**Barkat Rice Mills** 

Thousands attend JI's Gaza Solidarity March in Lahore

Thousands of citizens have attended Jamaat-e-Islami's (JI) Gaza March in Lahore to show solidarity with Palestinians in besieged densely populated strip and occupied West Bank suffering from the aggression of the Israeli occupation forces. Jamaat-e-Islami (JI) organised the Gaza Solidarity March at Lahore's Punjab University (PU) Campus Bridge... (Details on Page 8)



**US to Issue 'Visa Bans against Israeli** Extremists' – POLITICO

Simultaneously published from Islamabad, Lahore and Multan

Jamadi-ul-Awwal 5, Monday, November 20, 2023



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(a) @daily spokesman



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# Meeting

Chinese President Xi Jinping met with King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud of Saudi Arabia.



# China to host Ministers from Arab, Muslim Countries to end Israel's war on Gaza

Naveed Ahmad Khan

ISLAMABAD: Ministers from Arab and Muslim-majority countries will visit China on Monday as part of a tour aimed at ending Israel's war in Gaza, Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Faisal bin Farhan said on Saturday. The Palestine Chronicle reported.

"The first stop will be in China and will then move to a number of capitals to deliver the clear message that there must be a ceasefire immediately as well as aid and humanitarian needs must

be immediately delivered to Gaza," the Kingdom's top diplomat said in a post shared on social media platform X.

comments after a meeting with EU foreign policy chief Josep Borrell on the sidelines of the Manama Dialogue 2023 conference in Bahrain.

"We must work to end this crisis and end this war on Gaza as soon

as possible," Prince Faisal added. According to the Saudi Gazette, the extraordinary joint Arab-Islamic Summit, which was held in

 $tion \, tasking \, the \, foreign \, ministers \,$ of Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Egypt, Qatar, Turkiye, Indonesia, Nige-Prince Faisal made the ria, and Palestine to initiate immediate international action on behalf of all member states of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) and the Arab League.

"The goal is to formulate an international initiative to halt the war in Gaza and push for a genuine and serious political process, leading to a permanent and comprehensive peace in accordance with established interna-

Rivadh last week, issued a resolu-

tional references," the report said.

The forthcoming meeting in Beijing was confirmed on Sunday by China's state broadcaster CCTV, citing the country's foreign ministry spokesperson Mao Ning.

"During the visit, China will have in-depth communication and coordination with the delegation on ways to deescalate the ongoing Palestinian-Israeli conflict, protect civilians and seek a just settlement of the Palestinian question," said Mao.

In May, a poll conducted for Arab News by Yougov found

that the majority of Palestinian respondents - 80 percent, preferred China as a potential peace broker in the conflict with the occupation state, with the US seen as the least trusted mediator.

According to the Palestinian Ministry of Health, Israel has, thus far, killed 12,300 Palestinians, including over 5,000 children and over 3,300 women.

The Israeli army continues to pound civilian homes throughout the Gaza Strip with new massacres reported everywhere in the besieged enclave.

# Smog threat: Punjab makes wearing masks mandatory

Caretaker Punjab Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi has made wearing face masks mandatory in 10 districts of the province affected due to smog.

According to the notification, wearing face masks has been declared mandatory in 10 districts of Lahore and Gujranwala division.

The decision was taken for all smog-affected districts of Punjab given the deteriorating air qual-

Residents of Lahore, Nankana Sahib, Sheikhupura, Kasur, Gujrat, Sialkot, Narowal, Hafizabad and Mandi Bahauddin, the most affected districts by smog, have been asked to wear face

masks. According to the notification, issued on behalf of the health secretary, smog posed a serious and imminent threat to public health

in all age groups. "Hence, it is necessary to take all possible safety measures for prevention

# **Timely elections** interim govt's biggest priority: PM Kakar



跨 Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwarul Haq Kakar said that Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Imran Khan is safe in prison.

PTI Chairman Khan was arrested from his Lahore he was slapped with a fiveyear disqualification and a three-year prison term in the Toshakhana criminal case.

In an interview with a private channel, PM Kakar guestioned why the caretaker government is being labeled as biased. He asked that did the caretaker government imprison former prime minister Imran Khan?

PM Kakar said that the PTI chief was arrested legally and 2024.

he is facing cases against him in court.

Imran Khan was arrested before the caretaker government took charge, he added. The premier said, "Think 10 times before leveling allega-

Moreover, caretaker Prime Minister Anwarul Haq Kakar that holding timely elections is the biggest priority of the interim government so that the newly elected government can come into power and serve the nation.

It is pertinent to mention residence on August 5 after here that the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) on Friday notified general elections on February 8, 2024.

> According to details, the Election Commission of Pakistan issued a notification of the date of the general election under Section 57 of the Elec-

> The notification said that in light of the Supreme Court's order, the general elections will take place on February 8,

# Solangi leaves for home from Maldives



News Desk

MALE( MALDIVES): The Federal Minister of Information, Broadcasting, and Parliamentary Affairs, Murtaza Solangi, left for home on Sunday after attending the Presidential Inauguration 2023.

The minister was seen off by senior officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at Male, said a Ministry of Foreign Affairs post on X, formerly Twitter.

# **Nawaz Sharif** to be next PM, claims **Marriyum Aurangzeb**

### **Spokesman Report**

LAHORE: Pakistan Muslim League Nawaz (PML-N) leader Marriyum Aurangzeb said Sunday that the opponents already knew that Nawaz Sharif would be the next prime minister (PM.

In a statement, Marriyum Aurangzeb said that the country could not bear the consequences of the politics of hatred anymore. "Whoever voted by the nation would be the next prime minister."

The PML-N leader said that she would agree with Pakistan People's Party (PPP) co-chairman Asif Ali Zardari's statement that transparent elections will be held in the country. An individual could be declared a blue-eyed person who had been allowed to contest polls only once in 23

years, she added. She said that the nation could not get rid of inflation by exchanging harsh statements. The politician added that PML-N leaders are doing responsible politics. "We came into power at a time when Pakistan was near to default. We resumed the legislation process in the assembly to improve the situation."

Marriyum Aurangzeb claimed that the opponents were raising the same slogan of 'Vote Ko Izzat Do' which



was started by Nawaz Sharif in 2017.

She said that PML-N would not make tall claims and be honest with the nation.

Earlier, former prime minister Nawaz Sharif said Pakistan's currency, economy and governance system had been devastated, and prices increased by five-fold.

"It is our responsibility and duty to emancipate the people from price hikes and poverty," Nawaz Sharif, who returned from self-exile in London on October 21, addressing to businessmen said.

Nawaz claimed that Pakistan became the 24th largest global economy between 2013 to 2017. "We kept the US dollar static at Rs 104 rate for four years. The dollar would have dropped to Rs40 to 50 if our policies and development process were not interrupted," he claimed.

"People want education, health facilities and development," he said. "It is their right, and it is the responsibility of the state to provide these facilities," the PML-N leader said.

# First flight of Malaysian Batik Air lands inPakistan

### Commerce Desk

KARACHI: First Kuala Lumpur-Karachi flight of Malaysia's Batik Air landed in Pakistan. The flight was given a traditional water salute upon landing at the Karachi International Airport.

Batik Air of Malaysia will operate three weekly flights from Kuala Lumpur to Karachi. Malaysian Consul General and Civil Aviation Officers (CAA) welcomed the passengers.

The new route strengthens the airline's ties between the countries, fostering both business and leisure travel opportunities.

On November 1, Azerbaijan's national airline launched direct flight operations to Pakistan. Azerbaijan's national airline -AZAL - commenced direct flights to Pakistan, while an inaugural flight from Azerbaijan will reach Islamabad airport tonight.

## Senate election likely to be held in March

😂 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Senate elections are anticipated to take place in the first week of March.

the general election, the relevant authorities initiated the preparations for the senate election as well. It is highly anticipated that the schedule for the Senate election may

Following the announcement of

general elections. A total of 50 senate members are expected to retire on March 11. meanwhile, the total number of senate members will remain at 96 after four seats become vacant after the merger of FATA.

be released immediately after the

Following the general elections, the elections will be held for the 48 vacant seats in the Senate. Elected members from national and provincial assemblies will vote for senators Earlier in the day, the Former

president Asif Ali Zardari has said that the country has been moving towards transparent elections. Talking to media Zardari said

that his People's Party has been fully prepared for the upcoming general elections. It is to be mentioned here that the Election Commission of Pakistan has announced that the elections will be held in the country on February 08 next year.

# PTI's Ali Nawaz | PPP has been

LAHORE: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader and former MNA Ali Nawaz Awan has joined Istehkam-e-Pakistan Party (IPP.

As per details, the former MNA met the IPP Patron in chief Jahangir Tareen and President Aleem Khan whereas Awn Chaudhry and other party leaders were also present in the meeting. In the meeting, Ali Nawaz Awan announced that  $\bar{h}e$  has parted ways with PTI and officially joined Istehkam-e-Pakistan Party. The IPP leadership welcomed the former PTI leader in the party.

Ali Nawaz Awan was earlier arrested in Batal area of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's Mansehra. The former PTI MNA was reportedly in residence of local party leader Razaullah Khan who was also arrested along with his cousins. Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI)

is already embroiled in legal battles as its top leadership remains behind bars and several senior leaders have quit the party. PTI chief Imran Khan and vice-chairman Shah Mahmood Qureshi are also incarcerated at the Adiala jail and undergoing trial in the cipher case. It is pertinent to mention here that former federal ministers and PTI leaders Ghulam Sarwar Khan and Farrukh Habib announced that they were parting ways with the party.

# Awan joins IPP fully prepared for elections, says AsifZardari



**Bureau Report** 

KARACHI: Former president Asif Ali Zardari has said that the country has been moving towards transparent elections.

Talking to media Zardari said that his People's Party has been fully prepared for the upcoming general elections. It is to be mentioned here

that the Election Commission of Pakistan has announced that the elections will be held in the country on February 08 next He reposed his 'full confi-

dence' on the election commission to conduct a transparent election. Zardari, who has been co-chairman of the PPP, claimed

that the People's Party has been the only political party of the country with ability to contest elections in any environment.

Monday, November 20, 2023

# CM Mohsin Naqvi inaugurates, OPD and indoor block of Institute of Cardiology Multan

∆sim Tanveer

MULTAN: "Mohsin Speed", pays off in Multan, the expansion project of the Institute of Cardiology, being delayed for 8 years has been completed in 5 months. Caretaker Chief Minister Punjab Mohsin Naqvi inaugurated of Cardiology Multan under its expansion project and also laid the foundation stone of a 152-beds.

CM also announced the upgradation of cardiology emergency along ology Multan and while talking with with increasing the number of beds from 60 to 120. Mohsin Naqvi direct- the party of journalists sitting in front ed to complete the upgradation work of him after the Chief Ministership. by the mid of January. Mohsin Naqvi

visited Expansion Project of OPD and ment is coming and they will take after assemia Ward. Indoor Block of Multan Cardiology.

CM expressed his dissatisfaction over the construction quality of floors and stairs and ordered to immediately improve their quality. CM inquired after the health of patients in the cardiology, emergency, OPD and OPD and indoor block of the Institute indoor block. The patients endorsed the availability of medicines along with provision of medical test facility.

CM after inaugurating the expansion project of the Institute of Cardithe media stated that he will sit with We are doing our work, new govern-

remaining affairs.

The completion of Nishtar-II project is in the final phases. Construction and restoration of one ward of Nishtar-I is ongoing and then construction and restoration of other 12 wards will be done. The construction and restoration work of the Multan Children Hospital's Medical, OPD and emergency wards is in the final phases.

A pathology lab equipped with latest equipment will be established at the Children Hospital. We are providing funds for the restoration of old block of the Children Hospital and for the establishment of a Thal-

Work is ongoing on emergency basis for the restoration and improvement of medical gas system in the Children Hospital. I used to feel sorrow over seeing the plight of the emergency of children hospital and now we are making it state-of-the-art. We are working for the improvement of hospitals and will ensure timely completion of the ongoing projects.

