

Muslim rulers must provide military aid to Palestinians in Gaza: Sirajul Haq

Thousands attended the Jamaat-e-Islami (JI) led Gaza Solidary March in Islamabad as Israeli occupation forces intensified aggression against the Palestinians. JI Pakistan Ameer Sirajul Haq and several political and religious leaders addressed the Gaza Solidarity March. (Details on Page 8)

A Leading National Daily



Daily The Spokesman

RAWALPINDI

فرمان رسول ﷺ
اے اللہ! میں نے تجھ سے کہا کہ رسول اللہ صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم نے فرمایا کہ میں نے اللہ کے حکم سے نبی بن گیا ہوں اور اللہ کے حکم سے آپس میں جہاد ہے۔ میں نے کہا کہ اللہ کے حکم سے نبی بن گیا ہوں اور اللہ کے حکم سے آپس میں جہاد ہے۔ میں نے کہا کہ اللہ کے حکم سے نبی بن گیا ہوں اور اللہ کے حکم سے آپس میں جہاد ہے۔

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DAYS REMAINING

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Only one day left for illegal immigrants to leave Pakistan

Foreign citizens residing illegally in Pakistan now have only one day 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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Israeli aggression

More than a dozen people, including pregnant woman, killed in Israeli airstrikes on Gaza city



Photo: Online

Israel pounds Gaza as UN warns order 'starting to break down'

Agencies

GAZA: Israel pounded Gaza with more air and ground attacks Sunday in an escalating military campaign as the UN warned civil order was "starting to break down" in the besieged Palestinian territory.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu steered the nation for a "long and difficult war" ahead in a late-night televised address as the Red Cross voiced shock at the "intolerable level of human suffering" inside Gaza.

More than three weeks on from the October 7 attacks, Israel has intensified the war despite UN calls for a humanitarian ceasefire, outrage across the Muslim world and desperate pleas from families of the 230 hostages to "bring them home".

The ground operations have heightened fears that other countries — the Iran-allied "axis of resistance" forces in Lebanon as well as Syria, Iraq and Yemen — could get involved in the conflict.

After weeks of heavy bombardment of Gaza, the health ministry said has claimed over 8,000 lives,

the army said "stage two" of the war started with ground incursions since late Friday.

Israel's military said early Sunday that it had struck another 450 Hamas targets within the past 24 hours, and that it was increasing the number of ground forces in Gaza.

"As part of the expansion of ground activities, combined combat forces struck terrorist cells that attempted to attack the forces," it added, reporting that two Israeli soldiers were wounded, one severely by a mortar shell. Netanyahu said Saturday that "this is the second stage of the war whose goals are clear: Destroying the military and leadership capabilities of Hamas, and bringing the hostages back home."

He vowed to "eradicate" Hamas "for the sake of our existence".

Panic and fear have surged inside Gaza, where over one million people are displaced, and where communications went dark for days after Israel cut internet lines, although connectivity had gradually returned early Sunday.

Inside Gaza, where petrol and

diesel have virtually run out, donkey cart driver Raafat Najjar told AFP that "there are no cars, we transport (people) on carts as there's no fuel."

The UN agency for Palestinian refugees said Sunday that "thousands of people broke into several UNRWA warehouses and distribution centres in the middle and southern areas of the Gaza Strip, taking wheat flour and other basic survival items like hygiene supplies."

"This is a worrying sign that civil order is starting to break down after three weeks of war and a tight siege on Gaza. People are scared, frustrated and desperate."

'Catastrophic consequences'

Mirjana Spoljaric, president of the International Committee of the Red Cross, voiced shock at the "intolerable level of human suffering" in Gaza and urged all sides to de-escalate the conflict.

"This is a catastrophic failing that the world must not tolerate."

Hamas authorities reported Sunday that a "large number" of people were killed overnight in strikes on two refugee camps in northern Gaza.

Defence Minister Yoav Gallant has said Israel was attacking "above the ground and below", alluding to Hamas's sprawling tunnel network.

Israeli fighter jets again dropped leaflets over Gaza City on Saturday, warning residents that the northern area was now a "battlefield" and they should "evacuate immediately".

Israeli military spokesman Daniel Hagari reiterated that Palestinian civilians should go south "to a safer area where they can receive water, food and medicine".

He vowed — after 84 aid trucks were allowed to enter the territory in recent days — that "the humanitarian efforts to Gaza, led by Egypt and the United States, will be expanding".

As Israel sends troops and tanks further into Gaza, analysts caution of possible fallout threatening the entire Middle East, with Iran-backed Hezbollah opening a new front on the Lebanese border.

Israel's ally the United States has sternly warned Israel's enemies not to get involved, a warning underscored by two

aircraft carrier battle groups it has moved to the eastern Mediterranean off Israel and Lebanon.

A UN peacekeeper was injured Saturday by shelling in south Lebanon, the mission's spokesman said, hours after reporting a hit at its headquarters as Israel-Lebanon border skirmishes intensify.

Iran's President Ebrahim Raisi warned Sunday in a message on X, formerly Twitter, that Israel's "crimes have crossed the red lines, which may force everyone to take action."

"Washington asks us to not do anything, but they keep giving widespread support to Israel. The US sent messages to the Axis of Resistance but received a clear response on the battlefield."

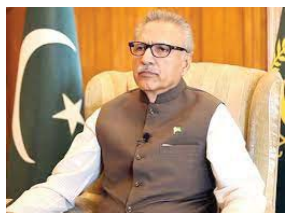
Anger has flared across the region against Israel and its Western allies, including in countries Israel has diplomatic relations with.

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, addressing hundreds of thousands of pro-Palestinian demonstrators in Istanbul on Saturday, charged that "the main culprit behind the massacre unfolding in Gaza is the West".

President concedes with families of martyred troops

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: President Dr. Arif Alvi on Sunday expressed condolences to the families of the martyrs of the Pakistan Army over telephone. The president spoke to the families of the soldiers over phone who were martyred in North and South Waziristan on October 16 and 18. He paid tribute to Sepoy Abdul Hameed, Lance Naik Tabassum-ul-Haq, and Sepoy Naem Akhtar. President Alvi also paid tribute to Lance Naik Waris Khan and Sepoy Sajid Azim in a tele-



phonic conversation with their families. He saluted on behalf of the the nation to the martyred for their services and sacrifices for the country. The president offered heartfelt condolences to the families and prayed for grant of patience to bear the loss with equanimity.

300 Unit of Electricity Free for Middle Class: Aleem Khan

Istehkam Pakistan Party First Public Meeting Held in Jahanian: Jahangir Treen



Asim Tanveer/ Waqar Paracha

KHANEWAL: The Istehkam Pakistan Party organized the first public Meeting show in Tehsil Jahanian of Khanewal in connection with the upcoming General elections. Addressing the election campaign, Jahangir Khan Tareen said, unfortunately none of our dreams could be fulfilled. After coming to power, Imran Khan sidelined us one by one.

Addressing the Public meeting Jahangir Khan Tareen said that I thank all the people who participated in the first meeting of the istehkam Pakistan Party.

Ten years ago, while addressing the people, we had to say that we had come together to make a better Pakistan, but now

Pakistan will improve. Farmers will be strong, that was our plan. Unfortunately, none of our dreams could come true. After coming to power, Imran Khan sidelined us one by one. New people came to our place in Tehreek-e-Insaf. Jahangir Khan Tareen said during the meeting that Now we are all coming

together so that people get relief from deprivation.

A huge public meeting of the istehkam Pakistan Party was held in the cricket ground of Tehsil Jahanian in District Khanewal.

The First Public meeting started with the recitation of the Holy Quran. Aleem Khan while addressing the General Public meeting said that we are starting the journey of the Istehkam Pakistan Party from Jahanian and Ayaz Niazi, congratulations to Karam Dad Wahla on a successful public meeting.

Aleem Khan asked the people to show proof of being in the pandal by hoisting the flags. Ten days ago, Jahangir Tareen and I decided to participate fully in politics.

Labor's basic salary will be 50 thousand, Aleem Khan further said that the promises made by him will be fulfilled.

Imran Khan wasted Jahangir Khan Tareen and will support the poor in every way by coming to power We will give ownership rights to the people of slums; our team will make Pakistan prosperous under the leadership of Jahangir Tareen.

Maulana Tariq Jameel's son Asim Jameel dies from gunshot wound

Asim Tanveer/ Waqar Paracha

KHANEWAL:

Asim Jameel, the son of renowned religious scholar Maulana Tariq Jameel, was killed in firing.



He was taken to Talumba Rural Health Center in a critical condition, but he could not be revived. According to the police, the investigation of the incident is ongoing.

Police said that Asim Jameel was shifted to Talumba Hospital in an injured condition, but he could not survive. Police cannot say whether it is a murder or suicide until the evidence and forensic report is compiled.

Taking notice of the incident, IG Punjab Dr. Usman Anwar ordered DPO Khanewal to determine the cause of death in the light of evidence and forensic report. Maulana Tariq Jameel confirmed the news in a statement on social media platform X. While doing this, he wrote that my son Asim Jameel has died in Talamba District Khanewal.

Motorcycle entry banned in Islamabad's high security zone

Naveed Ahmad Khan

ISLAMABAD: The federal caretaker government has banned entry of motorcycles in the high-security zone of Islamabad. According to sources, the capital city administration and police have decided to ban the entry of motorcycles in Islamabad from November 1.

Sources said that motorcycles will be parked in Convention Centre and the shuttle service will be operational from Convention Centre into High Security Zone.

The decision was taken to control the traffic flow in Islamabad's high security zone meanwhile the citizens can use alternate routes to and from Bari Imam.

Yesterday, Islamabad Jamaat-e-Islami (JI) chief along with other party workers protesting against Israel's brutality in Gaza Strip were picked up amid clashes between police and protesters at capital's Serena Chowk.

Ji Islamabad chief Nasrullah Randhawa, spokesperson Aamir Baloch, Kashif Chaudhry among others were picked up amid clashes between police and protesters



on Serena Chowk where the law enforcers fired into the air and resorted to teargas shelling to disperse the people.

The protesters also pelted stones at the police in response to baton-charged and teargas shelling. The religious party accused the law enforcers of trying to stop the protest, organizers against Israel's brutality in Gaza strip.

It is pertinent to mention here that JI will begin its protest rally from Abpara

Chowk in Islamabad, in solidarity with Gaza strip where Palestinians facing an incessant bombardment from the occupation forces of Israel.

The administration has not allowed entry of the rally participants to the Srinaagar Highway, high-security zone.

A convoy of the party has left Peshawar to participate in the rally. A convoy comprises of 30 vehicles has reached motorway interchange.

