



Russian PM arrives to attend 23rd SCO Summit

Prime Minister of Russia Mikhail Mishustin arrived here on Tuesday to attend the twenty-third meeting of the Council of Heads of Government (CHG) of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO). Federal Minister for Defence Khawaja Muhammad Asif warmly received the distinguished guest at Nur Khan Airbase.



Imran Khan in 'good health,' says PTI Chairman Gohar

Incarcerated former prime minister Imran Khan was in "good health and had exercised" PTI Chairman Gohar Ali Khan said while quoting doctors. "Today at about 4pm two doctors – an ENT specialist and a medical specialist visited Khan sab at Adiyala jail," he said in a social media post on X.

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Luncheon

ISLAMABAD: President Asif Ali Zardari hosted a state luncheon in honour of the Premier of the State Council of People's Republic of China, Li Qiang, at Aiwan-e-Sadr on Tuesday. Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif and Chairman Senate Syed Yousuf Raza Gilani are also present.



Photo: PID

China's Li Qiang reiterates 'deep and enduring friendship' with Pakistan

Naveed Ahmad Khan

ISLAMABAD: Chinese Premier Li Qiang called on Pakistan's President Asif Ali Zardari on Tuesday and reaffirmed China's commitment to continued investment in and strategic cooperation with Pakistan.

A joint statement released following a meeting between Premier Li and President Zardari highlighted the "deep and enduring friendship" between the two nations.

The Chinese PM acknowledged President Zardari's contributions to fostering bilateral ties, noting the "consistent mutual support provided despite global challenges."

He reiterated China's commitment to elevating the Pakistan-China partnership to new heights. Premier Li stressed the need for accelerating the progress of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) development projects and assured that "China will continue to support Chinese companies investing in Pakistan."

President Zardari noted the potential for further expansion of bilateral relations. He underscored the need for enhancing trade and people-to-people exchanges. He urged Chinese companies to take advantage of investment opportunities in Pakistan and highlighted the opportune moment to leverage CPEC and

He expressed confidence in the further strengthening of

Pakistan-China relations in the future. The statement highlighted China's "unwavering support for Pakistan's territorial integrity, sovereignty, and prosperity."

President Zardari noted the potential for further expansion of bilateral relations. He underscored the need for enhancing trade and people-to-people exchanges.

He urged Chinese companies to take advantage of investment opportunities in Pakistan and highlighted the opportune moment to leverage CPEC and

Gwadar Port to benefit from China's economic growth. He also announced plans to visit China in November.

He expressed his anticipation for further dialogue to strengthen existing ties and reiterated Pakistan's gratitude for China's support on issues of mutual importance, particularly Kashmir.

President Zardari expressed deep condolences on the recent terrorist attack that claimed the lives of two Chinese citizens. He described the incident as a "tragedy for the entire nation"

and stressed that enemies of the Pakistan-China friendship are "attempting to sabotage" bilateral relations by targeting Chinese citizens.

He added that "those seeking to undermine CPEC projects are also enemies of this friendship and will not succeed in their nefarious efforts."

The president reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to bringing the perpetrators to justice and assured that all necessary measures would be taken to enhance the security of Chinese citizens in Pakistan.

PM for sustained Pak-Belarus exchanges to enhance cooperation in investment, joint tractors production

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday called for sustained exchanges between Pakistan and Belarus to realise the potential of bilateral cooperation, particularly in the areas of trade, investment, agricultural machinery and joint production of tractors and connectivity.

The prime minister, who held a bilateral meeting with Belarusian Prime Minister Roman Golovchenko, on the sidelines of SCO Council of Heads of Government (CHG) meeting here, recalled his "warm



and productive" meeting with President Aleksandr Lukashenko in Astana in July earlier this year and stressed sustaining regular high-level exchanges considering their positive momentum on bilateral ties, according to a PM Office press release.

Welcoming Belarus' participation in the SCO

Continued on Page 8

PM emphasizes enhanced trade, investment between Pakistan, Kazakhstan

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday while noting the warm and excellent bilateral relations between Pakistan and Kazakhstan emphasized the need to enhance trade and investment, while also focusing on regional connectivity and security.

To achieve this shared objective, the prime minister emphasized the need to maintain regular and high-level contacts, including through institutional mechanisms of bilateral engagement.

The prime minister had a bilateral meeting with Prime Minister of Republic of Kazakhstan Olzhas Bektenov on the sidelines of the SCO Council of Heads of Government (CHG) meeting earlier, PM Office Media Wing said in a press release.



Welcoming Kazakhstan's participation at the SCO CHG Meeting, the prime minister reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to work with all SCO countries in advancing SCO's principles and purposes.

In this regard, the prime minister recalled his visit to Astana in July earlier this year for the SCO Council of Heads of State meeting and appreciated Kazakhstan's contri-

butions to strengthening cooperation among SCO countries. Both sides agreed to jointly work to realize the true trade potential between the two countries.

"Had a delightful exchange of views with my brother H. E. Mr. Olzhas Bektenov, PM of Kazakhstan on the sidelines of 23rd SCO CHG. We discussed the need to enhance cooperation in trade, investment, transport, connectivity, agriculture, defence, education and energy sectors and agreed to accelerate official exchanges to take Paki-

stan-Kazakhstan relations to new heights. I also extended a cordial invitation to President Kassym Jomart Tokayev to visit Pakistan at his earliest convenience. Pakistan-Kazakhstan ties are poised for a bright future," separately, the prime minister posted on X handle.

Promoting Regional Peace: COAS Wants To Enhance Pak-Belarus Military Partnership



Spokesman Report

RAWALPINDI: H. E Roman Golovchenko, Prime Minister of the Republic of Belarus, met General Syed Asim Munir, NI (M), Chief of Army Staff (COAS), in Islamabad today.

During the meeting, discussions were held on regional dynamics and the enhancement of bilateral security and defence cooperation between the two nations.

COAS reaffirmed Paki-

stan's appreciation for Belarus's contributions to global and regional affairs and expressed the desire to further strengthen the military partnership between both countries.

Prime Minister Golovchenko commended the Pakistan Armed Forces for their pivotal role in promoting regional peace and stability, and acknowledged their professionalism and sacrifices in the fight against terrorism.

PM meets Tajik counterpart; calls for cementing bilateral cooperation in trade, connectivity

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday held a bilateral meeting with his Tajik counterpart Qohir Rasulzoda wherein he emphasized close bilateral collaboration to further cement mutually advantageous cooperation across all spheres of shared interest.

In the meeting, held on the sidelines of the SCO Council of Heads of Government (CHG) meeting here, the prime minister called for promotion of bilateral ties in the areas of trade, investment, energy and regional connectivity.

While deeply appreciating Tajikistan's active and constructive participation in the SCO CHG meeting, Prime Minister Shehbaz stressed that as brotherly countries and regional partners, Tajikistan and Pakistan shared enduring bonds of friendship and cooperation.

He fondly recalled his productive visit to Dushanbe



in July, earlier this year, and expressed satisfaction over the positive trajectory of the bilateral relationship.

Prime Minister Rasulzoda conveyed warm felicitations on organizing the SCO CHG meeting by Pakistan, in its capacity as the SCO chair. He thanked Pakistan for the warm welcome and hospitality extended to him and the SCO delegates.

Extending best wishes of President of Tajikistan Emomali Rahmon to the prime minister, he concurred that there was great potential to further strengthen cooperation between the two countries underscoring that Tajikistan remained fully committed to work with Pakistan.

PM underlines need to increase Pak-Turkmen high-level exchanges

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday emphasized upon the need to increase high-level exchanges between Pakistan and Turkmenistan.

He stressed the importance of both sides continuing to work closely to realize the full potential of bilateral cooperation, particularly in the domains of trade, energy and connectivity.

On the sidelines of the SCO Council of Heads of Government (CHG) meeting, being held from 15-16 October in Islamabad, Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers and Minister of Foreign Affairs of



Turkmenistan Rashid Meredov called on the prime minister, PM Office Media Wing said in a press release.

Welcoming Turkmenistan's participation in the SCO CHG Meeting as a 'Special Guest', the prime minister reaffirmed the significance of Pakistan's long-standing, historic and brotherly ties with Turkmenistan.

Separately, the prime minister posted on X, "Pleased

Continued on Page 8

Constitutional amendment: NA session 'summoned' on October 18

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The federal government has 'summoned' a session of the National Assembly (NA) for passage of a proposed constitutional amendment.

As per details, the proposed draft for the 26th amendment in the Constitution of Pakistan will be presented before the lower house of the Parliament on October 18.

Sources said the lawmakers

have been directed to reach Islamabad tomorrow.

On Monday, Maulana Fazlur Rehman said that the parties have reached near to a consensus over the constitutional amendments.

Talking to media JUI leader said that an agreement has developed over the drafts shared among parties. "I will hold meetings with Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, Nawaz Sharif and the PTI's leadership," JUI chief said.

"I will meet Bilawal Bhutto Zardari in Karachi, visit Lahore to meet Nawaz Sharif and also hold meeting with the PTI's leadership in Islamabad," JUI-F chief Maulana Fazlur Rehman said.

Ch Shafay Hussain Inaugurates 54th Int'l Cleft Camp in Gujrat

Free plastic surgeries for children with cleft lips significant service to humanity: Provincial Minister

Ch Anwar Chohan

KHARAIN: Provincial Minister for Industry and Commerce, Chaudhry Shafay Hussain, visited Ayesha Bashir Hospital and inaugurated the 54th International Cleft Camp organized by the Pakistan Cleft Lip and Palate Association. Deputy Commissioner of Gujrat, Safdar Hussain Virk, DPO Gujrat, Mustansar Hussain Bajwa, Chaudhry Zia Mohiuddin, Aziz ur Rehman Mujahid, and Aamir Mush-taq Shani also accompanied the Minister. British cleft plastic surgeons and their medical team are conducting free surgeries for children with cleft lips and palates at the camp.

The Provincial Minister visited the hospital and inspected various departments. He reviewed the facilities for treating children with cleft lips and palates and met with the foreign surgeons.

The Minister also interacted with



the children and their parents to inquire about the treatment services. Addressing the inaugural ceremony of the cleft camp, Provincial Minister for Industry and Commerce, Chaudhry Shafay Hussain, praised the institu-

tions dedicated to serving humanity, stating that they are providing commendable services. He added that the free plastic surgeries for children with cleft lips and palates at the camp are a significant service to humanity.

The government will continue to support institutions engaged in humanitarian efforts. He further mentioned that the hospital offers world-class facilities for treating children with cleft lips and palates. Cleft Hospital and the camp are playing an essential role in preserving the smiles of children with cleft lips and palates through plastic surgery. Ayesha Bashir Hospital is the best facility in Punjab for treating children with cleft lips and palates. Dr. Ijaz Bashir, the founder of the hospital, briefed the Minister on the hospital's treatment facilities and future plans. The foreign surgeons also addressed the inaugural ceremony of the camp. The inauguration ceremony was attended by the Chairman of the Pakistan Cleft Lip and Palate Association and Deputy Commissioner of Gujrat, Safdar Hussain Virk, founder of the hospital Dr. Ijaz Bashir, Aziz ur Rehman Mujahid, doctors, medical staff, social figures, and others.

Sindh Food Authority holds World Food Day rally to highlight quality of food



Qayoom Sarohi

HYDERABAD: On the occasion of World Food Day, an awareness rally was organized by Sindh Food Authority Hyderabad from SSP Office Hyderabad to Press Club Hyderabad. The rally was headed by Deputy Director Food Hyderabad Faisal Ali Soomro. Talking to the media the Deputy Director Food said that the aim of Sindh Food Authority is to ensure the provision of healthy and quality food and drink to the public. He said that heavy fines are being imposed on the factories and shopkeepers who perpaer and sale unhygienic foot items.

He said that the authority will issue licenses to all the food and beverage factories at according to the standard rules of healthy food items and r their license will be canceled in case of violation. He said that Sindh Food Authority has established modern laboratories for the convenience of the public to test food items. In this regard, initially a modern lab has been established in Jamshoro where samples of milk, water and other items being are tested. Members of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry, civil society and others participated in the rally and the participants appreciated Sindh Food Authority's determination to provide safe food products.

