



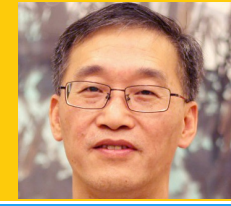
Tuesday, September 08, 2020

Pakistan's First And Only Diplomatic Daily

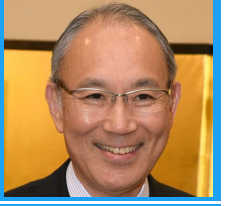
Price Rs. 20

Armed Forces ever ready to protect borders: Air Chief

Chinese envoy Yao Jing leaving Pakistan soon



Japan assures continued support to Pakistan



Briefs

IHC stays deportation of Cynthia



DNA

ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad High Court (IHC) on Monday stopped the interior ministry from deporting US blogger Cynthia D. Ritchie. IHC Chief Justice Athar Minallah took up the petition. The IHC CJ after hearing arguments from Ritchie stopped interior ministry from deporting her and issued notices to the home ministry, the deputy secretary interior and others. The court also ordered the petitioner to submit an affidavit detailing her allegations in the document. "Visas of Pakistanis are denied every day and no reason is provided," Justice Minallah remarked. He assured that the petitioner gets complete justice in the case. Ritchie had petitioned the IHC on Saturday, challenging the interior ministry's decision to deny her an extension and ordering her to leave the country within 15 days. It may be noted that the Ministry of Interior had rejected the application of US blogger Cynthia Ritchie for visa extension and directed her to leave Pakistan within 15 days, on September 2. The spokesperson of the ministry had confirmed that the application for visa extension by Cynthia Dawn Ritchie was rejected and directives issued to her for leaving the country within 15 days.

Dawood greets Australian investors

ISLAMABAD: Advisor to the Prime Minister on Commerce and Investment Abdul Razak Dawood Monday hailed the Australian investors to make investment in different sectors of Pakistan. A delegation of Fortescue Metals Group Limited, headed by the Chairman of the group, Andrew Forrest, visited the Board of Investment (BOI) here, said a press release issued here. The meeting was chaired by Abdul Razak Dawood and attended by BOI Chairman Atif R. Bokhari and Secretary Ms. Fareena Mazhar. While addressing the meeting, Razak Dawood said the approach of the Fortescue Group was unique and it would result in transfer of knowledge and technology to Pakistan. He added that the workforce of Pakistan was quite capable of learning and adapting new technologies quickly. — APP

Educational institutions set to reopen

The ministers proposed that the schools would open in phases with classes from Grade 9 and up, as well as all universities, would reopen from Sept 15, while Grade 6-8 classes would resume by Sept 22

KHAYAM ABBASI / DNA

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Education Shafqat Mahmood said Monday the educational institutions will reopen in the country in phases as the infections continue to decline. Earlier, the education ministers decided that the schools across Pakistan would be reopened in phases starting September 15 and strict monitoring would be done to curb the COVID-19 pandemic. Education Minister Shafqat Mahmood on Monday chaired a meeting of all the provincial education ministers to make a final decision regarding reopening of educational institutes across the country. The recommendations would be sent to the National Coordination Committee for final approval. The ministers, according to sources, proposed that the schools would open in phases with classes from Grade 9 and up, as well as all universities, would reopen from Sept 15, while Grade 6-8 classes would resume by Sept 22. However, pre-primary and primary classes would reopen on Sept 30. The Higher Education Commission's (HEC) chairperson and executive director, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Health Dr Faisal Sultan, and officials of the health

NCOC issues guidelines for parents

ISLAMABAD: The National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) on Monday has issued guidelines for the parents for sending their children to schools. The parents have been directed to ensure that child is wearing a face mask before going to school. The mask could be surgical or made of cloth. In case of cough and other diseases, the child should not be sent to attend the school because that can easily expose threats to the lives of other children. Necessary tests have been urged in case of deteriorating health, the NCOC guidelines say. — DNA

department were also present at the Inter-Provincial Education Ministers Conference (IPEMC), which aimed to compile the final recommendations regarding the opening of educational institutes. The meeting was set to also focus on finalising the standard operating procedures (SOPs) in this regard. Educational institutes across Pakistan had been shut down back on March 13 in a bid to curb the spread of the deadly coronavirus.



ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Saudi Arabia Nawaf Al Malki calls on Minister of Defence Perver Khattak. — DNA

Afghanistan peace crucial for region: FM

SHUJAAT HAMZA

ISLAMABAD: Foreign Minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi has said peace in Afghanistan is essential for peace and stability in the entire region. He was talking to Ambassador-designate for Afghanistan Mansoor Ahmad Khan in Islamabad. The FM said that Pakistan is facing several challenges at internal and external fronts. Shah Mehmood Qureshi while congratulating Mansoor Ahmad Khan over his nomination as an ambassador to the neigh-

boring country said that this would be helpful in further strengthening bilateral relations between Pakistan and Afghanistan. They also discussed matters with particular reference to Pakistan-Afghanistan bilateral relations and the Afghan peace process. Last month, Pakistan participated in a virtual conference on Afghanistan, titled "Strengthening Consensus for Peace", hosted by the Government of Afghanistan. President of Afghanistan Dr. Ashraf Ghani and Chairman High Peace Council for National Reconciliation Dr. Abdullah Abdullah were also in attendance in the conference. Representatives of a number of countries and international organisations were also in attendance. Pakistan, in its statement, had emphasized the importance of a peaceful and stable Afghanistan for the overall prosperity and stability in the region and beyond. Pakistan also underlined its hope that the release of prisoners will be completed soon as per the peace agreement to pave way for the earliest commencement of Intra-Afghan Negotiations. *Picture on Page 6*



ISLAMABAD: Outgoing Chinese Ambassador Yao Jing paid farewell call on Naval Chief Zafar Mahmood Abbasi. — DNA

Karachi's situation worsened by negligence: PM Khan



DNA

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Imran Khan has said that the situation of Karachi worsened due to political negligence. PM Khan was taking to Parliamentary Adviser, Dr Babar Awan, who called on him at his office in Islamabad, today. The meeting discussed the Karachi Transformation Plan and other parliamentary issues including Financial Action Task Force (FATF) related legislation. On Karachi's plight, the premier said that development of the metropolis is on the agenda of the federal government and added that he will provide funds for the uplift of the city. Babar Awan appreciated PM's resolve for addressing the basic issues of the people living in Karachi. On the occasion, the PM reiterated his resolve for early legislation over FATF related bills. The premier was briefed about the sessions of the National Assembly and Senate.

KSA a true friend: Khattak

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Defence Perver Khattak Monday said Pakistan considered Saudi Arabia as a confident and trust worthy friend and would like to continue this friendship with same space and momentum. The minister stated this during a meeting with Ambassador of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to Pakistan Nawaf bin Saeed Al-Malkiy who was called on him here, said a press release. The defence minister welcomed the dignity and conveyed that Pakistan attaches great value to its relations with Saudi Arabia. — DNA

Chinese envoy Yao Jing leaving Pakistan

The Chinese ambassador has already started paying farewell calls. On Monday the ambassador paid a farewell call on Naval Chief Zafar Mahmood Abbasi

ANSAR M BHATTI

ISLAMABAD: Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan Yao Jing is leaving Pakistan after completing his term. The Chinese ambassador has already started paying farewell calls. On Monday the ambassador paid a farewell call on the Naval Chief Zafar Mahmood Abbasi. During the meeting both sides discussed matters of mutual interest. The Naval chief lauded efforts of the outgoing Am-

bassador for promotion and strengthening of bilateral relations. Ambassador Yao Jing during his tenure in Pakistan focused on building a strong Sino-Pak relationship. Ambassador Yao Jing will also be meeting other Pakistani dignitaries in the coming days. He will report back to his foreign ministry and then considered for next posting. Ambassador Yao Jing spent an eventful tenure in Pakistan. He had to work tirelessly to convince PTI

leadership that China really wanted to work with all political parties and it did not have any favorites in Pakistan politics. When PTI got took charge, there was an impression as if PTI leadership would not carry forward CPEC as it was done in Nawaz Sharif tenure. However with the passage of time both sides were able to overcome 'misunderstandings' and now things appear to be back on the track credit of which goes to Ambassador Yao Jing also.

High-profile terrorist killed

Terrorist Wasim was involved in target killing activities and the martyrdom of CSS officer Zubaidullah Dawar," said the ISPR

MIR ALI (NORTH WAZIRISTAN): Security forces on Monday killed high-profile and wanted terrorist Wasim Zakaria, according to the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR). Security forces conducted an intelligence-based operation (IBO) in Mir Ali where five militants, including Zakaria, were gunned down and 10 were arrested, confirmed the ISPR. Commander Wasim Zakaria hailed from the Haider Khel area and since September 2019, had been a mastermind of 30 terrorist attacks. "Terrorist Wasim was involved in target killing activities and the martyrdom of CSS officer Zubaidullah Dawar," said the ISPR in a statement, adding that the militant was also directly involved in attacks on security forces. He had also attacked an army convoy at Hasu Khel. — DNA

PML N appoints Arslan as VP China, Central Asia



DNA

ISLAMABAD: PML N leader Mian Nawaz Sharif and the President of Pakistan Muslim League Mian Shabbaz Sharif have approved appointment of Sh. Arslan as Vice President China and Central Asian states. Sh. Arslan in his new capacity will be responsible to cultivate friendly relations with China and Central Asian states in order to further strengthen international affairs wing of PML N. Ishaq Dar has issued a formal notification in this regard. Sh. Arslan enjoys excellent relations with the diplomatic community. The diplomatic corps has welcomed his appointment and assured him of its full support.

Bilawal for efforts to improve literacy rate

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Peoples Party Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari Monday stressed the need for collective efforts and taking joint responsibility to improve literacy rate in the country. Bilawal Bhutto, in his message on the International Literacy Day being observed on September 8, said illiteracy was a fertile ground for disharmonious and intolerant societies, and the nation should take notice that the number of out-of-school children was growing. "Every child has the basic right to education, and nations, who fail to provide this right, ultimately suffer because nurturing a healthy and educated generation is the only guarantee for a peaceful, prosperous and strong country." He said the PPP had always struggled for improvement in literacy and education as it had the distinction of establishing the largest number of education institutions in Pakistan. — APP

Inside...

Pakistan difficult to digest for enemies: Muneeba Khawar — Page 02

Govt allows release of Rs112.04 billion for development projects — Page 03

Government utilizing all efforts to tackle Covid-19 — Page 04

Hebdo's venom: Profanity vs sanity — Page 05

Global coronavirus cases surpass 27M mark — Page 06

Hafeez Shaikh appreciates strong performance of PSX — Page 07

Pakistan's Armed Forces ever ready to protect borders: Air Chief — Page 08

Reaching out to the Central Asian states – Part-II

COMMENT



ANSAR BHATTI

ISLAMABAD should take it as an added advantage that ambassadors of the most of the Central Asian states including Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan not only speak English very well but also genuinely want strengthening of relations with Pakistan. A few of them are fluent in Urdu also. Previously ambassadors from these countries would always have an interpreter thus making it difficult to have easy and smooth communication. While there is no communication barrier anymore and these top diplomats do want to give new dimensions to their relations with Pakistan, it is now incumbent upon Islamabad to respond quickly and in a positive manner. The Central Asian countries have been playing an instrumental role for peace in the region and fight against terrorism and

Afghanistan considering Afghanistan part of the solution and not part of problem. Kazakhstan is yet another very important country in Central Asia. The new ambassador of Kazakhstan in a recent interaction expressed his desire to further strengthen relations with

Pakistan. Ambassador Akan possesses excellent communication skills and has an earnest desire to take bilateral relations to new heights. He speaks Urdu very well. The global initiatives of former President Nursultan Nazarbayev regarding nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation issues have lauded by all and sundry, especially in Pakistan. Islamabad has consistently supported the initiative of nuclear disarmament. Relations between Republic of Kazakhstan and Pakistan since the establishment of diplomatic relations on 24 February 1992 have been developing in the spirit of friendship and partnership with high level of political cooperation. Since then both countries are able to establish high level contacts with a view to giving new dimensions to bilateral relations. Kyrgyzstan and Pakistan enjoy cordial relations. The diplomatic relations between Kyrgyzstan and Pakistan were established on 10 May 1992. At the same time Kyrgyz-Pakistani historical relations can be traced back centuries ago. Ambassador of Kyrgyzstan Erik Beishembiev in his recent interview said "Pakistan has a high demand of power energy for its growing economy. At the same time Kyrgyzstan is rich in water resources which are used for electricity production by a number of hydropower stations. My country is a member of the project CASA-1000, which is aimed at bringing surplus electricity from Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan hydropower stations in summer times to Pakistan through the territory of Afghanistan". Central Asia has a lot to offer to Pakistan and vice versa therefore efforts should be made to explore

this potential. Leaders of various Central Asian states have been visiting Pakistan on regular basis. It is incumbent upon Pakistani side also to reciprocate in same manner because it always takes two to make a clap. COVID-19 pandemic, ostensibly appears to have stalled process of development of bilateral and multilateral relations however situation is getting better and better with the each passing day. Pakistan has already allowed domestic and international flights to operate as. From September 15, the remaining sectors such as educational institutions, wedding halls etc shall also be allowed to work which means life will return to normalcy, at least in Pakistan. One should hope Pakistan and Central Asian states shall be able to revert to Pre-COVID level sooner rather than later.

