



Oil rich Gulf states looking towards Pakistan for investment purpose: Gohar

Caretaker Minister for Commerce Gohar Ejaz said that Oil-rich Gulf countries are looking towards Pakistan for investment purposes. Pakistan has opened a 'One Window' operation to facilitate the investors seeking business opportunities in agriculture, information technology, and mining sectors, he said while talking to a private television channel.



Govt keeps petrol price unchanged, drops diesel by Rs7 per litre

The caretaker federal government on Thursday kept the petrol price unchanged at Rs281.34 per litre for the next fortnight. However, the high-speed diesel (HSD) has been slashed by Rs7 per litre while kerosene oil decreased by Rs3.82 per litre. The light diesel oil has also been dropped by Rs4.52 per litre. The finance ministry issued a notification in this regard.

Simultaneously published from Islamabad, Lahore and Multan

Conference

ISLAMABAD: Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Naveed Ashraf chairs the Command and Staff Conference held at Naval Headquarters on Thursday.



Naval Chief Heads Command & Staff Conference at Naval Headquarters Islamabad

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Command & Staff Conference of Pakistan Navy concluded at Naval Headquarters, Islamabad. The Conference was chaired by Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Naveed Ashraf. During the conference, matters related to national security, geo strategic affairs, combat readiness and training of troops were discussed. The conference assessed the evolving maritime situation in the region due to ongoing conflict in Middle East. Under the prevailing maritime situation in the Middle East, deployment of PN Ship for the protection of Pakistan's merchant ships was discussed. Progress on PN projects including future plans was also reviewed and

way forward was deliberated. The Naval Chief emphasized on maintaining perpetual combat readiness to effectively thwart any aggression against Pakistan. The Naval Chief lauded the initiatives undertaken towards capability development through acquisition of state of the art platforms and emerging technologies. The Admiral expressed full confidence over high state of operational preparedness of Pakistan Navy to meet maritime challenges while safeguarding the maritime frontiers of Pakistan. Command & Staff Conference is the apex decision making body of Pakistan Navy in which Chief of the Naval Staff along with all Principal Staff Officers and Field Commanders review the policies and plans of Pakistan Navy.

PM Kakar for utilizing Loss & Damage Fund on merit to cope with climate change issues

Spokesman Report

DUBAI: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Thursday stressed the need to immediately operationalize the Loss & Damage Fund, ensuring its utilization on merit to cope with the issues of climate change. He said the utilization of Fund should not be linked with the development funds and loans from multilateral financial entities, but the funding should be additional and tangible. The prime minister, in an interview with CNN on the sidelines of United Nations Framework Convention on Climate

Change (UNFCCC) COP28, said that currently Pakistan's focus was on transformation from the coal-based power plants to renewable energy projects to contribute towards minimizing the climate change impacts in the region and beyond. "This is the area which could attract interest of countries here in Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries, UAE, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and the settled economies and democracies on the Western side, so it is an opportunity for all of them and all of us," he added. He said the climate change was no more a fashionable point to discuss as it



hit Pakistan very hard last year. The prime minister pointed out that Pakistan was not primarily responsible for contributing to

the climate disaster in which the country's two provinces Sindh and Balochistan faced historical devastation. "Everyone knows who have been contributing in last one century so it is more of a question of an honest conversation rather than passing judgment on countries and economies," he remarked. Therefore, he said, the responsibility shown by the wealthy nations themselves would be a welcome step. To a question whether the Fund should be operationalized through a United Nation framework, the prime minister said, "If we wait for a UN framework it will take years of years. Therefore, initially it is possible to operationalize it under the World Bank and other multilateral entities."

Israel-Hamas truce will continue, release of more hostages sought



Reuters

GAZA: Israel and Hamas agreed on Thursday to extend the ceasefire in their war by at least one more day, minutes before the six-day truce was due to expire. Israel's military said in a statement the truce will continue as mediators sought to release more hostages held in Gaza in exchange for Palestinian prisoners. The truce, extended from its initial four days, has brought the first respite in the bombardment of Gaza with much of the coastal territory of 2.3 million having been reduced to wasteland in response to a deadly rampage by Hamas militants into southern Israel on Oct. 7. "In light of the mediators' efforts to continue the process of releasing the hostages and subject to the terms of the framework, the operational pause will continue," said the Israeli statement, released minutes before the temporary truce was due to expire. Both sides had said they were ready to resume fighting. Israel has sworn to annihilate Hamas, which rules Gaza, in response to the Oct. 7 rampage, when Israel says gunmen killed 1,200 people and took 240 hostage. Before the truce, Israel bombarded the territory for seven weeks and killed more than 15,000 Palestinians, according to health authorities in the coastal strip.

Planning Minister reviews progress on National Water Policy

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: The caretaker Minister for Planning Development and Special Initiatives, Muhammad Sami Saeed here on Thursday chaired a meeting to review progress on the Water Resource Sector and implementation status of the National Water Policy framework. The meeting was attended by Member Infrastructure, Chief Water Resources and other relevant stakeholders, according to press statement issue by the ministry.

PML-N manifesto committee divided on 18th amendment

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Muslim League Nawaz (PML-N) manifesto committee has divided on the 18th amendment, however, the majority of the members suggested to avoid further changes to the law, citing sources. The PML-N manifesto committee was divided on making further changes to the 18th amendment promulgated in April 2010, curtailing the president's power to dissolve the parliament unilaterally and granting self-governing and financial autonomy to the provinces. Majority of PML-N leaders suggested to not make further changes to the 18th amendment until consulting other political parties to build consensus, sources told. On the other hand, some PML-N leaders were backing to modify some sections of the law. Additionally, the manifesto committee recommended to hold local government



(LG) polls at the earliest after coming into power besides urging to pass further legislation to make the LG institutions financially and administratively autonomous. The manifesto committee members also agreed on transferring some exclusive powers from deputy commissioners (DCs) and assistant commissioners (ACs) to the LG representatives. Regarding the local bodies, the committee members also suggested to match the tenure of LG institutions with the parliament. Pakistan Muslim League (PML-N) has accelerated its campaign for the upcoming elections

Niazullah Niazi appointed new chief election commissioner of PTI

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) has appointed senior lawyer Niazullah Niazi as the new chief election commissioner. Barrister Gohar Khan stepped down from PTI's chief election commissioner's slot after he was nominated as the party's chairman by Imran Khan. After Khan's resignation, the political party notified the appointment of Niazullah Niazi to the post. Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf has planned to hold intra-party elections this week following the orders of the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP). Sources said that the PTI core committee has decided to hold intra-party elections after consultation with the incarcerated party chairman Imran Khan.



Bilawal wants paradigm shift in politics

Bureau Report

QUETTA: Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari on Thursday stressed the need for a new way of thinking and politics in Pakistan, saying that it is essential to bury the old politics of hatred and revenge that is detrimental to the country's youth.

Addressing a huge PPP Foundation Day rally in Quetta, Bilawal emphasised the need for politics that focused on unity rather than division. The PPP leader noted the current discussions on a charter of the economy, and asserted that the PPP would introduce its own, focusing on the people's needs. About the issues of poverty, inflation

and unemployment in the country, Bilawal said that only the PPP genuinely cared about addressing the concerns of the poor, while other parties primarily represented the aristocracy. "Other parties represent the aristocracy. I will represent the youth, not any athlete." The ex-foreign minister expressed the view that politicians should prioritise serv-

ing the people over their personal interests. During his address, Bilawal showcased former president Asif Ali Zardari's efforts for the revival of democracy and public service, saying that Zardari had initiated the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), introduced the 18th Amendment to the constitution and worked for the welfare of the poor in Pakistan. Bilawal also credited Asif Zardari with putting an end to the politics of hatred, and expressed his belief that the Pakistan Peoples Party would win the upcoming elections.

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chairman wrote to Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Qazi Faez Isa on Thursday, urging him to ensure that all political parties get equal opportunities in the upcoming general elections, scheduled to be held on Feb 8. In a seven-page letter, the PTI chairman urged the CJP to take action against the political victimisation of his party, abductions, and disappearances of its workers. "These disappearances or abductions, quite apart from the arbitrary arrests, have spread fear through society and are a grotesque affront to the claim that Pakistan is a country ruled by a constitution and a set of laws," the letter noted. "Today, the power to prosecute and arrest is being used in a blatant attempt to engineer and skew the political landscape of the country," the former prime minister wrote. "A commission may kindly be set to investigate the abductions/disappearances of journalists/political workers all across the country." The former premier requested the top judge to direct the federal and provincial governments as well as the election regulator to ensure that persons affiliated with all political parties, including the PTI, are allowed to carry out political meetings and gatherings without "discrimination between one party and any other."

56th foundation day

PPP is the Name of an ideology and an ideology Never Dies: Yousaf Raza Gillani

Kiran Asim

MULTAN: Former Prime Minister and Senator Syed Yousuf Raza Gillani while addressing the 56th foundation day ceremony of Pakistan Peoples Party at District Bar Association Multan said that PPP is the name of an ideology and an ideology never dies. Bhutto and then his daughter Benazir sacrificed their lives for the sake of ideology. Zulfikar Ali Bhutto empowered the people for the first time, former Prime Minister and Senator Syed Yousuf Raza Gillani while addressing the lawyers said that for the first time after the establishment of the People's Party, the votes of landlords, farmers and peasants were equal. Parties formed overnight also disappear overnight. People's Party is an ideological party which is still popular among people if the constitution and

parliament are strong.

So Pakistan will be strong. For economic stability, it is necessary to bring political stability in the country. Syed Yousuf Raza Gillani further said that Pakistan People's Party is the only party that can overcome these two problems to end terrorism and economic instability. If the institutions work within the limits, there will be no conflict. Former Prime Minister and Senator Syed Yousuf Raza Gillani further said that Zulfikar Ali Bhutto as the Federal Foreign Minister made efforts for the unity of the Muslim Ummah.

Syed Yousuf Raza Gillani said that if the parties are established on the basis of ideology, then the ideology remains, the parties formed overnight also disappear overnight. Zulfikar Ali Bhutto's manifesto is more needed today, I put up a calligraphy in my bedroom of Baba

Bullah Shah which says "Way bulhiya aasan murma naan hi, gour piya koi hor", he said Zulfikar Ali Bhutto had international fame, bar and bench efforts too, 1973. Consensus constitution was made by 128 votes, half of the MNAs were left in East Pakistan and half in West Pakistan, the feeling of deprivation was left in small areas, East Pakistanis thought that our rights were taken by West Pakistan, when West Pakistan was separated. Then they started thinking like this about the small province of Punjab.

The provinces thought that the Punjab decision was applicable to all, upon which Zulfikar Ali Bhutto created the Senate for equal status for all provinces, equal representation to protect the rights of the provinces from being affected. Congratulations to all the workers on the occasion of 56th Founda-

tion Day, Foundation Day is a big event for any party, People's Party Foundation Day is different from other political parties, Foundation Day is held all over the country

Everyone remembers the foundation day of Multan because Multan was shut down, electricity was also shut down on the foundation day three years ago, trucks were stopped, generators were also stopped.

Standing on a truck, I spoke at home, I also had to go to the High Court, a day's foundation day turned into a week, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto is the name of a movement and the name of a passion. Sheikh Ghayas-ul-Haq. District Bar President Syed Waheed Raza Bukhari and General Secretary Syed Ali Altaf Gillani, former Justice Habibullah Shakir, Ishtiaq Kazmi and a large number of lawyers participated.

Cloudy Weather

ISLAMABAD: Nov30- A stunning view of dark clouds on the sky during rainy weather in Federal Capital.



Photo: Online by Raja Farid

Kashmiri expatriates have played significant role in promoting Kashmir cause: President AJK

Bureau Report

MUZAFFARABAD: President Azad Jammu and Kashmir Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry has said that Kashmiri expatriates living in the United States and other parts of the world have played a significant role keep the Kashmir issue alive at the global level.