We are working for the provision of health facilities in Punjab. We are serving the people with our available resources. The medicine budget in the government hospitals is for the one year. Meanwhile prices increased but budget was not increased.



## Carelessness

KHARIAN: The car suffered an accident due to high speed at GT Raod, while all the people in the car and all the people walking on the road were miraculously safe.



# Trade Associations urge CDA to focus on development works in markets

**™** Tariq Khattak

ISLAMABAD: Presidents of market associations of Islamabad during a meeting at Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI) showed concerns that the CDA is not doing any development works in markets due to which the traders are facing lot of problems and urged that the CDA should focus on development works in all major markets to facilitate the growth of trade activities

Addressing the office bearers of market associations, Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari, President, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry said that traders are paying various taxes to the CDA and are making significant contribution to its revenue, therefore, it is the responsibility of the civic body to develop markets on modern lines for smooth growth of trade activities.

Engr. Azhar ul Islam Zafar, Vice President ICCI said that unity among traders is the key requirement to get their to work closely with the CDA to start



issues resolved and assured that the ICCI would keep fighting for their cause.

Khalid Iqbal Malik, Group Leader ICCI said that the business community is the main stakeholder towards the revenue generation of the CDA and the civic body should compensate them by ensuring better development of all the

Zafar Bakhtawari, former President and Secretary General UBG Pakistan said that Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari is making all out efforts for resolving the key issues of the business community and assured that he would continue

markets.

Muhammad Ejaz Abbasi former President ICCI, Ajmal Baloch President and Akhtar Hussain Secretary General Aabpara Market, Shehzad Shabbir Abbasi President Super Market F-6 Markaz, Asad Aziz President Jinnah Super F-7 Markaz, Raja Hassan Akhtar President Blue Area, Azhar Igbal President Melody Market, Syed Altaf Hussain Shah President Sitara Market G-7 Markaz, Akhlaq Abbasi President G-10 Markaz, Nasir Chaudhry President I&T Center G-8/1, Ahmed Khan President F-10 Markaz, Tahir Ayub

Secretary General Wholesale Fruits & Vegetable Market I-11/4, Naeem Awan President G-11 Markaz, Raja Fayyaz Gul President I-8 Markaz,, Zahid Dhanial President Markazi Union Bara Kahu, Zahid Gujjar President G-10/4 I&T Centre, Muzaffar Hashmi President Milk Association Islamabad, Ajab Khan President and Waseem Abbasi Secretary General G-8 Markaz Motor Dealers, Abid Khan President G-13 Markaz, Zahid Hamid President Jewelers Association, Safdar Abbasi President I-9 Markaz, Zahir Abbasi President E-11 Markaz, Nisar Ahmed Langa President G-9/4 Khalid Chaudhry and others spoke on the occasion. They highlighted that markets need carpeting of roads, repair of footpaths, restoration of streetlights, wash rooms, filtration plants, new sewerage lines, improved sanitation and better cleaning and stressed that the CDA should do all these development in markets without further delay to facilitate the smooth growth of

# CM Mohsin Naqvi Reaches Children Hospital Multan

MULTAN: Chief Minister Punjab Mohsin Naqvi reached the Children Hospital in Multan and reviewed the construction activities and quality by visiting the ongoing expansion project. CM ordered to complete the Children Hospital expansion project by December 20th. CM directed to shift electricity poles from the premises of Children Hospital. CM also inspected various wards of the Children Hospital and reviewed available facilities. CM inquired after the health of children patients admitted in the Old Children Hospital. Mohsin Naqvi expressed his affection compassion with the patient children and prayed for their speedy recovery. ACS South Punjab, Secretaries of Health, C&W, RPO, Commissioner, Deputy Commissioner and other officials were also present on the occasion.

# Funeral prayers of Sardar Kaleem Akhtar Rabbani performed

跨 Abdul Majeed Tahir

BALOCH: The funeral prayers of Sardar Kaleem Akhtar Rabbani, the younger brother of Azad Jammu and Kashmir's Minister of Tourism, Archeology and Mineral Resources were performed in Baloch, after which he was



buried in his ancestral graveyard. Prime Minister of Azad Jammu and Kashmir. Chaudhry Anwarul Haque, Government Ministers Azhar Sadiq, Raja Faisal Mumtaz Rathore, Malik Zafar, Chaudhry Akhlaq, Dewan Chaghtai, Sardar Muhammad Hussain Advocate, Qasim Majeed, Sardar Amir Altaf, Yasir Sultan, Special Assistant Ahmed Sagheer, Member Kashmir Council Sardar Abdul Razzaq, Peer A large number of people including political and social figures including Noorul Arafin, Pir Shamsul Arafin, Pir Zahid Qasmi participated.

The funeral prayer of the deceased was led by Pir Fazl Rabbani Sajjada Nashin Darbar Alia Nirian Sharif. Addressing the condonce reference held earlier. Prime Minister Chaudhry Anwarul Hag said that this world is very temporary and everyone has to leave here. The death of the young brother of Tourism Minister Faheem Akhtar Rabbani is a big shock. We pray to Allah to grant patience to all the families of the deceased including Sardar Faheem Akhtar Rabbani and his uncle Sardar Tariq Rabbani and brothers Sardar Waseem Rabbani. Prime Minister Chaudhry Anwar-ul-Haq further said that this world is a place of action and the life hereafter depends on the actions here.

Speaking on this occasion, Minister of Tourism and Archeology Sardar Faheem Akhtar Rabbani thanked the ministers including the Prime Minister and other people for coming to share their sorrow in the hour of grief. Other speakers addressed the condolence reference. He expressed his condolence to the family members of the deceased and said that the deceased was a very noble person and mourned in the entire region due to his death at a young age.

# Gomal varsity 132nd Syndicate meeting held under the chairmanship of VC

Adam Khan Wazir

DERA ISMAIL KHAN: Gomal University Dera Ismail Khan (GUD) 132nd Syndicate meeting was held in Peshawar under the chairmanship of Vice Chancellor Gomal University Professor Dr. Shakib Ullah on Sunday. The meeting was attended by all the members of Gomal University including Higher Education Commission (HEC) Islamabad, Higher Education Department Peshawar (HED) Establishment Section Peshawar, Finance Section Peshawar, while a member was present in an online meeting.

In the meeting, all the members expressed grief over the demise of Dera Ismail Khan's well-known lawyer Pir Amjad Ali Shah Advocate and prayers were also offered for the repose of the deceased.

# Harnessing Natural Resources in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa for Socio-Economic Development (Forestry potential of 2,000 billion annually)

Introduction

In the contemporary global economic landscape, marked by market downturns, the spectre of inflation, rising unemployment and persistent poverty has cast a shadow over developing nations, including Pakistan.

Compounding these economic challenges, the ongoing conflict between Ukraine and Russia has introduced another layer of complexity into this multifaceted quandary. It is essential to underscore that unemployment has long been a persistent concern in Pakistan, predating the current wave of global crises.

### **Context and Focus Area**

Within the purview of this analysis, we direct our attention to the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa region, located in the north-western expanse of Pakistan.

Unlike some other provinces, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa exhibits a relatively limited propensity for arable lands. This distinctive feature can be attributed to its predominantly rugged topography, characterized by rivers, forests, and mountainous terrain, which sets it apart in terms of agricultural employment opportunities. Yet, it is precisely this unique topographical profile that harbors abundant natural assets, waiting to be strategically harnessed for the purpose of catalyzing economic rejuvenation and illuminating a brighter socio-economic horizon.

## **Untapped Ecological Wealth**

As we delve into the ecological wealth embedded in the forests and mountains of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, empirical data unveil the extent of nature's generosity. Nearly 45% of Pakistan's total forested land lies within the boundaries of this province. Nevertheless, the potential of these natural resources remains largely untapped, pushing a considerable segment of the population in regions such as Malakand, Hazara, newly merged districts & Chitral to seek employment opportunities overseas.

## **Economic Potential**

Endowed with nature's bounty, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa possesses the latent capacity to establish an industry of monumental worth,



approximating a staggering 2,000 Billion Pkr. This goal can be achieved by judiciously exploiting the wealth enshrined within

its forests and riverine resources. At present, the province comprises approximately 2 million hectares of forested terrain. Expert insights suggest that an endeavor to double this

an annual industry valued at 2 trillion rupees, facilitating gainful employment for up to 5 million

### **Comparative Analysis**

Comparing Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's Forest coverage per capita with neighbouring countries yields striking insights. China leads with 1499 square meters of forest coverage per capita, followed by Iran with 1265 square meters and India with 525 square meters. In stark contrast, Pakistan lags behind, with a mere 65 square meters per capita. These statistics underscore the substantial disparity in the utilization of forested resources, evident in the instances of China, India, and Germany.

Expanding the forested land in Khvber Pakhtunkhwa, coupled with the strategic introduction of agroforestry, holds the potential to usher in a paradigm shift. The resultant benefits transcend economic prosperity, promising to alleviate the persistent scourge of unemployment. This approach charts a transformative trajectory, fostering employment opportunities within the province, and even accommodating those compelled to seek livelihoods beyond the national boundary.

## **Environmental Stewardship**

Leveraging the abundant natural endowments of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, encompassing forests and water resources, not only

and financial dividends but also underscores a proactive approach to mitigating the pernicious effects of global environmental fluctuations. This challenge carries profound implications, not only for Pakistan but also in the broader global context.

promises economic opportunities

In conclusion, the untapped ecological and economic potential of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa presents a compelling opportunity for strategic development and environmental stewardship, offering a beacon of hope in the face of economic adversity and environ-

mental challenges. Writer is Caretaker Minister for Food, Agriculture, Livestock and Forests, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa





S
ings
5:16 am
11:53 am
3:25 pm
5:03 pm
6:30 pm
֡

### EMEDGENCY

EMERGENCI	
Rescue (Police)	15
Bomb Disposal	15
Fire Services Rawalpindi/	
Islamabad1122 & 1	6
Emergency Ambulance 1122	&
& Rescue Services 445112	22
Motorway Police926604	4
Motorway Police9270601-2	0

### **Women Police Stations**

9222596				
9270601-20				
<b>ENQUIRY</b>				
115				

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

### **HOSPITALS**

CMH	5611111
MH	561116
MH	561116
Cantt Hospital	9270907-11
DHQ	5556311-4
RGH	9290301-7
Holy Family	9290322-7
PIMS	9261170-79
Polyclinic	9218300-09
Shifa International	4603666

### **DEDADTMENTS**

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

### **COMPLAINTS**

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

72 families in Karachi facing long-standing land issues despite repeated requests for possession

### Mews Desk

ISLAMABAD: 72 families are forced to endure hardships in pursuit of justice as they have been deprived of their rightful ownership of lands. For the past 28 years, they have been struggling, knocking on every governmental door but have received no relief

except false assurances. According to the details, the Association of Affectees of Plot Numbers RS-1 to RS-72 (ST-2) Block 10, Federal B Area Scheme 16, Mansoora, Karachi, have been continuously submitting requests for the possession of lands purchased from KDA (Karachi Development Authority) over the past 28 years, facing bureaucratic hurdles.

There isn't a single governmental institution where the affected parties haven't submitted their requests. Recently, the General Secretary of the Association, Professor Shariq Iftikhar Uddin, Meeting held in the office of Director Land KDA, Ashfaq Ahmed Mallah, urging their protest to be officially recorded for obtaining possession of the plots.

A written application was also submitted on November 15, 2023. Despite multiple meetings and reminders, this long-standing issue, involving widows, elders, and orphans who are legally entitled to their rights, remains unresolved even after 28 years, depriving them of their lawful, constitutional, and religious rights. They have been subjected to unjust treatment, and it is urged upon the authorities to promptly resolve this matter.

# 37th AGM and **Conference of PSDE will** be held on November 20 to 23, 2023 in Multan

### **Spokesman Report**

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE) is hosting the 37th Annual General Meeting and Conference of the Pakistan Society of Development Economists (PSDE), addressing the critical theme of "Breaking the Aid-Debt Chains." This distinguished event, in collaboration with Bahauddin Zakariya University (BZU), Multan, is scheduled to take place from November 20 to 23, 2023.

