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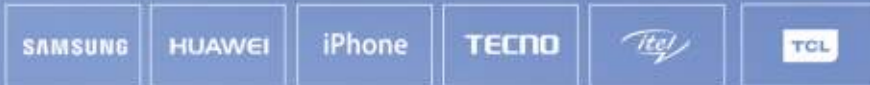


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Pakistan, Indonesia ties discussed at media webinar



Though, COVID 19 continues to play havoc with human lives and global economies, nevertheless, simultaneously the damage control efforts are also in full swing to minimize the devastating socio-economic impacts of the pandemic. To contain and fight off the financial downturn the friendly nations through consultations are identifying ways for mutual cooperation for the enhanced sustainable economic activities between them.

The Indonesian embassy in held a media webinar on July 8 inviting leading journalist of the country to express their views about bilateral relations between the two countries and as to how this relationship can further be strengthened. Both Pakistan and Indonesia enjoy excellent relations. These relations witnessed remarkable improvement in the last few years, especially ever since the incumbent Ambassador Iwan S Amri took charge of the office. Since then bilateral relations are constantly on the move.

Iwan S. Amri, Ambassador of the Republic of Indonesia graced the meeting as the chair and Deny Tri Basuki, Counsellor at the Embassy moderated the webinar. It was a unique interaction between the Indonesia embassy the media fraternity for COVID-19, among other thing, had also limited media's access to various missions and vice versa. In this backdrop, it was indeed a praiseworthy initiative for which the embassy staff needs kudos.

The Indonesian embassy highly valued warm ties with the friends in Pakistani media and acknowledged the role they have been playing in promoting the goodwill between the people of the two countries. Therefore, the prime objective of this meeting was to maintain cordial relations and to discuss in light manner the COVID 19 pandemic socioeconomic impacts on the society.

It was a good opportunity for the participants to share and discuss thoughts about how friendly countries could help each other in the scope of bilateral trade and economic cooperation to stimulate economic activity and job creation in these testing times of global economic recession.

Participants briefly exchanged ideas and identified the potential areas that both countries should focus and work together to enhance all round cooperation between them.

The Indonesian ambassador believed that the concerted communication and consultations with the various stakeholders in Pakistan will certainly build greater confidence and improve environment for the both countries to uplift business, economic and other aspects of the bilateral ties.

"We would like to encourage and elevate bilateral trade and overall economic cooperation between the two countries that was sustainable, equitable and mutually beneficial corresponding to their respective supply & demand potential," remarked Ambassador Iwan Amri.

The ambassador also talked about how they managed repatriation of over 180 Indonesian citizens back to Indonesia. The ambassador was all praise for the Pakistani authorities for facilitating the return.

The participants appreciated Indonesian embassy initiative and hoped to continue this practice. Indonesia, like Pakistan is also hit hard by COVID 19 however the Indonesian government is trying hard to cope with this situation. Tourism contribution to Indonesia economy is significant therefore the first and foremost priority of the Indonesian government appears to be opening the tourism sector.

Pakistan and Indonesia are actively engaged in business activities also. Chambers of both countries have held a number of interactions in recent past. The Loin Air of Indonesia is keen to start operations from Pakistan. They want to start flights from three major cities of Pakistan. If materialized, this arrangement will boost tourism as well as business activity between the two countries.

In a nutshell, relations between both brotherly countries are on a positive trajectory and one should hope that these relations will further be strengthened in the days to come.

Chief Editor's Profile: Ansar Mahmood Bhatti is a career journalist. He started off as District Correspondent of Daily *The Muslim* in 1988 from Gujrat. Later he moved to Islamabad and joined *Pakistan Observer* as Sub-Editor / Op-ed Writer, in 1993. In 1995 he again moved to The Muslim as Sub-Editor and he left The Muslim in 1997 to join *The Nation* as City Editor and Diplomatic Correspondent, where he remained till 2002. His association with *The News* spans over three years from 2002 to 2005 as Columnist. In 2005 Mr. Bhatti switched over to Khabrain Group as Columnist / Special Correspondent. In 2010 he was made Resident Editor of *The Post*, a sister publication of *daily Khabrain*. In 2010 he launched his own publication *Centreline*. He has authored two books on European Union. He has also served in *Pakistan Telecom Company (PTCL)* as Media Advisor/Director Communications. He Launched Diplomatic News Agency (DNA) in 2012.



KHADIJA MOHAMED AL-MAKHZOUMI

Somalia values its ties with Pakistan

Ambassador of Somalia and Acting Dean of Arab Countries talks to Daily Islamabad Post, CENTRELINE and DNA News Agency

Ansar Mahmood Bhatti

Khadija Mohamed Al-Makhzoumi, Ambassador of Somalia talked to CENTRELINE on a variety of issues. She particularly focused on bilateral relations and future scope of ties between the two countries. She also talked about student studying in Pakistan and their experiences. Here are excerpts from her interview.



KHADIJA MOHAMED AL-MAKHZOUMI

Lets begin with Pakistan, Somalia bilateral relations. Please share with us some relations especially, political, trade and Economic relations.

First of all, I have been highly impressed by the warm welcome I received from the Pakistani People. It gives me immense pleasure to say that the relations between Somalia and Pakistan are good, because we uphold the principle of mutual respect and trust and we have a reciprocal consideration.

The two countries have been developing a fruitful and close cooperation since 1st of July 1960. In 1969, Pakistan and Somalia were among the founding members of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC). Somalia's relations with Pakistan remained strong in the following years and through the ensuing civil war period, when the Pakistani military contributed to a UN peacekeeping operation in southern Somalia. In 2010, Pakistan tabled a proposal for United Nations Security Council seats for OIC and Arab League states, the latter of which Somalia is also a member.

Pakistan and Somalia are active

I would really like to appreciate the news Agency as this youngest new Agency which started its operation in 2012 has been ranked number one by Alexa.com the website that issues ranking of various news Agencies. In my opinion this DNA website stands out for its exclusive news especially news about Diplomatic Corps.

commercial partners, trading a variety of commodities. In 2008-2009, Somalia exported \$34,822.059 million USD worth of goods to Pakistan, with Pakistan in return exporting \$17,781.883 million USD worth of goods to Somalia. Somalia's main export commodities to Pakistan centered on the country's livestock sector, and in 2009 included \$3.190 million in raw hides and skins, \$1.044 million in raw sheep and lamb skins, \$0.137 million in sheep/lamb skin leather, \$0.225

million in raw hides and skins of bovine/equine animals, and \$0.033 million in leather of bovine/equine animals. Pakistan's exports to Somalia during the same year included \$53.254 million in rice, \$0.627 million in medicament mixtures, \$10.400 million in non-cocoa sugar confectionery, and \$0.20 million in shawls, scarves, mufflers, mantillas and similar garments.

2: Pakistan Will Assist Somalia in Registering Its Citizens and other e-Government solutions

In a ceremony held in Islamabad, I, the Somali Ambassador to Pakistan, and the former Pakistani Interior Minister, Mr. Ahsan Iqbal, signed the agreement in 2018 in the presence of His Excellency the former Prime Minister of Pakistan H.E. Mr. Shahid Khaqan Abbasi and Mr. Usman Y Mobin, the Hon'ble Chairman of the National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA). This Agreement will assist Somalia in registering its citizens, immigration services, and other e-Government solutions.

3: Pakistan Look Africa policy a welcome Step

Ministry of Foreign Affairs Pakistan has done well by organizing a conference of the country's envoys in the African Continent with a view to deliberating on issues relating to enhanced cooperation with them. The move is timely in the sense other countries of the world especially the United States and China are focusing more on Africa as its economies are considered as 'lions on the move'. African continent is a rising market of 1.26 billion people; it is rich in mineral resources and is an exporter of energy resources.

Pakistan has a lot of goodwill in the region as the country always championed the cause of the African countries at UN and remained in the forefront of peacekeeping missions in Africa. In this backdrop, it is unfortunate that Pak-Africa trade is negligible and the country has diplomatic presence in a few countries alone – thirteen missions to cover 54 countries (the rest are managed through concurrent accreditation). Apart from Africa being a huge potential market for Pakistani goods, the country's geo-strategic location and connectivity offers opportunity for African goods to reach Central Asia and South Asia. Increase in bilateral trade will open new opportunities for both regions which will help them in diversifying their trade basket and also in reducing the price that will ultimately benefit the consumer

As Somali Ambassador to Pakistan, I consider my role is to facilitate the contacts between the players in the economic field, to get them to know each other better and also to interconnect in a better way.

4: A good number of Somali



students are studying in Pakistan. Can you share with us more details of strengthening of educational links between the two countries?

Yes, a large number of Somali students are studying in Pakistan in various educational fields. We are thankful to the people and government of Pakistan for their continuing assistance to the Somali students and for your delight some students after graduating from Pakistan have established an urdu speaking colony in Mogadishu, Somalia. We are also now thinking to cooperate in Higher Education and research field.

5: First graduation ceremony of Somali students in Pakistan in 2018

I, Ambassador of Somalia to

Pakistan, thanked Pakistan for hosting Somali students adding the role of HEC was also laudable in this respect.

Dr. Tariq Banuri, Chairman, Higher Education Commission (HEC) was the chief guest while former National Security Adviser Lieutenant General Nasir Khan Janjua (r) and ambassadors of other countries were also present on the occasion.

Almost Hundreds of students graduated every year in Pakistan and majority of Somali students after doing graduation from Pakistan are now contributing greatly to the Somali society.

Some of them are even reached highest positions like members of Parliament and Ministers in Somalia. The Higher Education Commission (HEC) signed a memorandum of

understanding (MOU) with the Ministry of Education, Culture and Higher Education, Somalia to promote bilateral academic collaboration and develop cooperation in higher education and other fields of common interest.

The MoU was signed by HEC Chairman Dr Mukhtar Ahmed and Abdi Dahir Osman, the Somali Minister for Education, Culture and Higher Education in 2017.

Under the MoU, the two sides agreed to describe the guidelines for future agreements on specific activities by the institutions involved.

I also appreciated the HEC and Pakistani universities for facilitating Somali students. Almost 1500 Somali students are currently studying in various Pakistani universities.

6: Somalia becomes 26th member of COMSATS

A number of foreign dignitaries, representatives of a number of Pakistan based and international organizations and Pakistani Ministries of S&T and Foreign Affairs gathered in Islamabad to celebrate induction of Somalia as the 26th Member State of the Commission on Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in the

I also congratulate the Chief Editor for launching first and only diplomatic daily newspaper of Pakistan i.e daily Islamabad Post and hope like CENTRELINE and DNA News Agency this newspaper shall also play its role in promotion of diplomatic activities.

South (COMSATS) in 2017.

The Federal Republic of Somalia formally became COMSATS' member during a signing ceremony at COMSATS secretariat when the Minister of Culture and higher Education Somalia, H.E. Mr. Abdi Dahir Osman and Executive Director COMSATS, Dr. S.M. Junaid Zaidi, signed Somalia's accession agreement.

7: We have launched daily Islamabad Post, after successful operations of Monthly Centreline magazine and DNA News Agency. How do you see this new imitative?

I would really like to appreciate the news Agency as this youngest new Agency which started its operation in 2012 has been ranked number one by Alexa.com the website that issues ranking of various news Agencies. In my opinion this DNA website stands out for its exclusive news especially news about Diplomatic Corps.