Briefs

Int'l Literacy Day being marked

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Like other parts of the globe, International Literacy Day will be observed on September 8, to highlight the importance of literacy in areas particularly health and education. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and its partners promoted the day to underline the significance of literacy for healthy societies, with a strong emphasis on epidemics and communicable diseases including HIV, tuberculosis and malaria.

According to UNESCO, about 774 million adults lack the minimum literacy skills. One in five adults is still not literate and two-thirds of them are women. About 75 million children are out-of-school and many more attend irregularly or drop out.

In countries all over the world, including the United States and the United Kingdom, the day raises people's awareness of and concern for literacy problems within their own communities. News reports issue special supplements about the concerns for low literacy levels, while discussion forums, seminars and walks would be held to commemorate the day. Other activities include literacy day projects, particularly with regard to technology and literature, which are promoted by various organizations including reading associations.

Comprehensive plan being chalked out: Zaidi

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Maritime Affairs Ali Haider Zaidi on Monday said that a comprehensive plan is being chalked out for better utilization of public properties in the country. Speaking at a ceremony of auction of public properties here, he said that an increase in exports and reduction in trade deficit was the significant achievement of the government. He said it is very important to strengthen institutions for growth of business in the country. He said that auction was being carried out transparently and this was a milestone achievement, adding that if we build a foundation on basis of this initiative, it will promote public private partnership in the country. — APP

Pakistan: New 394 coronavirus cases reported

ISLAMABAD: The total active COVID-19 cases in Pakistan on Monday were recorded 6,542 as 394 more people tested positive for the deadly virus during the last 24 hours. Three corona patients, who were under treatment in hospitals, died on Sunday, according to the latest update issued by the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOCC). No COVID affected person was on ventilator in Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK), Gilgit Baltistan (GB) and Balochistan, while 87 ventilators elsewhere in Pakistan, out of 1920 allocated for COVID-19 patients, were occupied. Some 20,980 tests were conducted across the country on Sunday, including 8,999 in Sindh, 6,378 in Punjab, 2,560 in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP), 2,274 in Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT), 271 in Balochistan, 209 in Gilgit Baltistan (GB), and 289 in Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK). Around 286,016 people have recovered from the disease so far across Pakistan making it a significant count with over 90 percent recovery ratio of the affected patients. Since the pandemic spread, a total of 298,903 cases were detected so far, including AJK 2,331, Balochistan 13,292, GB 3,008, ICT 15,750, KP 36,625, Punjab 97,226 and Sindh 130,671. About 6,345 deaths were recorded in country since the eruption of the contagion, including 2,423 in Sindh, one of them on Sunday, 2,210 in Punjab, two of them on Saturday, 1,255 in KP, 176 in ICT and one of them died in hospital on Sunday, 145 in Balochistan, one of them on Sunday, 71 in GB, and 65 in AJK. — APP

Pakistan difficult to digest for enemies: Muneeba Khawar

With sheer cooperation, tolerance and peace, we can defeat the enemy and spoil its dangerous tactics a peaceful Pakistan is the only path for a developed Pakistan



DNA

SAHIWAL: Paigham e Pakistan Center of Excellence, Chamber of Commerce and Industry Sahiwal hosted a ceremony in context of Defence day. Women from various fields attended the ceremony. The participants included

social activists, educators, doctors, business women and housewives. The conference was presided by Ms Muneeba Khawar, provincial coordinator Punjab. While addressing the conference, Ms Muneeba Khawar highlighted the social problems that our society is facing and also proposed the potential solution to

these problems. She said that Pakistan has always been difficult to digest for its enemies. The Two-Nation theory is still as valid as it was a century ago. She said that India is continuously aiding the violence and terrorism in Pakistan. She stressed upon the need to protect our historical values as well as the boundaries of country. She

warned the participants about the disastrous effects of modern electronic colonialism which results in the formation of narratives like 'My body my rules'. She said that modern warfare has shifted from open battlegrounds to fifth generation war, which targets our youth and social lives. Ms Muneeba Khawar paid her

respect to the Martyrs and hoped to adopt their level of courage and patriotism. Former Chamber President Ms Sonia Waseem said in her address that with sheer cooperation, tolerance and peace, we can defeat the enemy and spoil its dangerous tactics. She added that a peaceful Pakistan is the only path for a developed Pakistan. After

wards, Former president Chamber of Commerce So-hail Anjum presented flower bouquets and shield to distinguished guests. The participants of conference paid tribute to the Martyrs on this occasion and agreed to play role in country's prosperity. Ms. Shafiqat Jabeen District Coordinator was also present on the occasion.

Post BREXIT Era to open new opportunities

DNA

KARACHI: Pakistan-UK Business Council – a legal entity working under the administrative control of FPCCI has expressed its hope that post-BREXIT era will open vistas of new opportunities, in trade & investment between Pakistan and UK and further deepen bilateral economic cooperation. Sheikh Muhammad Tariq, Chairman Pakistan UK Business Council of the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI) organized second meeting of Business Council at Federation House Karachi via Zoom link. The meeting was attended by Sheikh Sultan Rehman, Vice President FPCCI, Amir Khawaja, Vice President, UK Pakistan Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Directors and Members of the Business Council.



LAHORE: Chief Minister Punjab Sardar Usman Buzdar inaugurating Journalists colony, Harbnas Pura Rescue station. — DNA

Tussle between IG, CCPO Lahore gets ugly

DNA

LAHORE: Inspector General of Police (IG) Punjab Shoaib Dastagir has refused to perform his duties after developing serious differences with Capital City Police Officer (CCPO) Lahore Umar Shaikh. "Either CCPO will remain in his place or me," the IG Punjab was quoted as saying by the sources after he had conveyed his reservations over the appointment of Umar Shaikh to the Prime Minister Imran Khan in a meeting three days back and to Chief Minister Punjab Usman Buzdar recently. The Prime Minister had in turn directed IG Punjab to take up the issue with Chief Minister Sardar Usman Buzdar. During the meeting, the Punjab Chief Minister tried to reconcile the matter but reportedly, no positive outcome could come about as the Inspector General did not even return to work after his meeting with the CM. Umar Shaikh was quoted as saying during the meeting that 'Go and tell IG Punjab that I have become the CCPO'.

Govt attaches great importance to business community: Sarwar

DNA

LAHORE: Punjab Governor Chaudhry Muhammad Sarwar Monday said the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) government gave great importance to the business community and would continue to support them by resolving their problems on top priority. Speaking at a reception hosted by Shahid Nazir Ch, CEO Filter House, here in honour of all PIAF-Found-

er alliance candidates contesting the annual election of the Lahore Chamber of Commerce, the governor said that deadly coronavirus badly affected the global economy, adding that Pakistan after the coronavirus had put the national economy back on track. He said that now the economy was taking off in all sectors and showing upward trends of hopeful indicators.

He added the prime minister kept on having direct interaction with the private sector to address their problems to accelerate economic activities in the country. Briefly speaking on the occasion, veteran trade leader and President SAARC Chamber Iftikhar Ali Malik said the FIAF-Founder Alliance had fielded one of the best dedicated candidates represent-

ing all markets and hoped that their fully potential contestants would sweep the Lahore Chamber election. He urged the candidates to serve the interest of the business community selflessly and help solve problems of traders at provincial and federal levels. Prominent among others were Almas Hyder, Sh Muhammad Asif, Dr Abdul Basit, Ali Hussam Asghar SVP and Mian Tariq Misbah.

Senate panel lauds coordinated efforts of PBC's social media section

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Chairman Senate Standing Committee on Information and Broadcasting Senator Faisal Javed Khan has appreciated the role of radio Pakistan in disseminating authentic news and effective programs on modern ways. Addressing the meeting of the Committee held at Pakistan Broadcasting House in Islamabad on Monday, he said that Radio Pakistan is an asset of the country and playing a pivotal role and doing a brilliant job in creating public awareness on social issues among the general people. Senator Faisal Javed said that special public awareness campaign should

also driven on child abuse, women harassment in regional languages. Lauding News and Current Affairs Programs of Radio Pakistan, he said that digital presence of these should also be improved for listener attraction. He said that Radio should initiate talent hunt program and invited young talented people to highlight their aptitude. The Chairman said that Radio needs for effective marketing efforts to increase its own income and work with other private channels on barter system to meet its expenditures. He said an aggressive sales team should be given tasks in this regard. He also emphasized the need to improved pronunciation of Urdu and its purity while airing news and programs.

Other members of the committee stated that Radio Pakistan is playing a vital role in creating awareness among the public. They emphasized the need of close coordination of Radio Pakistan with National Disaster Management Authority and Pakistan Meteorologist Department in case of natural disaster to save maximum human lives. Director General Pakistan Broadcasting Corporation Ambreen Jan briefed the committee about functions of different wings of Radio Pakistan. She said that Radio Pakistan is working on effective basis in disseminating authentic news and airing programs on its 32 stations across the country. She said that this national medium is also airing contents on different public issues time to time.

PBM spends Rs 124.45 mln on children

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Bait-ul-Mal (PBM) has spent Rs 124.45 million on imparting education to 18,519 labour children in its 159 Schools for Rehabilitation of Child Labour during the financial year 2019-20. According to annual report of PBM, a total of 19,574 destitute children have been passed out from these centres, established to eliminate forced labour from the country, while 19,888 poor labour children were being imparted education in Pakistan Bait-ul-Mal Schools for Rehabilitation of Child Labour right now. — APP

Govt urged to implement anti-smoking laws

RAWALPINDI: Pakistan National Heart Association (PANAH) on Monday urged the federal government to control the use of Tobacco in accordance with the World Health Organization (WHO) Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC) agreement. Speaking at a function, PANAH President Maj. Gen. (retd) Masood-ur-Rehman Kayani said that the trend of smoking and consumption of sugary drinks was increasing rapidly among the young generation for which the Panah is raising awareness so that they can avoid its harms. "It is important that we make our citizens safe from heart disease, diabetes, obesity, cancer, respiratory and other complex diseases" he added. On the occasion, Sanaulah Ghuman, General Secretary Panah, said that millions of people were died every year due to addiction of smoking and sugary drinks while billions of rupees were spent on the treatment of the sick. "If you want to save the young generation from the use of tobacco and sugary drinks, the government will have to endorse legislation to prevent the risk to human health", he said. A number of Pakistan Army, Civil Medical Specialists and tobacco victims attended the event. — APP

Ex PS to Nawaz indicted in assets case

DNA

LAHORE: An accountability court in Lahore on Monday indicted ex-PM Nawaz Sharif's principal secretary Fawad Hassan Fawad and three members of his family in assets beyond means case. Accountability Judge Muhammad Akmal read out charges to Fawad, Rubab Hassan, Waqar Hassan, and Anjum Hassan. They denied the charges and opted to contest them. The court issued notices to prosecution witnesses to appear in personal capacity to record their testimonies. Fawad was the principal secretary of former prime minister Nawaz Sharif. He said the NAB has failed to present any evidence in support of its charges against his client. The counsel argued that the NAB had earlier claimed that Fawad Hassan Fawad is the owner of a plaza worth five billion rupees, "now it is claiming that the accused person's family owns assets worth Rs. 1.08 bill". "The bureau is now alleging that the property in the name of his wife and brother are benami assets", counsel said.

ECP holds meeting for conducting LB polls

ISLAMABAD: Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) held a meeting here on Monday for conducting local body elections in Sindh province. The meeting was chaired by Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Sikandar Sultan Raja and attended by ECP members and senior officials, leaders of Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Taj Haider, Nisar Ahmad Khoro, Farhat Ullah Babar, Murtaza Wahaab and Khalid Chacher besides Special Secretary Local Government Sindh and Research Officer Local Government Sindh. Representatives from PPP and Sindh government were of view that as the Department of Statistics has not officially published the figures of census of Pakistan 2017, therefore, as per law and constitution, the ECP could not hold elections on unofficial data of population. — APP



PESAHAWAR: As a part of Pakistan China Friendship Association (PCFA) Khyber Chapter & Pakistan Development Foundation (PDF) joint initiative Pak China Friendship Tree Plantation (PCFTP) 2020 which was launched by Chinese Ambassador in Pakistan Mr. Yao Jing — DNA

Briefs

AIOU accepts applications for training programmes

ISLAMABAD: Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU) is accepting admission forms for its teachers training programmes for 1 year MEd, 1.5/2.5 and 4-year BEd. According to a press release on Monday, MEd programme is offered in five fields of specializations including elementary teacher education, distance and non-formal education, teacher education, science education and special education. Eligibility criterion for admission in 1.5 year BEd programme is MA/MSc or BS/BA Honors while candidates with BA/BSc in 2nd division or equivalent education are eligible to apply for admission in 2.5-year BEd (elementary education) program. Students having BA/BSc in 2nd division can apply for 2.5-year B Ed (science education) program while students with FA/FSc in 2nd division can apply for 4-year B Ed program. Moreover, admission forms for FA/FSc will be accepted by September 15 with 500 rupees late fee charges. Prospectuses and admission forms for all of the programs offered in autumn 2020 semester are available at the main campus of the university, regional offices/centers and sales points established throughout the country. Information about the sales points can be obtained from the university website or helpline 468-112-111-051. Candidates will present only challan form to deposit fee at any of the branch of ABL, MCB, UBL and FWB. - APP