In the face of chronic fiscal challenges, persistent political uncertainty, and ongoing inflationary trends, Pakistan finds itself grappling with domestic and international financial obligations. PIDE's 37th PSDE Conference serves as a platform to address the pressing need to evaluate Pakistan's financing constraints and fiscal challenges, exacerbated by excessive government spending without sustainable feasibility

While Pakistan has historically sought foreign aid to finance trade gaps and domestic development, decades of policy failures necessitate practical reforms and policy prioritization. The 37th PSDE Conference aims to deliberate on how international financing aligns with domestic growth agendas and seeks sustainable solutions to economic challenges, especially in the context of recent environmental catastrophes like devastating floods.

A crucial aspect to be explored during the conference is the assessment of government spending at various tiers and revenue realization against potential over the last decade. This evaluation, encompassing federal, provincial, and local levels, is vital for achieving consolidated fiscal balances and efficient governance. The role of local governments, a fundamental pillar of governance, will be scrutinized for its continuity and efficiency, especially in achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The highlights of this year's conference include the Quaid-i-Azam Lecture by Prof. Jeffery Sachs of Colombia University, a special invited lecture on "Social Equity and Economic Reforms" by Luis Felipe Calva of the World Bank, a special invited lecture by Prof. Abid Aman Burki of LUMS on "Aid Effectiveness Revisited in the Context of Pakistan", a special invited lecture on "Fiscal Management for the Revival of the Economy" by Faisal Rasheed of the Oxford Policy Management, 6 panel discussions on various themes pertinent to the revival of Pakistan's economy, and technical papers on various topics.

The cohosts of PSDE's 37th Annual Conference, organized by PIDE, include the World Bank Group, UNICEF, RASTA, the Bank of Punjab, Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund, Saudi Pak Agricultural and Industrial Investment Company, and BZU School of Economics.

# Inauguration

ISLAMABAD: First Lady Begum Samina Alvi inaugurating Pakistan Foreign Office Women's Association's Annual Charity Bazar, at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, on Sunday.



# World Peace Jirga Programme

ISLAMABAD: Rayayatullah Khan (Khan Baba) said that I wanted for many days to issue a statement to my Karachi group members about how much Allah is pleased with the service of His oppressed servant. The servant who intends to serve the people. If yes, then take time for service. We are also taking new members in our group and their registration is going on simultaneously. We had a high level meeting with the Interior Minister of Pakistan in which he was informed that our World Peace Jirga The



program is working simultaneously in all the provinces.

We are organizing a great seminar in Islamabad which will have two sections. In one of trade; similarly we are going section the caretaker Prime to Gwadar in Balochistan and Minister will be invited as the will start a technical program

the Chief of Army Staff will be invited so that we can tell them that those who are working day and night for peace on the borders deserve rewards and tributes. The rewards that Allah has bestowed on Pakistan are unmatched anywhere in the world. I request the Karachi group to join our platform as soon as possible because the swearing in the ceremony will be held very soon.

Very soon the Jirga will be sworn in. Karachi is the bastion

chief guest and in the other there which will benefit everyone. In the current situation, we have only one motto that "first accountability then election" and Pakistan Army has full support to make this motto alive. After Britain, we intend to go to Canada and America and there will be help from Allah too. At the end of the first month of 2024, you guys will see how much investment we are bringing in Pakistan. We will create a directorate of the World Peace Jirga Program in Islamabad, in which each province will have a separate house and we will create its head office in the United States.

# Bring down oil prices in line with lowering global trend: PIAF

### **Spokesman Report**

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Industrial & Traders Associations Front (PIAF) has called for passing on the full relief of cut in petroleum products in the international market to the local consumers, as global oil prices have dropped around 6% to their lowest in four months. Brent futures settled down \$3.76, or 4.6%, to \$77.42 a barrel. U. S. West Texas Intermediate crude (WTI) shed \$3.76, or 4.9%, to \$72.90. Both Brent and WTI earlier traded at their lowest since July 7, at \$76.60 and \$72.16, respectively.

PIAF Chairman Faheemur Rehman Saigol, in a statement issued here, asked the government to bring down price of petrol in line

with fluctuations in global oil prices and appreciation of the rupee against the US dollar. According to reports, the demand worries triggered by fears of a slowdown in economic growth in China and expectations of further interest rate hikes in the US underpinned the decline in oil prices. While markets await more signals from the US Federal Reserve's (Fed) monetary policy, investors fear that hiking the power tariffs, the higher US rates could potentially hurt oil demand in the world's largest oil consumer. Meanwhile, the American es and power theft besides Petroleum Institute's expectations of crude oil inventories showed a fall of about 2.42 million barrels last week, signaling a rise in demand in the

world's largest oil consumer.



government should focus on controlling the transmission and distribution lossimproving the performance of power companies to save the consumers from further burden.

The PIAF Chairman was of the view that the govern-He said that instead of ment could mobilize the

required resources through increasing the number of taxpayers, reducing line losses and power theft, and ending exemptions to narrow the fiscal deficit instead of increasing the power tariff. He said the last increase in power tariff left the industrial sector, particularly the export industry like textile, uncompetitive in comparison to regional competitors. This may lead to the loss of more export orders and render many more people

Despite the tariff surge, he said, power companies would not be able to recover the targeted revenue loss of around 28-30%. At the same time, it will force many consumers to stop paying their bills, which have become unbearable.

# Four female security guards at THQ Hospital Pindadan Khan dismissed due to political interference

 $ISLAMABAD: THQ\ Hospital\ Pindadan\ Khan\ is\ a\ victim\ of\ misman-pindadan\ Franklar (Application of March 1995). The properties of th$ agement due to political interference. The local administration is helpless. People's demand to take notice from DC Jhelum, Provincial Ombudsman, and Secretary Health.

Four female security guards of Prihvet Company posted at THQ Hospital Pindadan Khan were dismissed on public complaints.

In THQ Hospital PD Khan, government affairs are suffering from mismanagement due to political interference. A few days ago, AC PD Khan visited the hospital where there was no doctor on duty.

The female security guards kept pacing back and forth in the labor room and in the name of Mubarak and sweets, misbehaving with the patients was a daily routine.

People have demanded to take notice from the concerned institutions, including Deputy Commissioner Jhelum, Provincial Ombudsman, and Secretary Health.

## AIOU to close admissions today

### **₿ PNP**

ISLAMABAD: Today (Monday, November 20) is the last day for admission to the programs offered in second phase of autumn 2023 semester at Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU). According to Director Admissions, this is the final date and will not be extended further. Vice Chancellor AIOU, Prof. Dr. Nasir Mahmood, has expressed hope that prospective students will take advantage of this opportunity to enroll. The last date for admission was originally set for November 7, but some students missed the deadline. They were given an extension until November 20 to apply. Dr. Nasir explained that the academic calendar prevents the date from being extended any further due to the semester system.

Admission forms and prospectus of Associate degree in Arts (BA General), Associate degree in Commerce (B. Com), Associate degree in Education, BS (ODL) programs, B. Ed programs, BBA, postgraduate diplomas and certificate courses are available on the university website.

# Body of woman in mutilated condition found, woman assassinator held

### 👺 Raza Naqvi

ATTOCK: Body of a woman in mutilated condition was found while assassinator of a woman, whom body was found along with CPEC, was arrested, Police sources sa

In the first incident, body of a woman in mutilated condition from the bank of river Haro in the limits of Attock Police station. Police sources said that some passerby spotted body of woman in her 20s was found at the bank of river Haro near village Golra. On getting information, a police party reached at the spot and shifted the body to district headquarters hospital Attock for autopsy. According to Police, the woman was strangled to death and the body was in multiated condition and was beyond recognition. Police registered a case and launched further investigation. In the second incident, Pindigheb Police resolved a blind murder case of a woman whom body was found along with CPEC on April 8 this year. Police sources said Raees Ahmed - a native of Mardan has shot dead his sister in law over honor and later thrown his body along with CPEC to conceal the crime. The spokesman has said that the body was identified through NADRA and taken in to custody the suspect who during interrogation has confessed to the killing of the woman

# One killed, four injured in two incidents in Pindigheb

## 👺 Raza Naqvi

PINDIGHEB: One young man was killed while four others injured among a couple in two different incidents in the limits of Pindigheb Police station on Sunday, Police and hospital sources said. In the first incident two young men belonging to village Tout were going on their motorcycle when reached at Jabba more near Meera Sharif, their motorcycle collided with a tractor trolley resultantly one of the men on motorcycle died on the spot while other was injured critically. In another incident, in the same police station limits, four persons riding in two different motorcycles were injured as they collided with each other near village Sourag. The injured among them are a man and his wife.

The injured were shifted to the tehsil headquarters hospital Pindigheb from where the couple was shifted to Rawalpindi due to their critical condition. Police registered two separate cases and launched further investigation.

# Tank police nabbed 07 gambling accused



### 跨 🛮 Adam Khan Wazir

TANK: On the instructions of District Police Officer, Tonk Iftikhar Ali Shah, the police took a major action against animal fighting

In this regard, under the supervision of DSP Jandola Said Marjan Khan, the informant informed SHO Gul Imam Rafiullah Khan during the patrol, that at Khali Dagar near village Khyber some persons are engaged in ruthlessly fighting pheasants and gambling

On which SHO Gul Imam along with policemen immediately

took action and reached the spot. While with the best strategy, the accused Rifatullah, Shams Ul Zaman, Mudassar, Samiullah, Mehtab Wold, Sanaullah and Anwar Kamal arrested the resident Luky Marwat red-handed while engaging in pheasant fighting and gambling on them.

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# Israel begins limited fuel deliveries to Gaza

nder mounting international pressure, Israel began limited shipments of fuel to blockaded Gaza Saturday, but the United Nations said the supplies are only half of what is needed to provide water and power for the enclave's 2.3 million people as the Israeli-bombed region struggles with an increasing humanitarian crisis. "Following long weeks of delay, the Israeli Authorities approved only half of the daily minimum requirements of fuel for humanitarian operations in Gaza," the head of the UN agency for Palestinian refugees, UNRWA, Philippe Lazzarini, said in a statement Saturday.

"This is far from enough to cover the needs for desalination plants, sewage pumps, hospitals, water pumps in shelters, aid trucks, ambulances, bakeries and communications networks to work without interruption," he added. "Humanitarian organizations should not be forced to make tough decisions between competing lifesaving activities," he said. Fuel restrictions are curtailing aid efforts, the UN agency said amid reports of fresh Israeli attacks on schools and other civilian infrastructure and rising needs among more than 1.5 million displaced Gazans. Fuel deliveries for aid operations have been largely prohibited since Oct. 7.

Almost 12,000 Gazans have been killed and thousands others wounded since the conflict began, according to the latest situation report by the UN humanitarian agency (OCHA). The lack of fuel has led to communications shutdowns, shuttered water stations, hospital closures and reduced aid deliveries across Gaza. The situation has worsened since Israel closed all borders for aid deliveries into Gaza on 7 October and, through a deal with Egypt, allowed limited shipments two weeks later through the

On Wednesday, Israel allowed about 23,000 litres, or half a tanker truck, of fuel to be delivered to UNRWA for humanitarian purposes. Israel authorized 120,000 litres to be delivered on Saturday, which will only cover half of daily critical needs. UNRWA said they were informed that the same amount would be delivered every two days.

Current approved fuel deliveries into Gaza are not enough, UNRWA's chief said. "This is far from enough to cover the needs for desalination plants, sewage pumps, hospitals, water pumps in shelters, aid trucks, ambulances, bakeries and communications networks to work without interruption," Lazzarini said. "Fuel should not be re stricted for these activities."

Without the full amount of fuel, he said, people will have only two-thirds of their daily needs of clean drinking water. Without adequate fuel supplies, large parts of Gaza will continue to be flooded with sewage further increasing risks of diseases, and 70 per cent of solid waste will not be removed, posing "a major health hazard", Lazzarini said.