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China is Here & America is There—Far Away

Iqbal Khan

After refusing mediation by President Donald Trump, India has decided to accept Russian offer. Russian foreign minister is hosting his Indian and Chinese counter parts on June 22. India has started collecting dead bodies while the first shot is yet to be fired. Now Modi is doing another funny thing, his party is holding virtual rallies to salute his slain Coward 22.

Aura of India's big power status has evaporated into thin air. To pacify the domestic audience, a new line is being popularized by India that "Nowhere have the Chinese crossed the Chinese Claim Line (CCL). If so, then why so much of fuss?

Oft referred to "Wuhan Spirit" by the Chinese side refers to the joint statement of Wuhan Summit of 2018. It was indeed a face saving given to India by China after the former's Doklam embarrassment. China strongly thinks that India has violated the "Wuhan Spirit"—Cooperation— by participating in a number of US led anti-Chin adventures like: subscription to Indo-Pacific concept; pushing ahead quadrilateral dialogue; signing of deal with Australia to get access to each other's military bases to pave the way for more military exchanges and exercises in the Indo-Pacific; signing of "The Logistics Exchange Memorandum of Agreement (LEMOA)" with the US; in the wake of Covid-19, encouraging relocation of American and European led Multinational industrial units from China to India etc. A report authored by a senior figure at an influential Chinese think-tank has linked the current tensions along the Line of Control (LAC) to India's move last year to

abrogate Article 370 and change the status of Jammu and Kashmir, a decision that China had voiced opposition to. Report, for the first time, described the move as a joint challenge to China and Pakistan, saying the move had "posed a challenge to the sovereignty of Pakistan and China". The article was authored by Wang Shida, who is Deputy Director of the Institute of South Asian Studies at the China Institutes of Contemporary International Relations (CICIR). Ananth Krishnan for his piece for The Hindu (June 12), captioned: "Beijing think-tank links scrapping of Article 370 to LAC tensions", reported: "Mr. Wang noted that the Chinese Foreign Minister had conveyed China's strong opposition to the move to External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar during his visit to Beijing last year, following the abrogation of Article 370 and the establishment of Ladakh as a union territory. The week before the August visit, Home Minister Amit Shah had spoken in Parliament about taking back Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) and Aksai Chin. Mr. Jaishankar conveyed to Beijing that the move was an entirely internal matter that did not impact India's external boundaries or the LAC with China. China had opposed the Ladakh map for including Aksai Chin". The article said the move had "posed a challenge to the sovereignty of Pakistan and China" and "made India-Pakistan relations and China-India relations more complex." According to renowned Indian strategist Pravin Sawheny, "On 5 Aug 2019 I said China will not accept it. China has changed facts on ground, so has Nepal. And, so, will peace loving tiny Bhutan. PLA's Nakula intrusion has bypassed Indian defences from West & East in Sikkim leaving Bhutan to itself. Expect Bhutan to join BRI in a year."

China and Pakistan bashing has never solved any of India's problems, nor is it likely to mitigate India's difficulties in future. Elections are contested in India by creating an anti-China and anti-Pakistan frenzy. Both mainstream parties suffer from this malice; it's only a difference of shade. This has raised the Indian public's expectation about their governments' ability to deliver severe blows to China and or Pakistan.

Indian media is in an overdrive to further raise public expectations that Indian military could quickly drive the Chinese out of recently "occupied territories." And Indian military does not have the wherewithal to prove equal to Indian leadership's tall talk. The negative fallout of this strategic folly has been that India is now stuck up with two nuclear fronts' nightmare. It is purely India's own doing.

Senior PLA Colonel Zhu Bo, a familiar figure in the Chinese information war circuit and an honorary fellow in the PLA Academy of Military Sciences wrote an article for South China Morning Post in 2017, in the wake of Doklam crisis. According to Zhu, India would be the net loser of the crisis because "the disputed border was not on China's strategic radar" till the Doklam standoff. The PLA had since reconsidered its assessment of the strategic importance of the Sino-Indian border.

According to Manosh Joshi, "Betting on a quick return to status quo ante would be hazardous security." The dispute is more likely to herald a new and nervous era, "a geopolitical side-effect of the coronavirus pandemic which is racking the world".

PLA is expected to give some face saving

concessions in Pangong Tso only, having no tactical importance. India seems to have accepted Chinese viewpoint. So, LAC would become meaningless –that could be changed by PLA at Will. India has ceded significant strategic concessions during diplomatic level talks, to buy face saving peace— for the time being.

India has learnt its latest lesson the hard way: "China is here and the US is there— far away; and for the US India is just another tissue paper. Credible analysts have been consistently conveying it to the US, to not to bet on India in its anti-China drive. India is not a stallion, it is an ailing mule. India has disappointed President Donald Trump twice during his presidency, let's hope it's the final one! Above all, COVID-19 has added another dimension to the global body politic. All countries are left to fend for themselves; none has spare quality time to peep around and see what is happening, especially in distant parts of the world. Everyone is trying to avoid additional crises, what to talk of fighting someone else's war. India has missed the bus to have a face saving exit from its Ladakh standoff with China—President Trump could have done it for India. However, out of arrogance Prime Minister Narendra Modi chose to reject Trump's mediation offer. Moreover, Trump has gotten consumed in America's domestic racial quagmire. Now there is only one thing on his mind: 2020 elections. Even containing China is a distant second on his agenda, at least till November 8.

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Korean companies provide 10,000 masks

ISLAMABAD (DNA): In an effort to help contain the spread of COVID-19 in the Khyber Pakhtunkwaprovince, the Korean companies including the consortium of Korea Hydro & Nuclear Power (KHNP) and LOTTE Engineering & Construction, and Korea Energy AsritKedam (KOAK) Power, handed over 10,000 pieces of made-in-Korea washable-and-reusable face masks to the KP government.

At the handing-over ceremony at the Korean Embassy, H.E. Kwak Sung-kyu, Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Pakistan, Himayatullah Khan, Advisor to Chief Minister for Energy, accompanied by Muhammad Zubair, Energy Secretary, Ahn Ho-young, Chief Representative of LOTTE Engineering & Construction Pakistan Branch Office, and Mr. Kim

At the handing-over ceremony at the Korean Embassy, H.E. Kwak Sung-kyu, Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Pakistan, Himayatullah Khan, Advisor to Chief Minister for Energy, accompanied by Muhammad Zubair, Energy Secretary, Ahn Ho-young, Chief Representative of LOTTE Engineering & Construction Pakistan Branch Office, and Mr. Kim Kyung-sik, CEO of KOAK Power were present.

Kyung-sik, CEO of KOAK Power were present. The Advisor expressed his gratitude on behalf of the KP government for the goodwill gesture of the Korean companies. Regarding it as appraisable beyond a simple act of corporate social responsibility, Ambassador Kwak highly appreciated the Korean investors' initiative in support of the local community during this trying time. It is worth mentioning that in last April, the Korean government provided \$300,000 to the World Health Organization in Pakistan to support Pakistan's response in controlling the spread of COVID-19, and the Korean investors in Pakistan's hydropower sector also joined in contributing to this cause by providing additional \$47,000.

German envoy advocates cycling in Pakistan

DNA

ISLAMABAD: German Ambassador Bernhard Schlagheck advocating the adoption of cycling habit in Pakistan said the practice has diversified health and financial advantages for individuals in particular and a country's environment at large.

"The habit of cycling provides an excellent opportunity to clear mind and thoughts, besides its other healthy and nature friendly benefits" the envoy who is in love with cycling shared his feelings in an exclusive interview with state-run media Sunday. He said the reasons behind advocating to build the bike-habit here in Pakistan was certainly his love for cycling and its long lasting positive impacts on humans' lives and it can also drive green development on earth.

Bernhard said, "I think there is a lot to be gained from a good bike ride. It's also environmental-friendly and zero-carbon emission transport as well as a great practical and almost cost-free mode of conveyance. On a query to how we can establish a bike-culture in Pakistan, he said, "I'm always somewhat skeptical about notions like bike-culture. I do not really think we need a bike-culture in Pakistan, but an appreciation of what is already here – so that a bike is not merely considered as a minus to a motorbike or a car, but valuable in itself." It also encourages strong human connectivity as people on automobiles do not interact with each other on roads, he added.

To another question whether cycling can offer a solution to urban transport and traffic chaos, the envoy said, it was a long term perspective but certainly reducing private fossil fuel driven transport within cities to contest constant traffic gridlocks and environmental hazards it must be one of the near term targets of contemporary urban planning.

Schlagheck, stressing upon youth to adopt practical sport activities, said the COVID-19 pandemic has enhanced the significance of the cycling as the exercise helps build strong immune system which was imperative to fight against viral diseases and seasonal epidemics.

The ambassador also gave some expert tips for cyclists in hot summer and said, long distance pedaling be avoided and



short to moderate trips were recommended in full sun light. "Sufficient intakes of nutrients and fluids to the body before and after cycling was a must to avoid season's wrath" he stressed.

Commenting on the riding conditions here for the cyclists, he said, "I can hardly speak for the rest of the country since I am cycling basically only in Islamabad. Here, I think, the conditions are sufficiently good though, as with most things, there may be room for improvement."

It was pleasing to know, he said, that the ICT administration and the Commissioner's office were engaged in setting up dedicated cycling lanes in Islamabad which was a promising and welcome development.

He also praised the Federal Government and Special Assistant to the prime minister Sayed Zulfikar Abbas Bukhari for taking special interest in promoting environmental-friendly mobility models in Islamabad and elsewhere in Pakistan. "This realization and initiatives are certainly going to help enhance number of pedalers across the country" he hoped.

Replying to a question about how to motivate the people for cycling, the ambassador said, politicians had a particular responsibility here to create awareness among masses about the benefits of bicycling. He government and public administration's hands should be

strengthened to encourage people to adopt such activities for health reasons at least.

The envoy also pointed out limitation of using a bicycle as an official routine transportation mode, the idea pleaded in Pakistan's social media and said, "If the President of Pakistan is receiving you for submitting

Ambassadorial credentials, you would not appear at the President House on a bike, would you? There are also security aspects to be considered. And courtesy and hygiene require you won't enter Parliament or Ministries with sweating body. So, it's a matter of prudent consideration."

Bernhard also shared his pride-ride, his grandfather's 80-year old bicycle, which he owns and said "Whenever possible I take my bike to go to Foreign Ministry, located not that far from the German Embassy. It's always both a bit cumbersome and funny to convince the MFA guards to let me in, but we usually share a good laugh and they used to inquire about my bicycle which is indeed quite old, whether it is from Pakistan and where I bought it. In fact, it's from Germany. I have been owning this treasure for almost 40 years and used it in Moscow, Rome, Africa, and now in Islamabad. I think it's great piece to link with my biography and responsibilities here as German Ambassador to Pakistan."

Pak- Kyrgyz ties excellent: Mandviwalla

A.M.Bhatti



ISLAMABAD, Deputy Chairman Senate Saleem Mandviwalla has said that Pakistan and Kyrgyz have good relations at parliamentary level and also enjoy cordial bilateral ties, however, economic cooperation needs to be further enhanced for mutual benefit of both the countries. He expressed these view while talking to Ambassador of Kyrgyz Erik Beishembiev, here at Parliament House on Tuesday. Mandviwalla said that Pakistan and Kyrgyz have shared common ideological and political stances on major international issues and the cooperation between the two sides at parliamentary forums is remarkable. He said that both the countries has historical relations which can be traced back centuries ago as both the nations have long time and close cultural and spiritual ties. The mutual exchange of the visits of the senior leadership of both the countries have also strengthened bilateral relations, however, there is huge potential for trade and economic cooperation. He said that the existing excellent political relations should be transform into

growing trade and economic relations. He said both the countries are rich in mineral resources, have high skilled human resources, excellent opportunities for developing industry and agriculture, attracting foreign investments for joint production and supply of goods, including those for export.