He expressed these views while talking to a delegation led by Ms. Ghazala Habib the Chairperson Friends of Kashmir International (USA) here today. Speaking on the occasion, the President hailed the diaspora community's role in promoting Kashmir cause, exposing India's belligerent occupation of Kashmir and human



rights violations being committed by the Indian occupation forces. Referring to the worsening political and human rights situation in IoK, Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry said that after 5th August 2019 Indian

government had broken all records of barbarism and brutality in Kashmir. He said that rising incidents of bloodshed and violence in the region reflected the totalitarian mindset and fascism of the Modi government that was hell

bent on choking every dissenting voice in Kashmir. He said that it was high time that the expatriate community should join hands to expose the nefarious designs of the Indian government. He, however, maintained that India cannot subdue the freedom struggle of the Kashmiri people by the dint of force. He expressed the hope that the day was not far when people of Occupied Kashmir would achieve their cherished goal of freedom from India's occupation. On this occasion, Ms. Ghazala Habib, hailed the president for his selfless services and role to promote Kashmir cause at international level. Mrs. Ghazala Habib also invited the President to visit America, which he accepted.

Sindh Agriculture University to conduct Masters and PhD degrees on water issue

Qayoom Sarohi

HYDERABAD: Agricultural, social, educational, and water experts have said that ANG Abbasi played the role of 'last line of defense' for the protection of Sindh's water, and SAU will conduct Masters and PhD degrees on the issue of water, so the solutions can be found solutions on a scientific basis, while moot recommended to establish ANG Abbasi Chair in engineering universities. Addressing the occasion, Vice Chancellor Dr. Fateh Marri said that as the Chairman of the Water Commission, the late ANG Abbasi created the report was comprehensive in every respect, containing carefully researched solutions to all relevant problems including dams, water distribution, and canal systems. Dr Fateh Marri said that the late

ANG Abbasi had once said that he had given a copy of the compiled report to the Prime Minister but was disappointed with the non-implementation and non-cooperation. "The Masters and PhD degrees will be started for further research on the water so that the solution of water problems and the individuality of the issue is maintained, and the view of Sindh is present during the search on Google." He added. An eminent social and active leader of the water movements,

Abbrar Qazi said that three different commissions have been formed so far regarding water, among them the report of ANG Abbasi is very important. He said that Mangala Dam had been filled for a long time when Sindh was in dire need of water for Kharif. Former federal secretary Fazlullah Qureshi said in his online speech

that ANG Abbasi did not only keep dams including Kalabagh dam in the scope of his research but also filled the existing dams, operation, emptying the dam, distribution of water, and canal, but he raised objections, concerns, and clarifications on the system and also added their suggestions, while ANG Abbasi played the role of "last line of defense" for the water protection of the province. Prof. Aijaz Qureshi said that universities should establish a chair or a separate institution in honor of ANG Abbasi and get funds from the government and related institutions. He said that the Vice Chancellor of Sindh Agriculture University, Tandogram, Dr. Fateh Marri accomplished the important feat of translating ANG Abbasi report into Sindhi language. Vice Chancellor of Benazir Bhutto Shaheed University of Technology and



Skill Development Dr. Rasool Bakhsh Mahar said that ANG was the founder member of Mehran University, and he protected the water of Sindh on a scientific basis. Dean of the Faculty of Agricultural Engineering Dr. Altaf

Siyal said ANG Abbasi was the guardian of water, and we should not waste his research. Social activist Naseer Memon said that the water dispute between the provinces is an old issue, and the report of the Abbasi Commis-

sion has not been implemented yet. Dr. Bakhsh Lashari, IRSA member Ehsan Leghari, Dr. Muhammad Ismail Kumbhar, Dr. Mehmood-ul-Hasan Mughal and others also spoke on this occasion.

Pakistan Railway PMU announces plan to organize labor convention in Faisalabad

Abdul Majid

FAISALABAD: Central President of Pakistan Railway Prime Union Sheikh Mohammad Anwar, Chief Organizer Khalid Mahmood Chaudhry attended the meeting of the Executive Committee chaired by Divisional President Dr. Ishtiaq Irfan. Abu Saeed Jaafari and Ijaz Jadoon specially attended the meeting. Naveed Bangash, Mohammad Khan, Ejaz Jadoon, Nafees Khan, Zahoor Shah and all the members of the Executive Committee participated fully. Addressing the meeting, Central President Sheikh Mohammad Anwar said that the delay in the salaries of railway workers, non-payment of dues of retired employees, non-permanentization of TLA and in-weld employees, permanent recruitment of children of railway employees on more than fifteen thousand vacant posts in railways, non-payment of TA and GPF, against recruitment of contract employees by Ministry of Railways and In order to solve other demands, Prime Union has decided to come into action, which will start with the organization of labor convention of railway employees across the country at the railway headquarters in the third week of December, in which Ameer Jamaat-e-Islami Sirajul Haque will specially participate. And will announce the future action plan of the movement for the rights of railway workers. Sheikh Muhammad Anwar said that railway employees are also employees of the government of Pakistan like other government employees, their salaries and pensions and dues of retired employees are employees of other government institutions. Like, the government of Pakistan should make AGPR responsible for the problems of the employees. Non-payment is like rubbing salt in the wounds. If the concerns of the employees are not removed, the situation may worsen, for which the rulers themselves will be responsible.

Quran Park Project in Cadet College inaugurated

Abdul Majid

FAISALABAD: Inaugural Ceremony Quran Park Project in Cadet College Faisalabad, 27th November 23. Quran Park Project is a brainchild of Loyal warriors of Pakistan, all plants mentioned in The Holy Quran are to be planted in this Park. This is the third Park of its kind. Air Marshal Arshad Mahmood Malik (Retd) Hilal e Imtiaz (Military) inaugurated the park.

Quran Park concept is a unique idea in Pakistan which is designed to grow Quranic plants, Crops, birds and animals. Major Taseer Ikram Rana (Retd.) Chairman Loyal Warriors of Pakistan was also present at the occasion. Air Marshal Arshad Mahmood Malik (Retd) Hilal e Imtiaz (Military) planted an Olive tree. On this occasion, while talking to the media, said that the purpose of this park is to provide awareness about The Quranic teachings and the usefulness of these plants in our lives and their efficacy in building up our economy through agriculture. On this occasion, Commandant Brigadier Dr. Abdul Hameed (Retd.) Satara e Imtiaz (Military), Major Taseer Ikram Rana (Retd.) Chairman Loyal Warriors of Pakistan also prayed for the success of the project. Special Dua was also offered by the commandant.

Pakistan's first 'Seerah Digital Resource Centre' established at AIOU



City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Allama Iqbal Open University has established Pakistan's first "Seerah Digital Resource Center" in its central library. The center aims to provide educational support to students conducting research on the teachings of Prophet Muhammad (SAWW). The resource center was inaugurated by Dean, Faculty of Arabic and Islamic Studies, Prof Dr. Shah Mohyuddin Hashmi. He expressed hope that this center will be an important milestone in the field of teaching and research.

Prof Dr. Shah Mohyuddin Hashmi further added that digitizing Seerat would be a great advantage for the institution. In today's day and age, younger generations are more inclined towards digital devices than books. Therefore, it is essential to digitize the work of Seerat to attract young people towards this field. Prof Dr. Shah Mohyuddin Hashmi congratulated the Chief Librarian, Dr. Sahibzada Shah Farrukh, on establishing the resource center.

Dr. Sahibzada Shah Farrukh announced that this is Pakistan's first Seerah Digital Resource Center. This center offers a vast collection of digital resources, including images, audios, videos, PDFs, maps, and recently 1342 books on Seerat were purchased for this center. The library team, with the support and consultation of the Faculty of Arabic and Islamic Studies and the Department of Seerat Studies, searched for materials, books, audio, videos, etc. from various sites, revised them, and added them to the database. Shah Farrukh expressed his gratitude to the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr. Nasir Mahmood, for his full support for this initiative and stated that the establishment of this resource center is a distinction of the institution. At the end, Chairman of the Department of Seerat Studies, Dr. Shah Moinuddin Hashmi, prayed for the success of the Seerah Digital Resource Center and the overall development of the university.

Islamabad
15° - 23° Clear

SERVICES

Namaz Timings

Fajr 5:25 am
Zohr 11:56 am
Asr 3:22 pm
Maghrib 4:59 pm
Isha 6:27 pm

EMERGENCY

Rescue (Police) 15
Bomb Disposal 15
Fire Services Rawalpindi/
Islamabad 1122 & 16
Emergency Ambulance 1122 &
& Rescue Services 4451122
Motorway Police 9266044
Motorway Police 9270601-20

Women Police Stations

Islamabad 9222596
Rawalpindi 9270601-20

ENQUIRY

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

HOSPITALS

CMH 561111
MH 561116
MH 561116
Cantt Hospital 9270907-11
DHO 5556311-4
RGH 9290301-7
Holy Family 9290322-7
PIMS 9261170-79
Polyclinic 9218300-09
Shifa International 4603666

DEPARTMENTS

CDA 921334-43
CDA 9208301-04
Met Office 9250360-6
RDA 5555864
TMA 5770886
Cantonment Board 9270151-3
Islamabad Metropolitan
Corporation 9209224
Potohar Town 9209224
Rawal Town 5773343

COMPLAINTS

Water Tanker Service
E-7, F-10 & F-11 9204654
G-5, G-6, G-7, G-8 9203883

Ghulam Abbas Badami honored for his work in thalassemia

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The renowned social figure Ghulam Abbas Badami was honored by the Muhammadiyah Welfare Foundation * NGO with an introductory ceremony organized in his recognition. Various dignitaries from the Muhammadiyah Welfare Foundation * NGO and other social figures attended the event, where they appreciated the Foundation's projects and expressed good wishes. Ghulam Abbas Badami proposed the completion of a ten-year plan by December of the following year, urging the current management to promptly implement and report on it, scheduling a meeting soon. The event was attended by business and philanthropic social figures, with Sammar Fatima coordinating the project's hosting duties. Dr. Maeesa Sajeel, the Foundation's Executive Medical Director, briefed the participants on the Foundation's service projects, receiving assurance from the attendees. Ghulam Abbas Badami, as the Patron in Chief of the Muhammadiyah Welfare Foundation * NGO, will play a significant role in enhancing various projects and improving facilities for thalassemia patients in different projects of the Foundation.

Respecting the Masses

Hamdard Pakistan's ultimate aim is to follow Hakim Mohammed Said's vision: Sadia Rashid

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Hamdard Pakistan's ultimate aim is to follow Hakim Mohammed Said's vision: "Love Pakistan, Build Pakistan". Shaheed Hakim Mohammed Said was a patriot, an exemplary Muslim, a physician par excellence, and a strong proponent of national unity. In his lifetime, he encouraged all those fellow remarkable Pakistanis who used to brighten the name of the country with their exceptional services to the nation in various fields. These views were expressed by Ms. Sadia Rashid, President Hamdard Foundation Pakistan. She was addressing the gathering of Shura Hamdard Karachi titled: "Respecting The Masses" held yesterday at a local hotel. The occasion also included the distribution of the Shaheed Hakim Mohammed Said Awards followed by the annual dinner reception in honour of Shura Hamdard members.

While congratulating the awardees, she said: "Congratulations to Musarrat

Misbah, Shabina Mustafa, Police Constables Saleem Brohi, Khalil Jatoi, and Rafiq Soomro. It's essential to recognize that this achievement belongs not just to you but to all of us as a nation. Hamdard Pakistan extends its tribute to you, expressing the expectation that you will persist in your commendable efforts to serve the country and the nation in the future."

Masarrat Misbah is a beautician turned philanthropist who caters to women who are victims of acid attack violence. She aids them in regaining their confidence and turns these girls' lives around. Shabina Mustafa is a social entrepreneur and the founder of The Garage School located in Neelum Colony, Karachi which educates underprivileged children in Karachi who cannot afford education. Police constables Saleem Brohi, Khalil Jatoi and Rafiq Soomro fought valiantly against terrorists during the Pakistan Stock Exchange terror attack and killed all four terrorists. Recognizing their valuable services to the nation, Ms. Sadia Rashid conferred the Shaheed Hakim Moham-



med Said Awards to these individuals.

Special guest SSP Ali Raza thanked Ms. Sadia Rashid and Hamdard Pakistan and discussed the PSX attack in detail. He also highlighted the fact that Hamdard University provides free education to the children of Police martyrs.

