Barkat Rice Mills

Simultaneously published from Islamabad, Lahore and Multan

nomination papers tan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) lea

Rajab-ul-Murajjab 2, Sunday, January 14, 2024

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Chairman Pakistan Peoples Party, Bilawal Bhutto Zardari addressing the Party's public gathering in Bahawalpur, Punjab said that the Jiyalas are running the electoral campaign nationwide. The PPP is contesting the elec-

tions not because of any personal interest... (Details on Page 2)



(a) @daily spokesman



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Four terrorists

Save the Gaza

KARACHI: Activists of Civil Society hold protest in the support of oppressed Muslims of Gaza, outside Press Club in Provincial Capital. غزه بچاو مهم آفیشیل

PTI loses 'bat' as SC declares PHC verdict 'null and void'

Naveed Ahmad Khan

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Tehreeke-Insaf (PTI) lost "bat" as an election symbol after Supreme Court of Pakistan (SC) declared Peshawar High Court verdict null and

Following the completion of arguments from both sides, a three-judge bench, comprising Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Qazi Faez Isa and Justices Muhammad Ali Mazhar and Musarrat Hilali reserved to restore the PTI's 'bat' election the verdict which is set to be announced shortly.

A senior Supreme Court judge on Saturday remarked that for a level playing field, PTI should extend it internally, adding that conducting intra-party elections according to the constitution would have made it the most transparent in Pakistan.

The SC judge's remarks came during the hearing of the Election Commission of Pakistan's (ECP) petition challenging the Peshawar High Court's (PHC) decision



you must also give one to your members," Justice Muhammad Ali Mazhar remarked.

The proceedings of the case are being broadcast live on the SC website and You Tube channel Barrister Ali Zafar is representing the PTI in the case, while

Makhdoom Ali Khan is ECP's

At the outset of the hearing today, Chief Justice Isa said that the Peshawar High Court had neither the Constitution nor the

issued a detailed order restoring PTI's electoral symbol. "The "You ask for a level playing field, party's counsel hailed it as an excellent decision," he said.

Hamid then came to the rostrum, noting that today was the last day to submit the party tickets to the ECP so he would try to wrap up his arguments soon

Justice Mazhar raised two crucial questions whether the court's jurisdiction and the ECP's authority to investigate intra-par-

PTI's lawyer, Zafar, argued that

Elections Act 2017 granted the PTI, even if disliked by the party. ECP the right to review intra-party elections.

Referring to Constitution, he asserted that contesting elections with an electoral symbol was a political party's right, accusing the ECP of discrimination.

Zafar contended that PTI's intra-party elections adhered to the party's constitution. "Despite responding to the ECP's 32 questions in writing, the watchdog set aside the polls".

Zafar claimed that none of the PTI members challenged the intra-party polls, stressing that the party complied with the 20-day timeframe set by the ECP to avoid

exclusion from the elections. Reiterating his stance on democracy, Chief Justice Isa emphasized the need for democracy within political parties and the country. He underscored the importance of verifying that intra-party elections were conducted, acknowledging Akbar S. Babar's role within the

CJP urged PTI's counsel to

either provide the full context for he allegations of mala fide against the ECP or keep the arguments strictly legal. "It should at least be seen that

[intra-party] elections were conducted," he said, adding that Akbar S. Babar was also a party member "even if disliked" by the

"Did we appoint them? You all appoint these people. We don't appoint them," he remarked, adding that the apex court could "force" the commission to perform its duties but "not take on their responsibilities".

The CJP told the PTI counsel: "Substantiate if you are taking the angle of mala fide."

Chief Justice Isa pressed the PTI counsel to substantiate claims of mala fide.

At this, the PTI counsel, Hamid, opted to keep arguments non-political when asked if he was withdrawing the mala fide allegations.

Taiwan



跨 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's policy on Taiwan was consistent, clear and principled as Taiwan was an inalienable part of the

non-interference in the

domestic affairs of all coun-

tries as per principles and

objectives enshrined in the

eople's Republic of China, the Foreign Office Spokesperson said here on Saturday. In response to media queries regarding elections in Taiwan, the Spokesperson, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mumtaz Zahra Baloch, in a statement said: "Pakistan adheres to One China policy, and calls for

security forces operations in K-P 跨 City Desk ISLAMABAD: The security forces on Saturday executed ISPR affirmed.

'sent to hell' in two

two successful operations in Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa province, resulting in the neutralisation of four terrorists, as reported by the military.

The Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) disclosed that an intelligence-based operation took place in the Mir Ali area of North Waziristan district. In the course of this operation, a significant achievement was made as terrorist commander Tabassum, also known as Qadarman, and terrorist Sajid, alias Sarkandi, were eliminated following a fierce exchange of gunfire, stated the ISPR.

Simultaneously, in a joint operation conducted by secu- efforts to eliminate the menace rity forces and the police in the of terrorism.

Kulachi area of Dera Ismail Khan district, two additional terrorists met their end, the

Recovered from deceased terrorists were weapons, ammunition, and explosives. These individuals were actively engaged in various terrorist activities against security forces, including extortion and targeted killings of innocent civilians. They were high-priority targets for law enforcement agencies.

Sanitisation operations are currently underway to ensure the eradication of any remaining terrorists in the area, the military's media wing stated.

The ISPR noted that the local community has expressed appreciation for the operations and stands in full support of

PTI Spokesperson strongly condemns masked men raid at PTI Chairman's residence



跨 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf(PTI) Spokesperson strongly condemned the masked men shameful raid at the residence of PTI Chairman Barrister Gohar Khan in broad daylight and roughing up his family, while he was attending the Supreme Court (SC) hearing regarding his party's electoral symbol of

Reacting to the unlawful raid at the house of PTI Chairman by a group dressed in black, PTI Spokesperson said that the unidentified masked men roughed up Barrister Gohar Khan's son, nephew and watchman.

He pointed out that the unknown attackers did not only ransack Barrister Gohar's house, but they also confiscated valuables including computers and important documents.

Islamabad IGP visits Barrister Gohar's house on CJP's order

😂 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Islamabad Inspector General of Police (IGP) Dr Akbar Nasir Khan has arrived at the residence of PTI Chairman Barrister Gohar Ali Khan on Chief Justice of Pakistan's (CJP) order following a 'raid' at the latter's house, ARY News reported on Saturday.

The PTI chairman was informed about the raid while he was attending the Supreme Court hearing regarding his party's electoral symbol of "bat".

During the hearing, Barrister Gohar informed Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Qazi Faez Isa about the incident and claimed his son and nephew were "tortured". He added that the police also confiscated a computer and documents.

The PTI chief asked the court to excuse him from the hearing and left. Meanwhile, the chief justice called Additional Attorney General Chaudhry Amir Rehman to the rostrum and said: "Whatever happened should not have happened."

The additional attorney general said he would look into it and left the courtroom.

After a while, Barrister Gohar returned to the court, to which CJP Qazi Faez Isa asked if all was right. "The situation is very serious," he responded. The chief justice directed the additional attorney general to resolve the matter.

Responding to the CJP, the additional attorney general said he has spoken with the home secretary and Islamabad IGP Dr Akbar Nasir Khan. "The home secretary and the IG are investigating what happened," he told the court.

The PTI chairman wanted to tell more but was not given the permission by the chief justice, who told him to inform the additional attorney general instead. First tell the additional attorney general, if not heard by him, then inform the court."

Speaking of the 'police attack', Barrister Gohar noted that the "limit has been crossed" now. "If we cannot resolve the issue, then you can tell us," the chief justice responded.

25.6m metric tons of wheat production expected

👺 Bureau Report

LAHORE: This year wheat has been cultivated in Punjab on an area of 16.6 million acres, from which 25.6 million metric tons of production is expected. A spokesman for the Punjab Agriculture Department said on Saturday that Punjab Agriculture Secretary Nadir Chattha had assigned a special task to all field formations to achieve an average yield of more than 40 maunds of wheat from per acre of land.

In this regard, guidance was being provided to the farmers about the disadvantages of unnecessary use of urea fertilizer, spokesman added. He said that due to timely cultivation of wheat and better use of approved varieties of seeds and phosphorous fertilizers the condition of wheat crop was better. In the wheat crop, the second installment of nitrogen fertilizer should be completed by 55 to 60 days, he said and added that special care should be taken in the use of urea in wheat crop that was cultivated till Novem-

China's Taiwan policy unchanged by DPP's referendum: spokesperson



News Desk

ISLAMABAD: DPP "cannot represent the mainstream public opinion on the island".

But he added that the vote 'will not impede the inevitable trend of China's reunification".

While Taiwan has been self-governed since the 1940s, China still claims the island and its outlying terri-

The vote "will not change the basic landscape and development trend of cross-Strait relations," Binhua said. Beijing's stance on "realising national reunification remains consistent, and our determination is as firm as rock."

PTI-Nazriati head himself signed tickets: PTI

跨 City Desk

Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), led by deposed premier Imran Khan, has denied claims made by PTI-Nazriati head Akhtar Iqbal Ďar regarding the party tickets, saying that the latter had himself signed the tickets issued to candidates. Embattled Pakistan Tehreek-e-In-

saf (PTI) – sensing danger of losing its iconic symbol 'bat' - chalked out a Plan B by ordering its candidates to submit nominations under the PTI-Nazriati group, whose election symbol is 'batsman.'

In a post on X, PTI's official account said: "Whoever has PTI-Nazriati tickets should immediately submit them and take any kind of hindrance to the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) and high courts."

However, PTI-Nazriati Chairman Akhtar Iqbal Dar distanced himself from issuing his party tickets to Imran Khan-led PTI, accusing the latter's candidates of submitting 'fake' party tickets to returning officers (ROs).

Meanwhile, PTI spokesperson Raoof Hassan claimed that PTI-Naz-ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan riati backtracked from an agreement which allowed the candidates of the former to contest polls under the latter's symbol. Speaking to a private news chan-

nel, Raoof Hassan said that Akhtar Iqbal Dar had formally signed an agreement with his political party for Feb 8 general elections. "Akhar Dar's press conference was

similar to the ones held by departing PTI leaders," he claimed. The spokesperson claimed that the PTI-N head had signed the party tick-

ets, issued to candidates, while sitting in our office with the PTI chairman two weeks ago. Raoof Hassan noted that Darwas demanding more seats but then, he agreed on adjusting only four seats in

Sheikhupura. "Despite all that, he did a press conference and claimed things that were incorrect and contrary to facts, he added, suggesting that there would be some pressure on him just like other leaders who departed from PTI. UN Charter."

inalienable part of China: FO Spokesperson

≅ Elections Campaign 2024

Bilawal: PPP 'running the election campaign for the sake of the people'

Asim Tanveer

BAHAWALPUR: Chairman Pakistan Peoples Party, Bilawal Bhutto Zardari addressing the Party's public gathering in Bahawalpur, Punjab said that the Jiyalas are running the electoral campaign nationwide. The PPP is contesting the elections not because of any personal interest, but to serve the people. Pakistan is going through a tumultuous time and is facing a historic economic crisis, with unprecedented increases in inflation, unemployment and poverty. When Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto laid the foundation of the Party, the country was going through a financial crisis then too, the Quaid-e-Awam gave us a manifesto that helped strengthen the downtrodden masses of the country, including the poor farmers and labourers. Once again, we require a pro-people, pro-labourer, pro-farmer and pro-poor government. The rest of the political parties represent the elite Peoples Party, following the footsteps while the PPP represents the common of Shaheed Quaid-e-Awam is contest-



the arrow, then the government forming resultantly will be theirs. The Pakistan

people. If the people stamp the symbol of ing the elections based on a 10-point economic contract.

