized.

He stressed the importance of

structure, asserting that advanced IT infrastructure is the cornerstone for the future progress of the digital industry, particularly in AI. "The development of IT infrastructure should precede the requirements of IT developers. We must enhance our computing power, and I instruct the Government to ensure the construction of data centers specializing in AI within two years. To achieve this, we can involve global players such as Amazon, Google, Mastercard, and Citigroup, with whom I've already held discussions during my recent trip to New York."

as the "fuel" for artificial intelligence. "Various solutions to big data have already been implemented in Kazakhstan. However, their potential remains largely untapped due to limited access to government data. It is crucial to ensure free access to anonymized data through Smart Data Ukimet. All information must be anonymized and securely protected to prevent any risks of personal data breaches. The National Artificial Intelligence Platform is set

gate data from the government and large businesses, ensuring their relevance and accessibility. These measures will enable our startups, using AI elements, to create entirely new IT solutions demanded both in Kazakhstan and worldwide."

Kassym-Jomart Tokayev announced upcoming reforms of the Bureau of National Statistics to transform it into a digital agency. "Comprehensive measures need to be taken for data organization, including the development of management policies and the establishment of a target data architecture. This will be a fundamental requirement for the state to make effective decisions."

Another vital driver for innovation is the full deployment of the 5G network. "We initially aimed to cover all regional centers with next-generation cellular communications by 2027. However, given the rapid pace of technological development, we must expedite this process, with the government completing it before the end of 2025. The change in the timeline should not nomads, particularly IT specialists. compromise service quality. Further- We're promoting innovative entre-Additionally, the President called for more, providing internet access to preneurship and the creative indusde development of a data ecosystem for residents in remote areas via low-or-try. I believe that the global techno-AI, emphasizing that big data serves bit satellite systems should be carefully logical revolution can contribute to considered, with potential adjustments to the legislation if required."

Adapting the education system to meet the future labor market's needs is another priority area. The President believes that automation and AI will significantly transform the global workforce structure, requiring entirely different skills. Therefore, new competencies need to be developed from an early age. To address the shortage of qualified teachers, Kassym-Jomart Tokayev companies and delegations from 30 ing the launch of the Digital Family continuously enhancing digital infra- to launch next year, which will aggre- proposed launching an online platform

for schoolchildren and students to learn

"It is essential to update the content and teaching methods for university subjects. Future professionals in fields like teaching, medicine, agriculture, law, and industry must have a fundamental understanding of artificial intelligence. Additionally, the Institute of Smart Systems and Artificial Intelligence at Nazarbayev University should transform into a full-fledged research institute, forming an integrated ecosystem in close collaboration with global and domestic IT industry leaders. The institute's developments must be commercialized and scaled effectively."

He also stressed the need to develop the venture capital market as a crucial catalyst for innovation and technological progress, saying: "We should attract international players to our venture market, leveraging their expertise and project quality assessment. Domestic institutional investors, including Baiterek Holding, could become key partners. Various financial institutions. such as second-tier banks, insurance companies, and microfinance organizations, should also participate in venture funds."

Kassym-Jomart Tokayev underscored that the use of artificial intelligence opens up new opportunities for inclusive and sustainable development. Global competition in this field is intensifying. "Kazakhstan should actively engage in these trends by combining the efforts of domestic IT specialists, experts, scientists, and collaborating with international partners. Furthermore, we must address the potential risks associated with AI surpassing human intelligence in the coming decades. The implications, whether they lead to humanity's prosperity or its potential demise, are still debated in scientific circles. Hence, controlling artificial intelligence becomes of paramount importance, similar to the need for a new paradigm of global security that emerged with the advent of nuclear energy and atomic weapons. Striking a balance between technological progress and collective security is essential."

The leader of Kazakhstan also discussed the deep modernization of the political system and the transition to an economy based on knowledge and new technologies. In Kazakhstan, every citizen will have opportunities for full self-realization. We're working to enhance people's welfare and create a welcoming environment for digital the progress of all nations, fostering a more balanced and equitable world. I am confident that this forum will serve as an effective platform for discussing these pressing issues and act as a launching pad for promising projects, Kassym-Jomart Tokayev concluded.

