

Daily The Spokesman

A Leading National Daily



فرمان رسول
ہم سے شہر نے بیان کیا کہ جو کوئی اس
اس نے فری کر میں سے اس بن مالک
سے سنا انہوں نے بیان کیا کہ ایک صاحب
نے کہا یا نبی اللہ! میرے والد کوں ہیں؟ نبی
کریم ﷺ نے فرمایا کہ تمہارے والد فلاں
ہیں۔ اور یہ آیت نازل ہوئی «یا ایہا اللہین
آمنوا الاتسوا معی اشیاء» اے لوگو!
اسی چیز کے ساتھ چلو۔ آری۔
(تفسیر: صریح نمبر 7295)
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'Remembering a Visionary Leader: Honoring the Legacy of Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto on his Death Anniversary'

As we observe the solemn occasion of the death anniversary of Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, it is essential to reflect on the remarkable life and legacy of one of Pakistan's most influential leaders. PM Bhutto's journey from birth to his judicial murder, his dedication to serving the poor, and his enduring impact on the political landscape of Pakistan... (Special Report on Page 5)



Pakistan expresses condolences over loss of lives in Turkiye

Pakistan has sent its deepest condolences and heartfelt grief over the loss of precious lives in a deadly fire in central Istanbul, Turkiye, the other day. "Our thoughts and prayers are with the victims and their bereaved families. The people and government of Pakistan stand with their Turkish brothers and sisters in this hour of grief," Foreign Office said in a press release on Wednesday.

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Called on

ISLAMABAD: Chief of Army Staff (COAS), General Syed Asim Munir, NI (M), called on President Asif Ali Zardari, at Aiwan-e-Sadr, on Wednesday.



Photo: PID

COAS meets President, apprises operational preparedness against conventional threats

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Syed Asim Munir, NI (M) Wednesday called on President Asif Ali Zardari, at the Presidency and apprised him about the ongoing Army operations against terrorism highlighting the operational preparedness against conventional threats. In the meeting, the COAS extended felicitations on his appointment as the President of Pakistan and Commander in Chief of Armed Forces and conveyed his sincere wishes for a successful tenure, a press release issued by the President House said.

The COAS also intimated about the contributions of the Army towards development initiatives, particularly in the regions of Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The president acknowledged the exemplary role of the Armed Forces of Pakistan, affirming that the Army's contributions have been instrumental in safeguarding the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the state. He commended the Army's efforts towards social

uplift of the affected areas, underscoring the unwavering commitment of the Pakistan Army to national progress. The president emphasised Pakistan's steadfast commitment against terrorism and reaffirmed the nation's resolve to respond with full force through all elements of national power. He noted with grave concern the baseless and unsubstantiated allegations levelled by a specific political party and its few individuals against the institution and its leadership to accrue narrow political interests and resolved to deal with such disruptive elements with iron hand. The president paid homage to the martyrs who sacrificed their lives for the nation, emphasizing that their blood will forever symbolize the resilience and strength of the Pakistani nation. He reiterated the nation's unwavering commitment to honouring the sacrifices of the Shuhadas and their families, holding them in the highest esteem. The meeting concluded on a note of solidarity and determination to uphold the values of peace, security, and progress in Pakistan.

PM stresses upon new initiatives to attract top talent

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Wednesday said that new initiatives to attract and retain top talent would be rolled out to secure Pakistan's success and stressed that Pakistan must build a world-class talent pool because this was an age where talent made all the difference to a nation's success.

The prime minister chaired a meeting regarding the induction of technical advisors and consultants from the private sector into public sector, PM Office Media Wing said in a press release.

Federal Ministers Muhammad Aurangzeb, Dr. Musadiq Malik, Ahad Cheema, Attaullah Tarar, Sardar Awais Leghari, Deputy Chairman Planning



Commission Muhammad Jehanzeb,

Minister of State Shaza Fatima and high-level officials attended the meeting.

The meeting discussed ways to create a more capable workforce that could be able to deliver the government's policy programme effectively, and also founded on the principles of impartiality and recruitment on merit.

The prime minister noted that the need to focus on attracting and retaining top talent was as urgent and as important as their focus on investments in the country. "Businesses want to invest in places where the talent is; where the politics and policies are stable, and where the system works", he added.

He also appointed a committee under the chairmanship of finance minister to seek and firm up propositions in the poli-

cy to enhance and clarify the work pass framework currently in vogue in ministries to better support Pakistan's need for talent with the directions to submit its findings at the earliest.

The meeting noted a dearth of technical input at policy making levels and emphasized its need, which was imperative if the civil service was to develop new skills, improve its management of big projects and adapt to the demands of a digital age.

The participants of the meeting highlighted barriers to appointing people from outside such as long timescales, processes that prevented a proper search for the best candidates and pay inflexibility that made it all difficult to attract the best talent, particularly in areas of skills shortages.

Xi, Biden hold phone talks

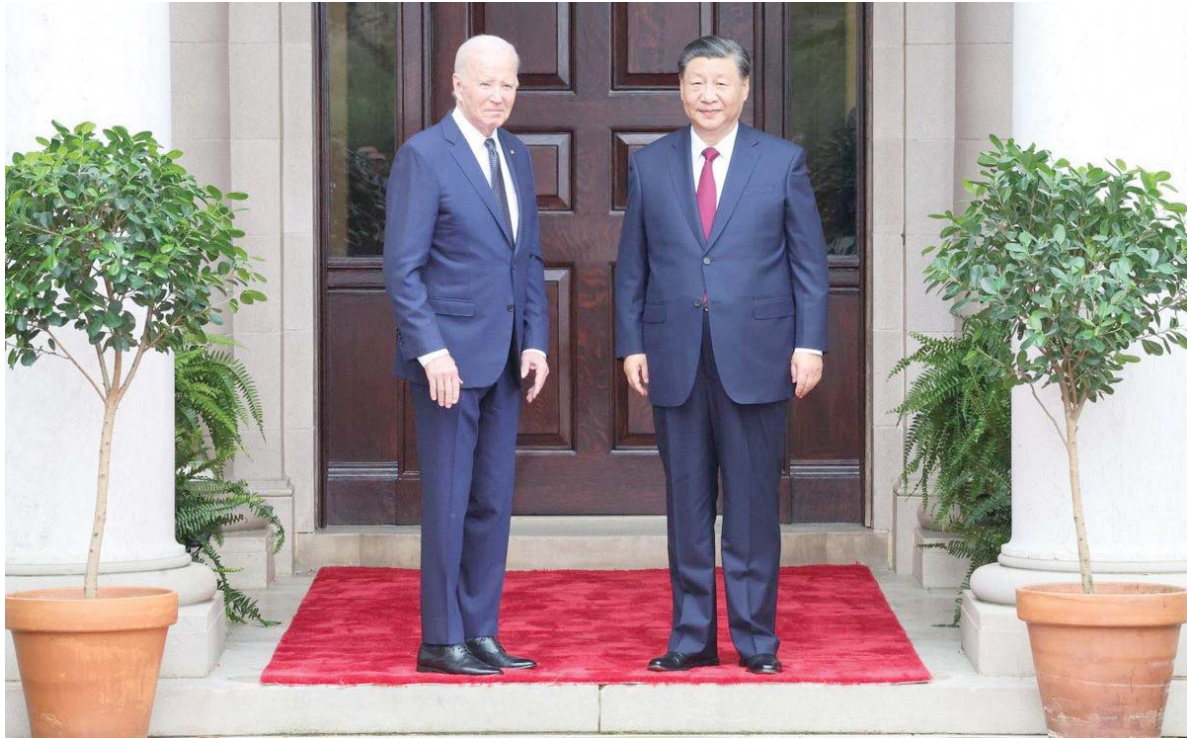
Xinhua

BELJING: Chinese President Xi Jinping spoke with U. S. President Joe Biden on the phone Tuesday at the request of the latter. The two presidents had a candid and in-depth exchange of views on China-U. S. relations and issues of mutual interest.

President Xi noted that his San Francisco meeting with President Biden last November opened a future-oriented San Francisco vision. Over the past months, their officials have acted on the presidential understandings in earnest. The China-U. S. relationship is beginning to stabilize, and this is welcomed by both societies and the international community. On the other hand, the negative factors of the relationship have also been growing, and this requires attention from both sides.

President Xi stressed that the issue of strategic perception is always fundamental to the China-U. S. relationship, just like the first button of a shirt that must be put right. Two big countries like China and the United States should not cut off their ties or turn their back on each other, still less slide into conflict or confrontation. The two countries should respect each other, coexist in peace and pursue win-win cooperation. The relationship should continue moving forward in a stable, sound and sustainable way, rather than going backward.

President Xi underlined three overarching principles that should guide China-U. S. relations in 2024. First, peace must be valued. The two sides should put a floor of no conflict and no confrontation under the relationship, and keep reinforcing the positive outlook of the relationship. Second, stability must be prioritized. The two sides should refrain from setting the



relationship back, provoking incident or crossing the line, so as to maintain the overall stability of the relationship. Third, credibility must be upheld. The two sides should honor their commitments to each other with action, and turn the San Francisco vision into reality. They need to strengthen dialogue in a mutually respectful way, manage differences prudently, advance cooperation in the spirit of mutual benefit, and step up coordination on international affairs in a responsible way.

President Xi stressed that the Taiwan question is the first red line that must not be crossed in China-U. S. relations. In the face of "Taiwan independence" separatist

activities and external encouragement and support for them, China is not going to sit on its hands.

He urged the U. S. side to translate President Biden's commitment of not supporting "Taiwan independence" into concrete actions. The U. S. side has adopted a string of measures to suppress China's trade and technology development, and is adding more and more Chinese entities to its sanctions lists. This is not "de-risking," but creating risks. If the U. S. side is willing to seek mutually beneficial cooperation and share in China's development dividends, it will always find China's door open; but if it is adamant on containing China's hi-tech

development and depriving China of its legitimate right to development, China is not going to sit back and watch.

President Xi stated China's position on Hong Kong-related issues, human rights, the South China Sea, and other issues.

President Biden reiterated that the United States does not seek a new Cold War, its objective is not to change China's system, its alliances are not targeted against China, the U. S. does not support "Taiwan independence," and the U. S. does not seek conflict with China.

The two presidents also exchanged views on the Ukraine crisis, the situation on the Korean Peninsula, and other issues.

CJP Qazi Faez Isa, three SC judges also receive 'suspicious letters'



City Desk

ISLAMABAD: After Islamabad High Court and Lahore High Court judges, CJP Justice Qazi Faez Isa and three other judges of the SC also received threatening letters carrying 'suspicious powder', citing sources on Wednesday.

Sources privy to the development said, CJP Justice Qazi Faez Isa, Justice Athar Minallah, Justice Jamal Khan Mandokhail and Justice Amin-Ud-Din Khan received

threatening letters carrying 'suspicious powder'.

The letters were received by the SC judges on April 1, which have been handed over to the Counter-Terrorism Department (CTD) for investigation.

Earlier, DIG Operations Islamabad, Shehzad Bukhari in his statement before the IHC said apart from eight IHC judges, four SC and four LHC judges have also received 'suspicious letters'.

DIG Operations Shehzad Bukhari was summoned to Islamabad High Court by CJ Justice Aamer Farooq after six judges of the high court received 'suspicious letters' on Tuesday.

Upon being asked, where the letters were posted? the DIG operations said letters were 'dispatched from Rawalpindi GPO'.

PHC CJ decries 'discrimination' in SC judges' appointment

Bureau Report

PESHAWAR: In a letter to Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Justice Qazi Faez Isa, (Peshawar High Court (PHC) Chief Justice Mohammad Ibrahim Khan has expressed dismay over alleged discrimination in the appointment of Supreme Court judges.

The PHC chief justice said that he was writing to CJP Isa regarding the alleged discrimination and favouritism in the appointment of judges in the Supreme Court of Pakistan.

Justice Khan said that despite four vacancies in the top court, Justice Naeem Akhtar Afghan was appointed as the SC judge while his name was not considered for a position at the Supreme Court.

Expressing dismay that the only judge appointed to the top court was from the same prov-



ince CJP Qazi Faez Isa hailed from i.e., Balochistan, he said that his name was not considered despite seniority, availability and eligibility.

He raised questions over ignoring his name for appointment as the SC judge despite being the second most senior chief justice among all of the high courts.

In the letter, Mohammad Ibrahim Khan said being a member of the Judicial Commission and the Supreme Judicial Commission, he expected to be included in the list for elevation to the Supreme Court of Pakistan.

