



# Islamabad POST

Tuesday, September 15, 2020

Pakistan's First And Only Diplomatic Daily

Price Rs. 20

Zalmay Khalilzad lauds Pakistan role for peace in Afghan

EU aid mobilizes 5 million euros for healthcare

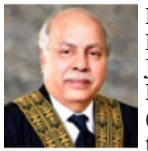
Saudi envoy for utilizing Pakistan cricket experience



## Briefs

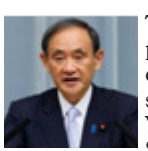
### CJP for supremacy of law

AGENCIES



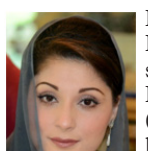
ISLAMABAD: Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Justice Gulzar Ahmed says the judiciary shall continue to strive to uphold the supremacy of the constitution to foster justice in all circumstances and to ensure rule of law in the country. He was addressing the opening ceremony of the New Judicial Year 2020-21 of the Supreme Court in Islamabad on Monday. The Chief Justice said justice cannot be delivered and fundamental rights of the people cannot be protected unless the judges are fully independent and under no external pressure. The Chief Justice every judge of the superior judiciary is under solemn oath, inter alia, to discharge the duties honestly to the best of his ability and faithfully in accordance with the Constitution and the law, and, in all circumstances, to do right to all manner of people, according to law, without fear or favour, affection or ill-will.

### Yoshihide likely next Japan PM



TOKYO: Japan's chief cabinet secretary Yoshihide Suga is set to become the country's next prime minister after the ruling party on Monday elected him successor to outgoing leader Shinzo Abe. Suga easily won the vote, taking 377 of the 534 valid votes cast by Liberal Democratic Party lawmakers and regional representatives, significantly ahead of his two rivals. Given his party's legislative majority, he is expected to handily win a parliamentary vote Wednesday and become prime minister, succeeding Abe, who is resigning for health reasons. - APP

### Maryam decides not to attend APC



ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) leader Maryam Nawaz has decided against attending the opposition parties' All Parties Conference (APC). Sources privy to the development said that PML-N president Shehbaz Sharif along with party delegation will attend the APC. - DNA

## Zalmay lauds Pak role for Afghan peace

Army chief says PM Imran Khan has given clear vision regarding peace and connectivity in the region

NAVEED MIRAJ / DNA

ISLAMABAD: Ambassador Zalmay Khalilzad, US Special Representative for Afghanistan Reconciliation has appreciated Pakistan's role in the ongoing peace process and said that it could not have succeeded without Pakistan's sincere and unconditional support. He expressed these views in a meeting with Army Chief General Qamar Javed Bajwa at GHQ. Ambassador Mohammad Sadiq, Pak's Special Representative for Afghanistan was also present. The army chief said, that Prime Minister Imran Khan has given clear vision regarding peace and connectivity in the region and all elements of national power are united towards making that vision a reality to ensure long awaited peace, progress and prosperity in the region. Both sides discussed matters of mutual

interest, regional security, and ongoing Afghan Reconciliation Process were discussed during the meeting. Earlier on Monday, United States Special Representative for Afghanistan Reconciliation Zalmay Khalilzad arrived in Islamabad to hold talks Pakistan officials regarding Afghan peace process. The US special representative arrived in Islamabad on a special plane along with a three-member delegation directly from Doha. Zalmay Khalilzad will hold important meetings with the top political and military leadership of Pakistan during his stay in the country. He arrived in Islamabad to discuss important issues with the Pakistani leadership during talks between Afghan factions in Doha. He will seek guidance from Pakistan on the reconciliation process. The visit of the US Special Envoy to Pakistan after the peace talks between the Taliban and the Afghans is being described as of utmost importance.



RAWALPINDI: Chief of Army Staff, Gen. Qamar Bajwa holding talks with a delegation headed by special US representative, Zalmay Khalilzad. - DNA

## UK increases export finance for Pakistan

The British HC to Pakistan, Dr Christian Turner met with Razaq Dawood today to discuss trade ties and business potential between the two countries

MAHNOOR ANSAR

ISLAMABAD: The UK's credit financing agency, UK Export Finance (UKEF) has increased its financing limit for UK businesses looking to export to and invest in Pakistan to £1.5 billion. This announcement will boost trade partnerships between the two countries and unleash Pakistan's growth potential. UKEF helps secure large contracts by providing attractive financing terms to buyers and supporting working capital loans. The British High Commissioner to Pakistan, Dr Christian Turner met with the Federal Minister of Commerce for Pakistan Razaq Dawood today to discuss trade ties and business potential between the two countries. The Commerce Minister

welcomed the UKEF's announcement of an increase of £500 million in the credit limit for business investment in Pakistan, especially at a time when Pakistan is looking to expand its trade potential to mitigate the impacts of COVID-19. The British High Commissioner, Dr Christian Turner said: "UK credit financing for Pakistan has tripled in the last two years, and is key to achieving my ambition to double the trade between the UK and Pakistan. It is a sign of our confidence in Pakistan and the strength of the unique relationship between the two countries. I encourage all Pakistan businesses to look for opportunities to partner with the UK on their journey towards economic prosperity." The UK is Pakistan's third largest export partner. Between July 2019 and March 2020 Pakistan exported 7% of its total exports to the UK, and the increase in the credit financing limit will help turbo-charge trade relations between the two countries.



ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of European Union Androulla Kaminara and UNICEF Representative in Pakistan, Ms. Aida Girma exchanging aid documents. - DNA

## EU aid mobilizes 5 mln euros for healthcare

EU's support will allow continuation of life-saving basic services and infection prevention and control measures - including increased access to water and sanitation - to mitigate the impact of COVID-19

SAIFULLAH

ISLAMABAD: The European Union has mobilized 5M for UNICEF to ensure availability of basic health care services for women and children in Sindh and Balochistan in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This support will be provided through the EU's Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid (ECHO) department and reach over 1.25 million individuals in three districts in Sindh (Karachi East, Lar-

kand) and Balochistan (Jafarabad). The EU is working to strengthen Pakistan's primary healthcare system and improve resilience to emergencies and disasters. The EU's support will allow continuation of life-saving basic services and infection prevention and control measures - including increased access to water and sanitation - to mitigate the adverse impact of COVID-19. In addition, frontline health workers will receive PPE's to continue carrying out

their duties. There will also be greater efforts for community mobilization & awareness, and to increase access to safe severe acute malnutrition treatment for young children in Sindh and Balochistan during the pandemic. Healthcare providers and frontline workers will also be trained to set up telemedicine services to increase coverage and access, and frontline workers will also receive the critical psychosocial support they require during this challenging time.

Ambassador of the European Union to Pakistan, Androulla Kaminara said, "Mothers and newborns are at particular risk during the pandemic. Their well-being is of paramount importance. Our support will help ensure that they continue to receive basic health services - including immunizations and nutrition treatments - in a safe environment. The EU will continue to work closely with its partners to support Pakistan's healthcare system during this difficult time."

## Palestine to reconsider relations with Arab League

NEWS DESK

RAMALLAH: The Palestinian government will present a recommendation to President Mahmoud Abbas for reconsidering relations with the Arab League, Prime Minister Mohammed Ishtayeh said on Monday. "The Arab League has become a symbol of the Arab inaction," Ishtayeh said during his weekly cabinet meeting. The Palestinian premier, however, did not provide further details. The move comes amid Palestinian anger over recent US-sponsored agreements between the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Bahrain and Israel to normalize their relations. The White House will host the signing ceremony of the normalization agreements on Tuesday. The ceremony will be attended by US President Donald Trump, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, UAE Foreign Minister Abdullah bin Zayed and Bahraini Foreign Minister Abdul-Latif al-Zayani.

## Lion Air to resume Pak operations

The CAA spokesperson said that the airlines after approval from the government of Pakistan have allowed the airlines to land its flights in Pakistan

ATHAR SUFI

KARACHI: The Lion Airlines of Indonesia on Monday decided to resume its flight operations for Pakistan. The Indonesian airlines have sought permission from the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA). The positive policies of the incumbent government to contain coronavirus spread has started yielding results, as after Turkish Airlines Pegasus, Indonesian Airlines, Lion has decided to resume its flight operations for Pakistan. The CAA spokesperson said that the airlines after approval from the government of Pakistan have allowed the airlines to land its flights in Pakistan. On August 14, British Airways had also resumed its flight operations for Pakistan. A British Airways flight carrying over 100 passengers and crew members on board had arrived at Islamabad International Airport from London. All the passengers of the flight were scanned by a medical team deployed at the airport. On the occasion, the authorities took extra precautionary measures for the safety of its crew and passengers. The officials of the UK embassy had expressed satisfaction over the measures taken at the airport.

## Senior Indian diplomat summoned

NEHAL MIRAJ

ISLAMABAD: A senior Indian diplomat was summoned to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs today to register Pakistan's strong protest over ceasefire violations by the Indian occupation forces along the Line of Control (LoC) on the night of 13th September 2020, resulting in serious injuries to three innocent civilians. Due to indiscriminate and unprovoked firing by the Indian occupation forces in Hot Spring Sector of the LoC, 27 year old Naema Akhtar d/o Muhammad Siddique; 24 year old Zaeen Akhtar d/o Muhammad Siddique; and 16 year old Arbaz Ali S/o Muhammad Habib, residents of Sehra Village, sustained serious injuries.

## Govt, Opp trade barbs in NA

SHAHEEN HANIF

ISLAMABAD: The government and opposition on Monday traded barbs over the motorway rape case, with Leader of the Opposition in the National Assembly Shehbaz Sharif accusing the government of appointing incompetent officials which led to a rise in such incidents. "When the entire nation was grief-stricken, the government was involved in discussing under whose jurisdiction the motorway falls in," he said. "The entire world has never witnessed such a shameful incident before where a police officer was questioning as to why the woman [who was raped] was taking a particular route and not another," said Shehbaz, referring to CCPO Lahore Umar Sheikh's comments. Shehbaz mentioned that the motorway was made during former prime minister Nawaz Sharif's tenure, adding that the "entire credit" goes to the PML-N and its team for building the road.

## Inside...

- Gang rape accused Shafiq makes stunning revelations - Page 02
- Clinical trials COVID-19 vaccine to start next week, says Dr Atta - Page 03
- PM Khan enthusiastic as students prepare to return to schools - Page 04
- Iranian perspective of ME, Afghan & other issues-II - Page 05
- Attacks on journalists during protests increasing: UNESCO - Page 06
- Kyrgyz FM holds talks with his Chinese counterpart - Page 07
- Huge potential of Pak-Morocco cooperation in handicrafts - Page 08

## Adam M Tugio new Indonesian envoy to Pakistan

Adam is a career diplomat and has held a number of important diplomatic positions in different countries. Currently he is discharging his duties as Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of Republic of Indonesia in London, United Kingdom

EXCLUSIVE

ANSAR MAHMOOD BHATTI

ISLAMABAD: The President of Indonesia has appointed Adam Mulawarman Tugio as the new Indonesia ambassador to Pakistan. The President of Indonesia met with the newly appointed ambassadors of Indonesia to various countries and approved their nomination. Mr. Adam is a career diplomat and has held a number of important diplomatic positions in different countries. Currently he is discharging his duties as Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of Republic of Indonesia in London, United Kingdom. His previous assignments in-

clude Director of North American Affairs Ministry of Foreign Affairs 2016-17, Head of Bureau of General Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs 2014-16, Minister Counsellor, Coordinator of Public Affairs Embassy of Indonesia in Washington DC USA, Diplomat Directorate of International Treaties, Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Similarly Mr. Adam has also served as Counsellor, Political Affairs Desk, Permanent Mission of the Indonesia in New York, Head of Section for Maritime Law and Delimitations, Directorate of International Treaties Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Third Secretary Political Affairs Officer, Consulate General of Indonesia in Berlin and administrative staff Directorate

of Northern American Affairs from 1984 to 1991. Mr. Adam Tugio did his Master's degree in Law from American University, Washington in 1996. While, he obtained his bachelor's degree in 1990 from Faculty of Law, University of Indonesia. Ambassador-designate Adam Mulawarman Tugio has also undertaken various training courses. In 2007 he got Senior Diplomatic Training, in 2002 Mid-career diplomatic training and in 1991 junior diplomatic training from Center for Education and Training Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Pakistan and Indonesia enjoy excellent relations. Both countries are tied in strong bonds of friendship, which has grown deeper and deeper with the each passing day. The former Ambassador of Indonesia Iwan S Amri who has

just left Pakistan after completing his term, played key role in bringing both countries even closer. During his tenure people to people contacts between Pakistan and Indonesia were increased besides a marked improvement in trade and business activities. Population wise both countries happen to be the biggest among Muslim countries, therefore their population size makes them important and relevant in the comity of nations. People in both countries are industrious and resilient, which ostensibly is a big plus point. The new ambassador is expected to take charge in few weeks. It is hoped bilateral relations will further be cemented and diversified during his tenure as well.





## Briefs

## Int'l Day of Democracy today

ISLAMABAD: Parliamentarians Commission for Human Rights in collaboration with National Parliamentary Task force on SDGs would organize an event entitled 'National Seminar on Parliamentary Democracy' to mark International Day of Democracy which will be marked on September 15 (Tuesday) to raise public awareness about democracy. Various activities and events would be organized around the world to promote democracy on this date, International Day of Democracy aims to raise public awareness about democracy-its meaning and importance. Many people and organizations worldwide, including government agencies and non-government organizations, hold various initiatives to promote democracy on the International Day of Democracy. Events and activities include discussions, conferences and press conferences involving keynote speakers, often those who are leaders or educators heavily involved in supporting and endorsing democratic governments and communities. — APP

## 'Democracy ensures socio-economic development'

DNA

LAHORE: Chief Minister Punjab Sardar Usman Buzdar has said that continuity of democracy ensures socio-economic development of human beings.