GCCU Faisalabad University organises seminar on Inspirational Leadership

Abdul Majid

FAISALABAD: Seminar organized by GC University Faisalabad, Career Counseling and Alumni Affairs Students are the architects of the future, challenges are not possible without education and leadership. Vice Chancellor Professor Dr. Nasir Amin Directorate of Career Counseling and Alumni Affairs organized a seminar titled Inspirational Leadership. The purpose of which was to improve the education and training and leadership of the students, as well as to provide counseling and guidance regarding the mental, physical and psychological development of the students and to select a career in the future. The seminar was presided over by the Vice-Chancellor Prof. Dr. Nasir Amin, the speakers included Brigadier (Rtd) Dr. Tahir Nawaz, Senior Civil Judge Dr. Muhammad Mumtaz, Prof. Dr. Lubni Kanwal, Prof. Dr. Abdul Qadir Mushtaq on career counseling and leadership principles to the students. Talked about. On this occasion, Vice-Chancellor Dr. Nasir Amin said that Government College University Faisalabad has achieved significant success in the world of ranking at the national and international level, the alumni of this institution are serving all over the world including Pakistan. Dr. Tahir Nawaz and Dr. Muhammad Mumtaz informed the students about the guiding principle of leadership. He said that the love of parents and teachers is the guarantee of learning and success. The speakers said that the characteristics of a good leader are to help inculcate in oneself endurance, discipline, motivation of others and guiding principles. If a person's profession is his passion, it becomes easy to achieve success in life. Dr. Abdul Qadir Mushtaq gave a briefing on the objectives and future plans of the Directorate of Career Counseling and Alumni Affairs. The seminar was attended by Deputy Director Alumni Affairs Dr. Salma Ambar, Dr. Safdar Hussain Tahir, heads of departments, faculty members and students.

Senior journalist praises PML-N for holding summit to boost ties with India

Bureau Report

ATTOCK: Senior journalist and social worker Raza Naqvi praised the efforts of Prime Minister Mian Shehbaz Sharif. He mentioned that this summit would open doors for economic development in various sectors of Pakistan and boost investment. He also appreciated the decision to call off the protest by PTI. Raza Naqvi commended Indian media journalist Barkha Dutt's efforts to strengthen relations with PML-N President Mian Nawaz Sharif and Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz. He emphasized that economic development would help the people of Pakistan emerge from financial hardships. He highlighted the need for Pakistan and India to address the issue of families separated during the partition, stressing that humanitarian and human rights efforts should be made to ease visa policies for these families. He recalled that when Nawaz Sharif was the Prime Minister, he had taken a commendable step with the then Indian Prime Minister by initiating the friendship bus service, which brought immense joy to the families on both sides. Raza Naqvi proposed that the summit should decide on implementing a one-week visa issuance policy for men and women above the age of sixty, allowing them to visit each other's countries. He emphasized that this would be a step toward upholding human rights, enabling people to reunite with their real brothers and sisters. He also urged Indian media representative Barkha Dutt to express her views on this issue as a social worker and senior journalist.

RPO Faisalabad awarded the police officers with certificates of appreciation and prizes

Abdul Majid

FAISALABAD: A prestigious prize distribution ceremony was held at Regional Police Office Faisalabad. RPO Faisalabad Dr. Muhammad Abid Khan awarded certificates of appreciation and prizes to police officers for their good performance in Regional Police Office Faisalabad. CPO Faisalabad Kamran Adil, SSP Operations Tariq Mehboob, SSP Investigation Rana attended the ceremony. Abdul Wahab, SSPRIB Mohammad Akmal, SP Legal Region Office Mohammad Asghar Aulakh were also present. The ceremony began with the recitation of the Holy Quran. On this occasion, RPO Faisalabad, Dr. Muhammad Abid Khan addressed the police officers and said that the police officers who received the awards should be congratulated for performing their duties with diligence, dedication and professionalism.

He expressed his opinion and said that the police force is always ready to face any challenge. The police officers who show good performance are our pride and they are being encouraged at every forum. Along with this, he also emphasized that the police officers should perform their duties with sincerity, merit and fear of God so that we can earn a good name in the world as well as be leaders in the hereafter.



Life is suspended

ISLAMABAD: Daily life suspended due to the SCO summit held in the Federal Capital.



Photo: Online by Sultan Bashir

PPP MPA Syeda Marvi Rashdi visits SU; calls on VC Dr Kalhoro

Qayoom Sarohi

HYDERABAD: Pakistan People's Party (PPP) MPA and Parliamentary Secretary of Universities & Boards Department Syeda Marvi Rashdi paid a visit to the University of Sindh, Jamshoro, where she was welcomed by the Vice-Chancellor Professor (Meritorious) Dr. Muhammad Siddique Kalhoro. During her visit, she was taken on a tour of key academic and cultural centers at the university, including the Shaheed Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto Chair & Convention Center, the Institute of English Language & Literature, the Institute of Art & Design and the Dr. M. A. Kazi Institute of Chemistry.

The Vice-Chancellor first accompanied MPA Rashdi to the Shaheed



Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto Chair & Convention Center, where she

admired the state-of-the-art facilities, including the magnificent audi-

torium and advanced video conference room.

Expressing her pleasure, Parliamentary Secretary of the U/B Department appreciated the structural design and educational resources housed within the building. The Vice-Chancellor informed her that the center was completed in 2011-2012 with funding provided by the PPP government, acknowledging the party's contribution to the development of higher education infrastructure.

Concluding her tour, PPP lawmaker Syeda Marvi Rashdi visited the historic Dr. M. A. Kazi Institute of Chemistry, where the Director of the institute Professor Dr. Arfana Begum Mallah and professor Dr. Memoona Mughal received the delegation.

Hunting of migratory birds goes on in Thatta

Kamran Khamiso Khowaja

THATTA: The hunting of migratory birds arriving at the coast of the Arabian sea in Thatta and Sujawal goes unabated. Local hunters are hunting down hobara-bursters and other migratory birds with impunity.

Besides Arabian Sea Kenjhar and Haleji lakes have been habitat of migratory birds for decades but the number of migratory birds arriving here is decreasing with every passing year mainly due to unbridled hunting.

Rabnawaz Palari said that Keenjhar is one of the biggest sanctuaries of migratory birds in Pakistan but owing to lethargy of the authorities concern we are losing rare species of migratory birds including Hobara bursters and waterfowls.



The wild life department he said has turned a deaf ear to the genocide of migratory birds and had failed to take preventive measures. Local villagers residing along the shores of Arabian sea and Keenjhar Lake have staged protests several times against this illegal move but none of the wild-

life authorities turned up to rescue the Siberian species.

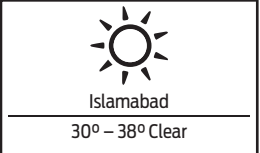
Talking about legal significance of protecting migratory birds Advocate Asifa Abdul Rasool said that The Pakistan Environmental Protection Act 1997 provides a comprehensive framework for environmental conservation,

including the protection of wildlife and habitats.

She further said that The Wildlife Protection Act 1972: also provides protection to the migratory birds adding that in developed countries animals and birds also have some rights but here the situation was pathetic.

After the Nazim Jokhi incident conferences were held across the province to take measures for preservation and protection of migratory birds but no willingness has so far been shown by the provincial government to take concrete measures in this regard.

Wahid Bux Palari accused the Sindh government of facilitating local and foreign hunters. He further said that killing of birds would leave an adverse effect on the ecological beauty of Keenjhar and Haleji lakes.



SERVICES

Namaz Timings

Fajr	4:50 am
Zohr	11:54 am
Asr	3:54 pm
Maghrib	5:34 pm
Isha	6:57 pm

EMERGENCY

Rescue (Police)	15
Bomb Disposal	15
Fire Services Rawalpindi/ Islamabad	1122 & 16
Emergency Ambulance	1122 & 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 Enquiry	117
Railway Exchange	9270831-5
WASA Rawalpindi	5555489
CAA	9281092

HOSPITALS

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

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

Regional connectivity vital to gain prosperity for people: Zahra Baloch



ISLAMABAD, OCT 15 (APP): Foreign Office Spokesperson Mumtaz Zahra Baloch on Tuesday said that Pakistan strongly desires to continue work for regional connectivity. China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), is playing vital role for strengthening regional connectivity, she said while talking to a private television channel. In reply to a question about foreign policy, she said organizing SCO summit in Pakistan is a big achievement of foreign policy. Through SCO, she said, we will have discussion with leaders of Central Asian States to enhance relations on trade, energy and railway sector, which she added further promote regional connectivity. She said talks are also underway with Turkey to link up roads with Railway.

Information Technology Career Symposium 2024 at KICS UET Lahore

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Information Technology Career Symposium, hosted at KICS UET Lahore, successfully took place on Tuesday, October 15, 2024, in collaboration with the IEEE Computer Society Lahore Chapter and the IEEE Communication Society Lahore Chapter. The event kicked off with a recitation from the Holy Quran, followed by the Nat Sharif and National Anthem, setting the tone for a day filled with knowledge-sharing and networking opportunities.

Kashif Bashir, Manager Trainings of KICS UET Lahore, delivered the welcome note, expressing the institute's commitment to driving innovation and training future IT leaders. He emphasized the importance of bridging the gap between academia, IEEE and the IT industry. Muzammil Hassan, Manager of the Software Systems Research Lab (SSRL) at KICS, gave an insightful overview of KICS' history, mission, and vision. Abdul Wahab, CEC PASHA and Director of ABFA Technologies, took the stage to discuss current trends and career opportunities in IT. His session emphasized the role of industry-academia collaboration in enhancing employability through partnerships and training initiatives. Student

should prepare themselves for industry. Prof. Dr. Usama Ijaz Bajwa, Group Head of Product and Engineering Manager at Soliton Technologies, spoke about the state of the IT industry and the role of academia. He highlighted 10 important areas in IT industry and skills required which are currently in high demand. Sajjad Kirmani, CEO and Co-Founder of PhishRod, discussed cybersecurity trends and how young professionals can protect organizations against rising cyber threats.

His insights provided an overview of the skills required to thrive in cybersecurity roles and the growing importance of digital risk management. Khawaja Farrukh Arshad, CEO of GNS Solutions Private Limited, shared his knowledge of emerging technologies and their applications in business solutions. The event concluded with remarks from Prof. Dr. Waqar Mahmood, Director of KICS UET Lahore and a closing address by Ms. Asfa Maqbool, Director General NAVTTC Punjab, who spoke about the role of NAVTTC in providing training and skill development opportunities across the country. She also commended KICS and its partners for their contributions to vocational training and advancing IT education in Pakistan.



The KICS Training at UET Lahore plays a pivotal role in advancing IT education and providing vocational training in areas like Artificial Intelligence, Data

Science, and Web Development. KICS collaborates with government agencies like NAVTTC and PSDF to offer free training to students and professionals,

with a focus on increasing employability in the tech sector. In the end souvenirs were distributed among organizing team and guest.

Islamabad Life is paralyzed

ISLAMABAD: Daily life suspended due to the SCO summit held in the Federal Capital.



Photo: Online by Sultan Bashir

Zahir Shah visit to England, participate in Business and Youth Seminar

Tariq Khan Yousafzai

TAKHT BHAI: Provincial General Secretary of the Central Organization of Traders and former President of Mardan Chamber Zahir Shah, who is on a business visit to England, participated in the Business and Youth Seminar organized by the Overseas Business Forum in Birmingham with the main objective of encouraging the new generation towards entrepreneurship attracting and getting rid of social problems that today include ice and other addictive substances. The participants of the seminar shed light on addiction and the social evils that spread in the society in detail and said that the only and easy way to rid the new generation of this scourge is to adapt the new generation to business and modern technology, which not only it will be possible to get rid of the social scourge, but the new generation will develop the spirit to promote business.



Zahir Shah said that a campaign against this scourge will be launched from the platform of Mardan Chamber very soon. Chairman of Overseas Business Forum Mohammad Farooq Khan, well-known TV artist Kashif Mehmood, executive member of Mardan Chamber Imtiaz and others participated on this occasion.

Faysal Funds Participates in Investor Weekend 2024

Commerce Desk

KARACHI: Faysal Funds participated in the Investor Weekend 2024, an event aimed at empowering investors with knowledge of new and innovative investment strategies. The event brought together industry experts, potential investors, and enthusiasts, fostering an environment for learning, networking, and growth.



Mr. Abdul Rehman Warraich, Commissioner of the Securities & Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP), and Mr. Yousaf Hussain, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Faysal Funds and President & CEO of Faysal Bank, were also present on the occasion held at Dolmen Mall Clifton Karachi from October 11 to 13, 2024. Their presence highlighted the significance of developing a robust investment culture in Pakistan, one that is both progressive and inclusive.