Earlier, Speaker of Hamdard Shura, Gen (R) Moinuddin Haider presided over

the Shura Hamdard meeting and said: "Respecting The Masses" involves the peaceful transfer of power and decentralization of authority to local governance levels. Overcoming our national challenges requires establishing a balance of power and authority among institutions progressively. Zubaida Mustafa said that when

democracy is discussed, there's a common assumption that the Western democratic model is the standard.

Ibn-ul-Hassan Rizvi said that democracy is the best form of governance for a multi-ethnic and culturally diverse country like Pakistan.

Prof. Dr. Hakim Abdul Hannan said that there exists a significant lack of mutual trust between the elite, the ruling class, and the general population. Political parties should gain insight into the issues and hardships faced by the people through local meetings.

Usman Damohi, Dr. Rizwana Ansari, Dr. Amir Tauseen, Cdre(r) Sadeed Anwar Malik, Pervez Sadiq, Dr. Abubakr Shaikh, Senator Abdul Haseeb Khan, Deputy Speaker Shura Hamdard - Col (r) Mukhtar Ahmed Butt, Engr. Anwar-ul-Haq Siddiqui and Prof. Mohammad Rafi also spoke on the occasion. The senior management of Hamdard Pakistan including MD & CEO Fatema Munir Ahmed, Directors, Dy. Directors and workers also attended the event. Sindh

Fantastic

ISLAMABAD: A stunning view of dark clouds on the sky during rainy weather in Federal Capital.



Photo: Online by Raja Farid

Gender Bond successfully launched by InfraZamin Pakistan and Kashf Foundation

City Desk

KARACHI: InfraZamin Pakistan, a licensed NBFi and credit guarantee provider, in partnership with Kashf Foundation, a not for profit and licensed microfinance institution, are proud to announce the closing of South Asia's and Pakistan's inaugural 'Gender Bond' thereby revolutionizing financial empowerment and inclusion for women. The Bond, which holds a prestigious long-term AAA rating by PACRA, marks a significant leap in Pakistan's capital market, establishing our commitment to market development and economic opportunities for women.

The Gender Bond which was launched earlier this year to capital market investors has been fully subscribed to the tune of PKR 2.5 billion. The



Bond was launched by Kashf Foundation and fully credit wrapped by InfraZamin Pakistan thereby safeguarding 100% of the principal as well as two interest installments of the Bond. Over 30+ institutional investors have subscribed to the Bond, showcasing strong crowding in of private sector investment.

Maheen Rahman, CEO-

InfraZamin Pakistan, said, "We are very pleased to have supported Kashf in the groundbreaking initiative. It is vital for our economic progress to enhance women's financial capacity, employment and independence and with this Gender Bond we have achieved all three.

Roshaneh Zafar, Managing Director-Kashf Foun-

datation, said, "The introduction of the pioneering Gender Bond in the capital market, not only empowers women entrepreneurs but also stimulates economic growth. We express our gratitude to InfraZamin for their crucial role as a guarantor, which greatly enhanced investor confidence.

Lauding the launch of Gender Bond, Mr. Farrukh H. Khan, MD & CEO, Pakistan Stock Exchange, stated, "On behalf of Pakistan Stock Exchange, I warmly felicitate and welcome the launch of the first Gender Bond in Pakistan.

InfraZamin Pakistan's pioneering efforts in bringing South Asia's and Pakistan's first Gender Bond to market reflects our steadfast commitment to developing Pakistan's infrastructure through private investments.

Punjab Education Department has decided to promote Lecturer Assistant

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: According to information, the education department has requested the budget details from across Punjab for the upgradation of (3142) seats of lecturer assistant cadres. In which it has been decided to upgrade scale 7 to 11, scale 11 to 14, scale 14 to 16 and scale 16 to 17. On the other hand, APLA president Shahida Mushtaq Qazi and Mohammad Basheer appreciated the positive efforts of DPI Colleges Punjab Lahore Syed Anser Azhar. And they said that completing the upgradation process is a welcome move. Which is taken for granted by academic circles. We express our special thanks to the Government of Punjab and the Department of Education for doing the work on a priority basis.

Mir Shabir won the Global Leadership Summit award

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: According to the report (International News), National Union of Journalists provincial president Balochistan Mir Shabir Baloch won the world award. Shabbir Baloch has previously represented Pakistan at international forums. Mir Shabbir Baloch is like a rising star not only in Pakistan but also on the world stage due to his leadership skills, for his youth. In recognition of his services, he was honored with an award and certificate of appreciation at the Global Leadership Summit by the Michael Jackson Organization, including UNPK FC and Nelson Mandela.

Islamabad polio drive intensifies with Assistant Commissioners' field visits

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: In a concerted effort to eradicate polio from the capital city, Assistant Commissioners and Magistrates of Islamabad on Thursday rushed to the streets to oversee the progress of the ongoing polio drive. As the campaign entered its fourth day, these officials conducted field visits in various areas under their respective subdivisions, closely scrutinizing the micro-plans and target coverage of different areas, ICT spokesman Dr Abdullah Tabasum said while talking to APP.

Led by Deputy Commissioner Islamabad Irfan Nawaz Memon, the Assistant Commissioners and Magistrates engaged with polio teams, providing valuable guidance and ensuring that no stone was left unturned in reaching every child. Particular attention was given to addressing areas with high denial rates, collaborating with the police to maximize coverage and ensure that no child was missed. This unwavering commitment from the district administration underscores the unwavering resolve to achieve a polio-free Islamabad. With meticulous planning, dedicated personnel, and unwavering support from the authorities, the fight against polio is gaining momentum, leaving no child behind.



Corporate Chef is not Culinary Master Only

He is Good Manager, Observer and Communicator as well; Chef Farooq

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: With increasing number of travelers around the world, the hospitality industry is growing as well as becomes more challenging if we take into notice the rising competition between the hotels industry. It is not about the residential and other facilities only but very important aspect of attracting the guests is the cuisine offered by the hosts. Here a Corporate chef is central to satisfy the guest with variety of quality food available to select from according to their taste and choice. In Pakistan, Islamabad is the hub of international travelers, where a corporate chef job is more difficult than any other city. Mr. Farooq is doing this job amicably for last many years. We held a talk with him on different

topics related to his culinary expertise. He shared that a chef manager the culinary operations and entrepreneurial aspects of a dining establishment.

Farooq sheds light on the duty of the executive chefs who generally oversee dining experiences at hotel or restaurant chains, ensuring that the best practices are implemented and commercial growth is achieved. They need years of experience in professional kitchens as well as some business acumen in order to create budgets and assist with marketing.

Farooq is Master of Pakistani, Chinese, Continental, Thai, Afghani, Indian/Mughlai, Arabic Cuisine and has won many awards from the hotels and restaurants of international repute. Farooq's distinctions include 1 Gold Medal 1 Silver Medal 1 Bronze Medal



(Pakistan Culinary Art Festival-2018) 3 Gold Medals (Pakistan Culinary Art

Festival-2016)

He said, "Chefs plan menus and order supplies. Chefs and head cooks oversee the daily food preparation at restaurants and other places where food is served. They direct kitchen staff and handle any food-related concerns."

To a question how to become a corporate chef, he replied, "It requires several years of professional experience and innovational expertise. With their distinguished culinary skills and penchant for delectable cuisine, corporate chefs redesign menus and make up new recipes that'll help promote the brand recognition of a company. The recipes they come up with may be included in the regular menu, listed as a dining special or classified as a seasonal offering. Corporate chefs also handle catering events where they showcase

cooking techniques, such as searing fish, carving a turkey or braising vegetables."

"As culinary leaders, corporate chefs train and monitor the kitchen staff to be highly efficient. Moreover, corporate chefs examine the freshness of ingredients, conduct food tastings and evaluate food presentation. These professionals even ensure that the kitchen team strictly adheres to state and federal regulations when it comes to food storage, handling and preparation and other safety and sanitation codes involving dining utensils, kitchen equipment and overall cleanliness, Farooq shared.

He said, "Aside from their culinary duties, corporate chefs coordinate with other units like the purchasing and merchandising departments in corpo-

rate restaurants or hotel chains where they're employed. Chefs may help in setting a budget and indicating the products and supplies necessary to fuel the business. Furthermore, they may influence restaurant sales by reviewing menu and merchandising prices. They could also help devise marketing strategies that widen brand awareness and generate new or repeat customers."

"Corporate chefs also create ways to communicate with customers to learn about their level of satisfaction and capture feedback that are instrumental to the improvement of dining services. Since corporate chefs are in the loop about various trends in the food industry, they're responsible for passing that knowledge to the cooking staff and incorporate new dishes or food, Farooq concluded.

Group Chairman/Chief Editor: **Almas Ayoub Sabir**
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 Bureau Chief Karachi: **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.
 Email: **spokesmanislamabad@gmail.com**
 Whatsapp: **0346-5008408**

Obstacles to Pakistan's Progress

I often contemplate why, despite borrowing billions of dollars, Pakistan has not seen significant progress. Recently, I read a book titled "Truth Always Prevails," which answered my questions. Prominent Pakistani businessman, Sadar ud Din Hashwani, writes that being a trader in Pakistan is a challenging endeavor. Corruption and nepotism are deeply rooted among our politicians, government officials, feudals and some Army generals, hindering the progress of new ideas. The system is structured to preserve the interests of the privileged class, stifling the emergence of fresh talent. Some individuals choose to compromise with the situation, but I did not, which is why I find myself in Dubai instead of Karachi or Islamabad.

According to my observation a troika Feudals, Army and clerics is "Obstacles to Pakistan's Progress" undoubtedly, in the progress of my country, this troika has intervened. Rather, this troika has brought all the institutions of my country under its influence, to the extent that even our thoughts have been bought. Their influence extends to our minds. "Nodoubt, in Pakistan, the military is considered a part of what is known as The Establishment; they control the state through a backdoor and are a part of a working deep state. In Pakistan, the military holds a unique position as a crucial element of The Establishment, exerting influence on the state through intricate channels. Often perceived as an integral part of a functioning deep state, the military's role extends beyond conventional boundaries, shaping the political landscape through strategic maneuvers and behind-the-scenes involvement. Critics point to instances where military interventions in politics have disrupted civilian governance, leading to instability and impeding socio-economic development. The delicate balance between military and civilian authorities

remains a complex aspect of Pakistan's socio-political landscape.

Critics argue that religious leaders, known as Molvis and Ulama, can be perceived as obstacles to Pakistan's progress. Their influence often extends beyond religious matters, impacting social and political spheres. Some contend that conservative interpretations of Islam by certain religious figures may hinder societal advancements, contributing to resistance against progressive reforms. Striking a balance between religious values and modernization remains a challenge in navigating Pakistan's path toward progress.

The clergy, comprising Molvis and Ulama, stands out as a notable hindrance to progress in Pakistan. This segment makes minimal contributions to the country's development, depending largely on the earnings of farmers and traders. Their income is derived from instilling fear of hell and the grave among the public. Notably, the proprietors of Pakistani madrasas, the Molvis, have amassed wealth, evident in their ownership of large vehicles and substantial bank balances. This influential class has reached a point where it can manipulate the government to pursue its own objectives, further complicating the path of national progress. Their conservative interpretations of religious doctrines can hinder social and economic advancements, contributing to a challenging environment for progress and modernization in the country.

We all remember well when in June 2019, Pakistan's Maulvi Mufti Muneeb ur Rehman said, "I place science at the tip of a shoe." "شہ سائنس کو تکیہ پر رکھوں گا" Such mentality and opposition to the sciences and modern knowledge by clerics have inflicted ongoing damage on the Muslim

community. Since the idea that science is against Islam has gained momentum, we are gradually heading towards decline every day.

Nodoubt, Jinnah's secular Pakistan had drifted into the hands of his enemies. One tragedy after another, Jinnah's Pakistan was dealt with massive blows. His Pakistan was no more his; it had been hijacked by forces of extremism and intolerance.

