Barkat Rice Mills

Jamadi-ul-Awwal 9, Friday, November 24, 2023

www.dailyspokesman.net

'Pakistan to get \$1.5b quick financial assistance after IMF board approval'

Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Shamshad Akhtar said that Pakistan would get quick disbursement of financial assistance from various multilateral institutions once the first review of the Stand-By Arrangement (SBA) is approved by the IMF Executive Board next month. (Details on Page 8)

(a) @daily spokesman

Daily Spokesman Vol: 16, Issue: 225 Price Rs. 25.00 Pages 8

Spreading tentacles of Indian Global Terrorist Network to US, Canada alarming: Mushaa

Simultaneously published from Islamabad, Lahore and Multan

Presided

Rawalpindi: General Syed Asim Munir, NI (M), Chief of Army Staff presided over the 82nd Formation Commanders Conference at GHQ



82nd Formation Commanders Conference

Terrorists, facilitators to be dealt with full might of the state: COAS Asim Munir

RAWALPINDI: Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Syed Asim Munir, the ongoing counter-terrorism (CT) NI (M), presided over the 82nd operations and resolved that all ed by Corps Commanders, Princi- forces to destabilise Pakistan will be rights violations by Indian forces. pal Staff Officers and all Formation dealt with the full might of the state. Forum reaffirmed that Pakistai Commanders of Pakistan Army,

The forum paid rich tribute to the supreme sacrifices of martyrs including officers and men of the Armed Forces, Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs) and Pakistani citizens.

professional matters, national security challenges and measures being undertaken to counter traditional and non-traditional security threats, a press issued by the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) read.

The forum took holistic view of

expressed satisfaction over operational preparedness and high standards of training and morale maintained by formations to deal with the emerging threat paradigm.

The forum expressed unequivo-The participants were briefed on cal diplomatic, moral and political support to the people of Palestine and reiterated Pakistan's principled stance supporting the two-state solution, based on pre-1967 borders with Al Quds Al Sharif as the capital of

The participants also expressed ment Regime, dignified repatriation concerns over the continued repression of Kashmiris in Indian Illegally Formation Commanders Conferterrorists, their facilitators and abet-Occupied Jammu and Kashmir and ence at GHQ, which was attend- tors, working on the behest of hostile condemned the unabated human

> politically, diplomatically and morally. Participants stressed that the only solution to the issue lies in providing the right of self-determination to the people of Kashmir according to relevant UNSC resolution.

The forum resolved to fully support the government's initiatives in various domains for sustainable recovery of the economy and curbing illegal activities including smuggling, hoarding, electricity theft, implementation of the One Docu-

of illegal foreigners and safeguarding of national database etc.

The forum noted that despite challenges, recent months have witnessed an increasing sense of stability, certainty and ontimism across Paki COAS General Asim Munir shall continue to support Kashmiris stan and resolved that vested efforts towards engineering of despondency will be defeated through perseverance and continued positive actions, with the support of the people of Pakistan, InshaAllah.

The participants affirmed that the Pakistan Army will continue defending and serving the nation in every possible way; in our journey towards enduring stability and security. The forum urged the proud people of Pakistan to stay determined

Pakistan firmly supports two-state solution of Palestine issue: President

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi on Thursday reiterated that Pakistan firmly supported a just and peaceful resolution of the Palestine issue, based on the two-state solution. The president expressed these views while talking to Imam Khatib at Masjid Al-Haram and Advisor at Saudi Royal Courts of Saudi Arabia, Dr Saleh bin Abdullah Humaid, who called on him, at Aiwan-e-Sadr.

Ambassador of Saudi Arabia to Pakistan Nawaf bin Saeed Ahmad Al-Malkiy, also attended the meeting. He said that the world must realize the pain of the Palestinian people and play



and children. The meeting exchanged views on the situation in Gaza, Islamophobia, faced by the Islamic World. Dr Saleh bin Abdul-

Muslim World had adoptits role in ending the Israeli the Palestine issue that the ant Muslim causes.

their due rights based on the two-state solution. He remarked that joint efforts by the Muslim World were needed to end the ongoand other challenges being ing violence and atrocities in Palestine and extend humanitarian and diplomatlah Humaid said that the ic support. President Alvi appreciated the role played ed a unanimous stance on by Saudi Arabia for import-

ECP orders PTI to hold intraparty elections within 20 days

跨 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Election Commission of Pakistan has ordered the PTI to hold intra-party elections within 20 days.

However, bat will remain election symbol of the party, the ECP said in its decision on the PTI's intra-party election that was reserved on September 13.

The election commission had taken notice of the PTI's intra-party elections. The PTI had submitted details of its party elections on June 08 last year.

"The PTI has failed to hold transparent intra-party elections," the electoral body said its verdict.

An ECP panel headed by commission's member Nisar Durrani, announced the decision. The Election Commission had served a notice to the party with regard to the party's internal restructuring and intra-par-

PM stresses media role to highlight outcomes of drive against smuggling, power theft



Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaarul-Haq Kakar on Thursday urged the media to play its role to create public awareness on the outcomes of the government's initiatives like the drive against smuggling and power theft and its benefits for the common man. The prime minister, in a meeting with a delegation of the All Pakistan Newspapers Society, also emphasized the media to highlight the importance of the strategy for economic stability formulated under the

Special Investment Facilita-

tion Council.

He said that the media had a key role to play for good governance and creating awareness among the masses. Calling media the fourth pillar of the state, the prime minister said the media's contribution for society's progress and intellectual development of the people was of critical importance. He also assured the delegation of government's support for the resolution of the issues confronting the newspaper industry. He instructed the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting to ensure the payment of advertisement dues payable

Gaza 'most dangerous place in the world to be a child'

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Gaza Strip is the "most dangerous place in the world to be a child," the head of the United Nations children's agency UNICEF said on Wednesday.

UNICEF Executive Director Catherine Russell told the U. N. Security Council that more than 5,300 Palestinian children had reportedly been killed since Oct. 7 - when Palestinian militants of Hamas attacked Israel, killing 1,200 people and taking hostages, most of them civilians.

Israel has focused its retaliation



against Hamas in Gaza, a territory of 2.3 million people.

"The true cost of this latest war in Palestine and Israel will be measured in children's lives – those lost to the violence and those forever changed by it. Without an end to the fighting and full humanitarian access, the cost will continue to grow exponentially," Russell, who last week visited Gaza, said at a council briefing on women and children there.

Israel has bombarded Gaza from the air, imposed a siege and invaded with soldiers and tanks.

"The Gaza Strip is the most dangerous place in the world to be a child," Russell said. "In Gaza, the effects of the violence perpetrated on children have been catastrophic, indiscriminate and dispropor-

Israel agreed on Wednesday to a ceasefire with Hamas for four days to let in humanitarian aid and free at least 50 hostages held by militants in exchange for at least 150 Palestinians

jailed in Israel. "Women in Gaza have told us that they pray for peace, but that if peace does not come, they pray for a quick death, in their sleep, with their children in their arms. It should shame us all that any mother, anywhere, has such a prayer," U. N. Women Executive Director Sima Bahous told the 15-member council.

Jammu and Kashmir's new minister takes oath

跨 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: President Azad Jammu and Kashmir Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry administered the oath of office to the newly elected Minister Ms. Kausar Taqdees Gilani and Ms. Imtiaz Naseem here today. The swearing-in ceremonv held at Kashmir House Islamabad was attended by Prime Minister Chaudhry Anwar ul Haq, Senior Minis ter Colonel (retd) Waqar Ahmad Noor, Government Ministers Chaudhry Azhar Sadiq, Abdul Majid Khan, Chaudhry Muhammad Akbar Ibrahim, Chief Secretary and others.

Justice Minallah's note in election date verdict issued

№ City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Supreme Court on Thursday issued a 41-page note of Justice Athar Minallah in the judgment about the date of general elections. Justice Athar Minallah, in his note, said that the National Assembly was dissolved on August 09, 2023 and general elections were to be held within ninety days i.e., not later than November 07, 2023.

"It was not disputed by the Attorney General that, under Article 48(5) of the Constitution, the duty to 'appoint' a date was imposed upon the President while the announcement was to be made by the Commission as required under section 57(1) of the Act of 2017. We had also made it absolutely clear that it was not the function of this Court to appoint a date nor was it conferred with any power or jurisdiction to do so."



Justice Minallah said that the court had asked the Attorney General to inform the President and the Commission that the violation of the Constitution had taken place in the case of Punjab and Khyber Pukhtunkhwa while the infringement had become imminent to the extent of holding general elections to the National Assembly and the two provincial assemblies of Sindh and Balochistan.

"The duty to ensure that the people of Pakistan are not deprived of their right to vote and they do not remain unrepre-

sented for more than a ninety day period was that of the President, the governors and the Commission."

The note said that the date of February 08, 2024 was appointed by the President and announced by the Commission without prejudice to and notwithstanding the consequences that they may have exposed themselves to on account of the violations of the Constitution and denial of rights to the people of Pakistan.

"The violation of Article 224(2) and the resultant denial of the rights to the people of Pakistan is so grave and profound that it cannot be cured, condoned nor the acts are 9 immune from being held to account," it added.

"The 125,626,390 registered voters are victims and the responsible authorities i.e the President, governors and the Commission are accountable to them for causing injury and loss."







" بيروس پېلىغىراشىدەن قىلىڭ بولىن شىرەشياب -: لەندىداملەم لەرداخىيىنى كەرداخال بايلەد، شان شىنىخۇ * بِينْظِيْشُ وَرَا لَا مِينَوْلَ مِدِينَ مِنْ آئِدُوا لَى مَا أَمِنْ كَ لِنْكِ بِ. ى اليايدى ك عدا قول كالتعسيل جائة كيك موفّى الدون كـ الحيشل *** فی اوقت میاک ایب صوف معدد مین 🔰 🔰 پردستیاب ب

بياب لأن <mark>1210 بركال كرين (تن 8 سارة 12 بج تك) موباكل بي Connect ف الأن او أكرين "</mark>

ویب مائث sngpl.com.pk وزث کریں

Lawyers Community have made countless sacrifices for the restoration of democracy in Pakistan: Naheed Khan

Kiran Asim

MULTAN: Former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto Shaheed's Political Secretary and Chairperson of Pakistan People's Party Workers Mrs. Naheed Khan and General Secretary of Grand Democratic Alliance Senator Safdar Abbasi met with the President of High Court Bar Association Multan Rana Asif Saeed and other members of High Court Bar Association Multan Talking to the Bar officials and lawyers at their office, he said that the roles and sacrifices of lawyers and lawyers are more important than political parties in the restoration of democracy and



the end of dictatorship in Pakistan, which cannot be denied by lawyers and lawyers. Only they can put Paki-

stan on the right direction of development and they should play their role

President of High Court Bar Association Multan Rana Asif Saeed said that the lawyers of Pakistan and especially Multan Bars have their own status and historical place. We are ready to make sacrifices for Pakistan.

Member of Punjab Bar Council Dawood Vance, Vice President Rabia Manal, Farzana Kausar Rana, Ibrahim Khosa, Asad Ali Haraj, Rana Ameek, Sajid Tagha, Ashraf Sindhu, Chaudhry Muhammad Saeed, Chaudhry Khushi Muhammad, Yasir Hameed Bhatti Malik Bilal Vance, Farast Ali Chawan also participated

Street Vendor

ISLAMABAD: A street vendor is selling roasted corns on his hand cart along the road side at Sector F-6 in Federal Capital.



Aga Khan University Hospital Honours World Children's Day with Heartwarming Celebrations

👺 City Desk

KARACHI:- The Aga Khan University Hospital (AKUH) reaffirms its commitment to the well-being of its youngest patients with a series of heartwarming and engaging activities in celebration of World Children's Day.

The Children's Day journey commenced on 20th ing, and health for children. Fyezah Jehan, Chair, and Dr November 2023, marked by a momentous walk and a vibrant art exhibition at ric wards and clinics. The the AKU Sports Centre. Attended by Hospital leadand students from various event set the tone for a celegathered for a special cake bration focused on joy, learn-



the next day in the Paediatchildren's ward at AKUH buzzed with excitement as atrics and Child Health

The festivities continued Ali Faisal Saleem, Vice Chair.

