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Briefs

Govt will work on package for GB: Asad

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Planning Asad Umar Sunday said the federal government will jointly work with the newly elected government in Gilgit-Baltistan (GB) for the development in the region. Asad Umar, in a tweet, said that after historic federal packages for Karachi and South Balochistan, now work will start on the package for Gilgit-Baltistan. Voting underway for the general elections of Gilgit-Baltistan Assembly amid tight security.

GB's people want democracy: Bilawal

SHAHEEN HANIF

ISLAMABAD: Chairman of Pakistan People's Party PPP Bilawal Bhutto Zardari Sunday said that enthusiasm of people of Gilgit-Baltistan (GB) during election day is a testament to their commitment to democracy. Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, in a tweet, lauded people for actively participating in the voting process and while urging the election commission to ensure that every vote is casted and counted, said that the commission must not fail the people.

PTI govt has to be sent packing

IBRAR KHAN

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) vice president Maryam Nawaz on Sunday has said that the government of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) has to be sent packing. In a post on social-networking website Twitter, the PML-N vice president claimed the incumbent government is so much afraid of PML-N that it had arrested leaders in Gilgit-Baltistan before every rally. The selected prime minister became nervous over the public gatherings of opposition leaders for Gilgit-Baltistan elections, she added.

Indian nasty designs to be foiled

Foreign Minister Qureshi says India wants to create unrest in Pakistan to destabilize the Country by sponsoring terrorism in the country

BUREAU REPORT / DNA

MULTAN: Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi has said India wants to create unrest in Pakistan to destabilize the Country by sponsoring terrorism in the country. Talking to media in Multan on Sunday, he said India wants to sabotage China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) because it knows that CPEC is a game changer project for Pakistan. Foreign Minister said New Delhi has allocated 80 billion rupees for terrorists and established terrorists training camps on its soil to disrupt CPEC projects. He said India also wants to create unrest in Gilgit-Baltistan during and after elections and the dossier, containing irrefutable evidence of Indian sponsorship to terrorism has exposed Indian plans. Shah Mahmood Qureshi said India has become a threat to the region's peace and sta-

UN urged to declare India a terrorist country

LAHORE: Governor Punjab Chaudhry Sarwar demanded from the United Nations to declare India a terrorist country and said that the government and the armed forces of Pakistan along with 220 Million Pakistanis are united to thwart the anti-Pakistan agenda of "RAW". - DNA

bility and International community should take notice of the Indian nefarious designs to destabilize Pakistan through terrorism. Foreign Minister said India is also using Afghan soil against Pakistan, therefore Pakistan and Afghanistan should devise a

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UAE widens residency 'golden' visa eligibility

All holders of doctorate degrees, medical doctors and also computer, electronics, programming, electrical and biotechnology engineers are eligible,

DUBAI: The United Arab Emirates will extend its "golden" visa system - which grants 10-year residency in the Gulf state - to certain professionals, specialised degree-holders and others, the UAE's vice president said on Sunday. Foreigners in the UAE usually have renewable visas valid for only a few years tied to employment. The government in the past couple of years has made its visa policy more flexible, offering longer residencies for certain types of investors, students and professionals.

All holders of doctorate degrees, medical doctors and also computer, electronics, programming, electrical and biotechnology engineers are eligible, UAE Vice President and the ruler of Dubai Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid al-Maktoum said in a statement. Also eligible are those with specialised degrees in artificial intelligence, big data and epidemiology, as well as high school students living in the UAE who rank top in the country and students from certain universities with a GPA of 3.8 or higher.

After first announcing a long-term visa plan in 2018, the UAE in 2019 started granting 5- and 10-year renewable visas to certain foreign investors, entrepreneurs, chief executives, scientists and outstanding students. The emirate of Dubai, a Middle East trade and tourism hub, in September said it would grant visas renewable every five years to wealthy foreign retirees. An oil and gas producer, the UAE's economy has been hit by the coronavirus pandemic and low oil prices, prompting many expatriates to leave. - DNA

PPP flays restrictions on women voting

NAVEED MIRAJ

ISLAMABAD: PPP Senator Sherry Rehman said Sunday she is "deeply concerned" over the "deliberate restrictions on women's voting" in the Gilgit Baltistan Election 2020, and voiced worry over alleged rigging at the polling stations.

Sherry Rehman said any attempts to deprive women of their right to vote in the Gilgit Baltistan Election 2020 are "unacceptable" and called for GB Chief Election Commissioner Raja Shehbaz Khan to immediately intervene and resolve the issue. The PPP leader alleged that the observers of the Free and

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2,443 new virus cases

A total of 4,921,050 corona tests have been conducted so far, while 735 hospitals are equipped with COVID facilities

ISLAMABAD: The total active COVID-19 cases in Pakistan on Sunday were recorded 26,538 as 2,443 more people tested positive for the deadly virus during the last 24 hours. 22 corona patients, 27 of whom were under treatment in hospital and five out of hospital died on Saturday, according to the latest update issued by the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC). No COVID affected person was on ventilator in Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK), Gilgit Baltistan (GB) and Balochistan, while 196 ventilators were occupied elsewhere in Pakistan, out of 1,859 allocated for COVID-19 patients.