Prayer Ceremony held in Ghaziabad on 9th anniversary of late Mujahid e Awwal

Abdul Majeed Tahir

GHAZI ABAD/MUZAFFARABAD: Former President and Prime Minister AJK and Supreme Head of All Jammu and Kashmir Muslim Conference, and former Chairman National Kashmir Committee founder Tehreek Azadi Kashmir Mujahid e Awwal Sardar Muhammad Abdul Qayyum Khan 9th anniversary was celebrated with full respect and reverence. Rest of the country Kashmiris residing abroad including Pakistan and Azad Kashmir, prayers ceremonies and Quran recitation were held in Occupied Kashmir and Fatiha was recited for eternal peace Mujahid e Awwal and tributed offered to Mujahid e Awwal services. Mujahid e Awwal Sardar Mohammad Abdul Qayyum Khan passed away on 10th July 2015 on Friday 1436 AH. Every year on this day prayer ceremonies are held at his tomb in Ghaziabad. The ceremony prayer was according in supervision of Sardar Usman Ali Khan. In the ceremony, Quran reciting naat reading and supplication were done. A large number of Muslim Conference workers from Dhirkot, Bagh and Muzaffarabad participated in the event.

In the prayer ceremony in Ghaziabad, former government minister Shamim Ali Malik, district council member Raja Tabarak Ali, Sajjad Anwar Abbasi, Raja Munir Khan, Nasreen Akhtar Raja and a large number of youth and MSF workers participated.

In the prayer ceremony, On this occasion Sardar Hamid Manzoor Advocate, Sardar Irfan Abbasi, Raja Munir Khan, Sardar Tajamal Hussain Syed Amjad Gurdizi Advocate, Sajjad Ahmad Abbasi, Raja Khurshid Ahmad Khan, Raja Tabarak Ali Khan, Munshi Zahid Abbas, Raja Babar Moazzam, Muneeb Qureshi, Munir Qureshi, Sikandar Habib Mir, Mubashir Naqvi, Hasher Ab, Hasher Abbasi, Sardar Abid Razzak, Rana Ghulam Hussain Ajmal Nakyalvi were also present. Apart from this, a prayer ceremony was also held at his pirkhana Kakaji House, where Fatiha was recited for his reward. The Secretary General of the Muslim Conference in Rawalpindi, Ms. Mehrul Nasa, held a prayer ceremony at her residence on the occasion of Mujahid I's death anniversary. A prayer ceremony was held at the residence of Raja Saqib Majeed, the main chief organizer of the Muslim



Conference in Muzaffarabad Khawra, in which members of the district council, Sidiyasar Gilani, Mohsin Majeed, Pir Abid Majeed and a large number of workers were held. attended. Where Quran was recited and special prayer was made for the salvation of the dead. The officials and chairmen of all the wings of the Muslim Conference, except MSF, Youth Wing, Lirong, Students Wing, Women Wing, Trade Wing, specially the branch. Under the direction of Women's Chairperson Samia Sajid Raja, women organized prayer ceremonies at their residences

Apart from this, former President Mirza Shafiq Jaral in Azad Kash-

mir Bharbhambar, Chaudhry Khizar Hayat in Mirpur, Muslim Conference Women's Divisional President Ms. Aamir Khanum, Shakur Mughal, Zafar Maruf, Naheedraja, Chairman Education Board in Kharian organized prayer ceremonies at their respective residences. In Muzaffarabad, Chairperson of Muslim Conference Women's Department, Samia Sajid Raja organized a prayer ceremony at her residence. General Secretary of Muslim Conference Women's Department. At the residence of Kausar Parveen Advocate and Fiza Sajid Raja, Ayesha Munsif and members of the Central Council of the Muslim Conference, Soraya Anwar Abbasi, Amna Anwar Abbasi, Fatiha was recited for Mujahid I. Apart from this, City President Sheikh Maqsood Ahmed, Muslim Conference Central Liaison Secretary Malik Zafarali, City President Abdah Munir Qureshi, Student Wing Chairperson Maimoona Kayani Advocate, Saleem Awan in Patahka, Syed Saqlain Fida Kazmi in Neelam, Syed Yasir Naqvi Advocate in Lachrat, Lower Chhattar. In Jehandad Abbasi, Lavalakot, Siddhnoti and former senior vice president of Muslim Conference in Hajira, Sardar Altaf Khan, Raja Latif Hasrat and others held a prayer ceremony at their residence for the recovery of Mujahid I.

Abroad in London, Syed Nazar Abbas Shah offered prayers. In Gujranwala, Waheedul Haq Hashmi in gardhi dupatta, Syed Panchman Musavi in Chenari, Syed Ghulam Nabi Shah, Raja Waqar, Leader of Youth Wing in Muzaffarabad, Sikander Habib, Khawaja Hanan held a prayer ceremony at their residence. Speaking at various events, the speakers said that history makers like Mujahid e Awwal all-round and far-sighted personalities are not only born in centuries, but the effects of their teachings, ideas and ideologies are spread over centuries. The existence of these great personalities for any nation It is a symbol of honor and good luck. These personalities are not only limited to a particular region, nation or country, but are a source of pride for the entire human community. All Jammu and Kashmir Muslim Conference is fortunate to have the wise, faithful and unparalleled leadership of Mujahid e Awwal for nearly sixty years. We pay homage to Mujahid e Awwal for his religious, political, social, and religious and services rendered for the freedom movement and we pray that Allah Ta'ala grants him a high place in Jannat al-Firdous.

Traditions

ISLAMABAD: Apr03- A Girl testing a traditional cap before purchase at a stall in Centaurus Mall in the Federal Capital.



Photo: Online by Sultan Bashir

DC calls for immediate crackdown on artificial inflation in Bagh during Eid

Bureau Report

BAGH: Deputy Commissioner Bagh Mudassar Farooq has said that there should be an immediate crackdown on those who increase artificial inflation in Bagh, those who charge more than passengers during Eid should be jailed, those who encroach inside the city and also to be dealt with with an iron hand, the Price Control Committee should ensure full implementation of the fixed rates.

He expressed these views while talking during the meeting of the officers of the finance department. On this occasion, Ahmed Subhani AC Bagh, Amjad Qadir AC Laan, Muhammad Manwar Chaghatai AC Bir Pani, Syed



Nusrat Gurdizi AC Hari Gahl, Syed Yasir Ali Bukhari AC Dhirkot, Syed Qamar Abbas Kazmi EAC Bagh, Syed Alamdar Kazmi Tehsildar Rida, Syed Iqreen Hussain Tehsildar, Mohammad Sabil Minhas Tehsildar Dhirkot, Javed Hussain Naib Tehsildar Bagh and others were also present. Deputy Commissioner Mudassar Farooq said that those who harass the people

by artificially increasing inflation in Ramadan do not deserve any discount. Resources should be utilised.

Price Control Committees should visit their respective markets daily basis and strictly check the rates and take strict action against those who are selling items at rates higher than the fixed rates. If the public service transporters charge more than the fixed rates,

close their vehicles so that no one has to do it twice.

Our priority is public facilities. He further said that there should be no compromise on encroachment in the suburban cities including Bagh city. Cities are shrinking due to encroachment. Pedestrians also have problems. So that the enforcement of the law can be possible measures.

Saraikistan National Council will resist any plot to destroy the Pak-Italian Burn Center Multan

Syed Nadeem Kazmi

MULTAN: Multan-based Pakistan Atalian Burn Center will counter any conspiracy to destroy the Italian burn unit. Stop political interference in burn unit. These views were expressed by the Chairman of the Sirakistan National Council Zahoor Dharija, General Secretary Abid Syal, District President Anwar Mughal, Maqsood Dharija and Yegar, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Chief Minister Punjab Ms. Maryam Nawaz, Provincial Health Minister Khawaja Salman Rafiq, Chief Secretary Punjab and Department In a letter to the top health officials. He said that the senior doctors of the burn unit have resigned

due to the political interference of the former member of National Assembly Malik Ahmed Hussain Dehar from Multan.

There is concern among the doctors, staff and staff of the burn unit. Saraiki leaders said that the burn unit provides medical facilities to the patients of the whole region of Saraikistan as well as Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Balochistan and Sindh. Two hundred people were martyred and hundreds were injured in the oil tanker accident in Ahmedpur Sharqia, Multan Burn Unit provided medical aid to the injured. He said that when there was a catastrophic accident due to the fire of a railway train in Channig-



oth, the Multan Burn Unit rendered services.

Incidents of fire and burns are happening every day, all over Saraiki Sindh. Patients from Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa arrive here and doctors and other medical staff of the burn center provide immediate treatment facilities to these burn patients. But unfortunately former

Member of National Assembly Malik Ahmad Hussain, who failed in the election, and Junior Dr. Ahmad Malik, working in the burn center from Asherbad, targeted the professors for their personal interests, and one day Junior Dr. Ahmad Malik disrespected the senior doctors. It keeps doing, Former Punjab Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi

suspended and transferred Dr. Naveed Akhtar, Executive Director of the Burn Center after conducting an investigation on public complaints and media reports. But unfortunately, the former member of the National Assembly, using the Nawaz League umbrella, re-appointed Dr. Naveed Akhtar and Ahmed Malik in the Burn Center Multan, after which Junior Dr. Ahmed Malik was appointed as the Executive Director of the Burn Center. It seems Zahoor Dharija said that the defeated MNA of the (N) League from Multan should stop political interference, otherwise the Saraikistan National Council and other Saraiki parties will protest strongly.

Joint meeting reviews KFC attack after 'baseless' social media

Bureau Report

MIRPUR: Under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner Yasir Riaz, a meeting consisting of administration, police and sensitive institutions was held in which the real motives of the KFC incident in Mirpur were reviewed and a briefing was taken regarding the progress of the situation so far. A detailed consideration was also given for the accommodation and security arrangements of foreign nationals and the prevention and control of misuse of social media and baseless propaganda. They were also present.

In the meeting, the evidence was also reviewed to reach the real motives behind the attack on KFC, the incident of malice and terrorism and to investigate it. It was decided in the meeting that the accused involved in the light of all the evidence will be delivered to Kfir Kardar. The meeting also reviewed the arrangements regarding the security of foreign nationals residing in the district and their movement including ensuring foolproof security arrangements. Instructions to implement the issued SOPs. To take action against those who are misusing social media in the meeting and disrupting peace and order and misleading the people, including those doing all kinds of illegal business across the district.

President AJK congratulates Barrister Azhar Iqbal on British appointment as judge

Bureau Report

ISLAMABAD: President Azad Kashmir Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry has congratulated Barrister Azhar Iqbal on his appointment as a judge by the British Government. Pertinently, Barrister Azhar Iqbal's family hails from Faizpur Sharif area of District Mirpur Azad Kashmir.



While speaking to justice Iqbal on phone, the President Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry said, "It is a matter of pride for us that the British government has appointed a Kashmiri origin as a judge for the first time". Extending his heartfelt felicitations to justice Iqbal and his family Barrister Chaudhry wished him a successful tenure ahead. Barrister Chaudhry further said that it was quite heartwarming to see the Kashmiri expatriate community's significant contribution to British society. The president said that he wished as a vibrant community the Kashmiri diaspora in the UK should also raise their voices for the resolution of the Kashmir problem and use their political clout to help stop the ongoing Indian atrocities in Occupied Kashmir. On this occasion, Barrister Azhar Iqbal thanked the President of Azad Jammu and Kashmir for congratulating him on the phone and said, "As a judge I will try to discharge my duties to the best of my abilities".

Police start 10 centers to help people with their problems: IG AJK

Bureau Report

HAVELI KAHOTA: Inspector General Police Azad Kashmir Sohail Habib Tajik has said that the police is present 24 hours a day to protect the life and property of the people as well as peace and order and by amounting of Rs. five crore 10 centers are being established in districts

In which police character certificates, vehicles will be one-fived, a help system has also been launched in the district police stations, where the IG can get in touch with the police and get their problem resolved if they do not get justice in the police stations. He was expressing these views during the opening ceremony of Police Service Center Haveli, DIG Poonch Shehryar Sikandar, Deputy Commissioner Haveli Raja Imran Shaheen, SSP Haveli Khawaja Amiruddin and officers of various departments attended the ceremony. attended He said that police service center can solve their problems online in 70 countries including Pakistan and they can work in these countries to solve their problems with character certificate etc. This is the first time a modern style service center in Azad Kashmir. We want to give the police such an attitude that people can report their problems to the police without any fear. Taking great interest. On this occasion, Inspector General of Police Sohail Habib Tajik inaugurated the Police Service Center and while inspecting the office, he declared the work satisfactory. There is a need for people to express their problems in police stations without any fear. SP Haveli has done exemplary work in a short period of time which is commendable and the people of District Haveli will always appreciate his performance.