MinNFS&R to introduce technology for crops

ISLAMABAD: Ministry of National Food Security and Research (MinNFS&R) will introduce technological solutions in agriculture sector for achieving maximizing of crops output. This was stated by Federal Secretary MinNFS&R, Omar Hamid Khan on Monday while chairing a meeting on technology in food security, said a press release. The meeting was aimed to shortlist digital solutions, which can improve farmers' access to knowledge base in agricultural and livestock production. It was also aimed at to provide digital solutions and environmental technologies by upgrading skills in application and environment friendly farm production for income generation. The meeting was also attended by senior officials of the Ministry of Information Technology and Telecommunication. The Secretary urged the need for acquiring of advanced agriculture technologies and best practices that are decisive for enhancing agriculture production, besides improving agribusiness in the country. Through technological advancements, a knowledge house on agriculture livestock and environment can be established for providing timely and relevant information to end users, besides, improved yield and quality of agricultural products, he added. - APP

Govt allows release of Rs112.04 billion for development projects

Revenue Division received Rs283 million, whereas the Cabinet Division also received Rs13.4 billion for which an amount of Rs 47.7 billion has been allocated for the year 2020-21

SHAHEEN HANIF

ISLAMABAD: The federal Government has so far authorized release of Rs112.04 billion for various ongoing and new social sector uplift projects under its Public Sector Development Programme (PSDP) 2020-21 as against the total allocation of Rs650 billion. Under the development programme, the Government has released an amount of Rs73.7

billion for federal ministries, Rs28.6 billion for corporations and Rs9.4 billion for special areas, according to a latest data released by Ministry of Planning, Development and Reform. Out of these allocations, the Government released Rs300 million for Earthquake Reconstruction and Rehabilitation Authority (ERRA) for which the Government had allocated Rs1.5 billion during the year 2020-21. For National Highway Authority, the government released Rs21.5

billion against its allocations of Rs118.67 billion, whereas for National Transmission and Dispatch Company (NTDC), an amount of Rs7.08 billion was released out of total allocation of Rs158.3 billion. The Government also released Rs13.8 billion for water resources division out of total allocation of Rs81.2 billion. An amount of Rs5.6 billion has been authorized to release for Higher Education Commission for which an amount of Rs29.4

billion has been allocated. Similarly, Rs70 million were released for Pakistan Nuclear Regulatory Authority for which the Government had allocated Rs350 million in the development budget. Under annual development agenda, the government also released Rs4.7 billion for Railways Division out of total allocation of Rs24 billion, Rs2.9 billion for Interior Division, and Rs3.2 billion for National Health Services, Regulations

and Coordination Division. Revenue Division received Rs283 million, whereas the Cabinet Division also received Rs13.4 billion for which an amount of Rs47.7 billion has been allocated for the year 2020-21. Likewise, the Government also released Rs4.96 billion for Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) block and other projects out of its allocations of Rs27.24 billion and Rs4.45 billion for Gilgit Baltistan (Block and other projects) out of total allocation of Rs25 billion.

5 properties worth 156.45 mln auctioned

ISLAMABAD: The Ministry of Privatization on Monday auctioned five properties worth of Rs156.45 million owned by different ministries and division to create resources for economic development and prosperity. As a result of bidding against the reserve price of Rs140.525 million, ministry of privatization was successfully able to raise Rs 156.45 million for the national exchequer. In the first step, five government properties located in Islamabad were auctioned including two penthouses at Islamabad Country Club, Two apartments one in Centaurus Mall F-8/4 and other located at Pakistan Housing Authority (PHA) apartments in G-7/2. The maximum interest was seen in the land sold at Pir Sohawa with bidders substantially increasing their bid till the final call of the highest bidder. During the auction the Ministry ensured that a transparent process is followed and all eligible bidders were given a fair and equal chance to actively participate in the bid. The bidding was conducted by the financial advisers in the presence of media and was duly monitored by the auction committee comprising of senior officials of the ministry. The inaugural session for the auction of Federal Government Properties held in Islamabad with the Chief Guest, Federal Minister for Maritime Affairs, Ali Haider Zaidi. - APP

'Amnesty Scheme aims to legalize structures'

RAWALPINDI: President Rawalpindi Cantonment Board (RCB) Brig Ijaz Qamar Kiayni said that Amnesty scheme has been launched aimed at to legalize illegal structures in cantonment areas and to bring the practice to an end. Brig Ijaz expressed these views while addressing a briefing at Rawalpindi Cantonment Board here on Monday. He expressed hope that the dwellers would take benefit from Amnesty scheme. The amnesty scheme will apply to illegal structures of domestic units that were built before 2015, he added. Homeowners will have to pay a fee of Rs 2,500 to have their building map made by an approved architect, which has to be submitted to the RCB to be approved within three days. He said most people build homes without approved building plans, which causes problems for the civic body. Briefing to media, Cantonment Executive Officer Umer Farooq said that Amnesty scheme has been introduced for the residential units while action would be taken against illegal commercial units and heavy fine would also be imposed to the violators. Replying to a question, he said that action has been taken against those who were involved in malpractices adding that corruption would not be tolerated. CEO Cantt Umer Farooq informed that 70,000 people were paying tax regularly while 40,000 people have regularized their properties. - APP



RAWALPINDI: Chairman Pakistan Cultural Forum Zafar Bakhtawari addressing a function. - DNA

Senate session summoned on Sept 15

The order to summon the senate session on Sept 8, stands superseded

ISLAMABAD: President Dr. Arif Alvi has summoned the senate session to meet in the parliament house on September 15 (Tuesday) at 10.30 am. The President summoned the session in exercise of power conferred by clause (1) of Article 54 of the constitution, said a notification issued here on Monday. The order to summon the senate session on September 8, stands superseded, it further said. - APP

Ehsaas under-graduate scholarship opened

ISLAMABAD: Special Assistant to Prime Minister (SAPM) on Social Protection and Poverty Alleviation, Dr Sania Nishtar on Monday said Ehsaas Undergraduate Scholarship Online Portal has been opened for the academic year 2020-21. All the students studying in undergraduate programs at 119 public sector universities across the country can apply for the scholarships, Dr Nishtar said in a statement. She said those students whose family income is less than Rs 45,000 could apply for Ehsaas Scholarship through the online portal <https://ehsaas.hec.gov.pk/>. The application for the scholarship must include the same of the

relevant university. The Undergraduate scholarships worth a total of Rs 4.827 billion were distributed among students in the academic year 2019-20. Prime Minister Imran Khan formally inaugurated the 'Ehsaas Scholarship Program' on November 4, 2019. Under this program, scholarships would be given to 50,000 undergraduate students from low-income families every year. The four-year program would benefit 200,000 students. The scholarship includes 100 per cent tuition fee and a monthly stipend of Rs 4,000. Scope of the program includes public sector universities in all four provinces, Azad Kashmir and

Gilgit-Baltistan. 50 percent of the scholarships are for girls and two percent for students with disabilities. The total budget of the program is Rs 24 billion. This is the country's largest need-based scholarship program that will provide opportunities for children from low-income families to pursue higher education, she said. A total of 132,192 applications were received through the online portal of the Higher Education Commission for the year 2019-20. The scholarships have been issued to 50,762 students after scrutiny under the set rules. The program is overseen by the Ehsaas Scholarship Steering Committee, Dr Nishtar added. - APP

RWMC anti-dengue drive in full swing

RAWALPINDI: The anti-dengue campaign launched by Rawalpindi Waste Management Company (RWMC) with the collaboration of Albaryak is underway to create awareness among citizens about the dengue virus. The campaign aimed to motivate citizens to keep their surroundings clean. According to RWMC spokesman, Managing Director RWMC, Awais Manzoor Tarrar, during his visit to various areas of the city said communication teams of RWMC and Albaryak continued their door to door campaign to make people aware of the virus and its impact on human life. - APP

IRSA releases 346,200 cusecs water

ISLAMABAD: Indus River System Authority (IRSA) on Monday released 346,200 cusecs water from various rim stations with equal inflow of 346,200 cusecs. According to the data released by IRSA, both Tarbela and Mangla Dams have already attained their maximum conservation level of 1550.00 feet and 1242 feet respectively. Water inflow and outflow in Tarbela dam was recorded as 183,500 cusecs each. Similarly water inflow and outflow in Mangla dam was recorded as 56,300 cusecs each. - APP

CTP gear up operation against beggars

RAWALPINDI: City Traffic Police (CTP) Rawalpindi have geared up their ongoing operation against professional beggars. According to Incharge, Special Anti-Beggars Squads, Adeel Abbas, CTP rounded up over 1514 beggars from different city roads during August. He said that special anti beggars squads had been constituted to nab the professional beggars. He informed that CTP on the directive of City Traffic Officer, were trying to eliminate the begging from the city roads. He said that 32 beggar children arrested from the city roads were handed over

to Child Protection Welfare Bureau (CPWB) while six beggar women netted during the operation were sent to 'Kashana' Welfare. CTP along with Rawalpindi district police was conducting raids at different roads and intersections and action in accordance with the law was taken against beggars. 21 FIRs were also lodged against the professional beggars, he added. Directives had also been issued to the squad to register cases against the beggars and the report in this regard should be sent to CTO office on daily basis, he said. - APP

Services trade deficit shrinks 13.79 pc

ISLAMABAD: The country's services trade deficit witnessed decline of 13.79 percent during the first month of current financial year (2019-20) as compared to the corresponding period of last year. The exports during July 2020 were recorded at US \$ 436.05 million against the exports of US \$ 459.99 million, showing decline of 5.20 percent, according to latest data of Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS). The imports into the country also witnessed decline of 9.3 percent by falling from US \$ 879.88 million in July 2019 to US \$ 798.05 million, the PBS data revealed. Based on the figures, the services trade deficit in July 2020 was recorded at US \$ 362 million against the deficit of US \$ 419.89 million in July 2019, showing decline of 13.79 percent. Meanwhile, on month-on-month basis, the exports from the country witnessed increase of 10.95 percent in July 2020 when compared to the exports of US \$ 393.01 million in June 2020. - APP

SMEDA to organize "Sales & Marketing" training

ISLAMABAD: The Small and Medium Enterprises Development Authority (SMEDA) is going to organize one day training program here on "Sales and Marketing" for profitable business growth on September 10. The workshop is being organized by SMEDA under National Business Development Program (NBPD) for SMEs, to extend non-financial advisory services

to small and medium business, according to sources in the Authority. The training would provide information about benefits of marketing, market, marketplace, Sales (marketing alignment), managing the marketing efforts (market analysis, Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT) analysis, Political, Economic, Social, and Technological factors (PEST) analysis), future branding,

brand needs analysis (BNA), product placement, sales force management, designing sales force strategy and structure, digital marketing, and global statistics. The session would be attended by small business owners and their staff, emerging and existing entrepreneurs, women participants, women owned SMEs and all those desirous of improving knowledge on the subject. - APP

Govt to enroll 100,000 youth under 'Hunarmand Pakistan'

Similarly, the govt was aimed to train 50,000 young people in high tech trades including artificial intelligence, robotics and cloud computing, he said. So far 17,000 individuals had been enrolled for such courses

ISLAMABAD: The government has ramped up its efforts to enroll 100,000 youth for high tech and traditional trades under the 'Hunarmand Pakistan' (Skill for All) project of Prime Minister's Kamyab Jawan Programme. The initiative was meant to increase number of country's skilled workforce by imparting six-month courses to 50,000 less developed areas youth in traditional trades, besides training to 50,000 people in high technologies. Executive Director, National Vocational and Technical Training Commission (NAVTEC), Dr Nasir Khan told APP, "All is set for resuming registration of youth under first phase of the 'Hunarmand Pakistan' programme after September 15". Highlighting the institution's future

endeavours with regard to the Kamyab Jawan Programme, he said, under the first phase, launched in beginning of this year, a target was set for imparting six-month training courses to 50,000 youth of underdeveloped areas in traditional trades like welding, plumbing, dress-making, cooking, electric and others. "We have already enrolled 20,000 individuals under this phase, who have already completed one-month training of the course," he noted. He said enrollment for second phase would be started after September 15 for registration of 30,000 youth from underdeveloped areas. To a query, the Executive Director said some 280 institutions were dedicated in the less-developed areas for

imparting trainings in such trades. Similarly, the government was aimed to train 50,000 young people in high tech trades including artificial intelligence, robotics and cloud computing, he said. So far 17,000 individuals had been enrolled for such courses. "We are fully committed to train 50,000 each in high tech and traditional trades under 'Hunarmand Pakistan' by end of the Fiscal Year 2020-21," he resolved. It is to be mentioned here that youth from less developed areas were also being given opportunity to get training in high tech courses from modern institutions, located in major cities. Boarding and lodging facilities were also being provided to such students, he added.

SEPTEMBER 2020

Pakistan's Premier News & Diplomatic Affairs Magazine

Find us on:

www.centrelines.com.pk

www.dnanews.com.pk

www.islamabadpost.com.pk

@PostIslamabad / @Editordnanews

A sister concern of

Islamabad POST

11# Block 18-A, Awan Plaza,
G-8 Markaz, ISLAMABAD-PAKISAN
Ph: 051-2261960, 051-2266165



Briefs

MM Alam's historical contribution remembered

ISLAMABAD: The greatest fighter pilot in the history of Pakistan, inspiration for youth and a hero of our nation, flying tiger MM Alam's historical contribution of shooting down five Indian war planes in less than a minute remains unbeaten and unforgettable.