Punjab to approve budget for next four months today

Bureau Report

LAHORE: Punjab caretaker Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi has convened a meeting of the provincial cabinet tomorrow (Monday).

The cabinet will approve the budget for the next four months of the ongoing financial year 2023-24.

Provincial ministers, advisers to the CM, chief secretary, inspector general of police, Punjab, Planning and Board chairman, secretaries of the concerned ministries and other senior officials will attend the meeting.

Earlier in June, the caretaker Punjab government approved budget for the first

four months of the financial year 2003-24.

The government planned to release the four-month budget under the relevant clause of the Constitution with the signatures of the caretaker chief minister as it lacks the authority to approve a full-year budget in the absence of an elected government.

In the absence of the provincial assembly, the presentation of the finance bill remains pending.

An overall allocation of Rs1,719.3 billion has been made for the four-month period. The budget for the fiscal year 2022-23 amounted to Rs3,206.4 billion.

Gaza March

ISLAMABAD Amir Jamaat-e-Islami Pakistan Sirajul Haque addressing the participants of the Gaza March.



Photo: APP

Muslim rulers must provide military aid to Palestinians in Gaza: Sirajul Haq

Naveed Ahmad Khan

ISLAMABAD: Thousands attended the Jamaat-e-Islami (JI) led Gaza Solidarity March in Islamabad as Israeli occupation forces intensified aggression against the Palestinians.

JI Pakistan Ameer Sirajul Haq and several political and religious leaders addressed the Gaza Solidarity March which was scheduled to be staged before the US Embassy, however, the authorities

blocked the routes citing security concerns.

The administration has not allowed entry of the rally participants to the Srinagar Highway, a high-security zone. Later, the JI staged its protest at Aabpara Chowk.

The participants of the public rally also heard the special message of the Hamas top leader Ismail Haniyeh.

JI Ameer Sirajul Haq said that they stand side-by-side with the Muslims in Gaza. He said that JI announced to

hold a protest before the US Embassy but the US deputy secretary of the state contacted the Pakistani rulers to stop the protest.

He said that JI workers faced police baton charge and arrests before the protest. Haq announced to continue the series of protests against the Israeli barbaric moves against Palestinians across the country until an end to the war.

Sirajul Haq announced to organise a million march in Lahore on November 19.

JI Gaza Solidary March, Palestine March, JI Palestine March, Sirajul Haq, Jamaat-e-Islami

The JI chief blamed the Muslim rulers for not fulfilling their responsibilities towards the Palestinians. He slammed the silence of the international community over the illegal occupation of Israel on Palestinian land, the martyrdom of over 250,000 Palestinians and the targeting of hospitals in Gaza.

Sirajul Haq said that

Muslim rulers have a duty to save Gaza people and provide military and humanitarian aid to the Palestinians. The JI chief said that Pakistani nation donated over Rs1 billion to the Palestinians.

He said that Hamas fighters proved that war cannot be won by the technology and advanced weaponry but by the power of faith. He added that the Muslim rulers would be held accountable by their people if they failed to help Palestinians in Gaza.

Death toll in Gaza crosses 8,000, half of them children

Agencies

GAZA: The Gaza health ministry has said that more than 8,000 had been killed in the Palestinian territory since the start of the current conflict with Israel on October 7.

"The death toll linked to the Israeli aggression is past 8,000, half of whom are children," the ministry told AFP.

Internet connectivity in the Gaza Strip is being restored, the global network monitor Netblocks said Sunday, almost two days after it was cut off during heavy Israeli bombardment.

An AFP employee in Gaza City said shortly after 4am (0200 GMT) that he could use the internet and had managed to contact people in southern Gaza by phone.

Internet and phone access had been cut off across



Gaza since Friday, as Israel bombarded the territory.

Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has said that fighting inside the Gaza Strip will be "long and difficult", as Israeli ground forces continue operations in the

Palestinian territory for more than 24 hours.

"The war in the [Gaza] Strip will be long and difficult and we are prepared for it," Netanyahu told a news conference after meeting families of hostages held in

Gaza since October 7.

Qatar-mediated negotiations between Israel and Hamas aimed at de-escalating fighting in Gaza continued on Saturday, a source briefed on the negotiations said, even as Israel intensi-

fied its assault on the enclave.

Talks have not broken down, but are taking place at a "much slower pace" than before the escalation on Friday evening, the source told Reuters, speaking on condition of anonymity due to the sensitivity of negotiations.

Gaza's besieged people had barely any communications with the outside world on Saturday as Israeli jets dropped more bombs on the Hamas-ruled Palestinian enclave and military chiefs said a long-threatened ground offensive was gearing up.

Qatar has been conducting behind-the-scenes diplomacy for more than three weeks, speaking to Hamas officials and Israel to promote peace and secure the release of more than 200 hostages Hamas and other armed groups are holding in Gaza.

Pakistani companies set to participate in Heimtextil exhibition

News Desk

FRANKFURT: Several Pakistan companies will participate in the Global Heimtextil Exhibition 2024, the world's leading trade exhibition for home textiles, to be held in Frankfurt, Germany.

New international contacts, inspiring business encounters, and intensive networking—Heimtextil 2024, will take place in Frankfurt am Main from January 9-12, 2024.

With over 2,600 exhibitors participating, demand exceeds the number of exhibitors at the previous event, organiser Messe Frankfurt said in a press release.

"Heimtextil provides a bundled and therefore efficient market overview of all global trends in the home and contract textiles industry on a central platform over four days. In 2024, we are pleased to be able to intensify this experience with the launch of the new Carpets & Rugs product segment and an increased number of exhibitors," said Olaf Schmidt, vice president, textiles and textile technologies.

The top four exhibiting nations of Asian Excellence and Asian Selection are China/Hong Kong, Pakistan, India, and Bangladesh.

At Heimtextil 2024, a realignment of all sustainable formats of the worldwide Texpertise Network will be launched with Economy.

Gaza under blackout as Israel attacks 'everywhere'

Reuters

GAZA: Gaza's besieged people had barely any communications with the outside world on Saturday as Israeli jets dropped more bombs.

Israel said troops sent in on Friday night were still in the field whereas previously it had made only brief sorties during three weeks of bombing to destroy Hamas whom it said killed 1,400 Israelis.

"We attacked above the ground and under ground, we attacked terror operatives of all ranks, everywhere," Defence Minister Yoav Gallant said.

Though there is no indication as yet of a ground invasion en masse, Israel is telling Gaza's 2.3 million people to move away from the north where it says Hamas is hiding under civilian buildings. Palestinians say nowhere is safe, with bombs also smashing homes in the south of the densely populated territory.

Gaza's phone and internet services have been almost completely cut since Friday evening, which the Palestinian Red Crescent blamed on Israel. The Israeli military did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Aid agencies say a humanitarian catastrophe is unfolding for Gazans who are under a total Israeli blockade. Health authorities in the territory said 7,650 Palestinians have been killed since Israel's bombardment began.

The head of the World Health Organization, Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, said the blackout was blocking ambulances and evacuations of patients and denying people safe shelter.

He and other aid agencies said they could not contact their staff, but a representative from the International Committees of the Red Cross and Red Crescent in Gaza got an audio message out.

William Schomburg said medics were working around the clock while also dealing with personal tragedies. "I spoke to one doctor who had lost his brother and cousin the night before," he told the BBC broadcaster in a clip the ICRC posted on X.

The few journalists who made contact with the outside world depicted a hellish situation.

"If you are dying, you can't ring up the ambulance service. If you are struck, whatever happens, you can't communicate with anyone," Plestia Alaqaad said in a video on social media with drones and planes buzzing in the background.

"There is no internet, no network, no service, no fuel to move around by car, no electricity, nothing."

Billionaire entrepreneur Elon Musk offered help from his Starlink satellite network to support communications in Gaza for internationally recognised aid organisations.

Iran's President Raisi says Israel 'crossed red lines' in Gaza

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi on Sunday warned that Israel had "crossed the red lines" and could "force everyone to take action."

In his post on X, formerly known as Twitter, Raisi said: "Zionist regime's crimes have crossed the red lines, which may force everyone to take action. Washington asks us to not do anything, but they keep giving widespread support to Israel."

"The US sent messages to the Axis of Resistance but received a clear response on the battlefield," added the president of Iran.

Meanwhile, the spokesperson of the Revolution Guard Corps of Iran, Brigadier General Ramezan Sharif, confirmed that "if shelling on Gaza and martyrdom of civilians contin-



ues, the region could then explode uncontrollably."

The Iranian Revolutionary Guards spokesperson said that the supporters of the entity, especially Washington, must realize that the continued killing of the Palestinians will lead to the patience of Muslims running out at some point.

The spokesperson continued saying, "Let the supporters of the [Israeli] regime know that those who cannot reach the Zionist entity [in battle] may be able to reach the US forces who are managing this war."

Caretaker PM /Minister Information grieved over death of Maulana Jameel's son

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Sunday expressed his deep grief and sorrow over the death of Asim Jameel, son of Maulana Tariq Jameel.

Expressing his condolence, the prime minister prayed for the departed soul and for the bereaved family to bear the loss with equanimity, PM Office Media Wing said in a press release.

Meanwhile: Caretaker Minister for Information and Broadcast-

ing Murtaza Solangi on Sunday expressed deep grief and sorrow over demise of Asim Jameel, son of a prominent religious scholar Maulana Tariq Jameel. The minister, in a condolence message, conveyed sympathies to the bereaved family and said he shared their grief.

He also prayed to the Almighty to rest the departed soul in eternal peace and grant courage and fortitude to the bereaved family to bear the irreparable loss.

The minister said the death of a young son was a big tragedy.

CM Mohsin Naqvi's Message on the 100th Anniversary Republic Day of Turkiye

Bureau Report

LAHORE: Chief Minister Punjab Mohsin Naqvi said that he heartily congratulates the leadership of Turkiye, people of Turkiye, Ambassador of Turkiye in Pakistan and Consul General of Turkiye deputed in Lahore on the Republic Day of Turkiye. The 100th anniversary of the Republic of Turkiye is a matter of great rejoice for the Pakistanis as well. Turkiye is an important Islamic country in the global scenario. Strenuous hard work of the people and leadership of Turkiye is worth appreciating. CM Mohsin Naqvi in his message on the 100th anniversary Republic Day of Turkiye stated that Pakistan-Turkiye friendship is a unique and unprecedented tale of mutual love. Turkiye and Pakistan always stand shoulder to shoulder with each other to provide assistance and cooperation in every time of difficulty and will continue to do so. Pakistan-Turkiye relationship is a magnificent blend of mutual love, brotherhood, trust and partnership.