Faysal Funds facilitated a series of interactive sessions, covering topics such as Shariah-compliant investments and the latest trends in portfolio diversification. These sessions allowed the participants to directly engage with the industry experts, gaining valuable insights into making informed investment decisions aligned with their financial goals.

Condemns the newly introduced parallel laws targeting customs agents

Commerce Desk

KARACHI: Sheikh Muhammad Tariq, former Vice Chairman of the All Pakistan Customs Agents Association (APCAA), which proudly represents over 5,000 licensed customs agents across the nation. It is with a sense of urgency and responsibility that I bring forth our collective concerns regarding the proposed introduction of parallel laws that specifically target customs agents. We believe these proposed regulations are not only unnecessary but also indicative of a biased approach toward our community.

Sheikh Muhammad Tariq The existing legal framework in Pakistan, particularly the Pakistan Penal Code and the Customs Act, 1969, already comprehensively addresses various offenses related to fraud, misrepresentation, and negligence. These laws provide adequate provisions to govern the conduct of customs agents and ensure compliance with regulatory requirements. The introduction of additional laws aimed exclusively at customs agents would create legal redundancy and complicate an already complex legal environment. This could result in customs agents being subjected to double penalties for similar infractions, undermining the principle of equity and fairness within our legal system.

SCO Opens Doors for Pakistan's Rise on World Stage: Nasir Qureshi

Commerce Desk



ISLAMABAD: President Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry Nasir Mansoor Qureshi has said that the Shanghai Cooperation Organization Summit carries strong potential for creating investment opportunities in the country, which will strengthen Pakistan's economy. The event offers Pakistan an opportunity to strengthen its trade and economic ties with key international partners, particularly China. It sends a clear message to global investors about the country's openness to business and investment opportunities.

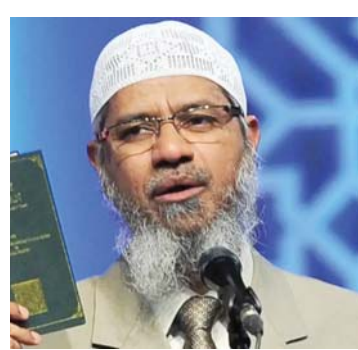
In a message here on Wednesday he said that the next phase of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and the SCO summit could be the real game-changers for the national economy as we have geographical contiguities, economic complementarities, regional trade advantages and ability to look East and diversify our economic partners. It offers a platform where Pakistan can work with neighbouring countries, including China, Russia, and the Central Asian states, to promote stability and prevent the spread of terrorism and radicalization. He added that this important summit will certainly enhance regional trade and reduce poverty through collaborative projects in agriculture, vocational training, and infrastructure development. Special attention is needed for climate change, with new frameworks for regional cooperation on carbon trading and the promotion of low-carbon technologies while addressing regional security concerns, including Afghanistan and the Kashmir conflict.

Religion with Logic, Dr. Zakir Naik

Dr. Zakir Naik, a medical doctor by professional training, renowned to world as a dynamic writer and international orator on Islam and Comparative Religion. Although, there are several preachers delivering lectures in high pitched sounds, sitting on golden couches, making extraordinary image by the show of dress and sounds, however their following is mere conservative lot with very strict ideas, lacking logic, and if someone dares which normally never happen, they start to turn on shower of fearful dialogues. Thus, religion felt like unquestionable, and fearful. However, Dr. Zakir Naik give reason and logic with every principle of God, hence

mind start to understand, trust and love the presence and principles of God. Hence, Dr. Zakir Naik clarifies Islamic viewpoints and clears misconceptions using the Quran, authentic Hadeeth and comparative religious Scriptures as a basis, in conjunction with reason, logic and scientific facts. He is celebrated for his critical analysis and convincing answers to the most challenging questions. In the last 28 years he has delivered over 25,00 public talks International-ally in number of different countries, including several in India on national basis. Among these his public talk in Bihar, India in 2012 was a record break, attended by over one million people, being one of the largest gathering in the world for any religious

lecture by a single orator. Also, he's the author of many books, holder of many national and international awards and ranks honored by Heads of States. Moreover, Dr. Zakir's public dialogue in 2000 with Dr. Campbell on the topic of "The Quran and the Bible in the light of Science" and the inter-faith dialogue in 2006 with prominent Hindu Guru Sri Ravi Sankar on the topic of "The Concept of God in Hinduism and Islam in the light of Sacred Scriptures" were remarkable. Further, the topic of Kalki Avatar, which he brought the eyes of the world was incomparable. There comes list of lists that, my pen would run out of ink, but the tributes might not. Currently Pakistan is the destination where Dr. Zakir had positioned his blessing, and he applauds Pakistan's love and hospitality, along he stressed the importance of setting aside differences and coming together under the guidance of the Quran and Sunnah



to overcome the challenges facing the Muslim community worldwide. Further, he emphasized interfaith harmony, and the need for collective efforts to promote peace and unity, since "Islam is the religion of peace, love and brotherhood", to spread which is Dr. Zakir aim of life, so should of us. Munaza Kazmi holds MPhil in Management Sciences. She's a travel writer, a published author, & co-author of scientific contributions.

Analysis



Munaza Kazmi

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End of an Era: Death of Hassan Nasrullah and It's Impact on the Middle East

Dr. Muhammad Shahzad Ashfaq

Hassan Nasrullah the Secretary-General of Hezbollah, is a figure who had a significant impact on the region of the Middle East. Hassan Nasrullah known for his strong leadership and prominent figure in the resistance movement against Israel and a key player in Lebanese politics. Hassan Nasrullah highlighting his contributions, leadership qualities and the impact on both Lebanon and the wider Middle East. Great leader Hassan impacts on Hezbollah has been instrumental in shaping the peace force in the region. Under his guidance, Hezbollah has evolved from a resistance movement fighting against Israeli illegal occupation to a well-organized peace force that focus on stability in the Middle East.

Nasrullah's ability to navigate the complex political landscape of Lebanon while maintaining a strong stance against external threats has earned him respect across the Arab world. One of the notable qualities of a Great Leader Hassan Nasrullah a keen understanding of regional dynamics and a remarkable ability to anticipate and respond to challenges. Nasrullah's leadership during the 2006 Lebanon War, when Hezbollah successfully resisted Israeli incursion, showcased his tactical brilliance and solidified skilled military strategy. His ability to mobilize support from various segments of Lebanese society and forge alliance with other peace actors that enhanced Hezbollah's strength and influence.

The Middle East has long been a region of great importance and complexity, with various key figures shaping its political landscape. The death of Hassan Nasrullah, the leader of Hezbollah, marks the end of an era of struggle and raises significant questions about the future dynamics in the Middle East. The implications of Nasrullah's death on the region, considering the influence he wielded and the potential power vacuum his absence may create.

At the core of Nasrullah's leadership philosophy is the notion that resistance is not merely a strategic choice but a moral imperative. He often frames Hezbollah's struggle within a larger narrative of liberation from colonial powers, emphasizing that both Israel and its Western backers perpetuate cycles of violence that impact civilians disproportionately. The Revolutionary Communist International (RCI) statement articulates this perspective by condemning Israeli military actions against Lebanese and Palestinian civilians while calling attention to the complicity of Western media in obscuring these realities.

Nasrullah's leadership has been characterized by an unwavering commitment to excellence and a relentless pursuit of success. As a leader, Nasrullah has demonstrated exceptional intelligence and strategic thinking, always making well-informed decisions that benefit the overall goals of the organization. His ability to analyze complex situations and develop innovative solutions has set him apart as a visionary leader in his field.

One of Nasrullah's key strengths is his ability to inspire and motivate those around him. He leads by example, always setting high standards for himself and

pushing his team to exceed expectations. Through his strong communication skills and natural charisma, Nasrullah is able to build strong relationships with his colleagues and foster a positive and collaborative work environment. His leadership style encourages creativity and empowers individuals to take risks and think outside the box.

Nasrullah's leadership is also marked by his unwavering dedication to his team and the organization as a whole. He always puts the needs of the team above his own and works tirelessly to ensure their success. Nasrullah is a true servant leader, always willing to roll up his sleeves and work alongside his team to achieve their goals. His selflessness and commitment to the greater good set him apart as a truly remarkable leader.

Nasrullah's has been defined by his intelligence, charisma, and unwavering dedication to excellence. Through his visionary thinking, ability to inspire others, and selfless commitment to his team, Nasrullah has established himself as a transformational leader in his field. His leadership has had a profound impact on those around him, motivating individuals to strive for greatness and achieve success. Nasrullah's ability to lead with integrity and passion sets him apart as a truly exceptional leader.

Nasrullah embodies the characteristics of a true servant leader, always willing to go the extra mile for the betterment of others. His intelligence and comprehension shine through in his ability to understand the needs and priorities of those he serves. He is constantly seeking new ways to improve the lives of those around him and is never afraid to roll up his sleeves and get his hands dirty in the process. This

allows him to lead with compassion and make decisions that are in the best interest of the people he serves. His intelligence enables him to see the bigger picture and develop innovative solutions to complex problems, always keeping the well-being of others at the forefront of his mind.

Nasrullah's willingness always remembrance to roll up his sleeves and get the job done sets him apart as a true servant leader. He leads by example, showing others that hard work and dedication are essential qualities in a leader. Whether it's lending a helping hand to a colleague in need or taking on a challenging task himself, Nasrullah is always there to support those around him and ensure the success of the team as a whole. His ability to empathize with others, think critically, and lead by example set him apart as a role model for those around him. His willingness to go above and beyond for the betterment of others is a testament to his character and serves as an inspiration for all who have the privilege of working alongside him. His death represents a significant loss for Hezbollah and its supporters, as he is a charismatic and strategic leader who effectively mobilized his followers. The impact of Nasrullah's death on Hezbollah is a great loss on its efforts against freedom of Palestine. Nasrullah is influential leader, his absence may lead to internal power struggles within organizations. Moreover, Nasrullah played a crucial role in maintaining the group alliance with Iran and his death disrupt the relationship of Iran in the region.

Writer is Post-Doctorate (Peace Education), International Islamic University, Islamabad-Pakistan

UN chief condemns rising Israeli-inflicted civilian casualties in the northern Gaza

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres on Monday condemned the large number of civilian casualties inflicted by Israeli forces amidst their intensifying military campaign in northern Gaza.

Israeli forces struck tents sheltering displaced civilians near al Aqsa hospital, in an area where people from northern Gaza were told to relocate, according to a UN report. At least four people were burned to death, and scores of others, including women and children, suffered severe burns.

Just hours earlier, another strike on a school turned shelter in Nuseirat killed more than 20 people and injured scores of others, the report said.

"The Secretary-General strongly urges all parties to the conflict to comply with international humanitarian law and emphasizes that civilians must be respected and protected at all times," UN Spokesperson Stephane Dujarric said at the regular press briefing in New York.

In the past two weeks, over 50,000 people have been displaced from the Jabalia area, which is cut off, while others remain stranded in their homes amid increased bombardment and fighting.

The military operation has also forced the closure of water wells, bakeries, medical points and shelters, as well as the suspension of protection services, malnutrition treatment services, and temporary learning spaces.

Hospitals have also witnessed an influx of trauma injuries. Also on Monday, Joyce Msuya, the acting UN Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, said that "there seems to be no end to the horrors that Palestinians in Gaza are forced to endure."

She cited the strike near al Aqsa hospital and the school-turned-shelter in Nuseirat, stressing that "there really is no safe place in Gaza for people to go."