The 7th September belonged to the Pakistan Air Force (PAF) ace Muhammad Mahmood Alam (commonly known as M.M.Alam) who shot down five of the Indian Air Force Hawker Hunter Mk. 56 fighters in less than a minute.

He is one of the few aviators who became a hero in a few seconds and not only won international acclaim but also was deservedly bestowed with Sitara-e-Jurat (SJ) for his dexterity and eagle eyes action, reports aired by electronic channels reported. Alam was the eldest son of 11 siblings who was born in Calcutta on July 6 1935. He was brought up in Bengal, India but after Indo-Pak separation in 1947 his family migrated to the then called East Pakistan, now Bangladesh. Alam was granted commission in PAF (then RPAF) on October 2 1953. Alam is considered a national hero for Pakistan, most significantly, for his remarkable show of brilliance in the 1965 Pak-India war when he was posted at Saragodha. — APP

Tree plantation drive at PMAS-AAUR

RAWALPINDI: A special tree plantation campaign launched at Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi (PMAS-AAUR) Sub-Campus Khushab on Monday. According to a PMAS-AAUR spokesman, the Vice Chancellor, PMAS-AAUR Prof. Dr. Qamar Zaman inaugurated the campaign. Senior administrative officers, research experts and professors of various departments were present on the occasion.

While addressing the participants, Dr. Qamar Zaman appreciated the government's "Clean Green Pakistan" initiative which is the first of its kind in the country being appreciated globally. He said that planting a tree is perpetual charity and the fruit plants are the above in it which is also Sunnah. He also stressed the participants to not only plant a tree but also make sure look after of the saplings which is bigger issue than plantation. He asked all the employees to work hard for the campaign and also mobilize the farming community not only to increase their income but it will also be helpful to convert their barren land into fertile.

The VC also visited the laboratories and class rooms and appreciated efforts of the administration. He also instructed the managements to upgrade all lecture rooms, laboratories and farm engineering workshop and provide maximum facilities to the students. Dr. Qamar Zaman along with senior faculty members also visited the union council Pelowaince Thal and inaugurated a unique project "My Village, My paradise". — APP

PNCA to hold "Two Puppet Shows"

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan National Council of Arts (PNCA) will hold "Two Puppet Shows" on September 12 and 26 to revive the dying art of puppetry.

The show will feature theme based puppetry that usually revolved around current issues including women and children related issues, education and environment to educate the audience especially children through infotainment. Special puppet artist will perform in the show who have taught special techniques of puppetry from different institutions. The Puppet shows are being arranged by PNCA as regular feature which was established in 1978 and has been showcasing the skills of its puppeteers comprising vibrant costumed puppets presenting folk tales, skits, regional dances and national songs to provide infotainment to audiences of every age group. — APP



ISLAMABAD: Andrew Forrest, Chairman of Fortescue Metals Group Ltd. Australia, called on Prime Minister Imran Khan. — DNA

Government utilizing all efforts to tackle Covid-19

DG NCHD said that, it is important to have situation analysed by conducting a comprehensive assessment analysis as that will help government and humanitarian agencies in understating the overall impact

ISLAMABAD: Director General National Commission for Human Development (NCHD) Hassan Baig said on Monday the government is utilizing all out efforts to tackle with the Covid-19 pandemic and its impact especially providing essential health services to the vulnerable and needy and protecting health systems. While addressing in senior management meeting here he said the govt had also launched multi-sectoral initiatives to mitigate the effects of this pandemic on economy, livelihoods and other sectors. He said donors, UN agencies, international and national human-

itarian actors/NGOs supported well to the government of Pakistan in the stern situation. DG NCHD said that, it is important to have situation analysed by conducting a comprehensive assessment analysis as that will help government and humanitarian agencies in understating the overall impact and the proportion of population at risk. The assessment will provide the knowledge about the extent of vulnerability across geographics and various demographics, he further added. In addition it will give a look into the level at what humanitarian organizations and

government authorities are responding to the pillars identified in National Action Plan (NAP) for the pandemic, he informed. While elaborating the statistics he said report of IMF projects that 40 percent of Pakistanis are living below the poverty line in COVID-19's viral wake. Nearly 22 million children are now out of school, while 17 million children under five are missing routine vaccinations. An additional 2.45 million people beyond an existing 40 million now suffer food insecurity, the study finds. Real GDP growth is expected to slow due to downturns in services and manufacturing. Agriculture

had also lagged down due to lockdowns and disrupted needed transportation, logistical support, labor, and access to inputs for the next planting season, he briefed. The commission which is mandated with the role to support and augment human development across the country had inked an MOU with Islamic Rescue Committee (IRC-IVAP) to conduct Coordinated Gap Analysis (CGA) at national level in the four provinces and federal capital (Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Punjab, Sindh, Balochistan and ICT). This analysis will provide an understanding how, why and the context in which

humans and communities respond allows to anticipate unwanted scenarios and initiate mitigating measures. Secondly, the analysis will generate information that will become evidence for strategic planning, program implementation and response monitoring during COVID-19 outbreak. NCHD being the implementer will conduct this analysis in 41 districts covering 16,400 households. DG NCHD Hassan Baig further stressed that premeditated, strategic and joint efforts are required to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on social, economic and fiscal scenario. — APP

SIH celebrates World PT Day "Rehabilitation & COVID-19"

SAIFULLAH

ISLAMABAD: The focus for this year's World Physical Therapy Day on 08 September is rehabilitation after COVID-19 and the role of physiotherapists in the treatment and management of people affected by COVID-19. Mr. Muhammad Kashif Khan, Associate General Manager Rehabilitation Department at Shifa International Hospital (SIH) stated that, "World PT Day is an internationally recognized annual event where we can promote the discipline of physical therapy and highlight the role, physical therapist plays in keeping populations well, mobile and

independent. He said that, "A physiotherapist can help people understand the long-term impact of COVID-19 and work with them to support their recovery." In his message on World Physical Therapy Day, Mr. Taimoor Shah, Chief Operating Officer Shifa International Hospital stated that, "Worldwide Physical Therapists are playing their role in enabling persons with physical limitations to exercise their rights and freedom". He appreciated the role of allied sciences during pandemics. Ms. Faiza Badar, Manager Rehabilitation Department, SIH shared that, "Early diagnosis and proper intervention results in better

functioning of the individual ensuring his/her acceptance in the society". She also mentioned the role of a physical therapist in the rehabilitation of patients diagnosed with COVID-19. A poster competition was arranged by Shifa Tameer-e-Millat University on this occasion, in which students of DPT (Doctor of Physiotherapy/Physical Therapy) participated and shared painting on the role of physical therapy in the recovery of COVID-19 patients. Dr. Abdul Ghafoor Sajjad, Associate Professor & HOD Rehabilitation Sciences Shifa Tameer-e-Millat University stressed the need to abolish quackery in the field of allied sciences.



PBM to set up Panagah Centres

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Bait-ul-Mal (PBM) would soon establish 'Panagah Centres' in every division of the country to provide shelter and other basic amenities of life to daily wagers and homeless persons in a safe and secure environment. According to a press release, PBM has been assigned the management control of the existing Panagahs and tasked to set up new ones in various areas of the country to provide solace to shelter less people. The programme of establishing the centres has been launched to provide free accommodation, meal and other basic facilities to pauper, low income labours, shelterless and destitute persons. — APP

Relatives of martyred cops get jobs in Police

ISLAMABAD: The family members of martyred policemen have been given jobs in Islamabad police as per Prime Minister's Package announced for family members of those cops who sacrificed their lives in the line of duty. Following efforts of Inspector General of Police (IGP) Islamabad Muhammad Aamir Zulfiqar, family members of martyred policemen have been employed. A meeting of the Recruitment Committee in this regard was held at Central Police Office as per directions of IGP Islamabad and was attended by Chairman Committee DIG (Headquarters) Muhammad Saleem, its members including AIG (Establishment) Kamran Adil, SSP (Headquarters) Irfan Tariq, SSP (Traffic) Farrukh Rasheed, SSP (CTD) Syed Mustafa Tanveer and Additional SP Farhat Abbass Kazmi. The son of martyred Assistant Sub-Inspector (ASI) Shakeel Ahmed Butt was offered job as Constable, the wife of martyred ASI Muhammad Mohsin Zafar as Steno typist and son of martyred Constable Muhammad Riaz was offered job as Constable in the force. The family members of martyred cops have appreciated the steps taken by the IGP Islamabad for their welfare. They said that they would serve the force with same dedication like their predecessors and would not step back in performance of duties. IGP Islamabad said that he had fulfilled his promise made with the family members of martyred cops and to ensure further welfare steps for them. — APP

COVID-19 SOPs necessary during anti-polio drive

RAWALPINDI: Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Health Authority, Dr So-hail Chaudary has said that COVID-19 Standard operating procedures (SOPs) would be followed in letter and spirit during five-day anti-polio drive being com-

menced from September 21. Talking to media on Monday, the CEO said that for making the Polio campaign successful, training of Union Council In-charges of mobile polio teams was continued under the supervision of health of-

icers of Health Authority. During the campaign 1950 polio teams would go door-to-door and administer polio drops to 872,000 children under five years in all Tehsils and Union Councils of the district, he said.— APP

NAB committed to eradicate corruption: Chairman

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Justice (RETD) Javed Iqbal, Chairman NAB said that NAB committed to eradicate corruption as NAB always accords high priority for training of its Investigation Officers because training is an effective instrument through which human capabilities are developed for enhancing practical and productive efforts on modern lines. Honorable Justice Mr. Javed Iqbal, Chairman NAB said that NAB is an apex anti corruption organization of the country which has assigned gigantic task of eradication of corruption from the country. He said that this requires an extremely dedicated and highly trained manpower to undertake this responsibility. He said that NAB attaches great importance to its Human Resource Management.

A comprehensive yearly Training Plan for 2020 was approved in order to enhance capacity building of NAB officers/officials and to ensure successful implementation of the Training Plan. He said Training Cells were created at all Regional levels as primarily responsible to liaise and carry out the planned activities in their respective Regional Bureaus in coordination with T&R Division NAB Headquarters. Accordingly, a Training of Trainers (ToT) program was organized by the T&R Division NAB at NAB Headquarters. Honorable Justice Mr. Javed Iqbal, Chairman NAB said that NAB during the tenure of present management of NAB has recovered Rs. 363 billion of ill-gotten money directly and indirectly from corrupt elements and all were deposited in the national exchequer which is a remarkable achievement of NAB.

He said that the figures of complaints, inquiries and investigations have increased as compared to the same period of 2019 to 2020. The comparative figures of previous two years are indicative of the hard work being put in by all ranks of NAB officers/officials in an atmosphere of renewed energy and dynamism, where fight against corruption is being taken



as a national duty. Increase in the number of complaints also reflects enhanced public trust in the NAB. He said that NAB is one of investigation agency who has been prescribed for efficient, effective and expeditious disposal of all cases putting including white collar crime cases a maximum limit of 10 months- from complaint verification- inquiry-to-investigation and finally to a reference in the Accountability Court. NAB has also introduced a new System of Combine Investigation Team (CIT) in order to benefit from the experience and collective wisdom of senior supervisory officers, a system of CIT comprising of Director, Additional Director, Investigation Officer and a Senior Legal Counsel has been put in place. This will not only lend quality to the work but also ensure that no single individual can influence

the proceedings. The results of CIT are very encouraging. The Chairman NAB said that Transparency International Pakistan, World Economic Forum, PLLI-DAT and Mishaal Pakistan have appreciated NAB's efforts in order to aware people about the ill effects of corruption and to nab corrupt elements. Gillani and Gallop Survey have indicated that 59 percent people have shown confidence upon NAB. The Chairman NAB said that NAB said that a state of the art Forensic Science LAB has been established in NAB Rawalpindi. The Forensic Science LAB has the capacity to conduct analysis in the fields of Digital Forensics, Questioned Documents; Fingerprints analysis so that investigation officers and prosecutors may utilize Forensic LAB facilities in order to investigate cases within stipulated time period as per law.

Theatre Wallay to hold first ever Tie Dye Workshop

ISLAMABAD: Theatre Wallay would hold its first ever Tie Dye Workshop for Beginners to teach different tie dye techniques on September 12.

The participants of workshop would learn different tie dye methods and have an opportunity to dye an item of cotton they bring along. Workshop would create a wide variety of designs on fabric from standard patterns such as the spiral, peace sign, diamond, and the marble effect to beautiful works of art, an official told on Monday.

He said that there were countless advantages of dyeing as its one of the easiest way of transforming your fabrics to look new and at nominal rate.

He said that it was also a great way to renew the fabrics you currently have and enjoy each one year after year. All tools and materials would be provided so all desiring aspirants were need to be registered only, he stated. — APP

Cheques distributed among injured cops

RAWALPINDI: City Police Officer (CPO) Muhammad Ahsan Younas has distributed cheques worth Rs 5.1 million among seven police officials who received bullet injuries during different police encounters.

According to a police spokesman, Rawalpindi District Police on the directives of Punjab Inspector General of Police (IGP) Shoaib Dastagir, have provided financial assistance worth Rs 5.1 million to injured constables namely Wajid Hussain, Zafar Mehmood, Hassan Akram, Abdul Ghafour, Muhammad Nabeel Ahmed, Waheed Iqbal and Muhammad Asif. He said, Rawalpindi district police had launched crackdowns against proclaimed offenders and criminals and making hectic efforts to net anti-social elements.