Islamabad
15° - 23° Clear

SERVICES

Namaz Timings

Fajr 4:28 am
Zohr 12:11 pm
Asr 4:42 pm
Maghrib 6:30 pm
Isha 7:55 pm

EMERGENCY

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

Women Police Stations

Islamabad 9222596
Rawalpindi 9270601-20

ENQUIRY

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

HOSPITALS

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

DEPARTMENTS

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

COMPLAINTS

Water Tanker Service
E-7, F-10 & F-11 9204654
G-5, G-6, G-7, G-8, 9203883
G-9, G-10, G-11, G-12, H-8 9266316
Wapda Islamabad 9217579-80
Sui Gas Complaint 119, 9272249
Wasa Water Tank
Rawalpindi 0331-5022125

Turkmenistan Ambassador and Pakistani Minister discuss trade enhancement strategies

PPA

ISLAMABAD: The Ambassador of Turkmenistan to Pakistan, Atajan Movlamov, congratulated the Federal Minister for Commerce, Jam Kamal Khan, on his recent appointment and engaged in discussions aimed at bolstering trade rela-

tions between the two countries.

During the meeting, Minister Jam Kamal emphasized Pakistan's commitment to strengthening bilateral ties with Turkmenistan, particularly in trade, for the mutual benefit of both nations.

The discussions centered on various aspects of Turkmen-Pakistani relations,

highlighting cooperation based on principles of mutual respect and equality. Both parties expressed interest in enhancing trade volumes, with a focus on exploring new routes and transit trade agreements.

Ambassador Movlamov noted Turkmenistan's potential to offer cost-effective electricity compared to local production in



Pakistan, while also highlighting opportunities for collaboration in energy sectors such as LPG and electricity.

Minister Jam Kamal expressed optimism about the imminent signing of a Transit Trade Agreement (TTA) between the two countries which is in its final stage

and either shall be signed in Islamabad or Ashgabat Capital of Turkmenistan.

Both officials agreed on the importance of exchanging delegations to facilitate smoother coordination and hasten the finalization of the TTA, aiming to boost trade between Turkmenistan and Pakistan.

Shield

ISLAMABAD: Muhammad Safdar Khan Chief Executive Officer of Serene Air receiving the Shield from Khurshid Barlas Founder Chairman of Pakistan Association of Exhibition Industry during the meeting at his office and Fahad Barlas Convener Exhibition was present at the occasion.



Photo: Online

Professor Chishti honoured as faculty speaker at NUML graduation seminar

PNP

ISLAMABAD: Dr. Muhammad Ilyas Chishti, a Tenured Associate Professor at NUST Islamabad, was honoured as a distinguished guest speaker at a faculty development seminar hosted by department of English, NUML Rawalpindi campus on March 28,



2024. His expertise stems from his postdoctoral fellowship in Applied English Linguistics at University of Helsinki Finland, mentored by Prof. Dr. Sanna-Kaisa Tanskanen, where he delved into "Emerging Global Trends and Narratives in Textbooks," juxtaposing Finnish and Pakistani English textbooks through a critical discourse lens. This post-doctoral fellowship, financially supported by HEC Pakistan, spanned from September 2022 to May 2023. During his stay at Helsinki, Dr. Chishti meticulously examined Finland's educational system with a concerted focus on Finnish English textbooks, conducting in-depth research, classroom observations, and engaging with educational luminaries to grasp the essence of the trendy Finnish Educational System, particularly its transversal competencies. Notable attendees at the seminar included Dr. Ejaz Mirza, Head department of English, Dr. Arshad Ali, and dynamic faculty members from NUML Rawalpindi. Dr. Ejaz Mirza graciously acknowledged Dr. Chishti's contributions by expressing gratitude and presenting a commemorative token in recognition of his enlightening discourse.

AJK govt. paces up crackdown against cigarette industry involved in tax evasion

PPA

MIRPUR: Joint teams of AJK's excise and taxation department and police had continued a crackdown operation against tax evasion in the cigarette industry of AJK. According to details, on the instructions of Prime Minister of AJK crack down operation had been contained with full pace against the tax evading cigarette manufacturing factories in the areas of AJK. In this regard raids were conducted on godowns and different offices of National Tobacco Company, Walton Tobacco Company and Chinar Tobacco Company in Mirpur, Bhimber and Barnala.

During a raid on Walton Tobacco Company, government authorities have seized 10 cartons of illegal cigarettes, 10 bags of tobacco to prepare 100 million cigarettes and 19 cigarette paper rolls and other related material.

In another operation, government authorities raided godowns of National Tobacco Company, Bhimber and seized 3,811 cartons of illegal cigarettes and more than 384,000 kgs of raw tobacco.

In another operation, authorities had raided a house which was taken on rent by National Tobacco Company. During raid, the authorities seized 85 cartons filter rods, 67 cartons cigarette paper, 17 cartons illegal cigarette, 16 cartons cigarette tape, 10,000 kgs of raw tobacco and other raw material.

In a separate raid at Chanar Tobacco Company, Barnala the authorities confiscated 731 bags of tobacco.

It is pertinent to mention that the AJK authorities had increased its crackdown operation against cigarette manufacturing factories involved in tax evasion in the premises of AJK.

At the moment, AJK tax authorities are losing billions of rupees annually only due to tax evasion in the cigarette sector of AJK. These illegal cigarettes which are manufactured in AJK are smuggled to the various areas of Punjab. It is interesting to mention that despite passing of last final date, track and trace system had not been implemented in the cigarette factories located in the areas of AJK.

CEO, NITB to brief PMY on PM's Youth Program in coming days



Asad Hashmi

ISLAMABAD: A meeting was held with CEO National Information Technology Board -NITB Babar Majid Bhatti chaired by Chairman PMYP, Rana Mashhood Ahmad Khan. In the meeting, C. E. O of Pakistan Information Technology Board Babar Majid Bhatti informed about the projects of Pakistan Technology Board (NITB) in details in the meeting, issues of mutual interest and issues of empowering the youth and benefiting from technology were discussed in detail. On this occasion, Chairman Prime Minister Youth Program Rana Mashhood Ahmed Khan requested the Chairman ITB to provide budget to take the Prime Minister Youth Program forward. On the occasion of the meeting, Rana Mashhood appreciated the work of Pakistan Technology Board and promised to work together in the future. Prior to the meeting, Pakistan Information Technology Board (NITB) had organized a meeting with the representatives of all the provinces in which a common IT scenario was prepared so that there would be harmony in this sector in all the provinces.

Israel and India are terrorist countries: Allama Tahirul Hassan



Abdul Majid

FAISALABAD: Allama Tahirul Hassan, Central Deputy General Secretary of Pakistan Ulema Council has said that Islamic countries should make a common plan of action for the liberation of Palestine and Kashmir. And play the frontline role for the freedom of Kashmir, the atrocities of India and Israel have made it clear to the whole world that Israel and India are terrorists, today in Palestine, just as they bombed the helpless Palestine, killing the children and the elderly of Muslims. Women and young men are being martyred.

World peace in danger due to Israeli war frenzy: Al-Quds Committee Millat Jafaria

Abdul Majid

FAISALABAD: World peace is in danger due to Israeli war frenzy. All schools of thought celebrate the last Friday of Ramadan as Al-Quds Day. The OIC and the United Nations do not see any role against the humanitarian atrocities in Palestine.

The views were expressed in the press conference organized by Al-Quds Committee Millat Jafaria in the press conference by the leading scholars of all schools of thought. Pir Abdul Rahman Qadri, Hasnain Shirazi, and others while addressing said that the cruelty and barbarity that is happening in Palestine is not enough to be condemned. The



silence has given birth to many questions, on the one hand, terrorist Israel is massacring Palestinians, but they are being genocided, on the other hand, the countries and organizations that talk about human rights are silent, which shows their hypocritical behavior. Enough is enough for the silence of the world powers is also painful, while the war has not stopped despite the ceasefire resolution passed in

the United Nations, due to the Israeli war frenzy, the peace of the world is in danger and the world is moving towards anarchy. which is not beneficial for any religion, creed or nation. The silence and indifference of the Islamic world is not only condemnable but also the reason for the isolation of the Ummah.

The organization should play an effective role against the atrocities in Palestine.

The participants of the press conference said that we strongly condemn the apocalypse inflicted on Palestine by Israel and its followers and the United Nations and the OIC. They do not trust and condemn their disappointing role, they appeal to the government of Pakistan and international powers to play their full role and help the Palestinians in every possible way, especially to pay special attention to the lack of food and medical facilities.

Finally, through this press conference, the scholars appealed to the scholars of all schools of thought to celebrate the last Friday of the month of Ramadan as Al-Quds Day and to speak in favor of Palestine in sermons

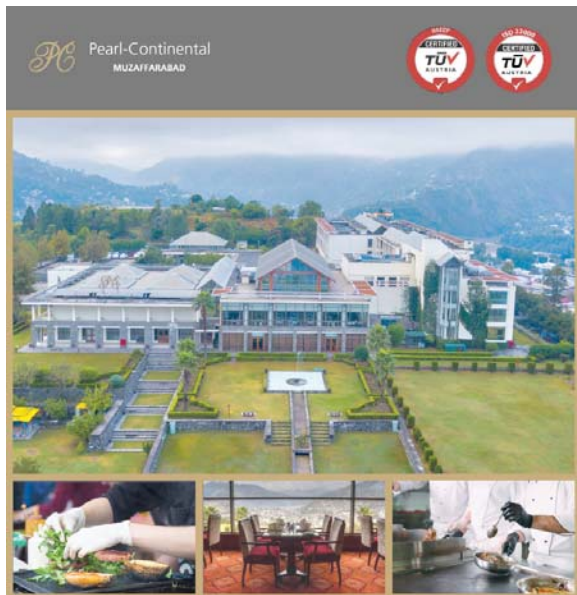
PC Hotel, Muzaffarabad attains ISO-22000 & HACCP Recertification for The Second Year Running

PPA

ISLAMABAD: Pearl-Continental Hotel, Muzaffarabad has been recertified by ISO 22000:2018 and HACCP, an esteemed international standard for food safety management two years in a row. ISO 22000 is recognized worldwide as a comprehensive framework that ensures the highest levels of food safety, covering processes from farm to fork.

The recertification audit, conducted by the globally renowned TUV Austria, encompassed on-site evaluations and a meticulous examination of documentation, policies, and procedures.

Addressing the positive audit results, Chief Operating Officer, Education and Hospitality Division, Hashoo Group, Haseeb A. Gardezi remarked, "Our commitment to excellence will only grow



stronger with such humbling accolades, spurring our motivation for exceptional service provision for many years to come."

EAM (In-charge Hotel), Pearl-Continental Hotel, Muzaffarabad, Aamir Ayyub shared his thoughts on the achievement, "Our teams

work hard to ensure premium services across the board for our valued guests. We are grateful for these recertifications and will continue enhancing our service standards and maintain excellence for all."

ISO 22000 is an internationally accepted standard for food safety management systems, providing a comprehensive framework to ensure the safety of food products throughout the supply chain. It covers processes from primary production to consumption, emphasizing a holistic approach to food safety.

Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP) is a systematic approach to food safety that identifies, evaluates, and controls potential hazards throughout food production. Developed in the 1960s by NASA in collaboration with the Pills-

bury Company to ensure the safety of space food, HACCP has since become a global standard in the food industry.

These audit outcomes celebrate Pearl-Continental Hotel, Muzaffarabad's exemplary ideals as no major or minor non-conformity was identified during the comprehensive assessment, showcasing the team's unwavering commitment to maintaining the highest standards in food safety.

Hashoo Group is Pakistan's premium conglomerate with a diversified business portfolio spanning national and international markets. The Group owns and operates the Pearl-Continental Hotels & Resorts and PC Legacy & Hotel One brands in Pakistan and has business interests encompassing the information technology, investment, travel & tourism, and real-estate sectors.

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Threatening letters: The Perilous Path of Pakistan's Judges

In a pivotal moment in Pakistan's history, the seven-member Supreme Court bench commenced hearings on the serious allegations raised by six judges regarding attempts to intimidate them into favorable rulings. At the outset, the Chief Justice and the government exchanged mutual praise for addressing the matter seriously, with the constitution of a one-man commission. Expressing regret over conspiratorial statements against Syed Tassadaq Jilani, who felt intimidated, recused himself from this significant responsibility.

