

Daily The Spokesman

A Leading National Daily



فرمان رسول

ہم سے مولانا انور رحمان نے بیان کیا کہ انہوں نے اسلام آباد میں مسکن سے جا کر کہیں نے ثابت سے تاہم کہ ہم سے اس رخصی اللہ عزت نے بیان کیا کہ میں نے رسول اللہ صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم کی ہر سال تک خدمت کی لیکن آپ نے مجھے ایک نیک نہیں کہا اور نہ بھی یہ کہہ گا کہ میں کیوں کیا اور کہاں کام کیوں نہیں کیا۔

(پیشگی صفحہ نمبر 38) Barkat Rice Mills (Pvt) Limited

RAWALPINDI

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.

DAYS REMAINING

15

Only 15 days left for illegal immigrants to leave Pakistan

Foreigners 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 agencies will ensure their arrest and deportation. In the recent meeting of the Apex Committee of the National Action Plan, it had been decided to take strict action against the illegal immigrants living in Pakistan and the trade and properties of illegal immigrants.

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Called on

ISLAMABAD: The Caretaker Chief Minister of the Punjab Mohsin Naqvi calls on the Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Sunday.



Photo: PID

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



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 president added.

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

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, he added.

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



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 highlighted during the upcoming

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 Oct 17 and 18.

Jilani was of the view that the CPEC (China-Pakistan Econom-

ic Corridor) would contribute to prosperity of countries in the region.

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 documents.

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 said the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Pakistan had very close rela-

tions and coordinated positions 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 matches.

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.

Caretaker PM takes notice of purchase price of cotton crop

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



said in a press release.

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

ISLAMABAD: 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 bolstering 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 defence challenges.

Massive voter registration drives underway for upcoming General Elections

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 this year.

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.

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 Sunday.

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.

Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh met 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.

Solidarity

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



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 outcome.

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 diplomatic contacts between Iran and Saudi Arabia.

"Now, it's our turn to contribute

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 uniting in support of the Palestinians.

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

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 impact of the CPEC on their lives.

The people had immensely benefited from various CPEC projects such as Orange Train in Lahore, Thar Coal in Sindh and Gawadar in Balochistan, he added.

Talking about the establishment of Special Investment Facilitation Council by Pakistan to 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 mining, agriculture, IT and other sectors.

He said enhancement of geographical linkages through improved road, rail and air transportation system would boost frequent people-to-people contacts and enhance understanding through academic linkages.

The higher volume of trade and businesses would result into integrated development which would eventually

promote, harmony and sustainable development, he added.

"CPEC is the journey towards economic growth in the globalized world", he maintained.

Chinese ambassador to Pakistan Jiang Zaidong expressed his country's readiness to further promote CPEC in partnership with Pakistan, adding "We are ready to work with our Pakistani colleagues from all walks of life to further promote the projects in the next ten years of CPEC."

"What was agreed between President Xi Jinping and the Pakistani leaders for a high-quality sustainable and

enhanced cooperation and support in the fields of security and development, we can implement with mutual consensus", he said.

The ambassador was of the view that Pakistan and China could jointly jointly make the CPEC, a corridor of love and peace.

He said that mutual cooperation in new fields such as industry, 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.

Foreign Secretary, Syrus Qazi while speaking on the occasion observed that China-Pakistan Economic Corridor or CPEC, as the flagship project of President Xi's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), was the emblem of Pakistan-China strategic cooperation.

He said the CPEC symbolized coordinated efforts of our two countries to bring our economic and trade ties at par with our excellent political rela-

tions.

"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 Nowshera maintained that the proposed Special Economic Zone at Rashakai under the CPEC had made this area a central point not only for national but also the regional trade.

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 observed.

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

News Desk

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) Committee, Ambassador Usman Iqbal Jadoon, Deputy permanent representative of Pakistan to the UN, the principle of universal jurisdiction, in



fact, was a call for the cessation of impunity, to ensure that jurisdictional loopholes are not exploited as a means to dodge justice. (The principle of universal jurisdiction allows any state to investigate

and prosecute people for serious international crimes even if they were committed in another country.) Participating in a debate on "The scope and application of the principle of Universal Jurisdiction,

the Pakistani envoy said this 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 have international repercus-

sions, Jadoon said. Obligations 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 have elapsed since Pakistan's creation,

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 Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chairman for not adhering to the IMF conditions.