"World Children's Day provides us with an opportunity to celebrate the resilience and spirit of these ership, faculty and staff, the Department of Paedi- young souls and to reaffirm our commitment as a socischools across Karachi, this representatives and patients ety to ensure the wellbeing, safety and healthy upbringcutting ceremony, led by Dr ing. We are delighted by

the enthusiastic participation of these young champions; their vibrant energy profoundly enriched this celebration. Thank you for making this World Children's Day memorable and full of creativity" said Dr Farhat Abbas CEO, Aga Khan University Hospital.

Adding to the festive atmosphere, brushes and face paints were brought out as residents and nursing staff adorned children's faces with colourful designs. The magic show, a crowd favourite, added an extra layer of enchantment to the day's festivities, mesmerizing the young audience with tricks, illusions, and interactive **BankIslami** partners with The Pakistan Freelancers' Association to Empower Freelancers Nationwide

Example 2 Commerce Desk

LAHORE: BankIslami Pakistan Limited proudly announces the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with The Pakistan Freelancers' Association (PAFLA), marking a significant milestone in facilitating the burgeoning freelance community in Pakistan.

This collaboration aims to revolutionize financial services for freelancers, offering a dedicated Freelance Account Opening service. BankIslami takes the lead as the first financial institution to introduce a $For eign\ Currency\ (FCY)\ debit\ card$ designed specifically for individual freelancers and software houses against their specialized exporter foreign currency retention account.

World should play role in stopping massacre of innocent Palestinians: Imam Kaaba

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Imam Kaaba, H. E. Professor Dr. Saleh bin Abdullah bin Humaid, Thursday, said that the killing of human life is forbidden, Muslims are being massacred in the name of human rights in Gaza, the international community should respect the sanctity of human lives and they must act to stop the crimes in Gaza.

He expressed these views during a special address at the international conference on the topic of "Protection of Human Life in Shariah and Law' of International Islamic University, Islamabad (IIUI).

Imam e Haram said that the massacre of innocent people in Gaza is the darkest period in human history. He said that he prays for the end of the



held at the Faisal Masjid Campus cruelty of the Muslims of Palestine. Imam e Kaaba said that special attention was paid to the sanctity of human life in Islam. He added that in Islamic Shari'ah and law, human life has special importance without distinc-

Speaking on this occasion, interim Education Minister Madad Ali Sindhi said that the whole of Pakistan is grateful to Imam Kaaba for his visit. He said that the youth have the ability to change the destiny of the Muslim

We're deeply grateful for Khadam-e-Harmeen Sharifeen and the government of Saudi Arabia for their invaluable support for us., Dr. Samina Malik, Rector of the International Islamic University. Thanking Imam e Kaaba for gracing the conference, she also shared prominent features of the International Islamic University. She also appreciated the efforts of Dr. Hathal Homoud Alotaibi and his team for bringing transformative changes in the University.

Speaking on this occasion, IIUI President H. E. Dr. Hathal Homoud Alotaibi said that today is a blessed day that Imam Kaaba has come to participate in the conference on our invitation. He said that I thank the custodians of Al-Haramain Al-Sharifeen for their continued cooperation with the

Farewell

News Desk

LAHORE: A farewell party was organized in the honour of Adil Aamir, head of HRD Urban Developer on this occasion MD Urban Developer Usman Anwar appreciated the services of Adil Aamir and presented him bouquet a large number of dignitaries were present which included M Umar Farooq, Vh. M. Sarwar, Nasir Majeed, M. Shahid Amir, Col. M. Shahid Alam, Umar Qureshi, M. Waqas, Abdul Mansion, Amanat Ali, Kanwal Saqlain, M. Yousaf, Hasham Ali, M. Qasim, M. Kaleem, M. Qasim, M. Meharban, Akhtar Mehmood, Touseef Zafar, Umar Farooq. At the end Adil Aamir thanked all the guests and MD Urban Developers Usman Anwar to to host the party in his honour.

Transgender Community does not have so many opportunities in terms of health



Asim Tanveer

MULTAN: Wasaib Sanwaro Transgender CBO and Multan Rising Stars Love Club organized a free sugar camp, the main objective of which was to educate the transgender community about diabetes and conduct transgender-free diabetes tests, addressing the function. Project Manager Muhammad Ilyas Malik and Drop-in Center Coordinator Miss Nosheen Afzal said that the transgender community does not have so many opportunities in terms of health because it is considered a very backward community. It is not possible but we can definitely control it, so we should keep getting our tests done from time to time.

In order to get a timely diagnosis, more than 42 million people worldwide are suffering from this disease. On this occasion, Dr. Waqas also addressed the transgender and said that diabetes is a disease in which the body cannot use sugar, so the blood The level of sugar increases, which damages other organs of the body. On this occasion, Dr. Usman Farid said that many other diseases can be caused due to diabetes, including blindness, heart diseases, kidney diseases and others. Diseases are included, on this occasion, Miss Larib, Miss Hania, Miss Anchal, Miss Sunina and Miss Babli also expressed their views and Murid Khawaja Sarane participated in the ceremony.

Shahri organization holds workshop on climate change to help address its impacts



跨 Qayoom Sarohi

HYDERABAD: The Shahri organization organized a workshop on climate change, its impacts and solutions in collaboration with Federic Noman Foundation. Sarwar Khalid, a representative of the shahri organization, said in the inaugural address that there is a need to focus on increasing education and awareness about climate change and changing one's lifestyle to effectively deal with its effects. Social leader Boota Imtiaz said that there is a need to create awareness among the people on the environment and other issues related to it. Chairman Union Council Abid Qureshi said that in order to avoid climate change and save everyone, we should do our part. Avoid the harmful effects of climate change. Social leader Abdul Majeed Mallah said that over the past few years, extreme weather conditions have become the norm in Pakistan. Extreme heat waves, droughts and floods have become common every year affecting food and water security. Advocate Suba Bhatti said that farmers should be given necessary training and awareness regarding climate change. He said that the farmers are directly affected by the effects of climate change. Father Shamon said that we have to change our lifestyle keeping in mind the climate change, UC Vice-Chairman Nasir Parvez, Ms. Ghafrana Arain, journalist Qayoom sarohi, Rana Pradeep and Junaid Ahmed Dhari also spoke in the workshop.

RPO Dera issued orders to solve problems of Tank police in Darbar

Mazir

TANK: Police Darbar was held on Thursday by RPO Dera Ismail Khan Nasir Mehmood satti to solve the problems of Tank police.

On this occasion District Police Officer Tank Iftikhar Shah, SP Investigation Nasir Khan and officers of all ranks



large numbers in the police Darbar. Addressing the participants of the Darbar, RPO Dera Nasir Mehmood Satti said that the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Police Force is fighting against terrorism and bringing the terrorists to justice by crushing their evil ambitions.

He said, I pay tribute to the Tank Police especially the way they are

fighting bravely. Police duty is actually worship, the best police officer is he who, living on the truth and truth, should do justice to the oppressed without any recommendation and bring the oppressor to his original place.

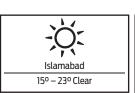
He said, We have worn the police uniform for the protection of life and property of the people and law and order, for which they will not

hesitate to make any sacrifice.
On this occasion, he urged the participants of the Darbar to create facilities for the pilgrims coming to the police stations and play your role in changing the culture of the traditional police station by showing good manners with them.

Rule of law and justice, corruption free police and welfare of the

force are my top priorities. All resources will be utilized for the welfare of the police force, and under the systematic system of development prevailing in the force, every police officer and jawan will be provided equal opportunities for development.





SERVICES		
Namaz Ti	imings	
Fajr		
Zohr	11:54 am	
Asr	3:24 pm	
Maghrib	5:01 pm	
laha.	6.20	

EMERGENCY

	-
Rescue (Police)	15
Bomb Disposal	15
Fire Services Rawalpindi/	
Islamabad11	22 & 16
Emergency Ambulance	1122 &
& Rescue Services	4451122
Motorway Police92	266044
Motorway Police9270	601-20

Women Police

Stations		
Islamabad	9222596	
Rawalpindi	9270601-20	

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 International4603666



King Salman *Humanitarian* Aid and Relief Center concludes Winter Relief **Distribution**

跨 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: In response to the pressing needs of communities affected by the floods caused by unprecedented monsoon rains, the King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Center (KSrelief) has undertaken a vital initiative to provide winter relief to individuals in the coldest regions of Pakistan who have been adversely impacted.

KSrelief has significantly intensified its relief efforts in Pakistan, 19000 winter relief packages has been distributed in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Baluchistan in collaboration with NDMA, PDMAs, RR&SD, UN agencies. The objective is to alleviate the suffering of those affected by the floods and extend assistance to deserving individuals in dire need.

11,000 winter relief package were distributed across five districts in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (Upper Chitral, Lower Chitral, Upper Dir, Upper Swat, and Upper Kohistan). Additionally, 8,000 relief packages were distributed in four districts of Balochistan, namely Kalat, Sohrab, Killa Saifullah, and Ziarat. These packages include 2 Polyester quilts and a kit of warm shawls for both men and women, as well as warm clothing for children and adults.

The distribution process was carried out with utmost transparency, in collaboration with provincial governments and Hayat Foundation as implementing partner, ensuring that the assistance reached those who needed it most. Overall, the winter relief packages provided by the King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Center benefited more than 133,000 individuals in the provinces of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Baluchistan.

Hopeful Pakistan

Persistence in education will take us to greater heights: Sadia Rashid

跨 Bureau Report

KARACHI: One should not fret over the challenges on the path. As per a Chinese proverb, the journey of a thousand miles commences with the initial step. Hence, one should not fear the distance to the destination but persistently advance forward. These views were expressed by Ms. Sadia Rashid, President Hamdard Foundation Pakistan, yesterday in her presidential address at the monthly Hamdard Naunehal Assembly meeting titled: "Message of Allama Iqbal, Hopeful Pakistan" held at Bait-ul-Hikmah Auditorium, Madinat al-Hikmah.

She also said "Allama Iqbal described children as Falcons (Shaheen), embodying a love for soaring to great heights. One day vou all will contribute to the greatness of Pakistan, as the future of the nation rests in your hands. Persist in your educational pursuit with determination and dedication to acquire profound knowledge. Illuminate the candles of hope in socie-



ty by embracing the message of Allama Iqbal, and bring an end to the darkness of despair."

The chief guest, renowned poet and broadcaster Hidayat Sair speaking on the occasion said Allama Iqbal instilled hope in the Muslims of the subcontinent in the era of slavery, urging them to remain

optimistic even during challenging times. He also said "As the new generation of the country, it is your responsibility to step forward and assume leadership of the nation. Hence, comprehend the teachings of Allama Iqbal and spread the message of hope to others. Pakistan was created only after the great sacrifices of our elders. It is now your mandate to responsibly hand it over to the next generations.

Young speakers from different schools, while speaking on the topic said Allama Iqbal's poetry conveys a profound message of enduring hope, relentless struggle, purposeful action, elevated vision, and self-awareness. Hope, the paramount weapon in life's struggles, guides one to success. The realization of Pakistan's development hinges on the practical application of Iqbal's teachings.

 $Children \ \bar{d}ifferent \ schools \ present$ ed tableaus and national songs. The meeting was concluded after students of Hamdard Public School and Hamdard Village School recited Dua-i-Said.

Ghaza March

ISLAMABAD: School children chanting slogans during Children Ghaza March protest rally against Israel attack on Ghaza, in front of Faisal Mosque in Federal Capital.



Liaqat Ali Chatta opened student's expo at PAC

跨 City Desk

RAWALPINDI: Commissioner Rawalpindi Division Liaquat Ali Chatta inaugurated the Student Expo at the Punjab Arts Council in collaboration with Bazme-Paigham Pakistan. While addressing the participants of the student expo chief guest Liaqat Ali Chatta said that Youth are the future of Pakistan.

The development of Pakistan lies in the development of youth. 65% of Pakistan's population consists of youth. By investing youth, Pakistan can achieve a high position in the world. Chief guest Liaquat Ali Chatta also inaugurated the exhibition of Islamic



been beautifully captured

works of Amara Afshin.