Deputy Chairman Senate extended invitation to Speakers of Supreme Council of Republic of Kyrgyz to visit Pakistan and called for more frequent exchange of Parliamentary and trade delegations. He also urged that there is a need for better connectivity between the two countries and option for direct flights needs to be explored.

The Ambassador of Kyrgyz agreed with the views of the Deputy Chairman Senate and called for better parliamentary linkages and people to people contact for promoting social and economic ties for mutual benefit of both the countries. He suggested the idea of organizing caravan of friendship comprising of businessmen, tourists and media persons to travel from Pakistan to Kyrgyz to boost mutual ties.

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A STEP TO HELL

ALI SUKHANVER



Some people are misguided by the notion that violation of the human rights is limited only to the Indian Occupied Jammu & Kashmir but facts are altogether otherwise; situation is the same throughout India particularly for the Muslims and in general for all minorities. Recently the Contact Group of the OIC held a meeting to discuss the cruelties and brutalities of the Hindu extremists faced by the India Muslims. The meeting was attended by foreign Ministers of the Azerbaijan, Niger, Pakistan, the KSA and Turkey. The member participants warned India to halt security operations against people of IOJ&K immediately, respect basic human rights, refrain from changing the demographic structure of disputed territory and settle the conflict under relevant UNSC's resolutions. Experts are of the opinion that such meetings of the OIC have no practical value because the OIC has never succeeded in proving itself a powerful and effective organization.

Once proud of its secularism, India has become a land only for the upper-caste Hindus; others are not allowed even to breathe freely. This is purely an inhuman approach and

it must have been discouraged but unfortunately the members of the UN Security Council appreciated this approach by electing India as a Non-Permanent member of the Security Council. The UN Security Council is one of the most sacred bodies responsible for maintenance of peace and harmony all over the world. Whenever there is a situation of anarchy or civil war or any other type of disturbance in any country, it is the UN Security Council which decides about the deployment of UN peace troops in the troubled area. The Security Council is a very sensitive body of the United Nations, so the member-countries must be those having an unblemished reputation. In case of India, the situation is altogether otherwise. Those who voted for India in UN Security Council's elections were well aware of mistreatment and injustice; the religious and racial minorities have to face in India. By supporting India they have done nothing but lent a helping hand to extremism. Every day, countless Muslims, Sikhs, Christians and Dalits have to pass through a grind just because they do not belong to the Hindu community. The Christian Post recently published a report which says that the early quarter of 2020 had been a very frightening period for the Christians in India. Attacks on Christians and their places of worship in India continued to escalate in both number and severity in the early months of 2020 with 27 violent incidents reported in March alone. The report referred to a document prepared by the United Christian Forum which pointed out 56 threats against Christians as well as 78 incidents of violence against the Christian community between January and March of 2020. The UCF said that

all these attacks took place in Uttar Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Tamil Nadu, Odisha, Bihar, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Telangana, and Goa. In most cases, the attacks were perpetrated by mobs objecting to Christians holding worship services. There are countless examples of forced conversion of Christians to Hinduism. Hindu extremists are threatening the Christians that they would have to face serious consequences if they do not change their religion.

Same horrible situation is being faced by the Sikhs and the Muslims too though they have never been an easy pill to swallow but the worst of all are the Dalits. Most of the Dalits or the Untouchables belong to the low-caste tribes. Their fate is to face violence and forced 'social distancing' at the hands of the upper-caste Hindus. Even their shadows are not allowed to touch the people from more privileged castes but when the matter comes to the rape of a Dalit woman, the Upper-caste Hindu men try to ignore all that 'untouchability'. On 13th January, 2020 an article of Sumanti Sen was published in The Logical Indian which said, "Four Dalit women are raped every day in India. Every time a Dalit woman or a woman from any so-called lower-caste is subjected to sexual violence, it becomes clear that the prevailing structure of caste and the status of women in society are largely responsible for the violation of their human rights." From the Dalits to the Muslims, BJP's India has become a blazing hell for all minorities. It is simply the callousness of the world that such a 'dangerous' country has been prized with Non-Permanent membership of the Security Council.



ISLAMABAD: Vazken Kavlakian, Charge d' Affaires of Lebanon in Pakistan called on Acting Dean of Arab countries and Ambassador of Somalia Khadija Al Makhzoumi.. On this occasion Ambassador Khadija thanked Vazken for sparing time and offered best wishes for His Excellency health and happiness.



LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION IN THE SENATE, SENATOR RAJA MUHAMMAD ZAFAR-UL-HAQ EXCHANGING VIEWS WITH EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR MR. TAREK DAHROUG AT PARLIAMENT HOUSE ISLAMABAD



Nigerian envoy gives an emotional send off to citizens

50 Nigerians who were stranded in Pakistan amid corona pandemic, were evacuated through a chartered aircraft

DNA

ISLAMABAD: As many as 50 Nigerians who were stranded in Pakistan amid corona pandemic, were evacuated through a chartered aircraft. The departure turned into an emotional farewell.

The Nigeria High Commissioner to Pakistan, Maj Gen (Rtd) Ashimiyu Olaniyi Oon addressed his departing country fellows in an emotional way.

He reminded them that coronacivirus was a disease that was ravaging all nations across the world. All countries with no exception have adopted measures to combat this pandemic, including lockdowns which affected economies of various countries in the world including the airline operations, hence your inability to have returned to Nigeria at the end of your business activities in Pakistan.

He said that today you are boarding a chartered Aircraft operated by TARCO Aviation which will take you to Abuja.

'I am aware of the challenges you must have experienced in the last 3 months as this pandemic caught everybody unprepared. He commended the patience and adoptivity of Nigerians during this tough period of time here in Pakistan'.

He also appreciated the Government and "good people" of Pakistan for their love, compassion and generosity towards the Nigerians and their military officers who were on training at various Pakistani military institutions.

He acknowledged and thanked the efforts of Pakistan Foreign Office for accommodating the movement of Nigeria nationals from Lahore, Quetta and Karachi to Islamabad through special PAF flight arrangements.

He further appreciated the Pakistan Air Force leadership for making available the aircraft that airlifted the Nigerian military officers from their places of training, and the Punjab Government for arranging the vehicles that conveyed stranded Nigerians from Lahore to Islamabad Airport. He said that all this love shown by Pakistani

government organizations are clear indications of strong bilateral relations between our brotherly countries. He offered special prayers for Pakistan and its People.

He further asked his departing country fellows to fully adopt and follow the Covid-19 prevention protocol which includes wearing of face masks, hand sanitizing, keeping safe distance wearing of hand gloves. He concluded his address by wishing them a safe flight home. The High Commissioner concluded his address by saying Pakistan - Nigeria friendship Zindabad.

A total of 50 Nigerians and one Pakistani boarded the chartered aircraft operated by TARCO AVIATION Co Ltd which took off from the Islamabad International Airport at about 1605 hrs.

The High Commissioner Ambassador Maj Gen (Rtd) Ashimiyu Adebayo Olaniyi and staff of the High Commission including the Defence Advisor, Consular officer were at the departure hall to see off the evacuating Nigerians.

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DREAMS CAN NOT BE QUARANTINED

Unique graduation celebrations at Sheikh Zayed Int'l Academy amid Pandemic

Hamad Obaid Al Zaabi urged the graduates to stand out as a role model for others, to shine and be successful in their future pursuits, and to stay connected to the school that has imparted such high standard of education

ISLAMABAD (DNA) -'Unprecedented circumstances provide unprecedented opportunities for innovation'- the sentence that aptly wraps up the efforts of the Principal of Sheikh Zayed International Academy Islamabad, Mrs. Wafaa Abdul Ghaffar and the sterling support of the Ambassador of the United Arab Emirates Hamad Obaid Al Zaabi, to mark the accomplishment of IB-DP2 students. Sheikh Zayed International Academy Islamabad commemorated the success of the graduating class of session 2019-2020 at the Embassy of the United Arab Emirates in a novel fashion to make the day indelible for the students amid the restrictions of the Covid-19. Students of IB-DP2 clad in graduation gowns, caps, masks, gloves and face shields, gathered in their private cars festooned with balloons and banners in a convoy headed by the Principal's car at the Embassy of the United Arab Emirates.

To ensure social distancing, students were instructed to remain in their private cars and briefly exit individually to receive the certificates of accomplishment from Hamad Obaid Al Zaabi.

To remind the graduates of ethical and professional responsibilities, the Principal, Mrs. Wafaa Abdul Ghaffar, took a Graduation Pledge from the students, who stood three metres apart keeping safe distance among them. The students pledged to be principled, open-minded and caring, to uphold to help this world become a better place and to use their knowledge and logic to make decisions and choices for the best





of humanity. At this auspicious moment, Ambassador of the United Arab Emirates Hamad Obaid Al Zaabi congratulated the 'SZIA GRADS' in his stimulating address upon their achievement of a momentous milestone. Hamad Obaid Al Zaabi urged the graduates to stand out as a

role model for others, to shine and be successful in their future pursuits, and to stay connected to the school that has imparted such high standard of education.

The ceremony concluded with a photo session of the graduates with the Principal, Mrs. Wafaa Abdul Ghaffar and cutting of a uniquely designed

cake, prepared specially for this occasion.

The distinctively organised graduation ceremony provided an opportunity to the graduates to celebrate their success and remember that no matter the current circumstances seem dimaying, yet the future will be promising.

WARMTH AND OPPORTUNITIES IN PAK-MOROCCO TIES

Hamid Asghar Khan



Pakistan shares a number of historic, socio-cultural and geographic commonalities with the brotherly Kingdom of Morocco. The leadership and people share great mutual respect and affection, however a number of cooperation, trade and investment opportunities present themselves and need to be availed to provide more substance to the relationship.

The Covid-19 Pandemic has disrupted planned official visits by the Honorable Speaker of the Moroccan Assembly to Pakistan and also that of the Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee who were to lead parliamentary delegations. A visit to Rabat by our Foreign Minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi similarly has been delayed due to the outbreak.

Morocco, relying on its strong and effective, local and regional government system, was able to admirably enforce its 3 month lockdown. They have been able to do a tremendous job of curtailing the spread of the disease. With just over 12,000 cases-11,000 of them recovered-the Kingdom is now

moving towards the much-awaited resumption of business activities and international connectivity.

A new British affiliated school has requested the Embassy to help identify dynamic and qualified teachers from Pakistan for its new campus opening in Rabat this August. Similarly, the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization has communicated its desire to recruit specialists in various fields for its Headquarters here in Rabat. The national press agency is desirous of hiring a dynamic journalist in Pakistan, to represent them, and to provide a regular news feed from Pakistan.

Morocco, situated on the Mediterranean as well as Atlantic, with varied landscapes from pristine beaches to sandy deserts and the green Atlas Mountains is uniquely positioned, and is a tourists paradise. A moderate, inclusive, tolerant and welcoming culture enables the Kingdom to regularly host over one million tourists per month.

Our Mission has hosted a tour operator delegation from Pakistan, and arranged meetings here to organize family package tours.

Similarly, the State of the Art Tanger-Med Port-a sprawling complex including vibrant industrial and economic zones is an export dynamo. The warehousing, passenger and goods terminals in the \$ 12 billion dollar facility spread over 2500 acres contributes to employment, as well as national economic connectivity and growth. Morocco is truly a gateway to Africa. We have proposed that the

operators of our Gwadar Port come and examine the management model adopted here at what has become one of the world's fastest growing ports.