The initial two hours of the session were dedicated to providing a thorough explanation, aimed at dispelling any perception that the Supreme Court was avoiding its responsibility. Despite this, the Chief Justice unequivocally affirmed the independence of the judiciary and vowed to defend it vigorously. The discussion also addressed long standing issues that have been overlooked, including instances where the Supreme Court's orders have been obstructed. Specifically, recent bail orders issued by the Supreme Court were frustrated by frivolous and illogical Magistrate's Preventive Orders (MPOs) issued by deputy commissioners.

One judge made a striking statement, acknowledging the intimidation, coercion, and blackmail faced by the judiciary to sway decisions according to certain interests. This candid admission highlighted the need to confront the reality of these challenges rather than turning a blind eye. Although the attorney general reflected the full cooperation of the government to proceed with the impugned case, it was evident that the jurisdiction of the civil

government is severely limited when it comes to holding intelligence agencies accountable.

The supreme court took up the matter after receiving a letter from six judges who alleged that they have been facing blatant and open unconstitutional intimidation, coercion, and arm-twisting from certain unscrupulous elements within the country's all powerful intelligence agency.

Their bravery, however, was met with a chilling response. Anonymous letters filled with threatening poisonous powder arrived, targeting all judges of the Islamabad High Court and today two judges of the Lahore High Court also received the same threatening letters, adding to the atmosphere of fear and intimidation.

However, conveniently, during the hearing of the suo moto case, the Supreme Court did not make even a passing reference to this stunning development. It is evident that such serious threats are not only targeting the judges of the High Court but also the judges of the Supreme Court who are currently hearing the impugned case.

It serves as a brazen warning that any attempt by the Supreme Court to challenge or investigate alleged interference from powerful entities will be met with intimidation and threats. This act seeks to undermine the authority and independence of the judiciary, signaling that even the highest echelons of the legal system are not immune to coercion and intimidation tactics.

Additionally, it reflects a broader assault on the rule of law and the principles of democracy, as it seeks to silence judicial scrutiny and accountability. The message is clear: any attempt to uphold justice and transparency will be met with severe consequences, creating a climate of fear and intimidation within the judicial system.

My sympathies also go to the CJSC who finds itself in an extraordinarily challenging position, torn between the imperative to safeguard the judiciary's independence and credibility and the immense pressure exerted by various political interests seeking to exploit the situation for their own gains. With the integrity of the judiciary hanging in the balance and the hopes of 250 million citizens relying on the court's ability to deliver justice, the Chief Justice bears the weighty responsibility of liberating the judiciary from the grip of intimidation and restoring its capacity to administer impartial justice.

However, he is keenly aware of the delicate equilibrium necessary to maintain positive relations with the establishment, crucial for ensuring the safety of judges and their families. Yet, the Chief Justice faces an unparalleled dilemma: how to address the presence of unscrupulous elements within the intelligence agencies when no individual, entity, or institution possesses the authority to compel these operatives to adhere to the constitution and the law of the land.

Before delving further into the complexities of the situation, it's crucial

to provide clarity on the term "Establishment." When the judiciary refers to alleged interference from intelligence agencies in its core functions of dispensing justice fairly, transparently, and without bias or fear, it pertains to a small faction within these agencies. These individuals may disregard the constitution, the rule of law, and the welfare of the Pakistani people. Their actions aim to manipulate the judiciary for what they perceive as the greater good and in the greater national interest, but they overlook that true progress and prosperity of any country can only be achieved through a judiciary that operates freely, fairly, and transparently and without facing any undue influence.

The six judges who bravely stepped forward as whistleblowers have rendered invaluable service to both the judiciary and the nation. Their decision to speak out, despite the grave risks to their own lives and those of their loved ones, underscores the immense pressure they must have endured in carrying out their duties. Ultimately, they reached a point where they could no longer bear the burden alone and turned to the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court for assistance. It's essential to recognize that the Chief Justice, like any human being, is vulnerable to the same dangers faced by those who spoke out. Moreover, while the constitution of Pakistan ostensibly extends its protections nationwide, analysts suggest there are areas where its authority is challenged, posing additional complexities and risks.

Writer is Press Secretary to the President (Rtd), Former Press Minister at Embassy of Pakistan to France, Former MD, SRBC



Analysis

Qamar Bashir



Cartoon by Amjad Rasmī. (Courtesy of Ashraf Al-Awdat)

Pakistan rebuts India's claim of Kashmir being its 'integral part'

Pakistan Tuesday hit back at India for claiming Kashmir to be its 'integral part', saying that repeating a wrong position would not make it acceptable at any forum. "Let me reaffirm that Jammu and Kashmir is an internationally recognized disputed territory and is not, by any means, a so-called integral part of India", Pakistani delegate Gul Qaiser Sarwani said, while responding to comments by India's representative during the general debate of the UN Disarmament Commission, which began its 2024 session on Monday.

The Indian representative, who was reacting to Pakistani Ambassador Munir Akram's speech to the Commission on the opening day, claimed that Jammu and Kashmir was an "integral part" of India, and accused Pakistan of being involved in terrorism. The Indian representative also accused Pakistan of misusing the forum by raising the Kashmir dispute. In his speech, besides other issues, Ambassador Akram had highlighted that Kashmiris and Palestinians were among the peoples still denied the right to self-determination, asserting that India's large-scale arms acquisitions plus its set of aggressive military policies has turned the security environment in South Asia "volatile and explosive". Exercising his right to reply, Sarwani, the Pakistani delegate underscored that Jammu and Kashmir is an internationally recognized disputed territory and not an "integral part of India", and that Ambassador Akram's remarks were completely relevant to the work of the Commission. "Contrary to India's assertion, the situation in the Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir, India's massive arms build up, aggressive posturing, and war-fighting doctrines are completely relevant to the Commission's work, as they carry grave implications for regional and international peace and security – and hence impinge on efforts towards disarmament," Sarwani added. The Pakistani delegate said that his country was facing a significant threat of terrorism, which is orchestrated, supported and financed by its Eastern neighbour (India), a well-known state sponsor of terrorism whose terrorist network has gone global, reaching countries far beyond its borders. Sarwani reiterated Pakistan's stance on the longstanding Jammu and Kashmir dispute, emphasizing that it remains on the agenda of the UN Security Council and that its final disposition is to be determined by its people through a UN-supervised plebiscite. On the programme of work of the Conference on Disarmament (CD), Sarwani expressed Pakistan's concerns over India's emphasis on the Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty (FMCT), which disproportionately affects Pakistan's national security interests. He urged for flexibility and compromise from all delegations to break the longstanding deadlock in the CD. "Failure to achieve consensus in the CD also reflects on the lack of sincere and inclusive efforts by the President to bring all member states on board," he said. The Pakistani delegate also called on the international community to address attempts to undermine regional peace and security, emphasizing their direct impact on prospects for disarmament at both regional and global levels.

Judges' Letter and Disturbing Efforts to Controversialize Prominent Intelligence Agency - I

Within the intricate fabric of democratic societies, an autonomous judiciary stands as a foundational pillar, ensuring the principles of justice, equality, and the rule of law are upheld. Integral to the system of checks and balances, an autonomous judiciary guarantees the protection of citizens' rights and liberties, monitors governmental adherence to constitutional boundaries, and ensures impartial dispensation of justice. The importance of an autonomous judiciary cannot be overstated, as it acts as a barrier against authoritarianism, prevents abuses of power, and cultivates trust in the legal system.



Analysis

Abdul Basit Alvi

Furthermore, an autonomous judiciary serves as a check on governmental authority through judicial review, ensuring governmental actions align with constitutional principles and safeguarding citizens' rights.

Moreover, an autonomous judiciary plays a critical role in upholding the rule of law by interpreting and applying laws consistently and impartially. This fosters a stable legal environment conducive to economic growth, investment, and property rights protection. Additionally, it preserves public trust and confidence in the legal system, promoting compliance with laws and respect for judicial decisions, thus contributing to social cohesion and democratic functioning.

However, the judiciary's independence has faced challenges in Pakistan, with numerous controversial decisions sparking debates over its impartiality and integrity. One such decision involved the disqualification of former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif in 2017 due to corruption charges stemming from the Panama Papers scandal. This decision led to political upheaval, highlighting the complexities and challenges confronting Pakistan's legal

system in upholding the rule of law. While proponents celebrated the ruling as a triumph for accountability and openness, detractors accused the judiciary of exceeding its mandate and engaging in judicial activism. It is then startling to witness instances where a court issues a verdict, only for it to be later overturned by another authority. The recent reevaluation of the Zulfiqar Bhutto case serves as a pertinent example. The ramifications of such contentious decisions are profound and extend widely within both the judiciary and society at large.

On one hand, contentious judgments can erode public confidence in the judiciary, undermining the legitimacy of judicial institutions and weakening the rule of law. Conversely, they can also act as a catalyst for societal transformation, fostering accountability, transparency, and respect for human rights. Addressing the challenges posed by contentious rulings demands a concerted effort to bolster judicial independence, impartiality, and integrity. Judicial reforms, encompassing measures to bolster transparency, accountability, and professionalism, are indispensable for restoring public faith in the legal system. Additionally, judges themselves must demonstrate an unwavering commitment to upholding the highest ethical and professional standards in their conduct.

To be continued

Bhutto is Alive

50 years after Bhutto's execution, 9 members of the Supreme Court of Pakistan pronounced the decision that Bhutto was killed unjustly. This writ was filed in the Supreme Court of Pakistan in 2011 by the current President of Pakistan Asif Ali Zardari, the son-in-law of Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto Shaheed. And after 13 years, the Supreme Court declared Bhutto's execution as a "judicial mistake" and declared it unfair. Before Bhutto came to power, prominent columnist Mehmood Sham had an interview with Bhutto in 1969, in which Bhutto made education a priority for the country and the nation and said, "Education should be free for the development of the country. In this regard, free education will be our first step. Secondary education should be free. Our effort will be to make education and health as cheap as possible".

In short, the educational reforms that Qauid e Awam Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto Shaheed brought to power could not be done in the 77-year history of Pakistan. Today's youth needs to study the Bhutto era reforms, let's take a look at only the education sector among these reforms:

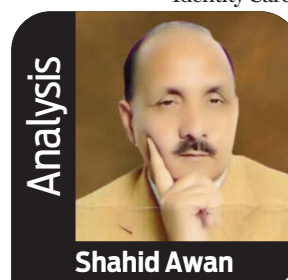
When Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto government was established, 6,500 elementary schools, 900 middle schools, 407 high schools, 51 Intermediate Colleges and 21 junior colleges were established. In 1974, the Bhutto government established the Abbasi Shaheed Hospital in Paposh Nagar Karachi, Sindh Medical College Karachi on 7 April 1973, Chandka Medical College Larkana on 20 April 1973 and Bolan Medical College Quetta in 1972, Punjab Medical College Faisalabad, Allama Iqbal Medical College Lahore (then Lahore Medical College) on 2 May 1975. The Bhutto government established Hayat Shaheed Teaching Hospital Peshawar (now called Khyber Teaching Hospital) in 1976. Instructions were issued to the hostels that fans, water coolers and pay telephones must be provided in every hostel within minimum time. After the 1977 elections, plans were made to add seven thousand new hostel seats to the existing accommodation.

For the first time during Bhutto's reign, agricultural land was limited to 150 acres of irrigated land and 300 acres of non-irrigated land. Huge tax concessions were also introduced for small landowners. Bhutto upgraded many dams and barrages. The Bhutto government initiated schemes to deal with water bodies and salinity. In 1976, the Bhutto government established the Federal Flood Commission (FFC), and

was tasked with research into the national flood prevention plan, flood forecasting and flood water utilization. The Bhutto government launched a program to make the country self-sufficient in rice, sugar, wheat and industries. Bhutto's nationalization of industries greatly benefited the poor masses, but deeply upset the powerful landlords. Chiefdom system was abolished in Balochistan. KESC was created and kept under full government control without any private influence. The Bhutto government also established these institutions:

Atomic Energy Commission of Pakistan, Port Qasim, Pakistan Steel Mills, Heavy Mechanical Complex Taxila (HMC), Company for Pak Air Force in Kamra (PAC) and several cement factories. The Bhutto government gave the Constitution of Pakistan in 1973 and during his tenure the National Identity Card was introduced for the nation. His govt. created millions of jobs for skilled workers in the Gulf countries. Throughout Bhutto's tenure, despite the global oil crisis of 1973 and the absence of USAID and US sanctions, the economy's growth rate remained at equilibrium levels compared to the 1960s. Bhutto's policies benefited the poor and the working class more when absolute poverty levels fell sharply. The land reform program provided economic assistance to landless tenants. Development expenditure increased, particularly in health, education, construction of roads, railways and airports. In order to maintain the flow of investment, foreign companies and industries in Pakistan were exempted from nationalization. Addressing investors at the Lahore Chamber of Commerce in 1973, Bhutto said: "Public sector or state sector activity prevents the concentration of economic power in a few hands, and protects small and medium-sized entrepreneurs from the clutches of giant corporations and vested interests."