Kashmir Black Day observed



City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Embassy of Norway organized a seminar at its premises on Kashmir Black Day. Speakers included SAPM on HR & Women Empowerment, Mrs. Mushaal Hussein Mullick, Mr. Lars Rise, former Member of Norwegian Parliament, Mr. Aamir Shiekh, Mr. Fahim Kayani, President Tehreek e Kashmir UK Mr. Khalid Mehmood, former politician; Ms. Attiya Mehmood, Oslo City Councilor; and Amb Qazi Norway-based Pakistani & Kashmiri diaspora, representatives of think tanks, students, politicians, & journalists from print & electronic media participated in the seminar.

Tehreek-e-Bedari-e-Ummat-e-Mustafa workers join Gaza March, call for Muslim unity



City Desk

ISLAMABAD: A significant number of Tehreek-e-Bedari-e-Ummat-e-Mustafa workers on Sunday participated in the Gaza March in the federal capital. The Gaza March, a demonstration organized by Jammata-e-Islami, was marked by expressions of solidarity with the Palestinian people and a call for Muslim unity in the face of the ongoing crisis in Palestine particularly in the Gaza Strip.

Head of Tehreek-e-Bedari-e-Ummat-e-Mustafa, Allama Syed Jawad Naqvi, addressing the gathering, brought attention to the persistent crisis in Palestine. He attributed this

crisis to the absence of Iqwa, or piety and consciousness of God, among Muslim communities worldwide. In his speech, Naqvi emphasized the pressing need for practical steps to resolve the Palestinian issue permanently. He passionately urged believers to mobilize and organize rallies against the ongoing Israeli atrocities in Palestine and specifically in Gaza, across the world. Naqvi underscored the importance of active resistance, public awareness, and support for the Palestinian cause. He said it would serve as a platform to advocate for a united Muslim response to the challenges faced by the Palestinian population.

Pakistan, Korea has a long-lasting friendship: Tessori

Abdul Ghafoor Sarohi

KARACHI: Governor of Sindh Kamran Khan Tessori, said that Pakistan and the Republic of Korea have a long-lasting friendship and it will grow more he was speaking as a chief guest at the Korean Foundation Day reception hosted by Mr. Yi Sung-ho, Consul General of the Republic of Korea at a local hotel.

It was attended by diplomats from various Countries, high government officials, businessmen, industrialists, a large number of Korean Nationals based in Karachi, and the elite of the City.

Governor Sindh further said that it was my pleasure to attend the Korean National Day receptions in Islamabad and as well as in Karachi as a chief guest.

The Consul General of the Republic of Korea (ROK) in Karachi Yi Sung-ho in his speech said that Korea and Pakistan have maintained close relations in many areas. He said the mutual trade and cooperation between the two countries goes back decades when Pakistan assisted Korea with its 5-Year Development Plan.



Sindh Governor Muhammad Kamran Khan Tessori attended the reception as the chief guest. Both Countries' National Anthem were played cake-cutting ceremony was also held to mark the 4355th anniversary of National Foundation Day of Korea.

Korean CG said we are gathered here to mark the 4355th anniversary of National Foundation Day of Korea. It is the day when Dangun, our national father, spread the ideology of wide benefits people, and opened the sky

for Korean people," Yi Sung-ho said.

The Korean Consul General said this year marks the 40th anniversary of diplomatic ties between Korea and Pakistan. Since the establishment of diplomatic relationships in 1983, Korea and Pakistan have maintained close relations in many areas.

He said Pakistan assisted Korea with its 5-Year Development Plan and in return, the Korean government is contributing to the social and economic development of Pakistan via

economic development cooperation fund (soft loan) or official development assistance (grant aid). This year, approximately \$48 million is being spent on 12 projects.

At present, over 30 Korean companies are already operating in Pakistan, and more companies are looking to enter Pakistan, he said. Under the employment permit system yearly 4,000 Pakistani people can get jobs in Korea. Global Korea scholarship enables many Pakistani students to study in Korea year for higher education, he added.

He said that Korean people have continued their history for half of the millennium, overcoming numerous trials with a strong spirit and indomitable will to become the Republic of Korea today.

It has achieved phenomenal success both in economy and democracy. It is praised as the first country in the world to go from receiving aid to giving aid.

"Our brilliant culture, which has blossomed over a long history, has become a culture that people around the world can see and enjoy together under the name of K-Culture," he said.

Breast cancer is a deadly disease of Women's: Rizwana Malik



Kiran Asim

MULTAN: Director Mux Institute Miss Rizwana Malik has said that breast cancer is not a common disease, women should tell their family and consult a doctor in time, then it is possible to treat it, we have to inform women about it. Today, countless women hide this disease and die due to lack of timely diagnosis. These views were expressed by the participants of the breast cancer awareness seminar and walk in collaboration with Mux Institute and Aina Organization. While addressing the said, She further said that Mux Institute and Aina together will run a full awareness campaign to prevent breast cancer and will play its full role in preventing it.

On this occasion, the special guest, chairperson of Enerwell Club 340 Mrs. Rizwana Tabasim Durrani has said that we all have to run a campaign to prevent women from breast cancer for a whole year and not just for one month. Avoiding and telling the ways to check your body Miss Ayesha Ikram, admin officer of Mix Institute performed the duties of Nizam, recitation and naat was performed by Arsla Mukhtiar Faza in the ceremony, Sadia Nawaz, Rifaat Saeed, Mantha, Hamna Babar and Dr. Nazia Khan. Besides, a large number of Women also participated in the pink ribbon walk from Khanewal Road Multan to Eidgah Chowk.

Two terrorist attacks in Dera, one FRP police martyred

Adam Khan Wazir

DERA ISMAIL KHAN: Terrorists attacked on Yarak Toll Plaza last night with heavy weapons, during which the area echoed with firing and explosions.



The terrorists also used rocket launchers and hand grenades, during which the terrorists entered the CPEC Toll Plaza office yarak, and also looted the money of Rs. 4 lakh in the office.

Meanwhile, FRP policeman Sher Alam Khan, who was in the trench on the roof of Toll Plaza, was martyred by the firing of the terrorists.

However, the terrorists fled the scene due to heavy retaliatory firing by the police.

According to the received reports of Rescue 1122 Media Coordinator Aizaz Mahmood, the medical team of Rescue 1122 Station 33 reached the spot and shifted the martyred police constable to the hospital.

Police station CTD has registered a case against terrorists under 302-324-353-395-148-149-7ATAppc against 14 to 15 terrorists of Tipu group and Sherani group.

On the other hand, terrorists also attacked the Yadgar check post in Tehsil Kulachi during the night

However, the police responded forcefully and forced the terrorists to flee, while there was no loss of life.

Firing over land dispute in Wana area Kalutai, three persons injured

Adam Khan Wazir

WANA: In Kalutai, a remote area of South Waziristan Lower district, on Sunday evening time, two parties belonging to Ji Khel tribe exchanged cross fire over a land dispute.

As a result, three people were injured, two of the injured were immediately shifted to District Headquarters Hospital Wana, and one had minor injured who were treated on the spot.

As soon as the information was received, a police team under the supervision of Additional SHO of Azam Warsak police station reached the spot.

The police cleared the trenches of both the parties and held separate successful negotiations and talks with the elders of the two tribe.

A ceasefire was agreed till November 20, 2023 and Additional SHO Usman urged the elders of both the tribes.

That you resolves the dispute through Jirga according to his tribal traditions by November 20.

No one will violate the law until November 20, If any party violates the law, then the police will take strict legal action.

HomeNet Pakistan Celebrates Home-Based Worker Day

City Desk

KARACHI: HomeNet Pakistan celebrated Home-Based Worker Day, a day dedicated to recognizing and celebrating the contributions of home-based workers, with a particular focus on the empowerment and resilience of women in the remote workforce. In recent years, the global workforce has experienced a significant shift towards remote and home-based work, and women have been at the forefront of this transformation, showcasing remarkable resilience, multitasking abilities, and a strong determination to excel in a work environment that often intertwines with their home life.



International Home-Based Worker Day is an occasion to acknowledge the growing workforce of home-based workers, highlighting their dedication, resilience, and adaptability. HNP decided to mark this important day to pay tribute to the millions of individuals who have embraced remote work while managing household responsibilities.

Women today are more independent, vocal, and bold in their pursuit of opportunities, often creating them for themselves. Home-based workers are no exception to this trend. HomeNet Pakistan celebrated Home-Based Worker Day by engaging workers in various activities. These activities included promoting the CHARTER OF DEMAND, explaining the legal rights and protections available to workers, and raising awareness about basic occupational health and safety practices and potential hazards.

HomeNet Pakistan's primary objective is to empower workers across various sectors, whether industrial, home-based, or domestic. Since its inception in 2005, HNP is actively engaged thousands of women across Pakistan in diverse training and sensitization programs, enhancing their work capabilities.

Media talking

HYDERABAD: Former Federal Minister and PPP leader Syed Naveed Qamar talking to newsmen at Sindh Chamber of Agriculture in the city.



Photo: Online

Enhancing Aquaculture sustainability: Optimizing Rice Protein Concentrate based diets for Rohu (Labeo rohita)

Ayesha Khizar & Mahroze Fatima

The aquaculture industry is the fastest-growing sector in food production, with an average annual production rate of 8.1%. Freshwater species play a great role and contribute almost 35% of aquaculture production. In Asia, especially in Pakistan, the most common and cultured species in polyculture system, among the Indian major carps, is Rohu (Labeo rohita), due to its nutritional value, delicious taste, affordability, and high market demand. As a result, it is intensively cultured with formulated feeds. Therefore, the formulation of cost-effective, nutritionally balanced feeds is crucial in the culture of this species, as feed procurement typically constitutes a substantial portion, ranging from 30% to 70% of operational costs in fish farming.

Fish meal (FM) has traditionally been the primary protein source in fish feed due to its well-balanced mineral, fatty acid, amino acid, and energy content. However, FM production faces limitations as wild fish stocks decline, which will lead to unavailability of FM in the market in near future. This scarcity of FM has created significant challenges for feed producers in the aquaculture industry. Consequently, the quest to identify alternative protein sources for long-term sustainability. Therefore, nowadays, many research efforts are going on to identify the other alternative protein sources to replace FM.

In this regard, plant proteins (PP) sources are emerging as promising alternatives to FM, as they are abundant, cost-effective, and nutritionally valuable. The FM replacement with PP partially or totally does not compromise growth and fish quality. However, presence of anti-nutritional factors (ANFs) and amino acids deficiency make the use of PP limited and less effective. Thus, the seriously considered alter-

native source against FM is that which is less expensive as well as low in ANFs. Therefore, the rice protein concentrate (RPC) is a good and compatible PP source in this regard as compared to other plant sources and functions as FM replacer to a great extent.