# Decline of the BJP and Opposition to India's Policies - I

va, aiming to shape India's cultural and political identity through a Hindu perspective, has sparked intense debate and examination. Advocates argue that it fosters a unified national identity, but there are notable apprehensions and critiques regarding its adverse effects.

A major point of criticism against Hindutva is its perceived exclusiveness, which could marginalize religious and cultural minorities. By accentuating a Hindu-centric identity, there's a risk of alienating diverse communities that enrich India's fabric. This exclusivity runs counter to the secular principles outlined in the Indian Constitution, guaranteeing equal rights and protection to all citizens irrespective of their religious or cultural affiliations.

The association of Hindutva with hyper-nationalism raises concerns about communal polarization. When taken to extremes, this ideology contributes to religious tensions, disrupting the peaceful coexistence of India's diverse communities. The blurred line between cultural nationalism and religious chauvinism results in the marginalization of religious minorities and fosters an atmosphere of distrust and animosity.

Critics of Hindutva accuse some proponents of engaging in historical revisionism to align with their narrative. This revisionism involves reinterpreting historical events and figures to fit the ideology's

he ideology of Hindut- agenda, potentially creating a distorted understanding of India's pluralistic past and influencing public perceptions, thereby exacerbating divisions among commu-

The close association of Hindutva with the political landscape, particularly through the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), raises concerns about the erosion of secular principles. The intertwining of religion and politics undermines the secular foundation of the Indian state, impacting the rights and freedoms of individuals who don't adhere to Hinduism. The

state's obligation to treat all religions equally is compromised in favor of a Hindu-centric agenda.

While Hindutva emphasizes cultural nationalism rooted in Hindu traditions, there are concerns about the potential homogenization of diverse cultures within India. The country's numer-

ous languages, traditions, and practices contribute to its unique identity, and an overemphasis on a singular cultural narrative stifles this diversity, hindering the rich tapestry of India.

The negative aspects of Hindutva raise valid concerns about the potential marginalization of religious and cultural minorities, communal tensions, historical distortions, and threats to secularism.

The BJP and Modi staunchly adhere to

office in 2014, Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government has been under scrutiny both nationally and internationally.

A significant point of contention revolves around the economic policies implemented by the Modi government. The sudden demonetization in 2016, aimed at combating black money and corruption, faced severe backlash due to its impact on the informal economy. This move disproportionately affected small businesses and daily wage earners, leading to economic hardships for many.

> The introduction of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) also drew criticism for its complexity and initial disruption to businesses. The transition posed challenges for small and medium enterprises, contributing to economic difficulties. Despite the govern-

ment's emphasis on initiatives such as 'Make in India' and 'Skill India,' job creation remains a concern. The promised increase in employment opportunities has not materialized as expected, resulting in a widening gap between job seekers and available opportunities. The economic challenges brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic further intensified concerns about unemployment, prompting calls for more robust job creation strategies.

Another contentious aspect associ-

the principles of Hindutva. Since assuming ated with the Modi government is the perceived rise in social divisions and intolerance. Instances of religious and castebased violence have increased, fostering an environment of fear and discord. The government's response to such incidents and its handling of issues related to freedom of expression have raised concerns among those advocating for a more inclusive and tolerant society. The Modi government has faced criticism for its treatment of media and freedom of expression. The use of sedition laws and the targeting of journalists have raised questions about the government's commitment to a free and vibrant press

Environmentalists have expressed worries about the Modi government's approach to environmental conservation. The promotion of large-scale infrastructure projects and policies that relax environmental regulations has alarmed those advocating for sustainable development. These policies are seen as having long-term detrimental effects on India's natural resources and biodiversity.

India has come under scrutiny and faced criticism for its human rights record. Despite constitutional provisions aimed at eliminating untouchability and promoting social equality, caste-based discrimination remains a persistent challenge. Dalits, also known as Scheduled Castes, continue to experience discrimination and violence, with reported atrocities in various parts of the country.

To be continued



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

# Russia's Growing Influence in Africa, the Wagner Group's Deployment to Mali - II planet? - II

### **Maria Waris**

ne of the biggest concerns about PMCs is that they are not typically subject to the same level of accountability as government militaries. This means that it can be difficult to hold them accountable for human rights abuses and other misconduct. Additionally, PMCs are often opaque and hideous, which makes it difficult to track their activities.https://inkstickmedia.com/private-military-and-security-companies-are-a-homegrown-threat/

Another concern is that PMCs can undermine state sovereignty. PMCs can operate in countries without the permission of the government, which can lead to a situation where PMCs are more powerful than the state. This can have a number of negative consequences, including human rights abuses and the erosion of the government's authority. PMCs can also cause conflicts as they are the exploiters which benefit from conflict so they have a tendency to prolong or even start conflicts. Additionally, PMCs are often hired to fight against weaker parties, such as rebels or insurgents. This can lead to a situation where PMCs are overmatched and unable to protect themselves, which can lead to civilian casualties.

PMCs have also been accused of committing a variety of human rights abuses, including extrajudicial killings, torture, and arbitrary detention. This is because PMCs are often not subject to the same laws and regulations as government militaries. Additionally, PMCs are often operating in conflict zones where there is little or no law and order.

Finally, the increasing use of PMCs by governments has led to concerns about the accused of wrongdoings in the Central African

to democratic state control. This is a concern African Republic, the group has been accused because PMCs are often more powerful than government militaries and are not subject to the same level of accountability. Additionally, PMCs are often hired to carry out tasks that would otherwise be performed by government militaries, such as combat operations and intelligence gathering. While PMCs can provide valuable services, such as security for humanitarian organizations and training for government forces, the potential for abuse is significant. It is important to carefully regulate and monitor the activities of PMCs.https://apps.

In Ukraine, the Wagner Group has been accused of committing war crimes, including the indiscriminate shelling of civilian areas and the execution of prisoners of war.

dtic.mil/sti/tr/pdf/ADA488740.pdf The Wagner Group has been accused of a wide range of wrongdoings, including human rights abuses, undermining the peace process, and interfering in the internal affairs of other countries. Since its deployment to Mali in December 2021, the Wagner Group has been accused of committing a number of human rights abuses, including extrajudicial killings, looting and pillaging, and kidnappings. The group has also been accused of destroying the country's fragile peace process and supporting one side in the conflict. In addition to its activities in Mali, the Wagner Group has been creation of a shadow army that is not subject Republic, Libya, and Ukraine. In the Central

of committing human rights abuses, including the killing of civilians and the torture of prisoners. In Libya, the group has been accused of supporting the Khalifa Haftar-led Libyan National Army in its civil war against the internationally recognized Government of National Accord. The group has also been accused of planting landmines in and around the Libyan capital, Tripoli. In Ukraine, the Wagner Group has been accused of committing war crimes, including the indiscriminate shelling of civilian areas and the execution of prisoners of war.

The Wagner Group is a dangerous and destabilizing force in the world. The group's human rights abuses and its interference in the internal affairs of other countries pose a serious threat to peace and security. It is important to hold the Wagner Group accountable for its actions and to prevent it from continuing to operate with impunity. The international community must take action to hold the Wagner Group accountable and to prevent it from further destabilizing Mali. This could include imposing sanctions on the group and its members, investigating the group's human rights abuses, supporting the Malian government in its efforts to combat the Wagner Group, and raising awareness of the group's activities and its impact on Mali and the region. It is also important to address the root causes of the conflict in Mali, such as poverty, inequality, and lack of access to education and healthcare. Addressing these issues would make it more difficult for the Wagner Group to operate and would help to build a more peaceful and prosperous Mali. By taking these steps, the international community can help to protect the people of Mali from the Wagner Group's predatory ambitions and contribute to a more stable and peaceful Africa.

Writer is Student at Fatima Jinnah Women University

Qamar Bashir

he global significance of these events, often underplayed in Pakistani media, underscores the need for our leadership to delve deeper. It's crucial for Pakistan to scrutinize the meeting between two top leaders, decipher their implications, and identify areas impacting our interests. This requires strategic and tactical adjustments, along with a thorough analysis of the statements made, discerning not just the apparent but also the nuanced intentions.

There's an urgent call for Pakistani leadership across sectors to prioritize the nation's welfare over personal agendas. It's essential to transcend divisive approaches and concentrate efforts on uplifting the 95 million people currently trapped in poverty. Learning from China's remarkable feat in lifting 900 million citizens out of poverty, there's a pressing

commitment toward socio-economic advance-

Pakistan's leadership has an invaluable opportunity to leverage its strong ties with China, a global economic powerhouse, and its influential President, to chart a course towards development. Emulating China's successful economic reforms of 1978 could be a blueprint for Pakistan's growth, emphasizing market-oriented reforms, nurturing private enterprises, and attracting foreign investments through the creation of special economic zones.

Learning from China's proactive investment in education and infrastructure, Pakistan can catalyze improvements in literacy rates and enhance its workforce's skills and economic productivity.

Shifting focus from trivial issues, Pakistan can draw inspiration from China's export-led growth strategy, understanding and implementing the methodologies that propelled China to become a leading global exporter of manufactured goods.

Moreover, learning from China's restructuring of its governance model, Pakistan could transition from a static and unresponsive system to a proactive government. By strategically supporting key industries and implementing policies to attract foreign investments while safeguarding

domestic businesses, Pakistan can foster a more dynamic and competitive economic environment.

It's vital for us to move beyond the self-defeating narrative that paints our nation as corrupt and directionless. Instead, we should aspire to emulate the Chinese model of rapid progress, focusing on economic transforma-

tion, enhanced living standards, need for innovative strategies and a collective poverty alleviation, and bolstered sectors like education and healthcare.

Recognizing the destructive trajectory we're on, it's imperative to comprehend that this path undermines the very fabric of our society. It also serves as a recipe for a continued decline in Pakistan's international standing, impacting various global ratings and indices used by nations, institutions, traders, and businessmen to gauge meaningful relationships with countries. Let us make a collective commitment to address internal challenges and pursue a trajectory that uplifts the nation and its citizens and prove the statement of Barrister Aitzaz Ahsan wrong. China did it, so can we.

Writer is Former Press Secretary to the President, Former Press Minister to the Embassy of Pakistan to France and Former MD, SRBC

# The Spokesman 5

# Pakistan's Serene Airlines inaugural flight arrives in Beijing, China

### **Spokesman Report**

BEIJING: Pakistan's private Serene Airlines started its operation for China with its inaugural flight arriving at the Daxing International Airport Beijing on Sunday. The flight originated from Karachi while stopping in Islamabad and then left for Daxing airport in Beijing. The maiden flight was received amidst a warm welcome ceremony.

Speaking at the inaugural ceremony, Caretaker Adviser to the Prime Minister on Aviation, Air Marshal (Retd) Farhat Hussain Khan described the commencement of this flight operation as another milestone in advancing China-Pakistan relations through connectivity, travel and tourism. It to providing seamless travel facilities to the people of the two nations and

fostering strong people-to-people ties. Pakistan Ambassador to China, Khalil Hashmi said that the launch-



sector will not only strengthen the air bridge between Pakistan and China also signified Pakistan's commitment but also boost investment, trade, trav-

> The new route is poised to facilitate increased business, tourism, and cultural exchange between the two nations, he added. He noted that in from the aviation industry of China Pakistan and China.

ing of airline services by the private addition to bolstering economic ties, increasing air connectivity aims to contribute to the growth of the tourism sector as well. As part of the launch celebration, Serene Airlines hosted a ceremonial event at Beijing Daxin Airport, attended by government officials, diplomats and representatives

and Pakistan. Meanwhile, the Head of Serene Air's Beijing representative office, Zeng Qiang said that the inauguration of the new China-Pakistan international route signifies the growing friendship between our two countries. We are optimistic about increased Pak-China collaboration in the aviation sector." He also highlighted the recent signing of a General Sales Agent (GSA) joint venture agreement between Serene Air and Joyu Group Air, a prominent conglomerate in China's tourism and technology sector. This partnership plays a crucial role in the marketing and sale of the newly launched route. By harnessing the industry chain capabilities and resource advantages of both companies, this collaboration aims to provide global travelers with a diverse range of products and high-quality services, he added. The airline will operate twice a week, symbolizing the strengthening of bilateral ties between

# US to Issue 'Visa Bans against Israeli Extremists' - POLITICO

### News Desk

ISLAMABAD: Biden has ordered his administration to draw up a plan of sanctions against Israeli settlers who attack or harass Palestinians in the West Bank, Politico reported.