In July 1973, Bhutto founded the National Development Finance Corporation (NDFC) with an initial government investment of Rs 100 million. NDFC is currently the largest development finance institution in Pakistan. 42 projects funded by NDFC have contributed Rs. 10,761 million and 10,761 million were generated in Pakistan's GDP, 690 million in after-tax profits and 40,465 jobs. The Bhutto government reduced the level of private and public investment in the economy from Rs. 17,000 million in 1974-75 to over Rs.7000 million in 1971-72. Bhutto amended banking laws to force banks to ensure 70 percent.



Analysis

Shahid Awan

45th death anniversary of Quaid-e-Awam Zulfikar Ali Bhutto

'Remembering a Visionary Leader: Honoring the Legacy of Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto on his Death Anniversary'

As we observe the solemn occasion of the death anniversary of Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, it is essential to reflect on the remarkable life and legacy of one of Pakistan's most influential leaders. PM Bhutto's journey from birth to his judicial murder, his dedication to serving the poor, and his enduring impact on the political landscape of Pakistan continue to inspire generations.

Born on January 5, 1928, in Larkana, Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto hailed from a prominent political family. Educated at the University of California, Berkeley, and later at the University of Oxford, Bhutto possessed a sharp intellect and a profound understanding of global politics. His marriage to Nusrat Bhutto and his close relationship with his children further emphasized his commitment to family values.

Entering politics with a fervent desire to uplift the downtrodden, PM Bhutto founded the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) in 1967. His populist agenda aimed to empower the marginalized segments of society and bridge the gap between the rich and the poor. PM Bhutto gave self respect and awareness to an ordinary person that he/she is the legitimate owner of politics of Pakistan.

As a charismatic orator and a

visionary leader, Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto galvanized support from across the nation, promising to usher in an era of social justice and economic prosperity.

During his tenure as President and later Prime Minister, Bhutto implemented a series of groundbreaking reforms aimed at improving the lives of ordinary Pakistanis. His policies included land reforms to redistribute agricultural land to landless farmers, nationalization of key industries

to benefit the working class, and the introduction of labor rights to protect workers' interests. PM Bhutto's government also initiated ambitious infrastructure projects and

focused on expanding education and healthcare access, laying the foundation for a more equitable society. He organized the conference of OIC, developed strong relations with China, PM Bhutto signed Shimla Agreement with Indira Gandhi due to which ninety thousand war prisoners were brought back from India. SZAB took back 5000 square miles land from India, formed student and labor unions and passed 1973 constitution unanimously. Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto was

main architect of the 1973 constitution which was unanimously passed by the Parliament to lead Pakistan toward parliamentary democracy. PM Bhutto created all these projects (port qasim, kamra complex, steel Mills, Wah ordinance factory, nuclear technology) for the development and prosperity of Pakistan.

Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto's profound impact on Pakistani politics extended beyond mere rhetoric; he was a pioneer in championing gender equality and empowering women in the political arena. One of his most significant contributions was the introduction of female representation in the National Assembly, a move that not only transformed the dynamics of governance but also paved the way for greater inclusion and diversity in policymaking.

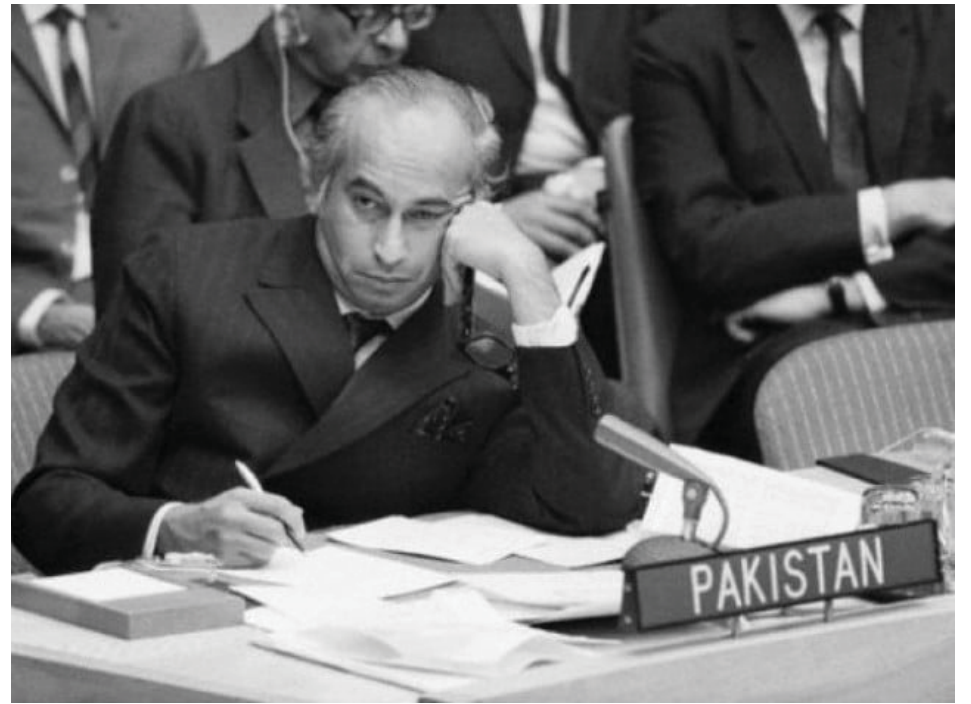
PM Bhutto recognized the inherent value of women's voices in shaping the nation's future and understood that their participation was essential for a truly representative democracy. By increasing the women's quota in the National Assembly, PM Bhutto broke down barriers that had

long excluded women from meaningful participation in politics. He believed in harnessing the talent and potential of every citizen, regardless of gender, to contribute to the development and progress of the nation.

In doing so, Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto not only expanded the political space for women but also democratized the political process, shifting the focus from the privileged elite to the marginalized segments of society. His visionary leadership exemplified a commitment to social justice and equality, as he tirelessly advocated for the rights of all citizens, regardless of their socio-economic background.

PM Bhutto's mantra of "politics for the people" resonated deeply with the masses, as he strove to bridge the gap between the rich and the poor, and empower the marginalized to have a say in their own governance. By recognizing the inherent dignity and worth of every individual, his pioneering efforts to promote gender equality and empower the marginalized continue to inspire generations of Pakistanis to strive for a more just and equitable society.

However, Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto's tenure was marred by political turmoil and external pressures. Despite his efforts to navigate the complex geopolitical landscape, he faced opposition from various quarters, both



domestically and internationally. The controversial trial and subsequent execution of PM Bhutto in 1979 sent shockwaves across the nation and sparked widespread condemnation globally. Many viewed his hanging as a grave miscarriage of justice, orchestrated by political rivals and foreign powers.

The aftermath of Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto's unjust judicial murder had profound impli-

cations for his family, particularly his children. His daughter, Shaheed Benazir Bhutto, emerged as a prominent political figure, following in her father's footsteps to lead the PPP and serve as Prime Minister. Tragically, she too met a similar fate, assassinated in 2007 while campaigning for democratic ideals and social justice.

As we honor the memory of Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto on this solemn occasion, let us not

only remember his immense contributions to Pakistan but also reflect on the enduring values he stood for: democracy, equality, and the pursuit of justice. His legacy serves as a beacon of hope for all those who strive for a better, more equitable future. May his vision continue to inspire us to build a society where the rights and dignity of every individual are upheld, and where the dreams of the poor and marginalized are realized.



Analysis

Ms Naheed Khan

45th Death Anniversary of Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto: Black Day in the history of Pakistan

With the establishment of Pakistan in 1947 dream of Pakistan got its interpretation in which Quaid-e-Azam and his team were included, if we see the downsides of Pakistan's politics, after the death of Quaid-i-Azam, his sister (Moharama Fatima Jinnah) took his place. After the era of Ayub Khan came the era of Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto. Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto was born in 1928 and got his education from abroad.

Then he returned to Pakistan to play an important role in politics. And he participated in politics during Ayub Khan's reign. After that Prime Minister Bhutto became the youngest Foreign Minister of Pakistan. He also served as the fourth President from 1971 to 1973, and later as the ninth Prime Minister of Pakistan from 1973 to 1977. He was the founder of the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) and served as its chairman until his execution.

Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto was the country's first civilian chief martial law



administrator since 1958, as well as the country's first civilian president. With Prime Minister Bhutto assuming the control, the leftists and democratic socialists entered the country's politics, and later emerged as power players in the country's politics. And, for the first time in the country's history, the leftists and democratic socialists had a chance to administer the country with the popular vote and widely approved exclusive mandate, given to them by the West's population in the 1970s elections.

After that, in 1971 an accident happened due to which our East Pakistan got separated. 90,000 of our prisoners of war went to the custody of India. It was Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto who freed all these prisoners from Indian custody. And respectfully brought to Pakistan. In the 1971 war, India created an environment that allowed its gangsters to enter Bangladesh and created an environment that would turn people against West Pakistan and its forces of Pakistan.

Misunderstandings were created so much that the tragedy of East Pakistan happened. After that, Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto became the Prime Minister of Pakistan with a two-thirds majority. His first mission was to protect and strengthen the constitution of Pakistan. In this he took all the opposition parties of Pakistan into confidence. And the current constitution of Pakistan is the

constitution of 1973 given by Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto. He provided facilities and equipment needed for Pakistan's forces around the world. He traveled all over the world.

And told the whole world what role India has played in the separation of East Pakistan. How Pakistan has been stabbed in the back by India. In 1974 India detonated nuclear weapons at Pokhran, a place in the state of Rajasthan. After that once again the balance shifted towards India. It was a momentous occasion and also a patient task for Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto.

He visited Arab countries immediately after India's nuclear explosions. And informed their leaders of India's dangerous ambitions. Afterwards He organized the Islamic Summit Conference in Lahore. In which he explained India's dangerous ambitions and India's hostility towards Pakistan

And an agreed course of action was drawn up.

Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto said that when India has done four nuclear explosions, we should also think about it. Saudi Arabia especially provided financial support to Pakistan. After that, Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto started communicating with nuclear scientist Abdul Qadeer Khan and other nuclear scientists.

Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto succeeded in bringing atomic scientist Abdul Qadeer Khan to Pakistan. Pakistan continued its journey to become a nuclear power. Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto's best achievement was the Kamra aeronautical complex, Heavy mechanical complex Taxila, Pakistan Steel mill He started such huge projects. But when Pakistan started its atomic journey, unfortunately America, India and other forces decided to divert Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto from the path.

As a result, the Pakistan National Alliance, also known as PNA, was formed in which Mufti Mahmood

Nawabzada Nasrullah Khan, Mian Tufail Ahmed, Qazi Hussain Ahmed was included. They started a movement in the name of Tehreek Nizam Mustafa. Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto preferred Zia-ul-Haq and made him Army Chief and promoted him to 7 ranks. Zia-ul-Haq overthrew the elected government of Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto. And confused Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto in the Nawab Ahmad Muhammad Khan case and he was finally sentenced to death.

Zia-ul-Haq had imposed martial law, then the Supreme Court also confirmed this decision. Finally, on April 4, 1979, at 2 Am, Prime Minister Bhutto was hanged in Adiala Jail. After that, he was cremated at Garhi Khuda Bakhsh in the presence of his 9,10 employees. When Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto was arrested, his wife Nusrat Bhutto and his daughter Ms. Benazir Bhutto struggled with the public to release her father. America succeeded with the Zia-ul-haq team to divert Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto from the path.

Zulfikar Ali Bhutto didn't get fair trial, Pakistan court says in history-correcting verdict

Naimat Khan / Aamir Saeed

Bhutto trial, hanging in 1979 still considered one of the most troubling milestones in Pakistani political history

Family and political supporters allege judges came under pressure from military ruler to sentence Bhutto to death

The Pakistan Supreme Court said on Wednesday former Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, hanged in 1979 following one of the country's most controversial legal cases, did not get a fair trial, a verdict widely seen by the ex-premier's family and political associates as a "correcting of history."

Bhutto was hanged on April 4, 1979, in Rawalpindi District Jail, where he had been confined since his conviction on charges of conspiring to murder a political opponent. The charismatic, Western-educated leader who founded the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) served as the fourth president of Pakistan from 1971 to 1973, and later as the country's ninth prime minister from 1973 to 1977. He was ousted in a military coup by General Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq on July 5, 1977, following an election in which Bhutto is widely charged with having rigged the vote.