Various welfare projects were also initiated by the department to provide relief to the police personnel. Best medical treatment facilities were being provided to the cops who received injuries in operations against criminals as they were pride and asset of the department, the spokesman added.

NPMC directs province, ICT for price control

ISLAMABAD: The National Price Monitoring Committee (NPMC) here Monday directed all provincial governments and Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) administration to take proactive measures to control the undue price hike of essential items.

The NPMC meeting was held under the Chairmanship of Special Finance Secretary, Mohsin Mush-taq Chandna to discuss the price trend of essential food items, according to press statement issued by the Finance Ministry.

Among others, the meeting was attended by representatives from the provincial governments, ICT, Ministries of Industries, Commerce, Law and Justice, Planning, Development & Special Initiatives, National Food Security & Research, Inter Provincial Coordination (IPC) along with Competition Commission of Pakistan and Pakistan Bureau of Statistics. It was decided that provincial governments should provide information regarding the flood damages of minor and major crops to Ministry of National Food Security & Research (MNFS&R) for timely response to any shortages.

Ministries of Industries & Production and Commerce were directed to take prompt actions and provide necessary support to facilitate the import of essential food items. The MNFS&R was directed to keep an eye on the supply and demand of pulses and vegetables including tomatoes, potatoes and onion and take necessary measure such as timely import for the smooth availability of these items.

It was also noted that profit margin between wholesale and retail is huge in items like apples, bananas, gram pulse, mash pulse, masoor pulse, garlic, tomatoes, onions. — APP

Plan for Karachi

HERE is finally some movement on a federal level for the stricken city of Karachi. The federal government has promised that it will help stage a recovery and repair the damage in Karachi. Prime Minister Imran Khan visited the Sindh capital on Saturday and met with CM Murad Ali Shah as well as other officials and with the heads of other political parties. For this purpose, he listed the various projects that would gain priority. For this purpose, it has been agreed that while organizations such as the NDMA would physically clear the encroachments in various parts of city, it would be the duty of the Sindh government to remove people who lived in the area or have set up businesses along the areas, which block drains and provide them with alternative housing. On the face of it, this all looks good; Karachi has for the longest time needed a political consensus more than anything else. Could it be that in the whole aftermath of the Karachi disaster, we may finally see an example of cooperation between the centre and the provincial government? Very few would argue that this is how things should be. The Sindh government will also be contributing some of the money for the relief work, with Bilawal Bhutto Zardari saying Rs800 billion would be given by the Sindh government for this mammoth task, which will need good planning and good execution. CM Sindh Murad Ali Shah too has shown every willingness to cooperate. From this point on, we hope that the effort to improve the situation in Karachi, so that the next rain does not take it by storm and turn the city into a place of disaster, can get underway. There is plenty of planning to be done. City planners need to be involved in this task. And we must hope that for the citizens of Karachi, it is a success. We have seen similar promises made by the PTI government in the centre, which unfortunately came to naught. Here's hoping this time Karachi gets tangible help.

Pakistan's First And Only Diplomatic Daily

Editor-in-Chief: Ansar Mahmood Bhatti
Deputy Editor: Abid Raza

Vol: 01 Issue: 141

Email: dailyisbpost@gmail.com

Phone: 051-2266165 / 051-2261960

Off: Awan Plaza, Block 18-A, G-8 Markaz Islamabad



Dengue coming back?

THE country has barely got a grip on the coronavirus pandemic. In fact, most experts would say that it has not really got a grip, because while deaths are down, a vaccine is still not available, and an array of precautions and SOPs are still mandatory, not so much to avoid the dread disease, as to palliate its worst effects. Yet with the coronavirus pandemic still far from over, there are disturbing signs that an old hazard, in the shape of dengue fever, might be rearing its head again. Even though the monsoon is not yet over, there have already been 51 cases in Punjab since January, with the latest being reported from Toba Tek Singh on Saturday. Though only one case was reported, it was amongst 630 suspected cases. There was also dengue mosquito larva found at 9271 spots in the province in the last week. Dengue, like the coronavirus, is a viral disease, but the infection is spread by a vector, a mosquito, which transmits the virus through its bite. Dengue is a tropical disease, and has grown in Pakistan beyond its East African habitat because of global warming. The first major outbreak was in 2011, when 300 people died of it. The disease has remained as an annual occurrence, mainly because the mosquito carrying the disease has not been eradicated. The elimination of dengue will only occur if standing water is drained promptly, before the mosquito has had a chance to breed. This implies that people will have to observe the precautions against the spread of the dengue vector, while continuing to observe the SOPs against covid-19. Another corollary is that the Punjab government must not ignore this public health threat, while at the same time, not allowing it to distract it from the covid-19 menace. The dengue fight is similar to that against malaria, another disease with a mosquito vector. While malaria has not been eliminated, it is no longer the widespread killer it was not all that long ago. Making dengue join it should not be beyond us.

Hebdo's venom: Profanity vs sanity

Dr M Ali Hamza



OIC on other hand still appears to be incapacitated to compel and influence the western world regarding sensitivity of the matter. OIC is a result of huge alliance among Muslim countries with a purpose to protect the large Muslim community from any tyrannical actions and exploitations; physical or non-physical, by non-Muslims. Is this alliance just symbolically existing and the spirit is departed?

A PROVOCATIVE publication in 2005 by a Danish paper, that prompted a deadly attack in 2015 is offensively republished by a French satirical magazine; Charlie Hebdo. Though the magazine claims their act as a loud clear message of not being afraid by any attack, but minorities living in France are taking it as offensive treatment against race, ethnicity and religion, and stable minds considering it a confrontational anti-peace act. Charlie Hebdo has long history of skewering diverse subjects across the political spectrum and had also long been accused by detractor of recklessly publishing material considered racist and anti-Muslim. The republication of content having profanity simply seem to be seeking quick worldwide publicity. Otherwise no sane mind can certainly think of any sensible reason to reproducing those cartoons that were already published and caused nothing but animosity. As the French magazine claims to be satirical, but there is no sarcasm, there is no originality, and there is no actuality; that are fundamental components of being satirical. The reprint obviously reveals vicious intent to produce hate, make some happy and hurt many. We must not forget these venomous drawings were appeared in Denmark that tried to inject hatred against Islam and her followers. Those depictions published in Danish paper were not witty, they were not satirical but were purely aimed to create hate against Muslim community. Publication houses like Charlie Hebdo, rationalize their profane content and safeguard themselves behind freedom of speech. Indeed, Freedom of speech is a principle that supports the freedom of an individual or a community to articulate their opinions and ideas without fear of retaliation, censorship, or legal sanction. And in fact Freedom of expression is recognized as a human right under article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. But at the same time in Europe, blasphemy is a limitation to free speech. Justifications for limitations to freedom of speech refers to the "harm principle" or the "offence

principle". Harm principle holds that actions of individuals should only be limited to prevent harm to other individuals. John Stuart Mill articulated this principle in On Liberty, where he argued that "The only purpose for which power can be rightfully exercised over any member of a civilized community, against his will, is to prevent harm to others". And Charlie Hebdo caused the harm to the emotions of 1.8 billion adherents of Islam, making up about 24.1% of the world population. Isn't the magazine stand guilty? John Stuart Mill argues that the fullest liberty of expression is required to push arguments to their logical limits, rather than the limits of social embarrassment. Which logical discourse has been generated by re-publishing sacrilegious material, instead a social disturbance is triggered? Joel Feinberg; another renowned American political legal philosopher argues that the harm principle sets the bar too high and that some forms of expression can be legitimately prohibited by law because they are very offensive. But, as offending someone is less serious than harming someone, the penalties imposed should be higher for causing harm. Isn't defaming and disrespecting someone loved by billions an offensive act? Though French president has registered his reactions against these republications but these reactions are not sufficient to balance the accounts with the pain Muslim's have received. It is important that how French respond to these republications those were already done in a Danish newspaper that got nothing to do with the historical facts but caused pain and agony among the second largest community in the world. French diplomats in Muslim states have to deliberately and openly dismiss Charlie Hebdo's act of incitement. They have to register the discomfort brought to Muslim and should become advocate of the community. General public in France must raise their voice to rebuff such elements in society that spur loathing and repugnance between citizens of the world. There are people who can look into the matter forensically and

they will never support such act of wickedness. Even sensible non-Muslim minds could not rationalise Charlie's Hebdo's hate spreading intention. French people have to give a shut-up call to such freedom of speech that pokes into others territory. The ideological trespass has to be severely discouraged. France has a wide range of anti-hate legislation available and in fact considering the entire horrendous saga these problems could be solved if simple laws were executed through which peace disturbing freedom of speech could be discouraged and that would have helped in circumscribing criminal act. OIC on other hand still appears to be incapacitated to compel and influence the western world regarding sensitivity of the matter. OIC is a result of huge alliance among Muslim countries with a purpose to protect the large Muslim community from any tyrannical actions and exploitations; physical or non-physical, by non-Muslims. Is this alliance just symbolically existing and the spirit is departed? Is OIC unable to raise voice as a unanimous unit of Muslims of the world? Where does UN stand? Article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) 1976 obliges signatory countries to guarantee everyone the right to hold opinions without restriction and to guarantee the right to freedom of expression. Paragraph 3 of article 19 also identifies certain restrictions to freedom expression that are both necessary and provided by law to safeguard the reputations of others, for the protection of national security or of public order, or of public health or morals and furthermore article 20 obligates countries to prohibit advocacy of national, racial or religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence. Why UN is not executing her own articles, and at least write a displeasure to the Govt. of France? If actions like of Charlie Hebdo's are not dismayed legally and socially, then imagining a better world is just a fallacy. We got to side one, either profanity or sanity.

Tribute to a great leader Quaid-e-Azam

Prof. Dr. Nusrat Ara Majeed



The film was an x-ray, the x-rays of a pair of human lungs. The damage was so extensive that the human being whose lungs were on the film could have barely 2-3 years to live. Sealed in an unmarked envelope, those x-rays were locked in the office safe of Dr. JAL Patel, a Bombay physician. The lungs depicted on them belonged to Mr. Jinnah, who was living under a sentence of death

PAKISTANIS remember Muhammad Ali Jinnah, with his title Quaid-e-azam. He is certainly the greatest leader, not only for Sub-continent Muslims but he is counted among the world leaders of consummate caliber. He articulated the aspirations of the Indian Muslims which ultimately culminated into the creation of Pakistan on the map of the world on 14th August 1947. He was one of the most striking and distinctive figure. His personality marked unique features, he was tall and towering, handsome and heroic, dashing and dominating, practical and pragmatic—a man of high principles—an able advocate, a leading lawyer, a profound parliamentarian, a super statesman, a dynamic mass leader and above all one of the great nation builders of modern times—The researcher of personalities, affecting the vicissitude of the subcontinent, American historian Stanley Wolpert wrote; "Few individuals significantly alter the course of history, fewer still modify the map of the world, hardly anyone can be credited with creating a nation, Jinnah did all three". After the creation of Pakistan out of 71 years, 8 months and 6 days of his life, only for 392 days that destiny let him patronize Pakistan—But if we analyze only those 392 days, we remember the remarkable words by former Indian secretary of state Lord Pathic Lawrence; "Gandhi died by the hands of assassin—Jinnah died by his devotion to Pakistan". It must have been written many times that a man reveals all his life in the way he dies. This was true of our beloved Quaid, although he was shockingly weak but his eyes kept

their fire. His very strong will and determination did not let him stay from his mission. According to his sister Miss Fatima Jinnah, for several years before his last there was a constant tug of war between his physicians and the Quaid. They warned him to take long intervals of rest and short hours of hard work, but he did exactly the opposite—knowing well the risk he was running, whenever she suggested him to see a doctor, he would always answer "No I have much to do. I cannot waste my time". That was his devotion to the cause—the creation of a separate homeland for the Muslims. If Lord Mountbatten, Jawahar Lal Nehru or Mohatma Gandhi had been aware in April 1947 of one extraordinary secret, the creation of Pakistan might have been avoided. That secret was frozen on to the grey surface of a piece of film, a film which could have upset the Indian political equation. Yet so precious was the secret that even the famous British CID was also ignorant of its existence. His decision of trusting his friend Dr. JAL Patel kept this secret. The heart of the film was two dark circles, no bigger than a pair of ping pong balls. And above them a galaxy of little white spots. The film was an x-ray, the x-rays of a pair of human lungs. The damage was so extensive that the human being whose lungs were on the film could have barely 2-3 years to live. Sealed in an unmarked envelope, those x-rays were locked in the office safe of Dr. JAL Patel, a Bombay physician. The lungs depicted on them belonged to Mr. Jinnah, who was living under a sentence of death.

In June 1946, Dr. Patel had lifted these x-rays from the developing bath and discovered the terrible disease that threatened to put a rapid end to Jinnah's life—Tuberculosis, the cruel scourge had invaded the lungs of the messiah of Pakistan at 70 years of age. Quaid-e-azam received the harsh news impassively, not the slightest expression crossed his pale face. All his life he suffered from delicate health due to weak respiratory system. Frequent attacks of bronchitis had diminished his strength and weakened his lungs to the point at which the effort demand by a major speech would leave him panting for hours together. There was no question, he told his Dr. of abandoning his life's crusade for a sanatorium bed. Nothing except the grave was going to turn him away from his great mission. He would only follow the doctor's advice and reduce his work load only in so far as it was compatible with his great duty. He knew if his enemies learnt about his deadly disease, the whole political outlook could change. They might wait until he was in the grave, then unravel his dream with the more malleable men underneath him in the hierarchy of the Muslim league. He was a workaholic all his life. Even during his last days he had kept his routine in defiance of his doctor's orders until it became almost impossible for him to continue. The last document that he signed was on 4th September, just a week before his death. This in itself is a tribute enough to the fighting qualities of the ailing leader. References: Freedom at mid night – Verdict on India and Hector Bolitho [books on sub-continent].