Pakistan remained under the grip of feudal lords. Even before partition the area forming part of Pakistan was in the grip of feudal lords. The Sultans and later Mughal nourished the institution of feudalism in sub-continent. Later British Empire used this

institution to control the vast empire of India. After partition almost all Pakistani government directly or indirectly promoted the feudalism and almost all government are formed by these feudal lords. Feudalism is may be defined as a behavior in which a feudal lord act like a King or as an arrogant master. This can be defined as an attitude of selfishness and arrogance on the part of the landlords. It is all attitude nurtured by excessive wealth and power, while honesty, justice, love of learning and respect for the law have all but disappeared. Feudalism is the root of all evils in Pakistan. Corruption, favoritism, fundamentalism, provincialism, and all other social evils are out come of this single feudal mentality. The feudal lord encourage criminal to show his power to his subjects. The criminal do crimes like theft, rape and even murder for the sake of the feudal lord. They kidnapped people if feudal lord is angry with him and rest of life that poor fellow live in a private prison created by the feudal lord. Having such a mentality, when members of feudal families obtain responsible positions in civil

service, business, industry and politics, their influence is multiplied in all directions. Thus feudalism is mother of all evils.

So we see that how powerfully feudal lords crushed the poor peasants under their control. Rather they damaged the whole system of government in the country. They destroyed all institutions in the country and changed the shape of social customs and moral values. A word uttered by a lord becomes law in our country. Less than fifty feudal families played with the wishes and aspirations of the people of Pakistan. The feudal lord even consider the family of poor peasants as booty. Their wives and daughters are their booty. They have the license to rape them. They kill these poor soul for their pleasure. They forced them to lick their feet for getting some relief. In Pakistan the severe kind of feudalism is there in rural Sindh area. Where the feudal lords are like their gods. They have the right to let a man to live or finish his life whenever they desire. Here is a picture of these poor people under the shadow of feudal lords; In the tribal and feudal structure existing in Sindh there was little scope for a middle class. However, the local chiefs, arbabs, maqaddams petty officials, traders, shopkeepers and artisans may be designated as occupying the position of a middle class. As the chiefs and the arbabs were traditional leaders also and served as a link between the administration and people, they generally held the lion's share of tribal lands and wealth.

This feudal system has made the people of Pakistan pathetic. It is the need of the hour to chalk out a comprehensive plan to get rid of this feudal elite class. It is time that Pakistan should be run by sincere young and patriot Pakistani who will work efficiently and will leave no stone unturned to make this country a progressive Islamic Welfare State as dreamed by our founder Quaid-i-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah.
Writer is Advocate of High court



Analysis
Shahzad Saleem Khan



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

Why Missing Persons are missing? - II

Recognizing the importance of resilience in the face of unforeseen crises, developed countries prioritize comprehensive emergency preparedness plans. These plans encompass response mechanisms for natural disasters, pandemics, and other emergencies, ensuring a swift and coordinated response to mitigate the impact of unexpected events.

Innovation is a fundamental element of national security strategies for developed nations. These countries invest in research and development across diverse domains, including defense technologies, healthcare, and renewable energy. This not only enhances military capabilities but also positions these nations as leaders in technological advancements, contributing to economic strength and global influence.

Pakistan has long contended with the menace of terrorism, grappling with internal challenges while being intricately entwined in geopolitical dynamics. This issue is intricate, marked by both internal and external factors that contribute to the intricate security landscape.

The struggle against terrorism in Pakistan is deeply rooted domestically, with socio-economic disparities, ethnic tensions, and religious extremism playing pivotal roles. Militant groups, some originating during the Soviet-Afghan War, have evolved over time, posing a threat to the country's stability and security. The Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) and other militant factions, rooted in local grievances and extremist ideologies, have targeted civilians, military personnel, and government institutions. The internal dynamics of these groups are intricate, with varying allegiances and motivations across different factions.

Kissinger, who led 1971 China trip, dies at age 100

To some, he was a titan of foreign policy, the Holocaust survivor who built a glittering career as the top diplomat of the United States and national security adviser during Presidents Richard Nixon's and Gerald Ford's administrations, leaving an enduring mark on history.

But to others, Henry Kissinger was a war criminal, whose brutal exercise of realpolitik left a trail of blood around the world – an estimated 3 million bodies in far flung places from Argentina to East Timor.

As the late British author and journalist Christopher Hitchens once wrote: "Henry Kissinger should have the door shut in his face by every decent person and should be shamed, ostracised, and excluded."

Here are 10 nations, regions and conflicts that Kissinger intervened in, leaving an often blood-stained legacy that in many cases still lives on.

Dr. Henry Kissinger, one of America's most influential and controversial diplomats, whose 1971 secret trip to Beijing, facilitated by Pakistan, led to a breakthrough in China-US relations and a decisive shift in the global balance of power, died Wednesday at age 100. Kissinger passed away at his home in the US state of Connecticut, according to a statement from his geopolitical consulting firm, Kissinger Associates Incorporated. No mention was made of the circumstances.

It said he would be interred at a private family service, to be followed at a later date by a public memorial service in New York City. Kissinger, who served as secretary of state and national security adviser under Presidents Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford, remained a prominent voice on foreign policy issues long after leaving

government in 1977. At the request of ex-President Nixon, former Pakistan President Agha Mohammad Yahya Khan acted as a go-between the United States and China to promote normalization of their relations as they did not have formal diplomatic ties.

Washington then recognized the so-called "Republic of China" as the government of all China. That regime was set up by Chiang Kai-shek, whose troops fled to Taiwan in 1949 after the Chinese revolution. Since then there was great deal of hostility between Beijing and Washington and US portrayed China as it's enemy. Nixon chose Pakistan for the task as Islamabad was on good terms with both China and the United States.

The whole operation was carried out by Gen. Yahya Khan, who had earned the trust of President Nixon and Prime Minister Zhou Enlai, with military precision, secrecy and deception. When Kissinger landed in Pakistan in July 1971, he feigned a stomach problem and claimed he needed a few days to recuperate and was supposedly taken to Nathiagali – buying him the time he needed to get to China undetected.

So secret was the operation that the then Pakistan's Foreign Secretary Sultan Mohammad Khan personally drove Kissinger in a Volkswagen Beetle to the Rawalpindi's Chaklala Airport at 3:30 a.m. for the flight in a PIA Boeing-707 to Beijing. The pilot, Captain M. T. Baig, was told about the destination of his VVIP flight once the plane was airborne. Kissinger and his team were unsure about how they would be treated in China, but when everything went well and the Chinese leadership extended an invitation to President Nixon, he sent a one-word cable to the White House "Eureka".



Analysis
Naveed Ahmad Khan



Not even Nixon's Chief of Staff, Gen. Alexander Haig, could understand what the coded cable meant, but the president knew – he just smiled. On Kissinger's return from Pakistan, Nixon broke the news about the breakthrough in the relations with China, saying he would pay a state visit in February 1972. President Yahya was assisted by a two-man team of his top diplomats, Foreign Secretary Sultan Khan and Pakistan Ambassador to the US, Agha Hilaly. Kissinger also gained some infamy for his reported warning to Pakistan against developing nuclear weapons following the atomic test carried out by India in May 1974. The warning, which was accompanied by an offer to provide top-of-the-line military equipment, was conveyed at his October 1974 meeting with former Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto.

The offer was rejected by Bhutto. Elsewhere Kissinger negotiated America's exit from the disastrous Vietnam War, sharing the 1973 Nobel Peace Prize with North Vietnam's Le Duc Tho for a cease-fire agreement that year. Nearly two years later, Nixon's self-described "peace with honour" collapsed with the fall of Saigon to the Viet Cong during the administration of President Ford.

Kissinger also crafted the détente policy that thawed the Cold War with the Soviet Union. Through his shuttle diplomacy, he wrung out agreements between Israel and Egypt in the wake of the Arab countries' surprise launch of the 1973 War.

NDRMF Pre COP 28 efforts aimed at strengthening climate resilience agenda of Pakistan

Spokesman Report

In a concerted effort to address the urgent and escalating challenges posed by climate change during COP 28, National Disaster Risk Management Fund (NDRMF) in collaboration with the Ministry of Climate Change & Environmental Coordination held several events prior to COP 28, which served as a crucial platform for engaging with national and international stakeholders, including government bodies, development partners, international community stakeholders, UN agencies, NGOs, civil society, private sector, and academia in order to strengthen climate resilience agenda of Pakistan.



As the host country for COP 28, the United Arab Emirates has outlined a comprehensive agenda to make this conference a pivotal moment in the global fight against climate change. For COP 28, NDRMF has emphasized

the need for collective negotiations, awareness, accountability, and action to address the unprecedented challenges facing humanity, the planet, and biodiversity.

Mr. Ahmad Irfan Aslam, Federal Minister for Climate Change & Environmental Coordination said that such pre COP events refine our collective negotiating positions. He stressed that our mission is to mainstream climate

change in the economically and socially vulnerable sectors of the economy and to steer Pakistan towards climate resilient development.

He highlighted the commitments made under Paris agreement and initiatives undertaken to deal with the impacts of climate change but also stressed on the fact that a lot is still needed to be done.

Bilal Anwar, CEO NDRMF said

that in the face of climate challenges, resilience becomes our greatest asset. At NDRMF, we believe in fostering a world where every community is equipped to withstand the impacts of climate change, creating a future of strength and sustainability. Unless it is negotiated proactively, all our efforts will be wasted.

The U. A. E.'s commitment to making COP28 a "COP for all and a COP of action" was underscored, with a focus on integrating private sector stakeholders into discussions alongside government leaders. This year's COP will witness increased industry participation, particularly from the oil and gas sector and renewable energy stakeholders.

The conference will mark the culmination of the first two-year Global Stock take since the Paris Agreement, providing a comprehensive assessment of global progress in mitigating climate change.

Iqbal Day Celebration organized at SLS College: CEO Education

News Desk

JHELUM: A very grand ceremony was held in SLS College on the vision of the poet Allama Iqbal. The chief guest said in his address that because of an institution like SLS, students from this region do not need to go to Islamabad for IELTS. She said that the youth should live their lives on the idea of self-reliance given by Allama Iqbal. She further said that positive thinking can be developed by attracting students towards physical activities along with education. She congratulated the Managing Director SLS College Sarfraz Malik for the awards he received from the British Council for his outstanding results in IELTS. In his address, MD SLS Sarfraz Malik explained the history and performance of the institution, he said that during his visit to Cambridge UK, he also visited the residence of Allama Iqbal where the national poet stayed from 1905-1906. Allama Iqbal's passionate speeches highlighted the event.



and MD SLS presented certificates to the students who completed UK Marriage A1 English Test, IELTS, B1, Computer, and Spoken English courses. MD SLS presented a commemorative souvenir to the Chief Guest. SLS is the British Council's only B2B

gold partner and awards holder in the Jhelum district. A student of the same institution secured 8.5 bands in IELTS, which were the highest bands across Pakistan. SLS is awarded the Award of Excellence by the British Council every year.

China Based Company acquires renewable energy firm in Pakistan

PNP

ISLAMABAD: China based M/s. CNNP Rich Energy Co. Ltd. strategically invests in Pakistan's renewable energy sector through its wholly owned subsidiary M/s. CRE International Co., Limited.

The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) has granted approval for the acquisition of M/s. Super Success Investments Limited (SSIL) by M/s. CRE International Co., Limited. CRE is the wholly owned subsidiary of CNNP Rich Energy Co. Limited located in Honk Kong. Whereas M/s. Super Success Investments Limited (SSIL) is based in Mauritius.

SSIL owns 100 percent shareholding of M/s. UEP Wind Power (Private) Limited, a private company operating and maintaining a 99MW wind-powered electric generation facility in Pakistan. CRE has acquired SSIL and thus indirectly acquired UEP Wind Power Pakistan.

Launch of the 2nd Edition of Gender Climate Award

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The Embassy of France in Pakistan and Agence Française de Développement (AFD), in collaboration with The European Union Delegation to Pakistan, United Nations Development Program, and L'Oreal Pakistan has announced the commencement of the second edition of the Gender Climate Award (GCA). Applications for the 2024 edition are now open and will be accepted until December 31st, 2023.

The Civil Society Coalition for Climate Change will serve as the implementing partner for managing all the GCA related activities.

The Gender Climate Award 2024 aims to champion and support climate actions led by women, elevating their work and acknowledging their dedication. This award represents a significant stride towards fostering ambition, ownership, and advancement opportunities for women in the climate action space.