In his message, the CM stated that democracy plays a key role in ensuring equal rights for all. Democracy partners people in authority and provides an environment for the protection and effective realization of human rights, he said.

The CM reiterated the PTI strongly believes in the promotion of democratic values and is working for the strengthening of democratic institutions at the grassroots. On the other side, India- the so-called claimant of the world's biggest democracy, is fast eroding democracy in Occupied Kashmir, he lamented. The chief minister deplored that India has, even, deprived the oppressed Kashmiris of their democratic rights and, instead of giving any democratic right to the people of Indian Occupied Kashmir, the Hindu supremacist Modi regime is committing barbaric crimes against the hapless Kashmiris. The international community should take notice of this dictatorial manoeuvring of the Modi regime, concluded the CM.

## CCPO Lahore apologises for his comments

DNA

LAHORE: The city's top cop has apologised over his seemingly victim-blaming

comments in a motorway gang-rape case that has shaken the entire country and sparked protests across Pakistan. "I neither had any ill-intention nor did I imply anything wrong," Lahore's Capital City Police Officer (CCPO), Mohammad Umar Sheikh, said in a public apology issued after a meeting with Punjab Governor Mohammad Sarwar. "I apologise if my statement has hurt or offended anyone," the city's top cop said. "I apologise to my sister who was subjected to the gang-rape, as well as my sisters, brothers, and all strata of the society." CCPO Sheikh had earlier blamed the survivor of the Sept 9 gang-rape incident for choosing the route she drove through, saying she should have checked her petrol tank before getting on the said route. His comments caused furore across the country, with many demanding he be fired and questioning how anyone could trust such men to handle sensitive cases of sexual violence.

## Gang rape accused Shafqat makes stunning revelations

The accused detailing the entire episode said that the key suspect Abid called him and Bala Mistri to reach Lahore for committing a criminal activity

ABID RAZA

LAHORE: Startling revelations regarding the motorway gang rape incident emerged on Monday as police probed an accused Shafqat who confessed to his role in the horrific incident, along with an absconding co-accused Abid. The accused detailing the entire episode said that the key suspect Abid called him and Bala Mistri to reach Lahore for committing a criminal activity. "All three of us left to commit a robbery,

however, Bala Mistri returned without joining us in the incident," they said while quoting the accused Shafqat.

They further said that both Shafqat and Abid Ali committed the robbery and raped the woman at the Lahore motorway.

Narrating the horrific incident, the accused told investigators that they were intoxicated at the time of the incident and initially planned to commit a robbery. Abid smashed the glasses of the vehicle and injured his hand in the process, he

## Govt to table bill for rapists' castration, hanging

DNA

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan Tehreek e Insaf (PTI) government decided on Monday that it will bring to parliament a bill to penalize sex offenders; rapists with castration. Prime Minister Imran Khan has approved of the legislation, to cas-

trate rapists once proven guilty, and the government bodies will now introduce it to the parliament soon, the sources have confirmed. Water Resources Federal Minister Faisal Vawda is delegated with the task of furnishing the draft bill which proposes neutering

of sex offenders, according to a private television channel report. Vawda said that after the castration bill, his government will also table a bill for the hanging of such criminals. "If the hanging bill is not approved, we will get the castration bill approved, at least," Vawda claimed.

"We decided to bring her off-road and after stiff resistance, took away her

children to the nearby bushes to drag the woman there." "The woman then

followed us," he said adding that they raped the woman in the bushes.

He said that they have committed various criminal activities at the same spot and used to block vehicles' passage using stones and wood pieces. Shafqat in his statement to police said that they spent the next day after the motorway gang-rape incident in the Qila Sattar Shah area of Sheikhpura district. "The next day, I went to Dipalpur while Abid went to meet his father in Manga Mandi."

## LHC directs IG to submit security details

DNA

LAHORE: The Lahore High Court (LHC) on Monday directed the IGP Punjab to submit details of security being provided on all roads across the province. A bench of the LHC headed by Chief Justice Muhammad Qasim Khan directed the provincial police chief to ensure that all officers are on duty and senior police officers patrol areas at least two hours everyday.

The bench was hearing a writ petition seeking the formation of a judicial commission to investigate the Lahore motorway rape incident. During the hearing, Lahore CCPO Umer Sheikh apologised for his statement in which he had blamed the rape victim for the incident. "I apologise, as a father and a brother, for my words," he said.

The government lawyer placed on record a notification regarding the constitution of an inquiry committee, saying it has issued a notice to the CCPO to submit explanation over his remarks about the victim. Did the IG Punjab issue a show-cause notice to the city police chief, asked the chief justice. He remarked that the IG said action would be taken against the CCPO but didn't explain under what law that action would be taken.

## Karachi police arrest two suspects of raping

DNA

KARACHI: Two prime suspects accused in the rape and murder of a six-year-old girl in Karachi's PIB Colony have been arrested, the Karachi police confirmed on Monday.

According to the police, one of the arrested suspects has been identified as Faiz, who worked as a tailor in the neighbourhood where the victim lived. The other identified as Abdullah. The six-year-old's body was carried on a trolley and thrown into a garbage can in a park near the colony. Both of the suspects were allegedly under influence of drugs when the crime was committed, the police claimed, adding that they are being interrogated. The police have also added terrorism charges in the case after which it will be heard by an anti-terrorism court. Last week, a police official told a private channel that the victim's neighbour identified as Nawaz, who was detained along with 16 other people, has been formally arrested on the basis of evidence. The police found the evidence from the suspect's home, he added. The body of the girl was found from a trash can in the park on September 6. It had multiple torture marks and was shifted to the Jinnah Post-Graduate Medical Centre. According to the police, the autopsy reports revealed that she had been raped.

## Kashmala for 'media awareness' about federal ombudsman

ISLAMABAD: Federal Ombudsperson for Protection against harassment of women at the workplaces Kashmala Tariq Monday stressed the need for raising more awareness about the office of Federal ombudsman who was providing speedy easy justice to the Public complaints in a short period of time. Talking to a private news channel, she said that the first priority of the ombudsman was to provide speedy and cost-free justice to the people at their doorstep, adding, there is dire need to launch more print and digital media drives to sensitize the people on the ombudsman's role for quick resolution of complaints. She said that the ombudsman had also created various awareness by holding seminars and press conferences that had led to increase in the registration of cases. She hailed that the credit goes to the present government who was taking keen interests in providing the maximum relief to the public complaints registered with ombudsman, adding, President Arif Alvi was personally monitoring the cases and strengthening the institution. — APP

## System needs to be changed: Chairman PDF

PESHAWAR: Chairman of the Pakistan Development Foundation (PDF), Muhammad Bilal Sethi has said that like developed countries we should work on educating and training the prisoners enabling them to become useful citizens. In developed countries, when criminals are jailed, they turn them into useful citizens, whereas, in our country, after being jailed they become more expert in crimes. He added that we need to stop crimes, instead of letting the criminals commit crimes and punishing them thereafter. He expressed this while recording a protest for Lahore motorway incident. — DNA



ISLAMABAD: Finance and Health Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa taimur Saleem Jhagra meets Speaker National Assembly Asad Qaiser. — DNA

## Public wants greater focus on science-based decision-making

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Philip Morris International Inc. (PMI) (NYSE: PM) today released "In Support of the Primacy of Science," a white paper exploring international attitudes regarding the role of science in society, business, and policymaking. The white paper—presenting findings from an independent survey, conducted by Povaddo for PMI, of over 19,000 adults across 19 countries and territories—shows how the world's citizens want governments, public authorities, and private businesses to prioritize science and facts when tackling critical issues. The global insights reveal that faith in science is high, with most people surveyed (77 percent) hopeful that advances in science will solve many of society's biggest problems. Supporting this view, there is also strong interest in businesses prioritizing science, with 90 percent of respondents saying it is important to them that businesses invest continually in science to improve their products. Despite these positive

attitudes, nearly half of respondents (47 percent) believe that society does not place enough importance on science. Given the diverging opinions, the white paper challenges the need for regulators to place greater focus on science to inform policy decisions, with half (51 percent) of respondents believing that their "government does a good job ensuring science and evidence are included in the decision-making process." "Science can help make significant strides in our collective efforts to address the world's most pressing problems" said Dr. Moira Gilchrist, vice president for Strategic & Scientific Communications at PMI. "Unfortunately, governments and broader society have yet to embrace science at its fullest potential, as this global survey shows. Ensuring facts and evidence are given greater prominence in policymaking—over ideology, politics, and unsubstantiated beliefs—will help match the public's expectations for science to sit at the heart of decisions impacting them and their future."

## Peshawarites share ideas for revival of Peshawar

PESHAWAR: Peshawarites have demanded more parks, playing grounds, recreational facilities and efficient waste disposal and cleanliness system under the "Peshawar Revival Plan" initiated by Chief Minister Mahmood Khan to restore old charm of the metropolitan city. In response to suggestions sought of by the Adviser to Chief Minister, Kamran Bangash regarding revival of Peshawar city citizen have demanded more plantation, greenery and parks as many areas of the city have been deprived of such facilities. Kamran Bangash said "Peshawar is one of the oldest cities in South Asia which needs restoration and revival." He said that Revival Peshawar team comprised of experts and concerned professionals were working day and night to chalk-out best plan for to give new look to Peshawar and restoring its old charm. — APP

## 'KP culture to be promoted in real sense to world communities'

PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Minister for Culture and Labor Shoukat Ali Yousafzai Monday said that the centuries old culture of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa would be showcased to the world communities in real sense and for this key steps have been taken in right direction as desired by the Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Mahmood Khan. This he said while chairing an important meeting held here at the Conference Room of the Directorate of Sports KP. Senior Vice President Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf Sports and Culture Wing of Pakistan, Directress Culture Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Miss Shama, former Senior Producer PTV Aziz Ijaz and other related officials with the department of Culture, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, were also present. The meeting has discussed in detail ways and means to promote cultural activities. Shahid Khan Shinwari and Aziz Ijaz briefed the participants on their views in the discussion on certain projects initiated by the government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa for the promotion of cultural activities.



He directed the Department of Culture to compile a cultural calendar in this regard and ensure consultation with the institutions connected with culture. Khyber Pakhtunkhwa is an excellent center of cultural fusion; our culture is our identity in the world. The Department of Culture should make a systematic plan to highlight the various cultural aspects of the province at the national and international level. Every region of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa has a special cultural aspect within itself. Shoukat Yousafzai directed the Department of Culture to review the steps taken for the promotion of cultural heritage and cultural activities in the province. He said that more attention needs to be paid to those aspects of culture that are disappearing. Special

attention should be paid to the youth to pass on the best aspects of culture to the new generation, he said, adding. "We have to use the experience of our elders." Experienced experts from national institutions also need to be used, he said. An excellent team affiliated with national institutions has always made our mindset in the best way by highlighting the national cultural aspects and the Department of Culture should form such a team and work out a strategy with different institutions. Shahid Shinwari, Vice President, Insaq Culture and Sports Wing, DG Culture, Aziz Ijaz, former producer of PTV and cultural experts from Lahore also participated in the review meeting of the culture department and toured various aspects of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa culture.

## Railway crossings nightmare of innocents

The paving of these old gates and equipping them with modern facilities has become a matter of urgency across the country but so far no practical steps are being taken at the governmental and administrative level

MUHAMMAD TAHIR

FAISALABAD: Pakistan Railways is backbone of Pakistan's economy, providing affordable, high-speed and comfortable transportation for large-scale in country along with a dark side. Railway crossing without gate is a nightmare, taking lives of innocent daily. This critical issue of Pakistan is a complete administrative negligence. Accidents are happening regularly due to the absence of gates or gateman at railway crossings. General traffic crosses without any restriction while train is on the move. These outdated crossing systems are taking lives of innocents, especially children and elderly.



Whenever there is an accident, there is a noise for a while and then life starts moving in the same way. The punishment of those responsible is determined and then, as is customary, silence prevails, but this silence leads to further accidents. The paving of these old gates and equipping them with modern facilities has become a

matter of urgency across the country but so far no practical steps are being taken at the governmental and administrative level. According to a report, there are currently 2,400 old railway gates across the country, posing a serious threat to the lives of citizens. At least 22 people, including 21 from Peshawar's Sikh community,



were killed in a collision between a passenger train and a bus near Sheikhpura district a few months ago due to a railway crossing without a gate. At present, there are seven operational divisions of railways in the country where trains run 24 hours a day. There is a total of 3783 Level of Crossings across the country out of

which 2442 are without gates. There are about 92 railway gates in Faisalabad where there are no Gates man. According to Mr. Tabasum, Everyone is in the rush to reach home, they cross the train track in a hurry and are hit by trains every day, as a result of which most of the people lose their lives.

According to the report, currently only 20% of the traffic signals are working in the entire railway crossings throughout the country. Another reason for the accident is lack of communication between the gateman and the train driver. The irresponsible attitude of the gatemen is also a major reason. The Faisalabad Station Superintendent Muhammad Ashraf said that accidents would be avoided if traffic signals at the railway crossings are working properly. If the gateman and the train driver keep in touch with each other during the movement of vehicles accidents will not happen. He said if the gateman could not contact the train driver due to some technical glitch, he should immediately hoist a red flag to stop the train.