Briefs

Djokovic disqualified from US Open

NEW YORK: Novak Djokovic was sensationally disqualified from the US Open on Sunday after striking a lines official with a ball during his last-16 match. The world number one went 5-6 down in the first set to Spain's Pablo Carreno Busta when he hit a ball in the direction of the female official. It struck her in the throat and she could be heard gasping. Djokovic rushed over to check that she was okay and after a few minutes she got up and walked off the court. Following around ten minutes of discussions with the tournament referee, the umpire declared that Carreno Busta had won by default. Djokovic shook hands with Carreno Busta before leaving the court. He was hoping to close the gap on Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal, both absent from the tournament, in the race for the all-time men's Slam singles title record. Djokovic is on 17, with Nadal on 19 and Federer on 20. — APP

China exports beat forecasts in August

BEIJING: China's exports expanded more than expected last month as key markets eased virus containment measures, official data showed Monday, but imports unexpectedly shrank despite a push to boost domestic demand. Overseas shipments have been hit less than feared by the pandemic, thanks to global demand for medical supplies. Exports spiked 9.5 percent on-year in August, the Customs Administration said, much better than the 7.5 percent predicted on a Bloomberg news poll of analysts. Economists cautioned, however, that a resurgence in new infections in some regions meant the outlook remained uncertain. Imports, which collapsed in May but have since improved, contracted 2.1 percent — much worse than the 0.5 percent growth tipped by analysts. Monday's data also showed that China's trade surplus with the US surged by more than a quarter. — APP

Over 200 airlifted trapped in California wildfire

LOS ANGELES: More than 200 people were airlifted to safety after being trapped by a fast-moving wildfire near a popular recreation area in northern California, officials said Sunday. The evacuees climbed aboard military helicopters after the blaze, in bone-dry conditions, cut off ground escape routes from Mammoth Pool Reservoir in the Sierra National Forest, about 45 miles (70 kilometers) northeast of Fresno. Flames moved in so fast that at one point people were advised to "shelter in place" — in the reservoir itself if need be. "Simply extraordinary, lifesaving work by the @CalGuard airlifting more than 200 people to safety overnight from the imminent danger of the #CreekFire," army General Daniel Hokanson, chief of the National Guard Bureau, said on Twitter. — APP

Iran: 34 injured in earthquake

TEHRAN: At least 34 people were injured in the 5.1-magnitude earthquake that hit Ramian county in Iran's northeastern Golestan province on Monday, official IRNA news agency reported. There has been no death report from the earthquake, Mojtaba Khaledi, chief of Iran's Emergency Organization, told IRNA. The quake has caused damage to 50 houses in the region, Hamid Reza Choobdari, the governor of Ramian, was quoted as saying. The epicenter, with a depth of 9.0 km, was at 37,021 degrees north latitude and 55.101 degrees east longitude, according to Iran's Seismological Center. — APP



ANKARA: Ambassador of Pakistan to Turkey, Muhammad Syrus Sajjad Qazi addressing guests during Pakistan Defence Day event. — DNA

Global coronavirus cases surpass 27M mark

The US remains the worst-hit country with over 6.27 million infections, while the death toll in the country nears 189,000, and more than 2.31 million people have recovered so far

DNA

ANKARA: CThe total number of confirmed novel coronavirus cases worldwide surpassed 27.1 million on Monday, according to a running tally by US-based Johns Hopkins University. The university's data showed the global tally of fatalities reached 883,590, while the number of recoveries topped 18.14 million. There are around 8.1 million active cases in the world.

The US remains the worst-hit country with over 6.27 million infections, while the death toll in the country nears 189,000, and more than 2.31 million people have recovered so far. Earlier today, India surpassed Brazil in terms of the number of confirmed coronavirus cases, becoming the second-most affected country in the world. According to Indian Health Ministry figures, the total number of COVID-19 cases exceeded 4.2 million with 90,802 fresh infections, while

the country reported a total of 71,642 fatalities, including 1,016 fatalities over the last 24 hours. The total number of recoveries in the country surpassed 3.25 million. Brazil, which has the largest number of COVID-19 cases and deaths in Latin America, has the third-highest number of cases worldwide with more than 4.13 million. The country's death toll stands at 126,650, while more than 3.52 million people won

the battle against the virus. The Latin American country is followed by Russia with over 1 million infections, 17,768 deaths and 838,680 recoveries. Peru, a country in western South America, is also among the five worst-hit countries by the virus. The country reported nearly 690,000 confirmed cases, 29,838 fatalities and 506,422 recoveries. China, the ground zero of the virus, has registered 90,058 cases so far, including 84,873 recoveries. The country's

death toll stands at 4,730. Barely changing figures continue to raise questions in and outside of China. Colombia (666,521), South Africa (638,517), Mexico (634,023), Spain (498,989), Argentina (478,792), Chile (422,510), Iran (386,658), the UK (349,500), Bangladesh (325,157), France (347,268), Saudi Arabia (320,688), Pakistan (298,903), Turkey (279,806), Italy (277,634), Iraq (260,370) and Germa-

ny (251,748). Mexico (67,558), the UK (41,640), Italy (35,541), France (30,730), Spain (29,418), Iran (22,293), Colombia (21,412), South Africa (14,889) and Chile (11,592). Overall, the virus has spread to 188 countries and regions since it first emerged in Wuhan, China last December. Despite the rising number of cases, most people who contract the virus suffer mild symptoms before making a recovery

Tokyo Olympics to go ahead next year regardless of pandemic

DNA

SYDNEY: Tokyo's postponed Olympics will go ahead next year regardless of the coronavirus pandemic, IOC vice president John Coates told AFP Monday, saying they would be the "Games that conquered Covid". The Olympics have never been cancelled outside of the world wars and Coates, speaking in a phone

interview, was adamant that the Tokyo Games will start on their revised date. "It will take place with or without Covid. The Games will start on July 23 next year," said Coates, who heads the International Olympic Committee's Co-ordination Commission for the Tokyo Games. "The Games were going to be, their theme, the Reconstruction Games after the devastation of the tsunami,"

he added, referring to a catastrophic earthquake and tsunami in northeastern Japan in 2011. "Now very much these will be the Games that conquered Covid, the light at the end of the tunnel." In an historic decision, the 2020 Olympics were postponed because of the global march of the pandemic and they are now set to open on July 23, 2021. But Japan's borders are still largely

closed to foreign visitors and a vaccine is months or even years away, feeding speculation about whether the Games are feasible at all. Japanese officials have made clear they would not delay the Games a second time beyond 2021. A recent poll found just one in four people in Japan want them to go ahead next year, with most backing either another postponement or a cancellation.

Typhoon Haishen hits South Korea after slamming Japan

DNA

SEOUL: A powerful typhoon lashed South Korea on Monday after smashing into southern Japan with record winds and heavy rains that left four people missing in a landslide. Half a million people were without power after Typhoon Haishen roared past Japan's southern-most main island of Kyushu, ripping off roofs and dumping

half a metre (20 inches) of water in just a day. Rescue workers were picking through mud and detritus after a hillside collapsed in rural Miyazaki. Dozens of police officers were on their way to help, Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga told reporters in Tokyo. At least two other deaths had been reported during the storm, he said, although the causes were not immediately known. Haishen, which

came on the heels of another powerful typhoon, crashed into Okinawa on Saturday and moved northwards throughout Sunday. Around 1.8 million people were told to seek shelter, for fears that the 200 kilometre-per-hour (135 mile-per-hour) winds would wreak havoc on Japan's wooden housing stock. By lunchtime on Monday, the system had moved over South Korea, forcing the

cancellation of hundreds of flights, and sparking landslides. Traffic lights and trees were felled in and around Busan, streets were flooded and power was knocked out to thousands of homes. Haishen was churning its way up the eastern side of the peninsula into the Sea of Japan, known as the East Sea in Korea, having lost some of its destructive force, but still packing winds of up to 126 kilometres per hour.

Nearly 300 Rohingya migrants reached Indonesia

LHOKSEUMAWA: Nearly 300 Rohingya migrants came ashore on Indonesia's Sumatra island early Monday, authorities said, in one of the biggest such landings by the persecuted Myanmar minority in the Muslim-majority nation in years. The migrants, including more than a dozen children, were spotted at sea by locals who helped them land near Lhokseumawe city on Sumatra's northern coast, according to Munir Cut Ali, the head of Ujong Blang village. "We saw a boat coming ashore in Ujong Blang and so then we helped them land safely," Ali told AFP. At least one member of the group, which included 102 men, 181 women and 14 children, was ill and had to be rushed to a local hospital for treatment, said the area's military chief Roni Mahendra. He added that the group would need to be tested for the coronavirus. "Later the local government will find a proper place to house them."

It was not immediately clear how long the migrants had been at sea or what type of vessel they arrived in. The group was reported to be the largest to land in Indonesia since at least 2015. The incident comes after about 100 Rohingya, mostly women and children, arrived in the same area in June following what they described as a perilous four-month sea journey that saw them beaten by traffickers and forced to drink their own urine to stay alive. The members of the Muslim minority said they had set off earlier this year near a Rohingya refugee camp in Bangladesh, next to their native Myanmar. Around a million Rohingya live in cramped and squalid refugee camps in Bangladesh, where human traffickers also run lucrative operations promising to find them sanctuary abroad. Muslim-majority Indonesia and neighbouring Malaysia are favoured destinations for Rohingya fleeing persecution and violence in mostly Buddhist Myanmar. In July, Malaysian authorities said some two dozen Rohingya migrants feared to have drowned off the country's coast after a treacherous boat crossing had been found alive, hiding in bushes on an island.

Emirates return \$1.4 bn in pandemic refunds

DUBAI: Emirates, the largest airline in the Middle East, said Monday it had so far returned \$1.4 billion in refunds to customers amid sharply reduced global travel due to the coronavirus pandemic. "Emirates reveals that it has returned over 5 billion dirhams in Covid-19 related travel refunds," the aviation giant said in a statement. "More than 1.4 million refunds requests have been completed since March, representing 90 percent of the airline's backlog." The Dubai-based carrier posted 1.1 billion dirhams (\$288 million) in net profit for the financial year ending March, up from \$237 million the previous year. It was the 32nd straight year of profit for Emirates, but the sharp downturn in global travel in 2020 may result in a loss. Emirates said it serves 80 destinations — down from 157 before the pandemic — but has gradually been expanding its network again after Dubai eased travel restriction to revive its tourism industry. — APP

Over 24 killed in Yemen

DUBAI: More than 20 people were killed in clashes in Yemen's northern province of Al-Jawf late Sunday as government troops tried to reclaim positions lost months ago to Huthi rebels. Yemen's internationally recognised government has been fighting the Iran-allied insurgents since 2014, when the Huthis seized much of the north including the capital Sanaa. A Saudi-led military coalition intervened on the side of the government the following year. A government military source said 16 Huthis and eight loyalists were killed in clashes Sunday night. Government troops captured more than 40 rebels, the source told AFP. Meanwhile, the insurgents advanced in the neighbouring Marib governorate, in particular the Mahliya district, after heavy fighting that also resulted in casualties. Huthi rebels took control of the capital of Al-Jawf earlier this year in a strategic advance that means they now threaten oil-producing Marib province. Tens of thousands of people have been killed in the Yemen conflict, which the United Nations has described as the world's worst humanitarian crisis. Fighting has carried on despite repeated calls for a ceasefire to help combat coronavirus, which health agencies fear could be disastrous in impoverished Yemen. More than 1,900 cases of COVID-19 have been confirmed in the country, including 572 deaths. — APP

Court weighs extradition of Assange to US

DNA

LONDON: Julian Assange could face 175 years in prison for releasing classified documents and publicizing how US military forces killed civilians. The WikiLeaks founder's extradition hearing resumed in London on Monday. There are at least eight prisons in London. To accommodate Julian Assange, the British judiciary has selected Belmarsh. The maximum-security facility in the east of London was built to house terrorists and felons. Conditions inside Belmarsh are considered harsh enough that the BBC has compared it to Guantanamo Bay. Assange's prison cell opened Monday morning and the founder of the WikiLeaks whistleblower platform was transferred to a courtroom in London's Central Criminal Court, the Old Bailey, where his fate will be determined over the next three weeks. Will the 49-year-old be extradited to the US judiciary? If convicted in the United States, he could face a sentence of up to 175 years in prison. Heike Hänsel, a member of Germany's lower house of parliament, the Bundestag, is attending the extradition hearing. The Left Party deputy parliamentary leader lamented a "politically motivated trial targeting an investigative journalist" and extrajudicial persecution of a "journalist on European soil who worked as a journalist in Europe."