The special guest said that on canvas by Amara Afshin. Amara Afshin is honored to In the end, he congratulated have three Qurans written the Punjab Arts Council and by her kept in the Haram Bazm-e-Paigham for organiz-Sharif. Quranic verses have ing the successful expo.

in order to deal with the current economic challenges, the education system has to be developed according to the requirements of the new era. We have to upgrade the education system according to the demand of the industry to compete with the rest of the world. The aim of the expo is to

Assistant Director Muham-

mad Suleman said that

increase connectivity between industry and academia in view of contemporary challenges, discuss and find solutions to problems related to emerging technology and employment opportunities, e-commerce, scholarships, expensive education and industry demand.



Federal Minister Jamal Shah inaugurates Department of **Pashto**

Future World School ජ College, Islamabad celebrated Iqbal's Day



ISLAMABAD: Future World School & College H-11/4, Islamabad celebrated Iqbal Day as the students pay a heartfelt tribute to Dr. Allama Muhammad Iqbal, Poet of the East last day says a press release.

Students at the Future World School & College presented performances, speeches, and extracts of Dr. Allama Iqbal's poetry in a praiseworthy manner. The performance included recitations of iconic poems such as "Shikwa," "Jawabe Shikwa," "Tariq ki Dua," "Ishq or Maut," "Mairaj-e-Mustafa," and various other celebrated Persian works of the visionary poet. The students' enthusiastic presentations depicted their deep appreciation for Allama Iqbal's literary legacy, creating a memorable synergy between the past and the present.

Dr. Allama Muhammad Iqbal's grandson Senator Walid Iqbal as a Chief Guest arrived at Future World School & College H-11/4, Islamabad on Iqbal Day celebrations to mesmerize the students with his awe-inspiring address.

Students thoroughly enjoyed Senator Walid Iqbal's remark that "If Roots Millennium School had existed in his time, Allama Iqbal would surely have been enrolled there." It was an overall innovative and thought provoking oration.

The Chief Guest's captivating speech encompassed many instances and references to Allama Iqbal's personal life which are not well known to public, his philosophy of life, his adoration for ALLAH (SWT) and Prophet Muhammad (), his call of awakening to the youth to be the change makers, invigorating passion and deference for the visionary poet and his astounding work. Senator Walid Iqbal also appreciated the work of Future World School & College Management & efforts of Urdu Depart $ment\ especially\ Ma\`{a}m\ Hijab\ Bano\ for\ preparing\ the\ students\ so\ well.$

Present at the occasion, Director the Millennium Education Group Mrs. Sabina Zakir added, "We take pride in our students' ability to embrace and showcase the rich cultural tapestry of our history. The performances resonated with the essence of Allama Iqbal's message and left a lasting impact on everyone present."

Pakistan's role in sustainable energy holds great promise: Speakers



跨 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The future of renewable energy in Pakistan holds great promise as the country seeks to address its growing energy demands while mitigating the environmental impact of traditional energy sources. With abundant sunlight and wind resources, Pakistan has significant potential for solar and wind energy generation. This was said in an event organized jointly by Information Services Academy and Alliance for good governance foundation in ISA auditorium. Those who attended the session included; MD PPIB Mr. Shah Jahan Mirza, Energy expert Engr. Asad Mahamood, Mr. Irfan Mirza from renewable energy resource, Director Bridge Factor Mr. Ashraf Rana, Energy expert Dr. Irfan Yousaf, Economist Dr. Noor Fatima, Col. Tariq Khattak from REAP. Executive Director ISA Dr. Tariq Khan, representatives of civil society, academia, electronic and print media. Minster for Energy Mr. Muhammad Ali was the chief guest of the occasion.

Mr. Muhammad Ali said that the government's commitment to increasing the share of renewable in the energy mix, coupled with international support and investment, is paving the way for a sustainable energy future.

Appreciations

PANAH appreciates government for sanctioning Rs 6.7 billion for prevention of diabetes

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan National Heart Association (PANAH has been for the past 40 years, pays tribute to alarming increase in diabetes in Pakistan. For this, the federal government has sanctioned Rs.6.7 billion. PANAH Pakistan to take such policy measures appreciates the government's initia- to reduce diseases because the health tive to reduce the incidence of diabe- of the people is the first priority of the tes and requests that necessary policy measures be taken to reduce the incidence of diabetes. Every day in Pakistan become the first country in the world try of National health services, regu-

in terms of rapid increase in diabetes. Unhealthy foods like sugary drinks and ultra-processed foods are the major reasons behind the rapid spread working for the prevention of many of diabetes. The world has increased diseases including heart and diabetes taxes on SSBs and put front-of-pack warning labels on ultra-processed the government's initiative to tackle the foods to reduce their consumption, which has had very positive results. We also request the government of government. This was said by health experts in a media session organized by Pakistan National Heart Associa-1100 people die due to diabetes or its tion (PANAH) at a local hotel in Islamcomplications and every third Pakistani abad. Among the participants were is suffering from diabetes. Pakistan has Director of Nutrition & NFA minis-

lation and coordination Dr. Khawaja Masood Ahmed, Chief Executive Officer of Heart File Dr. Saba Amjad, Consultant of Global Health Advocacy Incubator Mr. Munawar Hussain, President Islamabad Press Club Mr. Anwar Raza, Former Commissioner FBR Mr. Abdul Hafeez, PANAH Vice President Mr. Ghulam Abbas, senior journalists of electronic and print media participated. Former Chairperson of National Commission on the Rights of Child Ms. Afshan Tehseen Bajwa was the Chief Guest of the event. PANAH Secretary General Mr. Sanaullah Ghumman hosted the event.

Addressing the participants, Afshan Tahseen Bajwa said that sugary drinks and ultra-processed foods, especially affect our children and young generation. Children are the future of our nation and we have to raise our voice for this national cause with PANAH to secure our future.

Dr. Khawaja Masood said that unhealthy diet is one of the major causes of diabetes and many other non-communicable diseases and thousands of Pakistanis are losing their lives every day because of this, that is why the government has allocated 6.7 billion for the prevention of diabetes

Munawar Hussain said that evidence shows that reducing consumption of sugary drinks and ultra-processed products can reduce deaths and illnesses and save lives of many Pakistanis. Sugary drinks and ultra-processed foods has high amount of salt, sugar, trans fats and saturated fats.



Dr. Saba Amjad said that PANAH is raising voice for the national cause; the civil society of Pakistan joins its voice and demands the government to make necessary policies to reduce the consumption of unhealthy food so that the people can be removed from this deluge of diseases.

Sanahullah Ghumman said that PANAH is running an aggressive campaign against diabetes and the factors that cause it. He said that in

recent days, the government has allocated 6.7 billion rupees for the prevention of diabetes.

PANAH appreciates this initiative of the government and also requests the government to address the factors that are causing this, including unhealthy food, especially ultra-processed foods and sugary drinks. Effective policy measures should also be taken to reduce the consumption of these unhealthy

Editorial/Opinion

Friday, November 24, 2023

Group Chairman/Chief Editor: Almas Ayoub Sabir Vice Chairman: Managing Editor: Bureau Chief Karachi:

Asim Nazir Ahmad Naveed Ahmad Khan Head Editorial Advisory Board: Amjad Mehmood Saleem Zaman Khan. (mszk786@gmail.com Bureau Chief Lahore: Syed Afraz Ali Nazish (afrazalishah@gmail.com)

Islamabad Office: Rose Plaza, I-8 Markaz.

Karachi office: Flat No.C.3.A.One Comfort, Block No 11. Gulshan-e-Iqbal, Main Rashid Minhas Road.

Lahore Office: 7-E, Samanberg, Johar Town. spokesmanislamabad@gmail.com Email:

0346-5008408 Whatsapp:

Khalistan Sikh leader: **Indian assassination** attempt

ro-Khalistan General Counsel of Sikhs for Justice (SFJ) Gurpatwant Singh Pannun expressed his fearlessness, asserting that he remained undeterred despite the thwarted plots by Indian authorities to assassinate him on American soil. In his first reaction after the Financial Times (FT) assassination revelations, Pannun, a pro-Khalistan Sikh leader, asserted that India has directly challenged America's sovereignty and national security by orchestrating a plot to assassinate him on U. S. soil using its death squads.

Gurpatwant Singh Pannun, who is a New York based Attorney at Law said, India's transnational terrorism has become a direct challenge to the sovereignty of the United States, so I will let the US government respond to the issue of threats to my life on American soil from the Indian operatives. "I am troubled by the fact that the Sikh Community has been under an existential threat since the 1984 Operation Blue Star, the November 1984 Genocide, the decade-long (1984-97) series of extrajudicial killings of Sikhs to suppress the movement for the right to self-determination, and now, the forced suicides of Punjab farmers." At this time, my focus is not the threats to my life but to organize American Phase of Khalistan Referendum which is scheduled to start from San Francisco CA on January 28, 2024 under the supervision of Punjab Referendum Commission, a panel of independent experts on direct democracy. Believing that independence from Indian occupation and establishment of Khalistan is the only solution, Sikh sovereignists have launched the global Khalistan Referendum initiative to peacefully advance the cause of liberating the Indian held Punjab. Being General Counsel of SFJ my responsibility is to organize the secessionist Khalistan Referendum for liberation of Indian held Punjab and to follow UN Charter and domestic laws of the countries where voting is being organized to ensure compliance with the democratic norms, he said. "Just like Canadian Citizen Hardeep Singh Nijjar's assassination by the Indian agents on Canadian soil was a challenge to Canada's sovereignty, the threat to an American citizen on American soil is a Challenge to America's sovereignty, and I trust that the Biden Administration is more than capable to handle any such challenge." In a statement after the assassination plot was exposed, the White House said in a statement it was "treating this issue with utmost seriousness"

Adrienne Watson, the NSC spokesman, said the US had raised the issue with News Delhi "at the senior most levels". Adrienne Watson said: "We understand the Indian govt is further investigating this issue and will have more to say about it in the coming days. We have conveyed our expectation that anyone deemed responsible should be held accountable."

Why Knocked at China's door to end Gaza Genocide - II

challenges, it extended its sion and brutality of enemies stronger to end the crisis in Gaza and commitsupport without any conditions or expectations. China came to our aid without hesitation, without posing any questions, and without attaching any strings, demonstrating a stark contrast in their approach compared to the USA.

In the context of the Hamas-Gaza eration. The Ottoman conflict, while millions of people from the developing and developed worlds took to the streets to demand an end to Israeli massacres in Gaza and the West Bank, governments from the developed world stood with Israel and threatened any other country with dire consequences if it even considered military intervention. They provided open air, ground, and sea access to Israel, allowing it to launch strikes from every direction and slaughter children, women, the elderly, and youth with impunity. They rendered the United Nations, the World Health Organisation, the Red Cross, and other similar organisations obsolete and silent. They reduced all Muslim countries to a condition of helplessness, irritation, indignation, and silence as they saw their unarmed reli- a single Muslim gious brothers and sisters viciously and brutally butchered and slaughtered for no fault or crime of their own.

Feeling insulted and humiliated, Muslim countries resorted to seeking Chinese intervention to end this quagmire in the same manner and approach that helpless and victimised countries

ontrastingly, when we used to seek the help of the superpower of turned to China with our the time to rescue them from the aggres- stated that the world must act quickly

than them. In the eighth century, the Abbasid Caliphate partnered with Tang China to fight the threat posed by the Göktürks, a formidable nomadic confed-Empire supported and protected Muslim populations across Europe, particularly in the Balkans and Eastern Europe, in the 15th and 16th centuries. Mohammad Bin Qasim liberated Msulims imprisoned by Raja

711 CE. It is disheartening and shameful for the entire Muslim world that there is no longer country or Muslim leader in the world with the tenacity,

Dahir of Sindh in

Muslim brothers and sisters from the Arab and Muslim countries and firmly tyranny of Israel and its handlers, and they have finally knocked on the doors of China.