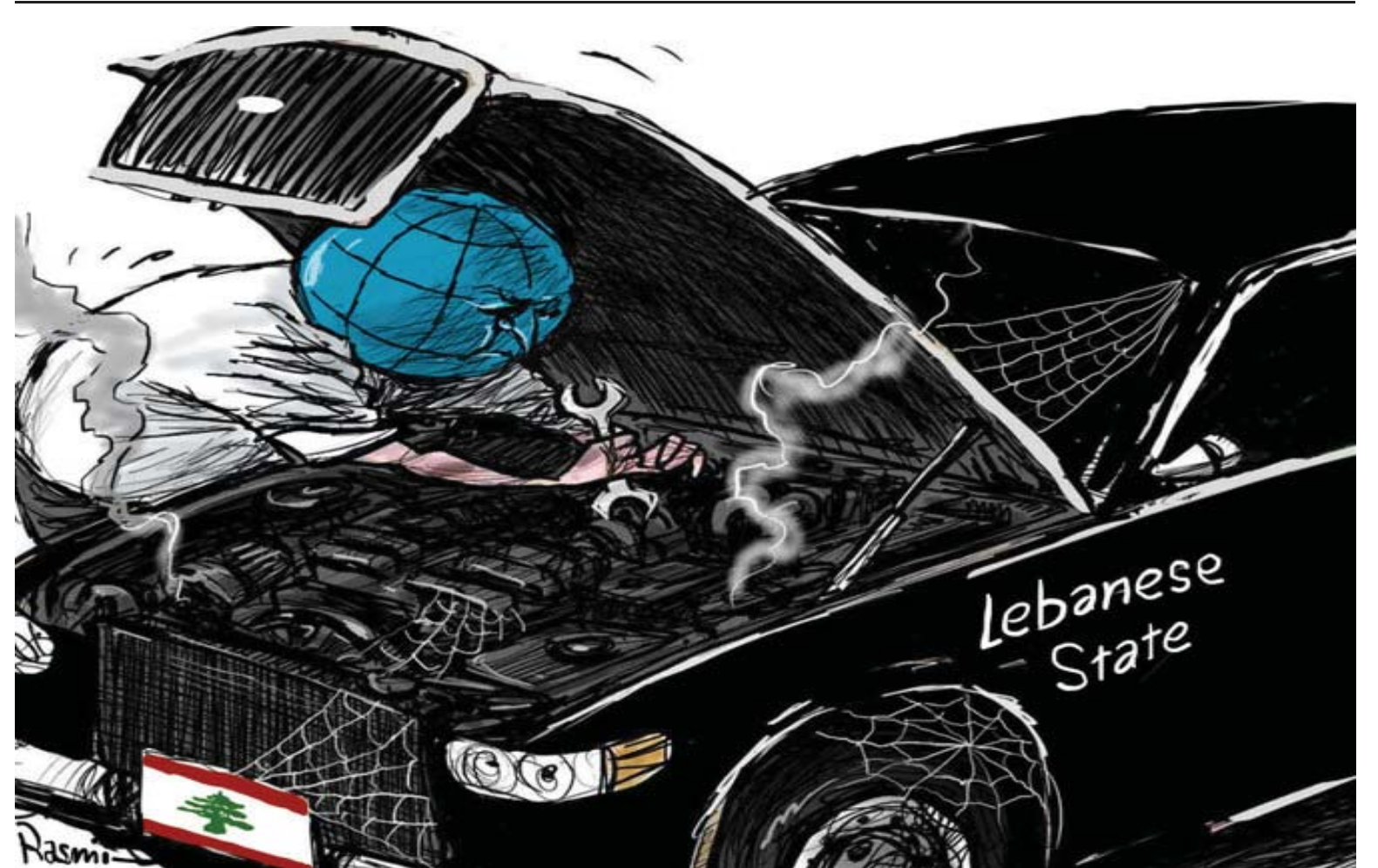
"These atrocities must end. Civilians and civilian infrastructure must always be protected."

Meanwhile, escalating violence in the region is having a disastrous impact on food security for thousands of Palestinian families.

According to the UN World Food Programme (WFP), major crossings into north Gaza have been closed and no food aid has entered since 1 October.

"The north is basically cut off and we're not able to operate there," said Antoine Renard, WFP Country Director for Palestine.

"WFP has been on the ground since the onset of the crisis. We are committed to delivering life-saving food every day despite the mounting challenges, but without safe and sustained access, it is virtually impossible to reach the people in need."



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

World Food Day: Right to Food for a Better Life and Future

World Food Day, observed annually on October 16, serves as a reminder of the importance of food security and the right to food for all individuals. Established by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations in 1945, this day promotes awareness about global hunger and advocates for sustainable food systems that can guarantee every person access to sufficient and nutritious food.

The theme for this year's (2024) "World Food Day" emphasizes the significance of recognizing and fulfilling the "Right to Food as a fundamental human right, essential for a better life and a sustainable future".

The consequences of food insecurity are dire. Hunger not only affects physical health but also impairs cognitive development, reduces productivity, and limits economic growth. Children are particularly vulnerable, as malnutrition can have lifelong effects on their development and potential. To build a better future, it is essential to address these challenges and ensure that everyone has access to adequate food.

Achieving the right to food requires a fundamental transformation of our food systems. Sustainable food systems prioritize environmental health, social equity, and economic

viability. By focusing on practices that promote biodiversity, reduce waste, and empower local communities, we can create a resilient food system that meets the needs of current and future generations.

1. Promoting Local Agriculture: Supporting smallholder farmers and local food producers is essential for enhancing food security. Investing in sustainable agricultural practices can increase productivity while preserving ecosystems. Local food systems also contribute to community resilience and reduce reliance on global supply chains.

2. Reducing Food Waste: Approximately one-third of all food produced globally is wasted. Implementing strategies to reduce food waste at every stage—from production to consumption—can significantly enhance food availability. Educating consumers about mindful eating and promoting food recovery initiatives are crucial steps.

3. Advocating for Policy Change: Governments play a vital role in realizing the right to food. Policymakers must prioritize food security in their agendas and develop frameworks that support sustainable agriculture, enhance food distribution systems, and ensure equitable access to resources.

While systemic change is essential,

individual actions and community initiatives also play a critical role in realizing the right to food. Community gardens, food cooperatives, and local food networks empower individuals to take charge of their food sources and promote self-sufficiency. Education and awareness-raising activities can foster a culture of sustainability and social responsibility.

Moreover, advocating for food justice and supporting initiatives that address the root causes of hunger can create a ripple effect. Engaging in local and global movements, supporting fair trade, and demanding accountability from corporations and governments are ways individuals can contribute to the right to food.

As we commemorate World Food Day, it is imperative to reaffirm our commitment to the right to food for all. Ensuring access to sufficient, safe, and nutritious food is not just a moral obligation; it is essential for building a better life and a sustainable future. By addressing the challenges of food insecurity through sustainable practices, effective policies, and community engagement, we can create a world where everyone enjoys the right to food. Together, we can transform our food systems and work towards a future free from hunger and malnutrition. The right to food is not just a goal; it is a foundation for a healthier, more equitable, and sustainable world.

Writer is senior communication specialist. He can be reached at saeed87lam@gmail.com

Analysis

Muhammad Saeed



Tragedy of Punjab College: A nation in grief, a system in silence

The recent incident of a young girl raped at a Punjab college has shocked the entire nation, leaving citizens reeling with grief and anger. As parents sent their daughter off to pursue her education, they never imagined they would be saying their final goodbyes. What should have been a place of learning turned into a site of horror, and their daughter returned not with dreams fulfilled but as a lifeless body—a victim of an unimaginable crime.

The brutality of this incident has stirred a wave of sorrow across Pakistan, but when we look beyond the emotions, disturbing questions arise. Why have the government, the college management, and the police seemingly aligned to protect a minor watchman accused of the crime? Is there a more powerful figure hiding behind the scenes, pulling strings to shield the guilty? The outrage deepens as we recognize the tragic irony: Punjab's highest offices of power are held by women—the Chief Minister and the Chief Justice. Yet, despite this, girls in the province continue to suffer heinous violence, their basic rights disregarded.

What of the parents who sent their daughter to college with hopes for her bright future? What do they now have left but indescribable sorrow? The Punjab government's behavior raises more concerns than it addresses. Who are they trying to protect? Why were male and female students, who rightfully protested the injustice, subjected to violence and beaten into submission? These students, who stood up for their fellow classmate, were met with baton charges and bloody assaults. Their only "crime" was raising their voices for justice, yet they were treated like criminals, arrested, harassed, and threatened within the very walls of their educational institution.

It is deeply concerning that even the police, including senior officers like the DSP, were called in to silence the protests rather than to investigate and ensure accountability for the crime. Instead of swiftly delivering justice and ensuring the safety of students, reports emerged of brutal crackdowns on protesting students by Police Those who dared to raise their voices demanding justice were met with violence and intimidation, even within the sanctity of their own college grounds. The role of Police raises serious concerns. Why did police, including

high-ranking officials, (DSP) resort to threatening and harassing them? Such actions undermine trust in the very institutions meant to protect citizens.

This raises a crucial question: how can we trust the system to protect our daughters when it responds to cries for justice with oppression?

The implications of these tragedies are terrifying for the future of education in Punjab, and indeed across Pakistan. Should parents now be forced to keep their daughters at home out of fear for their safety? Do young women no longer have the right to seek education, to pursue their ambitions? Are our schools and colleges turning into dens of exploitation, where predators roam unchecked, preying on the most vulnerable? Is there no sanctity left in educational institutions?

Our society is at a crossroads. We must decide whether we will stand by and watch as our girls are treated as mere objects for the fulfillment of others' sexual desires, or if we will rise together to demand change. The silence of those in power is deafening. The Punjab government and educational authorities need

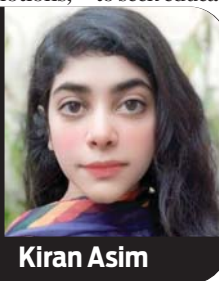
to come forward with clear, concrete actions to address these crimes. No person, no matter how influential, should be allowed to hide behind their privilege while the innocent continue to suffer.

This is not just about one girl, one family, or one college. This is about the collective soul of our society, about whether we will stand idly by as the rights of women and girls are systematically trampled. As a nation, we must ask ourselves: how long will we allow such atrocities to continue? And more importantly, what must we do to ensure that our daughters can pursue their dreams without fear of violence, humiliation, or death?

If we fail to act decisively now, we risk failing future generations of girls who aspire to learn and contribute to society. Their right to education and safety must be protected at all costs. The legacy of this young girl, whose life was unjustly taken, must be a catalyst for change. It is time for Punjab, and indeed all of Pakistan, to stand together against injustice and ensure that no more daughters are lost to such senseless violence.

Until justice is served, until reforms are made, and until our institutions are made safe for every child, the grief and rage of this tragedy will continue to burn in the hearts of every Pakistani.

Analysis



Kiran Asim

President stresses for expanding bilateral trade volume with Kyrgyzstan

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: President Asif Ali Zardari on Tuesday stressed the need for expanding the bilateral trade volume between Pakistan and Kyrgyzstan by focusing on trade in value added products across various sectors to strengthen economic ties and boost mutual prosperity.

Talking to Akybek Zhaparov Usenbekovich Chairman of the Cabinet of the Kyrgyz Republic who called on him along with delegation on the sidelines of SCO Council of Heads of Government (CHG) meeting here, the president said Kyrgyzstan could also benefit from the Karachi and Gwadar ports.

The president also expressed the government's desire to expand cooperation with Kyrgyzstan in all sectors of mutual interests.

He extended gratitude to Kyrgyzstan for supporting Pakistan's successful election to the non-permanent seat of the UN Security Council.

Expressing his views during the meeting, Akybek Zhaparov Usenbekovich said Kyrgyzstan always prior-



itized promotion of trade with the friendly countries.

Kyrgyzstan wants to enhance bilateral cooperation with Pakistan in various sectors of business, economy

and technology, he said adding that due to Kyrgyzstan's economic development, there were significant opportunities for the workforce in the construction and textile sectors in the

country.

The Kyrgyz leader also extended gratitude to the Pakistan government for making the process of issuing Pakistani visas easier for Kyrgyz citizens.