UK PM gives October 15 deadline for Brexit deal

'There needs to be an agreement with our European friends by the time of the European Council on October 15 if it's going to be in force by the end of the year'

DNA

LONDON: British Prime Minister Boris Johnson has given an October 15 deadline for a post-Brexit trade agreement with the European Union, brushing off fears about "no-deal" chaos if talks fail. The eighth round of negotiations resume in London this week, with both sides talking increasingly tough, amid accusations of intransigence and political brinkmanship. The UK's chief negotiator, David Frost, did little to raise expectations about a breakthrough, promising no compromise on London's red lines, in a rare newspaper interview published on Sunday. His EU opposite number, Michel Barnier, this week said the talks

stood or failed on the need to get an accord on EU access to UK fishing waters and state aid rules, but Britain was giving no ground. Brussels has already indicated that mid-October was the latest a deal could be struck, given the need for translation and ratification by the European Parliament. Despite months of refusing to confirm a firm cut-off date, Johnson agreed. "There needs to be an agreement with our European friends by the time of the European Council on October 15 if it's going to be in force by the end of the year," he said in remarks released by his office. "So, there is no sense in thinking beyond that point. If we can't agree by then, then I do not see that there will be a free trade agreement be-



tween us." Should that happen, Britain will have an "Australia-style" deal with the EU or one similar to that agreed with Canada and other countries, he said. Australia trades with the EU under World Trade Organization rules and tariffs. But Johnson, whose government had said it wanted a "zero tariff, zero quota" regime, insisted

it would still be a "good outcome" for Britain. Johnson's warning will likely compound criticisms from British pro-EU "remainers" that his ruling Conservative government envisaged a "no-deal" scenario all along, despite claiming the contrary. "Brexiters" had promised that securing a deal with Britain's biggest trading partner would be straightforward and rejected criticism that unravelling nearly 50 years of ties with Europe would be lengthy and even impossible. Britain formally left the 27-member bloc on January 31 — nearly four years after a divisive referendum that crippled the country politically and saw two prime ministers resign. Johnson, who took over after Theresa May repeatedly failed to get her

Brexit divorce deal through parliament, promised Britain's borders and ports will be ready for when the so-called transition period comes to an end on December 31. Meanwhile, media reports said Johnson was also planning new UK legislation that would override parts of the withdrawal agreement made with the EU last year and ratified in January. According to The Financial Times, which cited three people close to the plans, the bill would undermine agreements relating to Northern Ireland customs and state aid. A government spokesperson told the newspaper it was "working hard to resolve outstanding issues" with the Northern Ireland protocol, which was negotiated as part of the deal in order to keep the Irish border open.

Briefs

New Zealand's PM restarts campaign

DNA

WELLINGTON :Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern resumed campaigning in New Zealand's virus-delayed general election Monday with an attention-grabbing promise to make the Maori New Year a public holiday.

Electioneering had barely started last month when a sudden Covid-19 outbreak forced Auckland into lockdown and brought a temporary halt to campaign activities. Ardern ended up delaying the election by four weeks to October 17 so her government could focus on containing the Auckland infections, which ended 102 days without community transmission of Covid-19 in New Zealand.

With lockdown now over in New Zealand's largest city, Ardern kickstarted her Labour party's renewed campaign with a pledge to make Matariki, the Maori new year, a public holiday from 2022. "As I've travelled around New Zealand I've heard the calls for Matariki to become a public holiday - its time has come," she said.

Police arrest man over Birmingham mass stabbings

DNA

LONDON: A 27-year-old man has been arrested in connection with the mass stabbings in Britain's second city Birmingham that left one person dead and two critically wounded, police said Monday. The man was held on suspicion of murder and seven attempted murders that were carried out after midnight Saturday, West Midlands Police said. The suspect was detained in the Selly Oak area of the city at around 4.00am (0300 GMT) and he remained in police custody for questioning. A 23-year-old man suffered fatal injuries in what was believed to be a random attack, while a man and a woman, aged 19 and 32, are in a critical condition in hospital.

China's first millet museum opens

HOHHOT: China's first millet museum opened Monday in Aohan Banner of Chifeng City, Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, where the world's oldest millet, dating back about 8,000 years, was discovered. Carbonized millet grains unearthed by archaeologists two decades ago are exhibited in the museum with a floor space of 7,700 square meters. The exhibition area of the museum features the cultivation of millet in China and the history of dry farming. In 2012, the Aohan dryland farming system was listed among Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. In 2014, Aohan was recognized as China's "hometown of millet" by the Chinese Food Industry Association.

Malaysia reports largest rise in Covid-19

DNA

KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysia's health authorities have reported 62 new coronavirus cases, the sharpest spike since early June, just as the government began barring long-term immigration pass holders from countries with high infection numbers. Southeast Asia's third-largest economy imposed a ban on pass holders from 23 countries that have reported more than 150,000 Covid-19 cases, in a bid to clamp down on imported cases. Countries on the ban list include the US, Britain and France.

Of the total new cases reported, 50 were detected in an existing cluster in Sabah state on Malaysian Borneo, stemming from the detention of two undocumented migrants two weeks earlier, the health ministry said. The others were detected in a new cluster in the northern state of Kedah and six arrivals from Turkey, Bangladesh, Indonesia and Egypt, the ministry said in a statement.



ISLAMABAD: Ambassador designate of Islamic Republic of Pakistan Afghanistan, Mr. Mansoor A. Khan calls on Foreign Minister Makhdoom Shah Mahmood Qureshi at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. - DNA

Hafeez Shaikh appreciates strong performance of PSX

He said that for the first time the government raised Rs200 billion through Sukuk at less than KIBOR rate, through competitive book building at PSX

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Advisor to Prime Minister on Finance and Revenue, Dr. Abdul Hafeez Shaikh Monday appreciated the strong performance of the Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) and congratulated it on being named the best performing market in Asia. The advisor was speaking at PSX gong ceremony to mark the successful book building and listing of Power Holding Limited's (PHL) Rs 200 billion Pakistan Energy Sukuk-II (PES-II), according to press statement

issued by the Finance Ministry here. He also congratulated the team on bringing the Sukuk Issuance to fruition, it said adding that the performance of the stock exchange was particularly creditable considering the recent challenges faced by Pakistan and Karachi.

"I congratulate all the market participants and transaction leads who made the listing of Pakistan Energy Sukuk II a success," he said and termed it an excellent team effort of Ministry of Finance Debt Office, Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP), State Bank of



Pakistan (SBP) and PSX."

He said that for the first time the government raised Rs200 billion through Sukuk at less than KIBOR rate, through competitive book building

at PSX, saving Rs 18 billion over 10 years of debt servicing.

It is pertinent to mention here that the book building process managed by PSX, was a landmark event which concluded on May 19, 2020 while the listing of the Sukuk took place on July 28, 2020. The gong striking ceremony was held to formally mark this exciting event of the first ever debt issuance through book building and listing of the said debt issue (PES II) at the Exchange. Speaking on the occasion, PSX CEO, Farrukh Khan said that the competitive book building

sets a precedence for other debt listings to engage in the state of the art competitive book building managed by the Stock Exchange, which will enable the government and private companies to raise capital at the most competitive cost, while providing attractive investment opportunities to investors." Power Holding Limited's Pakistan Energy Sukuk II is a Shariah compliant debt instrument which was issued through the competitive book building process managed by Pakistan Stock Exchange.



BERN: Iranian Foreign Minister Jawed Zarif with his Swiss counterpart after bilateral talks. - DNA

Changan Automobiles launches Master Genuine Oil

DNA

ISLAMABAD: In order to provide customers an enhanced and enriched driving experience, Changan Automobiles has launched Changan Master Genuine Oil, a premium multi-grade high performance engine oil, compatible with all gasoline and diesel powered engines. Changan Master Genuine Oil is formulated with a perfect blend that improves fuel

efficiency, ensures extended engine life, reduces engine wear and tear, and, in a nutshell, enhances the car's overall performance. The product is manufactured by Idemitsu, a leading Japanese global energy company and Japan's top lubricant supplier for automobiles throughout the world, including Pakistan. The oil is engineered for Changan's C10 engine, and is compatible with all engines requiring API SL/C14, SAE 15W-40 grade oils.

Expressing his views on the product launch, Mr. Danial Malik, CEO Master Changan Motors Limited said, "We are delighted to launch this premium Changan Master genuine engine oil, an all-weather, all-terrain oil, capable of handling even the toughest driving environments; ensuring that you get a peaceful, hassle-free drive." "Despite the presence of a plethora of brands in the local lubricant market, we believe that our product quality and competitive pricing strategy

would help cement our position as a leading lubricant brand." It is worth mentioning here that, Idemitsu, a part of the Fortune 500 powerhouse, is currently ranked 354 among the prestigious group of companies, with revenues exceeding \$35,000 million. The Japanese petroleum giant is ranked as the 26th largest refiner in the world in terms of volume and also has the privilege of being the second largest oil refiner in Japan, followed by Nippon.

Kabul to push for ceasefire with Taliban

'It is a war of symbols now and we are not going to give up on it. We have to be assured that we are respected. We will not give in to any pressure'

DNA

KABUL :Afghan government negotiators will push for a ceasefire when talks begin with the Taliban, a top official said Sunday, signalling that the two foes could parley for a long time. A date for the opening round of talks to be hosted in Doha has not been set, but both sides indicated that negotiations could begin soon after they wrapped up a controver-

sial and months-long prisoner exchange last week. The Taliban's seriousness about peace will be evident from the outset, when Kabul's negotiating team pushes for a permanent ceasefire, Vice President Amrullah Saleh said. "The first test for the Taliban is (a) ceasefire," Saleh told media. "If they accept the ceasefire, they are committed to peace. If not, they are not." Saleh said the Afghan delegation would go to Doha

after all logistical issues are sorted. "We will not go until everything is in place... like desks, our flag and what to call each other," he said. "It is a war of symbols now and we are not going to give up on it. We have to be assured that we are respected. We will not give in to any pressure." Saleh said the start of the talks were delayed over opposition to the release of some militants. "We had to reach an agreement with our allies about

six blacklisted prisoners," he said, referring to France and Australia. Paris and Canberra objected because of their links to the murders of French and Australian civilians and troops in Afghanistan. Saleh said it was agreed that these prisoners "will be sent to Qatar for a specific period". Negotiations were initially supposed to begin in March as agreed in a deal between the Taliban and Washington in February. But repeated squabbles over

an overall prisoner exchange delayed the negotiations. The US-Taliban deal stipulated that Kabul should release a total of 5,000 militants in return for the insurgents freeing 1,000 Afghan troops. The swap was completed last week, except the release of the militants opposed by France and Australia. Saleh said talks could drag on for a long time. "We will not restrict the talks to weeks or months and we will not accept any timetable," he said.

Daraz launches Shopping Week

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Daraz, the leading platform for online shopping in Pakistan, has launched Super September Shopping Week to offer customers access to super deals, super discounts and an opportunity to shop smarter. The shopping event will be live from 7th to 13th September, 2020. During the sale customers can avail mega deals across categories such as televisions and home appliances and mobiles and tablets. Daraz is also offering the opportunity to avail discounts on dTravel - a recently launched channel on the platform that gives customers easy and immediate access to bus tickets for intercity travel, eliminating the need for them to step out of their houses. Over the past few months, Daraz has increased focus on improving customer experience and recently the platform launched a free returns pickup service in Karachi, Lahore, Islamabad and Rawalpindi to make the returns process more convenient for the customers. With features such as Instant Messaging and Image Reviews, the platform enables customers to make informed purchasing decisions and encourages them to take into consideration seller ratings before placing an order, as well.

India passes Brazil for virus cases

DNA

NEW DELHI :India overtook Brazil on Monday as the country with the second highest number of confirmed coronavirus cases, even as key metro train lines re-opened as part of efforts to boost the South Asian nation's battered economy. India has emerged in recent weeks as the new global pandemic hotspot, although cases continue to soar across the globe with reported infections worldwide nearing 27 million and deaths surpassing 880,000. France, Israel and Australia were among the nations forced in recent days to extend travel restrictions or impose new ones to try and contain fresh surges. India, home to some of the world's most densely populated cities, has been reporting the highest single-day rises in the world and on Monday it confirmed a new record of nearly 91,000 new cases. India's cases have now risen above 4.2 million, surpassing Brazil's total and making it the second-highest tally behind the United States' 6.25 million. However, with India's economy imploding following months of travel restrictions, authorities pressed on with risky re-ignition plans. The metro in the capital of New Delhi began reopening on Monday after a five-month shutdown and 12 other cities began restarting subway services. Authorities imposed strict rules on passengers, with masks, social distancing and temperature checks mandatory. During peak hour in New Delhi on Monday morning, carriages were sparsely filled as people followed guidelines dictating that only alternate seats could be occupied.

Coca-Cola Icecek signs MoU with PHA

DNA

LAHORE : Coca-Cola Beverages Pakistan Ltd. (CCI Pakistan), which is part of CCI - a leading bottler within the Coca-Cola System, signed an agreement with Parks and Horticulture Authority (PHA) Lahore to provide treated waste water. CCI Pakistan being a responsible corporate citizen will provide treated waste water to PHA for a period of five years for carrying out routine watering of green belts, parks and cleaning of roads in Lahore. This initiative will help conserve millions of litres of precious drinking water which is currently being extracted from the ground for the purpose of horticulture watering. CCI Pakistan's Lahore plant has a capacity to provide up to 40,000 liters of treated waste water per hour to PHA which indicates the massive volume of fresh drinking water that will be conserved through this strategic partnership. The agreement was signed during a ceremony held on Tuesday, September 1, 2020 at PHA's head office in Lahore between Basit Zafar Pirzada, Public Affairs Manager at CCI Pakistan and Muhammad Awais Bhatti, Director Planning and Development at PHA Lahore. Also present were senior officials including Fahad Ashraf, VP & General Manager for Pakistan and Afghanistan region at The Coca-Cola Export Corporation, Jawad Ahmed Qureshi, Director General PHA, Yasir Gillani, Chairman PHA.