Hamza acknowledged that Pakistan might have faced financial ruin if not 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

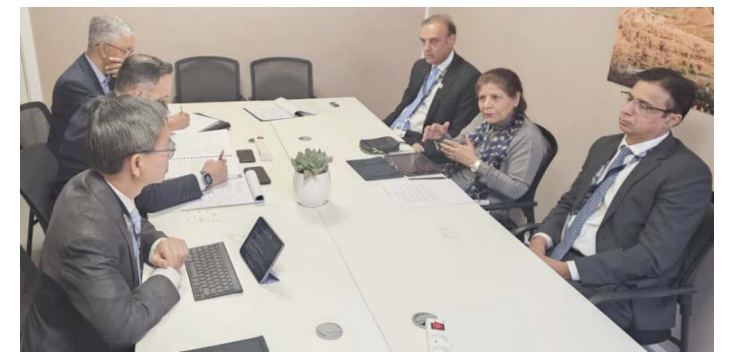
PML-N government's tenure.

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.

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 proven against them.

Finance Minister holds meeting with S&P Global



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 agency.

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

City Desk

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 Turbat.

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. During the operation, his associate - identified as Maqsood - was also killed.

The security forces also seized a 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 injuries.

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 terror activities, especially in KP and Balochistan, after the outlawed Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) 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.



Kiran Asim

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

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

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

a very tragic incident. Former Prime Minister and Senator Syed Yousaf Raza Gillani said that this incident is a sinister conspiracy to disrupt the peace and order situation in the country. I express my condolences to the families of the martyred workers, I am with the bereaved families in this diffi-

cult time of sorrow and grief. We demand from the provincial government of Balochistan that the bodies of the martyrs should be brought to Shujaabad as soon as possible. He further added that the security forces should investigate the incident and locate the terrorists.

Nursing Service is a Field of Humanity: Balighur Rehman



Kiran Asim

MULTAN: The first convocation of Nishtar College of Nursing was held under the chairmanship of Governor Punjab Muhammad Balighur 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 Balighur 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 Balighur 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



Kiran Asim

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. Naem Shahid

In charge RIB Jalil Imran Ghalzai. Well-known political leader Malik Anwar Ali. Social leader Rao Abdul Qayyum Shaheen. Professor Abdul Majid Vato. Inspector-in-charge Gaddafi Inspector Muhammad Imran, Traffic Education Unit and other traffic staff. Anjuman 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.

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 Palestine Rally" organized



under Jamaat-e-Islami Multan. The Palestine Rally started from Daulat Gate Chowk and reached Lohari Gate in which women, students, lawyers and various political and social organizations participated. The representatives of Israel also participated, the participants, a remedy for Israel, Al-Jihad Al-Jihad, related to the Palestinians, Laa-il-Allah Allah, the call of

Al-Maqdis, Al-Jihad Al-Jihad, shouted fierce slogans from the Palestine rally, in addition to Naib Amra District, Hafiz Aslam, Engineer Atif Imran and others, also addressed. The workers of JI Youth, Islami Jamiat Talaba Multan participated in the rally under the leadership of General Secretary Jamiat South Punjab, workers of Jamiat Talaba Arabia also participated. Dr. Safdar Hash-

mi added. 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 survival of the Ummah. This series has started with the Battle of

Badr 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 Hashmi said that

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

Xinhua

NEW YORK: Historians will hail the China-proposed Belt and Road Initiative (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 tracking the BRI literally from its start.

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 unequalled experience and competitive advantages in constructing infrastructure which developing countries need the most.

"So the Belt and Road Initiative is the foundation to build infrastructure in countries. No country in the world has anywhere near the experience and success that China has in build-



ing infrastructure: rail, high speed rail, 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) the people (in) the country. So this is the most significant, all the other initiatives can be built on top of the Belt and Road," he said.