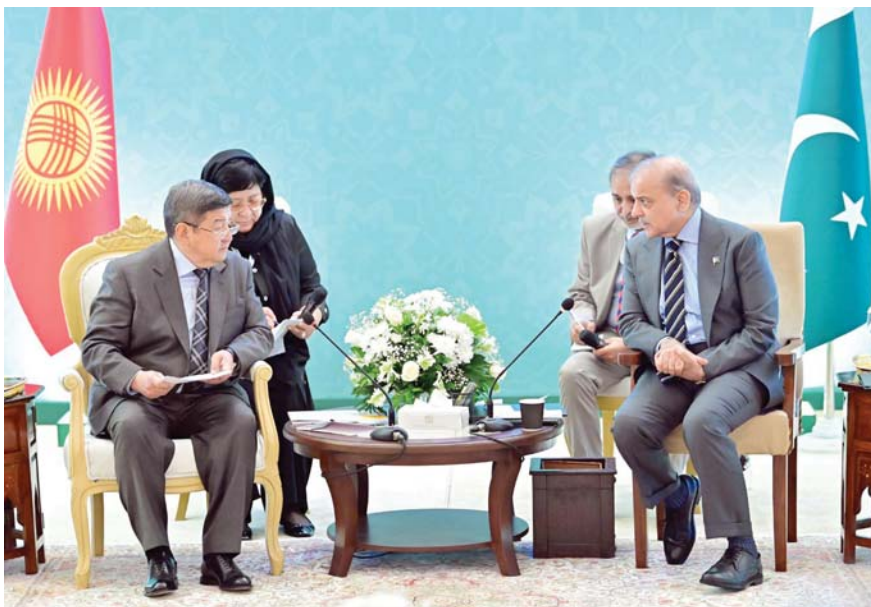
Pakistan desires to expand new avenues of cooperation with Kyrgyz Republic: PM

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday while reiterating Pakistan's strong desire to further strengthen cooperation with Kyrgyz Republic, stressed the need to enhance new avenues of collaboration in the areas of trade, investment, people-to-people contacts and regional connectivity.

The prime minister held a bilateral meeting with Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Kyrgyz Republic Akybek Japarov on the sidelines of SCO Council of Heads of Government (CHG) Meeting, being held in Islamabad from 15-16 October, PM Office Media Wing said in a press release.

The prime minister thanked



Kyrgyz Republic's positive and active participation in the SCO CHG Meeting and appreciated Kyrgyz Republic's support extended to Pakistan as the SCO Chair.

The prime minister also recalled the warm and brotherly ties between the two countries and expressed satisfaction over the overall positive trajectory of the bilateral relations between Pakistan and Kyrgyz Republic.

Akybek Japarov congratulated the prime minister on the successful organization of the SCO CHG meeting, as well as the excellent arrangements made for the visiting delegations.

He thanked Pakistan for the warm welcome and hospitality extended to him and the accompanying delegation.

Akybek Japarov reciprocated Kyrgyz Republic's strong desire to continue working with Pakistan for enhancing bilateral cooperation in all areas of mutual benefit for the two countries.

Pakistan, India should engage on climate change, terrorism prevention: Bilawal Bhutto

Monoitring Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan People's Party (PPP) chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari on Tuesday expressed hope that India's External Affairs Minister Subrahman-yam Jaishankar will not only engage with Pakistani media alongside SCO Summit in Islamabad, but the two countries will eventually engage on pressing common issues like climate change and terrorism prevention.

In an exclusive media-talk with ARY News, Bilawal Bhutto maintained that both India and Pakistan should learn from the success of Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) as the inherent multilateralism helps all the member countries deal with vital issues rather than engaging on bilateral differences.



"A conversation is necessary, whether today or tomorrow, both countries have their opinions on differences but why should we forget that Pakistan and India are the two most-stressed countries due to climate change. Terrorism is also a reality, whether they (India) blame us (Pakistan) and we blame RAW (India's

intelligence agency), but the issue exists, so if we engage, we will somehow reach a common point and save precious Indian and Pakistani lives," said Bilawal Bhutto Zardari. The PPP chairman said that he will not pardon us if we do not engage on issues like climate change.

Bilawal Bhutto also expressed hope that the Indian MEA will not shy away from talking to Pakistani media and answer their questions like he (Bilawal) did while he visited India in 2023 for SCO Summit, adding that the Indian minister may raise terrorism allegations on Pakistan that suit the Indian narrative during this multilateral summit like SCO but Pakistan, being the host will not respond to make this issue-driven meeting a success.

Canada's Trudeau slams India as tensions soar over Sikh separatist's murder



AFP

OTTAWA: Canada's Prime Minister Justin Trudeau arrives to a press conference about the Royal Canadian Mounted Police's investigation into "violent criminal activity in Canada with connections to India", on Parliament Hill in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada on Oct 14, 2024. Reuters

Canada's Prime Minister Justin Trudeau accused India on Monday of making a "fundamental error", as an escalating row over the killing of a Sikh separatist on Canadian soil last year saw both countries expel each other's ambassadors.

A grave Trudeau branded New Delhi's actions as "unacceptable" during a press conference in Ottawa on the diplomatic expulsions, which saw tensions reach a new height after the 2023 murder of Canadian citizen Hardeep Singh Nijjar.

Trudeau has previously said there were "credible allegations" linking Indian intelligence services to the killing. Both countries have traded barbs since then, culminating with the expulsions Monday of each other's ambassadors and five other top diplomats in both countries.

"The government of India made a fundamental error in thinking that they could engage in supporting criminal activity against Canadians here on Canadian soil, whether it be murders or extortion or other violent acts," Trudeau told reporters in Ottawa, hours after the expulsions were announced.

"We will never tolerate the involvement of a foreign government threatening and killing Canadian citizens on Canadian soil, a deeply unacceptable violation of Canada's sovereignty and of international law," he said.

The expulsions came after New Delhi said its envoy had been named among "persons of interest" following the killing of Nijjar.

India "decided to expel" Ottawa's acting High Commissioner Stewart Wheeler, his deputy and four first secretaries, ordering they leave before midnight on Sunday.

Ottawa announced similar measures in return, with Canadian police saying they had "evidence pertaining to agents of the government of India's involvement in serious criminal activity" in Canada.

Canadian Foreign Minister Melanie Joly said that India had refused to cooperate in the investigation, or to lift diplomatic immunity for its envoys. "The decision to expel these individuals was made with great consideration and only after the RCMP gathered ample, clear and concrete evidence which identified six individuals as persons of interest in the Nijjar case," she said in a statement, referring to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. Nijjar — who immigrated to Canada in 1997 and became a citizen in 2015 — had advocated for a separate Sikh state, known as Khalistan, carved out of India.

He had been wanted by Indian authorities for alleged terrorism and conspiracy to commit murder.

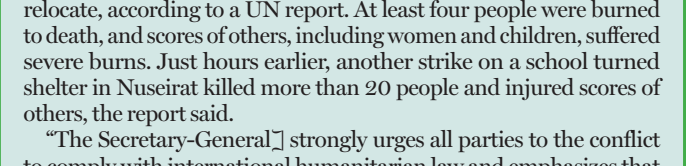
Four Indian nationals have been arrested in connection with Nijjar's murder, which took place in the parking lot of a Sikh temple in Vancouver in June 2023.

New Delhi had earlier said it had "received a diplomatic communication from Canada suggesting that the Indian High Commissioner and other diplomats are persons of interest" in the ongoing investigation.

It said their envoy, Sanjay Kumar Verma, a former ambassador to Japan and Sudan, was a respected career diplomat and that the accusations were "ludicrous".

New Delhi's foreign ministry said it had told Verma to return home and that it had "no faith" in the Canadian government's commitment to ensuring the six expelled diplomats' security.

UN chief condemns rising Israeli-inflicted civilian casualties in the northern Gaza



UNITED NATIONS: UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres on Monday condemned the large number of civilian casualties inflicted by Israeli forces amidst their intensifying military campaign in northern Gaza.

Israeli forces struck tents sheltering displaced civilians near al Aqsa hospital, in an area where people from northern Gaza were told to relocate, according to a UN report. At least four people were burned to death, and scores of others, including women and children, suffered severe burns. Just hours earlier, another strike on a school turned shelter in Nuseirat killed more than 20 people and injured scores of others, the report said.

"The Secretary-General[] strongly urges all parties to the conflict to comply with international humanitarian law and emphasizes that civilians must be respected and protected at all times," UN Spokesperson Stephane Dujarric said at the regular press briefing in New York.

In the past two weeks, over 50,000 people have been displaced from the Jabalia area, which is cut off, while others remain stranded in their homes amid increased bombardment and fighting.

The military operation has also forced the closure of water wells, bakeries, medical points and shelters, as well as the suspension of protection services, malnutrition treatment services, and temporary learning spaces.

A Poet Who Gave Voice to Tradition

Death Anniversary of Sughar Abdul Rahman Mahesar

Aaqib Uddin Mahesar

In the heart of Sindh, where culture is steeped in rich history and tradition, few names stand as tall as Sughar Abdul Rahman Mahesar. A luminary of Sindh folk poetry, Sughar Abdul Rahman's voice has captured the soul of a land where the mysticism of Shah Abdul Latif Bhitai and Sachal Sarmast resonates with each heartbeat. Born with an inherent love for words and rhythm, Sughar Abdul Rahman poetry is not just an art form—it is a bridge between the past and the present, preserving the essence of Sindh culture while appealing to the timeless human spirit. His words are an archive of collective memories, cultural expressions, and the emotional landscapes of

Sindh. For decades, Mahesar has been an indispensable voice for the Sindh people, articulating not just their hopes and dreams but also their struggles and realities. Sughar Abdul Rahman Mahesar has authored nearly 15 books, each of which is a testament to his deep-rooted love for Sindh literature and folk traditions. His works, from profound poetry collections to essays on Sindh cultural history, carry an innate sense of authenticity and dedication. Mahesar's ability to encapsulate the essence of rural life, spirituality, and the complexities of human emotions in verses as simple as they are profound is unparalleled. His poetry speaks to the Sindh villager, the urban intellectual, and the global reader,

illustrating the wide reach of his literary talent. His mastery over the Sindh language and his command over intricate poetic forms reflect his enduring influence in the literary world. Sughar Abdul Rahman Mahesar's contribution to Sindh literature has not gone unnoticed. Over the years, he has been the recipient of numerous prestigious accolades, including the revered Latif Award, the Sachal Award, and the Shahbaz Award—each a testament to his influence in the Sindh cultural landscape. These awards, while marking individual achievements, also reflect his dedication to preserving the folk traditions of Sindh. His contributions have cemented his status as a literary figure whose legacy will



endure for generations. However, Sughar Abdul Rahman Mahesar's ambition was never rooted in the pursuit of fame or accolades. For him, writing was a form of spiritual and cultural expres-

sion—a means of immortalizing Sindh values, customs, and struggles for future generations. At the core of Sughar Abdul Rahman Mahesar poetry lies a deep-seated reflection on love, both earthly and divine. His exploration of human emotions often intersects with a mystical search for meaning, drawing inspiration from Sufi traditions, especially the teachings of Shah Abdul Latif Bhitai and Sachal Sarmast. In many of his works, Sughar Abdul Rahman Mahesar uses the metaphor of love as a lens through which he analyzes the relationship between humanity and the divine. His portrayal of love is not confined to romantic expression; it transcends into philosophical inquiries about the

nature of existence, the purpose of life, and the eternal connection between humans and the cosmos. Mahesar's poetry also addresses themes that are intricately tied to rural life. His portrayal of the farmer, the weaver, and the laborer reflects his deep empathy for those who toil under the harsh sun of Sindh. Through his verses, he highlights the dignity of their labor, the struggles they face, and their unbreakable bond with the land. These themes are particularly resonant in today's age of modernization, where rural traditions are slowly being eroded by urbanization. Sughar Abdul Rahman Mahesar work serves as a reminder of the intrinsic value of these traditions and the need to preserve them.

While his poetry is often viewed as a reflection of Sindh's past, it is equally a commentary on its present and future. Sughar Abdul Rahman Mahesar works offer a window into the changes that have taken place in Sindh society over the decades—from colonial rule to the partition of India, to the gradual modernization of Sindh culture. Through his poetry, Sughar Abdul Rahman Mahesar captures the tension between tradition and modernity, celebrating the former while cautiously reflecting on the latter. His deep connection to Sindh and its people has allowed him to articulate the joys and sorrows, triumphs and defeats, and hopes and anxieties of his generation and those that follow.