CONDOLENCE

THE ALL PAKISTAN NEWSPAPERS SOCIETY

expresses profound grief over the

sad demise of mother of

Syed Nasir Hussain Shah

Minister for Information, Sindh

May Allah the Almighty rest her

soul in eternal peace and grant

courage to the family to bear the loss.



All Pakistan Newspapers Society

Briefs

Shehryar warns of nuclear conflict

ISLAMABAD: Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee on Kashmir Shehryar Khan Afridi Monday warned the world against a brewing nuclear conflict on Kashmir, saying that the United Nations must immediately act to stop genocide of Kashmiris and war crimes in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu & Kashmir (IIOJ&K) before its too late. Afridi expressed these views while addressing the audiences of a seminar held to highlight the enforced disappearances and half widows of Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu & Kashmir. Kashmiri activist Abdul Hameed Lone moderated the proceedings of the seminar held under aegis of JKDMIS on mass graves and enforced disappearances in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu & Kashmir. Shehryar Afridi said that India was using backdoor channels to talk to Pakistan but Pakistan would not talk to India unless Kashmir is on the table. He said that Kashmir has become a major issue in the global digital space and Pakistan would not allow India mislead the world on the ongoing genocide in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu & Kashmir (IIOJ&K).

Citizen Portal resolves 2.2 million complaints

FIAZ CH.

ISLAMABAD: A total of 2.2 million public complaints have been resolved through Pakistan Citizen Portal (PCP). Out of which 1.4 million public feedbacks have been received in favor or against the decisions Government authorities. According to desk analysis of PMDU, 0.574 (40%) million feedback has been positive and deemed to be satisfied either on receiving actual relief or with the response. Analytically, country-wide public satisfaction is stagnant at 40% for the last 12 months while organization-wise variations are observed. The negative feedbacks and stagnant position of public satisfaction has led PMDU to reopen 160,661 resolved/closed complaints on the directions of the Prime Minister for review and disposal on merit. After reopening of complaints by the PM's orders and a subsequent review by the concerned Government authorities, 7,234 complaints received positive feedback after being reviewed and handled amicably.

Railways to float tenders of ML-I

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Railways is all set to float tenders for dualization of Karachi-Peshawar track Main Line-I (ML-I) multi-billion dollar project under China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) on September 12. Pakistan Railways management will simultaneously initiate the publicity of the mega project which it believes was the only way to revive the ailing public sector corporation, an official in the Ministry of Railways told Media. The Tenders would be limited to seek interest of Chinese firms since the project would be funded and executed under the CPEC. The Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (ECNEC) had already approved the project which would bring revolution in Pakistan Railways and create a number of job opportunities, he said. Giving detail of the ML-I, he said project consisted of three packages. Under package-I, the existing tracks between Lala Musa and Lahore, Lahore and Multan and Nawab Shah and Rohri would be replaced and upgraded. He said the package-II consisted of upgrade of the railway track between Lala Musa and Rawalpindi, Nowshera-Peshawar and Hyderabad-Karachi sections while the package-III included upgradation of remaining chunks of the main-line, including Multan-Khanewal to Sukkur. — APP

Pakistan's Armed Forces ever ready to protect borders: Air Chief

The Air Chief laid floral wreath at the Martyrs' Monument and offered "Fateha". Principal Staff Officers, officers, Airmen and PAF civilians attended the ceremony

SHUJAAT HANZA

ISLAMABAD: PAF observed 7 September as Martyrs' Day at all PAF Bases throughout the country. The day started with special Du'aa and Quran Khawani for the Shuhada of 1965 and 1971 wars and those who laid down their lives in action since creation of Pakistan. Air Chief Marshal Mujahid Anwar Khan, Chief of the Air Staff, Pakistan Air Force was the Chief Guest during a Martyrs' Day ceremony held at Air Headquarters Islamabad. Addressing at the occasion, the Air Chief said that on the memorable and historic day of September 7, I pay tribute to all heroes



of Pakistan Air Force who stood like a rock against enemy aggression and reduced its nefarious intentions to dust. He further said that today we salute our martyrs and veterans

for their determination, courage and spirit of sacrifice and renew our pledge that we will never allow any harm to our sacred homeland. He added that Pakistan's valiant armed



forces are well versed in protecting our borders and people and are fully capable of defeating the enemy. Highlighting the current situation in Kashmir, he added that we also

express our solidarity with the Kashmiri brothers and sisters who have been fighting against oppression and tyranny for seven decades. To pay homage to the martyrs', the Air Chief

laid floral wreath at the Martyrs' Monument and offered "Fateha". Principal Staff Officers, officers, Airmen and PAF civilians attended the ceremony. Earlier in the day, a wreath laying ceremony was also held at the grave of Pilot Officer Rashid Minhas Shaheed, (Nishan-i-Haider) at Karachi. Air Vice Marshal Ghulam Abbas Ghumman, Air Officer Commanding, Southern Air Command, offered 'Fateha' and laid floral wreath at the grave of the Shaheed on behalf of Chief of the Air Staff, Pakistan Air Force. Similar wreath laying ceremonies were also held at the graves of PAF Martyrs' all over the country.

NDMA distributes flood relief items

ISLAMABAD: National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) has so far distributed 17,815 tents, 836.7 ton food and 3,504 blankets/quilts among flood hit people in collaboration with provincial relief agencies. According to NDMA website, a total of 2,250 mosquito nets, 2,661 plastic mats, 8,512 tarpaulins and 223 de watering pumps have so far been distributed in the flood hit areas. Around 1,265 houses have been damaged partially and 1,365 fully in flash-flood hit areas of Balochistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Punjab, Sindh, Azad Jammu and Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan due to torrential rains and subsequent flashfloods. Some 13 roads, 10 bridges, three shops, three hotels, five mosques and six power houses have also been damaged in the country due to rains and subsequent flashfloods.

China shows off Covid-19 vaccines

DNA

BEIJING: China has put its homemade coronavirus vaccines on display for the first time, as the country where the contagion was discovered looks to shape the narrative surrounding the pandemic. High hopes hang on the small vials of liquid on show at a Beijing trade fair this week — vaccine candidates produced by Chinese companies Sinovac Biotech and Sinopharm. Neither has hit the market yet but the makers hope they will be approved after all-important phase 3 trials as early as year-end. A Sinovac representative told AFP his firm has already "completed the construction of a vaccine factory" able to produce 300 million doses a year.

Supplementary reference against Khaqan Abbasi filed

ISLAMABAD: The National Accountability Bureau (NAB) on Monday filed a supplementary reference against 22 accused in LNG case including former prime minister Shahid Khaqan Abbasi, his son Abdullah Khaqan Abbasi and ex-finance minister Mifta Ismael. AC-II Judge Azam Khan conducted hearing on the reference moved by NAB against PML-N's stalwart Shahid Khaqan Abbasi and others. The former prime minister and other accused appeared before the court and mark their attendances. At the outset of hearing, the NAB prosecutor informed the court that the supplementary reference had been filed against the accused. They could collect copies of this, he said, adding that a few accused were not in attendance. The court served notices to five accused to ensure their attendances on next date of hearing. It may be mentioned here that Abdullah Khaqan Abbasi, the son of former prime minister Shahid Khaqan Abbasi had also been included in the list of accused people. The court adjourned hearing of the case till September 22.

Police to challenge ex-MPA's acquittal in murder case

DNA

QUETTA: Police have decided to file an appeal in the Balochistan High Court (BHC) challenging acquittal of former MPA Majeed Khan Achakzai in the murder case of a traffic cop. Additional Inspector General (AIG) Abdul Razaq Cheema said the appeal against a model court's September 4 verdict of exonerating Achakzai from all charges is in the final phase as the prosecution department is going through the detailed judgement and relevant documents to finalise the appeal. He said the appeal will be moved in the Balochistan High Court (BHC) at the earliest. On Sept 4, the model court in Quetta acquitted former provincial assembly member (MPA) Majeed Khan Achakzai in the traffic sergeant murder case due to lack of evidence.

KING SALMAN TELLS TRUMP Saudi Arabia eager to achieve fair solution to Palestinian issue

In a virtual meeting last July, Saudi Arabia led the major economies of the G20 in pledging to use "all available policy tools" to combat the pandemic and boost the global economy

DNA

RIYADH: Saudi Arabia remains committed to achieving "a fair and permanent solution to the Palestinian issue", King Salman has told US President Donald Trump in a phone call, the Saudi Press Agency reported early Monday. This was the main starting point of the Kingdom's proposed Arab Peace Initiative, King Salman said in the call that took place on Sunday, according to the report. The Arab Peace Initiative was drawn up by Saudi Arabia in 2002, in which Arab nations offered Israel normalized ties in return for a statehood deal with the

Saudi court scraps 5 death sentences

DNA

RIYADH: A Saudi court on Monday overturned five death sentences over journalist Jamal Khashoggi's murder in a final ruling that jailed eight defendants to between seven and 20 years, state media reported. "Five of the convicts

Palestinians and full Israeli withdrawal from territory captured in 1967. King Salman also expressed his appreciation for the

discussed the work of the Group of Twenty (G20) countries chaired by the Kingdom this year, as well as the efforts made within its meetings to protect lives and livelihoods to mitigate the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic. King Salman "affirmed that the Kingdom's presidency of the G20 will continue to support and coordinate the group's efforts to confront the effects of the epidemic on the human and economic levels," said the report. Despite restrictions on movement worldwide as a result of Covid-19, G20 leaders have held virtual meetings to come up with actions to combat the raging coronavirus pandemic.

effort the US is exerting toward achieving peace in the Middle East, the report said. The two world leaders also

Japan assures continued support to Pakistan

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Matsuda Kuninori, Ambassador of Japan called on Federal Minister for Defence Production, Ms. Zobaida Jalal, at Islamabad Monday. Federal Minister for Defence Production, Ms. Zobaida Jalal welcomed the dignity and said that Pakistan consider Japan as an important defence partner, we highly value relation with Japan, she added. The two countries have a great potential of cooperation in various domains. Therefore, its high time for both states to work jointly to undertake efforts in different fields ranging from defence to trade and tourism. The Minister also commended the efforts of Japanese Government for regular holding of Paki-



stan-Japan Politico-Military and Military to Military Dialogues, adding that such interactions are a concrete expression of the desire of both the countries to enhance mutual defence collaboration. She mentioned the potential to cooperate in the defence field and need to strengthen the existing level of defence collaboration. The Japanese Ambassador assured of his Government's continued support to Pakistan and exploring new avenues of mutual collaboration.

IHC gives till Sept 17 to recover Sajid Gondal

IBRAR KHAN

ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad High Court (IHC) on Monday ordered law enforcement agencies to ensure the return of missing Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) Additional Joint Director Sajid Gondal by September 17. The directives were issued by IHC Chief Justice Athar Minallah while hearing a case related to the missing SECP official. During the hearing, the IHC CJ slammed the government for its failure to recover Gondal. "Is this a normal case?" the judge rhetorically asked the officials present in court. The judge observed that the federal capital was 1,400 square miles and this "small area" had its own inspector general of police and chief commissioner.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Education Shafqat Mahmood in a meeting with Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi. — DNA

Pak students engage in poverty alleviation drive

Koondhar showed special interest in the operation and management of a dairy farm during the outbreak of COVID-19 when visiting a farm in Heyang County on Sept. 3

DNA

BEIJING: Pakistani students along with others in the Chinese city Weinan (shaanxi Province) got themselves engaged in China's poverty alleviation campaign, Gwadar Pro reported on Monday. About the campaign, they said the world is keeping a close watch on China's fight against poverty as the nation has set 2020 as the year to eliminate absolute poverty. The report says, two Pakistani students in Mansoor Ahmed Koondhar and Abdul Ghaffar

Shar learn more about the campaign, and also take part in it in the rural area. They, along with other 12 international students of the China's Northwest Agriculture and Forestry University (NWAUFU), paid a visit to Heyang County, Shannxi Province last week. Koondhar showed special interest in the operation and management of a dairy farm during the outbreak of COVID-19 when visiting a farm in Heyang County on Sept. 3. Koondhar wants to learn how the farm handle the dairy products' transport, production and marketing



in order to help Pakistani dairy farms as many of them encountered difficulties in operating amid the pandemic. Luo Jun, Executive Vice-president of NWAUFU, said, "A total of 33 international students

from 11 countries including Pakistan had donated 1,200 yuan (\$175.44) in total before the university sent a team to help poverty reduction in Heyang County." NWAUFU used the money

to buy popular science books and water color pens for Fangzhen Central Primary School. Shar, on behalf of the international students donated them to the students of the primary school. He also encouraged them to read more good books and hoped they would change their destinies upon knowledge. For some students, Shar is not a stranger, as he once taught them as a volunteer teacher in December 2019. During the epidemic, Shar also got the opportunity to teach online classes to his students. Shar shared his knowl-

edge about China-Pak friendship, the two nations' agriculture sector and the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) with them. He hopes these students will engage in the construction of BRI in the future. Luo Jun said that these activities will make the international students learn more about China and its rural vitalization strategy on one hand. The international students can also help the local get rid of poverty by voluntary teaching, and promoting agricultural technology on the other hand, the report added.