More importantly, the BRI is sustainable as the win-win cooperation model spearheaded by China and BRI partners has delivered tangible 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.

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

Xinhua

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 country has "an attitude of great respect for others; 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 2013.

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 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," he said.

Noting that the bond between Argen-



tina and China "is very important," Fernandez said he has "a particular gratitude towards China."

China has done many things for

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 other issues."

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.

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

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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

The 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, Saturday.

"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 slowdown," Director General of National

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 million dollars), Egypt (492.04 million



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

dollars), and the Philippines (343.22 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

numbers soaring from \$6.06 billion in 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 vision.

The transactions recorded at the 2022 TEI showcased the diverse potential of Indonesia's trade landscape. The majority of the transactions, totaling \$15.28 billion, were related to the

exchange of goods. This highlights 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.

One of the notable achievements of 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 contributor, 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 player 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 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

For 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, combining both online and onsite components, known as "TEI Hybrid Edition".

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-



ience". It aims to promote high-quality 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 price.

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 exporters.

Expect China to be main buyer at trade expo: Ministry

Director general of 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 on Thursday (October 5, 2023). The ministry is aiming for total transactions worth US\$11 billion at the expo, he said.

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 once again occupy an important position at Trade Expo Indonesia," he said at a press conference on the exhibition at the Trade Ministry's office in Jakarta on Thursday.

According to the official, China absorbs a significantly high number of Indonesian export products. The East Asian country regularly 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 a memorandum of understanding during the trade event.

Countries from the Middle East, he continued, are also expected to record numerous transactions at the event, especially following the finalization of the Indonesia-UAE Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (IUAE-CE-PA).

"This (IUAE-CE-PA) provides both countries with 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

until December 18.

exported goods worth more than \$4 billion to Pakistan since 2021. Present on the occasion, HCSTSI President Muhammad Farooq Shaikhani pointed out that Pakistan's export to Indonesia is only \$180 million.



Indonesia invites Pakistani businesses to 38th Trade Expo

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

Indonesia Consul General at Karachi, Dr June Kuncoro Hadiningrat has invited Hyderabad business community to attend 38th Trade Expo Indonesia which

will start in his country from October 18.

Speaking at Hyderabad Chamber of Small Traders and Small Industry (HCSTSI) on Tuesday, the diplomat assured that a three-day visa

processing time is being ensured for the expo visitors which will continue for five days. According to him, seven prominent products of Indonesia, including food and beverage; home living, digital services, beauty

and personal care, chemical, energy and industrial products; medical equipment and healthcare; fashion and textile accessories, would be put on display on the occasion.

He expressed hope that the expo

would boost trade, tourism and investment between the businessmen of Pakistan and Indonesia.

Hadiningrat noted that with the bilateral trade agreement between the two countries, Indonesia has

exported goods worth more than \$4 billion to Pakistan since 2021. Present on the occasion, HCSTSI President Muhammad Farooq Shaikhani pointed out that Pakistan's export to Indonesia is only \$180 million.

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What is the end goal?

The 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 Arabia?

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 world.

US Secretary of State Anthony Blinken 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".

The British member of parliament 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 is, us

We will give a statement on the Israeli 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 deployment 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.

Let's talk about the reasons behind

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 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 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 740 AD.

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 be martyred by an unnamed rocket or 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 reaction, Iran, Iraq and Turkey will be attacked

Urgent call for civilians' protection in GAZA

As 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 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."



Analysis

Kiran Asim



Cartoon by Amjad Rasmi. (Courtesy of Ashraf Al-Azcat)

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

The motorways and other road 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 the Orange Line Metro Train in Lahore, have already been operational. Furthermore, initiatives like the Main Line-I (ML-I) railway upgrade project and developments in Gwadar, including the New Gwadar International Airport, the Pak-China Friendship Hospital, Gwadar East Bay Expressway, and the Gwadar Technical & Vocational Institute, have further enhanced regional connectivity and economic prospects.

Gwadar, Pakistan's deep-sea port on the Arabian Sea, is a key component of CPEC and has the potential to become a major regional trade and transit hub. Extensive investments in Gwadar port and associated infrastructure, including roads, railways, and pipelines, are increasing connectivity and facilitating trade with neighboring nations, such as China, Iran, and Afghanistan.