Rice is one of the most widely cultivated and consumed staple crops globally, in which Pakistan is one of the major rice-producing countries and Punjab is the largest contributor to rice with a 7.5 million tons' production rate in 2019. The large-scale production of rice generates substantial by-products, such as rice bran and broken grains. In the aquafeed industry, the RPC has emerged as a promising and sustainable alternative ingredient. Derived from rice through protein extraction, RPC possesses several attractive characteristics, including its nutritional composition (lipid 11% and 75% crude protein), widespread availability, and potential environmental benefits. Besides these potential benefits, its use in aquafeeds is limited due to the presence of ANFs (phytate), and lysine deficiency.

Therefore, to overcome these, the lysine should be supplemented in the diet exogenously for the purpose of enhancing the use of RPC through amino acid balancing. The presence of phytate an ANF is another factor, which limits the use of RPC like other PP sources. Phytate combines with plant phosphorus and compromises its availability, it also forms complex with proteins and affects the digestibility and intake of PP. To overcome this limitation, exogenous enzymes like phytase are supplemented in PP-based fish diets to enhance nutrient digestibility. Phytase supplementation not only enhances digestibility but also increases feed utilization which ultimately lead to improved fish growth performance.

When the PP meals are used in fish feed for the longer duration it reduces the fish growth due to histological modifications in intestine, compromised amino acid metabolism, lowered

enzyme activity, and down-regulation of the protein synthesis. Prebiotics that are non-digestible feed ingredients which selectively increase the metabolism and growth of positive gut bacteria, ultimately modulates the intestinal morphology and improves the gut health. In fish diet, prebiotics act as agents that convert nutrients in simpler compounds from the complex ones to be readily absorbed by the intestine and enhances the nutrient digestibility, growth, and feed efficiency. Xylo-oligosaccharide (XOS) is an emerging prebiotic in the aquaculture system, and can be formed after xylan hydrolysis. It increases the antioxidant status, growth performance, immunity, digestive enzymes, and feed utilization when fed to fish in their diet. However, there are only few studies reported which evaluate the effects of XOS on the intestine of aquatic animals. Thus, the effect of XOS supplementation in the fish diets having no FM is still not reported especially in most of the aquatic species. Hence, the main objective of the current study is to assess the ability of RPC to completely replace FM in the diet of rohu.

The research work was conducted in the Fish Seed Rearing Unit, Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture, University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Ravi Campus, Pattoki, under the supervision of Dr. Mahroze Fatima (HEC recognized Assistant Professor, Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture, University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Lahore, Pakistan), an expert in Fish Nutrition and Fish feed formulation. The whole study was based on three feeding experiments. The 1st experiment focused on assessing the impact of dietary phytase supplementation in the RPC based diets. Six experimental diets were formulated including positive control (FM-based diet having no phytase); FMO, negative control (RPC-based diet having no phytase); RPC0, and four phytase supplemental (250, 500,

1000 and 2000 FTU/Kg) levels. The results indicated significant improvements in growth, mineral and nutrient digestibility, digestive enzyme activities, serum biochemistry, and mineral deposition in rohu fingerlings. The optimal phytase level in RPC-based diets for rohu was determined to be 874.19 FTU/kg. In the 2nd experiment, the optimal phytase level from the first trial was utilized, and FM was replaced with RPC at varying levels (0, 25, 50, 75, and 100%) after lysine balancing. The results indicated that up to 50% of FM could be effectively replaced with RPC without compromising growth, nutrient digestibility, intestinal morphology, fatty acids and amino acids profiles, serum biochemistry, and digestive enzyme activity. This replacement was possible due to the incorporation of both phytase and lysine in the diet. In 3rd experiment, XOS a prebiotic was supplemented at 0, 0.5, 1 and 2% to the RPC based diets which remained unsuccessful in the replacement of FM. Eight diets with different RPC (75 & 100%) and XOS (0, 0.5, 1 and 2%) levels were formulated. The results revealed that 75% RPC diet efficiently replaced by fishmeal along with 1% XOS addition in rohu fingerlings without any negative effect on growth performance and intestinal health.

In conclusion, Rice protein concentrate serves as an efficient protein source. Their use in fish diet after phytase and lysine supplementation proves beneficial and replaced fishmeal up to 50%. Furthermore, the high levels of RPC could also be replaced when prebiotic was supplemented in the fish diet without causing any significant negative impact on fish growth and intestinal morphology, which ultimately benefits aquaculture sustainability.

The writers are PhD Scholars from the Department of Fisheries & Aquaculture, University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Lahore, Pakistan.

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Finally, Pakistan was Saved...-I

Pakistan faced a severe crisis as the value of the US dollar skyrocketed compared to the Pakistani Rupee. In the interbank market, it was trading at an alarming rate of Rs. 307, while in the open market, it reached an even higher rate of Rs. 340. Speculations were rife that it might even reach Rs. 500 within a month.

This situation led to a rush of people into the currency markets, desperate to exchange their rapidly depreciating Pakistani currency for any foreign currency available, including the Afghan Afghani. The market faced an acute shortage of foreign currency, and the Rupee's value continued to plummet with each passing day. People were witnessing their hard-earned savings evaporate.

Strangely, Pakistan's foreign currency reserves were adequate to meet local needs even though the US dollar was disappearing from the local market at an unprecedented rate making imports more expensive, eroded the purchasing power of the common people, and increased the challenge of repaying international loans and debts, which had become a daunting task for the government's financial managers.

The anticipation of a bleak economic and financial future, with no visible remedies in sight, prompted families with the means to seek safety in other countries, driven by the need to protect their hard-earned income and secure a better future for their children.

The skyrocketing value of the US dollar was not the sole issue plaguing the economy. Rampant smuggling of essential commodities like flour, sugar, fertilizer, oil, and other precious goods was causing them to disappear from the market. This, in turn, led to rising

costs and hyperinflation, triggering panic buying, exacerbating shortages, and driving up prices, ultimately contributing to economic and social unrest.

But the challenges didn't end there. The unchecked smuggling of Iranian petrol into the country was rapidly depleting the government's petroleum levy, a vital source of revenue needed to sustain government operations.

And the story continued. The unbridled and unregulated smuggling of illicit psychoactive drugs and their ready availability even at the school level were fueling a drug epidemic among students in schools, colleges, and universities, spreading like wildfire.

A more significant and pressing threat loomed over the nation: the unchecked and escalating incidents of terrorism. These acts of violence targeted soldiers, police officers, government officials, ordinary pedestrians, and worshippers alike. The Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), operating from Afghan soil, were launching attacks within Pakistan. It was highly likely that they were abetted and supported by the interim government of the Afghan Taliban. Despite repeated requests, the Afghan authorities refused to take decisive action, assuming they could continue without facing any consequences, as they had in the past.

Deep down, the authorities in Pakistan realized that these crimes, which undermined the very foundations of the country and subjected it to financial, economic, social, and cultural perils, couldn't be solely of Pakistani origin. There had to be critical outside factors contributing to

the destruction of the nation.

This realization led the law enforcement agencies and the establishment to investigate further. They soon discovered that behind all these illegal, anti-state activities, terrorism, and smuggling, a common factor emerged: illegal Afghan nationals. These individuals were enjoying the civil, legal, social, business, trade, and investment facilities available to them as if they were common citizens of Pakistan. However, instead of showing gratitude and complying with the country's rules, regulations, and laws, they were, in fact, undermining the very

roots and branches of the nation, depriving it of its potential. These illegal Afghan nationals were rapidly transferring much-needed foreign exchange from Pakistan to Afghanistan, leading to an unprecedented appreciation of the Afghan Afghani. Essential commodities urgently required in Pakistan were smuggled to Afghanistan and then exported to Central Asian countries, generating substantial profits. They were also involved in drug smuggling, jeopardizing the future generations of Pakistan, while the money earned was being used to send both dollars and commodities to their home country without any consequences.

The change in leadership at the top of the establishment served as a wake-up call for our law enforcement agencies. These anti-state activities had been ongoing under their very noses for an extended period, sapping the life and vitality out of the already fragile body of the country. This vulnerability left

Pakistan susceptible to various threats, including economic, social, and political crises. Simultaneously, those involved in these activities were advancing their personal interests and filling their coffers to the brim. They were actively transferring their ill-gotten wealth to foreign countries often referred to as safe havens while relocating their families abroad.

Recognizing the speed at which the country was descending into chaos, the new leadership at the top of the establishment realized that it would soon become uninhabitable. A shift away from the status quo was undertaken to address the rapid deterioration plaguing the nation. The policy of appeasement towards Afghans and their sympathizers was replaced by a strategy driven by the paramount national interest.

A meticulously crafted, integrated, and effective policy, supported by resolute political commitment from the establishment, was put into action. This strategy encompassed a comprehensive seven-pronged plan of action, executed with precision.

It included robust border control measures, closure of smuggling routes using modern technology, the formalization of the Afghan-Pakistan border, stringent passport and visa regulations, cooperation from legal currency dealers to obtain vital information about bulk dollar purchases for hoarding and smuggling, crackdowns on Hawala and Hundi markets, and the imposition of regulatory duties on Afghan Transit Trade to deter unnecessary imports and smuggling back into Pakistan. These measures collectively aimed to protect national interests and restore stability to the country.

To be continued



Analysis

Qamar Bashir

Beijing Xiangshan Forum kicks off

The 10th Beijing Xiangshan Forum kicked off on Sunday with representatives from a record-breaking number of countries, regions and international organizations gathering in the Chinese capital to attend the meeting themed "Common Security, Lasting Peace."

Under the tensions of the current international security situation, the Beijing Xiangshan Forum provides all parties with a platform to talk in a frank manner that contributes to better communication, better understanding of each other's positions and better resolutions to questions, said foreign experts participating in the forum.

Official delegations from more than 90 countries, regions and international organizations arrived at the Beijing International Convention Center on Sunday for the three-day event.

The event is expected to comprehensively implement the concept of a global community of a shared future, as the theme of "Common Security, Lasting Peace" reflects the core concept of the Global Security Initiative (GSI).

The forum is an opportunity to start to hear more about the details on how effectively China wants to propose the implementation of the GSI, so that the participants in the forum can actually have an opportunity to reflect, and then start to think about how different countries can join and support the GSI. Alessio Patalano, Professor of War & Strategy in East Asia at the Department of War Studies, King's College London, told the Global Times among a group of media at the forum on Sunday.