The call for submissions is open nationwide across three categories: Climate Action, Young Climate Journalism, and Green Enterprise. Following a rigorous screening and interview process, one winner will be selected by the jury from each category. The recipients will be granted financial support to further their initiatives, driving positive change and expanding their impact on gender-inclusive climate action.

Wana Councilor alliance appealed to resolve demands of Angoor Adda sit-in

Adam Khan Wazir

WANA: President of Wana Councilors alliance in South Waziristan Lower district Sahib Khan Wazir said while holding a press conference at District Press Club Wana along with cabinet members on Thursday.

He said, that since 19 days near Pak Afghan Angoor Adda border has been protesting, but so far no progress has been made.

He said, no one is taking the negotiations seriously and so far, the government has not seriously focused on solving their problems with the protest sit-in.

Sahib Khan Wazir said that Wana councilors stand in complete solidarity with the Angoor adda sit-in and fully support them.

He demanded from Deputy Commissioner South Waziristan Lower Nasir Khan, Commissioner Dera Ismail Khan Division Zafar Ul Islam Khattak, Caretaker Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa retired Justice Arshad Hussain, Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Haji Ghulam Ali and military leadership, to take notice of their legitimate and constitutional demands and accept them. The President said that most of his demands include the demands of all the tribes of Lower South Waziristan, the organizers and participants of the sit-in are sitting on sit-in for their rights and demands this winter.

4th two-day International Conference concluded

Tahir Amin Malik

LAHORE: The 4th two-day International Conference on "Advances in Materials Science (AIMS2023)" concluded at University of Education, Lahore on November 30, 2023. The scholars and scientists from all over the Pakistan, UK, China, Germany, Spain, Malaysia, Egypt, South Africa, South Korea, Australia, Turkey, Iran, Saudi Arabia, Nigeria, Argentina and Iraq participated in the Conference. During the conference, more than 120 research papers were presented. The closing ceremony of the conference was presided over by the Vice-Chancellor Professor Dr. Muhammad Alam Saeed while the Chief Guest of the ceremony was the Vice-Chancellor of University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Lahore Prof. Dr. Nasim Ahmad (S. I.). Chairman HEC Dr. Mukhtar Ahmed also participated in the Conference through "Zoom" and appreciated the effort of UE.

Speaking at the closing ceremony, Vice Chancellor Professor Dr. Muhammad Alam Saeed congratulated the organizing committee for the conference and said that the solution to get rid of the challenges facing the world today is only in the development of education and research.

Maroof Intl Hospital held a free medical camp

City Deskw

ISLAMABAD: Maroof Intl Hospital held a free medical camp at a "Corporate Health Gala" in collaboration with Askari General Insurance Co Ltd and Telenor Pakistan.

The camp was held at the Telenor Head Office in Gulberg, where 600-700 people availed themselves of medical advice from around 55 Consultants spanning various specialties, including Breast Surgeons, Opticians, Physiotherapists, Psychologists, and Psychiatrists, alongside a proficient Support Staff and other Paramedics, extended their services throughout the day.

Maroof Int'l was in charge of presenting quality services to people to raise consciousness about sustaining a healthy lifestyle.

MIH consultants; Dr. Haseeb Shah HOD Physiotherapy & Rehabilitation Dept. Dr. Hamid Zafar Accidents & Emergency Specialist, & Ms. Zubia Zubair Psychologist & Psychotherapist, provided their services all day to the attendees.

They aimed at ensuring that



Maroof & AGICO continue in their pursuit of excellence in all health-related matters.

As part of its community support program, MIH implements a comprehensive health awareness campaign.

And have organized around 105

Free Physical & Mental Health Awareness camps for men, women & families at educational institutions, public & private offices and marginalized communities across the region.

This noteworthy initiative not only underscored stakeholders' commit-



ment to the community's well-being but also exemplified their dedication

to fostering a healthy environment. At the end of Health Gala AGICO

& Telenor presented appreciation shields to the stakeholders.

Persistent Struggle: Examining the ongoing battle against poverty in Pakistan

Syeda Inshra Naqvi

In recent years, Pakistan has made significant strides in various sectors, yet the persistent issue of poverty continues to cast a shadow over the nation. Despite efforts to alleviate economic hardships, a substantial portion of the population grapples with the harsh realities of deprivation.

Rural Challenges:

One of the primary battlegrounds against poverty lies in

the rural areas, where a substantial portion of the population depends on agriculture for their livelihood. Unpredictable weather patterns, lack of modern farming techniques, and limited access to resources contribute to the perpetuation of poverty in these regions. Efforts to improve agricultural practices and provide farmers with necessary tools are underway, but progress remains gradual.

Urban Disparities:

In urban centers, the struggle is no less daunting. Rapid

urbanization has led to a surge in informal settlements, where access to basic amenities such as clean water and sanitation is often a luxury. The informal economy, prevalent in these areas, poses challenges in terms of job security and social welfare. Bridging the urban-rural divide is crucial for a comprehensive approach to poverty alleviation.

Educational Hurdles:

Education emerges as a key player in the fight against poverty. However, Pakistan faces challenges in ensuring widespread

access to quality education, particularly in remote regions. Limited educational opportunities perpetuate the cycle of poverty, hindering social mobility and economic growth.

Government Initiatives:

The Pakistani government recognizes the gravity of the situation and has implemented various initiatives aimed at poverty reduction. Social welfare programs, vocational training, and microfinance projects are among the strategies employed to empower marginalized

communities. While these efforts demonstrate a commitment to change, their impact is still unfolding.

Global Collaborations:

International organizations and NGOs are also actively engaged in supporting poverty alleviation projects in Pakistan. Collaborations focus on enhancing healthcare, improving infrastructure, and fostering sustainable economic practices. The goal is to create an environment where communities can break free from the shackles

of poverty and build a brighter future.

Challenges Ahead:

Challenges persist, and addressing them requires a multifaceted approach. Tackling corruption, ensuring equitable distribution of resources, and fostering an environment conducive to economic growth are essential components of a sustainable solution. The road ahead is arduous, but with concerted efforts from both local and international stakeholders, there is hope for mean-

ingful change.

In conclusion, the battle against poverty in Pakistan is ongoing, with progress being made on various fronts. However, the complexity of the issue demands a sustained and collective effort to uplift communities, improve living conditions, and pave the way for a more prosperous and equitable future.

Writer is student of BS Mass communication, National University Of Modern Languages (NUML)

Bull & Bears
PSX 100-Share
Index Fluctuation

Pakistan: PSX 100-Share Index		
Current	Prev. Close	
60,531.27	60,501.99	
Day's High	Day's Low	
60,981.67	60,428.13	
Index Value	Change	
13,580,409,841	+29.28	
Percentage	Time	
+0.05%	30 Nov, 2023 5:00 pm	
Europe: FTSE 100 Index		
Index Value	Change	
7,453.75	+30.29	
Percentage	Time	
+0.41%	30 Nov, 4:35 pm GMT	
USA: Dow Jones Industrial Average		
Index Value	Change	
35,727.98	+297.56	
Percentage	Time	
+0.84%	30 Nov, 11:38 am GMT-5	
Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Average		
Index Value	Change	
33,486.89	+165.67	
Percentage	Time	
+0.50%	30 Nov, 3:15 pm GMT+9	
Open Market Forex Rates		
Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	187.2	189
Bahrain Dinar	759.94	767.94
Canadian Dollar	209	211
China Yuan	39.58	39.98
Danish Krone	41.38	41.78
Euro	311	314
Hong Kong Dollar	36.63	36.98
Indian Rupee	3.39	3.5
Japanese Yen	1.49	1.56
Kuwaiti Dinar	926.39	935.39
Malaysian Ringgit	60.38	60.98
New Zealand \$	173.44	175.44
Norwegians Krone	26.25	26.55
Omani Riyal	742.16	750.18
Qatari Riyal	78.5	79.2
Saudi Riyal	76.2	77
Singapore Dollar	211	213
Swedish Korona	26.93	27.23
Swiss Franc	325.9	328.4
Thai Bhat	8.18	8.33
U.A.E Dirham	78	78.7
UK Pound Sterling	358	361
US Dollar	285.25	287.8

Speakers pay tribute to Late S. M. Munir for his services to the business community

Tariq Khattak

ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI) held a condolence reference for the Late S. M. Munir, renowned industrialist, former President FPCCI, former Chief Executive TDAP and former Patron-in-Chief of United Business Group on the occasion of his first anniversary. A large number of businessmen and industrialists of the city attended the condolence reference and paid tribute to SM Munir for his great services to the business community of the country.

In his telephonic address, SM Tanveer, son of late S. M. Munir and Punjab Minister for Industries and Commerce, thanked Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari President ICCI and his team for holding the condolence reference for his father. He said that late SM Munir had dedicated his life to serve the business community of the entire country and always struggled for the promotion of their business interests.

Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari, President, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry said that late SM Munir was a role model for the business community and in recognition of his services, the auditorium of ICCI will be named after him. He said that he learnt a lot from late SM Munir who always worked for the welfare of the business community. He said that late



SM Munir always played on the front foot for resolving the issues of the business community. Engr. Azharul Islam Zafar, Vice President ICCI paid tribute to SM Munir's great personality and services to the business community. He resolved that we all together should play a role to advance the mission of late SM Muneer for the welfare of the business community.

Zafar Bakhtawari, former President ICCI and Secretary General UBG Pakistan said that late SM Munir Bhajjaan was a towering business leader whose services to the business community will always be written in golden



words. The void created in the leadership of the business community by the death of the late SM Munir will never be filled. He said that heroes like the late SM Munir should be made role models for the society. His greatest achievement is that instead of creating followers, he created business leaders for this country.

Atif Ikram Sheikh, Presidential candidate of UBG for FPCCI also paid tribute to S. M. Munir and said that after winning the election of FPCCI, UBG would take forward the unfinished agenda of the late SM Munir for the betterment of the business community.

Former President ICCI and FPCCI, Zubair Ahmad Malik highlighted the services of late SM Munir to the business community and hoped that the UBG would achieve a landslide victory in the forthcoming elections of FPCCI to continue the mission of late S. M. Munir.

Former President ICCI Muhammad Ejaz Abbasi, former Vice President FPCCI Karim Aziz Malik, Chief Coordinator UBG Malik Sohail Hussain and others also spoke on the occasion and paid tribute to the outstanding services of late M. Munir for the business community.

FIA declares Meinhardt owners as absconders in money laundering case!

Spokesman Report

KARACHI: The FIA has issued a notice against the owners of Singapore based construction company Meinhardt declaring Chairman Meinhardt Shahzad Naseem and CEO Omar Shahzad as absconders, appealing to the public to provide information regarding the accused to the FIA Commercial Banking Circle. In this regard, the FIA has posted notices of the accused being wanted in the FIA Commercial Banking Circle and Sharah Faisal police station.

Dr. Shahzad Naseem and Omar Shahzad are sought by the FIA in the money laundering case involving billions of rupees from Pakistanis who invested in the Creek Marina project in 2007. Dr. Shahzad Naseem initiated the residential project under the name of Creek Marina in DHA Phase 8 in 2007. However, despite seventeen years passing, investors neither received flats nor was the money refund-

ed due to the project's non-completion. Affected individuals approached the FIA in this matter.

Singaporean company Meinhardt announced the start of a 6-star project in Defense Housing Authority (DHA) in 2005 and opened accounts in local banks without registration with the Board of Investment. The company collected money from the public for advance booking, with over 300 families trusting the project and depositing Rs. 2.5 billion in the mentioned accounts.

According to the ongoing investigations by the FIA Meinhardt Singapore through the Creek project embezzled billions of rupees from the public, opened illegal bank accounts, and transferred more than three billion rupees abroad. The investigations reveal that Creek Marina Singapore was not a registered company in Pakistan, nor was it registered with the Board of Investment. Under the Money Laundering Act 2010 and Companies Act 2017, a foreign

company cannot open a bank account in Pakistan unless registered. However, Dr. Shahzad Naseem, a Singaporean citizen, opened an account in the local bank with the help of bank staff using the name Creek Marina Singapore and transferred the funds abroad through this account.