Bull & Bears
PSX 100-Share
Index Fluctuation

Pakistan: PSX 100-Share Index	
Current	Prev. Close
85,840.34	85,261.38
Day's High	Day's Low
85,893.99	84,856.21
Index Value	Change
19,200,739,027	+578.96
Percentage	Time
+0.68%	15 Oct, 2024 5:00 pm

Europe: FTSE 100 Index	
Index Value	Change
8,249.28	-43.38
Percentage	Time
-0.52%	15 Oct, 4:35 pm GMT+1

USA: Dow Jones Industrial Average	
Index Value	Change
42,938.29	-126.93
Percentage	Time
-0.29%	15 Oct, 12:51 pm GMT-4

Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Average	
Index Value	Change
39,910.55	+304.75
Percentage	Time
+0.77%	15 Oct, 3:15 pm GMT+9

Open Market Forex Rates

Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	186.89	189.14
Bahrain Dinar	731.21	739.21
Canadian Dollar	202.80	205.20
China Yuan	38.88	39.28
Danish Krone	40.29	40.69
Euro	301.75	304.50
Hong Kong Dollar	35.37	35.72
Indian Rupee	3.34	3.45
Japanese Yen	1.92	1.98
Kuwaiti Dinar	897.37	906.87
Malaysian Ringgit	64.13	64.73
New Zealand \$	170.21	178.21
Norwegians Krone	25.65	25.95
Omani Riyal	715.71	724.21
Qatari Riyal	76.24	76.94
Saudi Riyal	73.60	74.15
Singapore Dollar	210.75	212.75
Swedish Korona	26.46	26.76
Swiss Franc	322.20	324.88
Thai Bhat	8.18	8.33
U.A.E Dirham	75.35	76.00
UK Pound Sterling	360.70	364.2
US Dollar	278.00	279.50

Fertilizer Company, Zarai Taraqiati Bank sign partnership to support smallholder farmers

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Fatima Fertilizer Company Limited and Zarai Taraqiati Bank Limited (ZTBL) have entered into a groundbreaking partnership to promote financial inclusion and support for smallholder farmers in Pakistan. This collaboration aims to integrate farmers into the formal financial system while providing them with essential agricultural resources and innovative solutions to enhance productivity and livelihoods. This is the first-of-its-kind agreement in the industry, pioneering a new way forward for agricultural financing and farmer empowerment.

The MOU was formally signed by Mr. Asad Murad, Chief Operating Officer of Fatima Fertilizer Company Limited, and Mr. Tahir Yaqoob Bhatti, President & CEO of ZTBL. The ceremony, attended by senior officials from both organizations, marked a significant step toward empowering farmers and addressing Pakistan's agricultural challenges.

Mr. Asad Murad, Chief Operating Officer



of Fatima Fertilizer Company Limited, emphasized the importance of the partnership, stating, "This MOU strengthens our mission to provide smallholder farmers with the tools they need to improve productivity and contribute to Pakistan's food security. By combining our innovative solutions with

ZTBL's financial services, we are not only empowering farmers but also pioneering our way ahead in sustainable agricultural practices across the country."

Representing Fatima Fertilizer at the signing were Ms. Rabel Sadozai, Director Marketing & Sales; Mr. Usman Arshad Mian,

Head of Planning & Business Integration; Mr. Raja Shakir Khan, Manager Planning & Business Integration; Mr. Hessian Amin, Lead Digital Projects; and Mr. Abdullah Khalid, Assistant Manager BI & Digitization.

Mr. Tahir Yaqoob Bhatti, President & CEO of ZTBL, echoed these sentiments, adding, "ZTBL is committed to empowering farmers through financial inclusion. This partnership with Fatima Fertilizer will not only provide smallholder farmers with the agricultural inputs they need but also offer them the financial support to grow and thrive."

From ZTBL, the team included Mr. Zahid Hussain, Group Head Business; Mr. Sulman A. Shah, Head of Product Development & Liability Management Division; and Mr. Arshad Hassan Awan, Head Credit Division.

The MOU also underscores both companies' shared commitment to promoting digital transformation in agriculture and creating sustainable growth opportunities for farmers across Pakistan, setting new benchmarks for the industry.

Souvenir

DUBAI: H.E. Faisal Niaz Tirmizi, Pakistan's Ambassador in UAE presents Souvenir to Sheikh Mana bin Mohabin Mana Al Makhtoum at Pakistan Night held at Pakistan Association Dubai.



TikTok Releases Q2 2024 Community Guidelines Enforcement Report

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: In its ongoing efforts to foster a safe and positive user experience, TikTok has released its Q2 2024 Community Guidelines Enforcement Report, shedding light on the platform's proactive approach to content moderation in Pakistan. This quarterly report provides transparency into the content and accounts removed during the reporting period, for violating the platform's Community Guidelines.

The report reveals that

over 30,709,744 videos were removed from TikTok in Pakistan, in the latest reporting period, as the platform continues to strengthen its content moderation systems to safeguard its diverse community. Key findings show that 99.5% of these videos were proactively removed before users reported them, with 97% taken down within 24 hours. These figures highlight TikTok's commitment to staying ahead of harmful content, ensuring a safer platform for Pakistani users.

PTCL Group Reports 15% YoY revenue growth

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Telecommunication Company Limited (PTCL), the leading telecom and ICT services provider in the country, has announced its financial results for the quarter ending Sep 30, 2024. The announcement was made during a Board of Directors meeting held in Islamabad.

PTCL continued its strong performance throughout 2024. PTCL achieved revenue of Rs 79.5 billion during the first nine months of 2024, which is 11.1% higher than same period of last year, mainly driven by growth in fixed line, wholesale & business solutions segments. The company has posted an operating profit of Rs 8.2 billion during the first nine months of 2024, which is 27.6% higher as compared to the same period of 2023. The company has posted net profit of Rs 1 billion during the period.

PTCL's aggressive deployment of Fiber-To-The-Home (FTTH) are the cornerstones for the topline growth. Continuing from the past quarters, PTCL's strategic focus remained on enhancing customer experience by providing the fastest and most reliable internet services under its flagship



'Flash Fiber' FTTH brand, which boosts PTCL as one of the leading FTTH operator in the industry with majority share of the market's net adds. PTCL's fixed broadband business has shown 20.4% YoY growth, whereas PTCL Flash Fiber showed unprecedented growth of 111.5% YoY. PTCL's focus on FTTH deployment has yielded impressive results, cementing our position as the leading FTTH operator with over 600K FTTH subscribers, we are committed to delivering exceptional customer experiences.

The business services segment maintained its growth, cementing leadership in IP bandwidth, Cloud, Data Center and ICT services in addition to showing promising results in carrier & wholesale and inter-

national business. PTCL enterprise business grew by 38.3% vs the same period of previous year. During the reported period, PTCL business services fortified its commitment as the innovation partner for businesses and provided state of the art hosting and digitalization solutions to multiple enterprise and government bodies. Bank al Habib, Punjab Safe City, Ministry of Hajj and Controller General of accounts are some of the noteworthy milestone engagements.

PTCL group continued its successful foray into digital content offerings with the live streaming of Wimbledon on Shoq. This milestone marks a significant step in PTCL Group's strategy to expand its digital footprint and cater to the growing demand for online content.

Elected leaders side-lined, unelected people run the affairs: Mirza Abdul Rehman

Tariq Khattak

ISLAMABAD: Trade leader and founder President of Attock Chamber of Commerce Mirza Abdul Rehman said on Tuesday that the performance of the president of the FPCCI, Atif Ikram Sheikh, is very disappointing, which is frustrating the business community and damaging the reputation of the ruling group.

He added that elected vice presidents have been side-lined by two cronies of the president who have become in charge of everything and plundering resources while damaging the organization with their negative behaviour.

Atif Ikram Sheikh was voted

to power following his tall claims regarding improvement and transparency in the affairs, but his output is zero, which has frustrated the business community.

So much so that the leading leaders of the United Business Group (UBG) have stopped visiting FPCCI offices and started ignoring the invitations.

Mirza Abdul Rahman said in a statement issued here that the performance of the Federal Chamber is very disappointing. Nothing is being done to solve the problems of the business community. Now, under a conspiracy, efforts are being made to shift the head office from Karachi to Islamabad.

He informed that important



matters and financial issues are being handled by ignoring the Executive Committee which must approve all the important matters.

A non-elected person is being paid hundreds of thousands of rupees per month while another non-elected person is being given food and refreshment contracts, which insults the voters.

Mirza Abdul Rahman said that Karachi is the center of Pakistan's economic activities, and most of the business community resides there, so the head office of FPCCI should be in Karachi.

He said the voters dissatisfied with the businessman panel voted for UBG, but those calling for change proved to be more incompetent and corrupt.

Those who promise change for success are leading things to ruin for

vested interests. Atif Ikram Sheikh has been president for nine and a half months but still needs to raise his voice for business people and industrialists as expected.

Mirza Abdul Rehman said that everyone in the FPCCI close to the president is making life difficult for others and trying to benefit from the situation.

Mirza Abdul Rehman warned that unchecked negativity can further contaminate the organization's climate, atmosphere, and culture, which, in turn, can breed more negativity.

He demanded that it is important to evaluate and minimize these negative emotions as much as possible.

PBA Applauds SBP's Revised SME Financing Limits as a Key Driver of SME Growth in Pakistan

Commerce Desk

KARACHI: This notification comes as part of the recommendations put forward by the PBA's SME Task Force. The Pakistan Banks' Association (PBA) applauds the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) for its progressive step in revising per-party exposure limits for Small Enterprises (SE) and Medium Enterprises (ME), a critical measure aimed at enhancing credit access for SMEs.

Under the revised framework, Small Enterprises (SE R-2) can now avail exposure of up to Rs. 100 million from a single bank or all banks and DFIs combined. Additionally, banks and DFIs are permitted to deduct liquid assets—such as bank deposits, certificates of deposit/investment, Pakistan Investment Bonds (PIBs), Treasury Bills, and National Saving Scheme (NSS) Securities—held under their perfected lien when calculating the per party exposure limit.

Similarly, Medium Enterprises (ME R-3) can now access financing, including leased assets, up to Rs. 500 million from a single bank or all banks and DFIs combined. Similar to small enterprises, banks and DFIs may deduct liquid assets held under their lien for the purpose of exposure limit calculation.

These changes are effective immediately, and all banks and DFIs have been advised to ensure strict compliance. SBP's revised exposure limits, recommended by PBA's SME Task Force, will be a significant step towards advancing financial inclusion and bolstering the country's SME sector.

Commenting on the recent development, Zafar Masud, Chairman-PBA, said, "SBP's enhanced SME financing limits will significantly improve access to funding opportunities, accelerating innovation, financial inclusion, and entrepreneurship. PBA is committed to collaborating with the SBP to drive SME growth and foster economic progress across key sectors."

Pakistani Batsman Kamran Ghulam Scored a Century in his Career First Test Match

Asim Tanveer

MULTAN: Pakistan's batsman Kamran Ghulam scored a century in his first Test match in the second Test against England at the Multan Cricket Stadium and Received Applaudation from the cricket fans. On the first day of the test match, Pakistan cricket team scored 258 runs for the loss of 5 players. Multan Test Starting a Test career with a century is always an honor. The honor has been achieved by 115 Test cricketers among them 13 are Pakistanis, the latest addition being Kamran Ghulam. This is the second time this has happened in Multan.

Khalid Ibadullah was the first Pakistani batsman to cross this milestone. The Australian team visited Karachi for the only Test match in October 1964 and Ibadullah was playing for the national team for the first time. In 1976, Javed Miandad did it against New Zealand in Lahore at the tender age of 19. Miandad's record was surpassed five years later by another Pakistani batsman, Salim Malik. In March 1982, playing against Sri Lanka in Karachi, Saleem Malik shared a 162-run partnership for the fourth wicket with his captain Miandad in the second innings. And remained not out after scoring 100 runs. Became the youngest debutant to score a Test century at the age of 18 years and 323 days. This record stood for 19 years. Muhammad Wasim became the next Pakistani to score a century in his Test debut match. Played an unbeaten 109 in the second innings



against New Zealand in Lahore in November 1996. South Africa made their first tour of Pakistan in 1997 on their return to international cricket. The first Test was played in Rawalpindi and Pakistan got a new opener in Ali Naqvi. Naqvi persevered and reached his maiden century on his Test debut. Played an innings of 115 runs. Azhar Mehmood, another test debutant all-rounder scored 128 runs and remained not out. It was the first time in Test history that two Test debutants from the same side scored centuries in the same innings. This record is unmatched even today.

Rawalpindi was once again the venue for Pakistan's next century on Test debut. This time the batsman was

Younis Khan. He was LBW for just 12 in the first innings and Pakistan did better in the second innings scoring a century. In August 2001, Pakistan faced Bangladesh in Multan as part of the Asian Test Championship. After dismissing Bangladesh for just 134, Pakistan declared a mammoth total of 546 for 3, Pakistan's new opener Toufeeq Umar scoring 104 on Test debut.