"We see at the moment, there are two significant conflicts, one in Eastern Europe, the largest conflict between states since the end of the World War II, basically. The other one is in the Middle East. It's a very important time to talk about lasting peace," Patalano said.

"This is the first forum in person taking place since COVID-19. So it's very important to be here to start redeveloping and reestablishing personal links with colleagues, scholars and officials in China. So one can set a higher expectation in years to come as to how to produce a better collective thinking in light of this personal contact and interaction is being backed, and therefore being able to move directly and openly," said Patalano, noting that China has the international capacity to have a voice in how global security is shaped, and the forum can become an important point to get a sense of how Chinese intellectual elites and officials are thinking about this.

Senior Colonel Zhao Xiaozhuo, deputy director of the Beijing Xiangshan Forum Secretariat, told the Global Times on Sunday that the forum provides opportunities for countries and regions engaged in conflicts to communicate.

The forum has arranged sessions focused on European and Middle Eastern regional security, as security issues like the Russia-Ukraine conflict and Israel-Palestine conflict are obviously very important to security in Europe and the Middle East and would inevitably be touched upon during these sessions, Zhao said.

"We have representatives from both engaged sides to attend the sessions. The forum would try best to keep discuss on these topics on a rational path," Zhao said.

Beijing Xiangshan Forum has been a platform for developing countries to have their voices heard, as the forum encourages them, particularly small- and medium-sized countries, to join the dialogues.



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

Deadline for Undocumented Afghan Refugees - I

For several decades, Pakistan has grappled with the persistent and severe challenge of terrorism. This South Asian nation has endured numerous acts of terror, leading to tragic loss of life, economic instability, and political upheaval. Despite vigorous efforts by both the government and international collaborators, the specter of terrorism continues to afflict Pakistan.

The roots of Pakistan's struggle with terrorism can be traced back to the late 1970s and early 1980s, a period when the nation became deeply entangled in the Afghan War. During this time, Pakistan, with backing from the United States and other Western countries, provided support to Afghan mujahideen fighters who opposed the Soviet Union's occupation of Afghanistan. While this assistance was deemed necessary at the time, it inadvertently planted the seeds of extremism and militancy within Pakistan as radicalized elements began to take root.

Socioeconomic factors, including poverty, limited access to education, and restricted economic opportunities, have contributed significantly to the radicalization of many individuals in Pakistan. Vulnerable populations are often targeted by extremist groups, offering them financial incentives and a sense of purpose. Pakistan has witnessed a surge in religious extremism, with certain religious seminaries and organizations promoting a radical interpretation of Islam, resulting in the recruitment of individuals willing to commit acts of terrorism in the name of religion.

Pakistan shares its borders with Afghanistan and India, and the nation has confronted interference from both sides of its borders. Periods of political instability and governance issues have created fertile ground for extremist ideologies to thrive within the country.

Pakistan has carried out numerous military operations in its tribal regions, most notably Operation Zarb-e-Azb and Operation Radd-ul-Fasaad. These military campaigns were undertaken with the goal of eradicating terrorist hideouts, disrupting their networks, and diminishing the overall threat they posed. In response to the challenge of terrorism, Pakistan has implemented various counterterrorism laws and established specialized courts to expedite the trials of terrorism suspects. These measures aim to enhance the legal framework for prosecuting individuals involved in terrorism.

Pakistan has also engaged in collaborative efforts with international partners, including the United States, China, and regional organizations like the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, to address the issue of terrorism. This cooperation encompasses activities such as intelligence sharing and joint initiatives to combat terrorism financing. Additionally, Pakistan has introduced initiatives at the grassroots level to counter radicalization, including educational reforms and community engagement programs designed to deter individuals from embracing extremist ideologies.

Despite making significant progress in its fight against terrorism, Pakistan faces several enduring challenges. The evolving situation in neighboring Afghanistan

and tensions with India continue to present security concerns for Pakistan. Eradicating deeply entrenched extremist ideologies in certain segments of society remains a formidable task. Factors like corruption, governance issues, and political instability can impede counterterrorism efforts. It is essential to address socioeconomic disparities to reduce the appeal of extremist ideologies.

The issue of terrorism in Pakistan is complex and multifaceted, rooted in historical, socioeconomic, and political factors. The government and its international partners must persist in their collaborative efforts to combat terrorism while simultaneously addressing the underlying causes of extremism. A stable and peaceful Pakistan is not only vital for its own citizens but also crucial for regional and global security.

The Soviet-Afghan War, spanning from 1979 to 1989, stands as a pivotal event in 20th-century history, with profound consequences for the involved nations and the global balance of power. This conflict marked the intersection of Cold War politics, regional rivalries, and Afghan resistance, resulting in a protracted and devastating war.

The origins of the Soviet-Afghan War can be traced to Afghanistan's tumultuous history and its strategic importance during the Cold War. In the late 1970s, Afghanistan experienced political turmoil when the Marxist People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA) staged a coup in 1978, introducing a series of reforms that faced resistance from various factions, including religious and tribal groups. The Soviet Union, concerned about the potential loss of a pro-communist government and fearing instability on its southern border, intervened militarily in December 1979.

To be continued

The Ongoing Israeli-Palestinian Conflict: A Tragedy Unfolding

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict, deeply rooted in history and politics, is a continuing tragedy that has captured the world's attention. The recent Israeli bombardment of Gaza, once again, highlights the complexities and consequences of this ongoing struggle. This article delves deeper into the various aspects of the conflict, including the humanitarian crisis, collective punishment, international response, the role of Hamas, global dynamics, and the uncertain future. One of the most heart-wrenching aspects of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is the human cost.

Men, women, and especially children have borne the brunt of the violence. Daily, innocent Palestinians lose their lives due to the brutal bombings by Israeli warplanes. The number of casualties continues to rise, creating a profound humanitarian crisis. The world watches with anguish as this tragedy unfolds. Many question the legality and ethics of Israel's actions, which sometimes involve the targeting of hospitals and shelters.

The situation in Gaza is made even more dire by the imposition of collective punishment. Israel's practice of cutting off essential supplies such as water, fuel, and electricity affects the entire Palestinian population, irrespective of their involvement in the conflict. This raises concerns about the legality and ethics of such actions, as well as the long-term consequences for the people of Gaza. The international community has repeatedly called for a ceasefire, emphasizing the need to end the violence and address the humanitarian crisis.

The United Nations passed a resolution, supported by the majority of member states, demanding an immediate cessation of hostilities. However, Israel has consistently rejected these appeals, vowing to continue its operations in Gaza. The refusal to heed international calls raises questions about the prospects for a peaceful resolution. Hamas, as the de facto governing

authority in Gaza, claims to be fighting for the Palestinian cause. They view their resistance as the only means to secure justice for their people. However, the effectiveness of their approach and the human cost of their actions are subjects of debate. Thousands of Palestinians have already paid the ultimate price, and the fate of many more hangs in the balance.

The world watches as Gaza are reduced to rubble, with no certainty of when and how normal life can be restored in the region. It is essential to recognize that Israel enjoys not only the steadfast support of the United States but also that of a majority of Western countries. The Palestinian cause faces the daunting challenge of confronting politically and economically powerful nations. The lack of unity and consciousness in the Muslim world further complicates the situation, as many countries in the region have conflicting interests.

The question that emerges is whether Hamas can sustain its fight against Israel with the alleged support of Iran alone. The future scenario for the Palestinians appears bleak. Israel's determination to wage a decisive and potentially prolonged war raises concerns about the continued suffering of civilians and the ability to reach a peaceful resolution. The ramifications of this conflict extend beyond the region. Israel's relations with Muslim-majority countries, including Saudi Arabia, are likely to deteriorate further, and religious extremism in the Muslim world may gain strength as a result. The Israeli-Palestinian conflict remains one of the most intractable and tragic conflicts of our time. The suffering of innocent civilians, the geopolitical complexities, and the regional implications continue to test the world's ability to find a lasting solution. As the conflict rages on, the hope for a peaceful resolution remains elusive, and the cost to all parties involved, particularly the Palestinian people, continues to mount. It is a crisis that demands global attention, understanding, and action to prevent further tragedy.



Analysis

Zaheer ud din Babar

President Alvi congratulates Türkiye people on 100th anniversary

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi on Sunday congratulated the President and people of Türkiye on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the country.

"On behalf of the people of Pakistan and the government of Pakistan, I would like to extend my warmest congratulations to President Recep Tayyip Erdogan on the auspicious occasion of 100th anniversary of Republic of Türkiye which was found on October 29 in 1923 under the charismatic leadership of Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, the great leader of Türkiye," President Alvi said in his video message.

He said the relationship between Pakistan and Türkiye had been very old, even before the formation of Türkiye and Pakistan when there was a great friendship of people of this region



and the people Türkiye.

He highlighted that the good relationship was evident from the fact that people along with relief goods from this region were sent to fight along with them in the Russian battle which Türkiye had always reciprocated.

The president believed that a

tremendous progress had been made under the outstanding leadership of Tayyip Erdogan while at the same time there had been a great leadership shown in the issues of the Muslim world by the current Türkiye leadership.

The outstanding friendship between

Pakistan and Türkiye is based on mutual understanding on world issues as well as Türkiye stood by us on Kashmir, the president said. He said the Turkish president had taken bold stance on the recent brutal events happening in Gaza.

He believed that the Muslim world would also take a bold stance on this very painful issue of Gaza and on the issue of Kashmir as well. The president said the world had forgotten how the Muslims had always welcome people from all religions in Anatolia and Andalus throughout history.

"I believe tremendous progress has been shown by my brother in Türkiye and I must express a brotherly bond between both our people which is everlasting and which will hold forever," he remarked.

PM announces decision to lower power prices in Kashmir

Abdul Majeed tahir

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Azad Jammu and Kashmir Chaudhry Anwar ul Haq has said that despite many challenges the government took a difficult decision to reduce the prices of electricity to provide relief to common masses.

He said that the government will take all possible steps to solve the problems of the people and provide them with all the basic facilities of life on a priority basis.

"As the chief executive

of the State, I've the privilege to introduce a culture of simplicity", the PM said, adding that he considers himself as a true servant of the nation.

The PM said that he enjoyed the full backing of the allied parties including Pakistan Muslim League-N and People's Party.

"The coalition government is fully determined to build and develop the state", he said.

The PM made it clear that no one whosoever would be allowed to hold the state

hostage. "Lawbreakers will be dealt with an iron hand", he said.

"If anyone thinks that by exaggerating things on social media they will achieve their nefarious goals, they are mistaken", he said.

The Prime Minister said that the strict implementation of biometrics was taken in view of the wider interests of the people.

The PM said that there was a dire need to raise public awareness and encourage people to active-

ly participate in agriculture, farming and livestock.