Recently, the FIA has requested banking records of the accused from banks for investigation into money laundering allegations against nominated suspects in the Creek Marina project. A case has been registered against the accused, Nasim Shahzad, and his son Omar Shahzad, in the Commercial Banking Circle for money laundering. To investigate money laundering charges against the accused, the FIA commercial bank circle has written letters to all compliance heads of commercial banks, requesting information on the accounts of the accused, bank statements, credit/debit cards, vouchers, and details of transactions exceeding five hundred thousand rupees.

Zong 4G's One-of-a-kind IR Postpaid Bundle

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Zong 4G, Pakistan's leading telecommunications provider, has exclusively crafted a one-stop international roaming solution for 9 countries in Continental Asia. This comprehensive offering empowers Zong 4G users to stay connected seamlessly across 9 prominent countries, including China, Malaysia, Thailand, Bangladesh, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, UAE, Australia, and Sri Lanka.

Zong 4G's IR Bundle for Continental Asia distinguishes itself with the unparalleled advantage of provid-

ing connectivity seamlessly. With a single network, users can enjoy hassle-free communication, uninterrupted data access, and reliable SMS services with 60 minutes of talk time, 60 SMS, and 1 GB of Data in multiple international destinations for a total of PKR 5000 + tax.

Zong 4G continues to lead the telecommunications industry by introducing innovative solutions that cater to the evolving needs of its users. The IR Bundle for Continental Asia reaffirms the company's dedication to providing world-class services and reinforcing its position as a pioneer in the telecom sector.

SME Banking Excellence

Xalq Bank Azerbaijan delegation Meets BOP's SME Experts



Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: A high-level delegation from Xalq Bank along with representation from ADB, met with Asif Riaz (Group Head Consumer Banking - BOP) and Ahsen A. Khawaja (Head SME - BOP) in Lahore on November 23, 2023 to explore success stories and best practices of The Bank of Punjab, especially in the areas of financial inclusion, supporting "S" part of SMEs, use of big data analytics, scoring models, and ways to collaborate with the Government in successful rollout of products and building a sustainable lending model to extend support to Start Ups and small businesses.

Xalq Bank, one of Azerbaijan's oldest and largest Public Sector banks, received

a detailed presentation on BOP's SME Banking Business Model. The Xalq team commended BOP's comprehensive product suite for SMEs and its efforts in providing a Total Banking Solution to the SMEs in Pakistan. Team also appreciated BOP's innovative lending techniques, proxy models, gender diverse products and its successful programs with Govt. for promoting entrepreneurship in the country. The delegation from Xalq Bank was led by Deputy Chairmen Dilshod Kutliev and Zafar Azimov.

The Bank of Punjab has been recognized as the Best Bank for Small & Medium Businesses by AsiaMoney Banking Awards 2023 and Pakistan Banking Awards by Institute of Bankers Pakistan in 2022 & 2023.

Industrial Associations Demand Gas Tariff at Rs 1,350 per MMBtu

Commerce Desk

KARACHI: The industrialists of Karachi have declared shutdown of all industries on Monday, December 4, demanding that the approved gas rates of 1350 rupees per MMBTU (Million British Thermal Units) by OGRA be implemented immediately.

In a press conference held at the SITE Association of Industry, the industrial community vehemently protested the recent surge in gas prices. Furthermore, they announced a formal shutdown of industries as a means of expressing their discontent.

This was 3rd Press Conference called on this matter, which was attended by President SAI Muhammad Kamran Arbi, Chief Coordinator Saleem Parekh, Vice Chairman Businessmen Group Muhammad Jawed Bilwani, SVP FPCCI Suleman Chawla, SVP KCCI Altaf A. Ghaffar, President NKATI Faisal Moiz Khan, Ehteshamuddin from KATI, Zain Bashir from Landhi Association, Shaheen Sarwana, President, SITE Superhighway Association, Raza Hussain, President, FB Area Association, and presidents / representatives of value-added textile associations. SVP Muhammad Hanif Tawakkal, VP



Muhammad Farhan Ashrafi, Former Presidents Majid Aziz, Younus Bashir, Riaz Uddin, Abdul Hadi, Abdul Rasheed and Members Sh. Zafar Ahmed, Abdul Kadir Bilwani, Muhammad Hussain Moosani, Saleem Nagaria, Anwer Aziz, Khalid Riaz, Muhammad Riaz Dhedhi, Tarique Rehman, Rizwan Lakhany, Azim Motiwala, and others were also present in the Press Conference. Vice Chairman BMG Jawed Bilwani

informed that all the trade bodies from Sindh and Baluchistan are extremely perturbed over the exorbitant hike in gas tariff which has made it impossible to keep the wheels of industries running.

We announce that our protests have become stronger as Lasbela Chamber from Baluchistan along with Nooriabad and Kotri Chambers have also joined our protest and assured to fully endorse all the strategies adopted by KCCI to deal with the situation.

AlHuda CIBE and AAOIFI Signed MoU to Promote Islamic Banking and Finance

Commerce Report

DUBAI: The realm of Islamic finance, once confined to Middle Eastern and Muslim-majority nations, has now extended its reach across Europe and the Americas. Its inherent principles of sustainability and as a premier alternative financial solution have garnered attention among professionals, practitioners and researchers worldwide. Recognizing the growing significance of Islamic finance on the global stage, AlHuda CIBE FZ LLE, based in Dubai, UAE, and The Accounting and Auditing Organization for Islamic Financial Institutions (AAOIFI), Bahrain have inked a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The agreement was formally endorsed during the esteemed "18th AAOIFI-IsDB Annual Islamic Banking and Finance Conference" held on November 30, 2023, in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

This strategic collaboration aims to consolidate efforts in advancing global Islamic finance practices by imparting capacity for the professional, students and practitioners. By leveraging the collective expertise of both organizations, this partnership seeks to strengthen the integrity, accessibility, and development of Islamic finance across international markets. This landmark alliance represents a pivotal step towards

development of human capital, fostering innovation, and promoting wider adoption of Islamic financial solutions globally. It marks a new era of collaboration aimed at strengthening the foundations of the Islamic financial landscape and its resonance in diverse economic spheres.

AlHuda CIBE, as per the MoU, will arrange public hearings, collaborations, recommendations along with the support to develop, update or revise the standards where-ever it is required. AlHuda CIBE will also host meetings of AAOIFI technical boards and other sub-committees. Meanwhile, both organizations will arrange joint research and development (R&D) initiative



for research and industry reports along-with research surveys for intellectual contribution to the AAOIFI conferences and journal and technical bulletin.

M. Zubair Mughal said that Islamic finance is not only the interest of Muslim population rather non-Muslims are also taking keen interest

to learn and implement it. There are various non-Muslim countries where Islamic banking and finance is providing their customers state-of-the-art services above all religious differences. He added that according to this MoU, both organizations will work together to strengthen the abilities of Islamic banking and finance including education services. He said that AlHuda CIBE is keeping an eye on Islamic banking and finance. AlHuda CIBE and The Accounting and Auditing Organization for Islamic Financial Institutions will mutually conduct training workshops on Islamic banking and finance and promote online courses to cultivate the confined talent for the industry.

Cannot feed public with rotting and odorous flour: Flour Mills Association

Tariq Khattak

ISLAMABAD: The flour mill owners have warned of a flour crisis engulfing the region and affecting millions due to the wrong policies of the Food Department.



Flour millers have stopped the supply of flour to the market due to the conditions imposed by the Food Department, which is depriving masses of affordable flour.

In a statement today, the Pakistan Flour Mills Association Punjab said that all the responsibility for this crisis will be on the policies imposed by the Food Department.

Flour mills cannot function because of undue interference and restrictions of the concerned authorities, which should be noted, the statement said.

The Food Department has abolished the subsidy and is now buying wheat at Rs 3,800 per 40 kg and selling it at Rs 4,700 per 40 kg.

Now, the 130 flour mills of the Rawalpindi region are being pressurized to buy twenty-five percent of the wheat from far-flung districts of Punjab, including Bhakkar, Jhang, Muzaffargarh, and Bahawalpur.

The Flour Mills Association further said that buying wheat from these districts and delivering it to flour mills in Rawalpindi and Islamabad costs up to five hundred rupees per 100 kg due to high transportation costs.

However, the Food Department insists that after buying wheat from remote areas of Punjab and transporting it to Rawalpindi Division, it must be sold at the official rate of Rs 1374 per 10 kg, which is not feasible.

Earlier, flour mills in Rawalpindi and Islamabad used to get wheat from local godowns. The policy has changed, which is unacceptable to flour millers as it is not feasible and amounts to depriving the masses of affordable staples.

Currently, flour mills are being supplied with very substandard wheat, which is smelly, has high moisture, and includes dirt, by the concerned department. The statement said this wheat is unfit for human consumption.

PM Youth Talent Hunt Table Tennis trials to start from Dec 4

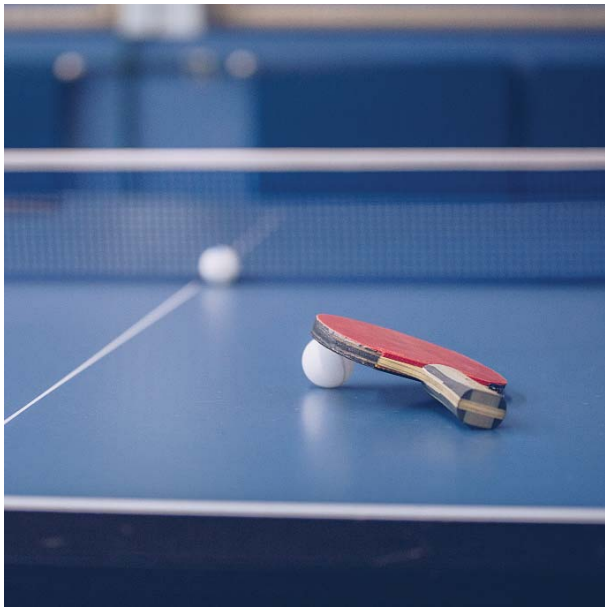
Sports Desk

PESHAWAR: In connection with the Prime Minister's Youth Talent Hunt program, the table tennis trials will start from December 4 in Peshawar, Vice Chancellor Islamia College University Professor Dr. Gul Majeed told during a press conference here at his historical Islamia College premises on Thursday.

Accompanied by Director Sports Islamia College University Ali Hoti, Professor Dr. Gul Majeed Khan said that it was decided to start the trials of the table tennis event from the first week of December in connection with the Prime Minister's Youth Talent Hunt program.

Trials will be held in this regard.

Ali Hoti said that Vice Chancellor Islamia College University Peshawar Professor Dr.



Gul Majeed will formally inaugurate the Championship on December 4 at 11.00

a.m. Director of Sports Islamia College University and Organizing Secretary Ali Hoti and

Basketball coach Firdous Afridi disclosed that all arrangements in this connection have been completed well in time.

Vice-Chancellor Prof. Dr. Gul Majeed said that trials will be conducted in phases by dividing the province into five regions, according to which Peshawar trials will be held on December 5th and 6th, while on December 6th, 7th and 8th trials would be organized at Mardan. The trials at Hazara region will be held on December 13 to 15, 2023 while the trials at Swat Region will be organized on December 18, 19 and 20.

He disclosed that the trials would be organized at Bannu on December 27-29. He said during the trials merits would be followed and genuine players would be given chances to come up from various regions to the provincial league and later on a team out of the provincial

league would be constituted to represent KP in the National League part of the Prime Minister Youth Talent Hunt Boys and Girls Table Tennis League.

He thanked HEC for trusting Islamia College for organizing the event and said that Islamia College has played a key role in raising the name of our country, especially Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, in addition to curricular activities as well as in extra-curricular activities.

The students of this historic school have shown their strength in the field of sports, he said. Prof. Dr. Gul Majeed said that four members of the selection committee has been constituted wherein Maqsood and Nadeem are from Punjab while Khyber Pakhtunkhwa members of the selection committee including Amina Mehmood, Kifayatullah Khan, Khawaja Haseeb and Iqra Rehman.

Punjab Institute of Sports Science to formulate syllabus for coaches and athletes



Tahir Amin Malik

LAHORE: An important meeting of newly-established Punjab Institute of Sports Science was held at National Hockey Stadium under the direction of Director General Sports Punjab Dr Asif Tufail.

The key meeting was convened to discuss the preparation and formulation of Punjab Institute of Sports Science syllabus for the international standard training and grooming of coaches and athletes of the province.