United States President Joe Biden has ordered his administration to draw up a plan of sanctions against Israeli Jewish settlers who attack or harass Palestinians in the West Bank, Politico reported on Saturday, citing a confidential document.

A cabinet memo was reportedly read out to the outlet by a senior US official. Settlers on the Move: 'Season of

The memo had been sent to top Biden administration officials, including US Secretary of State Antony Blinken and Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen, directing their departments "to develop policy options for expeditious or policies that threaten the security



conduct of violence in the West Bank." A list of possible restrictions is said to include visa bans.

The US may impose restrictions specifically on persons who "have directly or indirectly engaged in actions

Blessing' Turns Bloody in the West action against those responsible for the or stability of the West Bank," and who have taken part in intimidating or displacing civilians there, the document reportedly says.

> Young Palestinian Man Killed during Jewish Settler Attack in Huwwara

Other grounds for sanctions could allegedly include human rights violations and actions that "significantly obstruct, disrupt or prevent efforts to achieve a two-state solution."

In an op-ed published on Saturday in the Washington Post, Biden reaffirmed his commitment to the two-state solu-

While refraining from calling for a ceasefire in Gaza, Biden wrote that he was opposed to any forcible displacement of Palestinians from the enclave, and to its reoccupation or blockading by Israeli forces.

He also noted that he told Tel Aviv that "extremist violence against Palestinians in the West Bank must stop."

To punish those engaged in those activities, Washington is ready "to take Lits own steps, including issuing visa bans against extremists attacking civilians in the West Bank," Biden added.

Over 600,000 Israelis live in Jewish-only settlements across occupied East Jerusalem and the West Bank in violation of international law.

## Plane with 117 Russians evacuated from Gaza takes off for Moscow



**₩** TASS

MOSCOW: A Russian emergencies ministry's plane with 117 Russian nationals who were evacuated from the Gaza Strip on Saturday has taken off from Cairo for Moscow, the emergencies ministry said.

The Russian emergencies ministry's plane has taken off from Cairo for Moscow. The Il-76 plane is carrying 117 compatriots to Russia. They are accompanied by the ministry's medics and psychol-

Since November 12, more than 550 Russians, including 230 children, have been evacuated from the Gaza Strip. A total of 408 of them have already been taken to Moscow by the emergency ministry's four flights.

Russian Foreign Ministry Spokeswoman Maria Zakharova said earlier that the lists of those willing to be evacuated from the Gaza Strip have more than 1,000 names. Increasingly more Russians are seeking to evacuate from the enclave, the Russian emergencies ministry said and pledged to take every one of them to the homeland.

## Int'l forum on propaganda of hatred, violence in media to be held in Jeddah on Nov 26

### **№** News Desk

JEDDAH: International forum on the "propaganda of hatred and violence in media" organized by the Union of OIC News Agencies (UNA) and the Assistant Secretariat for Corporate Communication in the Muslim World League (MWL) will be held here on November 26 (Sunday). The forum will be attended by the directors of news agencies in UNA member states, heads of international unions of news agencies, representatives of international media institutions, and media organs affiliated with the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, in addition to a large number of diplomats and journalists.

The forum aims to provide an international platform for discussing ways to reduce the fanning of hatred and violence in the media and to work on enhancing the role of responsible and balanced media. This is especially relevant to media coverage of sensitive cultural and religious issues, according to a press release issued by UNA. Additionally, the forum seeks to explore ways in which media can invest in  $\,$ promoting communication between religions and cultures. Furthermore, the forum aims to provide general guidelines and principles for media dealing with complex and sensitive issues that often serve  $\,$ as a cause for disputes and conflicts. This will be achieved through sessions and panel discussions involving officials, media experts, intellectuals, and religious leaders.

## **Palestine Bleeds Again**

# Heartless Israel dumps anger on innocent Palestinians in Gaza

## Mehmood Amjad Mehmood

he innocent Palestinians of Gaza City have been facing deadly carnage from the Israeli forces since October 7, 2023. According to media reports. over 12,000 innocent Palestinians including a minimum of 4,500 children and females are martyred by Israeli forces while thousands more are missing or inhumed under the debris. It's been over a month since Israeli missiles invaded Gaza Strip, a land of 2.3 million population. The destruction is unprecedented as a result of Israeli government's inimical approach by violating all of war rules and launching the most intense bombing campaigns in recent history. Reportedly, Israeli forces launched 12,000 attacks across the besieged territory of Gaza from October 7 to November 1,

According to the Euro-Med Human Rights Monitor, as reported by Al-Jazeera, Israel has dropped more than 25,000 tonnes of explosives on the Gaza Strip since the start of war which is equivalent to two nuclear bombs. To compare the intensity of explosives showered on net, and medical systems in Gaza Palestinians in Gaza, one can easily understand that the nuclear bomb "Little Boy" dropped by the US on Hiroshima in Japan during World War II generated 15,000 tonnes of high explosives which destroyed everything within a one-mile radius.

Al-Jazeera reported that according to satellite image analysis based on Sentinel-1 radar data by researchers Corey Scher of CUNY Graduate Center and Jamon Van Den Hoek of Oregon State University, about 18% of overall buildings in Gaza Strip have been damaged since the start of war. This damage is further categorized as 30-40% in North Gaza, 24-32% in Gaza City, 6-9% in Deir el-Balah, 5-8% in Khan Younis and 3-5% in Rafah.



Photo by Mohammed Al-Masri/Reuters

on media platforms show that buildings in the entire city are leveled to the ground including hospitals, schools, mosques, churches, and homes. Food, water, communication, interwere completely trampled after Israeli forces attacks. The reports collected by the UN's Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), World Health Organization (WHO), and the Palestinian government depict that about 222,000 residential units were damaged with more than 40,000 completely destroyed while 278 educational facilities, 270 healthcare facilities, 9 places of worship, 45 ambulances and 11 bakeries are either damaged or completely destroyed as a result of Israeli attacks up to November 7, 2023. The largest medical facility in the Gaza Strip, Al-Shifa Hospital is one of 270 healthcare facilities that the Israeli military has

The traumatic situation in in 1922. The number of Jewish

protests started everywhere including in the United States, United Kingdom, Europe, Middle East, and Asia against the Palestinians' genocide. The millions of protesters chanted against Israeli provocations and stressed upon their governments and world superpowers to stop the war in Gaza.

The British Empire took control of the area known as "Palestine" after the defeat of the Ottoman Empire which ruled in the Middle East during World War I. The tension between Jews and Palestinian Arabs started when the United Kingdom started to establish a 'national home' in Palestine for Jewish refugees. The Balfour Declaration of 1917. a pledge made by then Foreign Secretary Arthur Balfour to Britain's Jewish community set the tone of the century's biggest dispute over the peace of land. This declaration was also endorsed by the newly-created League of Nations (later formed as the United Nations)

refugees in the state of Palestine grew significantly between the 1920s to 1940s as a majority of them were fleeing from persecution in Europe, especially the Nazi Holocaust in World War II. The Jewish settlement in Palestine caused the violence between Jews and Arabs. Later in 1947, the United Nations voted for Palestine to be split into separate Jewish (Israel) and Arab (Palestine) states, with Jerusalem becoming an international city. In 1948, incapable of solving the problem, Britain withdrew and Jewish leaders declared the creation of the State of Israel.

BBC News in its recent report explained the history of the Israel-Gaza war stating that Israel occupied East Jerusalem, West Bank, most of the Syrian Golan Heights, Gaza, and the Egyptian Sinai Peninsula as a result of the 1967 war and pushed the Palestinian refugees and their descendants to live in Gaza and the West Bank, as well as in neighboring Jordan, Syria, and Lebanon. The Israeli government never allowed the Pales-

considering them a threat to its existence as a Jewish state. Currently, Israel occupies the West Bank and claims the whole of Jerusalem as its capital, and contrary to this Palestinians claim East Jerusalem as their capital. The United States is the only country on earth that recognized Jerusalem as Israel's capital during President Donald Trump's regime. During the last 50 years, Israel has built settlements in the West Bank and East Jerusalem and made the place home to 0.7 million Jews. The United Nations Security Council considers these settlements illegal under international law however, Israeli obduracy admits no law in the world and no rules of humanity.

Media has very limited access in the war zone in Gaza and communication systems are completely wrecked by Israeli forces attacks. The reporting about actual damage on the ground is quite a difficult task hence, embedded journalism through military-con-

tinians to return to their homes trolled mouthpieces is at its peak ished vitriolic ties since the Britpresenting the whole scenario ish Empire laid the foundation as a counterattack in self-defense against Hamas militants who have launched a targeted operation to damage Israel on October 7, 2023. The Jews' stronghold in Western media is serving the common cause of greater Israel by justifying the his thoughts to remain 'deterwar crimes. Turkish and Arab media outlets are reporting to some extent the facts of Israeli forces' deadly attacks on innocent habitants of Gaza.

Despite the public dissent, President Biden's government in the US and Prime Minister for years to come. Gaza is facing Rishi Sunak's government in the United Kingdom complete- man attitude from Israeli forcly backing to Israel. The role of es. The symbolic support of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) and the Organization of el from illegal oppression nor Islamic Cooperation (OIC) is not more than a puppet. Both glob- Palestinians. The world superal leading platforms restricted their role to request Israel to stop attacking Gaza when already over 12,000 innocent Palestinians have lost their lives and the

city is tumbledown. Palestine and Israel have cher-

of conflict by accommodating Jewish refugees in the state of Palestine. Over the years, the mighty Israel occupied over 60% of the Palestinian land. In recent media talks, Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu expressed mined' to continue bombardment on Gaza. Peaceful coexistence within

the legitimate boundaries is the only solution for Palestine and Israel. Wars just bring destruction and ruin the lives of people non-stop hostility and an inhuworld is neither stopping Israhealing the wounds of innocent powers, the United Nations, and influential Muslim countries should play a proactive cum practical role in stopping the carnage of Palestinians by halting Israel to carry out further



Photo by Abed Rahim Khatib/picture-alliance/dpa/AP

# **Collectorate** of Customs Enforcement seized mega Rs1, 200 million smuggled/ non-duty paid goods

### Commerce Desk

LAHORE: Sources said the collectorate on the instructions of Member Customs Zeba Hai Azhar persuaded policy of zero tolerance against smuggling which afterwards was implemented by Chief Collector Enforcement Punjab Mirza Mubashir Baig and Collector Enforcement Lahore Muteen Alam.

The teams were constituted by Additional Collectors ASO Ali Akbar Zaidi and Junaid Usman Akram led by DC Hameer Khan and AC Aysha Siddiqua and raided different godowns and dumping areas of smuggled goods in the vicinity of Lahore and surrounding areas and recovered smuggled goods worth millions of rupees. Raiding teams were consisted of superintendent Masood Cheema and inspectors Haamid Babur, Intikhab Alam, Shahzad Khokhar, Zohair Ali, Babar Ali Shah, Khawaja Zia and Faisal.

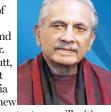
The goods include auto parts, betel nut, cigarettes, fabrics, skimmed milk powder, Petrol, shopping bags, electronics goods, cumin seed, tyres, plastic dana, etc. Vehicles include Mercedes, Toyota Lexus, Toyota Majesty, Toyota Axio, Toyota Vitz, Daihatsu Mira, Honda Civic Hybrid, Toyota Corolla Car and heavy bikes.

The cases valuing Rs150.57million were made during the corresponding period of last year (2022-23). An increase of 696.97 per cent is witnessed as compared to the corresponding period of last year.