Toufeeq was the first Pakistani left-arm debutant to score a century in his opening Test. His opening partner Saeed Anwar also scored a century and this was the first time in Test history where two left-handed openers scored a century in the same innings. Interestingly, there were five individual centuries in Pakistan's innings, a feat achieved only once before by Australia against the West Indies in Kingston, Jamaica in 1955.

In August 2003, Pakistan was playing against Bangladesh in Karachi, when another batsman entered the record books by scoring a century on Test debut. Yasir Hameed scored 170 runs off just 253 balls with 25 fours in Pakistan's first innings. It was the highest score by a Pakistani on his Test debut. He then scored his second century of the match in the second innings with another spirited display of stroke-making. His innings of 105 off just 161 balls made him only the second debutant in Test cricket history, after West Indian Lawrence Rowe, to start his Test career with a century in every innings.



Fawad Alam became the second Pakistani left-handed batsman to score a century on Test debut against Sri Lanka in Colombo in July 2009. Fawad scored only 16 runs in the first innings. Came back with a brilliant knock of 168 in the second innings. Umar Akmal made an immediate impact when he made his debut for Pakistan against New Zealand in November 2009. He completed his century off 131 balls with

the help of 16 fours and 2 sixes. When he finally got out after scoring 129 runs. Abid Ali is the twelfth Pakistani batsman to score a century on Test debut. He is also the oldest batsman on the list, having crossed the age of 32 when he made his Test debut for Pakistan against Sri Lanka in Rawalpindi in December 2019, and scored 109 not out in Pakistan's only innings. Runs were scored. Earlier in the year, Abid

scored 112 on his ODI debut against Australia in Dubai. He thus became the first batsman in the game to score a century on both his Test and ODI debut. After his maiden Test century against Sri Lanka, Abid scored another century in the next match of the series. His 174 in the second innings of the second Test in Karachi became the first and only Pakistani to score a century in his first two Tests for the country.

Ali Sisters achieve back-to-back wins at Hungarian Junior Open 2024

Sports Desk

LAHORE: Pakistan's rising squash star, Mehwish Ali, has won her 25th Gold medal at the Hungarian Junior Open 2024, adding another prestigious victory to her growing international reputation. Competing in the Under-17 category, Mehwish dominated her group and emerged as the undisputed champion of the tournament, held in Budapest.

Mehwish's standout performance came in the final match, where she convincingly defeated Hungary's top-seeded player, Tamara Pescarescu, with a commanding scoreline of 11-5, 11-2, 11-2. Earlier in the tournament, Mehwish also overcame Hungary's second seed, Brigitta Kovacs, further solidifying her dominance in the competition.

This victory marks Mehwish's second consecutive junior title, following her recent triumph at the Nordic Junior Open in Sweden, cementing her status as one of the top young talents on the international squash scene.

The Ali sisters made a strong impact at



the Hungarian Junior Open, with both of Mehwish's siblings also achieving notable success.

In the Under-13 category, Mahnoor Ali delivered a stunning performance earned her 17th gold title. She overwhelmed Hungary's top-seeded Krisztina Kun, winning in straight sets 11-1, 11-1, 11-0, with her powerful shots and relentless pres-

sure leaving her opponent little chance, securing a quick and decisive victory.

Sehrish Ali, making her debut in the U15 category, showed incredible perseverance, earning a silver medal after a hard-fought match against France's Cassy Lincou.

Abdul Razak Dawood, founder of the BARD Foundation, expressed his pride in

the Ali sisters' accomplishments:

"We are happy to see Mehwish, Mahnoor, and Sehrish achieve such incredible success on the international stage. Their dedication and passion for the sport are truly inspiring, and these victories are a testament to their hard work. The BARD Foundation is proud to support their journey as they continue to represent Pakistan with pride.

Mahreen Dawood also shared her excitement "Watching these young athletes grow and achieve such incredible milestones is truly inspiring. Mehwish's 25th gold is a remarkable achievement, and Mahnoor and Sehrish have equally made us proud with their performances. Their journey has just begun, and we are honored to be a part of it."

The BARD Foundation, founded by Bilquis and Abdul Razak Dawood, is dedicated to supporting Pakistan's young talents in sports, education, and social welfare. With a focus on individual growth and excellence, the foundation aims to nurture champions who will make Pakistan proud on the world stage.

Plan of breaking partnership properly executed: Potts

Sports Desk

MULTAN: England's Fast Bowler Matthew Potts said that the plan was made to prevent and break partnership was properly executed.

Talking to media persons on Tuesday, Potts acknowledged the difficulty his team faced in breaking key partnerships. "We gave it our all today as fast bowlers, but breaking those partnerships was really tough".

He reflected on his past bowling experience in subcontinent conditions,

saying, "I have had some good experiences bowling in India, but the heat in Multan was quite intense."

He also shared that he had detailed discussions with veteran pacer James Anderson regarding bowling strategies for the pitch.

"I still believe there was plenty in the pitch for seamers. A long partnership can change the game, but overall, everything felt fine while bowling," he remarked.

Potts emphasized the significance of breaking partnerships, which can



shift the momentum of a match. "As a bowler, it was crucial to break a partnership, and we are glad we eventually

managed to do that. When you come in with a plan, it was important to execute it to the fullest," he added.

He also commented on a key moment in the game when Mohammad Rizwan was caught, saying, "I felt the catch off Rizwan was pretty clear, though the keeper and slip players did not sense it immediately. But breaking that partnership was essential."

Despite the tough conditions, Potts expressed his satisfaction with his bowling efforts and remains optimistic about England's position in the game.

Mohammad Haris says players prohibited to discuss India in dressing room

Sports Desk

KARACHI: Pakistan Shaheens' captain Mohammad Haris has revealed that the players are not allowed to discuss the match against India in the dressing room during the upcoming ACC Men's T20 Emerging Teams Asia Cup, commencing in Oman on 18 October.

Haris-led Shaheens will take on last year's finalists India 'A' in their opening match on 19 October.

The Pakistan captain shared that he is keen on ensuring that his players do not succumb to pressure ahead of the match against India.

As a result, he has instructed the players not to engage in discussions regarding the blockbuster match.



"Talking about India is banned in the dressing room," said Haris. "Players feel pressure when thinking about the match against India and we don't want to put them under pressure."

Haris also shared that the team is not only focusing on

India but other opponents as well and is preparing for each team according to their strengths and weaknesses.

"The preparations for the tournament are in full swing," he added. "Our focus is not only on India, we have matches

against other teams too and we will have different plans for each team."

Mohammad Haris then went on to claim that the experience of leading Stallions in the Champions One-Day Cup will come in handy in the upcoming ACC Men's T20 Emerging Teams Asia Cup 2024.

"PCB has appointed me as captain for different teams. Captaining the emerging team is a different experience. I have previously captained senior players in the Champions One-Day Cup," said Haris.

Pakistan Shaheens' second outing in the tournament will be against hosts Oman on 21 October, followed by their final group match will be against the UAE on 23 October.

The top two sides from

each group will qualify for the semi-finals scheduled to take place on 25 October. The final will take place on Sunday, 27 October.

Pakistan Shaheens' Squad Mohammad Haris (c), Abdul Samad, Ahmed Daniyal, Arafat Minhas, Haider Ali, Haseebullah, Mehran Mumtaz, Mohammad Abbas Afridi, Mohammad Imran Jnr, Omair Bin Yousuf, Qasim Akram, Shah Nawaz Dahani, Sufiyan Moqim, Yasir Khan and Zaman Khan

Team management: Umar Rasheed (head coach-cum-manager), Imran Farhat (batting coach), Riffatullah Mohmand (fielding coach), Usman Hashmi (analyst) and Syed Mohammad Asad (physiotherapist)

Rohail Nisar shine with ton, Fasih Khan with bowling in Master Oil Inter Club Ties

Sports Desk

KARACHI: Four more matches were decided in the Master Oil Inter Club Cricket Tournament at various cricket grounds.

The highlights of the days play was brilliant Century 130 by Rohail Nisar and deadly bowling by off spinner Muhammad Fasih Khan 5/25.

The Tournament is being organized by Regional Cricket Association Karachi with the collaboration of Master Oil Lubricant.

Scores in Brief:

Al-Hamd Kundi beat defeated Shining Star Cricket Club by 10 Wickets at Afa Ground. New Shining Star CC 77 all out in 19.5 overs. Abdullah Sheikh 28, Mairaj Nadeem 22. Inam Khan 3/14, Hussain Mustufa 3/15, Hamza Sherwani 3/26.

Al-Hamd Kundi 79/0 in 5.2 overs. Muhammad Hussain 51 7x4 3x6 Zia-ur- Rehman 27 both not out.

In the 2nd Match at Students Sports Ground Memon Gymkhana beat Al-Karam Sports by 15 runs. Memon Gymkhana 155 all out in 36.2 overs. Yasir Khan 31 not out, Masoom Khan 29, Asghar Khan 28, Faizan Khan 21. Muhammad Fasih Khan (ob) 5/25, Aurangzeb Ahmed 2/9.

Al-Karam Sports 140 all out in 34.1 overs. Abdullah Babar 32, Muhammad Saleem 28. Jahanzaib Sheezan 3/13, Muhammad Raza 3/31, M. Faisal 2/32.

In the 3rd Match Bright CC beat O. K. Sports by 63 runs at Pak Star Ground. Bright CC 261/6 in 40 overs. Arsalan Khan 80 7x4 2x6, Ghulam Abbas 56 5x4 3x6, Faheem Ali 54 4x4 1x6. Wajid Khan 2/40, Waseem Ullah 2/54.

O. K. Sports 198 all out in 31.1 overs. Wajid Khan 59 7x4, Farhan Khan 35, Muhammad Yasir 26. M. Kashif 3/25, Abdur Rehman 2/44.

In the fourth Match Pak Surti CC beat Golden Gymkhana by 163 runs at Abbasi Gymkhana Ground. Pak Surti CC 269/9 in 40 overs. Rohail Nisar 130 5x4 11x6, Talah Shabbir 71 8x4 2x6. Mirza Naseeb 3/66, Shahbaz Khan 2/35, Muhammad Shakeel 2/37. Golden Gymkhana 106 all out in 16.2 overs. Muhammad Shakil 22, M. Zubair 19. Mairaj uddin 3/30, Zaid Hassan 2/15.

Roberto Martinez reveals what impresses him most about Cristiano Ronaldo



Portuguese football legend Cristiano Ronaldo's national team head coach, Roberto Martinez, believes that his team's captain is an "example to his teammates".

The Portugal boss was impressed as he praised the Al Nassr striker's commitment to international football at the age of 39 as an example to his teammates.

Martinez's remarks came as hundreds of people descended on St Mirren Park, also known as the SMiSA Stadium, in Paisley to get a glimpse of Ronaldo.

At the stadium, the Portugal football team was gearing up for their pre-match preparations, ahead of their Nations League clash against Scotland on Tuesday.

"When you arrive in a stadium, in a place like this, I think you get to know the iconic figure and the career of a player that is unique," said Martinez at his pre-match press conference.

"There is not another player with more than 200 caps at international level as an example, the number of goals that he's scored, the trophies that he's achieved.

"For me, it's very easy to manage a player that can help the team to win tomorrow. All the rest is something for all of us to enjoy because it's a unique case and I think we can all learn from being close to him."

The five-time Ballon d'Or award winner was often criticised after failing to score as Portugal crashed out of Euro 2024 in the quarter-finals to France.

However, Martinez has continued to field for Ronaldo, who scored his 133rd international goal in Saturday's 3-1 Nations League win over Poland in Warsaw.

SCO celebration

ISLAMABAD: A view of illuminated with colorful light Pakistan Monument ahead of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit 2024, in the Federal Capital.