The writer is a freelance journalist and broadcaster, and Director Devcom-Pakistan. He can be reached. at devcom.pakistan@gmail.com and tweet @EmmayeSyed

# Italian Ambassador Mr. Andreas Ferrarese calls on CM Mohsin Naqvi

👺 Bureau Report

Andreas Ferrarese met with the Caretaker Chief Minister Punjab Mohsin Naqvi at Punjab House Islamabad in countries adding that time has arrived which matters pertaining to enhancing cooperation in culture, tourism and trade sectors were discussed.

great number of trade and cultural delegations were also discussed.

The Italian Ambassador while reiterating his resolve to continue his support the GSP+ status emphasized that Italy will continue its support for Pakistan for acquiring extension in the GSP+ status.

ian Ambassador on providing support LAHORE: Ambassador of Italy Mr. by Italy with regard to extension in the GSP+ status. Mohsin Naqvi remarked that Pakistan and Italy are best friendly to transform their friendship into a fruitful economic relationship.

CM highlighted that cultural and Steps with regard to exchanging a trade sectors are interlinked with each other adding that the Punjab government aspires to further enhance its collaboration with Italy in these sectors.

We welcome the Italian cooperation for Pakistan for acquiring extension in for imparting training to the Police Liaison Officers.

CM maintained that a proactive role by the Trade Commission holds

CM Mohsin Naqvi thanked the Italits significance for enhancing trade along with providing ease in acquiring

> CM apprised that we are launching a one window operation for the promotion of investment in Punjab adding that Italian investors should visit Punjab and we will provide them all possible facilitation.

> The Italian Ambassador while talking with CM informed that the Trade Commission has launched its working to enhance mutual trade adding that we are taking measures to provide ease in  $acquiring \ work \ visas.$

The Italian Ambassador vowed that cooperation in the cultural, tourism and trade sectors will be further promoted.



# Thrilling football match marks 40 years of Chevening Scholarships

👺 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The British Deputy High Commission (BDHC) and Chevening Alumni Association took the field on Saturday to mark the 40th anniversary of the Chevening Scholarship Programme. Celebrating the rich and expanding football culture of Karachi and strong sports ties between UK and Pakistan, the two teams competed in a mixed-gender football match at BDHC's football field.

sportsmanship from both sides, Chevening United beat BDHC united with a final score of 7 goals to 6. Suha Hirani was announced player of the match for her stunning performance.

Aliya Sadiq, Suha Hirani, Sanobar Sattar, Aliza Sabir, Emman Ahmed, and Sophiya Qureshi, players from Pakistan's national women's football team, also participated in the event. Emerging female footballers from Karachi's largest Football Club, Kara-After a captivating display of chi United also took part to



support the event and showcase their technical skills. The match celebrated the power of sports in promoting inclusivity and the transformative effect the Chevening scholarship programme has had in the past four decades. Since 1983, more than 2000 talented Pakistanis have been awarded this prestigious scholarship, and have gone on to become leaders in various fields, making substantial contributions to Pakistan's devel-

This year, Chevening scholar-

ships are also being offered by partners in the UK to enhance the sports ecosystem in Pakistan and help preserve its rich heritage and environment. To develop skills of future football coaches, Swindon Town Football Club is offering a one-year Master's degree in Football Coaching at Solent University and the University Campus of Football Business at Wembley Stadium. University of Essex is offering 2 scholarships in environmental sciences and heritage and museum studies.

The British Deputy High Commissioner, Sarah Mooney added"It is a privilege to bring together the diverse and accomplished Chevening alumni for today's commemorative football match, celebrating our 40-year iourney of academic excellence and international collaboration. With two new exciting scholarships offered in football coaching and heritage and climate change, Chevening will continue its legacy of empowering leaders and inspiring change."

# ICC World Cup 2023: Pakistan team reaches Bengaluru for Australia clash

LAHORE: Pakistan Men's cricket team landed in Bengaluru through a chartered plane from Ahmedabad on Sunday for their next ICC World Cup 2023 fixture against Australia, scheduled on Octo-

Upon their arrival, the Pakistan contingent will enjoy a rest day today while the details of their training sessions are not known vet.

Pakistan, currently sitting fourth in the ICC World Cup 2023 standings with four points in three matches, will lock horns with five-time champions Australia on Friday, who are on a four-match losing streak, two of which came in the ongoing tournament.