# The mafia will rob the people of at least one hundred billion rupees

### **™** Tariq Khattak

ISLAMABAD: Former President of Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI), Dr. Shahid Rasheed Butt, said on Sunday that the sugar mills mafia has prepared for a ne



sugar crisis in the country to reap illegitimate profits. Like last year, the mafia aims to rob

people with low incomes of at least one hundred billion rupees amid skyrocketing inflation, he said. He informed that a new plan had been

made to export five lakh tonnes of sugar, citing the excuse of the surplus stock ar efforts are being made to get permission

Shahid Rasheed Butt said in a statement issued here today that after getting the permission to export sugar, the prices would be increased in the local market on one pretext or another to plunder the populace.

Last year, the government granted permission to export sugar on the pretext of surplus sugar, increasing the prices in the local market. A price hike in the presence of surplus stock defies market logic.

He warned that sugar millers should not be allowed to export sugar this time; otherwise, they would engineer an artificial crisis for which the masses would have to pay.

He said the crushing season is starting, but the governments of Sindh and Punjab need to be on one page.

The official purchase price of sugarcane in Punjab is 400 rupees per maund, while in Sindh, it has been fixed at 425 rupees, which has caused instability in the market.

The farmers of Punjab want the same rate as Sindh, but they need to be heard. Due to this price difference, the farmers of Punjab will suffer a loss of up to twenty thousand rupees per acre, which is unbear-

Shahid Rashid Butt said that this year, the positive results of action against hoarders and profiteers had come out. Still, the sugar mill owners got away with it, and there is little possibility of any effective action against them in the future.

# Govt praised for establishing the Industrial Advisory Council

### **№** Tarig Khattak

ISLAMABAD: FPCCI's presidential candidate, Atif Ikram Sheikh, lauded the government for setting up the Industrial Advisory Council and assured the full cooperation of the business

Headed by the Federal Minister of Industry and Production, Gohar Ejaz, the council comprises reputable personalities who will advise the government to boost industrial production in the country and tackle issues confronting industrialisation proactively, he

Atif Ikram Sheikh, who has also served as VP FPCCI, Chairman PVMA and President Muhammad Ali Tibba, Fawad Ahmed Mukhtar,

Raza Mansha, Aamir Fayyaz Sheikh, Waqar Ahmed Malik, Abdul Samad Dawood, Shehbaz Yasin Malik, Shahzad Asghar Ali, Syed Haider Ali, Farooq Naseem, Ahsan Bashir and Sameer Chinov have been included in the council.

Moreover, the council members include all the provincial chief secretaries, including the chief secretaries of Azad Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan, the finance secretary, the commerce secretary, the industry and production secretary and the chairman of FBR. He said the council would meet every week

and submit a report in 10 weeks, adding that the business community is pinning high hopes

He informed that Pakistan's exports were \$25 ICCI said in a statement issued here today that billion in 2013. These are around \$30 billion in 2023. Imports were \$ 43 billion in 2013 against



\$ 70 billion in 2023.

If the exports and imports had kept the same pace, the trade deficit would have been around \$13 to \$15 billion annually.

Due to almost stagnant exports, they ranged between \$ 18 and \$ 25 billion. Thus, if the exports had kept pace with the import increase, the foreign loans of Pakistan would have been \$80 billion to \$100 billion less with a foreign exchange rate of around Rs 100 to 120 per dollar.

In comparison, Bangladesh exported \$45 billion worth of clothing in 2022. This South Asian country's was around \$25 billion in 2013. India's annual textile exports stood at \$44.4 billion in FY2022. In 2013, they were around

If we had followed in the footsteps of our South Asian neighbours, our exports would

Vuitton Stores, The Bowery

Hotel, The Beekman Hotel,

Arts Club, Park Hyatt,

Oakley Court, to name a

few. Their carpets can also

be seen on screen in Succes-

sion on HBO, Marvel's Dare-

devil and Morgan Freeman's

"At Abbas Carpets, our

legacy is in the artistry we've upheld, through our

multi-generational history

of carpet design and weav-

ing. We are proud to have our carpets adorn some of

the most beautiful homes,

hotels and boutiques across

the world," remarked Haid-

er Abbas, Creative Director

Abbas Carpets. "This event

commemorates not just our

Last Vegas.

Murdoch; in various inter- 50 years but the next chapter

national hotels and luxury in our journey, bringing our

brand outlets such as Louis art to the heart of Karachi."

cooperation to pave ways for resolving all transit issues,

**Commemorates 50 Years** 

of Timeless Artistry

**Abbas Carpets** 

**Example 2** Commerce Desk

KARACHI: Abbas Carpets,

the epitome of luxe crafts-

manship and unparalleled

design, commemorates 50

years with the inaugura-

tion of their flagship store

in the vibrant, coastal city of

Karachi. The opening was

attended by art connois-

seurs, enthusiasts, patrons

Established in 1973,

Abbas Carpets has been

one of great pride for Paki-

stan's artisans with Abbas

Carpets featured in the

homes of global personalities

such as Emily Blunt, Taylor

Swift, Betsey Johnson, Bob

Dylan, Jude Law, Rupert

**DG TDAP** 

Trilateral trade

and social stakeholders.

# Red Line Bus Service

KARACHI: Labourers are busy in construction work of Red Line Bus Service at University Road, in Provincial Capital.



# Chakwal Chamber of Commerce to support UBG in FPCCI elections



跨 Spokesman Report

CHAKWAL: President, Chakwal Chamber of Commerce Industry and candidate for the upcoming Executive Committee of FPCCI, Waqar Zafar Bakhtawari has said that the business community of Chakwal is united under the leadership of UBG Patron-in-Chief S. M. Tanveer and hoped that the UBG will achieve a landslide victory in the upcoming elections of FPCCI and will also play a key role in bringing the country out of the current economic crisis. He said this while addressing a dinner hosted by Chakwal Chamber of Commerce and Industry Conven-

er Khawaja Arif in honor of UBG Pakistan Secretary General Zafar Bakhtawari. FPCCI General Body Member Khurram Kamran, Haji Sultan Shahzad, Saadat Malik, Ghulam Murtaza, Hafeez Anjum and a large number of members of the Chakwal Chamber of Commerce attended the dinner.

FPCCI General Body Member Khurram Kamran said that Chakwal Chamber of Commerce has always been associated with UBG since its inception and the role of Zafar Bakhtawri and Qazi Akbar is very important in this regard.

FPCCI Vice President Qazi Mohammad Akbar said that the current leadership of

FPCCI is largely responsible for the country's economic crisis, as they have failed to better protect the interests of the country's business community. He vowed that the UBG will improve the country's economy by winning the next election of FPCCI.

Zafar Bakhtawari, Secretary General UBG Pakistan said that after the establishment of Chakwal Chamber, the economic activities in this region have got a better boost. He said that Chakwal Chamber of Commerce is trying to establish a new industrial estate at Neela Dulla Interchange and the completion of this project will usher in a new era of development and prosperity in the region.

ISLAMABAD: Director General Trade Development Authority of Pakistan Muhammad Naseer has said that Pakistan, Afghanistan, and Uzbekistan agreed on trilateral trade cooperation to pave ways for boosting trade and resolving all transit issues.

He disclosed this while addressing the ceremony at the Islamabad Club on the occasion of the inauguration of the Eurasian TECT Council.

DGTDAP said that Pakistan will have to gain access to the global trade markets beside Europe, America as well as Central Asia, Fareast and China.

Recently, Afghanistan's trade delegation visited Pakistan and had detailed discussions with them and agreed on trilateral trade cooperation with Uzbekistan.

He said that the TDAP is working for the promotion of trade in the country and the Eurasian TECT Council will be fully supported and supported in the objectives

of trade promotion. On this occasion, President Eurasian TECT Council Fauzia Noreen in her address said that the aim of Eurasian council is to take steps to

promote trade, culture, tourism and improve the environment of Pakistan. Fauzia Nooreen said that

the Council's platform will serve as a link between entrepreneurs, government institutions and the promotion of trade at the global level. Addressing the ceremony, MD Pakistan Institute of

Conflict and Security Studies Abdullah Khan said that peace and stability is very important for the development of trade, investment, economy and business in any country.

Recently, there has been an increase in terrorism in Pakistan, but now law and order is improving.

Addressing the ceremony, former Air Vice Marshal (R) Ejaz Malik said that the promotion of tourism in Pakistan is the need of the hour, unfortunately tourism in Pakistan has not been given the importance it should have been given.

Addressing the event, Nauman Khan welcomed the establishment of the Eurasian Council and said that Pakistan can progress by promoting these four sectors: trade, culture, environment and tourism, but these sectors have been neglected for 75 years.

# Innovation for Food Security, Regional Trade in Agriculture vital: Speakers

### **Spokesman Report**

ISLAMABAD: The speakers at the Food Security Hackathon have called for innovation for food security and regional trade in agriculture through bridging ideas to  $action \, through \, the \, hackathon \, and \,$ funding partnerships. They highlighted the significance of collaboration, technology, and sustainable practices in ensuring food security in Pakistan. The Hackathon was organized by the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) in collaboration with the Canadian High Commission, and National Incubation Centre for

Aerospace Technologies. Air Commodore Dr Tauseef ur Rehman, National Aerospace Science & Technology Park precision agriculture technologies in Pakistan. The project involves a consortium of stakeholders, including the public and private sectors, with a focus on drones, supercomputing, and advanced sensors. He highlighted the collaborative approach, involving universities, defense organizations, and private companies, to address gaps in the agriculture sector.

H. E. Leslie Scanlon, High Commissioner of Canada in Pakistan highlighted Canada's commitment to supporting projects globally, particularly in Pakistan, focusing on food security and climate-resilient agriculture. She emphasizes Canada's contributions to the Green Climate Fund

taken the initiative to introduce Agricultural Development, along with efforts to promote sciencebased policies for genetically modified agricultural products. Overall, she expressed enthusiasm for the hackathon and encouraged innovative solutions.

Dr. Abid Qaiyum Suleri, Executive Director of SDPI warned that Climate change is affecting the agriculture sector of Pakistan, and according to UNESCAP, Pakistan may lose more than 9% of its annual GDP due to climate change. Extreme weather conditions will pose a serious threat to the food security of Pakistan in the future. Hunger Index 2021 indicates that Pakistan ranked 92 out of 116 countries. Pakistan may face

(NASTP), said that NASTP has and the International Fund for measures are not taken immediate- Initiatives. ly to address food insecurity issues.

Dr. Vaqar Ahmed, Joint Executive Director SDPI, Mr. Ahad Nazir, Head of Centre for Private Sector Engagement and Mr. Imran Jatala, Project Director of the National Incubation Center for Aerospace Technologies (NICAT), highlighted their focus on aerospace, aviation, and deep tech. Acknowledging the significance of the hackathon in addressing Pakistan's food security challenges, he emphasized the role of technology and innovation in achieving national develop-

Mr. James McNee, the First Secretary of the Canada Fund for Local Initiatives (CFLI) admired the collaborative efforts by SDPI an existential threat if appropriate and the Canada Fund for Local

Prof. Dr. Iqrar Ahmad Khan, Vice Chancellor, University of Agriculture Faisalabad, Sved Khurram Shah, Director of Public Policy and Government Affairs, Pepsico Pakistan gave insights from the perspective of a food-based company.

Usman Qayyum, Country Lead, Cargill Pakistan, emphasizes the need for sustainability and continuity in private sector initiatives, focusing on capacity building for various stakeholders.

Dr Haroon Sarwar Awan, Economic Consultant, Ministry of National Food Security & Research, Government of Pakistan, urged exploration of unexplored areas, particularly in fintech for agriculture, addressing the financial challenges faced by small farmers.

# Australia's Travis Head hits World Cup final century against India

A Sports

AHMEDABAD: Australian opener Travis Head came out all guns blazing against hosts India as he struck a brisk century in the ICC World Cup 2023 final at the Narendra Modi Stadium here on Sunday.

Head achieved the milestone in the 34th over of Australia's pursuit when he worked a length ball from Kuldeep Yadav towards the cover region and took a risky single.

He amassed the century in just 95 deliveries with the help of 14 boundaries and a six.