## Briefs

### Sale of NPC certificates starts: Ministry

ISLAMABAD: The sale of Conventional Naya Pak Certificates (NPCs) has started on Monday through various agent banks, Finance Ministry said here. In a tweet, the ministry said that the sale has started through Roshan Digital Account (RDA) of agent banks including UBL HBL MCB Alfalah, Standard Chartered & Samba Bank and the RDA holders could subscribe to NPCs by visiting NPC page of their respective bank. The Shariah compliant version is also coming very soon, it added "FinMinistryPak announces that the sale of Conventional Naya Pak Certificates (NPCs) has started today through agent banks Roshan Digital Account holders of UBL HBL MCB Alfalah Standard Chartered & Samba Bank can subscribe to NPCs by visiting NPC page of their respective bank. Shariah compliant version is also coming very soon," it tweeted. — APP

### LHC stops auctioning of Dhoke Syedan land

RAWALPINDI: The Lahore High Court (LHC) Rawalpindi Bench Monday ordered the authorities concerned to stop auction of state land in Dhoke Syedan and instead allocate it for public welfare projects. LHC's Justice Khalid Mehmood Malik announced the order on a petition filed by Anwar Dar Advocate that the land be used for constructing a school, a public park, a hospital or other public welfare projects. The verdict had been reserved by LHC's Justice Farrukh Irfan Khan in 2017. Talking to the media, the petitioner said the court had stopped the departments from auctioning the land. He had written a letter to the then Prime Minister Syed Yousaf Raza Gillani in 2007 that there was no school, college or hospital for the big population of Dhoke Syedan and surrounding areas, and allocate the subject 108 kanal land for public such public welfare projects. Later, the departments started the process to auction the land for commercial use and he approached the LHC to get the same stopped. — APP

### IESCO issues power programme

ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad Electric Supply Company (IESCO) on Monday issued power suspension programme for Tuesday for various areas of its region due to necessary maintenance and routine development work. According to IESCO spokesperson, the power supply of different feeders and grid stations would remain suspended for the period from 06:30am to 10:30am, Dhudial Express, H-8/2, Gharial, Al-Noor Colony, Mindi Bahlwal feeders and surrounding areas. — APP



ISLAMABAD: ICCI executive member Neelam Khalid Chaudhry is presenting bouquet to Sardar Yasir Ilyas, after supporting the nominee of the Founder Group. Former FPCCI presidents Zubair Ahmad Malik, Abdul Rauf Alam and former president Muhammad Ijaz Abbasi are also present on the occasion. — DNA

## Clinical trials COVID-19 vaccine to start next week, says Dr Atta

Dr. Rahman said usually it takes two to three months to complete clinical trials of the vaccine. "In Pakistan, the clinical trials in the first phase, likely to start next week, will be completed in around three months", he said

ISLAMABAD: Renowned Scientist and Chairman of Prime Minister's Task force on Science and Technology, Dr Atta-ur-Rahman here on Monday said clinical trials of the proposed COVID-19 vaccine produced by a well acclaimed international company will be started in Pakistan from next week. International Center for Chemical and Biological Sciences (ICCBS) based in University of Karachi has been approved for conducting clinical trials of the vaccine. "The

clinical trials will be conducted in partnership with Indus Hospital, Karachi", he said while talking to media. The application for conducting clinical trials of this vaccine was submitted to the Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (DRAP) for approval few months ago. Dr. Rahman said usually it takes two to three months to complete clinical trials of the vaccine. "In Pakistan, the clinical trials in the first phase, likely to start next week, will be completed in around three months", he said.



"The second phase of the clinical trials has already been done in China. While the third phase of trials will start after completion of the first phase and it will also take three months", he said. The whole process of clinical trials (Phase-I and Phase III) will take six months after which the country will be able to manufacture the vaccine, if the results of the clinical trials come positive, he said. Hopefully depending on the success of the trials, Dr. Rahman said that the COVID-19 vaccine will be

available in the country between the months of April and June. About the price of the vaccine, he said the price of the vaccine cannot be predicted now. "We can only know about the price of the vaccine after the manufacturing process starts", he said. Dr. Rahman said, "We were in contact with several international companies for vaccine production after which one of the major international companies agreed to conduct clinical trials of their vaccination in Pakistan". — APP

## EOBI investment portfolio sees 9 % increase

ISLAMABAD: The investment portfolio of Employees' Old-Age Benefits Institution (EOBI) has witnessed an increase of over nine per cent in last three years, surpassing Rs 362 billion mark in fiscal year 2019-20. The EOBI investment portfolio was Rs. 331 billion during fiscal year 2017-18, a senior official told media on Monday, citing the reasonable increase because of timely decision by present management and positive trends of the market. The official said the man-

agement had given timely approval for investment in national saving schemes that coupled with outperforming national stock exchange and revival of sick project of the EOBI in real estate sector. Explaining further, he said, as per law the EOBI could invest 50 per cent in fixed income and 25 per cent each in equities and real estate. "As far as the portfolio management is concerned, we are well served," he remarked. — APP

## Model Courts decided 406 Cases

RAWALPINDI: The 373 model courts which have been set up across the country to provide speedy justice and clear the massive backlog of cases Monday decided 406 cases including 22 cases of murder and 68 of narcotics. According to details, the Director General Supreme Court Monitoring Cell Sohail Nasir said that in order to decide the pending cases on priority, statements of 530 witnesses have also been recorded in different

cases on September 14. The Model courts in Punjab disposed of 28 cases while KPK Model Courts decided 31 cases. Similarly, Model Courts in Sindh disposed of 27 cases and Baluchistan Model Courts decided 4 cases. The Civil Model Courts dispose of 149 rent and family disputes while Model Magistrate courts decided 167 cases. A fine of Rs 857,200 was also imposed on various accused in different cases, he added. — APP

## 4 arrested during raid on Sheesha Center

RAWALPINDI: Police have raided at 'Sheesha Center' on Monday in the jurisdiction of New Town police station and claimed to have arrested four persons. According to details, the New Town Police carried out operation and arrested Javed Ashfaq, Amjad Saddique, Junaid and Irfan. Police team also recovered 'Huqqas' and other smoking items from their possession. Police have registered separate cases against them and started investigation. It is to mention that Anti-smoking drive has been launched in the city to ensure the implementation of anti-smoking law, 2002. — APP

## Advisor to CM visits Murree Road

RAWALPINDI: Advisor to CM Punjab for PHAs and Tourism, Asif Mehmood on Monday visited Murree Road and inspected ongoing renovation and beautification projects. According to a PHA spokesman, the Advisor said, the PHA was committed to grow ornamental plants and launch new beautification projects at all city roads. — APP

## CTP issues 578 challan slips for over speeding

CTP Education Squad was also making efforts to create awareness among road users about the road safety laws

RAWALPINDI: City Traffic Police (CTP) during its ongoing campaign issued 578 challan slips to violators for over speeding at city roads and imposed Rs 240,300 fine. Checking was conducted at old Airport Road, New Airport Road, Taxila, Kalar Syedan and Meharabad Sectors. According to Incharge CTP's camera squad Ahmed Nawaz Tarar, the CTP on the directives of City Traffic

Officer (CTO) Rawalpindi Syed Ali Akbar had formed a special camera squad to check over speeding on various roads. The squad checked over speeding at various roads during August and penalized the violators. He said, CTP were making all out efforts to control over speeding and violation of traffic rules aimed at minimizing road traffic accidents. He said, the Camera Squad

had been directed to take strict action in accordance with the law against over speeding and wrong overtaking. CTP Education Squad was also making efforts to create awareness among road users about the road safety laws. He advised the road users to obey traffic rules and cooperate with Traffic Wardens in order to reach their destinations safe and sound. — APP

## 872,000 children to be administered anti-polio drops

RAWALPINDI: A five-day anti-polio drive will commence from September 21, in which 872,000 children upto the age of five years will be administered anti-polio drops in the district. Incharge anti-polio drive, Chaudary Muhammad Hussain told media that 1950 polio teams have been set up for door-to-door visit while wearing of face masks and use of sanitizer would also be mandatory for polio teams. He informed that 396 area incharges, 204 medical officers, and allied hospitals and Tehsil Headquarter hospitals would participate in the campaign. Hussain said all possible steps have been taken by the authorities concerned to make the campaign successful. He urged the citizens, particularly the parents, to come forward and play their role for the elimination of the crippling disease from society. "The parents should cooperate with special teams so that the set target could be achieved," he added. — APP

## Case registered for assaulting policemen

ISLAMABAD: Khanna police have registered a case against those shopkeepers who assaulted a police team at 'Aqel plaza' during its raid at mobile shops following the information provided by a dacoit selling cellular phones at such shops. According to details, a team of Crime Investigation Agency (CIA) of Islamabad police nabbed a dacoit Zeeshan Tariq for his involvement in dacoity incidents in Secretariat police station area. During the preliminary investigation, the nabbed dacoit confessed to sell snatched mobiles at 'Bangsh and Al-Jannat Mobile Shop's in Aqel plaza situated at Khanna Bridge. Police team raided the shops and recovered receipts of mobiles purchased by shopkeepers. During the raid, the alleged shopkeepers resisted police team to avoid arrest and assisted nabbed dacoit to escape from there. Two shopkeepers Sahil and Arman along with other shopkeepers assaulted police team, broke the wind screen of the vehicle and tore uniforms of policemen. Police have registered the case against such shopkeepers who assaulted police team and interfered in official matters. Further investigation is underway into the matter and IGP Islamabad Muhammad Amir Zulfikar has directed SP (Rural Zone) Farooq Amjed Buter to ensure arrest of accused at earliest who assaulted policemen. — APP

## Woman arrested for killing her nephew

ATTOCK: Police on Monday arrested a woman who had shot her nephew dead over monetary dispute. The accused lady (NJ) resident of Ghoramara a few days ago shot her nephew Ahmad Khan dead with a pistol over a monetary dispute. Police on receiving information arrested the accused and recovered the pistol from her possession. FIR has been lodged against the alleged killer and she has been sent behind the bars. — APP

## Four held, narcotics and weapons recovered

ATTOCK: Police taking action against the anti elements have arrested four accused from different areas of the Attock district and recovered 2.250kg hashish, 500 gram heroine, three pistols and one rifle from them. All have been booked under the relevant act and sent behind the bars. Those arrested include Hazrat Wali r/o Jamrud, Muhammad Shahab r/o Mardan, Noaman Ali r/o Humak and Waseem Raja r/o Hazro. — APP

## NCOC urges parents, teachers to ensure SOPs

ISLAMABAD: The National Command and Operation Center (NCOC) on Monday urged the parents and teachers to comply with the standard operating procedures (SOPs) issued for the safety of students amid reopening of the educational institutions across the country. In a statement, the NCOC called upon the administrations of educational institutions to ensure proper implementation of health guidelines such as mask-wearing, social distancing to keep the coronavirus at bay. "InshAllah (By the will of Almighty Allah), all educational institutions are being opened in phases from September 15. Parents and teachers are requested to pay special attention to the given safety guidelines while sending their children to schools."

It asked the parents to abstain from sending children to school if they show signs of cough or illness. "If the condition is worse, the child should be tested immediately." It should also be to ensure that children wash their hands regularly or use a hand sanitizer. The bus drivers who take children to school or college should ensure social distance in their vehicles. They should make sure that the children were wearing face masks while sitting in the bus or car. It is worth mentioning that thousands of schools and colleges across Pakistan will reopen today, ending a six-month long closure due to the coronavirus pandemic. According to the Pakistani Education Ministry, all higher education institutions in the country will reopen from Sept. 15, whereas students in grade nine to 12 will also be returning to school on the same day. "Tomorrow we will welcome millions of children back to school. It is our priority & collective responsibility to ensure that every child can go to school safely to learn. We have worked to ensure that

school operations are aligned with public health safety rules on #COVID19," Prime Minister Imran Khan tweeted on Monday. Khan said his government prepared standard operating procedures (SOPs) to ensure safe teaching environment in education institutions. In March, Pakistan closed all education institutions across the country following the coronavirus outbreak. On Sept. 7, the country's Education Minister Shafiqat Mahmood, while announcing the reopening of some 300,000 schools, colleges, and universities, said they will reopen the education institutions in phases to avoid another wave of the virus. "If all goes well, then students in grade six to eight will return to school on Sept. 23, while students in nursery to grade five will be back to school on Sept. 30," Mahmood said. Over 30,000 religious seminaries across the country will also reopen in phases from Tuesday. — APP

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

AIOU  
commences  
exams on  
28th Sept

ISLAMABAD: Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU) has announced examinations schedule of matriculation, FA, and ATTC programs of spring semester 2020. According to a press release on Monday the examination will commence from 28th September. Roll number slips are being dispatched to the students on their postal addresses, said Dr. Tauqeer Ahmad Khan, controller of examinations, in a press release. He, further, informed that roll number slips and date sheet have also been uploaded on the university website (www.aiou.edu.pk) and candidates may download them, in case they do not receive through postal services within the stipulated time period. He, also, added that the university will strictly observe government's SOPs for protection from Covid-19 during the examinations, and no student will be allowed to enter examination hall without wearing face mask. He has further directed the candidates to bring water bottles and hand sanitizers while coming to appear in the examinations. — APP

Motorway  
Police foil  
bid of human  
trafficking

ISLAMABAD: National Highways and Motorway Police (NH&MP) on Sunday foiled an attempt of human smuggling by arresting 8 youth along with an agent. Eight youths between the ages of 15 and 25 were to be smuggled from Rawalpindi to Quetta and to Europe via Iran. Motorway Police stopped the bus in Chakri area arrested the youth and an agent involved in human trafficking. The detainees were handed over to the FIA for further action. Inspector General of Motorway Police Dr. Syed Kaleem Imam commended the officers and announced the prizes for them.