The green shirts, on the contrary, will be eyeing to bounce back from their seven-wicket thrashing against India on Saturday.

Rohit Sharma's quickfire 86 after a combined effort from the bowlers led India to a dominant victory against Pakistan. Chasing a modest total of 192, India comfortably steered to glory for the loss of just three wickets and 117 balls to

Indian captain Rohit Sharma gave



the hosts a head start by charging on

the Pakistan bowlers right from the start. He top-scored for India in the pursuit with a quickfire 63-ball 86 which featured six boundaries and as many

Shreyas Iyer took the reigns of India's pursuit after Rohit's dismissal and knitted a match-winning 36-run partnership with KL Rahul, who scored 19 not out.

Iver remained a notable contribu-

tor in India's pursuit with an unbeaten half-century. His 62-ball 53 featured three boundaries and two sixes.

Put into bat first, Pakistan could post 191 runs on the board despite their captain Babar Azam's half-century.

The former champions, at one stage, were looking in a strong position to amass the 300-run mark but a middle-order collapse, resulted in them bowling out at a meagre total.

Babar Azam remained the top-scorer for his side with 50 in 58 deliveries with the help of seven boundaries.

Wicketkeeper batter Mohammad Rizwan was the other notable run-getter for Pakistan with a 69-ball 49, hitting seven boundaries.

Pakistan squad for ICC World Cup

Babar Azam (c), Abdullah Shafique, Fakhar Zaman, Imam-ul-Haq, Iftikhar Ahmed, Mohammad Rizwan (wk). Shadab Khan, Mohammad Nawaz, Usama Mir, Haris Rauf, M Wasim Jnr, Hasan Ali, Shaheen Shah Afridi, Saud Shakeel, Salman Ali Agha.

Travelling reserves: Mohammad Haris, Abrar Ahmed, Zaman Khan

Pakistan's remaining ICC World Cup 2023 fixtures

October 20 - vs Australia in Bengaluru October 23 - vs Afghanistan in Chennai October 27 - vs South Africa in Chennai October 31 – vs Bangladesh in Kolkata November 4 - vs New Zealand Bengaluru (Day match)

November 11 – vs England in Kolkata The day matches will start at 10:00 am Pakistan Standard Time (PST) while all other matches will be day-night fixtures, starting at 01:30 pm (PST).

# Babar Azam celebrates birthday with teammates in Bengaluru

A Sports

BENGALURU: Pakistan's all-format captain Babar Azam celebrated his 29th birthday with teammates ahead of their ICC World Cup 2023 fixture against Australia, scheduled on October 20.

Babar Azam-led Pakistan's contingent reached here on Sunday evening via a chartered flight from Ahmedabad.

Briefly, after landing at Kempegowda International Airport, the team was taken to a local hotel, where the birthday celebrations of the star batter began.

Watch ICC World Cup 2023 Live on ARY ZAP

Taking to X. forme Twitter, the Pakistan Crick-



age of Babar Azam's birthday celebration

In the video, the Pakistan captain can be seen cutting a customized cake on his 29th birthday, accompanied by his teammates and the hotel

et Board (PCB) shared foot- [Babar Azam's] birthday at Cup 2022.

the team hotel in Bengaluru," rote PCB.

For the unversed, this was Babar's second straight birthday, which fell during an ICC tournament.

He celebrated his 28th birthday on the ICC Captains' "Celebrating our skipper" Day ahead of the T20 World matches while Australia are

Following a joint press conference ahead of the commencement of the mega event, all teams' skippers celebrated the Pakistan captain's birthday.

Babar was having a conversation with Scotland captain Richie Berrington when Australia's Aaron Finch surprised him with the birthday cake.

Meanwhile, Babar-led Pakistan, which succumbed to a seven-wicket thrashing against India, next face fivetime champions Australia on

The former champions currently sit fourth in the ICC World Cup 2023 standings with four points in three

#### Cambodian team training for FIFA WC qualifier



**Sports Desk** 

ISLAMABAD: The Cambodian team was training here at the Jinnah Stadium of the Pakistan Sports Complex in preparation for the home league of the FIFA World Cup 2026 Qualifier on October 17. The Cambodian football team reached Pakistan on Sunday for the FIFA World Cup 2026 Qualifier Home League against Pakistan. The Cambodian team was training at Jinnah Stadium under tight security after they were brought from the hotel to the stadium. The home league between Paki stan and Cambodia was scheduled on October 17 at the Jinnah Stadium.