His century-plus knock kept Australia afloat after the five-time champions had slipped to 47/3 in seven overs. Travis Head joined forces with

Marnus Labuschagne and put together an anchoring partnership. When this story was filed Austra-

lia were 192/3 in 35 overs with Head (107\*) and Labuschagne (41) firm at

in an ICC event final.

He struck a sensational 163 in the first innings of the World Test Championship (WTC) Final which led Australia to take command of the showpiece fixture at The Oval.

Travis Head failed to emulate his brilliance in the second innings as he could score 18 but his first-innings exploits were enough to lead Australia to glory and also earned him the Player of the Match award.

Put into bat first, India could accumulate a modest 240 in the allotted 50 overs as pacers-led Australia booked their strong batting lineup.

Mitchell Starch was the pick of the bowlers for Australia with 3/55 in his 10 overs while captain Pat Cummins bagged two wickets, leaking just 34 runs in his quota of overs.

For the unversed, this was Travis Josh Hazlewood also played a pivotal Head's second century against India role in keeping the Indian batting unit in check, returning with 2/60.

# Head-inspired Australia thump India to lift record sixth World Cup title

A Sports

AHMEDABAD: Travis Head's brisk 137-run knock paired up with Marnus Labuschagne's unbeaten half-century led Australia to a convincing six-wicket victory over India to win the ICC World Cup 2023.

This is Australia's sixth ODI World Cup title, having lifted the prestigious silverware on five occasions before in 1987, 1999, 2003, 2007 and 2015.

Set to chase a modest 241, Australia comfortably knocked off the winning runs in 43 overs, courtesy of a match-winning fourth-wicket partnership between Head and Labuschagne.

Australia found themselves in a state of bother earlier in the run chase when they slipped to 47/3 in just seven overs with in-form openers David Warner (7), Mitchell Marsh (15) and experienced batter Steve Smith (4) perishing cheaply.

India, who were on a 10-match winning streak were fancying their chances to defend a low score and to lift their third title but Head swept away

The left-handed opener put together match-winning 192-run partnership with Marnus Labushagne which put Australia in touching distance to their record victory.

Head was the core aggressor of the magnificent stand while Labuschagne batted cautiously to make sure he did not throw away his wicket.

The opener, however, could not score the winning runs for his team as he smashed a short delivery from Mohammed Siraj straight to Shubman Gill at deep midwicket.

Travis Head top-scored for Australia in the ICC World Cup 2023 final with a continued to attack and added 46 runs



brilliant 137. His 120-ball knock featured 15 boundaries and four sixes.

Coming out to bat at number five, Glenn Maxwell wasted no time and as he pulled Sirai for a couple.

Labuschagne, who played an anchoring role in Australia's World Cup victory remained unbeaten on 58. He faced 110

deliveries and hit four boundaries. For India, Jasprit Bumrah bagged two wickets while Siraj and Shami could pick

up a wicket. Australia opted to bowl first and Mitchell Starc gave his side the first breakthrough when he dismissed Shubman Gill (4) with a mere 30 runs on

Indian captain Rohit Sharma however

board.

before perishing courtesy of a brilliant catch by Travis Head off Glenn Maxwell.

Sharma played a quick knock of 47 scored the winning runs for Australia runs off 31 balls, featuring four bound-scratchy innings of 66 runs from 107 balls aries and three sixes.

> picked his first wicket as Shreyas Iyer (4) walked back to the pavilion in the next over with the scoreboard reading shaky innings of 18 runs off 28 balls amid 81-3 in the 11th over. Virat Kohli and KL Rahul then knit-

ted a cautious 67-run partnership for the fourth wicket lifting India's total to 148 before Cummins bowled Kohli to silence

the capacity crowd at the stadium. Kohli played a solid 54-run knock from 63 balls with the help of four

for the second wicket with Virat Kohli the dominant position with their disciplined bowling, not allowing Indian batters to score freely.

KL Rahul top-scored for India with a with a single boundary before getting Australian captain Pat Cummins caught behind off Mitchell Starc leaving his side reeling at 203-6 in the 42nd over.

Suryakumar Yadav then played a falling wickets at the other end until Josh Hazlewood got him caught behind off a slower short-pitched delivery.

Australian bowlers wrapped up the Indian innings off the final ball of the innings as Kuldeep Yadav got run out with 240 runs on board.

Starc topped the wickets chart with three wickets, while Cummins and

Australian bowlers kept their side in Hazlewood picked two wickets each.

# Zampa equals Muralidaran's World Cup record

A Sports

AHMEDABAD: Australian leg-spinner Adam Zampa on Sunday equalled Muthiah Muralidaran's record of most wickets by a spinner in a single edition of the Men's ODI World Cup.

Zampa, who returned figures of 1/44 in his 10 overs, helped Australia book the strong Indian batting lineup for a modest

total in the grand final. His sole wicket in the match came in the 45th over when he trapped Jasprit Bumrah plumb in front.



Bumrah's dismissal took his wickets tally in the ongoing World Cup to 23 and equalled the Sri Lankan legend's long-standing record, who picked up as many in the 2007 edition.

Brad Hogg and former Pakistan captain against South Africa. Shahid Afridi, who picked 21 wickets each in the 2007 and 2011 editions respectively.

Australian spin legend Shane Warne is fifth on the list with 20 wickets, which he took in the 1999 World Cup.

The ongoing World Cup marked a change of fortune for Adam Zampa.

joint-worst bowling figures in the history

of Men's ODIs when he conceded 113 in In an elite list of spinners, Adam his 10 overs and went wicketless in the Zampa is followed by his compatriot fourth ODI of the five-match away series

> However, his dubious record was shortlived, courtesy of Glenn Maxwell's berserk double century against the Neth-

He charged at all Dutch bowlers but Bas de Leede was targetted more by the

right-handed batter. Bas de Leede conceded a whopping 115

In September, he returned with the runs in his quota of 10 overs and bagged

# Aghosh College Murree basketball team wins second position in board basketball



👺 Asad Hashmi

ISLAMABAD: The team of Aghosh College Murree, an institution managed by Al-Khidmat Foundation Pakistan, won the second position in the inter-board board basketball competitions held under the Federal Board of Secondary Education. More than 25 teams affiliated to the Federal Board participated in the tournament organized under the Federal Board of Secondary Education.

For this excellent performance, Principal Aghosh College Murree Azam Khan congratulated the children of Aghosh and said that the way you are in your education and training is not less than anyone else. Similarly, you are second to none in arts, sports, games and intelligence competitions.

Remember, Aghosh College Murree is a residential institution of international level education. Where orphans are provided accommodation, education and training, food and other facilities free of cost. Remember, Agosh College Murree is located at a distance of 35 km from Islamabad on the Murree Expressway.

## Man wearing 'Free Palestine' shirt invades pitch during World Cup final



LAHORE: The 'Free Palestine' message made it to the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad during the ICC World Cup 2023 final between Australia and India on Sunday.

India took on Australia in the ICC World Cup 2023 final on Sunday in a bid to win their first major ICC global event since

A pro-Palestinian protester broke through security cordons and invaded the pitch, stopping play briefly while he hugged India star batsman Virat Kohli.

The incident occurred in the 14th over of India's innings. Wearing a face mask in the colours of the Palestinian flag and a T-shirt with the slogans "Stop Bombing Palestine" and "Free Palestine", the protester ran onto the pitch in the 132,000-seat

mega-stadium in Ahmedabad. The protester ran up to Virat Kohli and slung his arm around the shoulders of the batsman, who then pivoted in an attempt to distance himself from him.

He was escorted off the pitch by security officers, and play swiftly resumed. A video later showed him being taken to the Chandkheda police station in Ahmedabad dressed in a yellow T-shirt.

An Indian news agency shared a video of the pitch invader being brought to the police station, who said that his name was John and he was from Australia. He said that he entered the pitch to meet Kohli, adding that he "supported Palestine".

## Indian crowd left in shock' after Cummins dismissed Kohli

Australian skipper Pat Cummins "silenced" the crowd during his team's high-voltage clash against India in the ICC Men's World Cup 2023 final at the world's largest Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad.

The 30-year-old fulfilled his pledge with the dismissal of the tournament's highest run-getter Virat Kohli in the 29th over of the Indian innings.

The Australian skipper delivered a length ball that Virat Kohli attempted to defend but ended up inside-edging onto his stumps. Cummins, typically known for his composed demeanour, erupted into a jubilant celebration as the fans and supporters were

Kohli scored his first fifty in the ODI World Cup final, reaching the milestone in 56 deliveries, albeit with just four boundaries. He departed after scoring 54 off 63 balls.

Initially, Australia opted to put India in to bat, a decision desired by Rohit Sharma. Continuing his trend from earlier in the tournament, Rohit (47 off 31) took charge during the powerplay, adopting an aggressive approach.

### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

Whereas, Mr. Muhammad Amin Pervaiz s/o Inyat Ullaha allottee of plot No. 294-D, Area Development Scheme Hassanabdal has appoint ed General Power of Attor ney to Ms. Sajda Noreen w/o Muhammad Iqbal vide registered deed at No.502/4 dated 27-07-2000 from Sub Registrar Texila. Now The General Power of attor nev wish to transfer above mention plot in the name of her son Mr. Wajahat Iqbal s/o Muhammad Igbal.

If anyone have objection of above advertisement submit their objection within fifteen days of this advertisement otherwise objection will not be entertained.

**Deputy Director Punjab Housing & Town Planning Agency Sub Region** Rawalpindi

# Peshawar clinch third one-day cup title after beating Karachi Whites

**Sports Desk** 

Peshawar clinched their third one-day cup title after defeating Karachi Whites at Pindi Cricket Stadium by five wickets in the AH Group Presents Trans Group Pakistan Cup 2023-24 final. Nabi Gul hit the winning runs for Peshawar as the Sahibzada Farhanled side pocketed a cash prize of PKR 5 million.

Peshawar's last national one-day title win came in the 2016-17 season when they beat the same opponent at National Bank Stadium, a score above 13. Karachi in the final by 124

their innings patiently after catch by Iftikhar Ahmed for

by Peshawar on a surface that seemed to assist the fast bowlers. The first blow arrived in the eighth over with Habibullah dismissed by left-arm pacer Mohammad Imran. Saim Ayub, who starred

with 95 in the semi-final triumph for Karachi Whites, was the second batter to exit the stage when Imran struck again to have him caught by Azam Khan. Wickets continued to tumble as none of the top five batters could register

Karachi Whites skipper Sarfaraz Ahmed was Karachi Whites began dismissed courtesy a sharp tently whipped the bails off

Khan was the last man out for 30 off 46 deliveries as Karachi merely scrambled to 103 all out in 31.2 overs. Imran was the chief destroyer with four wickets for 28 runs while Mohammad Abbas Afridi got three wickets.

Peshawar did not face serious hiccups in their chase of the paltry target getting home with five wickets and 27.4 overs to spare. Mohammad Haris top-scored with a quick-fire 46 from 33 balls featuring seven fours and a

Sahibzada was out in bizarre fashion as he inadverwith his bat resulting in a hit

being put in to bat first just 22 off 25 balls. Azam wicket off Ghulam Mudassar. The other four wickets to fall were taken by Noman Ali (two wickets), Danish Aziz and Saim (one each). Multan's Haseebullah

took home the player of the tournament and best wicket-keeper awards for his tally of 326 runs including two centuries and 10 dismissals. Saim topped the batting chatting charts with 397 runs in eight innings and was duly named best batter of the tournament. Multan leg-spinner Zahid Mehmood and Peshawar fast bowler Abbas Afridi were the joint winners for the best bowler award with 15 wickets each. For his impactful figures of 4-28, Moham-



mad Imran was declared player of the final.