Legal experts have for years questioned Bhutto's trial both in the Lahore High Court and the Supreme Court, and raised questions on the conduct and procedure of the hearings, as well as on the fact that they took place while Paki-

stan was under military rule. Analysts argue this is the reason Bhutto's death penalty judgment has never been cited as a precedent in any subsequent case in Pakistan's judicial history.

"The proceedings of the trial by the Lahore High Court and of the appeal by the Supreme Court of Pakistan do not meet the requirements of the fundamental right to a fair trial and due process enshrined in Articles 4 and 9 of the constitution," the chief justice said while announcing the unanimous opinion of the court under its advisory jurisdiction.

The guilty verdict against Bhutto is still considered one of the most controversial milestones in Pakistan's history. His family and political supporters allege the judges came under pressure from Zia to sentence Bhutto to death.

Before his hanging, Bhutto was first declared guilty in 1978 by the Lahore High Court. His appeal in the Supreme Court was then dismissed with a 4-3 verdict.

The decision to hang Bhutto was made by General Zia despite a flood of petitions for executive clemency from dozens of world leaders, including US President Jimmy Carter, Russia's Leonid I. Brezhnev, Chinese PM Hua Guofeng and Pope John Paul II, besides thousands of Bhutto's Pakistani supporters.

Pakistani President Asif Ali Zardari, Bhutto's son-in-law, filed a presidential reference in 2011 to review the 44-year-old death sentence. Only six hearings



were conducted, the last of them in November 2012. A nine-member larger bench of the Supreme Court began rehearing the reference last December.

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, in a statement following the verdict, said the top court had set "a new tradition" through its opinion.

"The unanimous opinion of the Supreme Court in the Bhutto reference will help understand history at the national level through the right perspective," Sharif noted. "The process of national unity and development can be accelerated only by correcting the past mistakes and doing away with the bitterness."

Badar noted the court acknowledged its "historic mistake" and tried to correct it through a legal opinion. "The opinion is unanimous of all nine judges in the bench that is significant in many ways," he said.

Legal experts said that while the court gave an opinion on Bhutto's trial and procedural conduct, it had stopped short of giving its view on whether the ex-premier was guilty or not.

"This is a legal opinion of the court which is obviously significant and historic, but the court has refrained from commenting on Bhutto's involvement in the murder case," advocate Usama Malik told Arab News.

"The court has, in fact, given an opinion against its own institution that should also be followed by other institutions to accept their past mistakes and correct the course."

He said the opinion remains "symbolic" if the Supreme Court fails to look into other important legal cases pending before it for adjudication, referring to a slew of criminal cases against former prime minister Imran Khan who has been in jail since August last year.

Former attorney-general of Pakistan, advocate Ashtar Ausaf, said the court's opinion was a "very significant" one as it had revisited a judgment that had been criticized all along.

"The conviction they say was a result of procedural impropriety and violated the right of Mr. Bhutto for a fair trial," he told Arab News. "This is a sad indictment of the criminal justice system that

was suffering even today."

He urged the government to request political parties to sit together and approve legislation that gets rid of "archaic and redundant" laws.

"The Supreme Court opinion is a wake-up call for all to do an introspection themselves," he said.

Salahuddin Ahmed, a legal expert and president of the Sindh High Court Bar Association, cautioned that the Supreme Court could only offer an advisory opinion in response to the presidential reference but not set aside the earlier verdict.

"It may, however, opine that the earlier verdict suffered on account of bias of one or more judges," he explained. "If so, it will not automatically set aside the earlier verdict but it will certainly give judicial acknowledgment to the widespread public and historical opinion that the Bhutto trial and execution was flawed and orchestrated by General Zia, the then military dictator."

"In my view, acknowledging and correcting the past judicial mistakes is important to correct the course going forward," Ahmed added.

"The decision in the Bhutto murder trial cannot be reversed, but in Pakistan's political history, it will be proven that at another time, Pakistan's judiciary supported anti-democratic forces," academic and historian Dr. Riaz Ahmed Sheikh told Arab News a day before the SC verdict in the case.

Courtesy Arab News

Bull & Bears
PSX 100-Share
Index Fluctuation

Pakistan: PSX 100-Share Index	
Current	Prev. Close
67,756.03	66,886.26
Day's High	Day's Low
67,873.21	66,985.01
Index Value	Change
7,137,440,240	+869.77
Percentage	Time
+1.3%	3 Apr, 2024 5:00 pm

Europe: FTSE 100 Index	
Index Value	Change
7,937.44	+2.35
Percentage	Time
+0.030%	3 Apr, 4:35 pm GMT+1

USA: Dow Jones Industrial Average	
Index Value	Change
39,218.13	+47.89
Percentage	Time
+0.12%	Apr, 1:20 pm GMT-4

Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Average	
Index Value	Change
39,451.85	-387.06
Percentage	Time
-0.97%	3 Apr, 3:15 pm GMT+9

Open Market Forex Rates		
Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	182.7	184.5
Bahrain Dinar	738.89	746.89
Canadian Dollar	204	206.2
China Yuan	38.5	38.9
Danish Krone	40.06	40.46
Euro	302	305
Hong Kong Dollar	35.57	35.92
Indian Rupee	3.33	3.44
Japanese Yen	1.86	1.94
Kuwaiti Dinar	903	912
Malaysian Ringgit	58.92	59.52
New Zealand \$	167.02	169.02
Norwegians Krone	25.38	25.68
Omani Riyal	721.71	729.71
Qatari Riyal	76.48	77.18
Saudi Riyal	73.3	74.05
Singapore Dollar	206	208
Swedish Korona	25.72	26.02
Swiss Franc	308.43	310.93
Thai Bhat	7.61	7.76
U.A.E Dirham	75.4	76.15
UK Pound Sterling	353	357
US Dollar	278	281.75

IMF satisfied with the performance of Finance Minister

PPA

ISLAMABAD: Former President of the Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI), Dr. Shahid Rasheed Butt, said on Wednesday that the International Monetary Fund (IMF) is pleased with the performance of the Finance Minister.

The business community is hopeful that Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb will be able to sign a new agreement with the lender during the current year, which is necessary to save the country, he said.

Terrorism and investment are not compatible, and sugar exports should be prohibited as they will lead to an increase in inflation, he added.

Shahid Rasheed Butt said in a statement issued here today that a new agreement with

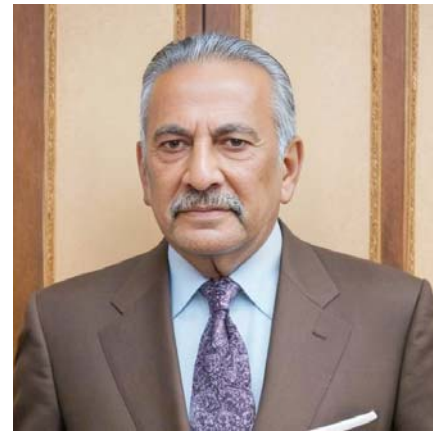
the IMF is important for Pakistan because irresponsible spending without IMF oversight will again empty the coffers.

He said that the Finance Minister is working hard to get the country out of the crisis, and since he has no political ambitions, he is not forced to make decisions against merit.

He added that the FM's decisions have given the public and business community hope to improve the situation.

He said that the country is currently going through a critical period, but some politicians are busy pulling the legs of the finance minister, who needs to be stopped.

Some politicians are trying to keep the finance minister out of important forums. In contrast, he observed that the reins of some important issues are being handed over to failed politicians, which is equivalent to playing with



the country's interests. He said that such negative actions can affect

the confidence of investors and international organizations, so it would be better if party politics were given priority over national interests on this critical occasion.

Shahid Rashid Butt said that terrorism and investment cannot go together in Pakistan. The country can never develop in the presence of the enemies of Pakistan-China friendship, so it has become necessary to crush them with full force.

He said that the sugar mills want to export a huge quantity of sugar, which should be discouraged as it will make sweeteners expensive in the country. This will allow them to earn billions of rupees overnight by robbing the public.

India has banned the export of sugar, onions, rice, and other commodities to keep prices under control in the local market; therefore, he demanded that Pakistan impose such a ban.

Hardwork

LAHORE: A worker bringing notebooks on his pushcart in Urdu Market in the Provincial Capital.



Photo: Online

JS Bank crosses half a trillion deposits mark

PPA

ISLAMABAD: JS Bank, one of the fastest-growing banks in Pakistan, announced the milestone of crossing PKR 500 billion in deposits.

This achievement resulted from sustained momentum stemming from a strong closing of 2023, with the Bank posting a Profit Before Tax of PKR 8.5 billion, a four times growth as compared to the previous year. JS Bank's deposit closed at PKR 486 billion in 2023, and total assets at PKR 589 billion.

JS Bank also made strides in expanding its digital footprint. The bank's digital customer base increased by 46% over last year, and 80% of the Bank's brick-and-mortar branches are now equipped with digital account opening features.

Basir Shamsie, President & CEO of JS Bank, commented, "This achieve-



ment is a testament to our teams' commitment to providing top-notch products and services to our customers and partners. The result is a product of our combined efforts from different verticals including retail, transaction banking, corporate banking, and digital banking groups, and reflects our shared ambition to grow and improve our services."

Committed to its role as a catalyst toward Pakistan's prosperity, JS Bank aspires to continue its journey of impact by providing innovative conventional and digital financial solutions for customers in the years to come.

NICL selects PTCL to expedite the Digital Transformation journey

PPA

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Telecommunication Company Limited (PTCL) and National Insurance Company Limited have signed an agreement for provision of Smart Cloud Services bundled with allied licenses.

Muhammad Basharat Qureshi, Group Vice President Enterprise Solutions, PTCL and Khalid Hameed, Chief Executive Officer, National Insurance Company Limited (NICL), signed the agreement at a ceremony recently held at NICL's Head office in Karachi. Umar Farooqi, Group Director, Enterprise Solutions, PTCL, Tariq Aziz, Executive Director, National Insurance Company and Bilal Kully, General Manager Information Technology, National Insurance Company, were also present on the occasion, along with other senior officials.

PTCL provides the National Insurance Company with its state-of-the-art infrastructure solutions that are equipped with the latest technology, in-built managed security and DDoS filtering solution.

During the signing ceremony, Muhammad Basharat Qureshi, Group Vice President Enterprise Solutions, PTCL, said, "We are pleased to sign an agreement with



National Insurance Company to support them in fulfilling their business needs. PTCL, being a national company, is leading the digitization effort across the country. Through such partnerships, PTCL continues to play its key role in the development of technology infrastructure by providing innovative and secure solutions to the corporate & public sector that will further contribute towards the overall economic growth of the country."

On the occasion, Khalid Hameed, Chief Executive Officer, National Insurance Company, said, "In light of the current

fast-paced banking activities specially through mobile and online platforms, regular upgrades to the security apparatus are crucial. We are pleased to sign this agreement with PTCL as our trusted partner for our Smart Cloud Services for Virtual Private Servers.

PTCL endeavors to provide best-in-class services to its corporate customers across various industries in Pakistan. This agreement is part of the growth momentum in the diverse areas of ICT and Security Solutions, which is key to a digital banking eco-system in Pakistan.

ACCA survey highlights challenges facing auditing profession in attracting and retaining talent

PPA

LAHORE: Major challenges that the audit profession faces in attracting and retaining talent are set out in the latest report by ACCA (the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants) and Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand (CA ANZ).

A survey conducted by accountancy bodies ACCA and CA ANZ, which was supported by a series of global roundtables, revealed persistent challenges facing the auditing profession in its battle to attract and retain talent, implying declining numbers entering the profession.

Insights from more than 6,500 finance professionals across the globe revealed a sector whose workforce is demanding flexible working and equitable remuneration in the face of increasing concerns about individuals' work life balance.

Antonios Diolas, head of Audit and Assurance, ACCA and author of the report Attract, Engage, Retain: Insights and Recommendations for Audit Talent Success, said: "A compelling insight from our study highlights the absence of a commonly understood and unified purpose within the audit profession. This not only inhibits prospective candidates from entering the profession in the first place, but also hinders current professionals from recognising how their work generates value."

Amir Ghandar, Reporting and Assurance leader, CA ANZ said: "The research clearly shows the need for empathy and respect in the workplace recognising employees' multifaceted lives. People also need to be able to see themselves in their leaders, to visualise the opportunities and career possibilities in a way that feels real."

Zong 4G partners up with Dahua Technologies to offer security and surveillance solutions to corporate sector

PPA

ISLAMABAD: Zong 4G, Pakistan's premier telecommunications organization, has embarked on a groundbreaking journey by forging a Gold Partnership with Dahua Technologies, the global leader in video-based Advanced IoT solutions. This strategic collaboration is set to revolutionize the security and surveillance landscape for the corporate sector.