Addressing the youth, Chairman Bila-Youth Card' to provide the youngsters in every district. The PPP also aims to mothers and infants for the first thou-

with financial assistance as well as equip initiate the 'Bhook Mitao Programme' them with the necessary skills to see to it that they flourish professionally. The wal said that he plans on introducing the PPP will also establish 'Youth Centers' in schools, as well as look after the new

to combat with hunger on the level of union councils, and provide free lunch sand days so that no one goes to sleep on an empty stomach in the country.

Chairman PPP said that when someone is out to hunt a lion, a bat is rendered redundant, and only the arrow works. This is the season of hunting, and the people have to prove that 'Aaj Bhi Bhutto Zinda Hai', by stamping the symbol of the arrow on February 8. Chairman Bilawal said that Ali Hasan Gilani and Hafiz Hussain are the Party's representative from Bahawalpur, and they are to be made victorious. Malik Shahrukh is the Party's candidate from the provincial and National Assemblies, and he has to win so that the people can be served by the Party. Abdul Mujeeb Chanar, Naseem Shah, Amin Shah, Rifatur Rehman, Dost Muhammad Khosa, Tatheer ul Hassan and Mr. Gardezi are the Party's candidates and will be triumphant with the support of the people.

Chairman Bilawal welcomed Zafar Warraich to the Party and announced that he will be contesting on its behalf in Rahimyar Khn

Bilawal hails new PPP members in Multan as 'political family'

MULTAN: Chairman Pakistan Peoples Party, Bilawal Bhutto Zard-

ari addressing a press conference in Multan on the occasion of Rana

Mehmood ul Hassan, Rana Tahir Shabbir, Rana Iqbal Siraj and Rana Shahid ul Hassan and others joining the PPP, said that he welcomes

them to the family that is the PPP. The PPP is not just a political party

but a political family and its connection with the city of Multan dates back

three generations. We will represent Multan, Waseb and the entire coun-

try. Our work for the Waseb is before the country, Yousaf Raza Gillani from the Waseb was made the PM of the country, and during the 2008-

2013 tenure of the Party, South Punjab got its due share from the PSDP.

The PPP will continue its struggle towards giving South Punjab its due

share, as during PM Gillani's tenure a resolution was passed from the

Inspector Rizwan Bhatti got Ph.

D degree in Political science

PML-N's Raja Riaz withdraws nomination papers



Majid Abdul Majid

FAISALABAD: Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) leader party. "Whoever gets the ticket Raja Riaz on Saturday withdrew his nomination papers ahead of the forthcoming general elec-

The former opposition leader in NA had withdrawn her nomination papers from NA-105.

Raja Riaz had filed his nomi-(Faisalabad-X).

Nawaz (PML-N) was a pro-people party, which had not made any seat adjustment with any will contest election," he added.

He said no one was arresting those who had submitted their nomination papers because 22 candidates from NA-104 had so far submitted their nomination

Earlier today, the Election nation papers for National Commission of Pakistan (ECP) Assembly constituency NA-104 on Saturday extended the time for election symbols allotment to Later, talking to the media, he $\;\;$ the political parties contesting in said Pakistan Muslim League- the general election 2024.

Election

Islamabad: Lawyers cast their votes during the Islamabad Bar Association Election 2024-2



Kashmore: Police, Rangers launch anti-bandit operation to recover hostages

Sometimes Correspondent

KASHMORE: The law enforcement agencies have launched operation in katcha area to recover an abducted truck driver and other hostages from bandit gangs.

The anti-bandit operation being led by the police chief of Kashmore and the rangers wing commander, has been launched in katcha area of Ghelpur police station jurisdiction.

SSP Bashir Brohi has said that the district police have launched the operation with armoured carriers. "Over 10 police pickets have been established in katcha area and all entry and exit and southern belt of Punjab, points of the area have been popularly known as katcha



officer said.

Police chief claimed that nine hostages will be soon recovered from bandits.

Riverine forests in Sindh completely sealed," police area, have

remained a hotbed of bandit sible and virtually a 'no go gangs involved in kidnappings for ransom and other crimes, on both banks of the Indus River allegedly with the backing of local influen-

tial persons. These areas are inaccesconfident that Bilawal will form govt in Centre

Example 2 Correspondent

KHAIRPUR: PPP's senior leader Manzoor Hussain Wassan stated that the upcoming February 8 elections would result in a substantial victory for his party.

Rejecting PML-N's claims he confidently hoped that Bilawal would make the government in the

Dismissing concerns about PTI's efforts, he asserted that despite their attempts to form alliances against PPP, they consistently fail.

Wassan stressed the insignificance of judges' resignations and Election Commission secretary leave, stating that these factors won't impact the commission. He said that cricket bat symbol did not matter.

Predicting a historic rally by Bilawal Bhutto in Khairpur on Sunday, Wassan noted the beginning of the election campaign, expressing his enthusiasm to serve people as he enters politics.

PPP's Wassan 👺 Abdul Majid



Senate in this regard.

Kiran Asim / Quratul Ain Asim

FAISALABAD: Muhammad Rizwan Bhatti, Inspector of police has completed his Ph. D Degree in the discipline of Political Science. He is working as public Relations officer with the Regional Police officer Dr Muhammad Abid Khan. He successfully defended his thesis defense on the very crucial phenomenon "The Post 9/11 De-radicalization and counter violent extremism in Pakistan". He did his thesis under the supervision of Prof Dr Ali Shan Shah. Further, external examiners were included Dr Manzoor Khan Afridi from Islamic International University and Dr

Shahid Hussain Bukhari from Bahauddin Zikria university. While talking about his thesis research, Dr Muhammad Rizwan said that militancy is the worst scourge that need to deracinate through employing both kinetic and non kinetic measures. However, the significance of deradicalization and counter violent extremism cannot be neglected. The academicians, scholars, civil society and student appreciated the academic endeavour of Dr Muhammad Rizwan Bhatti as being member of police force, it's a great accomplishment. Further, IG Punjab Dr Muhammad Usman Anwar and RPO Faisalabad Dr Muhammad Abid Khan congratulated him on completing of his Ph. D. Moreover, Dr Rizwan Said that he will do research on Policing to trace out the fault lines in the service delivery and devising mechanism to curb crime through effective patrolling, community policing and problem oriented policing. Dr Rizwan said that the attainment of Ph. D Degree is a proud moment in his life and he will continue his academic pursuits.

APHC deplores world's silence on Indian state terrorism in IIOJK

ISLAMABAD: The All Parties Hurriyat Conference (APHC) has deplored the silence of the international community on the worst Indian state terrorism in illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir. According to Kashmir Media Service report on Saturday, the APHC spokesman in a statement issued in Srinagar said the latest report of Human Rights Watch (HRW) is an eye-opener for the world community which must hold India accountable for its brutal actions in the occupied territory.

The HRW in its World Report 2024, said that India continued to restrict free expression, peaceful assembly and other rights in occupied Kashmir in 2023. It said the critics and human rights defenders faced arrests and raids based on spurious allegations and cited the illegal arrests of Kashmiri rights activists, Khurram Parvez and Irfan Mehraj. The APHC spokesman in a statement in Srinagar said the Modi regime is trampling all basic rights of the Kashmiri people on a daily basis and employing draconian laws to stifle political dissent in occupied Kashmir. He maintained that the continued denial of the Kashmiris' basic rights including right to self-determination by New Delhi was a violation of the UN charter and international laws. The spokesman asked that how can India claim to be a democratic republic when it was denying the Kashmiris their basic rights.

Sheikh Rashid launches election campaign from Lal Haveli

👺 City Desk

RAWALPINDI: Sheikh Rashid Ahmed, the Awami Muslim League (AML) chief and former interior minister, officially kicked off his election campaign for the NA-56 constituency from Lal Haveli

Waving to his supporters from a roofless vehicle that emerged from Lal Haveli, Rashid confidently declared, "The electoral symbol of 'pen and inkpot' will win with a thumping majority on Feb 8."

Wearing a white turban, Rashid expressed his belief that constituents who prioritise voting on principles



would undoubtedly choose the Awami Muslim League.

In a statement issued, the former

minister voiced his concerns about his ally, the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf, which

has fielded candidates against him and

area' for police and other

law enforcement agen-

cies. So as, remain an ideal

refuge for the fugitives and

bandit gangs operating in

his nephew, Sheikh Rashid Shaique.

"People for whom I went on a 40-day 'chilla' [seclusion] have brought election candidates against me, but I am not annoyed with them," Rashid stated, adding that "I am the one who has suffered more after the PTI founder."

Despite facing 15 registered cases against him following the events of May 9, Rashid maintained his composure. "I am not annoyed with anyone, and I do not have any quarrels with anyone either," he added.

Rashid also mentioned that his nephew, Sheikh Rashid Shaique, would launch his election campaign from the NA-57 constituency.





SER	SERVICES			
Namaz	Timings			
Fajr	5:45 am			
Zohr	12:16 pm			
Asr	3:42 pm			
Maghrib	5:20 pm			
Isha	6:48 pm			

EMERGENCY

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Rescue (Police) 15
Bomb Disposal 15
Fire Services Rawalpindi/
Islamabad1122 & 16
Emergency Ambulance 1122 &
& Rescue Services 4451122
Motorway Police9266044
Motorway Police 9270601-20

Women Police

Statio	Stations		
Islamabad	9222596		
Rawalpindi	9270601-20		

ENQU	IRY
Edhi Ambulance	115
PIA Flight Info	114
PIA Cargo	9280979
Railway Inquiry	117
Railway Exchange .	9270831-5
WASA Rawalpindi .	5555489
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HOSPITALS

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$Modi\,regime$ victimizing Kashmiris for affiliation with freedom struggle

ISLAMABAD: In the Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK), Narendra Modiled government continues to confiscate properties of Kashmiri people for their affiliation and role in the ongoing freedom movement on Saturday. According to Radio Pakistan, the Indian Home Ministry declared the Jammu and Kashmir Muslim League as unlawful and also banned the Tehreek-e-Hurriyat Jammu and Kashmir.

The Modi regime has directed its puppet administration in the territory to seize all assets and freeze bank accounts and finances belonging to these two organizations. The Indian authorities had already confiscated the headquarters of the All Parties Hurrivat Conference in Srinagar and hundreds of houses and properties belonging to Hurriyat leaders and organizations across the occupied

AJK PM issues urgent notice over Kashmir situation, demands international role

跨 Abdul Majeed Tahir

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Chaudhry Anwar ul Haq, while voicing his serious concern over the worsening political and human rights situation in the Indian-occupied territory of Jammu and Kashmir, has said that the international community should play its due role to help resolve the lingering dispute that has been the main cause and consequence of rights violations in the region. The AJK premier said this while talking to former Prime Minister Sardar Attique Ahmed Khan, who called on him here today.

Speaking on the occasion, the PM said that the situation in IoK has further deteriorated since the Modi government stripped the region of its special status. The Indian government's unilateral move, he said, was in violation of the UNSC resolutions. He said that the Indian Supreme Court's verdict on 370 has further compounded the issue of Kashmir.

The PM said that the Kashmiri people have neither accepted India's belligerent military occupation nor do they accept



the biased verdict of the Indian Supreme Court. He said that the government of Azad Kashmir would utilize all available resources to promote the Kashmiris' just cause at the international level besides sensitizing the world about the early resolution of the Kashmir issue in line with the UNSC resolutions. Referring to the recently held conference in Kotli, the PM said that the massive gathering held in support of Kashmiris' right to self-determination was organized against the backdrop of the all parties Kashmir conference, which was

political parties of Azad Kashmir and all parties Hurriyat Conference.