The meeting was attended by Secretary General Punjab Olympic Association (PbOA) Idris Haider Kh, President Punjab Athletics Association Salman Iqbal Butt, Principal Chand Parveen, Chief Instructor Hafeez Bhatti, Instructor Shaista Qaiser, Divisional Coach/Instructor Sajid Ali, Tehsil Sports Officer Nasir Malik, Col Nasir, Mirza Nadeem, Waqar Ali and Tayyab Shafiq. Besides them, the experts of athletics, volleyball, badminton, hockey and football were also present on this occasion.

Different suggestions were assessed in the meeting for imparting latest training to coaches and athletes of the province as per modern day requirements. It was also evaluated in the meeting as to how our coaches could become master trainers and how they can play an effective role in the development of sports culture in the province and transform our athletes into medal winners in international sports competitions.

The participants on this occasion said that the establishment of Punjab Institute of Sports Science is certainly a revolutionary step of Director General Sports Punjab Dr Asif Tufail and it will help a lot in the training of provincial coaches and players according to international standards.

Najmul Hossain Shanto to lead Bangladesh in New Zealand ODIs, T20Is

Sports Desk

LAHORE: Bangladesh named batsman Najmul Hossain Shanto as the country's ODI and T20I captain for the tour of New Zealand next month.

Bangladesh will tour New Zealand to play three ODI matches and three T20Is between December 17 and December 31.

Najmul Hossain Shanto, who is currently leading the country's Test side against New Zealand in a home series, has been promoted to the new role in the absence of regular limited-over captain Shakib Al Hasan.

Shakib Al Hasan is unavailable for the series



Bangladesh ODI squad
Najmul Hossain Shanto (c), Tanzid Hasan, Anamul Haque, Towhid Hridoy, Mushfiqur Rahim, Liton Das, Afif Hossain, Soumya Sarkar, Mehidy Hasan Miraz, Mustafizur Rahman, Shoriful Islam, Tanzim Hasan, Hasan Mahmud, Rishad Hossain, Rakibul Hasan.

Bangladesh T20I squad
Najmul Hossain Shanto (c), Liton Das, Rony Talukdar, Towhid Hridoy, Shamim Hossain, Afif Hossain, Soumya Sarkar, Mehidy Hasan Miraz, Mahedi Hasan, Mustafizur Rahman, Shoriful Islam, Hasan Mahmud, Rishad Hossain, Tanvir Islam, Tanzim Hasan.

as he has recently moved into politics to contest the upcoming general election on January 7 as a candidate of the ruling Awami League.

All-rounder Mehidy Hasan Miraz has been named as Najmul's deputy

for the white-ball tour of New Zealand.

Opening batter Liton Das returns to the squad for the ODI series against New Zealand, which also included uncapped left-arm spinner Rakibul Hasan.

Morrisville Samp Army edge Chennai Braves in a last-over thriller at Abu Dhabi T10 League



A Sports

ABU DHABI: A combined team effort by Moeen Ali-led Morrisville Samp Army saw them earn a last-over victory over Chennai Braves by seven wickets in the seventh Abu Dhabi T10 League match at Sheikh Zayed Cricket Stadium.

Chennai Braves lost opening batter, Jason Roy, in the first over after opting to bat with only two runs on board.

Kobe Herft then scored 20 runs off 16 balls with one boundary and one six before Qais Ahmed removed him with the scoreboard reading 27-3. This quickly became 27-6 as Moeen Ali bowled a maiden over and picked two wickets, while Stephen Eskinazi got run out in the same over.

Braves' skipper Charith Asalanka then took responsibility and added 49 runs in the seventh wicket partnership with Aayan Afzal Khan. Karim Janat broke the partnership in the ninth over, dismissing Asalanka, who scored 31 off 13, laced with two boundaries and three sixes.

Bhanuka Rajapaksa and Aayan Afzal Khan added 21 runs in the last eight balls to raise the team's total to 97-7 in their ten overs.

Karim Janat and Moeen Ali picked two wickets each, while Jason Holder and Qais Ahmed managed one each.

Morrisville Samp Army in their pursuit got off to a flying start with a 59-run opening stand between Andries Gous and Faf du Plessis.

Mohammad Nabi broke the stand in the sixth over, when Du Plessis was caught by Munsey after scoring 31 runs from 16 balls, featuring three sixes and one boundary.

Skipper Moeen Ali joined Gous but was castled in the next over by Junaid Siddique with the scoreboard reading 68-2.

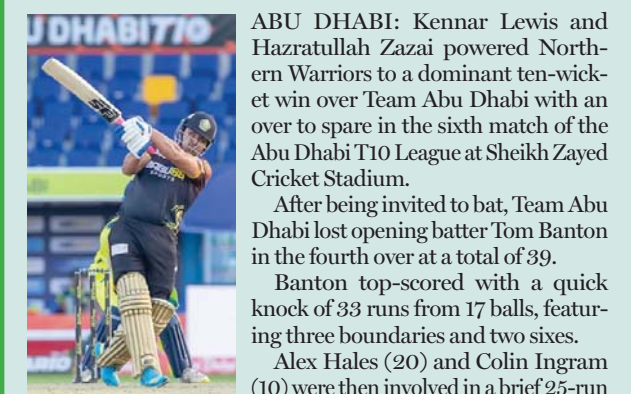
Gous then departed after being run out in the ninth over, after hitting 43 runs in 26 balls with the help of three boundaries and two sixes.

Samp Army needed eight runs in the final over and they achieved the target with Najibullah Zadran finishing the match in style with a six off the penultimate ball.

Junaid Siddique and Mohammad Nabi picked one wicket each for Chennai Braves.

Zazai, Lewis power Northern Warriors to ten-wicket victory in Abu Dhabi T10 League

A Sports



ABU DHABI: Kennar Lewis and Hazratullah Zazai powered Northern Warriors to a dominant ten-wicket win over Team Abu Dhabi with an over to spare in the sixth match of the Abu Dhabi T10 League at Sheikh Zayed Cricket Stadium.

After being invited to bat, Team Abu Dhabi lost opening batter Tom Banton in the fourth over at a total of 39.

Banton top-scored with a quick knock of 33 runs from 17 balls, featuring three boundaries and two sixes.

Alex Hales (20) and Colin Ingram (10) were then involved in a brief 25-run partnership, which looked promising but the Warriors picked three wickets in quick succession to leave Team Abu Dhabi reeling at 69-4.

Asif Khan played a 19-run cameo off seven balls before getting run out.

Team Abu Dhabi scored 103-7 in their 10 overs. Tabraiz Shamsi led the bowling charts with 2-17, while Angelo Mathews, Azmatullah Omarzai, James Neesham and Abhimanyu Mithun picked one wicket each.

In response, Northern Warriors got off to a flying start with 15 runs in the first over bowled by Binura Fernando.

Will Israel be banned from Paris Olympics 2024 just like Russia?

As the countdown to the 2024 Olympics in Paris ticks away, an article in The Nation probes the possibility of Israel facing a ban from the event due to its involvement in the Gaza conflict.

The piece, known for its progressive stance, examines the parallels with Russia's recent Olympic ban and speculates on whether Israel's athletes might be compelled to compete under a neutral flag.

Drawing attention to the IOC's decision to ban Russia as a nation from the upcoming Olympics, the article raises questions about the potential consequences for Israel. It contemplates scenarios where Israeli annexation of territories with Palestinian sports organisations could prompt the IOC to insist on neutral participation.

The article contends that the IOC's track record, as seen with FIFA's indifference to Israeli military actions against Palestinian soccer players, could influence its stance.

India announce three different captains for multi-format South Africa series

Sports Desk

LAHORE: The Board of Cricket Control in India (BCCI) named three different captains for their eight-match multi-format tour of South Africa next month.

Rohit Sharma will lead Team India in two Test matches, Suryakumar Yadav will continue to lead in the T20s and KL Rahul will lead the ODI team against South Africa.

The tour, which opens on December 10 with a T20 in Durban and is set to run until January 7, includes three T20Is, three ODIs and two Tests, the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) said.

The BCCI said Rohit and Virat Kohli had asked for a



break from the white-ball leg of the tour.

But it said that Mohammed Shami was undergoing medical treatment and his availability was subject to fitness.

India Test squad

Rohit Sharma (capt), Shubman Gill, Yashasvi

Jaiswal, Virat Kohli, Shreyas Iyer, Ruturaj Gaikwad, Ishan Kishan (wk), KL Rahul (wk), Ravichandran Ashwin, Ravindra Jadeja, Shardul Thakur, Mohammed Siraj, Mukesh Kumar, Mohammed Shami, Jasprit Bumrah, Prasidh Krishna

India T20I squad

Yashasvi Jaiswal, Shubman Gill, Ruturaj Gaikwad, Tilak Varma, Suryakumar Yadav (capt), Rinku Singh, Shreyas Iyer, Ishan Kishan (wk), Jitesh Sharma (wk), Ravindra Jadeja, Washington Sundar, Ravi Bishnoi, Kuldeep Yadav, Arshdeep Singh, Mohammed Siraj, Mukesh Kumar, Deepak Chahar

India ODI squad

Ruturaj Gaikwad, Sai Sudharsan, Tilak Varma, Rajat Patidar, Rinku Singh, Shreyas Iyer, KL Rahul (capt), Sanju Samson (wk), Axar Patel, Washington Sundar, Kuldeep Yadav, Yuzvendra Chahal, Mukesh Kumar, Avesh Khan, Arshdeep Singh, Deepak Chahar

Super Eight stage of National T20 Cup 2023-24 to commence tomorrow

Sports Desk

KARACHI: The Super Eight stage of National T20 Cup 2023-24 is scheduled to be played from 1 to 8 December 2023 at three venues across Karachi - National Bank Stadium, UBL Sports Complex and NBP Sports Complex.

The eight teams progressing from the group stage will be facing each other in a round-robin format, playing seven games each. The top four teams will then play the semi-finals, scheduled for 9 December at National Bank Stadium. The final will also be played at the same venue on 10 December.

Pakistan Cricket Board has also announced free entry for spectators for the matches scheduled at National Bank Stadium. Three enclosures - Hanif

Mohammad, Javed Miandad and Fazal Mahmood - will be accessible to the spectators.

The teams that have qualified for the Super Eight include: Peshawar and Lahore Whites from Group A, Lahore Blues and Karachi Whites from Group B, Rawalpindi and Abbottabad from Group C, and Sialkot and FATA from Group D.

Lahore Whites' right-handed batter Ahmed Shehzad has been the leading run-scorer in the tournament thus far. The 32-year-old produced three consecutive half-centuries and accumulated 213 runs from three matches. Rawalpindi's Zeeshan Malik and Peshawar's Sahibzada Farhan are the two centurions of the tournament up to now.

Umair Afridi, Islamabad's left-arm pacer, has the most wickets in the tournament so far. In

four matches, the 26-year-old has taken 12 wickets. However, Islamabad failed to qualify for the Super Eight stage. Amongst the teams that have progressed ahead, Karachi Whites' leg spinner Arif Yaqoob has the most wickets with a tally of nine scalps at 10.44, including a four-wicket haul. His fellow teammate, right-arm pacer Sohail Khan has the best bowling figures of the tournament so far with 5-10, which came against Hyderabad.

Hyderabad's Akbar Khan has been the most successful wicket-keeper in the tournament till now, bagging a total of seven dismissals including four catches and three stumpings. Karachi Whites' Asad Shafiq has been the most successful fielder with six catches in four matches.

Four matches have been scheduled for each day of the

Super Eight stage, while there will be no play on 5 December. All games played at National Bank Stadium will be broadcast on PTV Sports and ARY ZAP in Pakistan and live-streamed on PCB's YouTube channel and Facebook page in overseas territories. The afternoon games that are being broadcast will start at 1500 PKT, with toss conducted at 1430 PKT. Toss for evening games will take place at 1930 PKT and the first ball will be bowled at 2000 PKT.