Tourists to  
be facilitated:  
Sadaqat Abbasi

DNA  
ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf MNA Sadaqat Ali Abbasi on Monday announced for a comprehensive plan devised to facilitate Murree tourists with a new Mall road, well-managed six public toilets and parking spaces. Talking to a private news channel, he said in order to restore the natural beauty of this hilly-area, Punjab government already have approved the proposals for restoration of Mall road, resolving the issue of traffic congestion and removing the paucity of parking lots. "We will be providing improved facilities to tourists at these spots," he said as such activity would improve economic activity and generate employment opportunities for locals. The number of tourists, he said, started increasing as the present government was trying to provide better facilities to them. Unfortunately, he said, no proper attention was given to the tourism sector during previous regime, he added. He further said that all possible facilities would be provided to tourists, adding that additional traffic wardens under the supervision of inspectors had also been deployed at Mall roads and all important points.

MoCC,  
PNCA to  
organize art  
competition

ISLAMABAD: Ministry of Climate Change (MoCC) and National Ozone Unit (NOU) in collaboration with the Pakistan National Council of the Arts (PNCA), would organize an online art competition among schools and colleges students on the 'World Ozone Day' which would be marked on September 16 (Wednesday). According to official of PNCA the online art competition theme: "Ozone for life", "Clean Green Pakistan". He said paintings, sculpture, photography, short films and documentaries, mix medium would be projected in the event. — APP



ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's Ambassador-designate to Ethiopia, Mr. Shozeb Abbas called on President Dr. Arif Alvi, at Aiwan-e-Sadr. — DNA

PM Khan enthusiastic as students  
prepare to return to schools

Universities, colleges, and class IX and X will resume from September 15. The students from class VI to VIII will be called to schools from September 23 and the students enrolled below class VI will be called in from September 30

FIAZ CH.

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Imran Khan is all ready to welcome students back to schools as educational institutions across the country gear up to re-open from September 15. In a Twitter post on Monday, the premier said that it was the government's "priority and collective responsibility to ensure

that every child can go to school safely to learn". "We have worked to ensure that school operations are aligned with public health safety rules on coronavirus," he remarked. Last week, in a meeting with all provincial authorities, Federal Education Minister Shafiqat Mahmood announced that educational institutions across the country will open in phases from Sep-



tember 15. Universities, colleges, and class IX and X will resume from September 15. The students from class VI to VIII will be called to schools from September 23 and the students enrolled below class VI will be called in from September 30. A list of precautionary SOPs against the virus has been issued by the government which every school

has to follow. It includes social distancing, no lunch breaks or morning assemblies, proper sanitization of premises, and COVID-19 tests for teachers and staff members. Institutions that fail to comply will be fined or even sealed, the minister said. Schools, colleges, and universities across Pakistan had shut down in March after the virus broke out in the country.

PNCA plans to  
promote puppetry art

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan National Council of the Arts (PNCA) has planned to promote dying art of puppetry to raise awareness in public about various social issues. According to an official of National Puppet Theatre (NPT), it will be a great initiative of PNCA to revive the most popular folk art. He said that the puppet show is a regular feature of the council presented by National Puppet Theater (NPT). The official said that the shows depict folk tales and skits to entertain and educate children regarding social problems including health, educa-

tion, environment etc. He said that besides entertainment, these puppet shows are conscious efforts to explain socio-cultural issues and nurture a sense of responsibility among children to combat such evils, he added. He said that the NPT also organizes shows every year in other cities to highlight important national and international events like Earthquake Victims Day, Kashmir Solidarity Day, Pakistan Day Celebrations, Independence Day Celebrations, World Tourism Day, and Universal Children Day and Quaid-e-Azam Day Celebrations. — APP

The Federal Tax  
Ombudsman disposes  
2411 complaints in 2019

ISLAMABAD: The Federal Tax Ombudsman (FTO) has disposed of around 2411 complaints during the year 2019, which shows 28.56 percent increase as compared to the corresponding period of 2018. The FTO disposed of these complaints, which were included during the investigation and post investigation processes. According to the annual report 2019, as many as 2411 complaints were disposed of by FTO during 2019 as against of 1875 complaints during previous year, showing increase of 28.56 percent. The overall complaints accepted were 1854, 326 were rejected, 231 withdrawn and other 383 complaints

were balanced during the year, the data revealed. The acceptance ratio of complaints witnessed an increase of 93.92 percent as compared to year 2018. Meanwhile, the FTO implementation ratio of complaints witnessed as 82.59 percent during 2019 which includes cases requiring implementations and recommendation implemented. The recommendation of FTO was pending for implementation at the end of year 2019, recorded at 397 complaints from 186 complaints during 2018. The FTO has refunded an amount of Rs 5865.94 million during 2019 against Rs 6986.39 million during 2018, witnessed decline of 16.05 percent, it added. — APP

NLCC surveys 195,573 hectares  
land under anti-locust operation

According to press statement issued here Monday by the Ministry of National Food Security and Research, no locust was found in the provinces of Khyber Pakhtukhwa and Sindh

ISLAMABAD: The National Locust Control Centre (NLCC) surveyed around 195,573 hectares area during the past twenty-four hours and carried out locust control operation in two districts of Balochistan

and Punjab provinces. According to press statement issued here Monday by the Ministry of National Food Security and Research, no locust was found in the provinces of Khyber Pakhtukhwa and Sindh.

However, the presence of locust was observed in one district each of Balochistan and Punjab, it said adding that anti-locust operation was carried out on 380 hectares in district Lasbella and 600 hectares of Ra-

him Yar Khan. It is pertinent to mention here that during the past six months, the locust control operations have been carried out on 1,128,239 hectares of land across the country. — APP

Theater  
Wallay offers  
"Theater  
Games"

ISLAMABAD: Theater Wallay has planned to start exciting session on every Friday titled "Theater Games" full of fun activities from 18 September. After Covid 19 it would be first live weekly event to become interact with people once again. Theater games would have a relaxing and rejuvenating effect to remove all stresses and to enjoy the weekend with your family and friends. Theater games have always been fun so again here we are to help you unwind on every weekend, an official said on Monday. He said that game session will happen on every Friday from 6:30 p.m without age limit. "You would have spent a hectic week, you would be tired, may be a little annoyed or stressed. Well, these games are meant for you", he stated. — APP

Regional rail network to  
bring prosperity: Rashid

He said that ML-I project was a game changer for Pakistan Railways and indispensable for strengthening country's economy

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Railways Sheikh Rashid Ahmed on Monday said that regional rail network would ensure country's access to the Central Asian countries through Afghanistan and bring development and prosperity in the area. During farewell meeting with Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan Yao Jing, the minister commended the services of the envoy for promoting Pak-China relations and said "Chinese ambassador's efforts for approval of Main Line-I rail project are unforgeable". He said that ML-I project was a game changer for Pakistan Rail-



ways and indispensable for strengthening country's economy. Besides ML-I, Pakistan Railways was also putting efforts for development of Peshawar-Jalalabad and Quetta-Kandahar rail network. The ambassador said that Pakistan and China are enjoying cordial relations and the people of both the countries are having

warm relations. Expressing his pleasure on the approval of ML-I project, the ambassador said this project would help promote Pakistan's local industry as well as create a number of employment opportunities for the people. Secretary/Chairman Railways, Habib-ur-Rehman Gilani was also present in the meeting.

President  
values Pak-  
Ethiopian  
ties

ISLAMABAD: President Dr. Arif Alvi on Monday asked Ambassador-designate to Ethiopia Shozab Abbas to work for further improving bilateral relations between the two countries in fields particularly trade, economy and culture. In a meeting with the envoy-designate here at the Aiwan-e-Sadr, the President said Pakistan attached great significance to its ties with Ethiopia and wanted to expand trade and commercial relations for mutual benefit. The President urged upon the ambassador-designate to encourage Ethiopian investors to invest in Pakistan, being an attractive place for foreign investment in view of its investment-friendly trade policy. The President also asked Shozab Abbas to work for elevating the image of country and highlight Indian brutalities in Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir against the Muslims population of the Valley. — APP

Rabiya Javeri  
hails Baitul  
Mal

ISLAMABAD: Federal Secretary Human Rights Rabiya Javeri Agha on Monday hailed the Chairman Pakistan Bait-ul-Mal, Aon Abbas Buppi for providing assistance to Dar ul Aman Mardan. Talking to APP, she said that on request of Ministry of Human Rights Pakistan Baitul Mal showed quick response and provided donation to Dar ul Aman Mardan for clothing and shoes among 55 residents. She said that the Ministry of Human Rights also established Women in Distress and Detention Fund (WDDF), to facilitate women in need of legal aid, assistance and also providing free legal aid to the marginalized women. She said that government was working to help every needy person so that they become useful citizen of the country. She said that all public institutions have been doing commendable job to provide assistance to poor. — APP

IHC adjourns  
'Navy Sailing  
Club' case  
hearing

ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad High Court (IHC) on Monday adjourned the hearing without any further proceedings in a case pertaining to the 'Navy Sailing Club'. Chief Justice Athar Minalah heard the case. The CDA lawyer informed the court that the Capital Development Authority (CDA) chairman summoned for the day could not appear before the court as he had proceeded to a management course. Similarly the NDMA lawyer also could not appear before the court due to some reasons. The CDA lawyer requested for adjournment which the court accepted and adjourned the hearing till September 19. — APP

PTI Senator  
appeals  
opposition  
for FATF bill

ISLAMABAD: Senator Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf Waleed Iqbal Monday appealed the opposition parties should support government for the approval of a Bill of Financial Action Task Force (FATF), being presented in the next session of Parliament. Talking to a private news channel, he said the legislation would set a positive example if we adopt a consensus and conveying the message that all political parties are on the same page for the sake of the country. He said the opposition parties are trying to blackmail the government over the passage of bills related to FATF but government would never grant National Reconciliation Order (NRO) to those elements found involved in money laundering and corruption cases. He said that the government is correcting the mistakes of the past while the opposition is using the forum of Parliament to save its own politics. — APP

## COMSTech offers fellowships for youth

The young scientists can apply for this fellowship till October 31. They will spend three months at a relevant center of excellence in an OIC country, other than their own and get training

DNA

ISLAMABAD: COMSTech has introduced a fellowship programme on "Research and Advanced Training in Virology and Vaccine Technologies" for the young scientists belonging to the Organization of Islamic Countries (OIC) member states. According to an official of COMSTech, the fellowship programme is being arranged in collaboration with the key centers of excellence in OIC countries. The purpose of this fellowship

programme is to enhance the research and development capacity of promising scientists, especially those at the beginning of their research career, helping them to foster linkages for further collaboration in the field of virology and vaccine technology. The young scientists can apply for this fellowship till October 31. They will spend three months at a relevant center of excellence in an OIC country, other than their own and get training. COMSTech has also offered internships for the technical per-

sonnel's in developing OIC countries to enable them to spend 4-6 weeks at a center of excellence/university in OIC member states, and learn the operations, trouble shooting and related details of state-of-the-art instrumentation. The purpose of these fellowships is to strengthen the capacity of technical manpower in the effective and optimal use of expensive and sophisticated research equipments. Their short term visit is expected to foster links for further collaboration. The last date for applying in these

fellowships is October 31, 2020. The intended participants can contact at 92 51 9220681-3 and email: comstech@comstech.org ; hinahej@gmail.com ; Khazima@comstech.org for queries. As the pandemic of SARS Cov-2 (COVID-19) unfolds its devastation, and calamities, the lack of preparedness and resilience is exposed world over. Countries of the South, including many OIC countries, found themselves especially vulnerable, and totally dependent on selected countries for every health care need, be it

diagnostic equipment, kits, ventilators or Personal Protective Equipments (PPEs). Deployment of good science and robust public policy measures are required to overcome the problem of current and future pandemics. Considering the need of a systematic and focused program for capacity building of young scientists and technicians, COMSTech and the key centers of excellence in OIC countries jointly come up with this innovative opportunity.



## FATF bills

**I**MPERATIVE legislation related to Pakistan's compliance with the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) remains in a deadlock in the parliament. After some weeks of obstruction of the bills in the Senate, the government has opted to adopt a more conciliatory approach to get the legislation passed, by forming an 'informal' committee comprising government and opposition lawmakers to meet on Monday to try to end a deadlock on four bills. These bills will have to be made law. Pakistan has been given a deadline of September 30 to submit a compliance report to FATF—the terrorism financing watchdog has already noted the many expirations of deadlines for Pakistan's action plan. The government should focus on carefully considering, with an open mind, the content of the bills, to see which clauses are essential to the action plan, and try to find a middle ground to persuade opposition members to get on board with the FATF bills. For example, one of the opposition's contentions is an amendment to Section 156-C of the CrPC, which empowers the investigation officer to "use techniques including but not limited to undercover operations, intercepting communications...for investigation of offences of money laundering, associated predicate offences and financing of terrorism...". The opposition has also voiced concerns about amendments to the Anti-Money Laundering Act (AMLA). In the 27-point action plan recommended by FATF, Pakistan has already been declared compliant on 14 points, one of which includes parallel investigations by Counter Terrorism Departments (CTDs). This does lend credibility to the opposition's questioning the necessity of the use of techniques like undercover operations and intercepting communication. However, their objections to the AMLA amendments would merit more scrutiny, considering effective implementation of remedial actions and sanctions applied in cases of AML/CFT violations has been identified by FATF as one of the 13 points still required for compliance. These are serious, thorough discussions to be had, putting politics aside. This compliance report needs to be sent on time, and parliamentarians from both sides of the aisle should attend this upcoming meeting with a conciliatory, open-minded approach.