China made a statement in which it

ted to step up its efforts to play a role in creating a ceasefire in the Israel-Hamas conflict, as well as its determination to firmly support justice and fairness. It demanded an immediate ceasefire and the distribution of relief supplies in the

Beijing amid

adopted

its efforts to avert open confronta-The peace diplomacy led by tion with Washington and Israel China has given it the status and is struggling to of civilised and humane maintain its status super power while USA and of a power broker in the region. Unlike Israel have been branded the USA, which is as brute force and senseless doing all it can to force which are bent upon fuel the war against humanity in Gaza, inflicting untold miseries to China the helpless civilians of Gaza exactly the opposite path. It supported and west bank. the peaceful resolution of conflict

Qamar Bashir

and firmly defendresources, and courage to defend our ed the legitimate rights and interests of stood with the Palestinian people in their efforts to restore their legitimate national rights and interests.

China was the main motivation when the UN passed its first resolution calling release of hostages and extended humanitarian corridors to protect civilians. The peace diplomacy led by China has given it the status of civilised and humane super power while USA and Israel have been branded as brute force and senseless force which are bent upon inflicting untold miseries to the helpless civilians of Gaza and west bank.

With China's emerging status as a responsible state that seeks not to wage war but to lift people from all around the world out of poverty. China, despite its overwhelming economic, financial, and military might, does not threaten any country and instead prefers peaceful resolution of crises. China, which is willingly and happily sharing the fruits of its prosperity and growth with all countries of the world without any strings attached while maintaining the dignity, honour, and respect of recipient countries, possesses all of the ingredients to assure global leadership and lead the world to shared prosperity and growth. It is playing a critical role in restoring some semblance of humanity to the Hamas-Israel dispute and will hopefully continue to play a pacifying role in resolving the issues and conflict through peaceful ways free of threats, arm twisting, and

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



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

National Call for the Restoration of Military Courts - II

specific guidelines tailored for cases related to terrorism. This ensures a more consistent approach to sentencing, contributing to the establishment of clear precedents and expectations. Consistency in sentencing is essential for conveying a unified message about the severity of involvement in terrorist activities, both to the individuals implicated and potential sympathizers.

Military courts play a crucial role within the justice system, especially

in dealing with cases related to national security and terrorism. Globally, there are instances of exemplary military courts showcasing exceptional effectiveness in handling such cases. Several case studies highlight

military courts contribute to delivering swift, fair, and decisive justice in the ongoing fight against terrorism.

Abdul Basit Alvi

In the aftermath of the 9/11 attacks, the United States established military commissions to prosecute individuals involved in acts of terrorism against the country. Operating under the Military Commissions Act, these commissions aimed to provide a legal framework for trying individuals associated with al-Qaeda and other

ilitary courts often military commissions have successfully rendered justice in numerous high-profile cases, emphasizing the U.S. commitment to holding terrorists accountable under a specialized legal framework.

In the aftermath of the attempted coup in Turkey in 2016, the country utilized military courts to prosecute individuals implicated in the coup plot. These courts played a crucial role in addressing the unique challenges posed by the coup attempt, ensuring the swift dispensation of justice for those involved. The trials underscored the significance of military courts in

responding to security threats and maintaining stability during times of crisis. Colombia,

nation grappling with internal conflicts and insurgencies, employs military criminal justice system

success stories, demonstrating how to handle cases involving military personnel accused of committing crimes, including those related to terrorism and insurgency. This system strikes a balance between holding individuals accountable for their actions and maintaining discipline within the armed forces, Colombia's experience illustrates how a well-functioning military justice system can contribute to both national security and the preservation of the rule of law.

Regrettably, the civilian judicial terrorist organizations. Despite facing system in Pakistan has failed to delivlegal and procedural challenges, the er timely and transparent justice to its

citizens. It is a common observation that legal cases, spanning generations, often remain unresolved. The overwhelming caseload further burdens our courts, with the superior and lower judiciaries grappling with a staggering backlog of 2.144 million cases. In 2021 alone, 4.102 million cases were concluded, while 4.06 million new cases were filed, leading to an overall pending caseload of 2.16 million at the start of the next year.

Statistics from the Supreme Court, Federal Shariat Court, and five high courts indicate that 229,822 cases were disposed of in 2020, with 241,250 new cases instituted. The pending cases before superior courts at the year's end stood at 389,549. slightly higher than the previous year's tally of 378,216. Similarly, the district judiciary faced 1,783,826 pending cases at the beginning of the previous year, adjudicating 3,872,686 cases while 3,822,881 new cases were filed, resulting in a total pending caseload of 1,754,947 by the end of 2021.

In contrast, recognizing the pressing need for expeditious justice, Pakistan, a country grappling with terrorism, established Anti-Terrorism Courts (ATCs). These specialized courts aim to fast-track legal proceedings, ensuring a swift response to security threats. ATCs have played a pivotal role in prosecuting individuals involved in high-profile terrorist incidents, contributing to the dismantling of terrorist networks and restoring public confidence in the justice system.

To be continued

Israel-Palestine Conflict 2023

Changing Dynamics of Muslim World

Zoya Arshad

s we hear about the Israel-Palestine issue, it is always considered a political issue but it has religious undertones, these religious undertones make this a global issue. Palestinian territory remains significant for all three major Abrahamic religions in the world. But for Muslims, Jerusalem is considered the 3rd most significant religious city; it was the main reason that the Muslim population all over the globe supports the Palestinian cause.

Now that world dynamics are changing, the support from the Muslim state's government also changed. In the last two to three years, Many Middle Eastern countries have started to establish ties with Israel for their national interest, United Arab Emirates recognized Israel in 2020, signed an agreement for formal diplomatic relations, and became 3rd Arab state to acknowledge Israel. Likewise

Saudi Arabia.

Also, back-channel diplomacy with Israel for the normalization of relations caused massive dismay to the Palestinian cause. Also, there were speculations that this was the reason behind the recent Hamas attack on 7 October 2023.

There are almost 52 Muslim states in the world but reaction toward recent escalation is very minimal. Only some Muslim countries condemn Israeli war crimes in the ongoing conflict. Huge demonstrations and rallies have taken place within the states but state governments don't respond in the same manner. Israel's new Arab allies are facing uneasiness in balancing their relations.

The Middle East is an extremely volatile region, and any conflict has spill effects in the region as the United Arab Emirates warned in the recent conflict. This conflict also disturbs the proportion of power in the region. As we all know Iran and Saudi Arabia both are thriving for regional hegemony and also for the leadership of the Muslim states. Due to the instantaneous modernization and liberalization of Saudi Arabia by Mohammad bin Suleiman and backdoor diplomacy for the normalization of ties with Israel, Saudi Arabia has lost their charm in the Muslim world eye, if Saudi doesn't play an active role in the recent Israel Palestine conflict this will consider as the final nail in the coffin for their leadership of Muslim world. During this conflict, Saudi Arabia also held a musical concert in Riyadh, the whole Muslim world was "so disappointed" by this move of the Saudi government.

Iran gave open and harsh statements against Israel and threatened Israel to use preemptive action from other fronts. The Iran-backed, Lebanese group Hezbollah and Israel have been exchanging fire across the Lebanese-Israeli border for days and giving tough times to the Israeli forces. US President Joe Biden warned Iran and gave the statement "Be careful". The US intervened in the situation, to counter Iran in the region.

Turkish president Tayyib Erdogan openly criticized the Israeli bombing of Gaza and called it a" massacre" and also recalled their ambassador from Israel.

Yemen, the Houthis declared open war against Israel, and they launched multiple missile attacks on Israel, now Saudi Arabia started to feel threatened,

they wanted to target their arch-enemy, Houthis have very limited economic resources and hardware to fight against Israel. In the present scenario, the US sends its additional air defense system to different Gulf countries. For this move, the Gulf countries are criticized by Muslims around the world. In this response, China also sent six warships to the Middle East.

Now talking about Pakistan, the Pakistan foreign ministry gave a cautious statement against Israel. Pakistan's foreign office gave the statement

"We are closely monitoring the unfolding situation in the Middle East and the eruption of hostilities between Israel and Palestinians. We are concerned about the human cost of the escalating situation."

Now Pakistan's government hasn't adopted any offensive stance against Israel in the recent conflict. After Imran Khan's dismissal, Pakistan is facing a crisis in every dimension, financial, social, and political. Right now Pakistan is not in the condition to take any stand in the international forum.

From these reaction conditions of the Muslim countries, one canfigure out that the dynamics inside the Muslim world as well as in the region are changing drastically. Iran and Turkiye, both strive to fill the gap for leadership, left out by Saudi Arabia in the Muslim world. The presence of both the US and China complicates the situation more. If this situation is not resolved carefully then huge turmoil will take place in the Muslim world and it will have severe regional complications due to the volatility of the region

Writer is pursuing the bachelors in Defence and diplomatic studies in Fatima Jinnah Women University

Extraordinary G20 Summit

President of Russia took part in the extraordinary G20 summit, held via videoconference

News Desk

MOSCOW: The summit participants reviewed India's presidency in 2023 and discussed the situation in the global economy and finance, the climate agenda, the digitalisation and other issues.

President of Russia Vladimir Putin: Colleagues,

First of all, I would like to express my gratitude to the Prime Minister of India, Mr Modi, and all our Indian colleagues for their productive work during India's G20 presidency this year.

They have done a lot to focus the activity of the G20 member states on finding solutions to truly pressing issues on the international socioeconomic agenda. This was the purpose the G20 was created for, as an important multilateral governance tool in the global economy and finance.

In our view, there is an increasing need for this kind of consolidating approach today, especially because various confrontational attempts continue to be made.

Some of our colleagues here have mentioned that they are shocked by "Russia's ongoing aggression in Ukraine." Indeed, military operations are always a

tragedy for specific people, specific families, and the country as a whole. And we must certainly think about how to stop this tragedy.

Russia has never refused to negotiate peace with Ukraine. It is not Russia, but Ukraine that has publicly announced that it is withdrawing from the negotiation process. Moreover, the country's leader signed an executive order prohibiting such negotiations with Russia. I understand that this war and

the loss of life are shocking and could not be otherwise. But what about the bloody coup in Ukraine in 2014, which was followed by the Kiev regime's war against its own people in Donbass? Did that not shock you? Are you not shocked by the extermination of civilians in Palestine and the Gaza Strip today? Is it not shocking that doctors have to operate on children – do abdominal surgeries - and use a scalpel on a child's body without anaesthesia? Did it not shock you when the UN Secretary-General said that Gaza has turned into a huge children's cemetery?

Colleagues, The state of affairs in the glob-

al economy and the world at large require collective, consensus-based decisions that reflect the views of the overwhelming majority of the international community, including both developed and developing countries.

Dramatic transformation processes are underway in the world. New powerful global economic growth centres are emerging and gaining strength. A significant portion of global investment, trade and consumer activity is shifting to the Asian, African and Latin American regions, which are home to the majority of the world's popula-

Market turbulence is on the rise. Chronic issues in the international financial sector, as well as energy and food security challenges, are intensifying. By the way, Russia is fulfilling all its commitments in this area and remains one of the largest food exporters. I am here to let you know that the first ships with free Russian grain have been sent to African countries in need.

I would also like to note that the enormous stress on the global economy is a direct consequence of the ill-considered macroeco-

These actions were justified by the need to fight the pandemic, among other reasons. Trillions of dollars and euros injected into the economy and the banking system have triggered a surge in global inflation and a rapid increase in food and energy prices. This underlies the events that I mentioned above. It is not our actions, not our attempts to restore justice in Ukraine. No. It is the actions of the world's largest economies. As a result, we saw an increase in key interest rates. The poorest countries were hardest hit by that, of course.

Unlawful trade restrictions and the climate agenda pursued by some countries in order to improve their own competitiveness, continue to have a negative

In order to eliminate competitors and to gain advantages, dishonest methods of competition are used, including the destruction of transport and logistics chains and international payment arrangements, and even acts of state terrorism. The explosion at the Nord Stream gas pipeline under the Baltic Sea is a



Russia advocates restoring the spirit of open and mutually beneficial international economic cooperation based on the UN Charter and the principles of collegial and mutually respectful joint work. It is important to achieve an effective optimisation of the global economic governance system, in particular, to restart the WTO in its entirety,

including its arbitration function. We need to enhance the role of developing economies in international financial institutions, including the IMF and the World Bank, and to use those bodies resources to promote the development of countries and regions that really need it, and not for

opportunistic political purposes. We are ready to work together to address these urgent issues at the G20 and other international institutions, including BRICS, an association that is gaining weight and influence - this much is obvi-

ous, especially considering its

ongoing expansion.