## Italy cruise as Denmark edge towards Euro 2024 spot

Sports Desk

LAHORE: Reigning champions Italy eased to a 4-0 victory over Malta in Euro 2024 qualifying on Saturday, while Denmark strengthened their position and dented the hopes of outsiders Kazakhstan. Giacomo Bonaventura curled in his first

Italy goal and Domenico Berardi produced a fine strike of his own to double the lead

Berardi struck again in the second half before Davide Frattesi rounded off a comfortable evening for Luciano Spalletti's side who kept hold of second place in Group C of Euro 2024 qualifiers ahead of next week's showdown with England.

"That match is where we will really see how much potential we have," Spalletti told broadcaster RAI.

Italy, with a game in hand, closed to within three points of England going into their clash at Wembley.

"It will definitely be emotional, I have amazing memories from that stadium," said Berardi, who played in Italy's Euro 2020 shoot-out final win over England. "We'll go there trying to do what we did



today, play our own game and look to win.' Ukraine are level with Italy after a 2-0 win over North Macedonia in Prague.

Georgiy Sudakov put Ukraine ahead on 30 minutes and substitute Oleksandr Karavaiev sealed victory deep into stoppage time, ahead of their visit to Malta

Denmark avenged their shock loss to Kazakhstan in March as Robert Skov netted twice in a 3-1 win in Copenhagen.

Jonas Wind set the Danes, semi-finalists at Euro 2020, on their way before Skov scored a quick-fire double either side of

Vorogovskiy but they fell four points off the pace in Group H of Euro 2024 qualifiers.

"First of all, we must be happy about a victory in a European qualifier at home. It hasn't been plain sailing in this group," Denmark coach Kasper Hjulmand told broadcaster TV2.

"It was an extremely important home game, and we were forced to win. The pressure was there, and we got the victo-

ry we had to." Benjamin Sesko's brace powered Slovenia to a 3-0 win over Finland in Ljubljana. Sesko's first came from the penalty spot

and the RB Leipzig forward added another with a clinical finish, taking him to eight goals in his last 11 international appear-

Defender Erik Janza grabbed a late third for Slovenia, who lead Denmark at the top on goal difference. The two countries meet in Copenhagen on November 17.

Slovenia are away to Northern Ireland next week and Denmark will be almost certain to beat San Marino — losers in all but one of 82 previous Euro qualifiers.

Northern Ireland beat San Marino 3-0 Kazakhstan pulled one back via Yan for only their second win in seven outings.

# Azan Awais and Shahzaib Khan register centuries on first day of four-day game against Sri Lanka U19



Sports Desk

KARACHI: The solitary four-day match between Sri Lanka U19 and Pakistan U19 commenced today at the National Bank Stadium, Karachi. After winning the toss, Saad Baig elected to bat first against the visiting side in the one-off four-dayer. The hosts posted 319 runs in 90 overs and lost one wicket in the process.

Openers Shahzaib Khan and Azan Awais provided Pakistan Under-19 with an excellent start, amassing 228 runs for the first wicket. Azan scored 104 runs from 221 balls, including seven boundaries before getting out. He was dismissed by left-arm spinner Viswha Lahiru, the only wicket-taker for

Shahzaib, while displaying superb batting throughout the day, remained not out at stumps. He scored 152 from 263 balls, with his innings including 12 boundaries and one six. This is Shahzaib's second century in this format in the year as the opener also produced a remarkable knock during the tour of Bangladesh where he scored 174 runs (323b, 25x4s, 4x6s) in the solitary four-day match.

Saad also played a captain's innings and scored an unbeaten half-century. He made an undefeated 56 runs from 58 balls with the help of four boundaries and one six. These two players have so far added 91 runs for the second wicket.

Pakistan will look to bank on the solid foundation provided by the top-order to post a convincing first-innings total when they resume batting tomorrow.

Scores in brief:

Pakistan U19 (1st innings) 319-1 in 90 overs (Shahzaib Khan 152 not out, Azan Awais 104, Saad Baig 56 not out; Viswha Lahiru 1-52)

#### Erling Haaland poses threat to Spain's Euro qualifier dream



Spain's goalkeeper, Unai Simon, has underlined the vital role sprolific striker Erling Haaland as Spai gear up for a crucial Euro 2024 qualifier that could seal their spot in the tournament.