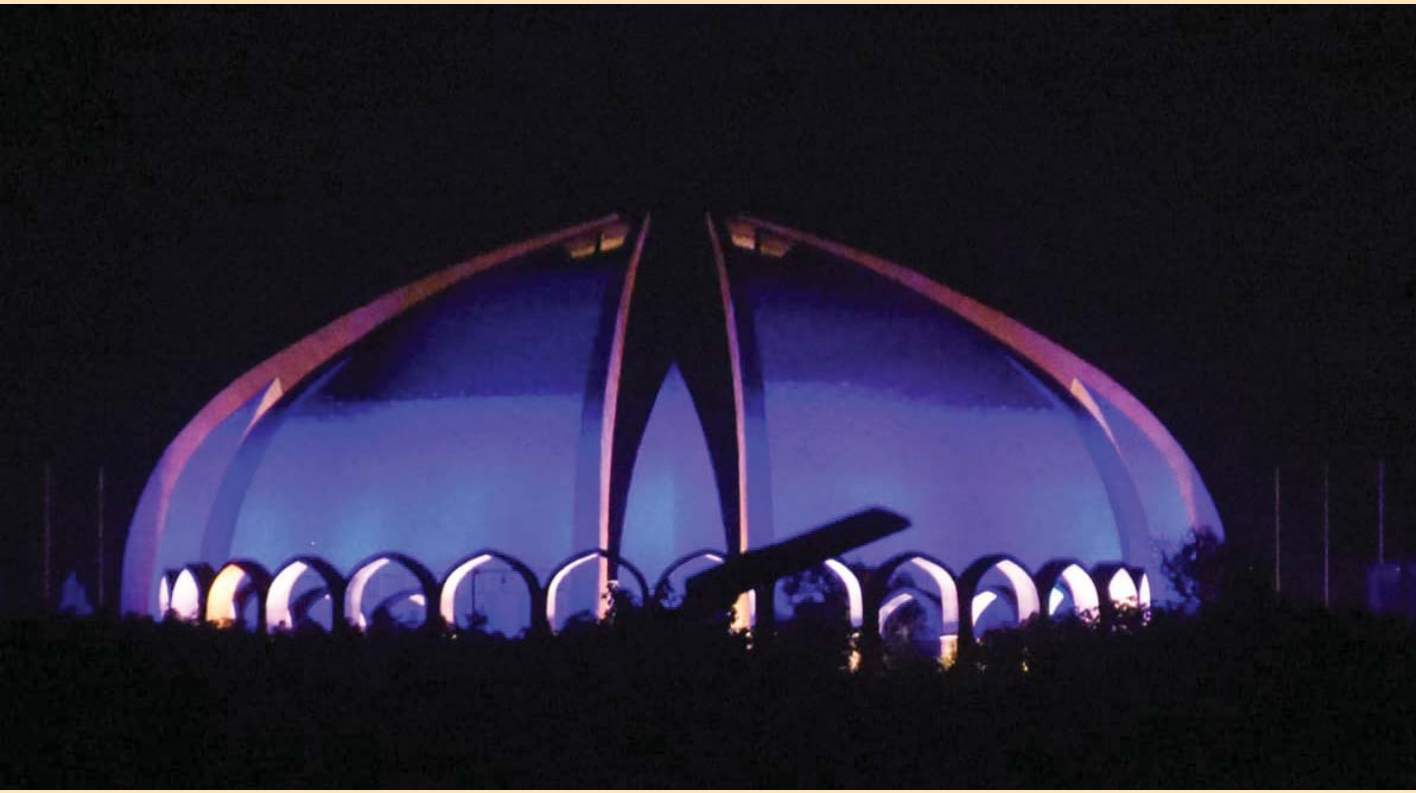


Photo: Online by Sultan Bashir

SCO summit

Time to take advantage of Pakistan's vital geographical link in Eurasian connectivity

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The meeting of Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) summit in Islamabad provides a unique opportunity to its members states to take advantage of Pakistan's vital geographical link in Eurasian connectivity for bolstering regional trade and investment for mutual benefits.

The gathering of top leadership of SCO members states has not only allowed Pakistan to strengthen its bilateral and economic ties with the regional powers, but also positions the country as an essential player in the broader Eurasian connectivity initiative. The country's Karachi and Gwadar ports, airports and motorways offer great opportunities for SCO states especially Central Asian Republics.

As the summit unfolds in Islamabad, the focus is mainly on fostering regional peace, security, and prosperity

through enhanced diplomatic and economic collaboration.

Providing a pivotal moment for Pakistan to elevate its economic and geopolitical aspirations on an international stage besides highlighting its principled stand on regional issues, the experts say SCO summit would open gates of investment for Pakistan.

Established in 2001, the SCO now comprises nine member states, including founding members like China and Russia, alongside members such as Pakistan, India, and Iran, which joined in 2017.

Professor Dr. Adnan Sarwar Khan, former chairman of the International Relations Department at the University of Peshawar, highlighted the summit's potential to economic prosperity and foreign investment besides diplomatic importance.

He said Pakistan carried a unique strategic geographical location in South Asia vital

for trade, business and investment point of view, adding this summit provides an unparalleled opportunity for the nation to position itself at the heart of regional connectivity.

Professor Dr. A. H. Hilali, former chairman of the Political Science Department at the University of Peshawar, underscored the SCO's role as a significant diplomatic platform that could reshape not just regional dynamics but economic cooperation by supporting developing countries and global relations as well.

"Discussions on trade, regional connectivity, environmental concerns, and security challenges at SCO are vital for the stability of the region," he remarked.

Dr. Naermur Khattak, former chairman of the Economics Department at the University of Peshawar, highlighted the economic ramifications of hosting the SCO summit.

"This event apparently marks a significant shift in Pakistan's approach from a geo-strategic focus to a geo-economic one," he explained, emphasizing the importance of enhancing connectivity with Central Asia.

With bilateral trade between Pakistan and China nearing \$20 billion, the integration of Central Asian resources through enhanced connectivity could yield substantial benefits for all parties involved.

Khyber Pass Economic Corridor (KPEC) project connecting Peshawar with Afghanistan had been approved that after completion would help accelerate pace of economic development and bolstering industrialization benefiting the entire region.

KPEC's 47.5 kilometer four lane expressway would connect Pakistan with Afghanistan and onward Central Asian Republics (CARs), he said and added that about USD 385.6 million

would be provided by Federal Govt while KP government's share is about USD 75 million.

He said SCO also serves as a platform for the SCO's top leadership to engage in constructive dialogues addressing pressing regional issues.

The experts predicted that the recent inauguration of the Gwadar airport by Pakistani and Chinese Prime Ministers heralds a new era of prosperity for Balochistan, further solidifying Pakistan's role as a pivotal player in the region.

As discussions progress, the eyes of the world remain on Islamabad, where Pakistan is poised to make significant strides in asserting its influence and fostering collaborative efforts within the SCO framework.

The experts said the summit is expected to culminate with a key declaration that will fortify economic partnerships among the member states for mutual prosperity of their people.

Cadets of Pakistan Naval Academy Shine at International Sailing Regatta in Brazil



Khuramm Jaffrani

KARACHI: Cadets of PNA Sailing team achieved a historic feat by securing Silver medal and overall second position in 79th International Naval Academy Sailing Competition held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. A total of nine teams competed from around the world in J24 Boat category.

The participating teams included Cadets from Naval Academies of Pakistan, Brazil, China, Italy, Portugal, Argentina, Colombia, Peru and India. Speaking on the occasion,

the PNA team captain dedicated the victory to the quality training of Pakistan Naval Academy.

After securing first position during International Sailing Championship in Sri Lanka earlier in August this year, this is consecutive second extraordinary performance at international level during last three months by cadets of PNA.

Chief of the Naval Staff congratulated the victorious team of PNA. He also lauded the efforts of PNA faculty and instructors for their back to back performances at international stage.

Pakistan-Russia joint exercise 'Druzhba-VII' under way



Spokesman Report

RAWALPINDI: Pakistan-Russia Joint Exercise Druzhba-VII is a 7th bilateral joint exercise in Counter Terrorism domain between the Armies of Pakistan and Russia. Two weeks long exercise commenced on 13 October 2024 at National Counter Terrorism Centre, Pabbi with participation of Light Commando Troops ex Pakistan Army and Russian Military

Contingent. Commandant National Counter Terrorism Centre graced the opening ceremony of the Exercise as Chief Guest.

The Exercise is aimed at refining professional skills through joint training besides harnessing the historic military to military relations among the friendly countries. Participating troops are looking forward to benefit from mutual expertise/ experience.

Tajikistan Prime Minister Qohir Rasulzoda arrives in Islamabad for SCO Summit

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Tajikistan's Prime Minister Qohir Rasulzoda arrived in Pakistan today to attend the highly anticipated Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) summit in Islamabad.

The distinguished guest landed at Islamabad International Airport, where he was greeted with a warm and ceremonial welcome.

Federal Minister for Commerce Jam Kamal Khan led the reception, along with

senior government officials, who were present to receive the Tajik Prime Minister. As a gesture of goodwill, Minister Jam Kamal Khan presented a bouquet of flowers to Prime Minister Rasulzoda on behalf of the Government of Paki-

stan, underscoring the close diplomatic ties between the two nations.

A red carpet was rolled out in honor of the visiting dignitary, and children, dressed in vibrant traditional attire, waved the flags of both Paki-

stan and Tajikistan, adding to the celebratory atmosphere. The children's participation symbolized the enduring friendship between the two countries and their shared aspirations for regional cooperation and prosperity.

60th anniversary of establishing diplomatic relations between Pakistan and Romania

Naveed Ahmad Khan

ISLAMABAD: Today marks the 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Pakistan and Romania.

This special occasion is a testament to the cordial and enduring friendship between our two nations over the decades, shaped by our common aspirations for promoting global peace, stability and development.

Since the establishment of diplomatic ties, both countries have worked together to build a strong partnership across multiple areas for the mutual benefit of our peoples. The mechanism of Bilateral Political Consultation provides a solid foundation for multifaceted dialogue, with the potential to deepen this longstanding, mutually beneficial relationship. Additionally, Pakistan and Romania have collaborated closely at international forums,



including the United Nations.

On this happy occasion, the Foreign Ministers of Pakistan and Romania exchanged congratulatory messages celebrating our shared achievements. The messages emphasized our commitment to expanding bilateral cooperation across various sectors in the interests of both nations.

To commemorate this occasion, a joint logo has been issued, which will be used by the Embassies of both countries for official communication throughout the year. Both countries will organize a series of events to mark this historic occasion in a befitting manner.

SCO: PM Kazakhstan welcomed by Abdul Aleem Khan

City Desk

ISLAMABAD. OCTOBER 15: To attend the meeting of Shanghai Cooperation Organization in Pakistan, the Prime Minister of Kazakhstan H. E. Oljas Bektenov arrived at Islamabad Airport where he was welcomed by Federal Minister for Board of Investments, Privatization & Communications Abdul Aleem Khan. He was given a warm welcome while bouquet was presented to him. Talking on this occasion Federal Minister Abdul Aleem Khan said that we attaches special importance to bilateral relations with Central Asian States and will promote trade and business activ-



ities with Kazakhstan and other countries. Prime Minister of Kazakhstan H. E. Oljas Bektenov said that Pakistan and Kazakhstan are good partners and can be more useful for each other in the future. It is noteworthy that Federal Minister Abdul Aleem Khan will also be the Minister of Hospitality during the stay of the Prime Minister of Kazakhstan H. E. Oljas Bektenov.

Foolproof security

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The government has made extensive preparations for the event while focusing on both security and beautification of Islamabad.

Moreover, the federal government has deployed over 10,000 police personnel for the security of about 900 delegates.

Security personnel stand guard in front of the Presidential Palace ahead of Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) summit in Islamabad. The Army has already been called

in to provide security for the event. Rangers have already been deployed in the capital.

The government has announced three days' holidays for public offices, educational institutions, and commercial centres in Islamabad.

All marriage halls will also remain closed to ensure smooth proceedings of the SCO summit.

Read More: All arrangements finalized for SCO meeting in Islamabad

The metro bus service in the twin cities of Islamabad and Rawalpindi

PM underlines need to increase Pak-Turkmen...

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to meet H. E. Mr. Rashid Meredov, Deputy Chairman of Cabinet of Ministers & Foreign Minister of Turkmenistan on the sidelines of the 23rd SCO CHG in Islamabad

today. Conveyed my best wishes to the Turkmen leadership. Pakistan looks forward to working with Turkmenistan to build stronger bilateral ties and enhance regional cooperation particularly in trade, energy, and connectivity."

PM for sustained Pak-Belarus...

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CHG meeting, Prime Minister Shehbaz felicitated Belarus on becoming SCO's full member and reiterated Pakistan's commitment to working closely with Belarus in fostering the "Shanghai Spirit".

Prime Minister Roman Golovchenko assured that Belarus would closely collaborate with Paki-

stan, in its capacity as SCO CHG Chair, to promote the organization's purposes, principles and priorities.

He expressed satisfaction over the positive direction of bilateral relationship between the two countries and reciprocated Pakistan's desire to further strengthen mutually beneficial cooperation across all spheres of shared interest through joint efforts.