Our country will certainly continue to contribute to the balanced achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, and to work on preserving the climate and biodiversity of our of the global economy, and ensuring food and energy security.

I would like to note that Russia prioritises the development of

digital public infrastructure and strengthening information security. In fact, most of our public services are already available digi-

As a responsible participant in global efforts to combat climate change, Russia plans to achieve carbon neutrality no later than 2060. For this purpose, we are using every available and effective tool to reduce greenhouse emissions: nuclear energy, hydropower, increasing carbon sequestration in forests, and using environmentally friendly technologies in all sectors of the economy.

I would also like to mention some tangible steps Russia has been taking to promote women's economic empowerment and greater role in other spheres. Women have a secure and significant presence in Russian government and business today; they head many leading companies, research institutes and public organisations.

In conclusion, I would like to once again highly praise the planet, the digital transformation efforts of India's presidency and wish success to our Brazilian friends, who will take over the

G20 presidency on December 1. Thank you for your attention.

Kashmir's EU Week to begin in Brussels

跨 Sohail Anjum Malik

BRUSSELS: Kashmir's EU Week to begin in Brussels, the European headquarters early next month

Kashmir Council Europe (KC-EU) will organize the Kashmir's EU Week from cil Europe Ali Raza Syed said, 5 to 15 December 2023 in the week long programs the European Headquarters of Kashmir's EU week are

Chairman of KC-EU Ali Raza years and purpose of such Syed in a statement in Brussels today. The events include a media conference and miris and beauty of the Kashdebates and a photo exhibi- mir's culture in Europe. tion at European Press Club He said, as currently

European officials, members of European parliament and representatives of civil society and human rights organizations during the Kashmir EU Week starting on Tuesday, 5th December 2023.

Chairman Kashmir Counbeing organized by Kash-This was announced by mir Council EU for many programs is to highlight Kashmir issue including conferences, miseries of oppressed Kash-

Brussels and the European people in all over the world be several meetings with the ism and atrocities on the mir and grant them right to ed Nations resolutions.



common citizens, we hope world would also pay attention to prevent Indian brutalities on the Kashmiris

He asked the international community especially European Union to put pressure on India to immediately end crimes of Indian security forces against people of parliament. There would also stood against the state terror- occupied Jammu and Kash- wishes and according to Unit-

self determination according the UN's resolutions on Kashmir. He said, since 1947, people of occupied Kashmir are facing endless hardships as their miseries are being increased day by day.

It is duty of international community including Europe Union to take immediate action in order to prevent the atrocities against the people of occupied Jammu and Kashmir. So that situation of the disputed land should be normalized and people of Jammu and Kashmir should be provided a peaceful atmosphere where they can use their right to self determination in accordance with their

SCO and ILC join hands for inclusive education and empowerment

跨 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: In line with the visionary directives of the Director General, Special Communications Organization (SCO) continues to actively fulfill its social responsibilities by extending unwavering support to the remarkable specially abled children at the Independent Learning Center (ILC), established by Amjad Nadeem in Gilgit Baltistan. The initiatives undertaken by SCO underscore the organization's steadfast pledge to create an inclusive environment that nurtures and empowers these special individuals.

In a recent ceremony honoring the achievements of specially abled children who successfully completed training courses at the ILC, Colonel Rao Muhammad Faheem Akhtar Khan, the Sector Commander of SCO, highlighted the indispensable role of special individuals within society. He reaffirmed SCO's dedication to upholding their rights across all aspects of life, with a particular emphasis on education, promising continued collaborative efforts to ensure their holistic development.

"Special individuals form an integral and invaluable segment of our society," expressed Colonel Rao Muhammad Faheem Akhtar Khan. "Our commitment to securing their rights and enhancing their quality of life is resolute. Even the smallest acts of attention and care can significantly ameliorate their lives, ensuring social security for all. Giving is a responsibility that unites us all."

SCO's support for the specialy abled children at ILC encompasses various initiatives aimed at facilitating their learning, growth, and meaningful engagement within society. Among these efforts, SCO has provided free internet infrastructure and essential amenities to facilitate their educational pursuits. Furthermore, the organization has created opportunities for freelancing and

Ambassador of Nepal calls on Foreign Minister Jilani



ISLAMABAD: H. E Tapas Adhikari, Ambassador of Nepal courtesy call to Foreign Minister of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan Mr. Jalil his office in Islamabad. During the call on, discussed the matters of bilateral relations between Nepal and Pakistan and South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC). The Ambassador also discussed the forthcoming United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP-28) to be held in Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

The Foreign Minister recalled his visits to Nepal on different occasions and his association with Nepali officials. During the call on, senior officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Pakistan, Embassy of Nepal in Islamabad were also present.

Operation Ukraine: who supports Ukrainian Nationalism?

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: As soon as World War II ended and the Nazis were defeated, US intelligence agencies built ties with former Hitler collaborators to work together against the Soviet Union and then Russia. The operation to form an armed underground movement in Western Ukraine was dubbed 'Aerodynamic'. The CIA assembled war criminals and Bandera movement activists from filtration camps, and created an agent network. Their task was to sabotage nuclear plants and dams on Ukrainian territory in an effort to separate it from the Soviet Union. They terrorised civilians and were responsible for at least 35,000 casualties, according to CIA co-founder Frank Wisner.

In the early 1950s, Red Army units mostly wiped out the nationalist insurgency, however the CIA employed a new strategy. Since then Ukrainian nationalists have been engaged in an ideological anti-Russian war. The operation 'Prolog' gradually stoked nationalist sentiment in Ukraine and bred loyalty to Nazi ideas. What is the outcome of half-century-long American influence?

Gaza reels under new massacres carried out by the Israeli army.

Gaza massacre



Party leader's book on Vietnam's diplomacy launched

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: A book of Party General Secretary Nguyen Phu Trong on the building and development of Vietnam's diplomacy deeply imbued with the characteristics of "Vietnamese bamboo" made debut at a ceremony held in Hanoi on November 21.

The book is divided into three parts, with the first focusing on the important role of and major contributions by diplomacy to national construction and defence. It consists of an overview article and seven speeches the Party leader delivered at meetings of the Party Central Committee and national diplomatic and foreign affairs confer-

The second part – Vietnam's foreign affairs for independence, self-reliance, peace, friendship,

- gathers 78 speeches, writings, interviews, letters, and messages of the General Secretary at bilateral and multilateral diplomatic activities and forums, showing the close and harmonious coordination among the diplomatic pillars of Party-to-Party, Stateto-State, and people-to-people diplomacy.

The third part is about the hallmarks of the country's foreign affairs and diplomacy. It features 52 opinions of international experts, politicians, diplomats, researchers, and friends about General Secretary Trong's role and contributions to the formation and development of Vietnam's comprehensive and modern foreign policy. It also includes the memories, impressions, and stories shared by Vietnamese diplomats, jour-

cooperation, and development nalists, and expatriates who used to accompany or meet the leader during his visits and working trips in the country and abroad, reflecting their sentiment towards, respect for, and trust in the Party and the General Secretary's leadership.

Addressing the launch, Truong Thi Mai, Politburo member, Permanent member of the Party Central Committee Secretariat and Chairwoman of the Party Central Committee's Organisation Commission, said the publication of the book demonstrates that the Party always views foreign affairs as an essential. constant, and important task of the entire political system and a major contributor to the national construction and defence.

She noted the book is the biggest and most meticulous and vivid demonstration of that

unique and consistent characteristic of Vietnam's diplomacy, she continued.

Mai held that it is a valuable reference book for those wishing to learn about the country's foreign policy and also a clear illustration of the Party and State's consistent foreign policy of independence, self-reliance, peace, friendship, cooperation, development, diversification, and multilateralisation. It also reflects international experts, politicians, diplomats, and friends' support for the Party leader's role and contributions to foreign affairs over the past years.

Foreign Minister Bui Thanh Son said the book shows the General Secretary's strategic vision, wisdom, and clear-sighted leadership and directions over foreign affairs and diplomacy.

Holding theoretical and



practical values, it is a precious those working on foreign affairs and the entire political system, handbook on diplomacy for of sectors, all-level authorities, he added.

Bull & Bears PSX 100-Share

Index	Fluctuation			
Pakistan: PSX 100-Share Index				
Current	Prev. Close			
58,899.84	58,198.76			
Day's High	Day's Low			
58,920.41	58,246.20			
Index Value	Change			
17,006,557,046	+701.08			
Percentage	Time			
+1.2%	22 Nov, 2023 5:00 pm			
Europe: FTSE 100 Index				
Index Value	Change			
7,483.58	+14.07			
Percentage	Time			
+0.19%	23 Nov, 4:35 pm GMT			
USA: Dow Jones I	ndustrial Average			
USA: Dow Jones I	ndustrial Average Change			
Index Value	Change			
Index Value 35,273.03	Change +184.74			
35,273.03 Percentage +0.53%	Change +184.74 Time 22 Nov, 5:02 pm			
35,273.03 Percentage +0.53%	Change +184.74 Time 22 Nov, 5:02 pm GMT-5			
Index Value 35,273.03 Percentage +0.53% Asia Pacific: Nikk	Change +184.74 Time 22 Nov, 5:02 pm GMT-5 ei Stocks Average			
Index Value 35,273.03 Percentage +0.53% Asia Pacific: Nikk Index Value	Change +184.74 Time 22 Nov, 5:02 pm GMT-5 ei Stocks Average Change			

Forex	Rates
Buying	Selling
183.25	185.25
759.01	767.01
208.2	210.2
40.12	40.52
41.82	42.22
310	313
36.61	36.96
3.43	3.54
1.5	1.57
926.41	935.41
61.33	61.93
172.96	174.96
26.8	27.1
741.33	749.33
78.4	79.1
75.9	76.65
208.25	210.25
27.31	27.61
323.13	325.63
8.13	8.28
77.95	78.7
355	358.5
284	286.85
	Buying 183.25 759.01 208.2 40.12 41.82 310 36.61 3.43 1.5 926.41 61.33 172.96 26.8 741.33 78.4 75.9 208.25 27.31 323.13 8.13 77.95 355

nen Market Forex Rates

Nestlé Pakistan wins Sustainability Awards

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Nestlé Pakistan won two top awards in the categories of Gender Equity and Agri Tech & Food Security at the Sustainability Awards hosted by Sustainable Policy Development Institute (SDPI). Nestlé Pakistan's recognition in the two

categories were for its Creating Shared Value (CSV) initiatives, the Nestlé-BISP Rural Women Sales Program that has supported 2800 rural women to achieve financial empowerment with the ambition to reach 5000 women by 2025; and Smart Soil Moisture Sensors on 548 acres, which assist farmers detect the sub-soil moisture level, helping Nestlé achieve its Waters Pledge of regenerating the water used by its Waters Business to have a net positive impact by 2025. SDPI hosted the 26th Sustainable Development Conference in Islamabad, where Nestlé with SDPI also jointly hosted a plenary on Climate Change & Food Security: Does regenerative agriculture offer hope in despair, under this year's theme Light at the End of the Tunnel.

Talking at the event, Sheikh Waqar Ahmad, Head of Corporate Affairs & Sustainability, Nestlé Pakistan said, "We are delighted to be acknowledged for our efforts towards communities and the planet. We are also accelerating our efforts to reduce GHG emissions, and we believe we can address this challenge by transforming the way we source ingredients by scaling up regenerative agriculture. Regenerative Agriculture is one of our focus areas to reach our Net Zero commitment by 2050. Nestlé's approach is centered around universal agronomical principles that help protect and restore natural resources - primarily soil, as well as water and biodiversity," he added.

Stressing on climate change's impact, Dr. Adil Najam, President WWF International, highlighted that, "Climate change is no longer a problem for the future - it is here. and we are suffering from its effects already.

Dr. Abid Suleri, Executive Director, SDPI, moderated the discussion. Dr. Masoud Al-Marri Director General Islamic Organization of Food Security discussed the importance of regenerative development for Islamic countries, asking Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) members to leverage their individual strengths in order to help all members in order to improve food security.