Morocco is widely viewed as a stable, well governed reliable friend and ally by countries near and far. Under the vision and guidance of His Majesty Mohammad VI, the country has made great strides in the fields of alternate energy, water conservation, education, equitable development, judicial reforms, devolution of powers, effective local governance and in boosting the private sector. The security and intelligence services do an admirable job of proactively maintaining peace and safety. Reforms in almost every field are geared to address the needs of the population.

The Kingdom is among the top two destinations for foreign investment on the vibrant African continent, and they play a leading role at the OIC-being the birthplace of the world's second largest international organization. Morocco also participates proactively in Arab League and African Union affairs, and is the only country to have free trade agreements with both the USA as well as the EU. Textile investors from Pakistan, setting up units here would benefit from the abundance of energy, skilled labor, easy connectivity and duty exemptions under the FTA's.

2020 happily witnessed the second round of formal bilateral political consultations between the two countries, and the Moroccan delegation had constructive meetings at the Foreign Office, Parliament and



with other important stakeholders while in Islamabad. MOU's for cooperation between APP and Maghreb Arab Press as well as between The Mayors of Islamabad and Rabat are under consideration. Mission organized visits to Casablanca, Tangiers, Meknes and Rabat for a visiting 22 member FPCCI delegation who had excellent meetings with sectoral counterparts.

We here at the Mission were delighted to assist with the official visit of COAS General Qamar Javed Bajwa, who undertook a three day visit, among other engagements delivering a lecture at the Military College, and holding discussions with the Defence Minister as well as the Moroccan Army Chief. Earlier, the Mission was happy to assist with another official visit by the Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee of Pakistan.

The mega developments planned for the southern provinces as per the vision of His Majesty present exciting opportunities for Pakistani infrastructure and development companies to participate in major road, railway, port, housing as well as health and educational projects. Similarly, the hospitality sector offers ample opportunities and at least one Pakistani is planning to open a traditional hotel to cater for the large tourist market in the months ahead. We must collectively explore the employment and business opportunities that present themselves

in this region.

The Islamic Center for Development of Trade at Casablanca has offered to

In 1956 a newly independent Pakistan had the vision, resolve and conviction to stand by our Moroccan brothers as they struggled for their freedom. With commonalities of culture and religion, and a shared world view of peaceful development, it is time to translate our traditionally warm, cordial ties into concrete trade, commercial and investment linkages.

help host an Islamic countries trade show in Pakistan, and it is anticipated

that delegates from over 35 countries will participate in the event. The Embassy has proposed that the best export goods of Pakistan be displayed on this occasion to help promote our goods. We feel our sports, pharmaceutical and textile products among others can find a ready market here.

The Embassy is also striving to bridge the information and awareness gap that exists on both sides. Opening of an Information Section at the Mission shall greatly help boost trade, generate people to people ties and allow for more robust public diplomacy that we have planned in the shape of a book exhibition, qawwali show, textile exhibition and paintings display in the months ahead.

In 1956 a newly independent Pakistan had the vision, resolve and conviction to stand by our Moroccan brothers as they struggled for their freedom. With commonalities of culture and religion, and a shared world view of peaceful development, it is time to translate our traditionally warm, cordial ties into concrete trade, commercial and investment linkages.

There is much we can learn from each other, and we at the Mission remain determined to help forge stronger and deeper ties, fostering cooperation in every sector possible.

***Hamid Asghar Khan is
Pakistan's Ambassador in
Morocco***

SCO Secy General wishes success to Daily Islamabad Post

The Secretariat will continue to support relations and exchanges between mass media of the member states, their regular updates on the current work of SCO, political, economic and cultural humanitarian achievements

DNA News Agency

ISLAMABAD (DNA): The Secretary General of Shanghai Cooperation Organization Vladimir Norov has wished the team of Daily Islamabad Post success in a letter written by Vladimir Norov, Secretary General of the SCO the Editor-in-Chief of Daily Islamabad Post Ansar Mahmood Bhatti.

The secretary general wrote that the SCO Secretariat attaches great importance to cooperation with leading media outlets of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan in order to disseminate relevant and objective information about SCO

activities to the Pakistani public. Thanks to your active work and support, news agencies such as "Daily Islamabad Post",

"Diplomatic News Agency" and "CENTRELINE" cover the work of our Organisation extensively. The materials published by these



June 29, 2020

№ 02-04/ 889

Editor in Chief
Daily Islamabad Post, DNA News Agency, CENTRELINE Journal
Mr. Ansar Mahmood Bhatti

Dear Mr. Bhatti,

The SCO Secretariat attaches great importance to cooperation with leading media outlets of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan in order to disseminate relevant and objective information about SCO activities to the Pakistani public.

Thanks to your active work and support, news agencies such as "Daily Islamabad Post", "Diplomatic News Agency" and "CENTRELINE" cover the work of our Organisation extensively. The materials published by these media agencies contribute to enhancing the favourable image of the SCO in Pakistan. Publications in the fight against coronavirus in the SCO countries, as well as the position of our Organisation for international cooperation to jointly combat the spread of the disease on a global scale have become very important.

The Secretariat will continue to support relations and exchanges between mass media of the member states, their regular updates on the current work of SCO, political, economic and cultural humanitarian achievements.

In this regard, it is very important to hold an annual media forum of SCO countries. The Secretariat drafted the Media Forum Regulations and sent it to the parties through the National Coordinators of the SCO Member States on 22 May 2020. We look forward to the support of the Pakistani side of this proposal.

I take this opportunity to wish you and your entire team good health, well-being and success!

Best regards,

Vladimir Norov

media agencies contribute to enhancing the favourable image of the SCO in Pakistan. The letter further added that

global scale have become very important. The letter said the Secretariat will

publications in the fight against coronavirus in the SCO countries, as well as the position of our Organisation for international cooperation to jointly combat the spread of the disease on a

continue to support relations and exchanges between mass media of the member states, their regular updates on the current work of SCO, political, economic and cultural humanitarian achievements. In this regard, it is very important to hold an annual media forum of SCO countries. The Secretariat drafted the Media Forum Regulations and sent it to the parties through the National Coordinators of the SCO Member States on 22 May 2020. We look forward to the support of the Pakistani side of this proposal. The Secretary General SCO Vladimir Norov wished the team good health, well-being and success.



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The COVID-19 situation in Kazakhstan is under control

DNA

NUR SULTAN: Despite some progress in certain regions of the world, global experience continues to show that the coronavirus crisis is a long way from being eliminated. New cases are soaring in many countries, perhaps most notably in the United States. The World Health Organisation (WHO) has warned that the spread of the virus has not reached its peak in countries in Central and South America. A number of countries in Europe, including Spain and Germany, had to re-introduce quarantine measures.

The government of Kazakhstan has always stated that the country cannot become complacent. And, indeed, the country is currently going through a challenging period. At the same time, there has been some exaggeration of the situation in the country. For example, it was reported in the international media recently that Kazakhstan is one of the countries with the fastest growing rates of COVID-19. Unfortunately this caused some concern and misunderstanding both among the public and the media regarding the epidemiological situation in Kazakhstan.

It is indeed true that the number of cases have increased in Kazakhstan. At the same time, a number of points need to be considered. Firstly, since the beginning of July asymptomatic cases of COVID-19 were added to the general statistics of morbidity, thus significantly increasing the infection growth rate. Secondly, Kazakhstan has greatly increased the number of tests carried out. Over 1.6 million people have been tested so far. Currently, the country is carrying out almost 90,000 tests per one million population (almost 14,000 tests per day), which is more than France, Germany, Canada and many other countries. Kazakhstan at the moment ranks 19th in the world in terms of population testing. Naturally, this has increased the number of confirmed cases.

Due to these factors, there are just over 50,000 cases of COVID-19 currently registered in Kazakhstan, including just over 25,000 with symptoms, and over 23,000 asymptomatic. Approximately 1,400 new cases are registered per day, an increase of 3.0%. More than half have

fully recovered, while over 23,000 patients continue to receive treatment. 260 people have died so far.

The rate of the spread of the virus in June was 1.3. There has been a decrease over the past week to 1.05. According to the Johns Hopkins University in the U.S., Kazakhstan ranks 35th globally in terms of the COVID-19 infection rate. The

As President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev noted recently, this crisis is a passing phenomenon, and the difficulties are temporary. Kazakhstan has the required medical and economic resources to win against the spread of the virus and return to normalcy.

mortality rate in Kazakhstan is 0.5%. In comparison, it is 4.4% and 1.5% in the United States and Russia respectively. Furthermore, Kazakhstan ranks 54th in terms of the number of infected people per 1 million inhabitants, and 113th in terms of mortality.

Ultimately, these statistics demonstrate that the broad epidemiological situation

regarding the spread of the coronavirus in Kazakhstan is under control. As soon as cases began to surge in June, the Government took the necessary measures to combat the pandemic in a timely manner, including implementing a second quarantine. The results of the first lockdown from mid-March to mid-May demonstrated that quarantine measures are indeed effective. The number of confirmed cases remained low during that period. It is expected that two-week quarantine will also contribute to the stabilisation of the situation. In addition, three hospitals focusing on infectious diseases were built quickly in the cities of Nur-Sultan, Almaty and Shymkent. Clinics in other regions have been provided with the necessary equipment.

The two-week quarantine will last between July 5-19.

The measures restrict social and family gatherings limited to outdoor walking of three or less. The facilities including beauty and hair salons, all kind of indoor sport centers, beaches, water parks, culture and entertainment places, religious facilities, kindergartens and children health camps suspend their activities. As before, at least 80 percent of employees in public companies will continue working from home. The restrictions do not apply to construction and industrial plants with a continuous production cycle, open air agricultural and construction sites, as well as health centres, grocery stores and open air markets.

Summer patios, auto service and appliance maintenance are continuing working under enhanced sanitary and disinfection measures.

The international flights are operating within the previous list of countries, while domestic flights and train service are limited. City and intercity bus service is suspended for the period of quarantine.

As President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev noted recently, this crisis is a passing phenomenon, and the difficulties are temporary. Kazakhstan has the required medical and economic resources to win against the spread of the virus and return to normalcy.

Indonesian Embassy, PBC discuss COVID-19 impacts

A.M.BHATTI

ISLAMABAD: Though, COVID 19 continues to play havoc with human lives and global economies, nevertheless, simultaneously the damage control efforts are also in full swing to minimize the devastating socio-economic impacts of the pandemic. To contain and fight off the financial downturn the friendly nations through consultations are identifying ways for mutual cooperation for the enhanced sustainable economic activities between them.

With the same spirit, the Indonesian Embassy in Islamabad organized a virtual meeting with the Pakistan Business Council (PBC) which is headquartered in the Pakistani

economic hub of Karachi. It represents country's leading Corporate and Business Groups and as an advocacy forum work to improve the general business environment of the country. Through its research projects, it also provides valuable input to the Government of Pakistan for bilateral agreements such as the Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA) and the Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between Pakistan and other countries.

The Indonesian Ambassador Iwan S. Amri and the Indonesian Consul General in Karachi Totok Prianamto attended the virtual meeting. The Indonesian Embassy has always worked closely with PBC and this time

the meeting was aimed at discussing and evaluating the bilateral economic and trade situation arising out of the COVID 19 pandemic.