Pakistan's First And Only Diplomatic Daily

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

Vol: 01 Issue: 147

Email: dailyisbpost@gmail.com

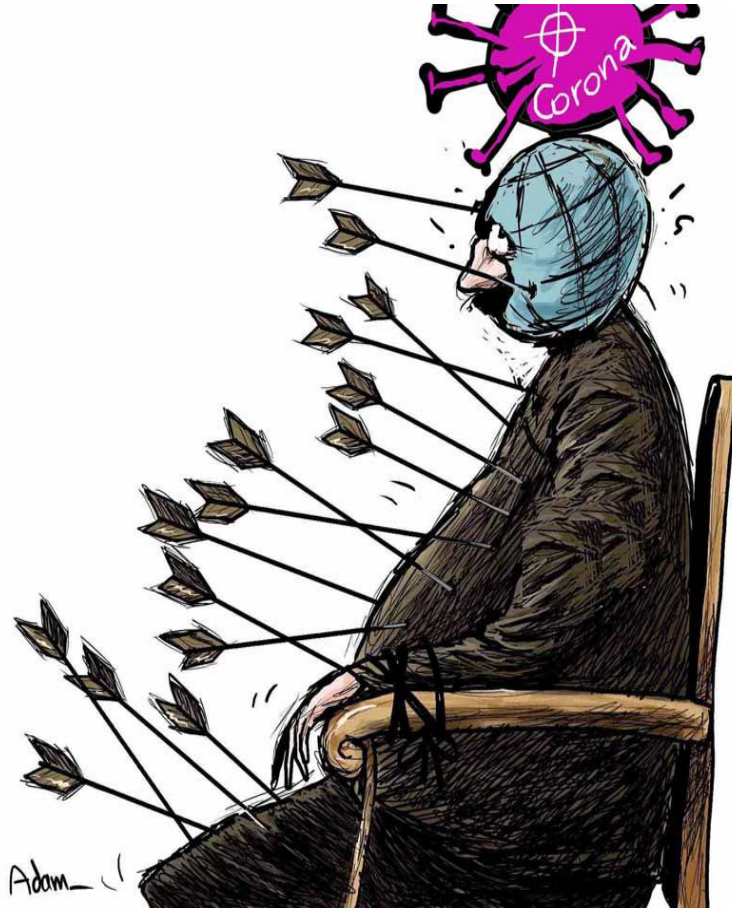
Phone: 051-2266165 / 051-2261960

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

## Afghan peace talks

MUHAMMAD OMAR IFTIKHAR

**A**FGHANISTAN has been a war-torn country for over two decades. However, the much-awaited peace progress is being initiated in Doha Qatar. Masoom Stanekzai is leading the delegation of the Afghan government. Shaikh Abdul Hakim Haqqani is leading the representatives of the Afghan Taliban. American Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, US Special Envoy for Afghanistan Zalmay Khalilzad, chief of the High Afghan Council for National Reconciliation Dr. Abdullah Abdullah, and Afghan Foreign Minister Hanif Atmar are scheduled to be a part of these talks. Commenting on this momentous step, Prime Minister Imran Khan has hailed the intra-Afghan dialogue. He is hopeful that the Afghans should endeavor to attain peace by settling their disputes through negotiation. This dialogue in Qatar will bode well for the relations between the US and Afghanistan. With the Afghan Taliban also part of this discussion, it seems Afghanistan will move towards a more holistic approach when achieving peace is concerned. This dialogue comes at a time when South Asia is going through a phase of development. Pakistan and China are moving forward with the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). Furthermore, recently China signed a 25-year strategic deal with Iran that will create more developmental avenues between these two countries. Analysts will also be eager to see how this dialogue affects the AfPak region and how Islamabad and Kabul can collaborate for advancements in various sectors and industries. While this dialogue presents an air of positivity, the key players including the US, Afghanistan, and Afghan Taliban must keep all of their plans, concerns, qualms, and questions on the table so all matters are discussed without any confusion looming over them. The turbulent geopolitical case of Afghanistan must be addressed by the key stakeholders so that Kabul can lead to peaceful diplomatic affairs with South Asia and the West. In this regard, this dialogue will prove to be the first step towards achieving peace, progress, and development.



## Iranian perspective of ME, Afghan & other issues- II

Ali Hosseini



Ambassador of Iran Ali Hosseini delivered this speech at the National Defence University. Here is the 2nd part of his speech

As the ambassador of Islamic Republic of Iran in your great country, my duty necessitates to follow mutual agendas and do my best to realize the dormant potential of cooperation between our countries. In many cases that I follow, when they reach to the last stage of fulfillment, our Pakistani brothers tell me that U.S sanctions and American intervention prevent it to happen. Today, I want to announce from this floor that US sanctions are unilateral and totally out of international agenda

Conclusion of part one:

**T**O wrap up my speech about the evolving global and regional environment and its security effects on Iran, I would like to say that the situation in Middle East and west of Asia will not remain difficult for ever. New alliances and new positive developments are coming about. For sure, the transfer of power from West to East is gathering pace and soon will dramatically change the context for dealing with international challenges. Although many in the West are already aware of Asia's growing strength, some are still trying to suspend the decline of current malign hegemony by resorting to anything. What we need to do in Iran and Pakistan is to resist firmly all current unilateralism and coercive measures that are the last-ditch efforts of a moribund hegemony. Iran, as a big power in the region, has always been in the front line of fighting terrorism and extremism and did a great job in defeating big segments of ISIS in Syria and Iraq. Iran also has always supported and will support multilateralism and regional cooperation. For us, Belt and Road Initiative as a whole and CPEC as a part of it are good examples of multilateral economic cooperation and so, we consider it a constructive initiative and will support it.

We in the region should try to avoid further confrontation and gradually terminate the current clashes at least between ourselves. In this regard, we in Iran consider Pakistan one of the most vigilant and alert countries of the region that:

- During the recent years has done its best to mediate between Islamic countries and reduce misunderstandings between them. {all such efforts has been welcomed by I.R. Iran}

- We appreciate the strong voice of HE Prime Minister Imran Khan that aired to oppose US unilateral and unfair sanctions against Iranian people especially when they were badly affected by Covid-19.

- And we also deeply appreciate Pakistan historical decision in 2015 to not enter the war in Yemen. This decision was one of those political wisdoms that as the time passes, its importance and prominence become more obvious.

A- The second subject is about bilateral relations between Iran and Pakistan:

- Mutual tendency of nations to each other:

Considering the depth of historical and cultural relations between Iran and Pakistan, the level of cooperation between these two countries should be so high that nothing be able to have destructive effects on it. There are clear signs that our people crave for having an interdependent economy, they yearn for mutual development and wish for regional security and stability. If officials and representatives of these two nations want to realize these desires, they have to work together more seriously and stronger than before.

Regarding the privileges of each of these two countries, Iran and Pakistan are bestowed everything that they need to address each other's needs.

If Pakistan is an energy hunger country, Iran is the cornucopia of it. If Iran is a drought country and in need of rice and agricultural products, Pakistan is a plenitude of them. So, the big question is that how many more times we should wait that this great potential be activated and our people witness the result

of our cooperation? A very clear example of our slow motions is IP gas pipeline project. Since 2009 that IP agreement was signed till today, people are waiting to enjoy the benefits of this agreement that by now, remains substantially delayed. In spite of huge costs and difficulties, Iran has finished its share of work in the project and we are waiting our Pakistani brothers to perform their commitments.

- **Negative effects of sanctions on relations:**

As the ambassador of Islamic Republic of Iran in your great country, my duty necessitates to follow mutual agendas and do my best to realize the dormant potential of cooperation between our countries. In many cases that I follow, when they reach to the last stage of fulfillment, our Pakistani brothers tell me that U.S sanctions and American intervention prevent it to happen. Today, I want to announce from this floor that US sanctions are unilateral and totally out of international agenda. There is no legality and legitimacy behind these unilateralism and many countries have showed their braveness to cut them dead. In spite of the fact that American sanctions doesn't have any international bindings and by considering the Pakistan considerations, we have suggested alternative of barter trading that neither needs Dollar accounts nor incur payment difficulties. This idea is working in some sections and is waiting to be applied in other ones.

- **Joint economic recovery after Covid-19:**

Covid19 was one of the biggest unexpected threats to the world health at one side and global economy at the other. After the Covid inception in China, some other countries like Iran had badly affected by the disease. In spite of many precautions and preventive actions, this virus remained a deep negative effect on our economy. The situation in Pakistan was not too different. Although here the disease emerged later but took many victims. By the grace of God, the situation is now under control and people have started a new normal life. The story of Covid, which forced us to close our borders and halt many interactions, thought us many lessons:

- The first lesson was that in the time of difficulties we should be in help of each other not sitting and blaming each other.

- The second lesson was that we have to learn excellent experiences and share our best practices. In this way, we can relieve sooner and survive better.

- The third lesson is about the speed of recovery. Many countries and regions are trying to revive their economic life and provide further impetus to their prosperity.

In the case of Iran and Pakistan, We need to show high resilience after Covid -19 and remove very fast economic impediments in the way of our bilateral trades. By respecting the technical guidance and health protocols, we can accelerate our cooperation and aid our enterprises that are on the brink of bankruptcy. Utilizing of Border Market potentials and facilitating barter transactions are some available opportunities that can come beneficial. Overcoming the two obstacles of Covid and unilateral sanctions needs our serious determination and strong will. If we be able to reach to this level of convergence, we not only can cope with regional and global evolving dynamics on the base of our national interests but

can even make and shape favorable dynamics. Just cast a glance on people's reactions on media hype about Iran-Pakistan-China relations, they were really happy to see these three countries on a same agenda. It is just an example to show how our people expect cooperation between regional countries, cooperation that for sure, some others will try to play down its seriousness or significance. If we easily bow to sanctions or impose inessential further ado to our future cooperation, we have in fact showed green light to the third parts that can't see our national and regional benefit.

- **Chahbahar- Guader ports:**

Chahbahar port in Iran and Guader port in Pakistan have great potentials for strengthening the interconnections between our economies at first and all the countries in the region at second. The fear of such capacity has made some countries to introduce these two ports as rivals.

The main reason behind these narratives and narration-developing is nothing except preventing future cooperation between these two countries by creating misunderstandings. The cognizance of Pakistan-Iran power in a possible post-convergence era and the probable realization of their great dormant potentials are not something neglected by anxious and malevolent parties. So, oriented by their hypothetical phobia, they will spare no effort to suffocate any future cooperation plan between Iran and Pakistan from its very inception and broadcast propaganda about this issue.

Conclusion of part two:

To conclude my words on the subject of Iran and Pakistan relations, I should mention that Iran and Pakistan are decided to be near each other and our geopolitics will keep us together forever. At the end of the day, our people will definitely expand their cooperation to its highest level. So, if we want to be appreciated by our successors and be praised by our posterities, we have to accelerate this synergy and lay the ground for mutual prosperity.

C- The third subject that I want to shortly go through is about benefiting regional potentials for improving our cooperation.

Pakistan and Iran are members of many regional organizations like SCO (Shanghai Cooperation Organization), ECO (Economic Cooperation Organization), D8 (Developing 8 countries) and OIC (Organization of Islamic Cooperation). Although there are still some challenging issues in these organizations, they have huge capacities that we can benefit from them for securing our developments.

- We have to keep the issue of Palestine and Muslim Rights around the world in the center of OIC.

- We need to improve our infrastructural developments and connect them by using ECO and D8 platforms.

- And finally, increase the level of our cooperation in SCO which has a great prospect of success in the future.

At the end I thank all of you for listening to me and again thank NDU officials for providing me this opportunity to talk about the importance of relations between inseparable countries of Iran and Pakistan.

Ambassador of Iran delivered this speech at the National Defence University.

## When it comes to fundamentals

Mehr Ispahani

The Cantonments Act of 1924 was a landmark in the history of cantonments, as it brought in its wake some sweeping changes.

The act introduced the representative local government system, under which elected representative of the civil population became members of the Cantonment Boards. The Boards were created as autonomous statutory local bodies for providing civil services

**I** WAS sitting in my lounge enjoying the weather and having a cup of tea when my Aunt calls me up. She is well-known to be the calmest and most considerate person that I know besides being a learned member of our family but this time she was feeling disturbed. She is one person who I know hardly complains about anything but this time she spoke to me for a while about what's really bothering her. She told me about the problems she is going through in the area where she resides; she said that she would like to shift to a better place where the system is more organized. I asked her where would she like to shift from there? She said anywhere that has all the basic facilities telling me that she would prefer DHA or Cantonment Area of her city and out of sheer frustration started telling me about all the problems that she had been facing living in her locality. She told me that recently a house in the neighborhood caught fire and there was just no fire brigade system around the area.

There is shortage of electricity; the electricity is not available sometimes for hours. The problem of poorly constructed roads is long engraved in the area. Litter, roads under construction, poorly concreted speed breakers and down-and-out drainage system on the roads are a cause of increasing accidents. Municipal corporations claim to have a dearth of enough funds for the repairs. Various accidents have been reported due to potholes, uneven speed breakers and roads under repair or under construction in the past years, and the numbers are ever increasing. A 45-year-old man died after his two wheeler bumped into a pothole. He fell off from his bike because of the immediate jolt and after that a water tanker coming from behind crushed him to death.