La Roja has an opportunity to secure their place in Euro 2024 with a win in Oslo, but standing in their way is the formidable presence of Erling Haaland and a desperate Norway eager for a victory to keep their own Euro dreams alive.

Haaland, who was sidelined due to injury when Spain defeated Norway 3-0 in March, made a triumphant return by scoring twice against Cyprus to revive Norway's Euro 2024

Unai Simon spoke at a press conference on Saturday, emphasizing the tremendous goal-scoring prowess of Erling Haaland. He stressed that Haaland's uncanny ability to find the back of the net from virtually any situation in the box makes him a constant threat, whether it's a header, a low shot, or with either foot.

Simon revealed Spain's game plan, which centers around keeping Haaland as far away from their goal as possible. If Haaland does manage to infiltrate their penalty area, Spain's strategy is to ensure he doesn't make contact with the ball, given his exceptional likelihood of scoring, said Simon.

Spain's coach, Luis de la Fuente, echoed Simon's sentiments, highlighting the need for his team to maintain unwavering focus to contain Haaland and other dangerous players on the

Martin Odegaard, Norway's playmaker, acknowledged Haaland's prowess by dubbing him the "best in the world" but also emphasized the collective strength of their team.

Erling Haaland's impact on the footballing world, particularly in the English Premier League, has been significant, and his presence remains a monumental challenge for Spain as they seek to guarantee their spot in Euro 2024.

The upcoming Sunday clash between Spain and Norway promises to be a high-stakes battle with all eyes on the dynamic Erling Haaland.

# ICC World Cup 2023 marks first upset as Afghanistan stun holders England

A Sports

NEW DELHI: Afghanistan registered a historic victory as they stunningly defeated defending champions England by 69 runs in the 13th match of the ongoing ICC World Cup 2023 on Sunday.

Set to chase 285, holders England could score 215 in response before being bundled out in the 41st over to hand Afghanistan the biggest victory in their World Cup history.

England got off to a dismal start to the run chase as they lost Jonny Bairstow (2) in the second over with just three runs on the board.

The reigning champions continued to sink into trouble as

they lost wickets at regular inter- and Mark Wood (18) only helped vals with their key batters Joe Root (11), David Malan (32), Jos Buttler (9) and Liam Livingstone (10) perishing with modest contributions. With half of their batters

returned to the dugout, England's hopes were tied on Harry Brook, who waged a lone battle for his side with a gutsy half-century.

His resilience, however, came to an end in the 35th over when Mujeeb got him caught behind and England slipped to 169/8.

Brook remained the top-scorer for England with a 61-ball 66, laced up with seven boundaries

Late contributions from Adil Rashid (20), Reece Topley (15),

England surpass the 200-run mark. Star Afghan spinners Mujeeb

Ur Rahman and Rashid Khan led the bowling charge for their side by picking up three wickets each while Mohammad Nabi bagged

Pacers Naveen-ul-Haq and Fazalhaq Farooqi had a wicket apiece to their names. After being put to bat, Afghan-

istan got off to a flying start with a 114-run opening stand, dominated by Rahmanullah Gurbaz. Ibrahim Zadran contributed a

mere 28 runs to the total before falling prey to Adil Rashid, who then sent Rahmat Shah back to the innings and played a gutsy the pavilion in the next over. knock of 58 runs from 66 deliv-

Rahmanullah Gurbaz who was playing at 80, was then ran out on the next ball, reducing Afghanistan to 122-3.

Gurbaz took only 57 balls to score 80, with the help of eight boundaries and four sixes.

England bowlers capitalized and kept things really tight to incite Afghanistan batters to make mistakes, resulting in them collapsing to 190-6 in the 37th

Ikram Alikhil and Rashid Khan (23) then joined hands to knit a 43-run stand to help Afghanistan recover, but Adil Rashid struck again to break the partnership.

Alikhil anchored through

played a brisk 28-run cameo to



eries, while Mujeeb Ur Rahman picked back-to-back wickets and push Afghanistan's total to 277. However, England bowlers

gave away only seven more runs for the last wicket to book Afghanistan to 284.

Adil Rashid led the bowling attack with three wickets, while Mark Wood picked up two wick-