Speaking on the occasion, Indonesian Ambassador Iwan Suyudhie Amri highlighted the current issues concerning the bilateral economic cooperation between the countries and stressed on the significance of fostering the sustainable bilateral trade relations. "Indonesia and Pakistan must work together for the sustainable trade relations between them," Ambassador Iwan Amri observed.

The Envoy believed that the concerted communication and consultations with the PBC and other stakeholders in





Pakistan will certainly build greater confidence and improve environment for the both countries to uplift business, economic and other aspects of the bilateral ties.

"We would like to encourage and elevate bilateral trade and overall economic cooperation between the two countries that was sustainable, equitable and mutually beneficial corresponding to their respective supply & demand potential," remarked Ambassador Iwan Amri.

Pakistan Business Council's CEO Ehsan Ali Malik, in his remarks, reciprocated Ambassador's views and highly commended the Indonesian Embassy in Islamabad and the Indonesian Consulate General in Karachi for their timely initiative and being persistent towards optimization of cooperation with Pakistan in various potential spheres.

Ehsan Ali Malik said that with the realization of the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) strategic project the economic outlook in Pakistan was way more dynamic. He expressed his confidence that CPEC projects offered Indonesia a great opportunity to increase its economic

cooperation and investment in Pakistan.

Ambassador Iwan Amri noted with pleasure that Indonesia's trade relations with Pakistan have been on upward trajectory. The total trade value between Indonesia and Pakistan in 2019 reached USD 2.3 billion with surplus of USD 1.6 billion favoring Indonesia. While shedding some light on the research carried out by the Embassy, the Ambassador hoped that the PBC could play its vital role towards making Pakistan the hub of Indonesia's palm oil business to Central Asia and the Middle East.

The successful implementation of the Indonesia-Pakistan Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA) in 2013 opened the door for the Indonesia's superior and competitive products in the Pakistani market such as palm oil and its derivatives, viscos rayon materials, coal, polyester, paper, rubber, motor vehicle parts, tractor accessories, clove, broom, brush, vein chloride and others products.

Following the establishment of concrete trade cooperation within the PTA framework, currently the two countries were moving towards the

Free Trade Agreement (FTA) within the framework of the Trade in Goods Agreement (TIGA).

On the occasion, PBC's CEO, Ehsan Ali Malik lauded the Indonesian Government's policies that created an investment friendly climate in the country and have been very successful in attracting foreign investors. "We would like to learn from Indonesia's success story in encouraging the relocation of multinationals and other large companies for instance from the US and Japan to Indonesia.

Tourism sector, people to people contacts and removing non-tariff barriers for bilateral trade were among other issues that also came under discussion at the meeting.

The successful two-hour long wide-ranging virtual meeting concluded with the Indonesian Embassy in Islamabad and the Pakistan Business Council agreeing to continue to work together by means of mutual consultations and sharing of the information about existing and emerging economic opportunities and potential business cooperation that can be focused and capitalized by Indonesia and Pakistan," concluded Ambassador Iwan Amri.

Pakistan, Indonesia ties discussed at media webinar

Loin Air of Indonesia wants to start flights from Pakistan and negotiations with the aviation officials are already underway. Loin Air wants to start from three cities of Pakistan. The plan is still on the table. Let us hope that negotiations between the Loin Air officials and Pakistani aviations officials make some early headway

A.M.BHATTI

ISLAMABAD: Though, COVID 19 continues to play havoc with human lives and global economies, nevertheless, simultaneously the damage control efforts are also in full swing to minimize the devastating socio-economic impacts of the pandemic. To contain and fight off the financial downturn the friendly nations through consultations are identifying ways for mutual cooperation for the enhanced sustainable economic activities between them.

These views were expressed by Ambassador of Indonesia Iwan S Amri during a Webinar with leading Pakistani journalists. Deny Tri Basuki, Counsellor at the Embassy moderated the webinar

The Indonesian embassy held a media webinar inviting leading journalist of the country to express their views about bilateral relations between the two countries and as to how this relationship can further be strengthened. Both Pakistan and Indonesia enjoy excellent relations. These relations witnessed remarkable improvement in the last few years, especially ever since the incumbent Ambassador Iwan S Amri took charge of the office. Since then bilateral relations are constantly on the move.

Iwan S. Amri, Ambassador of the Republic of Indonesia further said it was a unique interaction between the Indonesia embassy and the media fraternity on the issue of COVID-19 and assured to continue such interactions. He said the Indonesian embassy highly valued warm ties with the friends in Pakistani media and acknowledged the role they have been playing in

promoting the goodwill between the people of the two countries. Therefore, the prime objective of this meeting is to maintain cordial relations and to discuss in light manner the COVID 19 pandemic socioeconomic impacts on the society.

Ambassador Amri praised government Ehsas program and they way poor people were helped thru this program. He lauded efforts of the government in this regard.

The ambassador told the Indonesian Embassy in Islamabad had also organized a virtual meeting with the Pakistan Business Council (PBC) which is headquartered in the Pakistani economic hub of Karachi. It represents country's leading Corporate and

Business Groups and as an advocacy forum work to improve the general business environment of the country. Through its research projects, it also provides valuable input to the Government of Pakistan for bilateral agreements such as the Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA) and the Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between Pakistan and other countries.

During the course of discussion with the PBC he had highlighted the current issues concerning the bilateral economic cooperation between the countries and stressed on the significance of fostering the sustainable bilateral trade relations. "Indonesia and Pakistan must work together for the sustainable trade relations between them," Ambassador Iwan Amri observed.

The Envoy believed that the concerted communication and consultations with the various stakeholders in Pakistan will certainly build greater confidence and improve environment for the both countries to uplift business, economic and other aspects of the bilateral ties.

"We would like to encourage and elevate bilateral trade and overall economic cooperation between the two countries that was sustainable, equitable and mutually beneficial corresponding to their respective supply & demand potential," remarked Ambassador Iwan Amri.

To a question about possibility of air links, the ambassador said they do not have any aviation contract with PIA. However Loin Air of Indonesia wants to start flights from Pakistan and negotiations with the aviation officials are already underway. Loin Air wants to

start from three cities of Pakistan. The plan is still on the table. Let us hope that negotiations between the Loin Air officials and Pakistani aviations officials make some early headway.

Repatriation of citizens:

To a question about repatriation of Indonesian citizens, the Ambassador Iwan said that the tracking and data collection process of the Indonesian citizens for their repatriation was a daunting task because of the reason that they were located in various cities and regions of Pakistan. Especially those of Tabligh Jamat were hard to track and contact as they would move from a region to another for their Tablighi activities, he added.

The Ambassador said that limitations of movement resulting from the lockdown and physical distancing policies by the Pakistani authorities, the Embassy adapted to the evolving situation and through innovative ways and tireless efforts managed to contact its nationals spread over different parts of the country.

Sharing some details the Ambassador informed that as per our multiple pronged strategy the Embassy established intensive coordination with the Pakistani authorities, management of the Tabligh Markazin Raiwind and Islamabad, IIUI management and the students, Markaz Jamat Tabligh back in Ancol, Indonesia, and the Pakistani friends to ensure that the repatriation was complete and successful.

At the end of the day we all emerged successful and were able to repatriate over 180 people to Indonesia. The Ambassador also thanked Pakistani govt and PIA authorities for facilitating the repatriation.

The ambassador also talked about steps taken by the Pakistan government for the well being of diplomatic community in Islamabad. He also cited a letter written by the dean of diplomatic corps to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs thanking it for ensuring security of the diplomatic corps.

The ambassador also lauded efforts of Pakistan government for effectively dealing with the COVID 19 situation. He also mentioned latest statement of the WHO chief in which is recognized efforts of Pakistan government in this regard.

Ambassador Amri praised government Ehsas program and they way poor people were helped thru this program. He lauded efforts of the government in this regard. The ambassador also



Ambassador of Indonesia Iwan S Amri

talked about CPEC project and termed it beneficial for the people of Pakistan

Ambassador Amri said Indonesia will take part in upcoming virtual Rawal Expo expected take place in August this year. Indonesia has regularly been taking part in Rawal Expo.

and this region as well.

The ambassador could not resist

himself to praise various packages offered by the government of Pakistan for the people affected by COVID 19. He especially mentioned govt construction and tourism packages. He termed govt decision to open the tourism sector a welcome development.

Ambassador Amri said Indonesia will take part in upcoming virtual Rawal Expo expected take place in August this year. Indonesia has regularly been taking part in Rawal Expo.

Talking about COVID 19 situation in Indonesia the ambassador said like other countries, Indonesia has also suffered due to pandemic. He said nevertheless number of cases in his country was lower as compared to many countries.

The ambassador hoped that situation will soon return to normalcy.

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EU envoy stresses judiciary role in justice system

NEWS IN BRIEF

ISLAMABAD (DNA): The EU Chargé d'Affaires a.i. Anne Marchal stressed the important role which judiciary plays in the criminal justice system especially in terrorism cases for upholding rule of law and human rights. She acknowledged the challenges judges encounter during the adjudication process and highlighted that the toolkit gives us an opportunity to learn from the knowledge and experiences of our fellow colleagues from this region for incorporating good practices during the proceedings.

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in collaboration with the National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA), Sindh Judicial Academy (SJA) organized a virtual meeting for anti-terrorism judges from Sindh, Pakistan, on the South Asia Regional Toolkit for Judges: Supporting the Development of National Bench Books for the Effective Adjudication of Terrorism Cases.

The regional toolkit was developed by the United Nations Security Council Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate (CTED) with the active support and engagement of judges from all South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) countries, including Pakistan. It elaborates and builds on relevant Security Council resolutions and international instruments on counter-terrorism.

It also provides practice-oriented guidance to judges and judicial training academies of SAARC countries on the foundations for effective adjudication, judicial management of proceedings and international cooperation in terrorism



matters in the South-Asian region. Recognizing that law enforcement and criminal justice agencies in Pakistan face unique challenges and evolving threats posed by terrorism and its financing, UNODC is working in close partnership with stakeholders in the country under "Pakistan's Action to Counter Terrorism" (PACT) project, to deliver technical assistance to the police, prosecution and judiciary in the Province of Sindh to strengthen their collective response to preventing and countering terrorism. This project receives financial support of the European Union (EU).

One of the key activities under the project involves customizing this toolkit in close consultation with the Sindh Judicial Academy for the anti-terrorism judges of

Pakistan. During this initial online consultative meeting attended by over 20 anti-terrorism judges from Sindh, two United States District Court judges along with a magistrate from Australia participated as subject-matter experts.

Pakistan-UNODC cooperation is producing results through targeted training and tools. One such tool is "The South Asia Regional Toolkit", customized for Judges in Pakistan, which will serve as a reference guide tailored towards meeting the needs of Judges in the country", said Masood Karimipour, Chief of Terrorism Prevention Branch, UNODC.

NACTA Member Policy Asif Paracha expressed appreciation for the technical assistance being delivered by UNODC under the framework of PACT.

New Sri Lanka envoy arrives in Islamabad

ISLAMABAD (DNA)= Vice Admiral Mohan Wijewickrama has been appointed as the new High Commissioner of Sri Lanka in Pakistan.

Newly appointed High Commissioner of Sri Lanka to Pakistan has already arrived in Pakistan and assumed charge of duties.