Due to lack of attention of municipalities towards city planning, the buildings in towns are overcrowded and cleansing thereof has become impracticable in most of the cities and towns. Municipalities could not improve the sanitary conditions of the towns. In some parts of the town, the width of the streets is so narrow that even the drains could not be erected and dustbins could not be put up. Municipalities should conduct periodical survey of the civic services provided to the residents. They should inspect the purity of water supplied through the taps, working system of drainage, dustbins, gutters and an arrangement for the solid wastes should be done etc., as the objective of local government is to provide certain civic amenities to the people at their doorsteps. I wondered why DHA or Cantonment Areas? Cantonments have experienced vast growth since inception. There are a total of 56 Cantonments in Pakistan. As of 2013, the greatest amount 27 is in Punjab, then 10 in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, 10 in Sindh, seven in Balochistan and two in Gilgit-Baltistan. Cantonment Boards are providing education facilities to its residents through CB Public School & Girls College.

The Cantonments Act of 1924 was a landmark in the history of cantonments, as it brought in its wake some sweeping changes. The act introduced the representative local government system, under which elected representative of the civil population became members of the Cantonment Boards. The Boards were created as autonomous statutory local bodies for providing civil services. The powers and functions of the Cantonment Boards are synonymous to Municipal Committees in the cities but civic amenities provided by the municipalities and income and expenditures of the municipalities and research on various aspects reveals the different

causes for the failure of municipalities.

Talk more about facilities less fact and figure. Why 2013? Why not latest facts and figures. I was just wondering that my Aunt can afford to shift to a place with better system like DHA but what about common people who can't afford to shift from a place, they have to face all these difficulties and suffer. No doubt that Cantt Boards provide a better system with much better roads, lighting and land administration. There is much better water supply with better parks an organized system of markets. A much better set up for sanitation is provided as Poor sanitation is linked to transmission of diseases such as cholera, diarrhea, dysentery, hepatitis. Poor sanitation reduces human wellbeing.

If we consider China, a country having a developed and progressive infrastructure Complementing its rapid infrastructure development is China's upgrading labour force. China is the fastest growing country in the world for last few decades and one of the defining features of China's growth has been investment-led growth. Why can't we adopt a model of china for the physical infrastructure?

Globally, China is not able to exert the same level of political control as it can on its own citizens or semi-autonomous regions. Thus, it uses infrastructure as a method of infiltrating other nations under the guise of facilitating economic development. Our education focuses a lot on achieving personal goals like scoring well in exam to excel. Civic goals can get its due importance by getting enough appreciation for following it. We need to make plans for 20 years ahead with the coordination of sectors.

- The writer is Peshawar based freelance columnist



## Briefs

## Thiem beats Zverev to win US Open

WEB DESK

NEW YORK: Dominic Thiem produced a historic comeback to beat Alexander Zverev in a nervy five-setter and win the US Open on Sunday for his first Grand Slam title. The second seeded Austrian beat the fifth seed 2-6, 4-6, 6-4, 6-3, 7-6 (8/6) in 4hr 2min inside a near-empty Arthur Ashe Stadium. It marked the first time in the US Open's Open era history that a player had recovered from losing the opening two sets to win the title. It was also the first time the final had been settled by a tie-break.

"I wish we could have two winners today. I think we both deserved it," said Thiem. The title is the 27-year-old Thiem's maiden Grand Slam trophy after three previous defeats in finals of tennis majors.

Thiem was runner-up at the Australian Open earlier this year and also lost in the last-two showdowns at the French Open in 2018 and 2019. He also becomes the first new Grand Slam champion since Croatian Marin Cilic won at Flushing Meadows in 2014.

Thiem is also the first Grand Slam champion other than Novak Djokovic, Rafael Nadal or Roger Federer since Switzerland's Stan Wawrinka won the third of his majors at the 2016 US Open. Zverev, 23, smashed four aces and 16 winners in the first set as he displayed an impressive serve and volley game to take a 1-0 lead in just 30 minutes.

## Quarantine won't stop Bledisloe Cup: PM



WELLINGTON: Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern said Monday she was working to ensure New Zealand's strict quarantine rules do not stop the All Blacks hosting Australia in next month's Bledisloe Cup.

New Zealand last week lost hosting rights for the November-December Rugby Championship to Australia because its strict border controls would have hampered player training.

Wallabies coach Dave Rennie on Sunday raised similar concerns about the keenly watched Bledisloe Cup.

But Ardern - who faces an October 17 election in the rugby-mad nation - assured fans "we'll be able to find a workable solution so that we can make the Bledisloe Cup happen".

She said Australia's Wallabies were a lower Covid-19 risk than the South African and Argentine players involved in the four-nation Rugby Championship.

"There's a different risk profile for teams from Australia than, for instance, the likes of South Africa and Argentina, where we already have teams members who have tested positive for Covid," she told reporters.

Asked if the Bledisloe fixtures could also be moved to Australia, Ardern replied: "I don't think that's going to be necessary."

Rennie said he would not accept such restrictions on the Wallabies, who were reportedly pencilled in to face the All Blacks on October 10, for what will be the New Zealander's first Test as coach of the Australian team. - APP

## Two Navalny allies win

DNA

MOSCOW: Two allies of Russian opposition leader Alexei Navalny won local parliament seats Monday in the Siberian city of Tomsk where he was allegedly poisoned last month, according to early poll results.

Andrei Pateev and Ksenia Fadeeva came out on top in two constituencies, while the ruling United Russia party topped the polls overall in Tomsk with 24.46 percent of the vote, according to early results published by regional election officials.



PARIS: Cd'A Mr. Amjad Qazi was chief guest at the final of Ambassador Cup tape-ball cricket tournament played in Paris today. Mayor of Sarcelles Mr. Patrick Haddad was also present. Event was organized by a Pak-French company Euroking Sports & played from Sep 5-13, 2020 b/w 24 teams. -DNA

## Attacks on journalists during protests increasing: UNESCO

At least 10 journalists were killed during protests between 2015 and mid-2020 when there were 125 instances of attacks on, or arrests of, reporters, according to UNESCO which investigated protests in 65 countries for the report.

PARIS: The number of incidents of violence against journalists covering protests across the world has risen sharply, with police and security forces the main culprits, the United Nations cultural agency said on Monday. UNESCO said it had counted 21 protests between January and June of this year where journalists were attacked, arrested or killed. The organisation, whose

role includes monitoring media developments, said in a report the spike came as part of "a wider upward trend in the use of unlawful force by police and security forces over the last five years".

At least 10 journalists were killed during protests between 2015 and mid-2020 when there were 125 instances of attacks on, or arrests of, reporters, according to UNESCO which

investigated protests in 65 countries for the report.

The reporters who died on the job worked in Syria, Mexico, Israel, Nicaragua, Northern Ireland, Nigeria and Iraq.

"Hundreds of journalists around the world trying to cover protests have been harassed, beaten, intimidated, arrested, put under surveillance, abducted, and had their equipment damaged," the report said, adding that

"a majority of the attacks" had been carried out by police and security forces.

"Police use of non-lethal ammunition ranging from rubber bullets to pepper balls, has injured dozens of journalists, with a few having been left blinded in one eye" it said.

Often police don't have to fear punishment for their treatment of reporters. "Impunity has continued to remain the norm in recent

years for attacks on the press covering protests," UNESCO said.

UNESCO Director-General Audrey Azoulay called on governments to make sure that journalists can do their job without fear for their safety. "Journalists have a critical role in reporting and informing audiences on protest movements," she said in a statement.

"We call on the international community and all relevant authorities to ensure

that these fundamental rights are upheld."

UNESCO said protests are often about economic injustice, government corruption, the decline of political freedoms, and growing authoritarianism, giving some governments a vested interest in preventing balanced reporting. "The UN in several resolutions has expressed concern at hostile rhetoric by political leaders against the press," it said. - APP

## Belarus: Lukashenko to meet Putin as unrest continues

DNA

MOSCOW: Belarus's embattled leader, Alexander Lukashenko, has arrived in Russia's Black Sea resort of Sochi for talks with Russian President Vladimir Putin. It will be their first face-to-face meeting since protests escalated in Belarus last month, following the disputed presidential election.

Belarusian opposition leader Svetlana Tikhonovskaya said she regretted Mr Putin's "dialogue with a dictator". Mr Putin recognises Mr Lukashenko as the legitimate president of Belarus. He says he has a Russian police force ready to intervene if the protests get out of control.

There is speculation he wants closer ties in exchange for continued support. Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said oil and gas co-operation, state debts and other economic ties in the Belarus-Russia "union state" would be discussed, as well as some international issues, but no joint documents would be signed, nor would there be a press conference.

The two countries are traditionally very close, though Mr Lukashenko has resisted Russian pressure to deepen their union. A joint military exercise is starting near the western Belarusian city of Brest.

On Sunday, at least 100,000 people marched through the Belarusian capital Minsk and other cities to demand that Mr Lukashenko resign. Police said they detained about 400 people.

## Tourists anxious to return to Morocco

Before, you had to wait your turn to get a table," said Bachir, a waiter who has worked in the square for two decades, waving at the empty cafe terrace

DNA

MARRAKECH: Snake charmers, storytellers and crowds of tourists; the legendary Jamaa El Fna square of Morocco's Marrakesh is almost as famous for the number of visitors as its colourful performers. But with tough government restrictions imposed to stem the spread of the novel

coronavirus, the tourism industry on which Marrakesh depends screeched to a halt. Now the 11th century UNESCO World Heritage site is almost empty, and the city is facing an unprecedented crisis. "Before, you had to wait your turn to get a table," said Bachir, a waiter who has worked in the square for two decades, waving at the empty cafe terrace.

His neighbour Mohamed Bassir worries for the future. "This is the first time I've seen the Jamaa El Fna so empty," the orange juice seller said, sitting behind his stall decorated in plastic fruit. "It makes me sad," Bassir said, waiting to squeeze fruit for customers who do not come.

Usually teeming with people, the square lies forlorn

and empty of the musicians, souvenir sellers and fortune tellers who ordinarily ply their trade. Morocco declared a state of health emergency in mid-March and shut its borders to stop coronavirus from spreading.

North African nation of 35 million inhabitants has recorded over 1,500 deaths from coronavirus and more

than 86,600 confirmed cases. In the labyrinth of alleys leading from the Jamaa El Fna, the narrow streets once packed with stalls selling everything from slippers to spices are largely shuttered.

Only a few are open, but the shopkeepers have little hope. "Most of the traders have closed their shops," said Mohamed Challah, who sells flowing caftan robes.



New York: 2020 US Open Men's Single Champion Dominic Thiem. - DNA

## Turkey denounces deal between US, Greece

"The memorandum of understanding will not serve peace and stability in the eastern Mediterranean and will damage the solution of the Cyprus problem," Turkey's Foreign Ministry has said

DNA

ANKARA: Turkey has denounced a memorandum of understanding signed between the US and the Greek Cypriot administration and invited the US to return to the neutral stance on Cyprus.

A memorandum of understanding signed this week between the US and the Greek Cypriot administration will harm efforts to resolve the Cyprus issue instead of contributing to peace and stability, Turkey's Foreign Ministry said early on Monday.

"The MoU signed between the US and the Greek Cypriot administration

on Sept. 12, 2020 and envisaging the establishment of a 'Land, High Seas and Port Security Center' in the ministry said. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said earlier this month that the United States would lift a 33-year arms embargo on Cyprus and deepen its security cooperation with Nicosia.

The steps taken by the US in lifting an arms embargo on the Greek Cypriots and including the Greek side in its International Military Education and Training (IMET) program disrupt the balance between the two peoples on the island and increase tensions in the eastern Mediterranean.

"We invite the US to return to the neutrality policy it traditionally fol-

lows on the island of Cyprus and to contribute to the efforts aimed at the solution of the Cyprus issue," the ministry said.

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said earlier this month that the United States would lift a 33-year arms embargo on Cyprus and deepen its security cooperation with Nicosia.

The steps taken by the US in lifting an arms embargo on the Greek Cypriots and including the Greek side in its International Military Education and Training (IMET) program disrupt the balance between the two peoples on the island and increase tensions in the eastern Mediterranean, Aksoy said. In this respect, it is striking that

US Secretary of State Pompeo did not meet with the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC) during his visit to the island, he added.

On September 1, the US partially lifted an arms embargo on the Southern Greek Cypriot administration while Pompeo announced in July that the US has included the Greek Cypriot administration of Southern Cyprus in its military training program for 2020.

After the forcible division in 1963 of the island of Cyprus by the Greek Cypriots, Turkish Cypriots suffered under a campaign of ethnic violence. In 1974, following a coup aimed at Cyprus' annexation by Greece, Ankara

had to intervene as a guarantor power. In 1983, the TRNC was founded. For many decades, talks were held to resolve the dispute, all of which ended in failure. The latest, held with the participation of the guarantor countries - Turkey, Greece and the UK - ended in 2017 in Switzerland. In 2004, the plan of then-UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan for a solution was accepted by the Turkish Cypriots but rejected by the Greek Cypriots in referendums held on both sides of the island.

In a recent report, UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres said that "new ideas" may be needed for settling the issue of the island.