He said that rather than wasting time on mobile phones the people especially the youth should engage themselves in productive activities like cultivating their lands, focus on poultry farming and live stock. Such productive activities, he said, would help them to improve their lives.

He urged the youth not to waste their valuable time in useless things and instead learn IT skills and become useful citizens of the state.

Zubair Elahi elected as President of Global Peace Jirgah in KPK



Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: A respected figure and community leader from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Zubair Elahi has been elected as the President of the Global Peace Jirgah. The organization's goal is to address regional and individual issues in line with Pashtun traditions and promote peace within the province.

The swearing-in ceremony for the Global Peace

Jirgah's leadership took place at National Press Club Islamabad, with the participation of tribal elders and prominent figures from former Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Former Frontier Constabulary Commandant and Inspector General of Police, Liaquat Ali Khan, administered the oath to the newly elected officials.

Zubair Elahi, during a press conference after the ceremony, expressed his belief that the Chief of



Army Staff and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff can lead the country out of its current crises. He also stressed the nation's desire for accountability before elections.

Elahi emphasized the importance of the decision to expel illegal Afghan residents from the country. He highlighted that these residents have contributed significantly to terrorism and crime in Pakistan.

Elahi assured that the Global Peace Jirgah would collaborate with government and institutions to

achieve this goal.

Previously, the Peace Council helped the government send back illegal Afghan residents from Karachi and now aims to expel them from across the country.

Zubair Elahi announced the Jirgah's intention to send relief goods and 500 volunteers to Gaza to aid the oppressed Palestinian population.

He noted that if the government permits, two hundred thousand Pashtuns stand ready to go to Palestine as volunteers.

Former South Korean ambassador called on AJK President

Bureau Report

ISLAMABAD: Former South Korean ambassador to Pakistan, Song Jong Hwan called on AJK President Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry here today.

During the meeting, the duo discussed in detail the issues of mutual interest.

On this occasion, ambassador Hwan was accompanied by former defense attaché, Colonel (Retired) Yoon Keoginn.

Canadian Sikh community participates in rally ahead of Khalistan Referendum

VANCOUVER, CANADA: On the day before the Khalistan Referendum, a large rally was held in Surrey, British Columbia, with members of the Sikh community marching for a two-kilometre distance carrying Khalistan flags.

The rally was held against India and a centre for voting was established at the Guru Nanak Sikh Gurdwara.

During the rally, the participants chanted slogans such as "Delhi bane ka khalasa," "Lay keh Rahain gay khalasa," "Punjab Banay Ga Khalistan" and "Azad Khalistan," with enthusiasm and fervour.

The participants also demanded justice for Shaheed Hardeep Singh Nijjar, urging the authorities to take action against his killers.

The attendees appreciated the stance of Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau who has publicly accused India of killing the Sikh leader and hunting several other Canadian Sikhs, condemning state terrorism by the Indian government that occurred within Canada.

Rally participants vowed to preserve the values and vision of Nijjar, who met a tragic end at the hands of Indian agents in June. They passionately chanted slogans such as "Hardeep Nijjar tera khatil kon? Hindustan, Hindustan!"

Forbes Middle East Sustainability Leaders' Summit 2023



PPA

DUBAI: This vital event will be an invaluable platform for driving global strategies toward sustainable change. In the lead-up to COP28, we will set the tone for dialogue and action at regional and international levels.

Speakers will share their stories, discuss critical sustainability obstacles across industries, and explore solutions that leverage the power of technology.

Key themes on the agenda include: Pathway to Net-Zero: Strategies for Decarbonizing Industries and Energy Systems: Eng. Yasser Zaghoul (NMDC), Ibrahim Koshy (Saudia Group), Musabbeh Al Kaabi (ADNOC), Eng. Saeed Ghumran Al Remeithi (Emirates Steel Arkan), and Abdulnasser Ibrahim Saif Bin Kalban (EGA) will discuss the power of shared knowledge and collective action while uncovering strategies to achieve net zero goals.

The Green Oasis: Transforming Middle East Destinations into Sustainable Tourism Paradises: Talal Kensara (Diriyah Gate Company Limited), Mohamed Amer (El Gouna) and Sandeep Walia (Marriott International) will uncover how sustainable tourism models have redefined luxury, empowered supply chains, and amplified community engagement.

Capitalizing on Change: Sustainable Finance and Impact Entrepreneurship: Dr. Saeeda Jaffar (Visa) and Said Zater (Contact Financial Holding) will emphasize the importance of sustainable finance initiatives and the positive impact they can have on businesses, communities, the environment, and economic growth.

Building a Resilient Future: Innovation for Climate-Smart Cities: Ali Sajwani (DAMAC Properties) and Nadia Zaal (Zaya) will delve into intelligent urban development for a climate-conscious community, while Sherif Beshara (American Hospital Dubai) will highlight sustainable innovations in healthcare.

From Promise to Progress: Leading the Change: Hanaa Helmy (EFG Holding) Tariq Chauhan (EFS) will uncover the potential of collaborations, impact of ESG practices, and workforce development.

Inspiring Innovation for Sustainable Consumption and Resource Conservation: Dr. Yasar Jarrar (Dubai Future Academy) and Wael Ismail (PepsiCo) will explore how unity propels climate actions toward a resilient future and greener planet.

Kashmir Black Day observed in Pakistan House Jeddah



Noorulhassan Gujjar

JEDDAH: Kashmir Black Day Ceremony held at Pakistan House Jeddah in collaboration with Kashmir Committee Jeddah. Speakers at the ceremony highlighted the atrocities committed by illegal occupation of Kashmir by Indian occupation forces.

Special Messages of the President, Prime Minister and Foreign Minister were read out on the occasion. A special documentary highlighting the genesis of the dispute, valiant freedom struggle of the Kashmiri people and atrocities committed by the Indian forces was screened for general public awareness.

Speaking on the occasion, the participants highlighted the significance of the day marking the illegal landing of Indian occupying forces in Jammu and Kashmir; paid rich tributes to the continued sacrifices of the Kashmiri people by their third consecutive generation in their struggle for the right to self-determination as enshrined by the numerous UN Security Council Resolutions; condemned the incessant atrocities of the Indian occupying forces in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK), particularly post 5th August 2019 unilateral actions and called upon international community to play its role in the peaceful resolution of this important long standing dispute.

Mr. Masood Ahmad Puri, chairman Kashmir Committee Jeddah and Sardar Waqas Anayat, Chairman Overseas Jammu and Kashmir Community highlighted the plight of Kashmir and urged OIC and global community to play their role before it is too late.

Prominent Saudi businessman and scholar Dr. Faiz Ali Abideen and former military leader H. E Mr. Abdullah Al-Ghamidi addressed the gathering and condemned the Indian actions in IIOJK and urged UN and world community to play their due role in fulfilment of the promises made to people of Kashmir.

The Consul General of Pakistan in Jeddah, Mr. Khalid Majeed especially appreciated and thanked the brotherly Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and OIC for their consistent support to the Kashmir cause.

Peace, stability in S. Asia remain contingent upon resolution of J&K dispute: Asim Iftikhar

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Pakistan to France Asim Iftikhar Ahmad said that peace and stability in South Asia remained contingent upon peaceful resolution of Jammu and Kashmir dispute in accordance with the United Nations Security Council resolutions and wishes of the Kashmiri people. He highlighted that 27 October 1947 was one of the darkest days for the Kashmiri people as the Indian occupation of J&K, which began on that day, stifled the legitimate aspirations of the Kashmiris to determine their own destiny.

Peace, stability in S. Asia remain contingent upon resolution of J&K dispute: Amb. Asim Iftikhar The ambassador

was addressing a special seminar organized by the Embassy of Pakistan in France to mark the Kashmir Black Day and express solidarity with the Kashmiris in the Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK), a press release on Saturday said.

A large number of people representing Pakistani diaspora, Kashmiris, academicians, journalists, French nationals and other distinguished guests participated in the event that highlighted the seven decades long legitimate struggle of the Kashmiri people for their right to self-determination in accordance with the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) resolutions on Jammu and Kashmir. Referring to the French motto of 'Liberty, Equality and Fraternity', the ambassador said that like

Palestine, the J&K dispute could better be explained and understood in the context of shared values of democracy and fundamental freedoms, and universal respect for international law, UN Charter principles and human rights.

"It was incumbent upon the international community to pressurize India to stop its reign of terror and human rights violation in IIOJK and to let the Kashmiri people decide their own future through the democratic method of fair and impartial plebiscite held under the auspices of the United Nations in accordance with UNSC resolutions on J&K.

It was imperative to shun double standards and uphold the cause of peace and justice," he emphasized. Ambassador



Asim said that the Kashmir case stood on strong political, legal and moral grounds and Pakistan would continue to extend all possible support to the Kashmiri brothers and sisters for the realization of their just cause.

On the occasion, messages of the President, Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Pakistan were read out followed by a documentary focusing on the genesis of the Kashmir dispute and the plight of the Kashmiris

living in IIOJK.

Prominent speakers condemned the gross violations of human rights and international humanitarian law being committed by the Indian occupation forces against innocent Kashmiri men, women and children. They paid homage to the exemplary courage and sacrifice by the Kashmiri people in their quest for freedom from Indian occupation and self-determination.

The speakers also underscored the legal dimensions of the Jammu & Kashmir (J&K) dispute and called upon the international community and media to highlight the miseries of the defenceless Kashmiris and to hold India accountable for its atrocities, war crimes and crimes against humani-

ty in IIOJK. While condemning India's unilateral and illegal actions of 5 August 2019 as blatant violations of UNSC resolutions and international law the speakers demanded that the same must be reversed by the Indian Government.

They denounced media blackouts and Indian efforts to alter the demographic composition of the occupied territory by issuance of domicile certificates to non-Kashmiris, introduction of new laws on ownership of land and changing of electoral constituencies in IIOJK with a view to convert the Muslim majority into a minority. The guests also viewed a photo exhibition that had been specially arranged to highlight grave human rights situation in the IIOJK.

Grand Opening Ceremony

ICBC Karachi Branch marks significant milestone in Pakistan financial cooperation with RMB

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The Industrial and Commercial Bank of China (ICBC) Karachi Branch proudly hosted the "RMB Clearing Bank Grand Opening Ceremony" in Islamabad, marking a significant milestone in China-Pakistan financial collaboration. The prime objective is to promote awareness and understanding within Pakistan's banking and business sectors about crucial factors involved in utilizing the Chinese currency (RMB) in bilateral trade, enhance capital circulation quality, and foster seamless technology and talent exchange. Attended by distinguished guests, the ceremony showcased ICBC Pakistan's pivotal role as the first RMB clearing bank in South Asia, strengthening the enduring friendship between China and Pakistan.