He said that besides highlighting the Kashmir cause, the government has stepped up its efforts to establish good governance in the state and rule of law in the state. He said that the welfare of people was among the government's top priorities. Former Prime Minister Sardar Attique Ahmed Khan assured the PM of his party's full support to strengthen Kashmir's ongoing freedom struggle. He also appreciated the good governance initiatives taken by the Prime Minister.

Animal Feed

ISLAMABAD: Farmers are busy in harvesting the animal feed at crop in Chak Shahzad area of the Federal Capital.

attended by the representatives of all the



PANAH: Masood ur Rahman Kiani elected as President and Sanullah Ghumman as General Secretary

Spokesman Report

RAWALPINDI: The General Body Meeting of Pakistan National Heart Association PANAH was held on 13 January 2024 at Blue Lagoon Hotel Rawalpindi. Major General (R) Masud ur Rehman Kiani was elected as president PANAH and Sanaullah Ghumman as General Secretary for next three years. President of Allied Health Services and Chairman of Sweet Homes Mr. Zamrad Khan was the chief guest of the occasion. Former MPA Ms. Tahseen Fawad, Commissioner (Rtd) Abdul Hafeez, Dr. Abdul Qiyam Awan, General (Rtd) Ashoor Khan, DSP Sikandar Mirza, Ex-chairperson NCRC Afshan Tehseen Bajwa, PANAH members, and people from civil society participated. PANAH General Secretary Sanaullah Ghumman shared the performance of PANAH of the last 3 years. He said that PANAH conducted 167 seminars in the last 3 years which benefited 16000 people directly and 5 lakh people online. Conducted 37 sessions with youth, sensitizing more than 3600 students. Conducted 18 sessions with scholars in which more than 1900 scholars were informed. In 27 sensitization sessions with health officials, 783 health officials were sensitized, 1500 people were directly benefited in 9 national and international conferences and more than 20 lakh people were informed online.. 8000 jour-

nalists were briefed in 200



more than 9000 articles and news stories in electronic and print media and participation in 36 talk shows, 2200 posts were made on social media which were seen by more than 1 crore people, 18 walks were conducted in which 6500 people participated. 1600 people were trained in 26 CPR training workshops. 11500 people were checked up in 18 medical camps and they were given free tests and free medicine. Apart from Pakistan, 8 medical campuses were also set up in Afghanistan, in which more than 6400 people benefited. Distributed 4000 families at a cost of Rs 40 lakhs during Corona. Blankets and essential items worth 5 lakh rupees were sent to earthquake victims in Turkey.

media sessions resulting in for 686 needy people at a cost budget session, as a result of of Rs.10,32,90,140. Panah has built coalitions for policy advocacy with women in health, civil society, religious leaders, teachers, students, formed a think tank with women from across the country, championed parliamentarians, government agencies, and policy makers. Together, 22 sensitization sessions were conducted with parliamentarians to convince them to increase taxes on harmful health items like tobacco and sugary drinks. Sensitized 65 parliamentarians in these sessions. 179 one-to-one sessions with policy makers, a food, medicines and masks to pre-budget training session for parliamentarians to reduce the health risks of sugary drinks in the budget session Talk to raise taxes. 4 members of assembly discussed to increase the

which the tax on carbonated drinks was increased from 13% to 20%, juices and syrups, which had no tax before, were taxed at 20%. Taxes on tobacco increased by 150% in 3 years. In these three years, 22686 people were educated through seminars and workshops. 22500 people were assisted through medical camps, disaster and treatment. More than 1 crore 20 lakh people were reached through social media platforms. In 6 international conferences, the message of asylum was conveyed to different countries of the world. The Global Health Advocacy Incubator, an international organization, has prominently featured Asylum Policy Victory on its website.

After that, the President PANAH presented certificates PANAH conducted operations tax on sugary drinks in the of excellence and shields to the

members and staff members of PANAH for their outstanding services.

Election Commissioner for these elections were Squadron Leader (retd) Ghulam Abbas and Commissioner (R) Abdul Hafeez announced that for the next 3 years, Major General (retd) Masood ur Rahman Kiani is elected as the President of PANAH and Mr. Sanaullah Ghumman as General Secretary. He was congratulated them for their new responsibilities.

The elected president Panah Major General (retd) Masoodur Rahman Kiani thanked the members of the Panah for being entrusted with the responsibilities for one time. He said that with the efforts of PANAH taxes on tobacco and sugary drinks were increased but we will work for more taxes on these unhealthy items. Now our focus will be bakery items and ultra-processed foods.

ATthe end, the Chief Guest, Zamrad Khan, administered the oath to the newly elected members. He said that the PANAH is working on a very great mission of serving humanity. He paid tribute to the

performance of Masood ur Rahman Kiani and Sanahullah Ghumman and said that we stand with Panah in every way. Ms. Tahseen Fawad, Dr. Abdul Qayyum Awan and others in their respective addresses praised the work of the PANAH and wished the new team all the best to continue this good work in the future.

Pakistan People's Party to rule in Punjab as well: Chaudhry Yasin

MUZAFFARABAD: President Pakistan People's Party Azad Kashmir Chaudhry Muhammad Yasin has said that in the general elections, Pakistan People's Party will give a big surprise in Punjab as well. And the Jiyalas of Lahore have their own unique plae and now Pakistan People's Party will rule in Punjab also there will be people's rule in Punjab. He said that the general elections of Paki-



stan are being held at such a critical time when the country is suffering from a difficult situation, so the success of the Pakistan People's Party will determine the right direction. It is necessary, he said that Pakistan People's Party Azad Kashmir will run a vigorous election campaign for the success of its candidates. Zulifqar Ali Bhutto Shaheed and Ms. Benazir Bhutto used to form a political alliance against Shaheed and today they are forming an alliance against Chairman Pakistan Peoples Party Bilawal Bhutto Zardari which is a clear expression that the opponents have become victims of the fear of defeat, he said. That time is going to create a new history once again, he said that it is clear that Pakistan People's Party is the real political party of the country which has a real political leadership who has made immense sacrifices for the country and the restoration of democracy.

ANF seizes over 100 kg drugs in eight operations

RAWALPINDI: The Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) seized over 100 kg drugs in eight operations and arrested six accused, said an ANF Headquarters spokesman on Saturday. He said that 350 grams hashish was recovered from the possession of a Dubai-bound passenger scheduled to leave by Flight No. PA-100 at Jinnah Airport.

In the second operation, 320 grams heroin was recovered from a parcel being sent to the United Kingdom at General Post Office (GPO) Lahore, and 200 grams weed from a California-bound parcel at a courier office in Rawalpindi. About 72 kg hashish was recovered near Chenab Toll Plaza G. T Road Gujarat while an accused was also arrested. In fifth operation, 13.2 kg hashish and 1.2 kg opium were recovered from Sialkot, Sambrayal and two accused were arrested. Likewise, 6.9 kg hashish and 20 grams ice were recovered near Jhelum and an accused was arrested while 3.6 kg hashish was recovered from the possession of an accused netted in Balochistan. In the eighth operation, 2.3 kg ice drug was recovered from Zakhakhel area of Khyber. Cases under the Anti-Narcotics Act had been registered against the arrested accused and further investigations were under process, the spokesman said.

Speakers term Ahmed Faraz a poet of all ages



HYDERABAD: Speakers paid rich tributes to revolutionary poet Ahmed Faraz on his 92nd birth anniversary.

A ceremony in this connection was held here at Besant Hall cultural centre here the other day. Director Besant Hall cultural centre Sobia Ali Shaikh presided over the event while famous intellectual Rizwan Siddiqui, poetesses Dr. Ambreen Haseeb Amber and Dr. Fatima Hussan shed light on the personality, life and poetic contribution of Ahmed

On this occasion an unseen interview of Ahmed Faraz recorded by Endowment Fund trust was also screened in which Ahmed Faraz had answered various questions about his life's experiences, poetry and professional career.

Born on January 12, 1931 in Kohat, Syed Ahmad Shah, better known by his pen name Ahmed Faraz, was a Pakistani Urdu poet, scriptwriter and became the founding Director General of Pakistan Academy of Letters. He wrote his poetry under the pseudonym Faraz.

Dr. Ambreen Haseeb Amber highlighted the popularity of his poetry and said that Ahmed Faraz was the poet of love and his poetry was based purely on love, not just as figurative one, but also his love for this country and for the people of Pakistan.

Dr. Rizwan said in Karachi, different literary organization usually hold various literary events to pay tribute to poets but in Hyderabad Besant Hall cultural centre has arranged two consecutive events on Himayat Ali Shaair and Ahmed Faraz which is a good omen

He described Ahmed Faraz as a revolutionary poet who was highly acclaimed as one of the most influential modern Urdu poets of all the centuries. He said that Ahmed Faraz displayed his resistance through the criticism in his poetry.

Dr. Fatima recited one of the best poem of Ahmed Faraz, that reflected the felicity in his words and frugality in his works.

The event focused on Ahmed Faraz as a revolutionary, brave and patriotic poet who never spoke between the lines but displayed his disagreement to the wrong. Ahmed Faraz wrapped his words in beautiful layers that one could assume as self-addressing and sometimes addressing to the people. He will always be remembered and admired for his contributions to Urdu literature.

Pakistan-origin UK national Mahnaz becomes member of WB IFC Sanctions Board

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The World Bank (WB) has appointed Mahnaz Malik, a Pakistan-origin British national, as a Sanctions Board Member of the International Finance Corporation (IFC). She is a Barrister and Arbitrator at Twenty Essex, specializing in representing governments and corporations in investment and commercial disputes.



Mahnaz is also a Fellow and Trustee of Hughes Hall College at the University of Cambridge, according to details posted by the WB on its official website on Saturday. The newly appointed IFC board member has over 23 years of experience advising governments, corporations, and international organizations on complex cross-border disputes. She has acted as counsel on behalf of investors, organizations and states in several investment and commercial disputes, including the Court of Sport Arbitration (CAS), UNCITRAL, ICC, ICSID, LCIA and PCA-administered arbitrations.

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Polio campaign concludes in AJK

fter administering the polio vaccine to a large chunk of the targeted number of children under 5 years of age, the 5-day integrated national polio eradication drive successfully concluded in Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) by the end of the stipulated time.

Like the rest of the country, the integrated anti-polio campaign started across AJK State on January 8, 2008, and continued till the stipulated timeframe of 4.00 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 12, without any pause, immunizing a major portion of the total targeted total of 7,42,500 children under 5 years of age, administered the polio vaccine in all 10 districts of the liberated territory, the AJK State Health sources told APP late Friday.

The sources continued that in AJK's metropolis, Muzaffarabad, over 1.20 lakh children up to five years of age were targeted to be administered the polio vaccines during the drive, which lasted by the stipulated last day of January 12 without any break.

"At least 3995 mobile teams of paramedical staff were constituted to visit door to door to administer the polio vaccine drops during the campaign across AJK, with a total of 448 fixed centers at the local government."

Hospitals and subordinate health facilities were set up by the State Polio Eradication Committee of the AJK State Health Services Department with the coordination of the World Health Organization (WHO), the sources said.

The total staff involved in the AJK-wide national drive includes mobile teams comprising over 5000 workers who visited door-to door to immunize children under 5 years of age with the polio vaccine drops during the campaign, the sources pointed out.

The fixed centers were set up at state-run hospitals, basic health units, rural health centers, and various other spots to vaccinate the children with the anti-polio drops, the sources said.