In 1983, the TRNC was founded. For many decades, talks were held to resolve the dispute, all of which ended in failure. The latest, held with the participation of the guarantor countries - Turkey, Greece and the UK - ended in 2017 in Switzerland. In 2004, the plan of then-UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan for a solution was accepted by the Turkish Cypriots but rejected by the Greek Cypriots in referendums held on both sides of the island.

In a recent report, UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres said that "new ideas" may be needed for settling the issue of the island.

## PHF to hold talent hunt programme in GB

ISLAMABAD: President of Pakistan Hockey Federation (PHF) Brig (ret) Khalid Sajjad Khokhar on Monday announced to hold talent hunt programme in Gilgit-Baltistan.

According to a PHF statement, the PHF president made this announcement during his meeting with caretaker Chief Minister of Gilgit-Baltistan Mir Afzal. Khalid Sajjad said that players from Gilgit-Baltistan would be given physical training and coaching on the most modern lines so that they could also become part of the national team. He also reviewed the progress of the work on the under-construction astroturf ground in Gilgit-Baltistan.

Mir Afzal assured that the hockey ground in Gilgit-Baltistan would be of international standard. He said all-out support would be extended to PHF for the development and revival of the national game. - APP

## 3 Lebanese soldiers killed: Army

BEIRUT: The Lebanese army said three of its troops were killed and another wounded while attempting to arrest a suspected "terrorist" at his north Lebanon home.

"While raiding the house of a wanted terrorist in the Mount Beddawi-Minyeh area, a military intelligence patrol was hit by gunfire and hand grenades," the army said in a statement late Sunday. "Three soldiers were killed and another was seriously wounded," it added, saying that the army was chasing the perpetrators.

It did not say whether it had arrested the suspect or give any details on his identity. Local media reports said that the army had been chasing a militant cell known as the Khalid al-Tallawi group, believed to be behind the August 21 murder of two police officers and the son of the mayor of Kaftoun village in north Lebanon. Police had already arrested a suspect the day after the murders took place, in the Beddawi camp for Palestinian refugees near the northern port city of Tripoli. - APP

## Student leader arrested over Delhi riots

DNA

NEW DELHI: A prominent student leader has been arrested in connection with February's deadly riots in Delhi. Delhi police have alleged that Umar Khalid was a "key conspirator" in the riots. Mr Khalid is among several prominent activists and student leaders who have been arrested.

Human rights groups say that many activists, mostly Muslims, have been unfairly targeted - police deny the allegation. Mr Khalid and his lawyers are yet to make a statement. Religious riots broke out in February between protesters for and against the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA), a controversial citizenship law. The law - which critics say is anti-Muslim - sparked massive protests across India after it was passed last year. One such demonstration in Delhi turned violent and it soon took on religious overtones.

The rioting continued for three days, leaving more than 50 people dead. An Amnesty International report recently said that Muslims were disproportionately targeted in the riots. Meanwhile, several activists and academics have issued a statement condemning Mr Khalid's arrest. "With this, we have no doubt to say that this inquiry is not about the violence... Khalid is one of the thousands of voices who spoke in favour of the constitution in anti-CAA demonstrations across the country, particularly keeping in mind the peaceful, non-violent and democratic ways," the letter said.

United Against Hate (UAH), an activist group that Mr Khalid is a member of, said Delhi police must ensure Mr Khalid's safety. The activist was also arrested in 2016 on charges of "sedition", along with another fellow student leader, Kanhaiya Kumar, for allegedly shouting "anti-India" slogans.



## Briefs

## Asian markets on front foot as vaccine hopes

HONG KONG: Asian markets pushed higher Monday as investors creep back after a recent sell-off, with coronavirus vaccine hopes given a boost and traders looking ahead to the Federal Reserve's latest policy meeting. But the reimposition of virus containment measures in several countries, worries about high valuations, Brexit tensions and uncertainty over the US presidential election are keeping gains in check.

Trials on one of the most advanced vaccines resumed at the weekend after being paused briefly after a volunteer fell ill. British regulators gave AstraZeneca and Oxford University the go-ahead to push on following an investigation.

Oxford University said that "in large trials such as this, it is expected that some participants will become unwell and every case must be carefully evaluated".

And AstraZeneca said it remained hopeful the vaccine would still be available "by the end of this year, early next year". The news provided much-needed relief for markets, just as governments across the world see a worrying surge in new infections, forcing Israel to introduce a three-week lockdown. Britain, France, Austria and the Czech Republic were among European countries reporting surges, with new cases in the UK reaching more than 3,000 in 24 hours for the second day in a row on Saturday.

After a spate of local lockdowns this month, new government restrictions came into force across England on Monday, limiting social gatherings to no more than six people.

## Groundhog Day as British MPs feud over Brexit

DNA

LONDON: It'll be deja vu all over again as Britain's parliament on Monday renews battle over Brexit, with influential MPs up in arms over Prime Minister Boris Johnson's plan to blow up an EU treaty.

The House of Commons will hold its first debate over a bombshell new bill introduced by Johnson's Conservative government, after a fraught buildup that evoked the film "Groundhog Day" for Austrian Finance Minister Gernot Blumel.

"Whenever you achieve progress, at some point it is always Great Britain that does not want to keep its promises," he said.

"To be honest, at some point the British side will have to consider how seriously they take the whole thing."

Similar talk was heard last year from exasperated EU diplomats, as Britain was forced repeatedly to postpone Brexit in the face of parliamentary deadlock on how to implement British voters' shock decision in 2016 to quit the bloc.

The impasse was broken by Johnson's victory in a December general election, which gave the Conservatives an 80-seat majority in the Commons, and Brexit took legal effect the next month.

## Kyrgyz FM holds talks with his Chinese counterpart

In light of the negative impact of coronavirus infection on the macroeconomic situation, the Foreign Minister of the Kyrgyz Republic expressed a request to assist in mitigating the burden of external debt on the country's budget

DNA

BISHKEK: The Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic Chingiz Aidarbekov met with State Councillor, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China H.E. Mr. Wang Yi in Bishkek within the framework of his official visit to the Kyrgyz Republic. Chingiz Aidarbekov expressed gratitude to the Chinese side for significant humanitarian aid and continued support in the fight against coronavirus. The Foreign Ministers discussed a wide range of issues of Kyrgyz-Chinese cooperation, focused on the practical

promotion of important bilateral projects, the implementation of which was forcibly suspended due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition, the issues of export of Kyrgyz ecologically clean agricultural products to China were touched upon. The sides expressed satisfaction with the resumption of freight traffic through Torugart checkpoint from September 8, 2020. It was emphasized that the resumption of mutual cargo transportation between Kyrgyzstan and China is a key factor for revitalizing trade and economic ties in the context of a pandemic, which is a very important step to stimulate economic



activity in the Kyrgyz Republic. In light of the negative impact of coronavirus infection on the macroeconomic situation,

the Foreign Minister of the Kyrgyz Republic expressed a request to assist in mitigating the burden of external debt on the country's budget. Within the framework of the visit, exchange letters were signed between the governments of the Kyrgyz Republic and the People's Republic of China on the implementation of the project "Strengthening the technical potential of fire and rescue units of the Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Kyrgyz Republic". Within the framework of the project, it is planned to supply 100 units of fire-fighting, special and emergency-rescue vehicles and 15 units of fire-fighting equipment.

## UK Foreign Secretary urges parties to 'seize opportunity'

He urged Afghan leaders and the Taliban to seize the opportunity and work towards an inclusive and sustainable peace in the country

LONDON: The United Kingdom Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab while welcoming the peace talks on Afghanistan which started in Doha on September 12 said that this could lead to "real, positive change".

In a statement issued by the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office and The Rt Hon Dominic Raab MP Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab said that talks started on Saturday could lead to "real, positive change". He urged Afghan leaders and the Taliban to seize the opportunity and work towards an inclusive and sustainable peace in the country.

The UK Foreign Secretary welcomed the start of Afghan peace talks in Doha which started on Saturday and called for both sides to seize the opportunity to end decades long conflict in Afghanistan.

He added that the UK's military and diplomatic efforts had been critical in supporting Afghanistan over the past 19 years, as it strives to become more stable and prosperous.

In addition, he said that the UK's world-leading aid expertise has helped

millions of children go to school and provided life-saving food to those in need, the UK government statement said.

According to the statement, Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab said: "Today is a moment that I hope leads to real, positive change in Afghanistan. All sides need to seize this opportunity to work towards an inclusive and sustainable peace".

A comprehensive ceasefire should be agreed quickly for the sake of the Afghan people who have suffered for too long. The UK, as the third largest troop contributor to the NATO mission, plays a vital role in Afghanistan, most recently supporting the Afghan National Defence and Security Forces (ANDSF) with training, mentoring and financial assistance, the statement added.

It added that over the last three years the UK has pledged up to £750 million of humanitarian and development support, which had helped more than 6.4 million children attend school, including over 300,000 girls who can now go to primary school through the Girls' Education Challenge Fund.

## MoU signed between Bank Alfalah &amp; Master Changan Motors

The combined expertise of the companies will help save time, reduce hassle and create a seamless purchase & financing experience for customers



DNA

LAHORE: Bank Alfalah has collaborated with Master Changan Motors Limited to offer best in class auto financing to their extensive customer base. An MoU was signed between the two companies recently at the Bank Alfalah Consumer Finance Center, Lahore.

The strategic partnership will cater to evolving financial needs of mutual customers by delivering innovative solutions with value-added benefits.

The collaboration aims to boost Bank Alfalah and MCML's market standing and footprint by growing their respective shares in Pakistan's Auto Finance industry. MCML is expanding its product line with exciting products, ready for launch in the near future. Both companies value the need of providing smart deals to increase customer affordability in these challenging times, since Covid-19 has affected income streams & buying power. The combined expertise of the companies will help

save time, reduce hassle and create a seamless purchase & financing experience for customers.

Present at the occasion from Bank Alfalah were; Syed Muhammad Asif-Head of Consumer Finance, Muhammad Qasim Rashid - Head of CF Credit Operations, Aadil Bin Akmal - Head of CF operations, Salman Azim - Unit Head Credit Initiation Unit, Muhammad Waqas Rana - Head of Secured Product Management, Muhammad Shafique Nawaz - Head of Secured Portfolio, Javed Amir-

National Sales Manager, Auto Loan, Muhammad Awaiz Zafar - Business Financial Controller, Ahmed Hassan - Manager Product Development, Auto Loan and Adil Zaidi - Manager, Auto Loan Product Management. Representing Master Changan Motors Limited were; Daniel Malik - CEO, Syed Shabbir Uddin - Director Marketing, Danish Dalia - GM Sales and Marketing, Ahmed Nadeem - GM After Sales, Umair Nasir - RSM Central.

## Ufone inaugurates new office at Karachi

DNA

KARACHI: Ufone employees have moved to a new modern office in Karachi. Group CHRO, Syed Mazhar Hussain, inaugurated the office and addressed the employees.

Speaking at the occasion, Syed Mazhar Hussain stated, "Employees are the greatest asset of the company and keeping them safe and happy while providing them with



a comfortable, productive environment for work is our priority. Employees

should remain committed and focused to take Ufone onto the path of growth.

Ufone Employees have been provided with state of the art facilities at this new location and are quite motivated with the move. Syed Mazhar Hussain has recently been appointed as Group CHRO for PTCL Group. His diverse experience, passion and profound knowledge of the telecom sector will further strengthen the efforts made by the PTCL Group to transform into a high-performance organization.



With the ease in lockdown and government trying to help industries to cover their losses, we all should start pitching in our share of generating work.

Advertising is an industry that is on the forefront of fuelling the economy and providing employment opportunities to the people. When advertising stops, unemployment goes up and the entire society suffers.

It's time to rebuild society, help our government and stand back on our feet.

Let's Advertise Again. Share the Load.

I.A.A. INTERNATIONAL ADVERTISING ASSOCIATION PAKISTAN CHAPTER

## Cameron speaks out against post-Brexit bill

A key part of the withdrawal agreement - which is now an international treaty - was the Northern Ireland Protocol, designed to prevent a hard border returning to the island of Ireland

DNA

LONDON: David Cameron has become the fifth former prime minister to criticise a new bill attempting to override the Brexit withdrawal agreement. The Internal Market Bill will come before MPs later, with the government calling it an "insurance policy".

Mr Cameron said he had "misgivings" over it and breaking an international treaty should be the "final resort". Former Tory PMs Theresa May and Sir John Major, and Labour's Tony Blair and Gordon Brown have condemned the plan. Earlier, Policing Minister Kit Malthouse called it a "practical" step. He echoed comments made by Justice Secretary Robert Buckland on Sunday, who said the bill was

## Blair and Major urge MPs to reject Internal Market Bill

DNA

LONDON: Ex-Prime Ministers Tony Blair and Sir John Major have urged MPs to reject the "shameful" attempt to override parts of the Brexit Withdrawal Agreement. The two have accused the government of "embarrassing" the UK by seeking the power to change the details of a treaty agreed last year

with the EU. MPs will begin debating the contentious Internal Market Bill on Monday. A senior minister said the ex-PMs weren't "close" to the process and the UK was in an unprecedented situation. Sir John and Mr Blair - former Conservative and Labour prime ministers respectively - said the government's actions were "irresponsible, wrong in principle and dangerous in practice".