Established in May 2011, ICBC Karachi Branch operates as a leading foreign bank, designated as the RMB clearing bank by the People's Bank of China. Dedicated to developing strong ties within the local community, the bank utilizes ICBC Group's wide global network to offer comprehensive financial services. Through its extensive presence in 49 countries and regions, ICBC has become a global banking giant, promoting the worldwide growth of RMB business and enhancing trade and investment partnerships among collaborating nations.

The event, graced by Honorable Federal Minister of Finance Dr. Shamshad Akhtar, Mr. Jameel Ahmed, Governor of State Bank of Pakistan,



H. E. Jiang Zaidong, Ambassador of P. R. C. to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Mr. Zhang Weiwu, Vice President ICBC, and approximately 300 eminent representatives from the banking industry, corporate sectors and medias of both countries, received widespread acclaim. Mr. Li Bin, the Director-General of Macroeconomic Policy Bureau from the People's Bank of China delivered his insightful speech through video.

During the ceremony, Federal Finance Minister Pakistan Dr. Shamshad Akhtar, Governor State Bank of Pakistan Mr. Jameel Ahmed, H. E. Jiang Zaidong, Ambassador of Embassy of P. R. C. to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, ICBC Vice President Mr. Zhang Weiwu, and ICBC Karachi Branch CEO Mr. Zhou Bo, shared



profound insights, affirmed the mutual benefits of trade through Chinese currency (RMB) for both nations. They emphasized the event's historical significance in preventing financial risks, serving the high-quality development of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, and advancing the Belt and Road cooperation, as well as the groundbreaking potential of RMB in reshaping the future landscape of trade and

banking between China and Pakistan. This year marks the 10th anniversary of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) proposed by President Xi Jinping and also the 10th anniversary of the launch of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). The implementation of the Belt-and-Road Initiative and the rapid advancement of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) have propelled bilateral economic

and trade relations between China and Pakistan into new realms of collaboration. Consequently, the potential for the growth of RMB-related business in the Pakistani market is at an all-time high.

In addition to the ceremony, ICBC also inked strategic collaboration agreements, strengthening its commitment to fostering financial cooperation and innovation.

Pakistan Services Limited (PSL) holds a Corporate Briefing Session

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Services Limited (PSL) conducted its fourth Corporate Briefing Session at the Islamabad Marriott Hotel on Friday 27th October 2023, in compliance with the directives of the Pakistan Stock Exchange. The Senior Management of the Company, including the Vice Chairman of Hashoo Group and Director of the Company, Mr. Mohammad Akhtar Bawany; Chief Financial Officer, Mr. Tahir Mahmood; Company Secretary, Mr. Muhammad Amir; and Board Members, Mr. Shakir Abu Bakar, Mr. M. Ghazali Marghoob, Mr. Rohail Ajmal, Mr. Shahid Hussain, and Mr. Saleem Ahmed Ranjha, were present at the event.



The event was also attended by Chartered Accountants, Corporate Law Professionals, Lawyers, and members of the Company. Mr.

Amir, Company Secretary, opened the program by presenting a brief profile of PSL and shared corporate information about the Company.

He then shared the journey to the success of PSL and mentioned that PSL was incorporated in December 1958 and became a part of Hashoo Group in 1985. The Company is principally engaged in the hospitality business and owns and operates a chain of five-star Pearl-Continental Hotels across Pakistan. Currently, PSL owns six five-star hotels in major cities of Pakistan and Azad Jammu and Kashmir, each of which enjoys a prominent standing in the market. Meanwhile, PSL is expanding its portfolio in key destinations across Pakistan.

The Company is in the process of constructing two five-star hotels in Mirpur and Multan. The Company has introduced its new brand, "PC-Legacy," to cater to the demands of the four-star segment

of the business. In addition to the hospitality business, PSL also has interests in the travel and tourism business, operating under the prestigious banner of Destinations of The World (DOTW). This venture is licensed under a master franchise agreement signed with DOTW Dubai.

PSL is also engaged in the car rental business through its wholly-owned subsidiary, Pearl Tours & Travels (Pvt) Limited. Moreover, it plans to enter the real estate business through two wholly-owned subsidiaries in this sector. Later, the Chief Financial Officer, Mr. Tahir Mahmood, shared financial and operational highlights of the Company. The event concluded with a comprehensive question-and-answer session.

FPCCI demands last date to file income tax by 15 Days



Commerce Desk

KARACHI: Mr. Irfan Iqbal Sheikh, President FPCCI, has demanded that in order to facilitate and enable the willing and law-abiding tax filers of the business, industry and trade community of Pakistan, Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) should extend the last date to file income tax returns by 15 days without any penalties. I, as President of the apex body, is proposing that on the feedback from across Pakistan as FPCCI represents all 250 plus chambers, associations and trade bodies of the country, he added.

Mr. Irfan Iqbal Sheikh highlighted that this year the number of income tax return filers has increased by approximately 15 percent;

and, both the filers and the officers need some breathing space to handle the additional burden. It is an encouraging trend to witness the number of income tax filers increase and the remaining expected filers should also be given an opportunity to complete their filing process.

FPCCI Chief added that Wednesday, November 15, 2023 appears to be an appropriate date to accept the income tax returns as the authorities are well aware of the fact that finances and accounts of all the businesses in Pakistan were badly affected due to historic inflationary pressures; volatility in rupee value; restrictions on imports; multi-fold increase in utility payments and overall economic conditions of the country.

NFEH delegation meets KCCI President to discuss fire safety issues in Karachi

Commerce Desk

KARACHI: A delegation of the National Forum for Environment (NFEH) met the President of the Karachi Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Iftikhar Shaikh, in his office.

The meeting between the NFEH's delegation and the KCCI President took into consideration the fire safety and protection methods in place at residential, commercial, and industrial buildings in the city including shopping malls, markets, and housing societies. Both agreed to raise mass awareness and take steps to improve fire safety measures to protect the lives and belongings of the people in the city.

The KCCI President said that more extensive steps were required to ensure fire safety at residential, commercial, and industrial places in the city. He appreciated the efforts of the NFEH for promoting the culture of fire safety going on for the past 13 years. He expressed gratitude to the delegation for inviting him to the upcoming 13th Fire Safety Convention and Awards to be held. He said the KCCI would fully participate in the upcoming event to give its input on the vital issue of fire safety measures in the city.

Sunday Baazar

LAHORE: People are busy in buying vegetables in Sunday weekly bazaar at Shadman area, in Provincial Capital.



Photo: Online

Chinese Consulate, IPR organize seminar on third Belt and Road Forum

Bureau Report

LAHORE: Chinese Consulate Lahore and the Institute of International Relations and Media Research organized a seminar on the topic of the Third Belt and Road Forum in a local hotel here today. Minister SM Tanvir and Consul General Zhao Shiran participated as special guests and talked about the possibility of increasing cooperation between the two countries. The participants emphasized the promotion

of bilateral economic cooperation and people-to-people contacts.

Provincial Minister of Industry and Commerce SM Tanvir said that China is a sincere friend of Pakistan and has come to help Pakistan in every hour of difficulty. Two agreements were signed during Pak PM's recent visit to China while two agreements were signed during the visit of a delegation led by Chief Minister Punjab. The minister said that the relationship of friendship and cooperation between Pakistan and China is



getting stronger with each passing moment and the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor is a very important project for both countries. Yes. The first phase of CPEC

has been completed; the work on the second phase of industrialization has started. SM Tanvir invited Chinese companies to invest in Punjab's Special Economic Zone and Industrial Estates because Punjab has great scope for increasing cooperation in the valued industry for food processing, technical education, agriculture, livestock and other sectors. The minister said that the government will take advantage of China's technology and work together with China to boost industry. The

Chinese Consul General said that China and Pakistan will take all necessary measures to strengthen the strong relationship and noted that the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor is playing an important role in improving the economy of the countries in the region. A new era of Pakistan-China friendship and cooperation has started, he added. Chairman Institute of International Relations Muhammad Mahdi, professors, scholars and experts from various universities participated in the seminar.

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry' Businessmen Panel (BMP), while calling for tightening the noose of law through constant crackdowns on smuggling and hoarding of dollars to maintain stability of rupee, has said that the local currency has once again started declining mode after emerging among the world's top-performing currencies in the past two months.

FPCCI former president and BMP Chairman Mian Anjum Nisar said the rupee appreciation run is to be attributed to government's administrative measures against dollar smuggling and hoarding. The appreciation against informal channels that are used to smuggle currencies into neighboring countries. These administrative measures have clamped down speculative and hoarding practices of informal markets.

Punjab government sponsor thrilling professional cycling race at Liberty Chowk

Tahir Amin Malik

LAHORE: The under the esteemed leadership of the Chief Minister of Punjab, Honorable Mohsin Naqvi, the Punjab government proudly hosted a thrilling professional cycling race as a highlight of the Lahore Aye Festival. This exhilarating event was inaugurated by the distinguished Dr. Asif Tufail, Director-General of Sports, Punjab, and witnessed the honorable presence of General Secretary of the Pakistan Cycling Federation, Moazzam Khan Klair.

The race, a magnificent display of athleticism and determination, embarked from the iconic Liberty Roundabout, tracing a challenging route through Jail Road, Canal Road, and the illustrious Ferozepur Road, ultimately culminating at the bustling Liberty Chowk.

In a fierce competition, Sanaullah from HEC emerged triumphant, secur-



ing the first position, while Arslan from the Army demonstrated incredible skill and secured second place. Sajid Zia from Punjab displayed remarkable prowess, clinching third place in this fiercely contested race.

The seamless execution of this event was made possible through the relentless efforts of the Punjab Olympic Association and the Punjab Cycling Association. The diligent organizing committee, consisting of Colonel (Retired) Jehan-

zib Khan Niazi, Acting President of the Punjab Cycling Association, Waqar Ali, the Chief Organizer, Shahzada Butt, General Secretary of the Punjab Cycling Association, and the dedicated team of Sakhawat Ali Shah, Shafiq Bibi, Qaisar Masih, Akram Dodhi, Mumtaz Riaz, and Zahid Gulfam, ensured that this race was a resounding success.

Moazzam Khan, the General Secretary of the Pakistan Cycling Federation, highlighted the significance of organizing such competitions, emphasizing the need for more opportunities to be provided to athletes across various venues and categories.

The Punjab government, under the visionary leadership of Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi, remains committed to promoting sports and fostering an environment of healthy competition. Events like these not only showcase the incredible talent and dedication of our athletes but also unite our community in the spirit of sportsmanship.