In response to the ever-evolving challenges of the digital era, Zong 4G is taking bold strides in its digital transformation endeavors. Now, with the introduction of CCTV cameras, storage devices, and advanced access control systems, complemented by centralized and integrated solutions, Zong 4G is committed to safeguarding the invaluable data and assets of corporate clients.

This partnership embodies Zong 4G's vision of fostering strategic alliances with top-tier Information and Communication Technology (ICT) providers. By joining forces with Dahua Technologies, Zong 4G gains access to a comprehensive range



of cutting-edge products to offer its corporate clientele.

Speaking at the momentous Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signing ceremony, a Zong 4G spokesperson expressed enthusiasm for the collaboration: "We are thrilled to announce our partnership with Dahua Technologies. Together, we aim to deliver unparalleled security and surveillance services to our esteemed clients. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Dahua

Technologies for entrusting us with their services. This alliance marks a new chapter in the realm of state-of-the-art security solutions for the corporate sector."

Zong 4G recognizes the pivotal role of ICT in shaping our societies, facilitating connections, and enhancing communications. This latest partnership underscores its commitment to bolstering the ICT landscape in Pakistan, further contributing to the nation's progress and development.

Oman Housing Bank selects Temenos for Core Banking Modernization in the Cloud

PPA

KARACHI: Temenos today announced that Oman Housing Bank (OHB), a leading provider of housing finance in Oman, has selected Temenos to modernize its core banking capabilities in the cloud.

Established in 1977, OHB plays an important role in the economic development of Oman by enabling the provision of government subsidized housing loans and helping to widen access to finance for those on low to moderate incomes. In the first half of 2023, the bank approved over 2,000 housing loans with a total value of over 86m Omani Rials (USD 223m).

Moosa Al Jadidi, CEO, Oman Housing Bank,

commented: "Modernizing our core banking capabilities with Temenos is a key part of our digital transformation project, which will enable us to strengthen our position as the largest contributor to providing adequate housing to Omani citizens. With Temenos, we'll be able to further develop our product offering and speed up our procedures, helping us contribute even more to the economic progress and development of the country."

Lee Allcorn, Managing Director, Middle East & Africa, Temenos, said: "We are delighted to be chosen by Oman Housing Bank for its digital transformation, which further highlights the expertise and experience of Temenos in the Middle East.

Nearly 10 million devices hacked in 2023 by cybercriminals: Kaspersky

PPA

ISLAMABAD: Nearly 10 million devices fell victim to data-stealing malware in 2023, Kaspersky Digital Footprint Intelligence has revealed, drawing from insights gathered from infostealer malware log files traded on underground markets. According to Kaspersky's data, 443,000 websites worldwide have experienced compromised credentials in the past 5 years. The .com domain leads to compromised accounts with nearly 326 million logins and passwords for websites on this domain were compromised by infostealers in 2023. While the compromised accounts of .pk domain in Pakistan reached 2.4 million.

Latest reports on data stealing shows a 643% increase over the past three years. The actual number of infections is likely to be even higher than 10 million. According to Kaspersky's assessment of infostealer log-file dynamics, the number of infections that occurred in 2023 is projected to reach roughly 16,000,000.

With cybercriminals pilfering an average of 50.9 login credentials per infected device, the threat posed by data-stealers is growing for both consumers and businesses. In light of this growing threat, Kaspersky has launched a dedicated web page to raise awareness of the issue and provide strategies for mitigating associated risks.

Threat actors either utilize these credentials for their own malicious purposes, including perpetrating cyberattacks, or sell or distribute them freely on dark web forums and shadow Telegram channels. These credentials may encompass logins for social media, online banking services, crypto wallets, and various corporate online services, such as email and internal systems.

"The dark-web value of log files with login credentials varies depending on the data's appeal and the way it's sold there. Credentials may be sold through a subscription service with regular uploads, a so-called "aggregator" for specific requests, or via a "shop" selling recently acquired login credentials exclusively to selected buyers. Prices typically begin at \$10 per log file in these shops.

To guard against data-stealing malware,

Army chief's Iftar to cut cricket training camp short

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan cricket team's training camp in Kakul is set to end a day early after an invitation by Army Chief General Asim Munir.

The camp was originally slated to end on April 8 but will now end on April 7.

However, the cricketers have now been invited to an iftar in the the General Headquarters in Rawalpindi on April 7, after which the camp will formally end.

The team will then report back in Rawalpindi after Eid ul Fitr to prepare for a series against New Zealand beginning on April 18.

The training camp was organised by the Pakistan Cricket Board soon after Mohsin Naqvi took over as chairman.

Naqvi had stressed that training under the army will help improve fitness standards, despite cramming the team's schedule.



Ramzan Night Football, Volleyball Tournaments held in SW Lower & Upper

Adam Khan Wazir

SOUTH WAZIRISTAN: In the holy month of Ramzan, the joy of the youth was doubled with the night sports tournaments held in the corners of South Waziristan Lower and Upper Two Districts.

While this type of tournaments which has restored health activities for the youth of Waziristan.

In this blessed month of Ramzan, night football and night volleyball tournaments have been started in different areas of Waziristan in Tanai, Spin, Chaghmalai and other areas with the support of the Sports Department.

The players said that apart from different regions of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, players from Balochistan are also participating in these tournaments.

From which it can be inferred that the youth of Waziristan are



very peaceful and are contributing fully to the formation of a healthy society.

Local citizens said that the last twenty years of Waziristan have passed, in which people used to go to their homes as soon as the

sun went down and because of the unrest, it was known that a person who left home in the morning was considered a spoil to return home safely in the evening.

But with the changing of the

situation, there is a message of peace for the people of Waziristan now that the sports fields are settled.

The players said that the youth here are giving this message to the world by settling

the sports fields, that the youth of Waziristan are not only peace-loving, but pioneers in healthy activities.

On the other hand, South Waziristan District Sports Officer Noor Ullah says that the Department of Sports Directorate of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa is a strong effort that the sportsmen of Waziristan should be provided with the facilities that are available to the sportsmen in other cities of the country.

He said that sports are very important for a healthy society, so, our effort is to establish sports fields in Waziristan.

It is worth mentioning here that if the government takes practical steps and plays an active role in developing sports fields in Waziristan, so, in the near future, the youth of Waziristan can give such athletes to the nation, which can brighten the name of the country and nations at the global level.

Pep Guardiola backs 'world's best' Erling Haaland in Roy Keane row

Sports Desk

LAHORE: Pep Guardiola said Erling Haaland should be respected as the "best striker in the world" after the Manchester City star was subjected to scathing criticism by Roy Keane.

Former Manchester United captain Keane, speaking on Sky Sports, said Haaland's "general play" was "so poor" and "almost like a League Two player".

Haaland came under fire from Keane for his lacklustre performance in City's goalless draw against Premier League title rivals Arsenal on Sunday.

Erling Haaland is the Premier League's leading scorer this term with 18 goals after winning last season's Golden Boot during a remarkable first season with City.

He netted 52 times in all competitions as Guardiola's men lifted the Premier League, Champions League and FA Cup.

Keane conceded the 23-year-old Norwegian is in a class of his own in front of goal.

But City boss Pep Guardiola was unimpressed by Keane's



remarks, insisting any blame for the scoreless display against Arsenal should be shared by the team.

"I don't agree with him, absolutely not. He's the best striker in the world and he helped us to win what we won last season. Erling is exceptional," Guardiola

told reporters on Tuesday.

"The reason we don't create chances is not because of Erling. The standards that Erling has are unbelievable and everyone expects other things.

"There are games where he could be better but I knew during the game against Arse-

nal that the reason why we were not creating chances was not because of Erling.

"We needed more presence in the box. If we had that Erling would have more space. It happens sometimes. If you want to score goals, bring a lot of players to the opponent keeper, it is

as simple as that."

City's failure to beat Arsenal has damaged their bid to win an unprecedented fourth successive English title.

They are three points behind leaders Liverpool ahead of Aston Villa's visit to the Etihad Stadium on Wednesday.

Pep Guardiola will need Erling Haaland at his predatory best if City are to extend their reign as champions.

And the Spaniard accepts that criticism comes with the territory of being a high-profile player.

"If you don't want to accept that as a football player, you have to dedicate yourself to another job," Guardiola said.

"When you are a public figure, you have to accept it. That's why when you are in contract talks, you have to ask for a lot of money to accept those moments.

"I'm surprised it comes from former players. With journalists I can understand because they have never been on the pitch but the former players is always a surprise (when they are critical)."

Marais Erasmus opens up on 2019 World Cup final umpiring error

A Sports

LAHORE: South Africa-based umpire Marais Erasmus, one of the on-field umpires of the 2019 World Cup final, has finally opened up about the error made by the officials in the thrilling summit clash between England and New Zealand.

Hosts England won their maiden World title on boundary count as the Super Over that followed the tied 50-over contest, concluded with both teams equal on runs.

However, if not for a bizarre moment that occurred in the 50th over of England's run chase— Martin Guptill's over-



throw deflected off diving Ben Stokes' bat and onto the boundary — the outcome would have been different.

England, needing 15 off the final over, played out two dot balls before Stokes guided Trent Boult's slower delivery towards

the deep mid-wicket where Guptill was patrolling the fence.

Guptill's throw deflected off Stokes' bat and made it to the boundary and England were awarded six runs — two for running and four overthrows.

Law 19.8 in the MCC rulebook says: "If the boundary results from an overthrow or from the wilful act of a fielder, the runs scored shall be any runs for penalties awarded to either side and the allowance for the boundary and the runs completed by the batsmen, together with the run in progress if they had already crossed at the instant of the throw or act."

Meanwhile, Marais Erasmus

acknowledged that the on-field umpires made an error during that moment and that England should have been awarded five runs instead of six as the batters did not cross at the moment Guptill threw the ball.

"The next morning I opened my hotel room door on my way to breakfast and Kumar opened his door at the same time and he said, 'Did you see we made a massive error?' That's when I got to know about it. But in the moment on the field, we just said six, you know, communicated to each other, 'six, six, it's six' not realising that they haven't crossed, it wasn't picked up. That's it."

Govt Jinnah College will meet Govt College 36-B Landhi in the final of the Inter College Ramadan T-20 Cup on Thursday 4th April



KARACHI: Government Jinnah College will meet Government College 36-B Landhi No.4 in the Final of the Inter College Ramadan T-20 Cup on Thursday 4th April at Eid Gah Ground Nazimabad.

The Tournament is being organized by Regional Cricket Association Karachi with the collaboration of Pakistan Cricket Board.

In the last group match of the Inter College Ramadan T-20 Cup The City School beat Government College Asifabad by 4 runs at IBA Karachi University Ground. The City School 119/8 in 20 overs. Umer Usman 57. Inamul Haq 3/11, Kashan Fahad 2/16.

Government College Asifabad 115 all out in 20 overs. Uzair Shah 35 not out, ishaq 30. Muzammil Ahmed 3/30, ch. Hashir Ali 2/6, Saif Sarfraz 2/10, Hamza Khan 2/27.

After the End of the match Former Test Cricketer Touseef Ahmed give Player of the Match Cash award/= Rs.5000/= to Umer Usman.

Sri Lanka pip Pakistan in WTC25 standings with Bangladesh series sweep

A Sports

DUBAI: Sri Lanka

moved past Pakistan in the World Test Championship final with a thumping 192-run victory over Bangladesh in the second Test in Chittagong.

The Island nation wrapped up the win in the opening session of the fifth day of the final second of the two-match series at Zahur Ahmed Chowdhury Stadium and clinched a comfortable 2-0 series sweep.

Sri Lanka still has two home series left in this cycle; they are slated to play two Tests at home against New Zealand later this year and a two-match series against Australia in early 2025.

Their next assignment, however, is a three-match away series against England, commencing in August.

Sri Lanka dominated the majority of their recently-concluded away series with Kamindu Mendis finishing the series as the top run-scorer with 367 runs at an impressive average of 122.33.

Mendis scored an unbeaten 92 in the first innings of the second Test as Sri Lanka amassed a whopping total of 531. Their bowlers promptly backed their efforts by dismissing Bangladesh for a meagre 178 runs in reply.

On the contrary, hosts Bangladesh dropped to equal seventh on the updated World Test Championship standings, with their next series coming in Pakistan later this year when they travel for two Test matches.

Shadab Khan reacts to Umar Gul's apology over World Cup injury statement

A Sports

LAHORE:

Pakistan's all-rounder Shadab Khan praised Umar Gul as the former pacer and coach apologised for accusing him of hiding behind injury during the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2023.