A total of 169 transit points were also set up for conducting the drive-by under the supervision of the concerned area in charge, the sources said.

The state health department's Polio Eradication Committee was given adequate arrangements to execute the polio-eradication campaign in a befitting manner, the sources asserted, adding that a total of 844 areas in charge supervised the drive at the union council's level across AJK in 35 tehsils and besides a total of 245 Union Council throughout AJK State.

Why did Putin attack Ukraine in Imran's presence

Kiran Asim

The boldness shown

who assessed Khan's

depth of courage

and understood the

was also informed

about the implications

of his policy.

ia's book created a stir, so it became necessary to show the facts on this question. Wars are now fought by proxy rather than arms like China face to face waging little or limited war, it seizes by crippling the economy. China is not different from any international moneylender, this factor was prominent in its policies. When Khan Renegotiated the CPEC, otherwise what the Chinese moneylender did in Srilanka was clear.

Corrected the policies of his predecessor in the matter because every world power operates on the principle that "a cat can't catch a mouse in the name of

The Chinese patiently follow the policy of wait and see, except in the field of economy, they do not adopt an aggressive strategy anywhere (although we are against their policy) and understand that in the modern era you can create a new world only by abandoning the old policies like Deng Xiaoping corrected China's economic approach by combining communism and capitalism. Similarly, the Chinese should have countered regime change with regime rescue). The Chinese attacked Indian soldiers in Ladakh & thrashed and didn't go too far, although It could have grabbed 20/30 km more if It wanted to. In Nepal, Maldives, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, it has made a trampled advance which is still

wo days ago, Ajay Basar- one or a few bonds, they go deeper than stan will be taken as an ally of Russia and a Singaporean company

It was not easy to take away the Gwadar contract and get the rights till

On the other hand, for a large landlocked country like Russia, there is no commercial land route except Pakistan, China and Iran.

And in the region, America can only find slaves like mother-seller in Pakistan, so instead of fighting with his slaves to end his mischief, there are more chances of success in getting them to join him, that is also because the Prime Minister (Khan) had a free policy. He used to propagate and also wanted to get out of

the other On hand, there was his "Anti-America" (Khan's stance on Musharraf's War on Terror and the Afghan Taliban), so in such a situation, when the United States warms up the war as an ally of Ukraine since the enemy by taking advantage of these

2014, Russia responds to Imran. In pressecrets according to their strategic situa-

China on every platform. He also had a complete diplomatic and military background, holding two or three mega events

> such as the Beijing Olympics despite American opposition, Imran Mahathir meeting with Putin, holding the Islamic Conference, etc. These photos and meetings are the declaration of unity, just as Iranian, Russian and Chinese officials now meet with anti-Israel Mujahideen leaders.

The second reason, if you have heard, was a vlog by Imran Riaz, by Khan was observed in which he told how by these world leaders, things from every institution of the United States were leaked and fell into the hands of Russia and China, and there was an uproar situation. Perhaps Khan among Americans that all their

> The secrets are now in the hands of the enemy. Obviously, Russia and China had to decide the timing of subduing

going on. The Chinese don't invest in ence, it gives because Imran means Pakition, and they did this by making Ukraine

a black hole and the United States and NATO + allies became victims of this black hole.

There would have been a genuine think tank in the country and Khan's wisdom would have been considered that time"are we any slaves?" So we would have survived this fallout. Because a prime minister can never do anything without the establishment and foreign office of his country on his back.

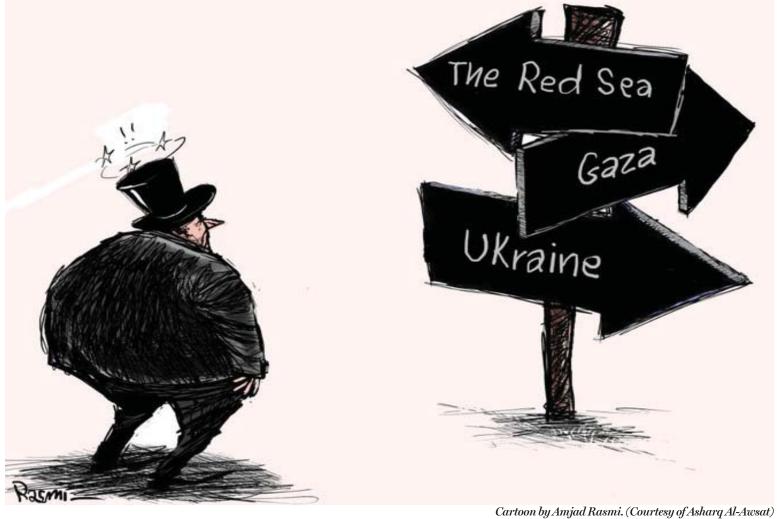
The boldness shown by Khan was observed by these world leaders, who assessed Khan's depth of courage and understood the situation. Perhaps Khan was also informed about the implications of his policy. But he felt that Bajwa was the most patriotic person of the country. Pakistanis are unpredictable but our politics has also been off the charts this time.

Bajwa held a press conference to counter Imran's visit, then the cipher came and was acted upon, which every Pakistani is watching with wide eyes, still unable to digest it as a reality.

The narrative of deception is an integral part of every great game, sometimes factual and often fake.

Therefore, to open the remaining closed eyes, true and false books like Ajay Basaria, letters and videos are brought to the fore. In which the true or false achievements of some people are described.

For now, take advantage of the opportunity to show the stains of the enemy's



Literature and Society: How it Impacts Individual's Life

Muhammad Sufyan

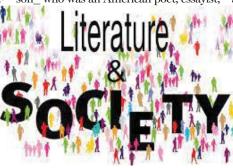
iterature is a form of human expression. It has long been a beings. It traces back to the era of hunter-gatherers. Folklores were common among them; however, storytelling emerged as the human mind evolved which applied reasoning as a tool. The written forms of stories and folklore started in Mesopotamia about 3200 BC and then in ancient China about 1250 BC. The language played a central role in disseminating stories, folklore, poems and other forms of literature, which prevailed among diverse societies. It represents the people of the society, who live together, share a common mode of living, and have the same traditions.

The importance of literature is immense. Our perception changes when we read literature and interact with diverse people which improves our learning. Reading makes us able to comprehend the perspec-

tives of the writers as well as their cultural backgrounds. It helps to understand others and the world around us and creates a sense of belonging to other communities. The books written by different authors give us access to understanding his perspective and respect his culture. Reading helps us understand different situations that we don't experience but still, we can see ourselves in those situations, making a broader perspective of ourselves, entrenching a deep understanding of others, and diversifying our attitude toward other's

Civilizations have evolved through literature, by getting a sense of diversity and by literature; journalism, business etc., are

Societies exchange diverse ideas, traditions, and complex forms of materialism among themselves, fostering a sense of belonging and bridging the gaps of harmonious relafundamental part of human tions between them. Literature has been the voice of the oppressed in the course of history. People, where there was no freedom of speech, represented their sorrows in the form al TV channel, by plays, dramas and docuof poetry, novels, etc. During the American Civil War (1861-1865), Ralph Waldo Emer-



and philosopher during the 19th century_ wrote about slavery:

"Emancipation is the demand of civilization. That is a principle; everything else is

an intrigue." Emerson was convinced that slavery should be abolished, as every individual is born free and equal to other fellow individuals. It is the building block of civilizations on which

it nourishes. Nevertheless, modern literature is being dispensed through electronic devices, like radio, TV, and mobiles. But not everything that is being circulated among societies is

exchanging statements delivered by literature. excluded from the orbit of literature. Societies are directly impacted by the essence of literature, diffusing a culture of mutual association among people and giving it a common identity. It tells about the prestigious heritage of our forefathers, and how they preserved their traditions, culture, and pattern of life. The Nation's history is displayed by the nationmentaries, to present the heritage of the forefathers, foster a sense of identity and create a common recognition. Literature refines

language and leads toward evolution and the development of new languages. When people read stories written by well-known writers, it helps to improve its multiple uses in its convincing and compelling style. So, the writings of capable writers are the constant source of learning and developing many uses of language. For instance, Shakespeare is named a wellknown contributor to the English language because he added multiple writing expressions to the English language.

People and societies are raw materials of literature. The writers incorporate the voices of their people on behalf of them which helps the upward mobility of society. It shapes our way of life, enriching it with colours of harmony. The writers and the readers share the same experience and become a collective voice. So, the pattern of literary interplay between the writers and the readers establishes an amalgamation of integration, mutual cooperation, and the communal affiliations among the individuals of societies.

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IG should make Police, custodian of masses II

veryone is subject to the law of their own country. But in our country, there is no law. If there is a position, only those who have the power to enforce the law would have considered the law as a nose of wax and turned that nose of wax in any direction they wanted. SHOs have blind powers. Whenever they want, they turn the case from the side of the criminal against the plaintiff. There is no platform for immediate action and justice against any police officer for this injustice and misconduct.

Police officers have the power to turn hashish into dust, alcohol into water and heroin into salt. Even challenging the legality of documents produced

by an investigator at some level is very difficult, if not impossible. That is why the impression cannot be completely rejected that no crime is possible without the assistance of the police. And big organized gangs and crime syndicates are supported by them. The need is that "today,

apart from beautifying police station buildings, there is also a need to end illegal practices in police

We want to draw the attention of the IG to a very serious issue which is causing a lot of trouble to the citizens. When a citizen files a complaint against a police officer, he or she expects a fair and honest officer to review his or her complaint. But when he is referred back to the same officer he complained to, it affects the process of redressal of his complaint.

create a system within the police that can review

citizens' complaints in a fair and independent

At present, RPO and CPO or DPO offices are doing the work of extracting mail. People are not getting justice from these offices, this attitude is the cause of disrepute of the police. There is a suggestion, a central complaint cell should be established in the district for redressal of police complaints. If the cell already exists, it should be activated. All complaints of citizens, whether against any police officer, should be reviewed here. A clear and comprehensive legal procedure should be developed for the review of complaints.

A detailed report should be given to the complainant. In this context, Pakistan Citizen Portal is a good system. I regret to inform that at present fake and false reports are being uploaded on the portal by police officers, no police officer is taking notice of this

corruption. IG sahib, In the Zain-ul-Abideen Abid interest of the public and the good name of the police department, the PMDU should be activated immediately and an order issued for immediate redresses the pending griev-

> ances of the public. The law enforcement should serve as protectors

and guardians of the general public. It implies a role for the police in ensuring the safety, well-being, and rights of the community they serve. This perspective emphasizes the importance of a positive and supportive relationship between the police and the masses, with a focus on main-In order to stop this practice, it is necessary to taining order while upholding justice and individual rights.

Chinese premier sends congratulatory letter to China-Cambodia Year of People-to-People Exchange

👺 Xinhua

BEIJING: Chinese premier Li Qiang on Saturday sent a congratulatory People-to-People Exchange.

Noting that both China and tion of the Cambodia are ancient civilizations China-Camwith splendid cultures, Li said the bodia friendship between the two peoples community has a long history.

Chinese navigator Zheng He, from future has the Ming Dynasty, made a stop in entered a new Cambodia during maritime expeditions, Li said, adding that the carv- ized by high ings on the remains of the Bayon quality, high level, and high stand- People Exchange as an opportunity to

friendly exchanges between China to the people of both countries, said as cultural heritage protection, art, and Cambodia.