Vision Pakistan

Chinese Ambassador meets Commerce Minister to discuss Pak-China trade

Naveed Ahmad Khan

ISLAMABAD: Dr. Gohar Ejaz, the Minister of Commerce & Industry received the H. E. Jiang Zaidong, the Ambassador of China to Pakistan for a meeting today to discuss Pakistan-China Economic cooperation especially in fields of trade and Investment. The focus of the discussions revolved around the implementation of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). which has now entered its second stage.

Dr. Ejaz informed the Ambassador that the first phase of CPEC is at an advanced age at inter-governmental level which has helped Pakistan to develop the infrastructure, road network, power plants to meet energy needs, and now the time has come for the private sectors of both countries to gear up to realise the benefits of the ground that has been prepared by the two

Minister Gohar Ejaz, heralded the start of a new relationship initiated by consensus between President Xi Jinping and Prime Minister Anwar ul Haq Kakar on the second stage of CPEC. He urged the Chinese private sector to invest in Pakistan, with particular attention to SEZs in Lahore and Karachi. He also informed the Ambassador that he met the Ambassador Sha Zu Kang, President of Pak China Friendship Association, in China and they also agreed that this was the way forward.

Minister Ejaz highlighted the importance of private sector collaboration as the next step in strengthening the Pak-China relationship, revealing plans for the development of a Northern SEZ to link Urumqi with Pakistan and the availability of the Lahore and Karachi SEZs for further development.



He informed the Ambassador that as a part Dr. Ejaz. of his "Vision Pakistan: Road to \$100 billion Exports", he has created two separate Export Advisory Councils for Textile and non-Textile Sectors respectively. The Councils would provide recommendations to the Ministry of Commerce on matters affecting export and would propose measures for export enhancement. These would meet on a monthly basis or with higher frequencv. if required.

"SMEs and the non-textile sectors are the key to Pakistan's prosperity and progress" said Sultan (marble), Mr. Zulfiqar Hayat (leather),

The Non-Textile Export Advisory Council consists of them of the most renowned SMEs in Pakistan and includes names like Mr. Shehzad All Malik, (agricultural), Mr. Waheed Ahmed (fruit & vegetable), Mr. Khalil Sattar (processed chicken), Mr Zulfigar Malik (sports), Mr. Salman Hanif (jewellery), Mr. Adnan Hirani (pharmaceuticals), Mr. Zubair Tufail (chemMr. Shabbir Dewan (chemicals), Mr. Anwar Ghani (glass) and Mr. Fuad Garib (food).

The Textile Export Advisory Council consists of some of the biggest exporters of Pakistan. These include Mr. Musadaq Zulqarnain, Mr. Fawad Anwar, Mr. Shahid Soorty, Mr. Mian Ahsan, Mr. Yaqoob Ahmed, Mr. Amir Fayyaz Sheikh, Mr. Shahid Abdullah, Mr. Ahmed Kamal, and Mr. Ashraf Salim Mukaty.

In addition to the members of the two Export Advisory Councils mentioned above, the third group would include the CEOs of the of the top industrial groups in Pakistan. These include Mr. Fawad Ahmed Mukhtar, Mr. Muhammad All Tabba, Mr. Waqar Ahmed Malik, Mr. Abdul Samad Dawood, Mr. Raza Mansha, Mr. Shahzad Asghar Ali, Mr. Samir Chinoy, Mr. Amir Fayyaz Sheikh, Mr. Shahbaz Yaseen Malik, Mr. Ahsan Bashir, Syed Hyder Ali and Mr. Farooq Naseem.

The Chinese Ambassador acknowledged the crucial role of Commerce Ministry in promoting Pak-China trade and increasing Pakistani exports. He further discussed the importance of key projects, including the upgradation of ML1 and the realignment of the Karakoram Highway. The significance of the northern region, particularly the work on the Khunjerab Pass, was also highlighted.

The Commerce Minister emphasized the need to develop and operate Special Economic Zones and reiterated the importance of Gwadar Port. "Pakistan is focusing on sectors such as agriculture, mining, new energy, and IT under the framework of the SIFC" said Dr. Ejaz. He icals), Mr. Jahangir Bajwa (IT), Mr. Abdur further stated that the Ministry of Commerce Razzak Gauhar (engineering), Mr. Shoaib played a crucial role especially concerning SEZs and the production of value-added goods.

S Celebration

Women's Chamber honours women entrepreneurs at Global Entrepreneurship Week

Tahir Amin Malik

LAHORE: The Women's Chamber of Commerce & Industry Lahore Division orchestrated a triumphant celebration commemorating Global Entrepreneurship Week on November 23, 2023. Held under the visionary leadership of Dr. Shehla Javed Akram, the esteemed Founder President of the Women's Chamber, the event achieved resounding success. Spear-Convener of the Skill Development Committee, and Engr. Anum Tariq, Convener of the Women in STEM Committee, the event stood as a testament to the chamber's commitment to nurturing entrepreneurial endeavors among women.



Qaisera Sheikh, Neelopher neurial landscape, awards were Sikandar, Aishra Khuram, and Sara Khawar along with blazers: faculty and students from ITU, headed by Ms. Saba Mubarak, were among the attendees at Younas, Qadar Sarfraz, Ambrin the event.

acknowledging successful businesses; it also recognized the Nazia Aslam exceptional achievements of individuals. As a token of apprecontributions to the entreprements but also for fostering a

presented to the following trail-

Amna Usman, Sabaina business domains. Sipra, Noor Zahid, Anum Mir. Bushra Ali, Shomaila Sikandar,

Dr. Shehla emphasized that this event served as a platform ciation for their outstanding not only for celebrating achieve-

vibrant entrepreneurial ecosystem, enabling women to thrive, innovate, and succeed in various

Anum Tariq emphasized that Women's Chamber of The celebration went beyond Robina Shakil, Zainab Shafiq, Commerce & Industry Lahore and Women in STEM remains committed to empowering women and will continue championing initiatives that encourage and support women in their entrepreneurial pursuits.

FFC holds extraordinary general meeting



Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Fauji Fertilizer Company (FFC) held Extraordinary General Meeting on November 23rd, ty holders which included Deutsche Bank, Standard Chartered Bank, Crescent Textile Mills, Atlas and

other Corporate bodies and institutions.

Brig Irfan Khan, T. Bt (Retd), Company Secretary FFC, opened the house. He apprised the shareholders of 2023 while establishing a the special business to seek quorum of 48.28 percent approval as required under with physical representation Section 199 of the Compaalong with Video Confernies Act, 2017 against charge encing and proxies from of USD 3.5 million or its individual shareholders as PKR equivalent on FFC's well as from all major equi-TEL's lenders, and the circu-Government of Pakistan, lation of Company's Annu-Fauji Foundation, Citi Bank, al Audited Financial Statements through QR enabled code and weblink as part of Annual General Meeting representatives from various Notice.

Honored

Speakers call for collective efforts to steer Pakistan out of economic turmoil

跨 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Advocate Arif Chaudhry, former President, Islamabad High Court Bar Association hosted a reception in honor of renowned intellectual, writer, author, analyst and columnist Farrukh Sohail Goindi. Zafar Bakhtawari, former President Islamabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry and Secretary General UBG Pakistan presided over the ceremony.

Speaking on the occasion, Zafar Bakhtawari, former President ICCI and Secretary General UBG Pakistan said that intellectuals play a very important role in the development of societies and stressed that intellectuals like Farrukh Sohail Goindi should be brought forward to lead the coun-



ment. He said that the elite class in Pakistan plays the leadership role in the country, but we need to promote intellectuals as leaders to make Pakistan a strong economy of the region. He said that CPEC is a game changer for Pakistan, but certain countries are not happy with this mega development project and stressed that we all have ious aims. He lauded the efforts of a strong country and stressed that

try to put Pakistan on the path of Farrukh Sohail Goindi for benefitsustainable economic developing the society as a writer, analyst and columnist and stressed that we as a nation should promote

such personalities. Farrukh Sohail Goindi thanked Advocate Arif Chaudhry for hosting a magnificent reception in his honor and said that he has always tried to promote the soft image of Pakistan through his writings. He said that Pakito play role to thwart their nefar-stan has great potential to grow as

the government should create conducive environment for the business community to enable them to play more effective role in the economic development of

Advocate Arif Chaudhry, former President, Islamabad High Court Bar Association said that intellectuals, writers, lawyers and the business community are the vital pillars of the economy and stressed that all should work together to steer Pakistan out of the economic turmoil.

He also paid tribute to the services of Farrukh Sohail Goindi and Zafar Bakhtawari for the society and the economy.

Ameen Kunjai and others speakers also lauded the services of Farrukh Sohail Goindi for the

30th Meeting of the SECP-**SBP Coordination Committee**

Commerce Desk

KARACHI: The thirtieth (30th) meeting of the Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) and the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) Coordination Committee was held on 23rd November, 2023 at SBP head office Karachi. Mr. Jameel Ahmad, Governor SBP along with senior officials represented the SBP, whereas SECP team was headed by Chairman Mr. Akif Saeed, along with Commissioners and senior officials.

SECP-SBP Coordination Committee meetings are high-level meetings between the two regulators, providing a platform for collaborating on matters impacting overall stability and smooth functioning of the financial sector. These formal meet- institutions at all levels

ings supplement the on-going regular coordination between the two regulators on all matters of mutual interest.

The focus of the meeting was to deliberate on new developments in the financial sector especially digital financial services, data sharing. promoting financial inclusion, climate related financial disclosures, coordination mechanism for bancassurance business and steps needed for the development of capital market in Pakistan. These meetings, previ-

ously held on regular basis, have resumed after a hiatus of four years. While thanking Governor SBP for resuming this important initiative, Mr. Akif Saeed stressed upon the importance of regular contact between officials of the two

ICCI calls for expediting TAPI project to boost industrialization in Pakistan

№ Tarig Khattak

ISLAMABAD: Faad Waheed, Acting President, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI) said that high energy cost in Pakistan is a major hurdle in smooth growth of industrial activities and urged that Pakistan and Turkmenistan should speed up the work on the Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India (TAPI) gas pipeline project that will ensure cheap energy and boost industrialization in the country. He said this while talking to Mohammad Yaqub

Tabani, Honorary Consul of Turkmenistan in Pakistan during his visit to ICCI along with his son Hatim Tabani.

Faad Waheed said that both countries should focus on enhancing bilateral trade and economic relations as they have good potential to do trade in many items. He stressed that Pakistan and Turkmenistan should introduce easy visa policy for businessmen to facilitate the frequent exchange of trade delegations that would help boost two-way trade between the two countries.

Speaking on the occasion, Mohammad Yaqub Tabani, Honorary Consul

of Turkmenistan to Pakistan said that Turkmenistan is an energy rich country and can meet energy needs of Pakistan. He said that Turkmenistan is producing cheap electricity which can be supplied to Pakistan to meet the energy needs of its industry and growing population. He said that being a landlocked country, Turkmenistan wants access through the sea to the outside world and Pakistan provides it shortest route through Karachi and Gwadar ports.

Engr. Azhar ul Islam Zafar, Acting Senior Vice President and Ahmed



Khan Acting Vice President ICCI also addressed on the occasion

National T20 2023-24 to start on 24 November in Karachi

KARACHI: National T20 2023-24 is set to begin from 24 November and will last until 10 December. 18 teams will partake in the tournament which is scheduled to be played across four venues - National Bank Stadium, UBL Sports Complex, HPC Oval Ground and NBP Sports Complex - in Karachi.

All matches played at National Bank Stadium will be broadcasted on PTV Sports and ARY ZAP in Pakistan, and live-streamed on YouTube in overseas territories. Double-header matches at National Bank Stadium will begin at 1500 PKT and 2000 PKT, with toss conducted at 1430 PKT and 1930 PKT respectively.

The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) has also announced free entry for spectators for all matches being played at National Bank Stadium. The Hanif Mohammad, Javed Miandad and Fazal Mahmood enclosures will be accessible to the spectators.

structured to open with group stage games, which will be followed by Super Eight matches. A total of 32 group stage matches are set to be played from 24 to 28 November. 18 participating teams have been put into four groups.