Pakistan and Sri Lanka enjoy excellent relations and it is hope that during the tenure of the new high commissioner these relations will get further boost. DNA





Australian envoy all praise for Pakistani mangoes



ISLAMABAD (DNA) - The Australian High Commissioner to Pakistan Dr Geoffrey Shaw shared pictures of him eating famous Pakistani mangoes on Twitter. He tweeted: "Savouring the Pakistani 'aam', my favourite summer fruit that's an intrinsic part of Pakistan's culture, art, poetry and literature. Pakistan is the world's sixth largest exporter of mangoes, with its



delicious and juicy increasing popular in #mangoes becoming Australia."

EATING MANGOES IN PAK STYLE



ISLAMABAD: Australian High Commissioner Geoffrey Shaw eating mangoes in Pakistani style. DNA

Palestine, Iraq ambassadors discuss cooperation



ISLAMABAD (DNA) - Ahmed Ameen Rabae, Ambassador of State of Palestine to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan received Newly-Arrived Ambassador of the Republic of Iraq at the Embassy of the State of Palestine in Federal Capital Islamabad. During the Visit

Ambassador of the state of Palestine gave a brief to Ambassador of the Republic of Iraq about the latest political situation in Palestine. Both sides also discussed matters of mutual cooperation between the two Embassies and resolved to

continue cooperation even in the coming days. The ambassador of Iraq Hamed Abbas Lefta has recently arrived Pakistan. He is meeting with his colleagues these days. He has already met the Acting Dean of Arab Countries, Ambassador of Somalia.

Pakistan values its ties with Italy

Chairman Senate meets Italian envoy;

discusses COVID 19 challenges

Saifullah Ansar



ISLAMABAD: The Ambassador of Italy Andreas Ferrarese called on Chairman Senate Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani here on Tuesday. During the meeting both the countries agreed to enhance mutual ties especially in areas of trade, economy and parliamentary linkages.

On this occasion Chairman Senate Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani said that the world is facing serious challenges due to Covid-19 epidemic and there is a need to adopt a collective approach to face the problems posed by this crisis.

He said that people and Parliament of Pakistan are deeply concerned on human and material loss caused by the epidemic in Italy.

He said that, he intended to visit Italian Embassy in Islamabad to condole over this human loss. He said that Pakistan is eager to cooperate with Italy to face the challenge of epidemic with a collective approach.

He said that Parliamentary linkages are the most appropriate channel to boost political, economic and trade relations. He said that Pakistan-Italy Friendship Group in Upper

House of the Parliament would be activated to enhance the economic and business ties. He also called for frequent exchange of delegations comprising of parliamentarians and business community in this regard.

The Italian ambassador said that Italy gives utmost importance to its relations with Pakistan and all out efforts would be made to boost the economic ties. He said that the world community should adopt a collective approach to face the challenges arising out of Covid-19 epidemic.

Pakistani marble sought by Chinese merchants

There is no tariff on marble imported from Pakistan. It's quite convenient," Fang said, adding that he would visit Pakistan for in-depth cooperation with traders when the COVID-19 pandemic is over

BEIJING, June 23 () - "It is the very first time for our company to trade with Pakistani marble traders," said Fang Zihua, the General Manager of Xiamen Stone Trading Company, adding that Chinese clients are willing to import more products from Pakistan, says a report published by Gwadar Pro on Tuesday.

According to Fang Zihua, the batch of about 150 ton of Pakistani marble was shipped into 6 standard containers. "They had reached Nanan, Fujian Province late last year, but they didn't get displayed until this June because of the COVID-19 pandemic," Fang noted.

"The color of this marble board is very beautiful, and its texture is unique. It looks like reddish waves being motivated," Fang was so delighted to see the pattern that he



named the marble "Red Valley". He further mentioned that the texture and colour of marble are full of changes, and a reddish one is rare.

With the rapid development of the construction industry, China's demand for marble and other construction stones is increasing year by year.

Pak access to Central Asia only after Afghan peace

Fiaz Chaudhry

ISLAMABAD: While addressing a stakeholders' consultation session on economic connectivity between Afghanistan and Pakistan, Zubair Motiwala emphasized greatly on the significance of expediting resolution of irritants pertinent to Af-Pak trade and transit regime, if reciprocal resolution to access Central Asian markets is sought by Pakistan. He was of the opinion that vision of Prime Minister Pakistan, Imran Khan to support bilateral and transit trade with Afghanistan, especially during challenging times of COVID -19 Pandemic, is highly

commendable, however, the bottlenecks and delayed execution of strategies have not only limited reaping of benefits but have further increased the distress across the border.

Motiwala updated Pakistan's Special Envoy to Afghanistan, Mohammad Sadiq Khan, that despite commitments the speed of clearance, procedural delays, limited working hours, shortage of trackers, load of stuck consignments and increasing cost of doing business in form of detention and demurrages has drained the effect of positive approach and government bodies

should immediately review the mechanism for possible improvements.

He believed that the appointment of Ambassador Sadiq at such an instrumental position will greatly facilitate the momentum and sought his support in the early resolution of these pending items.

He requested that the current issue of shortage of trackers is complemented by the monopoly awarded to one single company, hence, this dependency should be immediately curbed and more players should be brought in for competitive proposition.

Ghulam Sarwar meets with Saudi Ambassador

ISLAMABAD: Aviation Minister Ghulam Sarwar Khan received the Ambassador of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) to Pakistan Nawaf Saeed A. Al Malkiy at his office in the National Assembly. Ghulam Sarwar Khan acknowledged the effective measures taken by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to prevent the spread of Covid-19. He expressed his desire to further enhance cooperation between Pakistan and Saudi Arabia especially with respect to aviation, in the strenuous Covid-19 circumstances.

Nawaf Saeed A. Al Malkiy apprised the Federal Minister of the current status of the spread of Corona Virus in Saudi Arabia. He said, "Lockdown in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has been completely lifted with strict implementation of SOPs".

Ghulam Sarwar Khan told ambassador that the government of Pakistan has ensured that employees of PIA are not laid off due to the Corona Virus as has been done around the world. Nawaf Saeed A. Al Malkiy also stated that the government of KSA has also not laid off any employee of the state airline due to Corona Virus. Nawaf Saeed A. Al Malkiy told Ghulam Sarwar Khan that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has decided to limit the number of Hajjis to ten thousand keeping in view the pandemic of Corona Virus. He said that the government of KSA has allowed special



quota of around 500-600 to the children of shuhda of the Army of KSA, medical professionals who have served to fight Covid-19 and military personnel who have been injured on official duty. The remaining seats will be open for the foreigners already working in their respective embassies in Saudi Arabia.

Ghulam Sarwar Khan and Nawaf Saeed A. Al Malkiy agreed to increase collaboration between the Aviation Industry of the two countries in order to provide better services to the people of Pakistan and Saudi Arabia. Ghulam Sarwar Khan emphasized the necessity of strengthening the brotherly ties between the two countries.

EXPERTS CALL FOR DEEPENING OF PAKISTAN, AZERBAIJAN DEFENCE TIES

DNA



Embassy of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Islamabad, and Center for Global & Strategic Studies (CGSS), Islamabad jointly organized a Webinar titled "Azerbaijan-Pakistan Defence Cooperation: Successes & Opportunities" dedicated to the 102nd Anniversary of Azerbaijan Armed Forces

ISLAMABAD: Embassy of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Islamabad, and Center for Global & Strategic Studies (CGSS), Islamabad jointly organized a Webinar titled "Azerbaijan-Pakistan Defence Cooperation: Successes & Opportunities" dedicated to the 102nd Anniversary of Azerbaijan Armed Forces.

The session was commenced with the opening remarks by Lieutenant Colonel Khalid Taimur Akram (Retd), Executive Director, CGSS. He stated that it is an honor for CGSS to organize this Webinar and honoring the Armed forces of Azerbaijan. He stressed the strong bond that the two countries share.

Guest of Honor, Lt Gen Nasser Khan Janjua HI(M), (Retd), Former National Security Advisor of Pakistan stated that it is a great occasion to commemorate the sacrifices and contributions of Azerbaijan Armed Forces. He further stressed that Azerbaijan's ability to maintain national security is exceedingly praiseworthy. He also mentioned that Pakistan extends unconditional support to Azerbaijan on the Nagorno-Karabakh issue. Pakistan envisions a great and common future with Azerbaijan in multiple sectors.

Making his remarks in the webinar Ali Alizada, Ambassador of the Republic of Azerbaijan to Pakistan stated that Azerbaijan and Pakistan are bound by the relations of strong friendship and strategic partnership which have solid roots and reflect the will of our fraternal nations. One of the most important and main pillars of this brotherly relationship is also our cooperation and strategic partnership in defence, security and military fields and thanks to the efforts and positive views of the leadership of both countries our relations are in upward trajectory in these fields as well.

Extending congratulations on Armed Forces Day of Azerbaijan to the people of his country, Supreme Commander in Chief and staff

members of Azerbaijan Armed Forces, Ambassador Ali Alizada said that despite having the conflict with aggressor country Armenia which occupied 20% of internationally recognized territories of Azerbaijan in the early independence years of Azerbaijan, the Republic of Azerbaijan has

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made greatest strides in Armed Forces building and by the leadership of Supreme Commander in Chief Azerbaijan Army became one of the strongest armies in the region and are capable to liberate occupied territories any time.

Ambassador also noted that

Pakistan Armed Forces' and its leaderships' support to Azerbaijan on Nagorno-Karabakh conflict and demand of unconditional withdrawal of Armenian occupational forces from internationally recognized territories of Azerbaijan is commendable and very much appreciated by the government and people of Azerbaijan. He thanked Pakistan Armed Forces and its leadership for continued cooperation and expressed his confidence for further strengthening bilateral relations in the years ahead.

Major General Syed Khalid Amir Jaffery HI(M), (Retd), President CGSS stated that Pakistan has brotherly relations with Azerbaijan and great prospects of cooperation especially in defense and military areas. He congratulated Azerbaijan on the 102nd Anniversary of their Armed Forces.

Col Mehman Novruzov, Defence Attaché, Azerbaijan spoke about historical background of Azerbaijan Armed Forces, the role of Heydar Aliyev, the National Leader of Azerbaijan in Azerbaijan army building process, security challenges in the South Caucasus region, and priorities of Azerbaijan Army. He said that, under the leadership of H.E. Ilham Aliyev, the President of Azerbaijan, Azerbaijan Army has undergone rapid developments and at the present is ranked 64th among the armies of the other countries of the world.

Col Nadeem Choudhry, Defence Attaché, Pakistan discussed that Pakistan and Azerbaijan are extending cooperation in the field of security, military technology, and educational spheres. Many visits have been carried out between representatives of both countries in this regard.

The Webinar was moderated by Ms. Palwasha Nawaz – Project Executive, CGSS, and was attended by 45 participants from diverse backgrounds. The Webinar was also broadcasted live on different social media platforms.