At present, under the strategic guidance of Chinese President Xi Jinping

construc-

with a shared era character-

China's 2024 Spring Festival

Temple depict scenes of interactions ards, with deepening political mutual between the peoples of the two countrust, accelerating practical cooperatries a thousand years ago, provid-tion, and thriving cultural exchanges,

A student shows a paper cutting work in the shape of a dragon in Tangshan, north China's

Hebei Province. China's 2024 Spring Festival holiday will run from Feb. 10 to 17.

the premier.

Noting that people-to-people exchange serves as an important pillar letter to China-Cambodia Year of and the leadership of Cambodia, the for the China-Cambodia "Diamond

> framework, Li said it is hoped that both sides will take the China-Cambodia Year

promote people-to-people exchanges and to jointly implement the Global Civilization Initiative, so as to deeping a vivid portrayal of the history of which have brought tangible benefits en bilateral cooperation in such fields

Photo by Zhu Dayong/Xinhua

education, medical and health care, and on local level.

Li also called on both sides to jointly promote mutual visits by tourists, increase youth exchanges and open up new prospects for people-to-people and cultural exchanges between the two countries, so as to contribute to the building of a China-Cambodia community with a shared future in the new era and jointly create a model of building a community with a shared future for mankind.

On the same day, Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Manet also sent a letter of congratulations to the China-Cambodia Year of People-to-People Exchange.

Ex-New Zealand PM Jacinda Ardern ties knot with partner Clarke Gayford

former prime minister Jacinda Ardern and her longtime partner



scheduled their wedding for early 2022 after getting engaged in May 2019 but had to postpone it due to the pandemic, according to Reuters.



New Zealand's



Ardern, 43, and Gayford, 47, had

Finally, after a five-year engagement, the couple's wedding took place in Hawke's Bay at Craggy Range Winery on the North Island's east coast, approximately 310 km (190 miles) north of Wellington, according to an Ardern spokesper-



ISLAMABAD: The Centre for Afghanistan Middle East and Africa (CAMEA) at the Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI) on Saturday organized an event to express solidarity with the people of Palestine on the 'Global Day of Action for Gaza.'

Nader al Turk, Deputy Head of the Palestine Mission in Pakistan, joined on the occasion.

Ambassador Sohail Mahmood, Director General ISSI: Ambassador Khalid Mahmood, Chairman BoG ISSI; Director CAMEA, Amina Khan; and members present, said a press release ian State. issued on Saturday.

Ambassador Mahmood, in his remarks, the enormous human lossemphasised Pakistan's abid- es incurred due to Israe-



ing support for the legitimate cause of the Palestinian people and a just solution an immediate and uncondithrough the establishment of an independent, viable, soverof team CAMEA were also eign and contiguous Palestin- expressing her views, stat-

Expressing solidarity with

li onslaught, he also underscored Pakistan's stance for tional ceasefire.

Amina Khan, while ed that Pakistan will continue to stand firmly with the Sohail the Palestinian people over people of Palestine until the legitimate rights of the people are achieved. She strongly

condemned Israel's systematic and brutal occupation. tantamount to genocide, and called for the lifting of the inhumane siege and urgent need for a ceasefire.

Nader al Turk highlighted the dire conditions faced by Palestinian civilians, especially children and women, in the Gaza Strip. He referred to the

ongoing situation as genocide and also said that Palestinians are resilient and determined to uphold their rights until justice is served.

Speaking about the solidarity and support from Pakistan, he expressed gratitude for the continuous historic support extended by the government and the people of Pakistan. Turk commended the visionary stance of Pakistan's founder, Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah, regarding Palestine. He also termed the relationship between Pakistan and Palestine as deep and expressed his belief that it will continue to grow stronger.

Ambassador Mahmood reiterated Pakistan's support for Palestine, and stressed the urgent need for a ceasefire, which he said was the responsibility of the international community.

Taiwan's voters rebuff China and give ruling party third presidential term



TAIPEI: Taiwanese voters swept the ruling Democratic Progressive Party's (DPP) presidential candidate Lai Ching-te into power on Saturday, strongly rejecting Chinese pressure to spurn him, as China said it would not give up on achieving "reunification".

Lai's party, which champions Taiwan's separate identity and rejects China's territorial claims, was seeking a third successive four year term, unprecedented under Taiwan's current electoral system.

However, in a measure of public frustration at domestic issues like the $high \ cost \ of \ housing \ and \ stagnating \ wages \ after \ eight \ years \ in \ power, the$ DPP lost its majority in parliament, making Lai's job harder in passing

Lai also only won 40% of the vote in Taiwan's first-past-the-post system, unlike current President Tsai Ing-wen who was re-elected by a landslide four years ago with more than 50% of the vote.

Still, Lai lauded his victory.

"We've written a new page for Taiwan's history of democracy," Lai, long the frontrunner in the polls, told reporters after both his opponents

Lai said he would maintain the status quo in relations across the Taiwan Strait, but that he was "determined to safeguard Taiwan from threats and intimidation from China".

At the same time, he emphasised the need for cooperation and dialogue with Beijing on an equal basis to "replace confrontation", though he didn't give specifics.

In the run-up to the election, China denounced Lai as a dangerous separatist, and called on the people of Taiwan to make the right choice while noting the "extreme harm of the DPP's 'Taiwan independence' line". They have also repeatedly rebuffed Lai's calls for talks.

China's Taiwan Affairs Office struck a gentler tone in its response to Lai's election and did not mention him by name, saying that the results reveal that the DPP "cannot represent the mainstream public opinion"

"Our stance on resolving the Taiwan question and realising national reunification remains consistent, and our determination is as firm

However, it added China will work with "relevant political parties, groups and people" from Taiwan to boost exchanges and cooperation, and "advance the peaceful development of cross-strait relations as well as the cause of national reunification".

Taiwan's election took place at a time of growing geopolitical tensions between Beijing and Washington.

Remembering Sartaj Aziz: A Visionary Diplomat and Statesman

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE) paid a heartfelt tribute to the late Sartaj Aziz at a solemn memorial event eld at the Islamabad Club. The event, organized to honour Mr. Aziz's remarkable contributions to Pakistan, brought together distinguished individuals, colleagues, friends, and family to commemorate his life

In his opening remarks, Vice-Chancellor of the Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE), Dr. Nadeem ul Haque, said that Sartaj Aziz, a towering figure in Pakistani politics and a dedicated public servant, passed away recently, leaving behind a legacy of unwavering commitment to the betterment of his country. The memorial event served as a platform for speakers to reflect on Mr. Aziz's profound impact on Pakistan and to celebrate his enduring contributions.

Dr. Nadeem ul Haque further noted that Sartaj Aziz, a distinguished Pakistani statesman, served as the Foreign Minister of Pakistan with notable dedication and expertise. Born in 1928, Aziz played a crucial role in shaping Pakistan's foreign policy during his tenure. His extensive experience and diplomatic acumen positioned him as a key figure in international relations. Aziz, an economist by training, brought a unique blend of skills to his role, fostering diplomatic ties and representing Pakistan on the global stage.

Mr. Muhammad Sami Saeed, Federal Minister for Planning and Development; Haroon Sharif, Former Minister of State and Chairman Board of Investment; Farhatullah Babar, Former Senator; Ahmed Qadir, DG Competition Commission of Pakistan; Shahid Kardar, Former Governor SBP; Iqrar Ahmed Khan; Professor Ayesha Isani; Shafqat Kakakhel; and members of Sartaj Aziz's family, including his brother, son, daughter, and grandson, also spoke at the event and underscored Sartaj Aziz's tireless efforts toward the economic development of Pakistan. They emphasized that Sartaj Aziz was not just a statesman; he was a visionary leader who dedicated his life to uplifting the socio-economic landscape of our nation. His legacy will continue to inspire generations to come.

The speakers highlighted that Mr. Sartaj Aziz held various important positions, including serving as the National Security Advisor to the Prime Minister of Pakistan. He played a crucial role in shaping the country's security policies, showcasing his commitment to ensuring the well-being and stability of Pakistan.

Shoaib Akhtar Participates in Cricket Coaching Camp

腾 Noorulhassan Gujjar

JEDDAH: Consulate General of Pakistan and King Abdul Aziz University of Science and Technology (KAUST) collaborate to organize a cricket coaching session for young cricketers of Pakistani school in Jeddah. Cricketing legend and a world class fast bowler from Pakistan. Mr. Shoaib Akhtar shared cricketing tips with young cricketers of Pakistani origin in KSA. This event is part of Winter Enrichment Program (WEP) of KAUST.

Cricket coaching camp was attended by large number of young cricketers, students, Jeddah cricket association and

Akhtar emphasized on sportsman spirit, physical and mental health fitness as critical components for the formation of an athlete and sports person. In his remarks Mr. Shoaib Akhtar shared is life and success story with the students and audience.

Shoaib Akhtar signed cricket balls, sports shirts and his Biography "Controversially Yours" and distributed among present participants on basis of lucky

in the honor of Mr. Shoaib Akhtar at Pakistan house in Jeddah. Addressing the dinner gathering Consul General Mr.



Event was followed by a dinner in bringing communities and Arabia. nations together. He Highlighted the potential for cricket game in the Kingdom and how Pakistani community and Pakistan Khalid Majid highlighted the can share their cricketing expecricket enthusiasts. Shoaib important role, sports can play rience with Kingdome of Saudi



Selected highlights of Shoaib Akhtar's cricketing career mesmerized the audience and in his remarks Shoaib thanked KAUST and Consulate Jeddah and Pakistani community for

Mr. Xin Gao Winter Enrichment Program chair of KAUST addressing the occasion highlighted that how sports and cultural activities can bring the communities together. ty noteables, business men and

Ms. Samia Falimban, Director KAUST for cultural engagement and Dr. Faiz Zainulabidin, of Jeddah Cricket Association and Mr. Umer Masood Puri from Pakistani business commu-

nity were among the attendees. Dinner was attended by a large number of Pakistani communi-

social workers and KAUST administration, community and faculty members Mr. Shoaib Akhtar will also

be key note speaker for Winter Enrichment Program in KAUST. Many world renowned sports, science and business leaders have delivered lectures as key note speaker in KAUST.



Index Fluctuation				
Pakistan: PSX 100-Share Index				
Current	Prev. Close			
64,637.63	64,617.56			
Day's High	Day's Low			
65,356.85	64,491.08			
Index Value	Change			
14,718,461,689	+20.07			
Percentage	Time			
+0.03%	13 Jan, 2024 5:00 pm			
Europe: FTS	E 100 Index			
Index Value	Change			
7,624.93	+48.34			
Percentage	Time			
+0.64%	12 Jan, 4:35 pm GMT			
USA: Dow Jones I	ndustrial Average			
Index Value	Change			
37,565.41	41 -145.61			
Percentage	Time			
-0.39%	12 Jan, 1:11 pm GMT-5			
Asia Pacific: Nikk	ei Stocks Average			
Index Value	Change			
35,577.11	35,577.11 +527.25			
Percentage Time				

Open Market Forex Rates			
Currency	Buying	Selling	
Australian Dollar	186	187.85	
Bahrain Dinar	748.26	756.26	
Canadian Dollar	207.5	209.5	
China Yuan	39.45	39.85	
Danish Krone	41.3	41.7	
Euro	306.5	309.5	
Hong Kong Dollar	35.99	36.34	
Indian Rupee	3.39	3.5	
Japanese Yen	1.94	2.15	
Kuwaiti Dinar	914.97	923.97	
Malaysian Ringgit	60.59	61.19	
NewZealand \$	175.03	177.03	
Norwegians Krone	27.16	27.46	
Omani Riyal	730.83	738.83	
Qatari Riyal	77.29	77.99	
Saudi Riyal	74.45	75.2	
Singapore Dollar	208.5	210.5	
Swedish Korona	27.47	27.77	
Swiss Franc	328.79	331.29	
Thai Bhat	8.02	8.17	
U.A.E Dirham	76.5	77.3	
UK Pound Sterling	357.5	360.5	
US Dollar	280	282	

+1.50%

12 Jan, 3:15 pm

GMT+9

FRIA wants drastic measures as hike in tariff fails to control circular debt

👺 Bureau Report

LAHORE: The Ferozepur Road Industrial Association (FRIA) senior vice chairman and PIAF senior leader Shahbaz Aslam has stressed the need for overhauling the power sector through some drastic measures as the abnormal hike in base electricity tariff and the anti-theft drive have failed to control the power sector circular debt or the losses of distribution companies which have been increasing.