The division of groups is as follows: Group A: Lahore Whites, Peshawar, Karachi Blues, Larkana and Quetta

Group B: Lahore Blues, Karachi Whites, Islamabad, Hyderabad, and

Dera Murad Jamali Group C: Rawalpindi, Abbottabad,

Faisalabad and Bahawalpur Group D: Multan, Sialkot, FATA and

The first set of fixtures will see Lahore Whites face Larkana and Karachi Blues face Peshawar at NBP Sports Complex in Group A. In Group B, $\hat{K}arachi\,W\hat{h}ites$ will play against Islamabad and Hyderabad will feature against DM Jamali at UBL Sports Complex. Rawalpindi will take on Abbottabad and Faisalabad will face Bahawalpur at National



Bank Stadium for Group C and lastly, for group D, HPC Oval Ground will stage the Multan-Sialkot clash and FATA-AJK

Top two teams from each group will progress to the Super Eight stage, which will be played in a round-robin format from 1 to 8 December. The complete schedule for Super Eight games will be revealed in due course.

Following the Super Eight stage, the top four teams will qualify for the semi-finals. Both semi-finals are scheduled to be played on 9 December at National Bank Stadium, at 1500 PKT and 2000 PKT respectively.

The final is scheduled to be played at after winning b

the same venue on 10 December. The toss will take place at 1930 PKT and the first ball will be bowled at 2000 PKT.

The winning team of the tournament will pocket a prize money of PKR 5 million. Meanwhile, the tournament runners-up will be awarded PKR 2.5 million. The player of the tournament will be rewarded with PKR 250,000. The same amount has been allotted to three other awards; best batter, best bowler and best wicket-keeper of the tournament. The player of the final will receive PKR 50,000 while player of the match in each of the Super Eight games and the semi-finals will be given PKR 25,000.

This is the first edition of the tournament played since the PCB 2014 Constitution was reinstated. The previous edition of National T20, which featured six sides, was won by Sindh who clinched their maiden title after defeating defending champions Khyber Pakhtunkhwa by eight wickets. Khyber Pakhtunkhwa lost out on securing a hat-trick of titles

Nida Dar-led Pakistan Women to Depart for New Zealand

KARACHI: Nida Dar-led Pakistan women's team is all set to embark on their journey to New Zealand later tonight. The 17-member squad will fly from Karachi to New Zealand via Dubai in the wee hours of Friday.

The team will feature in a series of three T20Is and three ODIs. The three ODIs are part of the ICC Women's Championship 2022-25. To acclimatise to the conditions, the women's side will feature in two warm-up matches before the start of the T20I

The 50-over match will be 28 November, while the T20 tice game. match against them will be played at the same venue on the camp, Nida Dar while 30 November. Both matches will be live-streamed on New

at 11am local time. and 9 December in Dunedin Umm-e-Hani is also a church.

Before departing for



New Zealand, the Pakistan women's team under the coaching staff led by Mauhtashim Rashid. featured in a four-day training camp in Karachi, where the players took part in net played against NZXI at Bert sessions, match scenarios and Sutcliffe Oval in Lincoln on also played a one-day prac-

At the conclusion of addressing the media said, "We have some very talent-The three-match T20I the comeback of Fatima U19 and Emerging teams." ries will be played on 3, 5 Sana and Shawaal Zulfigar. in Queenstown and Christ- also working on increasing

the pool of players. The players

performed well in the South Africa series at home, and our two players Nashra Sundhu and Sadia Iqbal are among the top 10 in the ICC T20I bowlers' rankings. I have full

Zealand. We are striving for squad depth by ensuring a combination of eight to 10 fast bowlers Zealand YouTube channel ed young players in the and batters. This will provide and first ball will be bowled squad for the series against us with a strong pool for two New Zealand, including quality T20 teams, including stown (1pm local time) Pakistan squad:

trust in the capabilities of

these players, and I believe

they will make a strong come-

back in the series against New

Nida Dar (captain), and Queenstown, while the young bright prospect, we Aliya Riaz, Bismah Maroof, ODI series matches will take are working and building Diana Baig, Fatima Sana, church (2pm local time) (ICC place from 12 to 18 December the right combination and Ghulam Fatima, Muneeba Ali (wk), Najiha Alvi (wk), Nashra Sundhu, Natalia have Parvaiz, Omaima Sohail,

Sadaf Shamas, Sadia Iqbal, Shawaal Zulfiqar, Sidra Amin, Umm-e-Hani and Waheeda Akhtar

Player support personnel: Nahida Khan (manager), Mauhtashim Rashid (interim head coach), Saleem Jaffar (bowling coach), Taufeeq Umar (batting coach), Muhammad Asfand Yar (strength and conditioning coach), Syed Nazir Ahmed (media manager), Rifat Asghar Gill (physiotherapist) and Zubair Ahmed (analyst) Series schedule:

28 Nov – 50-over warm-up match v NZXI, Bert Sutcliffe Oval, Lincoln University (11am local time)

30 Nov - T20 warm-up match v NZXI, Bert Sutcliffe Oval, Lincoln University (11am local time) 3 Dec - 1st T20I, Dunedin

(1pm local time) 5 Dec - 2nd T20I, Dune-

din (1pm local time) 9 Dec - 3rd T20I, Queen-

12 Dec - 1st ODI, Queenown (11am local time) (ICC Women's Championship)

15 Dec - 2nd ODI, Christ-Women's Championship)

18 Dec - 3rd ODI, Christchurch (2pm local time) (ICC Women's Championship)

goosebumps': David Beckham reflects on securing Lionel Messi for Inter Miami

David Beckham, co-owner of Inter Miami FC, shares his profound excitement about successfully bringing one of the world's most prominent athletes, Lionel Messi, to the South Florida-based soccer club.

The accomplishment, finalised in July, was no small feat, considering the fierce competition for Messi's signature, particularly from Barcelona, where he had spent 17 seasons. Despite Barcelona's interest, Beckham secured Messi for just over \$20.4 million, a move that continues to resonate with him emotionally.

In an interview with The Times of London, Beckham acknowledged the intense competition, stating, "We always knew there would be competition." He expressed concern when Barcelona showed interest, recognising Messi's deep connection with the club.

However, Beckham's determination prevailed, and Messi officially joined Inter Miami, a moment that still "gives [Beckham J goosebumps."

Beckham's strategic move to sign Messi aligns with a broader effort to elevate soccer's prominence in the United States. International players like Reckham and Thierry Henry have joined Major League Soccer teams, contributing to the sport's growing visibility in the country.

Beckham sees Messi's presence as a catalyst for transformation, emphasising that this move is just the beginning of soccer's

Gives me

ascent in the US.

Ben Stokes pulls out of IPL 2024 due to workload management

A Sports

England's Test captain and star all-rounder Ben Stokes has decided to withdraw from successful IPL 2023. the cash-rich Indian Premier League (IPL) 2024 to manage his workload and fitness.

In a statement, released by Stokes' IPL franchise Chenchampions said that they were "supportive of Ben in his decision".

"England Test captain, all-rounder Ben Stokes has T20 World Cup in June 2024." made himself unavailable for IPL 2024 to manage his work-

load and fitness," stated Super

"Stokes, 32, became a part of the Super Kings ahead of the "He recently participated

in the ODI World Cup 2023, which he came out of retirement for.

"The Chennai Super Kings nai Super League, the former management is supportive of Ben in his decision to manage his workload with England playing a 5-Test series in India release Ben Stokes. before the IPL and then the However, Super Kings did

not confirm whether they will



Notably, the deadline to announce the retentions and releases for the 2024 edition of the IPL is November 26.

Meanwhile, if the franchise does not release the English all-rounder, there is a possibility that they will retain him and keep him ahead of the mega

auction for IPL 2025.

Stokes has been nursing a chronic knee issue and has announced that he will undergo surgery on his left knee after the World Cup to ensure that he will attain full fitness before the India tour next year in January where England are scheduled to play a five-match series.

Ben Stokes, who was the most expensive purchase for the Super Kings at INR 16.25 crore, featured in only two fixtures for the eventual champions. He scored 15 runs and bowled just one over that went for 18 runs.

Ronnie O'Sullivan threatens to quit in row with snooker chiefs

Sports Desk

LAHORE: Ronnie O'Sullivan warned he will quit snooker if he is restricted from playing non-tour events in China, saying his career is at a "cross-



Exhibition events in East Asia are becoming increasingly lucrative but often clash with World Snooker Tour (WST) dates.

Seven-time world champion Ronnie O'Sullivan and other UK-based players are contracted to play in WST tournaments and could face sanctions if they miss events.

"If I can't go and do what I need to do, which is play a lot in China, I won't ever play again," he told the BBC. "So, we're at a kind of crossroads now

"If that gets to the point where I'm not able to do that, I'm not allowed to do that, I probably won't play. I'll probably go and play Chinese 8-Ball because I still want to play snooker, I still want a cue in my hand.

"There's just not enough here in the UK for me to justify the

"If someone's going to respect me and value me more, why would I not go there? It's like being in an unhealthy relationship with someone. Why would you be in that?"

Ronnie O'Sullivan, who said he wanted to play snooker for many years to come, has famously derided the standard on the WST in the past, suggesting he would need to lose a limb to drop

He still adopts that stance, claiming he is "revolted" by medi-

"I don't think it's very hard to be a top-16 snooker player. I could probably get away with playing once a week for two or

three hours a day," said the 47-year-old.

"I find it hard to put myself in their shoes because I was in

their shoes and I didn't accept top 50 as OK. "I'm not a great lover for mediocrity... I find it quite revolting in some ways, when I see people accepting that. That's why I don't hang around snooker people at venues because I just

"I don't think there's enough good matches. I think there's a lot of players that people don't know, that don't play the game in the right way."

Marlon Samuels handed a six-year ban from all forms *of cricket*

№ A Sports

Former Indies all-rounder Marlon Samuels was banned by the International Cricket Council (ICC) on Thursday, for breaching the Emirates Cricket Board (ECB) Anti-Corrup-



Samuels, who was charged by the ICC (in its capacity as the Designated Anti-Corruption Official under the ECB Code) in September 2021, was found guilty by the Tribunal in August is year for four offence

Article 2.4.2 - Failing to disclose to the Designated Anti-Corruption Official, the receipt of any gift, payment, hospitality or other benefit that was made or given in circumstances that could bring the Participant or the sport of cricket into disrepute. Article 2.4.3 - Failing to disclose to the Designated Anti-Cor-

ruption Official receipt of hospitality with a value of US \$750 Article 2.4.6 – Failing to cooperate with the Designated

Anti-Corruption Official's investigation. Article 2.4.7 - Obstructing or delaying the Designated Anti-Corruption Official's investigation by concealing infor-

mation that may have been relevant to the investigation. According to the ICC, the six-year ban on Marlon Samuels

takes effect from 11 November 2023. Commenting on the West Indian all-rounder's ban, ICC General Manager - HR and Integrity Unit, Alex Marshall stated that Samuels played international cricket for about two decades and attended various anti-corruption so he knew what his obliga-

'Samuels played international cricket for close to two decades, during which he participated in numerous anti-corruption sessions and knew exactly what his obligations were under the Anti-Corruption Codes

Though he is retired now, Mr Samuels was a participant when the offences were committed. The ban of six years will act as a strong deterrent to any participant who intends to break

Marlon Samuels played a pivotal role in West Indies' two T20 World Cup triumphs in 2012 and 2016. The highlight of which was his unbeaten 85 in the final of the 2016 edition against England.

He accumulated 8,134 international runs across formats with the help of 17 centuries and 64 half-centuries before calling time on his professional career in 2020.

Pakistan squad kicks off training for Australia Tests

A Sports

RAWALPINDI: Pakistan's 18-member squad kicked off training for the upcoming threematch Test series against Australia, scheduled to commence on December 14.

According to the details, 18 players including seven additional players Arshad Iqbal, Kashif Ali, Mohammad Nawaz, Shadab Khan, Shahnawaz Dahani, Usama Mir, and Usman Qadir, partook in the team's first training session.

Earlier Thursday, the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) invited three more pacers Sameen Gul, Ali Shafique, and Muhammad Ali to the training camp.