Lahore Smart City Polo in Pink Tournament 2023 concluded

Sports Desk

LAHORE: Team Pebble Breaker defeated Lahore Smart City with a score of 5-3 to clinch the title in the Lahore Smart City Polo in Pink Tournament 2023 that concluded here at the Lahore Polo Club on Sunday.

Chairman of Lahore Smart City, Zahid Rafiq, graced the event as the chief guest. The occasion was attended by prominent figures including MD Muhammad Jahanzab Zahid, Chief Financial Officer Zahid Arif, Chief Operating Officer Imran Zahid, Lahore Polo Club President Azam Hayat Noon, executive committee members, families, children, and a multitude of passionate polo lovers.

The event also drew the presence of foreign women polo players and renowned showbiz personalities, with notable attendees like Juggun Kazim. The day



began with a spirited javelin competition, followed by an exciting motorcycle parade that thrilled the spectators.

The final match kept the audience on the edge of their seats. Pebble Breaker exhibited exceptional gameplay, ultimately defeating Lahore Smart City with a score of 5-3.

Bilal Haye was the standout performer, contributing three crucial goals, while Ahmed Ali Tiwana scored two goals for Pebble Breaker. On the opposing side, Farooq Amin Sufi, Mumtaz Abbas Niazi, and Agha Musa each scored a goal for Lahore Smart City.

In the Subsidiary Final, Team FG Polo displayed their prowess by defeating DS/Sheikhoo Steel with a score of 8-5½. The prize distribution ceremony concluded the event, with shields and prizes awarded to the winners, runners-up, and top performers by the esteemed chief guest.

Chameera replaces injured Kumara in Sri Lanka's ICC World Cup 2023 squad

Sports Desk

Dushmantha Chameera has been called into Sri Lanka's ICC World Cup 2023 squad after fellow pacer Lahiru Kumara was ruled out through injury, the tournament's event technical committee announced Sunday.

The 31-year-old Chameera, a veteran of 44 one-day internationals, was selected after Kumara was sidelined by a left thigh muscle injury sustained during training in Pune, where Sri Lanka play Afghanistan on Monday.

Kumara took 3-35 in Sri Lanka's eight-wicket thrashing of defending champions England in Bengaluru on Thursday.

That success was one of just two victories 1996 World Cup winners Sri Lanka have managed in their opening five games of this edition.

They are, however, currently fifth in the ICC World Cup 2023 points table and still in with a chance of qualifying for the semi-finals.

Chameera becomes Sri Lanka's third injury replacement at the World Cup after Chamika Karunaratne and Angelo Mathews.

Last week, former skipper Angelo Mathews was called into the Sri Lanka squad to replace injured fast bowler Matheesha Pathirana.

Sri Lanka U19 square one-day series against Pakistan U19



A Sports

LAHORE: Sri Lanka U19 defeated Pakistan U19 by three wickets in the fourth one-day at National Bank Stadium, Karachi levelling the five-match series 2-2 with a game to go.

Left-handed opening batter Shahzaib Khan dazzled with the bat, hitting a magnificent half-century.

However, it was overshadowed by Sri Lanka leg-spinner Malsha Tharupathi's four-wicket haul, which awarded the visiting team their second victory of the series.

After winning the toss, Sri Lanka invited the home side to bat first. Pakistan were dismissed for 186 in 43.1 overs on the back of Tharupathi's outstanding bowling effort, as he returned with four wickets at the expense of just 17 runs, helping restrict the home side to a below-par total.

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He was supported by right-arm pacer Ruvishan Perera, who picked up two wickets.

Shahzaib Khan top-scored for Pakistan U19, hitting 80 from 111, including four boundaries and three maximums. Captain Saad Baig also chipped in; he contributed with a 53-ball-45 and hit three fours as well.

Right-handed Riazullah Khan was retired hurt after he suffered an on-field injury. He walked off after scoring 14 from 22 and has been ruled out for the last match of the series.

Although Sri Lanka had a faltering start to the chase, solid knocks by Dinura Kalupahana (61, 77b, 5x4s, 1x6) and Rusanda Gamage (46, 62b, 2x4s) allowed the visitors to surmount the target in 40.4 overs, losing seven wickets over the course of the innings.

Pacers Aftab Ahmed and Ubaid Shah led Pakistan U19's counter-attack in the second innings. Aftab returned with three wickets while Ubaid grabbed two. However, their efforts with the ball remained insufficient as Sri Lanka U19 cruised to 189.

The fifth one-day is scheduled to be played on 31 October at the same venue.

West Indies Women A defeat Pakistan Women A to win one-day series



A Sports

LAHORE: West Indies Women A scaled down the target of 163 in 44.5 overs to win the third and final match against Pakistan Women A at Gaddafi Stadium, Lahore by three wickets and take the one-day series 2-1.

Pakistan Women A skipper Rameen Shamim bowled a tremendous spell, picking up four wickets and giving away only 13 runs in her 10 overs, but her spirited effort went in vain as Djenaba Joseph's unbeaten 51 steered the visitors over the line in the decisive encounter.

West Indies Women A began their chase unperturbed with the first-wicket partnership between Shunelle Sawh and Shabika Gajrani yielding 53 runs and reaching the 100-run mark for the loss of just two batters.

A Rameen-triggered collapse saw them slip from 104-2 to 106-6 with Zaida James, Trishna Holder and Sheneta Grimmond all dismissed for ducks.

Djenaba Joseph was able to stabilise the innings and got her team home with 31 balls to spare. Apart from Rameen, Saima Malik (2-36) and Anosha Nasir (1-32) were the other wicket-takers for Pakistan.

Earlier, Pakistan Women A got to a steady start with Shawaal Zulfiqar and Eyma Fatima stitching 49 runs for the opening partnership but lost their way, crashing to 63-6.

Useful contributions from Sidra Nawaz (27, 37b, 2x4s), Anosha Nasir (23, 56b, 1x4) and Humna Bilal (21 not out, 53b, 3x4s) lower down the order helped Pakistan to 162 all out in 44.4 overs.

Jahzara Claxton was the pick of the bowlers for the touring side with figures of 4-19 and was adjudged player of the match.

West Indies Women A captain Rashada Williams was declared player of the series after making 111 runs across the three matches.

The two teams will now partake in a T20 tri-series involving Thailand Women's Emerging Team as the third side, set to commence on 3 November at Gaddafi Stadium, Lahore.

Champions Trophy 2025 berth at stake amid ICC World Cup 2023: report

A Sports

LAHORE: The top seven sides at the conclusion of the group stage of the ongoing ICC World Cup 2023, besides hosts Pakistan, will qualify for the ICC Champions Trophy 2025, ESPN Cricinfo reported Sunday.

Defending champions Pakistan will get a direct qualification, regardless of where the men in green finish their World Cup campaign, since they are the hosts of the eight-team tournament, which will mark its return after eight years.

According to the details, an ICC spokesperson confirmed to ESPN Cricinfo, that the qualification scenario for the Champions Trophy 2025 was approved by the ICC Board in 2021 when the multi-national tournament was brought back.

However, several nations' cricket boards including those, who are not participating in the ongoing World Cup, were not aware



of the Champions Trophy 2025 qualification being dependent on the results of the mega event. Consequently, notable cricketing nations like West Indies, Ireland and Zimbabwe, who failed to qualify for this year's World Cup will not feature in the

Champions Trophy 2025.

For the unversed, ICC, in November 2021, announced a series of international cricket competitions for both men and women in the 2024-2031 cycle, which also features the 2025 and 2029 Champions

Trophy editions.

Moreover, the ICC had said in a statement that the Champions Trophy 2025 will be an eight-tournament and the structure "will follow previous editions with two groups of four, semi-finals and final".

It is worth mentioning here that for the 2013 and 2017 editions of the Champions Trophy, The top eight teams in the ODI rankings at a certain cut-off date were eligible to feature in the tournament.

Notably, the Champions Trophy 2025 qualification scenario was highlighted this week by Bangladesh captain Shakib Al Hasan following his side's upset defeat against the Netherlands.

"I mean, not the semi-final hope. It is not a semi-final possibility," said Shakib.

At least, do a little better. Suppose, you have to be in the [top] ranking 8 if you want to play in the Champions Trophy. So, there are still three matches left considering that in mind."

India defend 230 against England to stay perfect in World Cup 2023

A Sports

LUCKNOW: Mohammed Shami-led bowling attack dismantled England's batting lineup to power India to a thumping 100-run victory in the 29th match of the ICC World Cup 2023.

Set to chase a modest 230-run total, England batters failed against a dominant Indian bowling attack and could score 129 runs in response before bundling out in the 35th over.

Dawid Malan and Jonny Bairstow gave England a decent start by scoring 30 runs for the first wicket before Jasprit Bumrah struck twice, removing

Malan (14) and Joe Root (0), on successive deliveries to put India in control.

Mohammed Shami then further dented England's pursuit with two quick strikes, getting rid of Bairstow (14) and Stokes (0).

Kuldeep Yadav added further to the misery of England as he castled Jos Buttler with a sensational delivery, causing the defending champions to slip to 52/5 in the 16th over.

All-rounders Moeen Ali (15) and Liam Livingstone then attempted to anchor the run chase. The duo batted cautiously amid their 29-run stand before Shami struck again to deny England a recovery.

Livingstone was then joined by Chris Woakes and the pair could knit a meagre 17-run partnership before both fell in back-to-back overs.

Livingstone remained the top-scorer for England with a 46-ball 27, hitting two boundaries.

Tailenders David Willey and Adil Rashid (13) shared a 24-run partnership to get England past the 120-run mark but could not continue for long as the Indian pacers returned to wrap up the innings.

Willey remained unbeaten with a 17-ball 16 with the help of two sixes.

Mohammed Shami led the bowling attack for India with

4/22, followed by Bumrah's 3/32 while Kuldeep Yadav bagged two wickets.

England bowlers started off brilliantly after winning the toss and reduced India to 40-3 in the 12th over.

KL Rahul then joined hands with Rohit Sharma to help stabilize the Indian innings with a 91-run stand for the fourth wicket.

David Willey then removed KL Rahul (39) to break the stand to leave India reeling at 131-4.

Rohit Sharma played a cautious knock of 87 off 101 with the help of 10 boundaries and three sixes before a brilliant catch by Liam Livingstone off



Adil Rashid sent him back. Suryakumar Yadav then scored an anchoring 49 off 47, while Jasprit Bumrah played a

16-run cameo to drag India's total to 229-9 in their accumulative 50 overs.

David Willey led the bowling

charts for England with figures of 3-45, while Chris Woakes and Adil Rashid picked two wickets each.