The prominent business leader and PIAF EC member said that power sector circular debt has climbed to Rs2.611 billion, while the losses by the distribution companies have enhanced by 26.22 percent to Rs77 billion.

Shahbaz Aslam said that total cost of inefficiencies in the power sector is estimated at a whopping Rs9.6 trillion during the last one and a half decades.

The FRIA Senior Vice Chairman stated that the circular debt stock has crossed Rs4 trillion after Rs400 billion were added to it during the last fiscal year. He said that in present scenario the energy efficiency and conservation are key measures used by countries across the globe to mitigate associated risks. However, in the case of Pakistan, both energy efficiency and conservation were generally treated as alien concepts. He noted that there was an urgent need for upgradation of energy efficiency and conservation standards and strict enforcement, besides replacement of inefficient appliances and consumer awareness for responsible use of energy were other key areas which should be identified for action as a national priority. He estimated that a dollar outflow of around \$ 1.25 billion could be potentially saved annually through implementation of efficiency and conservation measures.

Shahbaz Aslam said that the sector needs to be deregulated in letter and spirit, as nothing can work unless the DISCOs are truly empowered and allowed to act independently. He pointed out that the power sector has been suffering from miss-governance, lack of DISCOs' competence and missing coordination between the generation and distribution systems.

ICCI for focusing on entrepreneurship to transform the economy

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan needs more entrepreneurs to create new jobs, introduce innovations and new technologies, increase productivity, enhance exports, and put the economy into fast gear to transform Pakistan into a rising country. Therefore, the students should focus on entrepreneurship that offers them a prosperous career. This was said by Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari, President, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI) while addressing the Pakistan National Finals of the Global Student Entrepreneur Awards (GSEA) organized by Entrepreneurs Organization Islamabad in collaboration with ICCI at Chamber House.

Ahsan Bakhtawari called upon the government to make more conducive policies for promoting entrepreneurship in youth that will enhance their self-employment and pave the way for sustainable economic growth of the country. He stressed that commercial banks should also come up with low-cost business perous career, create jobs for others, and play to fostering the next generation of business loan schemes for youth to facilitate them in launching business start-ups.

He said that the population of Pakistan is increasing rapidly and the government can't provide jobs to all youngsters. Howevbest option to enable them to achieve a pros-



an effective role in the economic development leaders. of the country

Taimur Adil, President, of Entrepreneur er, fostering entrepreneurship in youth is the ing the entrepreneurial spirit, and the GSEA witness the impact of their ideas on our entrecompetition is a testament to our dedication preneurial ecosystem.

Ahmed Jalal, GSEA Chair said that the GSEA Pakistan National Finals showcase the Organization Islamabad Chapter said that the incredible talent and innovation of our young EO is committed to supporting and nurturent entrepreneurs. He said that he was thrilled to

Saad Siddiqui of Edversity was the winner of the competition while Javeria Faraz of Dollat was the first runner up and Muhammad Ahmed of Inlights was the second runner up. The Winner and 1st Runner Up of the GSEA Pakistan National Finals will now proceed to represent Pakistan in the regional competition, which will be held in Oman.

Hard work

ISLAMABAD: An employee of WAPDA is busy in repairing the electric wires along the Park Road in Federal Capital



Photo: Online by Raia Farid

Atif Ikram Sheikh hails minister for industrial zone as it ponders ways to help boost exports

Example 2 Commerce Desk

KARACHI: Mr. Atif Ikram Sheikh, President FPCCI, has apprised that Dr. Gohar Ejaz, Federal Caretaker Minister for Commerce & Industries, has announced a new industrial zone of a whopping 10,000 acres for Karachi; which will be aligned with international standards during his maiden visit to FPPCI - the apex body of trade and industry of Pakistan. He added that the minister has also offered his full support in taking top economists on board as advisers of FPCCI to formulate its policy recommendations.

Mr. Atif Ikram Sheikh also maintained that FPCCI has decided to support reform initiatives of the commerce minister vis-à-vis export target of \$100 billion in 5 years; documentation of the economy and stabilizing rupee-dollar parity. He announced that FPCCI is going to announce its R&D structure in the next 10 days – as his vision is to turn FPCCI into top consul-



cial Caretaker Minister of Commerce for Punjab, stressed tax filers; anomalies in Afghan that FPCCI should establish Transit trade; reliance on the a credible, functioning and productive research & devel- and dearth of the active particiopment structure; so that, the federal & provincial governments incorporate its recommendations in budgetary, industrial, trade, agricultural, monetary, taxation, SME and infrastructure development

Dr. Gohar Ejaz shared his deep concerns over the state of Pakistan has hardly managed tative body for the government. Pakistan's economy; specifical- to double its FER to \$9 billion

Mr. S. M. Tanveer, Provin- ly, trade deficit; rupee depreciation; low number of active external sources of financing pation of the business community in the policymaking.

Taking China as a role model, Dr. Gohar Ejaz, highlighted that China has foreign exchange reserves in the upwards of \$3 trillion- which has shown a growth of 600 times over the course of last 30 years; while from \$4.5 billion during the tenure of current caretaker government.

The minister also stated that if his vision of a 10,000-acre new industrial zone in Karachi is materialized and exports are taken to \$100 billion in the next 5 years, it will create 3 million new jobs in Karachi alone. At the same time, the business community can simply triple its earnings; if they play their due role in the accomplishment of targets set by the economic team of government. It is a win-win,

All legal formalities completed for PIA's privatization: Fawad

E Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Privatization Minister Fawad Hassan Fawad on Saturday said that all the legal formalities had been completed for the privatization of Pakistan International Airlines (PIA).

Talking to a private news channel, he outlined various stages of the process for the PIA's privatization, saying that the Privatization Commission was diligently executing the task.

Fawad said that in order the PIA's privatization, the representatives of Civil Aviation Authority (CAA), Pakistan (ECP) in conductbesides the ministries of ing the polls.

education, law, and finance had also been taken on

Fawad said the caretaker government was carrying out the privatization under the constitutional amendments enacted by the previous elected government. The $\,$ decision to the effect was taken by the then government to prevent further deterioration of the economy, he added

To a query, the minister said the general elections would be held on the scheduled date of February 8 and to enure transparency in the caretaker government was extending fully support the Election Commission of

Water level in Mangla dam at continual decline

Bureau Report

MIRPUR: Outflows of water reduced to only 100 cusecs from the country's 2nd largest reservoir – Mangla Dam following continual decline of water level in the reservoir because of ongoing reported heavy snowfall on upper reaches of the Himalayan state of Jammu and Kashmir by late

Mangla dam found constantly dries following continual reduction of inflows due to intermittent snowfall on the upper reaches of the Himalayan belt and consequent unprecedented decrease in flow of water in the rivers, falling in the reservoir – where the water level has reduced to greater extent so far.

The water level in Mangla dam, located in Mirpur district of AJK, was reported as 1156.80 feet on Wednesday against maximum conservation level of 1242 feet with the live storage capacity of 2.061 MAF in the reservoir, official sources told APP here late

The water level in the dam is gradually reducing further as follows:

more, the sources said.

As a result of continual due inflow of water during ongoing season, the water level in Mangla Dam reservoir was recorded as 1156.80 feet after discharge of 85.20 feet of water from the reservoir by Friday Jan 12, 2024, the sources underlined.

Mangla Dam stands largest reservoir in terms of water storage in the country, was filled to its maximum conservation capacity of 1242 feet, on August 17, this year as seasonal impounding of the reservoir, official sources told the news agency. At present, 2.061 million acre feet (MAF) of water is available in Mangla Dam reservoir, the media wing of WAPDA said on Friday.

The inflows and outflows of Jhelum river at Mangla reservoir was equally recorded as 5400 cusecs with outflows of only 100 cusecs of water from the dam on Friday.

Meanwhile, the overall position of the river inflows and outflows at Tarbela, Mangla, and Chashma, along with the reservoir levels and the barrages on Friday, remained

SECP notifies amendments to NBFC Rules 2003

№ PPA

ISLAMABAD: The Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) has issued draft of proposed include removal of amendments to the Non-Banking approval processes for Finance Companies (Establishment the rate of profit on & Regulations) Rules, 2003, to solicit public comments. Through these the repayment of suboramendments SECP aims to provide dinated loans. Addia more conducive regulatory framework for the non-banking finance mandating the applicasector.

ments in the NBFC ecosystem and the submission of an undertaking by sive and has been omitted. the effectiveness of mandatory

approval requirements. The modifications subordinated loans and tionally, the provision tion for a license with-

the company's promoters or majority shareholders for the sale or trans-

fer of shares without prior approval from the Commission has been eliminated as it is no longer deemed necessary. The requirement for furnishing evidence of qualifications and experience for individu-

als occupying "executive The proposed changes are based in six months of the Rules' notifica-positions, research, or other related on a comprehensive review of the tion has been omitted being obsofunctions" within both existing and regulation, considering the advance- lete. Furthermore, the necessity for new companies is considered exces-

Acknowledging the technological advancements within the financial services digital specific licensing requirements have been introduced for lending and microfinance services through digital channels including mobile applications. Other additional requirement including identifying major shareholders and funding sources and providing an Rules once amended shall require an NBFC to maintain membership in the relevant microfinance association. Furthermore, to provide gov.pk

conducive environment Schedule-I amended, allowing existing company(s) an opportunity of conversion to a NBFC.

The amendments have been proposed after a comprehensive internal and stakeholder consultation. SECP believes that these are critical to the long-term sustainability of the NBFC sector in Pakistan.

The notification of proposed undertaking on fund sources. The amendments is available on SECP's website. Feedback and comments on draft amendments can be emailed on email address amjad.iqbal@secp.

CM KP assures steps for promotion of squash in KP

Sports Desk

PESHAWAR: Caretaker Chief Minister of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Justice (retd) Syed Arshad Hussain Shah on Saturday assured steps for the promotion of squash in the province. He said this while talking to former World Champion Qamar Zaman who called on him at the Chief Minister Secretariat here.

Spokesperson of the Chief Minister (Retired) Brig Mujtabi Tirmizi, Senior Sports Journalist Amjad Aziz Malik, Provincial Squash Association President Dawood Khan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Sports Director Abdul Nasir Khan Mohmand and other concerned officials were also present on the occasion. Speaking on the occasion, the Caretaker Chief Minister said that Khyber Pakhtunkhwa gave birth to great squash players who kept the green crescent flag of Pakistan undoubtedly lead to the success of Pakialoft for more than three decades which is



a matter of honour for the entire country.

He said that the holding of the tournament in the province by the Squash Association is commendable, which will stani players at the international level

once again.

Shah paid rich tribute to Qamar Zaman for the services he rendered for the promotion of squash. He said that the present time demands that all possi- Zaman a recognition shield for his servicble facilities should be provided to the es.

players so that they could prove to be a valuable asset to the country and create a healthy society.