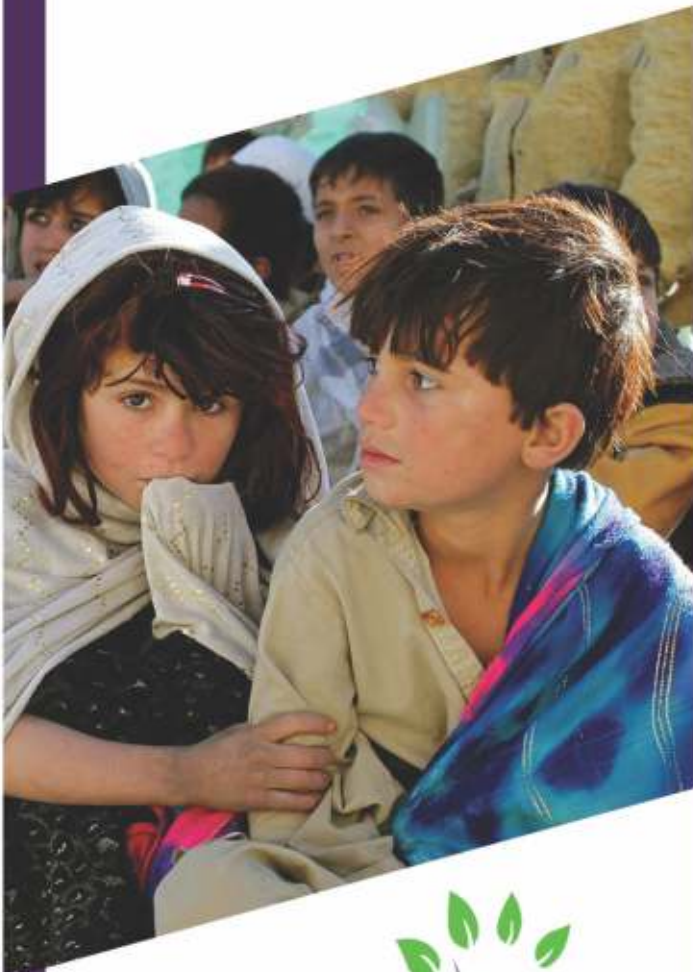


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Chairman Wellness Trust

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HEALTH CARE

1

- Providing basic health facilities to the under privileged
- Develop effective health care plans to provide access in remote areas

EDUCATION

2

- To make education accessible to children in remote areas
- Facilitating learning and acquisition of knowledge
- Making strategies to reduce illiteracy

CLEAN WATER

3

- To use resources to provide clean drinking water
- Awareness about the importance of clean drinking water in order to tackle infective diseases
- Installation of water filtration plants and digging of wells

GREEN ENVIRONMENT

4

- Aim to raise the awareness of sustainable green environment
- Increase numbers of parks and plantation to reduce harmful effects of dangerous gases and chemicals
- To provide strategies for waste disposal mechanism

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

5

- Aim to support people to become creative entrepreneurs in order to stand on their feet
- Provide both financial and technical support to the deserving people
- Building financially stable nation

HEALTH CARE:

6

- Aim to support people to gain self-confidence and improve decision making abilities for the best interest of their communities and for the whole nation
- Leadership training camps certificates and degrees
- Targeting remote areas for flourishing of the country

Kashmir crisis :From LOC to LAC quagmire

Syed Mushahid Hussain Naqvi



Laden with protracted violence and intensifying geopolitical intrigue, Kashmir conundrum remains the hot-spot for direct confrontation between three nuclear powers of the region who shares geographical proximities, embodied with multifarious divergent goals. The clash of interest consequent into longstanding complex unsettled territorial disputes and seeding conventional enmity.

Acquainted with the fact, Ever since the far right wing- BJP came into power under the premiership of Modi, skirmishes along LOC between India and Pakistan gagged up, drawing hostile bilateral configuration similarly at other end the cumulative Sino-India stand off along LAC in Himalayan region casting shadows of turmoil between two archenemies and in broader spectrum validated the rhetoric " Kashmir a nuclear flash point" to reality.

History vindicates that in the aftermaths of Indo-Pak and Sino-India conventional wars in pursuit of extending territorial jurisdiction of Kashmir ended with apparent conflict mitigation which led the foundation of living a defacto status quo existence LOC, LAC between aforementioned contending parties respectively. However, dismaying factor is perpetual peace which remain detrimental whilst continuously posed intimidating challenges to the regional security architecture at large. Retrospectively, already existed vitiated situation worsen further in the aftermaths of Indian recent coercive decision of revocation of article 370 and 35A which typically emboldened by its

divergent exigencies in strategic calculus, political milieu and subsequent ideological aspirations.

Keeping the simmering Crisis vis-a-vis LOC and LAC in account, India suffering with major jolts due to the Modi regime offensive posture (violating norms of boarder's agreement With Pakistan and China). The use of brute force tactic drastically increased number of it's LOC violations to deflect the world's attention from its myriad policy measures undertaken in occupied Kashmir. At foreign policy front it has become redundant approach with irreconcilable diplomatic pitfall. Likewise, it's tactical assertion of illicit infrastructure buildup along LAC ensued hand to hand scuffle between PLA and Indian Armed Forces in Golwan valley of Ladakh region, resulting into killing of 20 Indian soldiers. The vary incident brought both immediate and Fetched grim consequences as Delhi's Expansionist drive stalled due to Chinese effective military response.

Firstly, opting The non-retaliation, maximum restraint diffused misconception regarding India being Beijing's regional competitor and Modi moderate diplomatic response extended Beijing zero-sum triumph over India.

Secondly, it also raised grave apprehensions regarding the "efficient military preparedness" of Indian military force which holds one of the largest numeric strength and amongst the highest defense spending states of the world.

Thirdly, it also validated Pakistan's stance of Indian deceitful military maneuverings along the disputed Territorial boundaries.

Fourthly, amid of Crisis, china demanded India to restore the prior status of Kashmir converges diplomatic stance of Beijing and Islamabad, thus exerted maximum pressure on the security establishment and ruling government in Delhi clearly dejected all the unilateral ploys of shifting the dynamics of conflict in its favor.

The successive failures after the pulwama incident along LOC and LAC dispelled covert /overt agendas to ensure zero sum prepositions in Kashmir dispute and more significantly it obsoleted the sinophobic rants. The

two front forfeit also subverted the notion of gaining domestic political mileage through inflicting ultra nationalism and provocation of saffronisation ideology which has been key imperative of the Modi policies.

Notwithstanding with the apparent claims of India as regional hegemonic competitor to China, the staunch military action at LAC is an eye-opener for Delhi to revamp the deceitful strategic gambits which may undermine it's own sovereignty if Modi regime kept relying on interventionist political agendas.

Given the current simmering crisis at LAC and probable limited military engagement between the regional hegemonic contending actors in foreseeable future, the prevailing situation would assist Pakistan to further consolidate it's ties with China through incorporating strong defense partnership and it will alleviate the trajectory of balance of power in its favor. Hypothetically Crisis escalation along LAC would proportionally increase Indian security dilemma- accentuating credible deterrence oriented from the Sino-Pak strategic partnership.

To be explicit and precise, current course of action not only dented Indian strategic position but it also endangered the state's sovereignty which is entangled in cluster of traditional and non traditional security challenges at home and abroad. The fallout of miscued Modi assertive approach with reference to LOC and LAC potentially necessitates Compendious rational appraisal. Diplomatically, A pragmatic conciliatory policy-adherence to the norms of international treaties and laws, would serve better in reconsolidation of jeopardized security architecture of South Asia. Likewise compliance with sanctity of RP-2 doctrine international institutions and Powers are also obliged to intervene in order to mitigate the conflict to ensure the strategic stability and emblems of peace.

The author is an Islamabad-based journalist, researcher holding academic expertise in international affairs.

Uzbekistan envoy lauds Islamabad Post's contribution

Col Saad, Charge d' Affaires of the Embassy says Daily Islamabad Post, CENTRELINe journal and Diplomatic News Agency have made praiseworthy contributions towards strengthening the Pakistan-Uzbek relations

ISLAMABAD (DNA): The Charge d'Affaires at Embassy of Uzbekistan COL. Saadulla A Tashmatov has

It is expected that his predecessor COL. Saadulla A Tashmatov, the Charge d' Affaires will put in his best efforts to maintain this momentum and further promote and strengthen bilateral relations.

greeted the editor Daily Islamabad Post and Diplomatic, CENTRELINe journal and News Agency, Ansar Mehmood Bhatti on his contributions towards strengthening the Pakistan-Uzbek relations. In a letter, the Uzbek charge d'affaires said that every year on June 27, Uzbekistan celebrates media workers' day, we congratulate every representative of Uzbek as well as Pakistani journalists on their contributions to the development of Uzbek-Pakistani relations.

It added that there is no doubt that active work of the diplomatic mission is inconceivable without strong shoulder of a brother journalist. We are grateful to your responsiveness, care and sincerity that

you render to us. Despite the difficult period when the pandemic has swept the world, your firm support and assistance in properly reporting on



June 27 – Day of Media Workers of Uzbekistan

السلام عليكم

Dear Mr. Ansar Mahmood Bhatti!

Every year on June 27, Uzbekistan celebrates Media Worker's Day. Congratulating every representative of the Uzbek press, we cannot forget the huge contribution to the development of the Uzbek-Pakistani relations of our Pakistani friends.

There is no doubt that active work of the diplomatic mission is inconceivable without the strong shoulder of a brother - a journalist. We are very grateful to your responsiveness, care and sincerity that You render to us.

Despite the difficult period when the pandemic has swept the whole world, Your firm support and assistance in properly reporting on pressing problems, achievements and victories are worthy of strong respect and honor.

We are convinced that Your professionalism and sincere desire to elevate Uzbek-Pakistani relations to a new qualitative level will continue to serve as inspiration in the development and strengthening of cooperation between the two Brotherly States.

Taking this opportunity, let us wish You great achievements in the future, good health to You and Your loved ones, success in Your new endeavors and family happiness!

Charge d'Affaires
Embassy of Uzbekistan
Islamabad
16/6/2020

F. Saadulloh



وزارتستان پاکستان دوستی (دانه یاد)

pressing problems, achievements and victories are worthy of strong respect and honor.

The Uzbek Charge d'Affaires then wished Ansar Mehmood Bhatti for

The Uzbek charge d'Affaires said that we are convinced that your professionalism and sincere desire to elevate Uzbek-Pakistani relations to a new qualitative level will continue to serve as inspiration in the development and strengthening of cooperation between the two brotherly states.

great achievements, good health and success in his endeavors and family happiness. It may be mentioned here that Pakistan and Uzbekistan enjoy excellent relations in all fields. Bilateral relations between the two countries have witnessed some marked progress in past few years. Ambassador Furqat Sidikov who has recently been appointed as the Deputy Foreign Minister of Uzbekistan played central role in bringing both countries even closer. It is expected that his predecessor COL. Saadulla A Tashmatov, the Charge d Affaires will put in his best efforts to maintain this momentum and further promote and strengthen bilateral

Syria: we will continue to do our part

Josep Borrell



In the almost ten years since civil war began in Syria, I have followed closely its appalling developments and the horrors that the Syrian people have gone through. I come from a country that went through a civil war and perfectly know how it divides and destroys a society. More than 12 million Syrians, half of the pre-war population, had to flee their homes. Over half a million have lost their lives. An entire generation of Syrian children has only known war. As Europeans, we have collectively been unable to stop these massacres at the gates of our continent. When we pursue our efforts to build a stronger Common Foreign and Security Policy for the EU, I often think of Syria and what we could have done there.

But that's the past. Today's Syria is far from being fixed; on the contrary, it is heading in fact towards lasting instability. Its economy is in freefall, a result of chronic mismanagement by the regime, wide spread corruption and the banking crisis in Lebanon – formerly Syria's financial gateway. The consequences of the global coronavirus crisis are making the already dire living conditions of the Syrians, even worse. They really have endured enough – and they all deserve so much better. First and foremost a perspective towards a better, dignified, more peaceful future. It is our duty as Europeans, it is my duty, to do everything we can to help achieve this.

The Brussels Conference on the Future of Syria and the Region, held on 30 June, was the most important event this year to address the most critical needs generated by the Syria crisis. A unique occasion to show our support, both political and financial, for Syria's civil society of course but also for Syria's neighbours and their people particularly in Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey. They have shown extraordinary solidarity towards the 5.6 million Syrians who found refuge outside

their country.