The players participated in

several fielding drills and carried after Babar Azam relinquished out robust batting and bowling

Pakistan's training camp for the Australia tour will run until

Opening batter Imam-ul-Haq and all-rounder Faheem Ashraf will miss the entirety of the training camp due to their upcoming wedding festivities.

They are expected to join the squad in Lahore on 30th November, just before the team's departure to Australia.

Pakistan's quest for their first on Dember 14.

Test series victory over Australia in their backyard will commence It will be a tough challenge for left-handed opener Shan Masood, the role from all formats after his side's dismal show in the recently concluded ICC World Cup 2023.

The Green Shirts will get an opportunity to get used to the testing Australian conditions as they will take on the Prime Minister's XI in the four-day red-ball fixture at Manuka Oval from 6-9 December 2023.

Pakistan squad

Shan Masood (c), Aamir Jamal, Abdullah Shafiq, Abrar Ahmed, Babar Azam, Faheem Ashraf, Hasan Ali, Imam-ul-Haq, Khurram Shahzad, Mir Hamza, Mohammad Rizwan, Mohammad Wasim Jr, Nauman Ali, Saim Ayub, Salman Ali Agha, Shaheen Afridi, Saud Shakeel, Sarfaraz who became the Test captain Ahmed



Schedule of Pakistan's Test tour of Australia

First Test: December 14-18, Perth Stadium

Second Test: December 26-30, Melbourne Cricket Ground

Third Test: January 3-7, Sydney Cricket Ground

basis of performance, if it approved the review, it would unlock about \$1.5

billion quick disbursing programme, behind which there were many

reforms which the government had

bent government smoothly and peace-

fully implemented the second trance of IMF's SBA programme in an envi-

ronment of trust and confidence. She

said all the concerned ministries and

departments worked as a whole and

ensured the IMF that the government was taking all measures seriously.

She said for the implementation

of SBA conditions, the government $\,$

withdrew import bans to promote the

The minister said, that the incum-

implemented.

Pakistan to get \$1.5b quick financial assistance after IMF

board approval'

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for

Finance and Revenue Shamshad Akhtar said that Pakistan would

get quick disbursement of financial

assistance from various multilater-

al institutions once the first review of

the Stand-By Arrangement (SBA) is

approved by the International Mone-

tary Fund (IMF) Executive Board next

In an interview with a private news

channel, she said, Pakistan would not

only get \$700 million from the fund but the SBA approval would also

unlock financial assistance from many

other multilateral financial institu-

The Spokesman

Briefing session ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar being briefed by Chairman NDMA Lt. General Inam Haider Malik, regarding national strategy for disaster management on Thursday.

President for long-term, multi-dimensional partnership with Russia

跨 Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi has reiterated Pakistan's desire to forge a longterm, multi-dimensional partnership with Russia in all fields, including trade, economy, food security, energy, defence and people-to-people contacts. He mphasized the need to increase bilateral trade and economic ties, adding that there existed enormous potential for the growth and expansion of cooperation in the areas of trade and



economy for the mutual benefit

of the two countries. The President gave these

outgoing Ambassador of the Russian Federation, Mr Danila Ganich, who called on him, at remarks while talking to the

Welcoming the Ambassador, the President said that Pakistan attached great value to its relations with the Russian Federation and expressed satisfaction over the existing level of cooperation between the two countries at multilateral fora. He added that Pakistan-Russia cooperation was rooted in their common approach towards the centrality of the United Nations and a rule-based internation-

During the meeting, the President also highlighted

the situation in Gaza and the brutalities being committed by Israel against the people of Palestine. He condemned the killing of thousands of Palestinians, including women and children, healthcare professionals, journalists and aid

The President commended the contributions made by the outgoing Ambassador in deepening bilateral ties with Pakistan. He also expressed his best wishes to the outgoing Ambassador for his future endeavours.

Spreading tentacles of Indian Global Terrorist| Ex-DRAP | CEO booked Network to US, Canada alarming: Mushaal

ISLAMABAD: Special Assistant to Prime Minister (SAPM) on Human Rights and Women Empowerment Mushaal Hussein Mullick expressed alarm over the fast ties. spreading tentacles of Indian Global Terrorist Network and death squads became a threat to the world peace.

wife of Kashmir's Revoluthe supremacist Hindutva genocide of Indian minori- want Singh Pannu.

Farhatullah

secretary

跨 Bureau Report

Babar resigns

as PPP general

KARACHI:

lah Babar has

tendered his

Farhatul-

resignation as the Pakistan

People's Party (PPP) general

secretary. The senior politi-

cian Farhatullah Babar has

stepped down as the PPP

general secretary months

before the general elections

2024. The resignation came

at a time when PPP is going

to issue tickets to its candi-

dates for general elections.

scheduled for February 8,



She vented shock that Indian Global Terrorafter the US thwarted plot ist Network now expandto kill Sikh separatist on ed across the continents American soil, saying that after a long-drawn-out and the Indian genocide mongers non-stop spree of target killings in Pakistan, Azad Kashmir, Indian Illegally Occu-Mushaal, who is also a pied Jammu and Kashmir and within India, which was tionary Liberation Leader evident from the coldblooded Yasin Malik, pressed that murder of Sikh leader Hardthe global community must eep Singh Nijjar in Canada apply pressure tactics on and the recent failed murder plot of another prominent regime to stop butchery and Khalistani leader Gurpat-

in fake PhD degree case

跨 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Former Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (DRAP) Sheikh Akhtar Hussain has been booked in the fake PhD degree

The anti-corruption wing of the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) lodged a case against former DRAP CEO Sheikh Akhtar Hussain for holding a fake PhD degree.

The First Information Report (FIR) stated that Hussain possessed a dubious doctorate degree to get the CEO post of the country's top drug regulator.

The Sri Lankan Interpol confirmed the fake PhD degree as the degree-awarding institution was not recognised.

Teams have been constituted to arrest the former DRAP CEO and raids were also conducted in different localities.

Crackdown against medicines profiteers continues

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: On the direction of Caretaker Federal Minister for Health Dr. Nadeem Jan, the crackdown on medicines profiteers is going on across the country.

According to the spokesperson of the minister, major action was taken against those selling more than the approved price during the operation in Lahore.

Heparin injection, TB, epilepsy, cancer and life-saving drugs were being sold in the black, said the spokesperson.

According to the details, these medicines were being sold at a higher price than the approved price. Tegeral epilepsy medicine was being sold for Rs 1300 to Rs 1400 rupees instead of 260 rupees

Heparin injection was selling Rs 1500 to Rs 3000 instead of Rs 975 while Rivotril was being sold at Rs 700 to Rs 800 instead of Rs 267 per box.

A box of Rivotril 2mg was being sold for Rs 800 to Rs 1000 instead of Rs 400. Similarly, a box of Zenax 0.5mg was being sold at Rs.1400 instead of Rs.278 while Zenax 1mg box was selling at Rs 4000 instead of Rs 502.

The Ultrawest box was being sold at Rs 6500 instead of Rs 3418. Dr. Nadeem Jan said that he has initiated action against the involved elements under DRAP Act.

He said that heavy fines and punishments will be given against profiteers as per the DRAP Act.

He said that the task force of DRAP will take full action against the profiteers.

the Pakistan Muslim League-

Nawaz (PML--N) and the

Pakistan People's Party (PPP),

have joined calls by President

Arif Alvi and caretaker Prime

Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq

Kakar for support across the

political spectrum to ensure the

elections are accepted as trans-

declaration reflects a grow-

ing consensus that all parties

should cooperate to ensure

the success of the poll, to be

held on February 8, 2024. A

fair democratic process, over-

seen by the independent Elec-

tion Commission of Pakistan

and the non-party caretaker

government, is seen as funda-

mental to the country's stabili-

ty and to tackling the econom-

He said that the joint

parent and legitimate.

Prime Minister Chaudhry Anwar ul mir at length.

ble support to solve the problems of the people of Kashmir and the government: He said that despite of economic difficulties, full cooperation day visited the Kashmir House where with the Azad Kashmir government he met Azad Jammu and Kashmir would continue because the latter "stands with the government and Haq. Both the dignitaries discussed the people of Pakistan". "Kashmir is construction work and progress of our jugular vein and the hearts of the development projects in Azad Kashpeople of Pakistan beat their Kashmiri brethren," he expressed, Earlier The interior minister assured the on his arrival at the Kashmir House, AJK PM that the Government of Interior Minister Bugti was warmly

investment environment, eased import She said that the SBA agreement licensing, and stabilized the exchange would go to the IMF Executive Board rate, not only with exchange compafor approval before the Christmas holinies reforms but with the support of days next month, hoping that on the law enforcement agencies.





跨 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Minister for Interior Sarfraz Bugti on Thurs-

Pakistan would provide all possi- received by the AJK prime minister.

Zardari sees no single party forming govt in next elections

ISLAMABAD: Former president Asif Ali Zardari on Thursday expressed his belief that no single party would secure a government on its own in the next general elections.

In an interview with a private news channel, Zardari emphasised the inevitability of alliances, stating that no party would secure the required 172 seats in the National Assembly independently.

Contrary to Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Chairman Bilawal Bhutto's stance against older politicians, Zardari acknowledged his son's inexperience and "the time it takes to gain political acumen". He noted that Bilawal's call to sideline "old politicians" echoed sentiments of many from the younger generation.

Bilawal has been actively campaigning nationwide, positioning his party as the solution to Pakistan's challenges. He has targeted the Paki- for elections, including his ability to stan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML- issue tickets for Bilawal.



politicians like Nawaz Sharif to step aside and allow the new generation to lead in the upcoming February 8 Zardari nevertheless supported the PML-N's approach, advocating

mutual respect prevailed, hinting at potential future alliances. The former president highlighted the differences in mindset within the PPP leadership, distinguishing between PPP and Pakistan Peoples

for a conducive environment where

Party Parliamentarians (PPPP). As the president of PPPP, Zardari asserted authority in ticket allocation

Accounts, properties of Moonis Elahi seized in money laundering case

👺 Bureau Report

LAHORE: The Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) has seized the properties and bank accounts of Moonis Elahi, son of imprisoned former chief minister of Punjab and PTI president Parvez Elahi, in the money launder-

The action has been taken by the

As many as eight accounts of



received more than Rs480 million and the entire amount has been with-

accounts used by Moonis Elahi for transactions have been frozen. These accounts, it is alleged, were used for money laundering. Besides, six properties of Moonis

Elahi-five in Kasur and one in Rawalpindi-have also been seized

In a statement, PPP co-chairman Asif Ali Zardari confirmed the development and said that the former army chief had demanded Babar's resignation but he

rejected his demand.

Govt to provide maximum facilities to ECP for holding free, fair elections: Solangi

ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Federal Minister for Information, Broadcasting and Parliamentary Affairs Murtaza Solangi on Thursday said the caretaker government was committed to conducting free, fair and transparent elections and it would provide all possible facilities to the Election Commission of Pakistan for conducting elections.

He said this during a meeting with the delegation of the Islamabad Policy Research Institute (IPRI), which was led by its President Dr. Raza Muhammad.

The current political and economic situation of the country, the elimination of tion, upcoming general elecelections in other countries of South Asia were discussed in

The delegation informed the Minister about the IPRI's latest research on the political scenario of the country and appreciated the caretaker government's commitment to conducting free, fair and transparent elec-

"Equal opportunities are being provided to all political parties, there will be no discrimination against anyone," Murtaza Solangi said.

of the political environment in be provided a conducive envithe country, the development of consensus among all political parties was indispensable. The minister said the world was facing the problems of fake news and disinforma- misinformation, disinforma-



on social media.

All stakeholders would have to play their role in ending fake news, he maintained. The role of the media in the upcoming general elections was also discussed in the meeting.

Caretaker Information He said for the improvement Minister said the media would ronment during the elections. Equal coverage was being given to all political parties on state media, he added.

The Caretaker Information Minister said that in a striktion and fake news, while the ing show of unity, the heads of tions, social media issues, and latter was the biggest challenge two of the three biggest parties, Published by: Almass Ayoub Sabir from Zero Point Printers Rawalpindi

The Caretaker Information Minister said that the elections

ic challenges facing its people.

The documents show the bank

FIA following the court orders.

Moonis Elahi in Lahore have been seized by the FIA in which he had by the FIA.