The first set of fixtures, to be played on 1 December, are as follows:

1300 PKT-Rawalpindi v Abbottabad at UBL Sports Complex

1300 PKT-Sialkot v FATA at NBP Sports Complex

1500 PKT-Peshawar v Lahore Whites at National Bank Stadium



um

2000 PKT-Lahore Blues v Karachi Whites at National Bank Stadium

Director - Domestic Cricket Operations, Nadeem Khan: "The National T20 Cup has seen multiple close games so far which

reflects the competitive cricket on display in our revised domestic structure. We hope that the quality of cricket will only improve as we head into the Super Eight stage.

"All eight teams that have qualified ahead are exciting to watch.

We are looking forward to seeing how the rest of the tournament pans out, with the title at stake, which all eight captains must be eyeing. The fight for the trophy will be very interesting as each team has a solid chance at getting to and winning the final."

Group photo

ISLAMABAD: Dr. Arif Alvi in a group photo with the winners of the 2nd Islamabad Chamber of Small Traders and Small Industries achievement trophies, at Aiwan-e-Sadr on Thursday.



Photo: PID

Solangi underlines need of state media reforms at par with modern standards

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Minister for Information and Broadcasting and Parliamentary Affairs Murtaza Solangi on Thursday urged the Senate's Standing Committee to discuss and work out the plan for reforms in the state media institutions. Addressing the Senate Committee on Information and Broadcasting, the minister underlined the need to carry out reforms in the state broadcasters to bring them at par with modern standards.

Senator Fawzia Arshad presided over the meeting which was attended by members of the committee including Senator Maula Bakhsh Chandio, Senator Irfan-ul-Haq Siddiqui and Senator Naseema Ehsan as well as Federal Secretary for

Information and Broadcasting Shaheera Shahid, MD Pakistan Television (PTV), Director General Radio Pakistan, and Managing Director Associated Press of Pakistan (APP). During the session at Committee Room No. 1 of the Parliament House, the panel discussed the implementation of the recommendations, worked out in its meeting on October 9, 2023. The committee also took up the recommendations related to the appointment of 53 daily-wage employees during the meeting.

The information minister said the caretaker government could not make permanent appointments or decide about the closure of any institution. He said services of different people were hired sometime back to mitigate



the shortage of staff and run essential programmes, but hiring of daily wagers through advertisement, seemed to be a time-consuming process. Murtaza Solangi said the committee's recommendations in this regard would be implemented in letter and spirit. The committee's guidance on advertising for daily-wage recruitment or any kind of hiring would also be followed,

accordingly.

The minister said that Radio Pakistan was the oldest institution of the state and emphasized the need for reforms in the institution that had more numbers of pensioners than the existing workforce. Solangi expressed gratitude to the committee members who showed confidence in him and said he would continue to seek their guidance in

future as well. The committee also discussed the issue of new recruitments, especially in PTV and Radio Pakistan, from August 9, 2023, until now. Both the federal minister and secretary briefed the committee on the issue. The federal secretary explained that election cells were established in broadcasting institutions of the Ministry of Information, and the services of some individuals had been obtained for the purpose. Solangi informed the committee that those individuals, rendering the services, had extensive experience in broadcasting. He assured that efforts were afoot to ensure that no anchor in any program showed bias towards any political party. The committee expressed satisfaction over the briefing given by MD APP Muhammad Asim Khichi.

Indian military involved in genocide of Kashmiris: Mushaal

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister's Special Assistant on Human Rights Mushaal Hussein Mullick on Thursday said Indian military was involved in the genocide of Muslims in illegally Indian Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IOJK).

Addressing a seminar titled "Repression on minorities in India and atrocities in Kashmir," she expressed deep concerns over the human rights violations in the held territory.

She said people of the occupied valley could never be defeated through oppression and negative tactics like jailing the political leadership.

The seminar, was jointly organized by Kashmir International and Kashmir Media Service (KMS).

Caretaker Federal Minister for Human Rights, Khalil George deplored that India had adopted the same policy in the occupied territory which Israel was following in the Palestine.

He said that the main objective of the Bharatiya Janata Party government was to turn the majority of Muslims in IOJK into a minority but the people of the occupied territory would foil all such nefarious designs of the Modi regime.

Other speakers, including former Azad Jammu and Kashmir President Sardar Yaqoob Khan, Senator Mushahid Hussain Syed, President of Jammu and Kashmir Peoples Party Hasan Ibrahim, All Parties Hurriyat Conference Azad Jammu and Kashmir chapter Senior Leaders Muhammad Farooq Rahmani, Syed Faiz Naqshbandi,



Chairman of Friends of Kashmir International Ghazala Habib, Chairman of Kashmir Institute of International Relations Altaf Hussain Wani, former Federal Minister J. Salik, Vice

Chairman of Friends of Kashmir International Abdul Hameed Lone, Pakistani-American entrepreneur Abdul Hafeez Khan, Senator Danish Kumar, Anchor, Harmeet Singh and Analyst Waqar Hassan.

Member Kashmir Council Senator Denash Kumar also said that India had emerged as an extremist state where the existing minorities were facing prejudice, violence and oppression on a large scale.

President of Jammu and Kashmir Peoples Party, Hasan Ibrahim and senior Leader of Kashmir, Farooq Rehmani said after 5th August 2019, the Modi government had accelerated the repression and tyranny in the occupied territory and at this time the Kashmiris were being completely pushed towards the wall.

PM to lead Pakistani delegation in COP28 starting from Friday

Spokesman Report

DUBAI: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar will lead the Pakistani delegation in the high-level segment of the 28th UN Conference of Parties (COP 28) being held at the Expo City, here starting from Friday. The prime minister will attend the World Climate Action Summit on December 1 and 2, a press release by Prime Minister Office Press Wing said.

Prime Minister Kakar will give a national statement at the World Climate Action Summit on December 2. Meetings of the prime minister with various world leaders are expected on the sidelines of the conference. Caretaker Foreign Minister Jalil Abbas Jilani, Caretaker Finance Minister Dr. Shamshad Akhtar, Caretaker Minister for Climate Change Ahmed Irfan Aslam and Caretaker Energy Minister Muhammad Ali will also participate in COP 28.

Punjab Government taking important steps for the Betterment of Women

Asim Tanveer

MULTAN: Provincial Woman Ombudsman of Punjab Ms. Nabila Hakim Ali Khan visited Multan. He heard the cases of inheritance and harassment in the regional office of the female ombudsman and issued orders on various cases. Since 1980, the provincial female ombudsman also ordered to register the death immediately after the death of the inherited property. Later, the provincial woman ombudsman of Punjab, Nabila Hakim Ali Khan, talking to the media representatives at the circuit house, said that women should be made dignified and confident. Women should be provided with the best environment at the workplace. Women cannot be deprived of their inheritance rights under any circumstances. Empowering women is the need of the hour. We have to inspire women.

Full facilities are being provided to women in regional offices. She further said that the Punjab government is also taking important steps for the betterment of women. It is the responsibility of all of us to provide protection to women. We make



women prestigious and economically stable. The process of punishment and reward is the same for everyone. Inquiry committees have been established in all institutions. All resources are being used to provide immediate justice to women.

Director General PHA Asif Rauf Khan, Deputy Secretary Ghulam Mustafa Sahar, Deputy Secretary Khawaja Mazharul Haq, Section Officers Ahmed Rana Wajih Rasool, Tahir Abbas Khachi and other officers were also present. What has to be done is that women should be given their right to inherit. Our religion Islam also gives us the same teachings.

On this occasion, Secretary Services South Punjab Engineer Amjad Shoaib Tareen, Additional Secretary Coordination Muhammad Farooq Dogar, were also present.

Nilofer stresses updating laws for minority communities and their implementation

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Chairperson National Commission on the Status of Women (NCSW) Nilofer Bakhtiar on Thursday emphasized updating laws for minority communities and their proper implementation to protect women and other vulnerable segments of society.

Addressing All-Parties Conference (APC) on Christian Personal Laws said it was the responsibility of the state as well as national political parties to update two centuries-old outdated Christian family laws and

to review the existing lacunas just to ensure that no segment was deprived of its constitutional rights.

She assured her full support and assistance on behalf of her commission for the Christian community in pursuing their legal rights. She called for bridging the gap between minority communities and political parties.

The conference was convened by a coalition of thirteen civil society organizations and minority rights activists and a large number of representatives from human rights groups and civil society attended the conference.

Pakistan ambassador to Belgium, Libyan envoy discuss bilateral ties

News Desk

BRUSSELS: Ambassador to Belgium, Luxembourg and European Union Amna Baloch on Thursday met with Ambassador of Libya to European Union Jalal Alashi in Brussels and discussed matters relating to mutual interests. The two sides discussed need for collaborative efforts to enhance bilateral relations and supporting the Muslim ummah.



Rain likely at various parts of country: PMD

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD) has forecast rain-wind/thunderstorm with snowfall over the hills for isolated places in Punjab, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan during the next 24 hours. Cold and dry weather is expected in most parts of the country.

Smog/fog is likely in upper Sindh, plain areas of Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. In Islamabad, cold/dry and partly cloudy weather is expected while in Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa, cold and dry weather is expected in most districts with chances of rain-wind/thunderstorm in Mانشera, Abbottabad and Balakot.

Indonesian deputy foreign minister pledges support for interfaith dialogue with Pakistan

Spokesman Report

JAKARTA: Indonesian Deputy Foreign Minister and Director General for Information and Public Diplomacy, Siti Nugraha Mauluddin, in a diplomatic exchange on Thursday, expressed her commitment to fostering religious inclusion and interfaith dialogue between Indonesia and Pakistan. During discussions with a Pakistani delegation comprising scholars and intellectuals, she emphasized the fraternal bond between Indonesia and Pakistan as fellow Muslim nations. She underscored the potential for joint efforts in promoting peace in South and Southeast Asia, with far-reaching positive impacts globally.

The deputy minister highlighted the substantial student

exchange programmes between the two countries and expressed interest in organizing a trilateral dialogue involving Pakistan, Afghanistan, and Indonesia.

Leading the Pakistani delegation, Chairman of the National Rahmatul-lil-Alameen Authority, Khurshid Ahmad Nadeem, affirmed Pakistan's unwavering commitment to interfaith harmony and dialogue.

He acknowledged the significant contribution of Pakistani religious scholars to Islamic and Quranic sciences, facilitating the global dissemination of the true message of divine command.

He also mentioned the educational ties between Indonesia and Pakistan, citing Indonesian students studying at Jamia Binnooria, Karachi, led by Mufti Nauman Naeem, who was part of the diplo-

matic visit.

In a one-on-one session titled 'Enhancing Religious Moderation and Interfaith Dialogue,' Siti elaborated on Indonesia's unique diversity, with a population of 280 million, making it the world's third-largest democracy.

She highlighted Indonesia's successful management of its diverse society through the principles of moderation and acceptance called 'Panchashila,' derived from Islam and forming the foundation of the country.

The Pakistani delegation commended Indonesia's efforts in presenting a model of religious moderation and shared experiences of Pakistani religious scholars contributing to Islamic and Quranic sciences.

Acknowledging existing sectarian aspects, the delegation



expressed optimism that shared platforms and enhanced dialogues could overcome such challenges.

Dr. Farkhanda Zia presented Pakistan's national narrative of peace and reconciliation, titled 'Dukhtar-e-Pakistan,' during the session.

The delegation extended grat-

itude to the Indonesian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the International Research Council for Religious Affairs (IRCRA) for organizing this impactful dialogue and trip.

The diverse delegation included individuals Muhammad Israr, President of IRCRA; Maula-

na Muhammad Tayyib Tahiri, Head of Jamat e Ishaat wa Tauheed; Barrister Zafarullah Khan, Politician and Writer/Author; Mufti Nouman Naeem, Head of Jamia Binnooria, Karachi; Maulana Rashid ul Haq Sami, Deputy Vice Chancellor of Darul Uloom Haqqania, Akora Khat-tak; Senator Barrister Muhammad Ali Khan Saif; Beenish Irfan Khan, Social Activist; Malik Habib Orakzai, Chairman of the Pakistan International Human Rights Organization; Mujtaba Muhammad Rathore, Freelance Journalist; Muhammad Ismail Khan, Political Analyst and Policy Expert; Farkhanda Mansoor Zia, Seasoned Academician; Ejaz-ur-Rehman, Socialist; and Syed Rashad A. S. Bukhari, Director of Communication and Development at IRCRA.