He said that the provincial government will provide all possible support to the squash association for the promotion of squash. The Chief Minister said that the caretaker provincial government is taking all possible measures for the development of sports and the welfare of the players in the province.

While informing the Chief Minister, he said that twenty-four local, provincial and national competitions are organized annually in the province.

He further informed that recently Hamza Khan from Nawa Khali has also won the honor of becoming Junior World Champion. On this occasion, Caretaker Minister Supreme Justice Retired Syed Arshad Hussain Shah awarded Qamar

Smuts, Pooran shine as Durban Super Giants sink Sunrisers Eastern Cape

A Sports

GQEBERHA: JJ Smuts and Nicholas Pooran scored quickfire half-centuries and steered Durban Super Giants to a resounding 35-run victory over Sunrisers Eastern Cape in the fifth match of the SA20 here on

Opting to bat first, the Super Giants finished at 225/3 in the allotted 20 overs, courtesy of a match-defining 100-run partnership between Smuts and

Opening batters Quinton de Kock and Matthew Breetzke provided a decent start to the Super Giants with a brisk 58-run partnership.

Breetzke was the core aggressor of the stand while de Kock was rotating the strike until Marco Jansen got rid of him in ries and three sixes on his way the sixth over. The left-handed opener scored 23 in 16 deliveries with the help of three boundaries and a six.

brief 27-run partnership with Smuts and finally perished in the 10th over.

He smashed four boundadeparture in the 18th over.

to a 29-ball 43. Smuts was then joined by Pooran with the scoreboard reading 85/2 in 9.2 overs and the duo soon turned the

Breetzke then put together a game on its head with belliger-

JJ Smuts remained the top-scorer for the Super Giants with a 38-ball 75 which featured four boundaries and seven sixes.

Pooran, on the other hand, carried his bat all the way through and remained unbeat-They added 100 runs in en on 60. His 31-ball knock just 50 deliveries until Smuts's included five boundaries and

Pooran was involved in another crucial partnership as he added 40 runs with Heinrich Klaasen, who scored 13 off six.

Daniel Worrall bagged two wickets for the Eastern Cape while Jansen made one scalp.

Set to chase a mammoth 226.

The home side had a shaky start to the run chase as they lost both their openers -Adam Rossington and Jordan Hermann — with just 13 runs on the board.

Skipper Aiden Markram and Tom Abell soon anchored the pursuit with a 93-run stand but both perished in successive overs and the Eastern Cape, as a result, slipped to 114/4 in 12.2

Abell remained the top-scorer for the Eastern Cape with 65 in 36 deliveries, laced with seven boundaries and two sixes.

The Eastern Cape then began to lose wickets at an alarming rate but Tristian Stubbs kept the scoreboard ticking singlehandedly before he too, perished in

the final over. Stubbs scored a gutsy 55 off 26 deliveries, hitting three boundaries and four sixes.

Durban Super Giants' second victory in as many matches, soared them to the top of the SA20 standings while Sunrisers Eastern Cape remained at the Eastern Cape's batting unit fourth with two points in as could score 190/9 in the allot- many matches.

Shadab Khan backs Usama Mir after dismal T20I debut

A Sports

LAHORE: Pakistan all-rounder Shadab Khan lent support to his fellow leg-spinner Usama Mir after the latter's belowpar performance in his T20I debut on Friday.

Usama Mir, who made his way into the national team on the back of consistent performance in the domestic circuit and also in different franchise leagues across the globe, went for 51 runs in his quota of four overs in the first T20I against New Zealand.

The leg-spinner conceded runs at an economy rate of 12.75 and failed to pick a single wicket.

Usama Mir failed to impress with the bat too, as he perished after scoring a

Shadab Khan took to his social media accounts and threw his weight behind Usama Mir, stating that criticism after just one match, that too in testing conditions for spinners, was 'harsh'.



after consistent T20 performances in the for spinners is harsh," wrote Shadab on toughest leagues. Criticism only after 1 X, formerly Twitter.

"Usama made his debut. He got here game and that too at a difficult ground

"Usama is gifted and talented enough to bounce back. [Usama Mir] best of luck bro, shine bright," he added.

Pakistan squad for New Zealand

Shaheen Shah Afridi (c), Aamir Jamal, Abbas Afridi, Azam Khan (wk), Babar Azam, Fakhar Zaman, Haris Rauf, Haseebullah (wk), Iftikhar Ahmed, Mohammad Nawaz, Mohammad Rizwan (vc/wk), Mohammad Wasim Jnr, Sahibzada Farhan, Saim Ayub, Usama Mir and Zaman Khan

Schedule of Pakistan vs New Zealand T20I series

1st T20 - 12 January 2024 at Eden Park, Auckland

2nd T20 - 14 January 2024 at

Seddon Park, Hamilton 3rd T20 - 17 January 2024 at Univer-

sity Oval, Dunedin

4th T20 - 19 January 2024 at Hagley Oval, Christchurch

5th T20 - 21 January 2024 at Hagley

Oval, Christchurch

Rassie van der Dussen's ton propels MI Cape Town to thump Joburg Super Kings

A Sports

JOHANNESBURG: Openers Rassie van der Dussen and Rvan Rickelton ran riot with a record partnership and powered MI Cape Town to a thumping 98-run victory over Joburg Super Kings in the fourth match of the ongoing SA20.

Put into bat first, MI Cape Town piled up a massive total of 243/5 on the board at the back of a record-breaking partnership between their openers van der Dussen and Rickelton.

nated the Super Kings' bowlers, batted for over 15 overs and took

their side to the 200-run mark. Rassie van der Dussen was



The pair completely domithe process. He, however, failed to stretch his century knock and finally fell victim to Imran Tahir in the 16th over.

He smashed nine boundaries the core aggressor of the stand and six sixes on his way to top and brought up his century in score for MI Cape Town with a

50-ball 104.

Ryan Rickelton, on the other hand, carried his bat till the final over but had an agonizing end to his brilliant knock as he fell just shy of his well-deserved century. He scored 98 off just 49 deliveries, hitting six boundaries and eight sixes. Nandre Burger bagged two wickets for the Super Kings while Tahir, Romario Shepherd and Lizaad Williams could pick up a wicket apiece.

Chasing a mammoth 244, the Super Kings could only score 145 runs in response and were bundled out in the 18th over.

Joburg Super Kings got off to a shaky start to the pursuit as they lost four wickets inside the powerplay with just 47 runs on the board.

However, Leus du Plooy stitched an anchoring partnership with Shepherd and offered brief retaliation by adding 45 runs for the fifth wicket.

But du Plooy's dismissal in the 11th over proved to be the final nail in the coffin for the Super Kings as they ran into a collapse. The home side lost their remaining five wickets in just 41 deliveries and could add 53 runs.

Leus du Plooy remained the top-scorer for the Super Kings with a 24-ball 48, followed by Shepherd, who scored a brisk 34.

The rest of their batters made modest contributions with seven of them failing to make it into the double figures. George Linde and Olly Stonned bagged two wickets each for MI Cape Town while Beuran Hendricks, Kagiso Rabada, Liam Livingstone and Sam Curran had a wicket apiece to

The 98-run victory lifted MI Cape Town to the top of the SA20 standings with five points in two matches, one clear of Paarl Royals, who sit at second.

A.S. Natural Stone U-19 Inter Zonal Cricket **Tournament**



Sports Desk

KARACHI: Two more matches decided in the A. S. Natural Stone Under-19 Inter Zonal Cricket Tournament at various grounds. The highlights of the days play was brilliant Centuries by Aun M. Jaffri 129 and Faiq Hussain 121.the tournament is being organized by Regional Cricket Association Karachi.

Scores in Brief: Zone-I Whites beat Zone-VI Blues by 81 runs at Young Fighter Ground. Zone-I Whites 251 all out in 44 overs. Faiq Hussain 121 13x4 1x6, Ghous Ibrahim 29, Fahad Khan 20. Abdul Sami (ob) 3/53, Muhammad Azam 2/7, Hasnain Khan 2/45, Tahir

Zone-VI Blues 171 allout 35.1 overs. Akram Bin Faisal 56 8x4, Muhammad Sajjad 41, Muhammad Mizami 34. Uzair Ali (rls)

4/41, Asif Faruqi (sla) 3/26, Fahad Khan (ob) 3/45. In the 2nd Match Zone-II Whites beat Zone-IV Greens by 50 runs at Landhi Gymkhana Ground. Zone-II Whites 282/7 in 45 overs. Aun Ali Jaffri 129 21 x4, Muhammad Danish 47, Burhan Mehmood 32, S. Rayyan Shah 20. Ejaz Ahmed 2/47, Sharjeel Riyaz 2/55.

Zone-IV Greens 232 all out in 44.4 overs. Sajjad Ali 70 6x4, Salah Khan 57 5x4, Aun Abbas 43. S. Rayyan Shah (mf) 3/53, Daniyal Hassan 2/26.

MediCam Group's 3rd successive win in the RCAK Inter-Departmental Cricket League

Sports Desk

KARACHI: Third Consecutively Victory of Medicam Group after beating Rangoonwala by 34 runs on Thursday at KCCA Stadium in the RCA Karachi Inter Departmental Cricket League Tournament.

The Tournament is being organized by Regional Cricket Association Karachi.

Medicam Group defeated Rangoonwala by 34 runs at KCCA Stadium. Medicam Group 180 all out in 38.1 overs. Ali Butt 51 6x4 1x6, Haider Abbas 42, Abdullah Fazal 22. Saad Bin Yousuf (rls) 4/38, Junaid Ilyas(ob) 3/25.

Rangoonwala all-out 146 in 35.2 overs. Muhammad Afzal 46 6x4 1x6, Huzaifa Munir 36, Afroz Hassan 30. Fayyaz Hussain (lacm) 4/21, Ali Butt 2/32, Afnan Khan 2/38.

Z. S. Enterprises beat Bilal Chemical by 8 wickets at RLCA Gulberg ground. Bilal Chemical 91 all-out in 25.3 overs. Abdul Majid 23. Taha Iqbal (ob) 3/5, Huzaifa Saud (sla) 3/23, Muhammad Asif 2/15.

es 92/2 in 12.5 overs. Haris Ali Khan 37, Ahad Z. S. Enterpris Ali 26, Muhammad Ahmed 21.

Ayub Park Cricket Ground to host its maiden women's match on Monday

Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: Ayub Park Cricket Ground, also known as Ayub Park Cricket Stadium in Rawalpindi is all set to host its first women's tournament match on Monday (January 15). The match will see Nida Dar-led Lahore region



taking on Umm-e-Hani led Multan region in the National Women's T20 Tournament.

Established in 2013, Ayub Park Cricket Stadium, besides district level trials, has hosted PCB's U16 and U19 cricket matches. The stadium has a 60-metre boundary and three pitches designated for the upcoming women's tournament matches. Additionally, the venue features an attractive museum, showcasing autographed bats including those from the West Indies team of 1959, along with souvenirs and cricket magazines for the fans of the game. Courtesy of the Army Heritage Foundation (AHF), the facility at the stadium is diligently maintained for sporting activities, complemented by an adjacent football ground. Head of Women's Cricket Tania Mallick: "It is heartening to witness women's cricket matches being organised at three venues in Rawalpindi and Islamabad. "Ayub Park Stadium in Rawalpindi, which is situated at the city centre, has proper infrastructure, providing the women's wing with an additional venue to hold domestic matches. With the support of the Army Heritage Foundation committed to further enhancing the ground, the PCB women's wing looks forward to organising more women's cricket matches in the future."