For the unversed, Shadab was substituted due to concussion during Pakistan's must-win World Cup 2023 clash against South Africa as he sustained a blow to the head while fielding.

Reacting to the substitution, Gul accused that the all-rounder made the concussion rule an excuse to save himself.

"We don't know what kind of injury he has sustained, but questions arise when you fall, claim to have a concussion, escape from the team, and go outside. The physio checks you, and then after a while, you come out.

"There, you chat with people and then leave. When the match gets tight, and you realize it is going in our favour, you sit outside in the dugout, cheering.

"It means you've made an excuse; you've saved yourself. So, people will definitely question it," Gul had said.

However, in a recent interview with a local cricket website, Umar Gul revealed that he apologised to Shadab Khan after the Pakistan Super League (PSL) season nine.

"After the PSL, I approached him [Shadab] immediately because the real story was that he had suffered from concussion twice in a year, and the third time it occurred during the World Cup. The doctor advised rest to prevent any serious consequences," Gul said.

"When I found out about it and when I met him for the first time in the training camp, I went straight to him and apologised. I said, 'Shadab, it was never my intention to hurt you, and obviously being a Pakistani, I felt that at that time that the team needed you.' So, for the team's requirement, I said this, otherwise Shadab is a great guy and we have good relations, our families have good relations too, but obviously I felt by the statement I had given, and I apologised to Shadab for it," he added.

Meanwhile, Shadab Khan spoke highly of Umar Gul for accepting his mistake and wished the latter well for his future.

"It takes a brave man to accept his mistake. Respect you Gulli bhai. Always stay happy," Shadab wrote on X, formerly Twitter.



Meeting

ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of the Republic of France Nicolas Galey calls on Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Wednesday.



Photo: PID

PM for joint efforts to enhance Pak-France cooperation in trade, investment

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Wednesday stressed the need for working together to enhance cooperation between Pakistan and France, particularly in the areas of trade and investment.

The prime minister, in a meeting with Ambassador of France in Islamabad Nicolas Galey who paid a courtesy call on him, invited the French companies to invest in Pakistan.

He welcomed the initiative of the French side to bring

corporate leaders from top French companies on a visit to Pakistan soon.

The prime minister, who was accompanied by Foreign Minister Senator Muhammad Ishaq Dar, and SAPM Tariq Fatemi, also shared that stabilization of the economy was on top of the government's agenda.

The ambassador handed over a congratulatory letter from French Prime Minister Gabriel Attal, addressed to Prime Minister Shehbaz on his re-election.

The prime minister thanked

the French leadership for the message of greetings.

He said that Pakistan enjoyed friendly and cordial ties with France and, although the relationship had undergone a difficult phase a few years ago, the two countries were now working together to further strengthen bilateral cooperation.

Prime Minister Shehbaz fondly recalled his numerous interactions with French President Emmanuel Macron, in particular their meetings on the sidelines of UNGA Session in 2022, as well as on the

margins of the Paris Conference on New Financing Pact on Climate Change in June 2023.

He also lauded President Macron's valuable contribution through virtual participation at the Geneva Conference on Resilient Pakistan in January 2023.

The prime minister reiterated his invitation to President Macron to undertake an official visit to Pakistan, at his earliest convenience.

The situation in Gaza was also discussed in the meeting and the prime minister appreciated French peace

efforts in the region. The situation in Afghanistan was also discussed.

The French ambassador thanked Prime Minister Shehbaz for receiving him and briefed him on the latest developments on the bilateral front.

He said a French delegation was expected to visit Pakistan for discussions on bilateral cooperation.

In addition to strengthening of bilateral ties, he said France was keen to work closely with Pakistan in multilateral forums, including the United Nations.

Uzbek envoy calls on Governor Punjab

Bureau Report

LAHORE: Ambassador of Uzbekistan to Pakistan Oybek Arif Usmanov called on Punjab Governor Muhammad Baligh-ur-Rehman and discussed matters of mutual interest and ways to expand bilateral cooperation in the field of education and trade during a meeting at the Governor's House here on Wednesday.

Honorary Consul of Uzbekistan in Punjab, Najeeb Mush-taq Vohra and Trade Counsellor, Bakrom Yusupov were also present on the occasion.

Speaking on the occasion,

Punjab Governor Muhammad Baligh-ur-Rehman said Pakistan's friendly relations with Uzbekistan are getting stronger with each passing day and will be further strengthened in the near future.

He said both countries need to revive and strengthen their centuries-old trade, spiritual, cultural and historical ties.

He said tourism is a priority sector for both countries, adding that it has great economic potential.

The Governor Punjab said people associated with the media industry of both countries can work together on joint projects to highlight the



common cultural heritage.

He said trade has increased manifold in recent years. He said, "I am confident that the PTA (Preferential Trade Agreement) and the UPITTA (Uzbekistan-Pakistan Transit Trade Agreement) will enhance our bilateral trade and economic relations."

Baligh-ur-Rehman said there is need to further promote mutual coopera-

tion between Pakistan and Uzbekistan in other important sectors including education and trade.

He said there is a great scope of investment in agriculture, information technology, energy and mining sectors in Pakistan.

The Governor Punjab said special facilities are being given to foreign investors through the Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC) in Pakistan.

He said that there should be maximum exchange of student delegations between Pakistan and Uzbekistan so that they can benefit from

each other in the field of education and research.

The Governor also assured support for starting scholarships for Uzbek students in Pakistani universities. He further said that stability in the region is in the interest of all countries, for which all, including neighboring countries, need to work together.

Ambassador of Uzbekistan Oybek Arif Usmanov said that Pakistan and Uzbekistan have excellent and cordial relations. He said Uzbekistan wants to further strengthen its bilateral relations between the two countries in trade, culture and other fields.

Dr Ramesh Vankwani introduces Gandhara Corridor Bill

PNP

ISLAMABAD: Prominent MNA Dr Ramesh Kumar Vankwani has introduced one of the most significant bills in the parliamentary history, aimed at establishing the Gandhara Corridor to connect Pakistan with the Buddhist world.

"This act aims to encourage uniformity of approach among all branches of government and stake holders for transforming Pakistan into a most favorite pilgrimage destination and an international hub of Gandhara tourism," the proposed bill stated, which was submitted to the Secretary, National Assembly Secretariat, under Rule 118 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the National Assembly, 2007.



Sindh government approves lifting of ban on recruitment in government departments after COVID-19

Bureau Report

KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah presided over a cabinet meeting on Wednesday which approved the lifting of the ban on recruitment in the provincial government departments and also granted an extension to the doctors, nurses and other staff who were appointed during the COVID-19 pandemic until June 30, 2024.

The meeting was held at the CM House and was attended by provincial ministers, advisors, Chief Secretary, PSCM, Chairman P&D, and concerned secretaries.

The Sindh government of Murad Ali Shah at completion of its last tenure had imposed a ban on recruitment in the government department. The cabinet members told the chair that there were thousands of posts of lower grades lying vacant in government departments. Lifting the ban on recruitment not only improves the working of the departments but the youth would get employees opportunities, the cabinet members.

The chief minister with the consent of the cabinet members approved the lifting of the ban on recruitment in government departments and directed the Law Minister Ziaul Hassan Lanjar and the Advocate General to pursue the case in the court and get the stay order issued against the recruitment vacated.

Magazine AAHANG has achieved another milestone

PPA

ISLAMABAD: Radio Pakistan's monthly magazine AAHANG has achieved another milestone by becoming part of Federal Government's combined media list.

It will enable the AAHANG to publish all types of government advertisements, media campaigns on government approved rate.

It is pertinent to mention that AAHANG has a long history of continued publication since 1948.

The magazine is known as an ambassador of Radio Pakistan and a leading publication carrying stories on various social issues, national and international affairs.

AAHANG also publishes interviews, features, short stories, essays, and poetry to support and commend various genres of literature.

Ambassador of Netherlands meets with Finance Minister



Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: H. E. Mrs. Henny de Vries, Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to Pakistan, called on Mr. Muhammad Aurangzeb, Minister for Finance and Revenue, to discuss matters of mutual interest and strengthen the existing ties between Pakistan and the Netherlands.

Minister for Finance & Revenue Mr. Muhammad Aurangzeb warmly welcomed the Ambassador and expressed appreciation for the long-standing friendship and cooperation between Pakistan and the Netherlands. He highlighted the importance of the bilateral relationship, rooted in shared values and a history of collaboration. The discussion also touched upon the structural reforms being implemented by the government of Pakistan for promoting economic growth and ensuring fiscal sustainability.

Ambassador de Vries reciprocated the sentiments, emphasizing the Netherlands' commitment to furthering cooperation with Pakistan across various sectors.

Pakistan desires to enhance trade, business ties with UAE: Info Minister



ISLAMABAD: Minister for Information and Broadcasting Attaulah Tarar has said Pakistan desires to further enhance trade and business ties with the UAE as per the vision of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif.

Talking to the Ambassador of the UAE Hamad Obaid Ibrahim Salem Al-Zaabi in Islamabad, he emphasized the need for a common roadmap for the improvement of the economy.

The Information Minister said Pakistan and the UAE have strong ties based on common heritage and multilateral cooperation. He said the people of Pakistan consider UAE as their second home.

They held discussion on issues of mutual interest including bilateral

relations and promotion of cooperation in various sectors.

The Information Minister informed the UAE Ambassador about the government's economic initiatives. He said tax reforms are being brought in FBR and work is being done for digitalization of the economic sector.

The UAE ambassador condemned the terrorist incident in Besham.

He said as per the vision of leadership of both the countries, they believe in the further development of bilateral relations.

The Ambassador said the UAE has always helped Pakistan in difficult times and stands by Pakistan's economic development.

Maryam Nawaz visits the Chinese Consulate



Bureau Report

Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz visited the Chinese Consulate here on Wednesday and met with the Chinese Consul General Zhao Shiren.

Other Chinese officials were also present on the occasion.

The CM expressed her deep sense of sorrow over the death of Chinese nationals in the Shingla attack. She expressed her heartfelt sympathy and grief with the family members of the deceased Chinese citizens.

While expressing her resolve to continue mutual cooperation and collaboration with China in various sectors, the CM said that Pakistan and China are exemplary friends and their everlasting friendship cannot be undermined through cowardly actions.

She maintained that the coward-

ly attack committed on the Chinese citizens is a nefarious conspiracy to sabotage progress and prosperity of Pakistan. The Pakistani nation is heartily grieved over the onslaught incident on their Chinese brothers.

"We equally share the grief of the affected Chinese families. We are undertaking all possible measures to safeguard the Chinese nationals working in Punjab. We would strictly ensure the implementation policy to provide foolproof security to our Chinese brothers," she said.

The Consul General expressed gratitude over the visit of CM Maryam Nawaz to offer condolence on the death of Chinese nationals.

Senior Provincial Minister Marriyum Aurangzeb, Former Senator Parvez Rashid, Chief Secretary, Secretary Home, IGP and other concerned officers were also present on the occasion.

Taiwan hit by strongest quake in 25 years, four deaths reported

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: A 7.2 magnitude earthquake rocked Taiwan on Wednesday, the strongest tremor to hit the island in at least 25 years, killing four people, injuring dozens and sparking a tsunami warning for southern Japan and the Philippines that was later lifted.

Taiwan's government said four people had died in the mountainous, sparsely populated eastern county of Hualien where the epicentre was, with more than 50 injured.

At least 26 buildings have collapsed, more than half in Hualien, with about 20 people trapped and rescue work on-going, it said.

Taiwan television stations showed footage of buildings at precarious angles in Hualien, where the quake struck just offshore around 8am (0000GMT) as people were going to work and school.

The quake had a depth of 15.5km (9.6 miles), according to Taiwan's Central Weather Administration.

"It was very strong. It felt as if the house was going to topple," said 60-year-old Taipei hospital worker Chang Yu-Lin.

Japan's weather agency said several small tsunami waves reached parts of the southern prefecture of Okinawa, and later downgraded the



earlier tsunami warning to an advisory. It put the earthquake's magnitude at 7.7.

The Philippines Seismology Agency also issued a warning for residents in coastal areas of several provinces, urging them to evacuate to higher ground.

Taiwan also issued a tsunami warning, but reported no damage from that, and the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center in Hawaii later said the risk of damaging tsunami waves had passed.

Aftershocks could still be felt in Taipei, a Reuters witness said, with more than 25 aftershocks registered, according to Taiwan's central weather administration.

Chinese state media said the quake was felt in China's Fujian province, while a Reuters witness said it was also felt in Shanghai.

The Taipei city government said it had not received any reports of major damage and the city's MRT was up and running soon after the tremor.