Despite the coronavirus, despite the risk of "donor fatigue" that applies to any long-running conflict, thanks to the continued mobilization of the international community and of our co-chair the United Nations, we raised additional €6.9 billion. I know that is not enough; it can probably never be enough, seen from the eyes of people having endured ten years of war. Still, we are proud of this result, and particularly that nearly three quarters of these funds come from the EU and its member states.

For me, one of the most enlightening moments of the Conference was my direct exchange with members of Syria's civil society. Syria's civil society was close to non-existent ten years ago. It grew at lightning speed during the conflict, delivering services to people, advocating for the rights and the needs of the Syrians. The commitment of Syria's civil society and non-governmental organizations, their determination to build a better country so that they have not gone through ten years of hell for nothing, is a lesson of dignity.

I spoke to women and men who have lost family members; who still have loved ones missing or detained in unknown circumstances. One quarter of the Syrians have a missing among their close friends or relatives and wonder every day what has become of them. That is one of the many ways in which the Syrian society has been broken, and is still held hostage. Despite the odds, I left my exchange with them with a certain sense of hope, or at least with a chunk of their impressive determination. They hold the key to their country's future: they can build a better Syria.

But the aims of the Brussels Conferences went far beyond a mere donor conference. We also put the political spotlight on Syria. This is not just about the EU: Europe as a whole, Syria's neighbours, the Gulf, the whole international community from Brazil to Japan, from Canada to Australia reaffirmed its unequivocal support for the efforts of the UN to broker intra-Syria talks and work towards a lasting political solution to the conflict.

I opened the conference by saying that the country is not doing better. In fact, things

are getting worse than they have ever been during the war. I know that the regime and its supporters blame Western sanctions. As we have now said many times, EU sanctions have nothing to do with the actual difficulties inside Syria. The truth is that Syria continues to undergo an organised economic exploitation, at the hands of the very people who blame us. Our sanctions are precisely targeted at these individuals and at economic entities under their control. They were put in place since 2011, as the consequence of potential war crimes and crimes against humanity, which must be accounted for. They are designed not to impede the delivery of humanitarian and medical assistance: we have never placed Syria under any kind of embargo. On the contrary, it is mostly thanks to international assistance that healthcare, food or education can still be delivered to people in need inside Syria.

I know also that full and complete reconciliation is not only possible but also extremely rewarding. And we Europeans are ready to do more to help. In fact we would much prefer to spend money helping to reconstruct Syria than supporting people in desperate situations. However, reconstruction is not simply about rebuilding infrastructure and housing. It is about restoring Syria's social fabric, rebuilding trust and creating conditions that will prevent the recurrence of violence. It requires minimal conditions in terms of governance, public accountability, and representativeness of the governing authorities. Syria currently fulfils none of these criteria. We are ready to play our part in Syria's reconstruction and reconciliation, as soon as a genuine political transition is firmly underway.

The future of Syria is for the Syrians to decide. The political negotiations on Syria's future must be Syrian-owned and Syrian-led. How Syria will look like a year from now will depend on the commitment of the regime to the implementation of the UN Security Council Resolution 2254. Not for our benefit, not for theirs or their supporters', but for the benefit of all Syrians.

The writer is Foreign Policy chief of European Union.



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Briefs

President pays tribute to Kargil heroes

STAFF REPORT
ISLAMABAD: President Dr. Arif Alvi has paid rich tribute to the martyrs who fought the Kargil War. He said that the Kargil War was a defining moment in the history of Pakistan. He said that the Kargil War was a defining moment in the history of Pakistan. He said that the Kargil War was a defining moment in the history of Pakistan.

Pak offers condolences to Turkey

STAFF REPORT
ISLAMABAD: The government has offered condolences to Turkey for the death of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan. The government has offered condolences to Turkey for the death of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan.

Shehbaz Sharif warns against media curbs

STAFF REPORT
ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has warned against any attempts to curb the media. He said that the media is a pillar of democracy and should be free to report on government activities.

CPEC has boosted Pakistan economy, says Zhao Lijian

CPEC followed principles of joint consultations, cooperation and shared benefits. The flagship project was aimed to promote shared development of China and Pakistan; Zhao Lijian

DNA
BEIJING: China's Foreign Ministry spokesman Zhao Lijian said on Tuesday that the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) has boosted Pakistan's economy. He said that the CPEC project has created jobs and improved infrastructure in Pakistan. He said that the CPEC project has created jobs and improved infrastructure in Pakistan.

Shehbaz Sharif warns against media curbs

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has warned against any attempts to curb the media. He said that the media is a pillar of democracy and should be free to report on government activities.

Sindh gov't did not release genuine report: Shibhi

ISLAMABAD: Federal Information Minister Farooq Khan Noon has said that the Sindh government did not release a genuine report on the Kargil War. He said that the report was biased and did not mention the role of the Pakistani army.

A PIA's New York hotel not being privatised

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) has said that its New York hotel is not being privatised. The hotel is being managed by a private company but will remain a state-owned enterprise.

WHO glad Pakistan viruses cases dropping

ISLAMABAD: The World Health Organization (WHO) has expressed its satisfaction that the number of COVID-19 cases in Pakistan is dropping. It said that the Pakistani government has done a good job of controlling the spread of the virus.

Sindh gov't did not release genuine report

Federal Information Minister says Kargil heroes paid homage on martyrdom anniversary

ISLAMABAD: Federal Information Minister Farooq Khan Noon has said that the Sindh government did not release a genuine report on the Kargil War. He said that the report was biased and did not mention the role of the Pakistani army.

Shehbaz Sharif warns against media curbs

He accused the government of having journalists sacked from their jobs

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has warned against any attempts to curb the media. He said that the media is a pillar of democracy and should be free to report on government activities.

Rain kills 9 in Karachi

ATKAR SUFI
KARACHI: Heavy rain has caused flooding in Karachi, killing nine people. The flooding was caused by heavy rain that fell over the city for several days.

Pakistan, China laud Kabul, Taliban efforts

Three sides agreed to enhance cooperation

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan and China have lauded the efforts of the Taliban government in Kabul to bring peace to Afghanistan. They said that the Taliban government has shown a willingness to cooperate with the international community.

'PTI has anti-education agenda'

DNA
ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) has an anti-education agenda, according to a report. The report said that the PTI government has been neglecting education and has been cutting funds for schools and universities.

'Ali Zaidi has no official documents'

No such documents were given to the Sindh gov't

KARACHI: The Sindh government has said that it has no official documents for Ali Zaidi. He said that the government has been trying to resolve the issue of Ali Zaidi's status in Sindh.

COVID-19: Pak engineer lauds Chinese gov't efforts

However, I think this policy is 100 percent correct. It effectively controlled the spread of the virus and ensured that everyone was in a safe state. I think that is what it means to fight the epidemic," said Khan

ISLAMABAD: A Pakistani engineer has lauded the Chinese government's efforts to control the spread of COVID-19. He said that the Chinese government has done a good job of controlling the spread of the virus and ensuring that everyone was in a safe state.

Shehbaz Sharif warns against media curbs

He accused the government of having journalists sacked from their jobs

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has warned against any attempts to curb the media. He said that the media is a pillar of democracy and should be free to report on government activities.

Beijing: zero cases for first time since new outbreak

BEIJING: China has reported zero new COVID-19 cases for the first time since a new outbreak began in the country. This is a sign that the Chinese government's efforts to control the spread of the virus are paying off.

ISLAMABAD: The Chinese government has reported zero new COVID-19 cases for the first time since a new outbreak began in the country. This is a sign that the Chinese government's efforts to control the spread of the virus are paying off.



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Imran Khan chair meeting of the Federal Cabinet. - DNA



ISLAMABAD: Federal Information Minister Farooq Khan Noon (left) and Sindh Information Minister Farooq Khan Noon (right) during a press conference. - DNA



AWAZ YOUSAF

ISLAMABAD: Leader of the Opposition in the National Assembly, Iftikhar Chaudhry, has accused the government of having journalists sacked from their jobs. He said that the government has been trying to silence the media and has been cutting funds for journalists.



ATKAR SUFI

KARACHI: Heavy rain has caused flooding in Karachi, killing nine people. The flooding was caused by heavy rain that fell over the city for several days.

ICCI holds webinar for members

ISLAMABAD, (DNA) – The Islamabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry (ICCI) organized a webinar on “The Magic Moment of Successful E-Commerce” to sensitize its members about promoting businesses by using e-commerce platforms.

The objective of the session was to help SMEs take a high-level holistic view of the digital transformation around traditional commerce. ICCI has planned to hold a series of webinars on e-commerce and it was the first session of the series. ICCI would hold webinar series on other topics including panel discussions on marketplaces, e-commerce success stories, logistics and online payments to educate its members about fostering businesses by utilizing e-commerce tools. Badar Khushnood, Co-founder and Vice President of Growth at Bramerz gave a detailed presentation to the participants about the potential of e-commerce for business promotion. He informed the participants about the global trends and what was happening in Pakistan around e-commerce and what initiatives were being taken by the government to promote e-commerce.

The session provided SMEs an overview of what an e-commerce business looked like and sensitized them that e-commerce was not just setting up a website using free tools. SMEs were asked to re-engineer all other businesses processes to make the “magic moment of a successful e-commerce” transaction to happen in real time. Ms. Amina Malik, Convener, ICCI Women Entrepreneurship Sub-Committee played the role of Moderator in the webinar.

Addressing the webinar, Muhammad Ahmed Waheed, President, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry said that e-commerce was now billions dollar market and government should formulate conducive policies for promoting e-commerce in Pakistan.

He said that e-commerce offered tremendous opportunities to SMEs for business promotion, expansion of customer base and entering new product markets.

He said that in many countries, SMEs were achieving impressive growth by adopting e-commerce platforms and SMEs in Pakistan should also focus on this tool to promote businesses. He said that adoption of e-commerce would bring multiple benefits to SMEs as it would reduce cost of doing business for them and provide them access to global markets.

COVID-19: US provides 100 ventilators

Ambassador Paul Jones remarked, “The United States stands with Pakistan in its fight against coronavirus

STAFF REPORT



ISLAMABAD: The United States Government, through the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), in cooperation with Pakistan's National Disaster Management Authority, has donated a shipment of 100 brand-new, state-of-the-art ventilators to support Pakistan in its fight against COVID-19. The ventilators arrived in Karachi on July 2 and will be deployed in hospitals across Pakistan. This donation delivers on President Donald Trump's generous offer of these critically needed supplies and supports Pakistan's urgent response to the pandemic. Made in America, the ventilators are valued at about \$3 million and reflect the latest in cutting-edge medical design and technology. They are compact, easily deployable, and will enable

Pakistan to more effectively treat patients suffering from COVID-19. Ambassador Paul Jones remarked, “The United States stands with Pakistan in its fight against coronavirus. These American-made ventilators will help Pakistani patients in the most acute need of medical care.”

The U.S.-Pakistan health partnership to fight coronavirus is helping to improve and expand laboratory testing, disease monitoring, case tracking, infection prevention and control, and patient care. The United States has contributed nearly \$27 million in new funding so far to this vital partnership that is growing every day. We are also thankful for Pakistan's contribution of medical supplies to help fight coronavirus in the United States.



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For the First Time
in Pakistan
Now Available in a
Convenient
New Pouch Pack

The Secret
Ingredient
is Fruit



**TOPS
NR 300ML
NOW
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