"It raises questions that go far beyond the impact on Ireland, the peace process and negotiations for a trade deal - crucial though they are. It questions the very integrity of our nation," they said. The former leaders, both vehement opponents of Brexit, said that respecting treaty obligations was "just as important" as domestic law, and called for MPs to reject the legislation.

there just in case the UK and EU do not agree a post-Brexit trade deal. Boris Johnson was expected to speak to reporters at an event later, but media confirmed it had been cancelled due to urgent

parliamentary business. The government is expected to win a vote in the Commons later on the next stage of the bill - which should take place around 22:00 BST (21:00 GMT) - but it is also expect-

ed to face more difficulties in later stages, especially when the legislation heads for debate in the Lords. Former Attorney General Geoffrey Cox has said he will vote against it, accus-

ing Mr Johnson of doing "unconscionable" damage to Britain's international reputation. A senior government source told the BBC "all options are on the table" in terms of possible action against Tory MPs who do not support the bill. The PM's special envoy for Freedom of Religion or Belief, Tory MP Rehman Chishti, has resigned over the proposed law, saying: "I have always acted in a manner which respects the rule of law... [and] voting for this bill as it currently stands would be contrary to the values I hold dear." Labour's shadow business secretary, Ed Miliband, also called the proposed law "legislative hooliganism". The UK left the EU on 31 January, having negotiated and signed the withdrawal agreement with the bloc.



**Briefs**

**Pakistan wins Global Islamic Leadership Award**

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan has been awarded with Global Islamic Leadership Award in recognition of its efforts for promotion of Islamic Financing. The award was received by President Arif Alvi at the 10th Global Islamic Finance Awards Ceremony in Islamabad. Speaking on the occasion, the President noted that Islamic Financing is increasing around the world but its full potential yet needs to be exploited. The President appreciated the fact that seventeen percent of Pakistan's banking sector has tuned to the Shariah Compliant instruments. He pointed out that Sukuk bond was recently floated in the energy sector. President Arif Alvi commended the role played by State Bank of Pakistan and Securities & Exchange Commission of Pakistan in promotion of Islamic banking. Arif Alvi emphasized on implementation of the basic principles of Islamic financing to help establish a society based on equality and compassion. He said the basic principles of Islamic financing are fairness, equality, justice, transparency and pursuit of social harmony. He said the basic purpose of Islamic financing instruments should be uplifting the poor people out of poverty.

**'Development plan for Balochistan on cards'**

DNA

QUETTA: Planning Minister Asad Umar has said federal government is committed to the development of Balochistan especially Southern areas of the province. Talking to media in Quetta, he said Federal Government would extend full cooperation in completion of second and third phase of Kachi Canal project. The Minister for Planning said the Federal Government is committed to the development of Balochistan as it has allocated over 80 billion rupees for various projects in the province. During the visit to Khuzdar, the Minister was briefed about the on-going development projects in Kalat Division. He also visited various sites in Khuzdar and Awaran. The two-day visit is part of government's efforts to design and implement a development plan for southern Balochistan to improve the living standard of people in the area.

**CCP conducts inspection of Sugar Mills offices**

DNA

ISLAMABAD: As part of an ongoing enquiry into the possible anti-competitive activities in the sugar industry, the Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) carried out a search and inspection of the Pakistan Sugar Mills Association (PSMA)'s Lahore and Islamabad offices. The CCP authorized its officers to the 'Enter and Search' PSMA premises under Section 34 of the Competition Act, 2010 following indications of PSMA's anti-competitive activities including, but not limited to, the collective stoppage of crushing in season 2019-20, collective rise in prices of sugar, and collective refusal to supply sugar to Utility Store Corporation (USC) as recently reported. Two different teams, authorized by the Commission, simultaneously carried out the search in PSMA's Islamabad and Lahore premises and impounded the relevant record. Through its various enforcement orders, the CCP warned industry associations from indulging in activities, which may violate the Competition Act. The CCP, as part of its statutory mandate under the Competition Act, strives to eradicate anti-competitive practices in all sector of economy.

**Huge potential of Pak-Morocco cooperation in handicrafts**

Fahad Barlas shared his views in a meeting with ambassador of Morocco Mohammed Karmoune. Ambassador assured that the embassy will do its best to facilitate business community of Pakistan

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Chairman Handicraft Association of Pakistan, Fahad Barlas expressed that various projects are being implemented to make Pakistan's handicraft a prominent place in the world. Former Chairman of Handicraft Association of Pakistan Khurshid Barlas and Senior Member Amin-ur-Rehman Mohsin Khalid were present on the occasion. The handicraft industry can be further developed by promoting mutual cooperation in Pakistan. Fahad Barlas said that after overcoming the Corona



virus, the government has taken all possible steps to increase trade and aid in Pakistan. Handicraft Association of Pakistan stands by the government for this purpose. He said that the work of artisans and craftsmen is being welcomed at the diplomatic level in the spirit of close liaison and goodwill. He shared these views in a meeting with ambassador of Morocco Mohammed Karmoune. Ambassador assured that the embassy will do its best to facilitate business community of Pakistan. He thanked the visiting delegation for visiting and sharing the views about Pakistani handicrafts.

**Gwadar port reflecting the Sino-Pakistan peoples' love**

The biggest poster situated on the main road leading to Gwadar Port. That inscribed with "The flower's every inch; Please see; Please love; Please care by Zhang Yanmei" (located at the Business Center of China Communication Construction Company).

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Gwadar seaport has been got surrounded with posters and billboards, reflecting the Sino-Pak peoples' love and deep affection, says a report published by Gwadar Port on Monday. The posters around the port are nothing but beautiful sceneries, carrying a part of the memory of every "Gwadar people". The report says, Gwadar Port is not a very built-up area and one look around, they are many of the unremarkable buildings are carefully plastered with "Chicken Soup for the Soul" posters on the walls. These posters seem to be around everybody. There are printed on the wall, painted on the billboard, printed on the steps



of the parterre, and printed on the steel tube roadside. The author Chen Fanlin stated that he probably found 50 "Chicken Soup for the Soul" posters printed on less than 10 buildings in Gwadar Port. Some of them are proverbs, some are adages and some are catch phrases to enjoy. Lingering to observe these posters, one can feel the sincerity, passion of the Gwadar Port. One can tell that they are taking it as their home and are sparing

no efforts in building this shining star. The biggest poster situated on the main road leading to Gwadar Port. That inscribed with "The flower's every inch; Please see; Please love; Please care by Zhang Yanmei" (located at the Business Center of China Communication Construction Company). Gwadar Port security checkpoint is the most occupied place with 36 posters. Port House, the place where the staff form China Overseas

Ports Holding Company Pakistan are living, is painted with some posters, too. "China and Pakistan friendship is deep as the depth of pacific and Atlantic oceans." There is longest one poster, inscribed "Islam a complete way of life. The area where the Gwadar Port staff are living in is also termed as "Chinatown". It is equipped with badminton courts and a mini football field. These posters lighted up port and brought some refreshing air to hot Gwadar. They are a part of the memory of local people", and will last forever in their mind. The author is the director of Relief and Rescue Department of Hubei Red Cross Society, China. He was dispatched to Gwadar to provide medical aid to the locals since last September.

**Uzbek Charge de Affairs lauds CGSS's role**

*It was also decided that more activities will be generated and initiated to strengthen the bilateral ties*



ISLAMABAD: Lt Col Khalid Taimur Akram (Retd), Executive Director CGSS met with Lieutenant Colonel Saadullah Tashmatov, Charge de Affairs, Embassy of the Republic of Uzbekistan to Pakistan. During the meeting cooperation with the academia in Uzbekistan including various public and private sector universities was discussed. It was also decided that more activities will be generated and initiated to strengthen the bilateral ties between both countries and establish people to people contact. Lieutenant. Colonel Saadullah Tashmatov appreciated the role of CGSS for its active role in strengthening bilateral ties between Uzbekistan and Pakistan. — DNA

**Saudi envoy wants to utilize Pakistan's cricket experience**

ISLAMABAD: The Ambassador of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in Pakistan, Nawaf bin Saeed Ahmad Al-Maliki, wants to utilize Pakistan's experience in the field of cricket and promote it in his country. The ambassador, who called on the Federal Minister for Inter Provincial Coordination (IPC) Dr. Fehmida Mirza on Monday, discussed cooperation in the field of sports between both the countries, said a press release issued here. The ambassador said Pakistan cricket team was famous in the region due to which cricket was also becoming popular in Saudi Arabia. We want to utilize Pakistan rich experience in the field of cricket and promote it in Saudi Arabia, he said. He said sports were very important for the people

and collaboration between the countries was necessary to show the real picture of the society. The meeting discussed in detail cooperation, sharing of experiences in different fields of sports, the potentials of both countries in sports and its utilization. They also discussed practical steps to be taken for enhancing sports relations and activities between the countries. The minister expressed her gratitude to the ambassador for visiting her ministry and said that she believed in sports diplomacy and Pakistan has got a lot of youth bulge in sports. There is a lot of potential and talent in athletes but they need support in terms of training in those fields where both countries have expertise.

**Pak may benefit from China's floods experiences**

Pakistan needs to do computations of river flow data, and computes water flows into the Indus River as well as its branches, the absorptive capacity of the terrain, the spread of vegetation, the solar energy signature over the entire Indus basin and more

DNA

BEIJING: A Chinese scholar Prof. Zhou Rong said Pakistan in its efforts of overcoming damage caused by the floods and continuous torrential rains could learn more from China's experiences to handle the situation more effectively. In a report published by China Economic Net (CEN) on Monday, he made some suggestions as how to cope up with the situation. According to Prof. Rong, there is need to start from two aspects. The first is to set up an early warning system. The second is to build more water conservancy facilities in areas at high risk of flooding. Pakistan needs to do computa-

tions of river flow data, and computes water flows into the Indus River as well as its branches, the absorptive capacity of the terrain, the spread of vegetation, the solar energy signature over the entire Indus basin and more. If there is a system to ingest the data and process it, that will be the best. Prof. Zhou Rong a special commentator of CEN and fellow of Chongyang Institute for Financial Studies, Renmin University of China suggested that there should be a special system in Pakistan to tell how much rain to expect and where, how much accumulation of water will occur in what region and what river flow will be at each hydrological station everyday. Pakistan would be able to overcome the floods on self-reliance without asking for much interna-

tional assistance. The country needs to predict rainfall very accurately, even when it is dealing with anomalous storm patterns. But in order to predict stream flows at precise locations, it needs river flow data from each of the hydrological structures on the Indus river system. Therefore, Pakistan has to develop a special organization or instrument to download daily reports from the Pakistan Meteorological Department website which contains enough information. If country's special departments concerned could tell the likelihood of the occurrence of a flood, its location, intensity and effects on each individual river of the Indus river system, that will be best for everybody. With advance warning, embankments can be strength-

ened, reservoirs and dams can be emptied out, barrages can be reinforced. Breaching priorities for embankments that lie along the path of the flood can be drawn up in time and residents can be alerted so that perishables and livestock can be moved to higher ground. Prof. Zhou Rong stated that Pakistan is blessed with a highly developed river management system which can be effectively used to mitigate the full impact of a flood. With advance warning, water infrastructures could have been emptied out much sooner, making it possible to absorb the floodwaters surging down the river. With no additional water flowing, the peak flood could have been relatively better managed. He added, recently, the govern-

ment signed a contract of Rs442 billion with China Power for the construction of the Diamer-Bhasha Dam. The Chinese firm is executing the project in a joint venture with Frontier Works Organisation (FWO). The Diamer-Bhasha Dam would be completed to cope with the increasing water and electricity requirements of Pakistan. The dam project with a total financial outlay of about Rs1,406.5 billion would be completed in 2028. The water conservancy infrastructure of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor has not yet achieved full coverage, but it could be expected that more and more dams and reservoirs design and construction should be combined with Pakistan's flood prevention and rainstorm loss reduction.

**Sindh report points out rise in virus cases**

KARACHI: Sindh Health Department has pointed out a rising curve of novel coronavirus cases in the province in past 13 days of September. Provincial health department has sent a report to the Chief Minister of Sindh regarding increasing number of COVID-19 cases in past 13 days of the current month. "In September 2459 cases of coronavirus have been confirmed," according to the health department. Coronavirus has claimed 36 lives in current month in Sindh, the department said. Around 488 people were infected with the virus from shopping malls and markets, according to the report. — DNA

**Iran summons German envoy**

DNA

TEHRAN: Iran's foreign ministry on Monday summoned Germany's ambassador over tweets condemning the execution of a wrestler, accused of murdering a man during a wave of anti-government protests in 2018. The ministry "strongly condemned" the tweets and told German envoy Hans-Udo Muzel that the reaction was considered to be an "interference in the internal affairs" of Iran, according to an official statement.

**Hamza will be treated at govt hospital: Chohan**

DNA

LAHORE: Punjab Information Minister Fayyaz-ul-Hasan Chohan Monday said a three-member medical board has been constituted for Leader of the Opposition in the Punjab Assembly Hamza Shabbaz and he will be treated at a government hospital. The provincial minister said in his statement that Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) is making futile attempt to do politics on Hamza Shabbaz's health Fayyaz Chohan said, "Expert doctors and professors will examine the PML-N leader and the decision to shift him to a government hospital will be made afterwards. "PML-N's demand to shift Hamza Shabbaz to the Ittefaq Hospital or Raiwind palace is against the constitution and the law. The opposition leader in Punjab will be provided complete medical care." Earlier today, the Punjab government had rejected PML-N request to shift Hamza Shabbaz - who has contracted coronavirus - to the Ittefaq Hospital from the Kot Lakhpat Jail. PML-N deputy secretary Ata Tarar had written a letter to the Punjab chief secretary and requested to move Hamza Shabbaz to the Ittefaq Hospital from the Kot Lakhpat Jail on health grounds.