Scores in brief: Peshawar beat Karachi Whites by five wickets

Karachi Whites 103 all out, 31.2 overs (Azam Khan 30, Sarfaraz Ahmed 22; Mohammad Imran 4-28, Mohammad Abbas Afridi

Peshawar 108-5, 17.2 Mehmood (Multan Region) overs (Mohammad Haris 46; Noman Ali 2-19) Player of the tournament

Haseebullah (Multan Region) (326 runs and 10

dismissals) Best Batter - Saim Ayub (Karachi Region Whites)

(397 runs) Best Bowler - Zahid and Mohammad Abbas Afridi (Peshawar Region) (15 wickets each) Wicket-keep-Best

er – Haseebullah (Multan Region) (326 runs and 10 dismissals)

Player of the final -Mohammad Imran (Peshawar Region)

# The Spokesman

# Solidarity with Palestine

LAHORE: Ameer-e Jamaat-e-Islami Sirajul Haq addressing the participants of the Gaza March in Lahore.



# Solidarity March in Lahore

**Bureau Report** 

LAHORE: Thousands of citizens have attended Jamaat-e-Islami's (JI) Gaza March in Lahore to show solidarity with Palestinians in besieged densely Gaza March, JI Pakistan populated strip and occu- Ameer Sirajul Haq said pied West Bank suffering that the innocent children Israeli occupation forces.

organised the Gaza Solidarity March at Lahore's of the Muslim countries Punjab University (PU) for doing nothing for the nationals including the Campus Bridge today which relief of Palestinians except was attended by thousands making tall claims. He also of citizens including women criticised that the rulers of United States (US) and and children. The massive the Muslim countries did Canada for showing soli-

Haq, politicians and clerics.

pro-Palestinian slogans and demanded an end to Israeli aggression in Gaza.

While addressing the

He slammed rulers forces." public event was addressed nothing in the Organisa- darity with the Palestin-

by JI Pakistan Ameer Sirajul tion of Islamic Coopera- ians. Haq said that the tion (OIC) summit except for consolation.

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

"A dead resolution was passed in the OIC summit, ineffective to provide any from the aggression of the of Gaza were waiting for the relief to the Palestinians help of Muslim countries and stop inhumane actions of the Israeli occupation

> He lauded the Western United Kingdom (UK), France, Australia, Ireland,

French people forced their

Sirajul Haq slammed the Pakistani rulers, saying, "I wanted to see the prime minister, chief minister, Pakistan Muslim League Nawaz (PML-N) and Pakistan People's Party (PPP) politicians in this march but the political personalities are currently busy lobbying in Balochistan and Sindh [for the forthcoming

# **Yemeni Armed Forces** seize Israeli ship in Red Sea: Al-Mayadeen

Monitoring Desk

The Yemeni Naval Forces captured an Israeli-linked ship in the Red Sea, the Lebanese Al Mayadeen news network reported on Sunday, citing sources familiar with the matter.

Reportedly, 52 crew members were detained, Al Mayadeen's sources added, revealing that the Yemeni Armed Forces were working on revealing their identities and nationalities.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office confirmed the news, blaming Iran for the incident.

According to Israeli media, "the ship captured by the Yemenis is owned by Israeli businessman Rami Ungar." "The cargo ship, Bahamas-flagged Galaxy

Leader, was leased from a British company partly owned by Israeli Rami Unger to a Japanese company," The Jerusalem post reported. An Israeli military spokesperson described the event as "a very dangerous development."



Earlier on Sunday, Yemen's Armed Forces, allied with the Ansarallah resistance movement, had announced that they would target all vessels associated with Israel in the Red Sea, calling on countries to withdraw their citizens operating on such ships.

"To provide relief to our oppressed people in Gaza," the armed forces announced, "they will target ... ships carrying the flag of the Zionist entity, ships operated by Israeli companies, ships owned by Israeli compa-

# Thousands attend JI's Gaza

Protestors chanted

Jamaat-e-Islami (JI) amid Israeli bombardment.

government to change its

narrative through a power-

"The people of Australia

and Canada have also exhib-

ited solidarity with Palestin-

ians. I also thank the people

of Ireland, Washington and

London for raising strong

The JI Pakistan Ameer

said that the massive rally

was a 'message of death' to

the enemy. "Israel is an evil

state created by the impe-

rialist forces. Palestinians have never accepted Israel

and they are standing firm-

ly against the occupation

ful campaign.

voices for Gaza."

He said that Israeli people are also protesting against Benjamin Netanyahu. Our public event gives a message to Gaza that they are not alone and we are standing side-by-side in this Jihad."

# Jawad Sohrab Malik meets Pakistani Community in Jeddah



Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Special Assistant to Prime Minister on Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development, Mr. Jawad Sohrab Malik held a detail exchange of views with Saudi employers and Human resource management executives in Jeddah. During the meeting SAPM highlighted the importance of human resource development as per requirements of Saudi market and economy. He emphasized that the close coordination holders of overseas employment is of critical nities for Pakistani manpower in the market of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Pakistani community at the Consulate between the two countries.

General of Pakistan Jeddah. Community notables and businessmen interacted with SAPM on wide range of issues including issues faced by expatriates. SAPM assured the community that the government of Pakistan is fully committed to support Pakistani community in Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and other countries. Mr. Malik shared the ongoing efforts being made by the Ministry of Overseas Pakistanis to look after the interests of overseas Pakistanis, particularly those living in the kingdom, and ensure and robust exchange of ideas among stake their welfare. The event was attended by a cross-section of the Pakistani diaspora in value to ensure capitalization of the opportu- Jeddah, including businessmen, professionals, and entrepreneurs. The SAPM's visit to KSA is part of an effort to further strength-SAPM also held an interaction with the en manpower employment cooperation

# WHO warns of global measles threat as

### Monitoring Desk

GENEVA: A latest report 2022 increased by 18 per cent and deaths by 43pc globally – a sharp increase when receive MCV1. compared to 2021 - follownation coverage.

"This takes the estimated number of measles cases Pakistan (1.1 million), Angoto 9 million and deaths to la (0.8 million), Philippines 136,000 - mostly among (0.8 million), Indonesia children," says a report (0.7 million), Brazil (0.5 prepared jointly by the million) and Madagascar World Health Organization (0.5 million). (WHO) and the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

*JUI-F chief* 

for five years

PESHAWAR: The Jami-

(JUI-F) Central General

Fazlur Rehman chief of

Council elected on Sunday

JUI-F and Abdul Ghafoor

Haideri, general secretary

held under chairmanship

of Maulana Fazlur Rehman

and members from Sindh,

Punjab, KP, tribal districts,

Balochistan, Gilgat Baltis-

tan and Azad Kashmir

participated in the meet-

JUI-F spokesperson

Muhammad Aslam Ghori

said a report was presented in the meeting regarding

the Election on February

8, Gaza current situation

and Fazlur Rehamn's visit

to Qatar.

JUI-F general meeting

for the next five years.

at-i-Ulema Islam-Fazl

👺 Bureau Report

Fazlur

Reman

elected

Nigeria (3 million), Demoing years of declines in vacci- cratic Republic of the Congo (1.8 million), Ethiopia (1.7 million), India (1.1 million),

According to the WHO,

in 2021. Of the countries experiencing outbreaks, 28 were in Africa, six in the Eastern Mediterranean, two in the Southeast Asia and one in Europe. "The increase in measles

outbreaks and deaths is staggering, but unfortunately, not unexpected given the declining vaccination rates we've seen in the past few years," said John Vertefeuille, director of CDC's Global Immunization Division.

"Measles cases anywhere - for the second consecu- disruptive measles outbreaks pose a risk to all countries

vaccine. While a modest increase in global vaccination coverage occurred in 2022 from 2021, there were still 33 million children who missed a measles vaccine dose: nearly 22 million missed their first dose and an additional 11 million missed their second

The global vaccine coverage rate of the first dose, at 83pc, and second dose, at 74pc, were still well under the 95pc coverage with two doses that is necessary to protect communities from outbreaks.

Low-income countries, where the risk of death from measles is highest, continue to have the lowest vaccination rates at only 66pc - a rate that shows no recovery at all from the backsliding during

the pandemic. "The lack of recovery in measles vaccine coverage in low-income countries following the pandemic is an alarm bell for action. Measles is called the inequity virus for good reason. It is the disease that will find and attack those who aren't protected," said Kate O'Brien, WHO Director for Immunization, Vaccine and Biologicals.

"Children everywhere have the right to be protected by the lifesaving measles vaccine, no matter where they live."

### Pakistan fails in vaccinating children number of infants who did people are under-vaccinatnot receive MCV1 (first dose ed. Urgent, targeted efforts of the measles-containing are critical to prevent measles warns that measles cases in vaccine). These 10 countries disease and deaths.' Measles is preventable accounted for 55pc of all children worldwide who did not with two doses of measles

measles continues to pose a relentlessly increasing threat Unfortunately, Pakistan to children. In 2022, 37 is among the 10 countries countries experienced large or tive year - with the highest compared with 22 countries and communities where

# Crackdown continues against fake medicines

**E** Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: The crackdown is underway against illegal profiteering on drugs and fake unregistered medicines across the country. The crackdown was started on the direction of caretaker federal Minister for Health Dr. Nadeem Jan, spokesperson of the Ministry of Health said on Sunday. He said that distributors, pharma-

cies and medical stores are being raided in all major cities across the country. He said in Karachi, the DRAP team inspected the pharmacies and medical stores in different areas. The team raided Irfan Medicos in DHA Karachi and various pharmacies in Gulshan Igbal and Gulistan Johar. He said that Heparin injection was being sold at more than the approved price. He added Heparin injection was being sold for Rs 3500 instead of Rs 800. Similarly, Tramal Injection and Augmentin DS Suspension Hydraline Syrup were also being sold at a higher price. He said that Ventolin Inhaler Tegeral and tablets Augmentin DS were also being sold at higher prices.

Govt strongly committed to fighting T.B. Free diagnosis and treatment available at 1700 centers across Pakistan

**Example 2** Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Government of Pakistan is strongly committed to eliminating T. B. and all out effort is being made in this regard. This was shared by Federal Secretary Health Iftiikhar Ali Shallwani while addressing the Union Conference on Lung Health in Paris. Substantial resources have been allocated by the Government for diagnosis and quality treatment of the disease, he shared.

The Government has committed 33 million dollars to the cause. There are 1700 free state-of-the-art diagnostic and treatment facilities operating in the length and breadth of Pakistan, he shared. During the Year 2022, more than 424,566 TB cases were successfully treated across the country. The treatment success rate remained 94% of the TB cases notified in Year 2021. The diagnostic services include the network of 1,800 microscopy labs, 420 molecular diagnostics GeneXpert, 17 Culture labs and 3 DST labs.

# Pakistan budget insufficient to tackle climate change: IMF

👺 City Desk

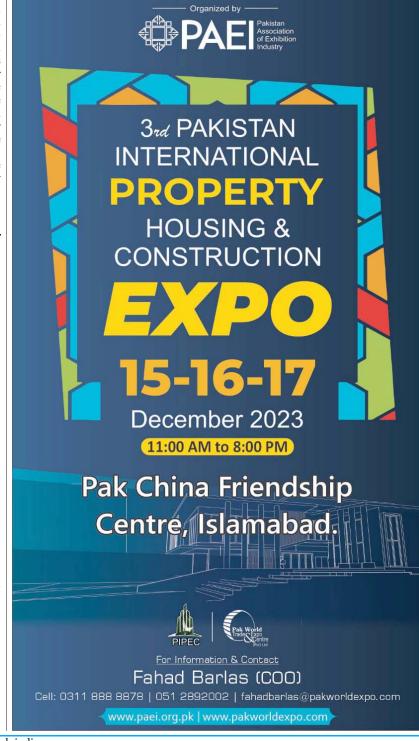
ISLAMABAD: The International Monetary Fund (IMF) said on Sunday Pakistan had limited budget to tackle the aggravated climate condition in the country.

An IMF report on public investment indicated, Pakistani economy might be affected by 9 percent by the natural disruptions.

The report said Pakistan was among the countries more likely to be effected by the climate change and earlier 30 million people were affected by the floods in 2022.

The report said Pakistan's developmental budget was 14 time more than the climate budget and every year since 2000, Pakistan was facing over \$2billion losses due to the climate change. Around 500 people were being killed and over four million people were affected, the report said.

Agriculture and infrastructure was being destroyed in Pakistan, the report said, adding that Pakistan was required to prioritise climate change



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