CPEC has already achieved remarkable progress in the energy sector, with the

completion of eleven power projects totaling over 6,370 MW.

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

CPEC is now in its second phase, focusing on socioeconomic development, science and 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 encompasses

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 as with other nations through trade exhibitions and business forums. In future, both BRI and CPEC are likely to continue development and expansion. The BRI is expected to continue expanding

into more regions and countries. China has expressed its intent to strengthen economic ties with nations along the BRI routes, further deepening economic cooperation and connectivity. China has shown interest in addressing concerns related to debt sustainability, transparency, and environmental impacts, aiming to improve the reputation 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 prospects of not just bilateral success but global cooperation and prosperity.

'Sociological Evolution: Unraveling the Threads of Change'

Niamat ullah Harifal

The emergence of modern sociological theory finds its roots in the intricate tapestry of societal dynamics beginning in the 17th century. The 1700s witnessed the dawn of 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'tomized by the era of Marx, Nietzsche, Max Weber, and Darwin in the 18th century and the 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 radical movements.

The nexus between industrialization, capitalism, 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 movements 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-revolutionaries. Science and scientists became catalysts 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

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

Munir Ahmed

Astana (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 other.

Over 250 speakers and more than 300 startups and 100 plus venture capital investors from fifteen countries made the forum an unprecedented 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 Jim 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 kspi.kz Mikhail Lomtadze, Freedom Holding Corporation CEO Timur Turlov, chairman of the board of Halyk Bank Umut Shayakhmetova, Meta Security Engineer Renato Lima, Kazakhstan minister of digital development, innovation and aerospace industry Bagdat Mussin, founder of the Youtube project d'billions Ernest Umetaliyev, 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 Esekeyev, 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 approach to make his country a digital hub in true sense for the Central Asia region in particular.

In his speech, Kassym-Jomart Tokayev highlighted the significant growth of the Digital Bridge Forum over the last five years. It has evolved into the largest platform in Central Asia for discussing the latest trends and prospects in the IT industry. This year, the forum brought together over 20,000 participants, including representatives from more than 300 IT companies and delegations from 30



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 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 direction.

He said, "We must adopt a document regulating the use of AI to establish a sustainable path for our country's technological progress. Our initial focus should be on introducing AI technologies into sectors crucial for our economy, such as the oil and gas industry, energy, agriculture, transport, and logistics. AI can significantly optimize the transformation of our cities into fully-fledged smart cities, conducive to comfortable living and work. The widespread use of AI in public services is also of great importance. We've already achieved significant results, including the launch of the Digital Family



Card, which assesses citizens' social well-being and provides government support. A similar product should be introduced for businesses by Baitek 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 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 continuously enhancing digital infra-

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."

Additionally, the President called for the development of a data ecosystem for AI, emphasizing that big data serves 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 to launch next year, which will agree-

for schoolchildren and students to learn coding.

"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 Baitek 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 nomads, particularly IT specialists. We're promoting innovative entrepreneurship and the creative industry. I believe that the global technological revolution can contribute to 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.

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Italian Ambassador Mr. Andreas Ferrarese calls on CM Mohsin Naqvi

Bureau Report

LAHORE: Ambassador of Italy Mr. Andreas Ferrarese met with the Caretaker Chief Minister Punjab Mohsin Naqvi at Punjab House Islamabad in which matters pertaining to enhancing cooperation in culture, tourism and trade sectors were discussed.

Steps with regard to exchanging a great number of trade and cultural delegations were also discussed.

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

CM Mohsin Naqvi thanked the Italian Ambassador on providing support by Italy with regard to extension in the GSP+ status. Mohsin Naqvi remarked that Pakistan and Italy are best friendly countries adding that time has arrived to transform their friendship into a fruitful economic relationship.

CM highlighted that cultural and 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 imparting training to the Police Liaison Officers.

CM maintained that a proactive role by the Trade Commission holds

its significance for enhancing trade along with providing ease in acquiring work visas.

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.

After a captivating display of

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, Karachi 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 development.

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 journey 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."