Ronaldo boasts his free kick skills to son

Football legend Cristiano Ronaldo may have started a free kick war with his son Cristiano Ronaldo Jr after sharing a video of himself on social media recently.

In a video shared on X, formerly known as Twitter, Ronaldo Jr showcased his football prowess akin to his father, expertly netting a top-right corner free kick while practising with Chelsea academy talent and under-18 (U18) player Yahya Idrissi.

In response to his son, the 38-year-old captain of Saudia Arabia's Al Nassr posted a video of himself on his Instagram where he scored a similar free kick from the same location and on the same side of the goalpost.

"Cris, this was better than yours," said the Real Madrid icon as he waved his hands and pointed at the camera after he scored the free kick followed by his iconic celebration "Siuuu". The post was captioned: "Cris, Watch and Learn".

They scored outrageous free kicks giving the internet a fatherson bonding moment, but will Ronaldo Jr escalate the friendly free kick battle with his superstar dad remains a question.

The Spokesman

Struggles Houthi militants raise their weapons during a rally following a US and UK strike against their positions.

Top UN officials warn against escalation in Red Sea after **US-UK hit Yemen**

Spokesman Report

UNITED NATIONS: Following US-UK strikes on Houthi sites in Yemen, a day after the Security Council adopted a resolution demanding that the Houthis cease attacking commercial vessels, a senior UN official on Friday warned the 15-nation body of the consequences of further escalation in the region and urged restraint by all parties. "There over 50 air and missile strikes have been further alarming developments in the Red

of Political Affairs told the in the Middle East.

Khiari noted that the States and the United Kingdom, supported by Australia, Bahrain, Canada and the on targets across Yemmen. Sea," Khaled Khiari, Assis-violence that risks grave polittional shipping in the Red aimed to disrupt and degrade

tant Secretary-General for ical, security, economic and the Middle East, Asia and the humanitarian repercussions Pacific in the Departments in Yemen and the region," he warned. In a separate state-Security Council which met ment, UN Secretary-General to discuss the rising tensions Antonio Guterres also urged countries to avoid an escalation in the situation in the military forces of the United Red Sea. The Secretary-General underscored that the Security Council resolution 2722 must be fully respected Netherlandds, conducted in its entirety, his spokespertion son said in a statement. "The Secretary-General reiterates "We are witnessing a cycle of that attacks against interna-

Sea area are not acceptable the Houthis' ability to continas they endanger the safety and security of global supply chains and have a negative impact on the economic and humanitarian situation worldwide," it said. Additionally, all member states defending their vessels from attacks must do so "in accordance with international law, as stipulated in the Resolu-

US Ambassador to the UN, Linda Thomas-Greenfield, claimed that the strikes ue their attacks and that they were consistent with her country's right to self-defence under Article 51 of the UN Charter. Â Since November 2023, 2,000 ships have been forced to divert thousands of miles to avoid the Red Sea, affecting 50 nations and commercial shipping has been attacked 27 times. Â She therefore called on Council members especially those with direct channels to Iran to pressure that State to reign

Minister underscored indispensable role of education in fostering economic progress

👺 City Desk

RAWALPINDI: In a momentous event at the National College of Arts (NCA) Liaquat Bagh, Federal Minister for Education, Madad Ali Sindhi, underscored the indispensable role of education in fostering economic progress and national development.

The minister remarked during the inauguration of a Degree show, where he emphasized that quality education is pivotal for a nation's advancement, asserting that no progress is possible without it.

He emphasized the significance of restoring classrooms for children who are not attending classes and enhancing the quality of education.

Expressing concern over the limited focus on arts and culture in the country, the

India protests UK

diplomat's visit to Pakistan-controlled

Kashmir



The minister also addressed the decline of arts, culture, ative of establishing arts and and sports in schools, advocating for the inclusion of wide, drawing inspiration from music classes in educational institutions. He called for a federal minister inaugurated ing the seven thousand-year- revival of physical education a painting exhibition, demon-

old sculptures at Moenjodaro. and sports. Additionally, the strating the government's minister suggested that future commitment to promoting governments should allocate a dedicated five-year plan for education.

As part of the event, the

and appreciating the arts, marking a significant step towards fostering a more vibrant and comprehensive educational landscape in the

the rich history of art, includ-

Pakistan sends 4th consignment of humanitarian aid for Gaza people

press release said.

Caretaker Foreign Minister Jalil

MUMBAI: India said on Saturday it had lodged a protest over a senior British diplomat's visit to Pakistan-controlled Kashmir, saying the trip this week had infringed on India's "sovereignty and territorial integrity". its service aircraft for the NDMA coordi-Kashmir is claimed in full, but nated fourth aid tranche, which also had the contribution of Pakistan Army and Al-Khidmat Foundation, an NDMA

controlled only in part, by nuclear-armed India and Pakistan, which have fought two wars and engaged in numerous clashes over the Himalayan region since 1947.

British High Commissioner to Pakistan Jane Marriott visited Pakistani Kashmir along with an official from the UK Foreign Office on Jan. 10, India's Ministry of External Affairs said in a state-

India's Foreign Secretary Vinay Kwatra has lodged a "strong protest" to the British High Commissioner to India about the visit, the ministry said, calling the trip "unacceptable".



Abbas Jilani, Palestinian Ambassador to Pakistan Ahmad Rabaie, representatives of the Al-Khidmat Foundation, erated Pakistan's unwavering support including 13 tons of essential medical and senior officers of National Disasfor the Palestinian people and urged ter Management Authority (NDMA). an immediate cessation of hostilities Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Armed to allow for the unimpeded delivery Forces attended the send-off ceremoof humanitarian assistance to those in ny at Nur Khan Air Base. The relief items were sent through special Pakithe occasion, expressed his deep gratistan Airforce IL-78 flight to Jordan, tude to the people of Pakistan for the for further distribution to the affectongoing support, expressing their solied people of Gaza. Expressing deep darity with their Palestinian brothers concern over the escalating situation and sisters. This fourth relief consign-

supplies and seven tons of dry food items as per ground needs at Gaza. Earlier, the NDMA had sent three relief consignments which included special winterized need. The Palestinian ambassador, on tents, blankets, surgical supplies, medicines, and food packs for the distressed people of Gaza, and more aid is also planned to be sent. "In the time of hardship, Pakistan's unwavering support stands with the Palestinian brothers

in Gaza, Foreign Minister Jilani reit- ment comprises approx 20 tons of aid, and sisters," the press release said. Published by: Almass Ayoub Sabir from Zero Point Printers Rawalpindi

ECP warns candidates seeking symbol of other party of consequences

ISLAMABAD: The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) on Saturday warned candidates, who were members of one political party and were seeking allocation of symbol of other political party, of consequences.

"In exercise of powers, conferred upon the Commission under section 4 of the Election Act, 2017, the Commission hereby direct that no symbol of any political party be allocated to any such candidate who is member of one political party and seek allocation of symbol of other political party."

The bench headed by Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Sikandar Sultan Raja and including members Nisar Ahmed Durrani, Shah Muhammad Jatoi, Babar Hassan Bharwana, and Justice (Retd) Ikram Ullah Khan also directed the ROs to reject all such applications proceeding strictly in accordance with law and in term of the direction of Apex Court.

The ECP observed that in accordance with the Election Act 2017, a candidate providing a party affiliation equals misrepresentation before the certificate could not be a member of more than one party simultaneously.

Emphasizing adherence to legal procedures, the Commission referred highest judicial authority."



to the Supreme Court's decision in the Habib Akram case.

Referring to section 66 of the Election Act, 2017, the ECP stated that "candidates who submit incomplete nomination papers, especially those omitting the required affidavit, will face rejection".

The ECP also noted that it had received a multitude of applications from candidates, raising concerns about manipulation of the system, deception, and potential violations of electoral laws, and warned the candidates of "consequences for false statements in their nomination papers' affidavits".

Referring to the Supreme Court's direction, the Commission said,"Misrepresentation is clearly defined in the Constitution and law. Misrepresentation in nomination papers Supreme Court, with candidates facing the same consequences as making false statements before the

Pakistan set to initiate laying of 200,000 km optical fiber cable: Dr. Saif

跨 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Federal Minister for Information Technology and Telecommunication Dr Saif on Saturday said that in order to enhance connectivity Pakistan was set to initiate a project for laying 200,000 kilometers of optical fiber cable.

"The Information Technology Ministry has exhibited outstanding performance during the tenure of the current government over the past four months, "the minister said in a statement.

Dr. Umar Saif, while giving credit to the Special Investment Faciliplayed a significant role in obtain- payments directly through them. ing timely approvals for the IT Ministry's policies and projects.

ing them to keep 50% of their earn- under one roof. ings in dollars in their accounts.

He said a global standard trained for 200,000 IT graduates who freelancers, he hoped.



had recently completed their studies from various universities.

The minister said the long-standing issue of digital payment gateways for freelancers had been successfully resolved. Starting from February 1, a pilot project would create 10,000 accounts, allowtation Council, said the forum had ing freelancers to receive their

Dr Saif said some 10,000 mployment centers were being He said the IT companies were set established where the freelancers to benefit from a new facility allow- would enjoy convenient facilities

The centers would help increase annual IT exports to \$10 billion, ing programme had been initiat- besides employing some 100,000

JUI-F finalizes candidates for General Election

跨 Bureau Report

PESHAWAR: Jamiat Ulema-i-Islam (F) on Saturday has finalized its national and provincial candidates for Peshawar district with Noor Alam Khan as the candidate for NA-28, Akhunzada Irfanullah for NA-29.

According to details, Nasir Khan Musazai will be the candidate for NA-30, Maulana Saeedullah for for NA-32. Azan Khan will be the candidate for Provincial Assembly Malik Naushad Khan for PK 84.

Constituency PK 72, Maulana Abdul Haseeb for PK 73, Ejaz Khan for PK 74, Shehryar Khan for PK 75, Niaz Muhammad for PK 76 and Haji Safatullah for PK 77.

Zahir Shah will be the candidate for PK-78, Maulana Ata-ul-Haq Darwish for PK-79 and Maulana Amanullah Haqqani for PK-80.

Likewise, Arbab Farooq will be the candidate for PK 81, Siddiqur NA-31 and Maulana Hussain Madani Rahman Paracha for PK 82, Haji Mohammad Umar for PK 83 and

Shahid Khaqan says does not agree with PML-N's politics

Bureau Report

LAHORE: Former Prime Minister Shahid Khaqan Abbasi said that he does not agree with the politics of Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N). Speaking to media in Lahore, the PML-N leader said he will not contest the general election 2024 whereas he does not agree with the politics of

The former prime minister clarified that he has no grudges against PML-N chief organizer Maryam Nawaz as he supported her during the Gilgit Baltistan and Azad Kashmir polls.

He predicted that the upcoming elections would result in further confrontation and violence as it lack the trust of the people of Pakistan.

Earlier, the former prime minister Shahid Khaqan Abbasi decided party ways with Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N).

Sources said the former premier will formally announce his decision in a press conference. Khaqan Abbasi has decided to quit PML-N after consulting with his constituents, they say.

The veteran politician asserted that he would not contest the general elections, terming the upcoming polls 'pointless'. "I would not contest upcoming polls, but can join new party after the general elections," said Shahid Khaqan Abbasi. He also announced to support PML-N candidate in the February 8 elections if party gives a chance to a common worker.

Khaqan had previously stepped down from his role as the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) Senior Vice President and did not attend party's ongoing meetings related to election tickets chaired by PML-N supremo Nawaz Sharif in Lahore. He also skipped Nawaz's homecoming rally on October 21.