Some 39,410 tests were conducted across the country on Saturday, including 13,320 in Sindh, 12,639 in Punjab, 4,204 in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP), 7,420 in Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT), 754 in Balochistan, 310 in GB, and 763 in AJK. Around 323,225 people have recovered from the disease so far across Pakistan making it a significant count with over 90 percent recovery ratio of the affected patients. Since the pandemic outbreak, a total of 356,904 cases were detected so far, including AJK 5,349, Balochistan 16,393, GB 4,447, ICT 23,994, KP 41,990, Punjab 109,993 and Sindh 154,738. About 7,141 deaths were

recorded in country since the eruption of the contagion, including 2,738 Sindh among 12 of them died in hospital and four out of hospital on Saturday, 2,471 in Punjab eight of them died in hospital and one out of hospital on Saturday, 1,309 in KP four of them died in hospital on Saturday, 255 in ICT among two of them died in hospital on Saturday, 156 in Balochistan one of them died in hospital on Saturday, 93 in GB and 119 in AJK. A total of 4,921,050 corona tests have been conducted so far, while 735 hospitals are equipped with COVID facilities. Some 1,569 corona patients were admitted in hospitals across the country. - APP



TARBELA: Russian troops taking part in military drills, on Sunday. - DNA (Another picture on page 7)

DG ISPR shares video of Pakistan-Russian drills

NAVEED MIRAJ

TARBELA, The joint military exercise between Pakistan Army and Russian troops, Druzhba-V, continues at Tarbela, according to the ISPR. The director general of the military's media wing today tweeted a video showing Pakistan and Russian Federation Special Forces

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Armenia cedes Azerbaijan land

Residents of the Kalbajar district in Azerbaijan began a mass exodus of the mountainous province in the days leading up to the official withdrawal day

STEPANAKERT (AZERBAIJAN): Armenia on Sunday was due to begin handing over disputed territory to Azerbaijan as part of a peace accord that ended six weeks of fierce fighting over the Nagorno-Karabakh region. Residents of the Kalbajar district in Azerbaijan that was controlled by Armenian separatists for decades began a mass exodus of the mountainous province in the days leading up to the official withdrawal day. AFP journalists saw fleeing residents pile furniture and kitchenware into vehicles before leaving for Armenia and some among the departing ethnic-Armenians said they had exhumed graves they feared would be desecrated by Azerbaijanis. Thick plumes of smoke were rising over the valley

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Girl child needs more focused parenthood, opine experts - Page 03

Updated edition of Juma Khan Sufi's book launched - Page 04

Azerbaijan finally stands triumphed - Page 05

Life attempt on Armenian prime minister averted - Page 06

Turkmen leader insists his country is virus-free - Page 07

Crafts extravaganza at ISH draws huge interest - Page 08

Briefs
Rupee likely to gain further

NEWS DESK
KARACHI: The rupee is expected to strengthen further against the dollar next week where it may drop below 158 against the dollar. However, the present gains could not sustain, as the domestic currency could weaken to 159 to 161 by the end of this year. "We expect the rupee to post more gains, hovering below 158 during the next week on the back of higher inflows in the shape of remittances and exports proceeds, a currency dealer said. "Moreover, foreign exchange inflows from international financial institutions and overseas Pakistanis under the umbrella of Roshan Digital Account could lend support to the rupee," the currency trader added. During the outgoing week in the interbank market, the rupee rose 75 paise to 158.16/US dollar. In addition, a poll conducted by Tresmark with more than 70 participants from bank treasuries to traders, brokers, and corporate treasurers, revealed that 70% expect the year will end with the local currency to hover in the range of 159 and 161, and, the same percentage thought the rupee will close in the 163 and 164 range in June 2021.

"Shan-e-Rehmatul-Lil-Alameen (PBUH)" week
ISLAMABAD, Special Assistant to the Chief Minister of Punjab on Information and Culture, Dr. Firdous Ashiq Awan said on Sunday that the Punjab government will be celebrating "Shan-e-Rehmatul-Lil-Alameen (PBUH)" week. Talking to a private news channel she said that on the directions of Chief Minister Sardar Usman Buzdar "Shan-e-Rehmatul-Lil-Alameen (PBUH)" Week will be observed from 16 to 22 November to pay homage to Holy Prophet (PBUH) who is a source of light and guidance for all the human beings. She said that the CM had directed the entire provincial department to commemorate "Shan-e-Rehmatul-Lil-Alameen (PBUH)" week with reverence. In this regard, planned activities have been planned at division, district and Tehsil level. It was also decided to hold competitions of recitations, Naat, essay and speech along with Islamic calligraphy exhibitions, Mehfil-i-Sama and Naatia Mushaira, she added. She said a separate mehfil-e-milad would be held for women while the calligraphic exhibition will be arranged at Bagh-e-Jinnah.

ABID RAZA
ISLAMABAD: Serena Hotels sponsored a three-day crafts extravaganza with Behbud Association called "Embroidering Dreams", which kicked off on Friday night with an inaugural event featuring an exclusive fashion show. Addressing the opening ceremony of the exhibition, the First Lady Samina Arif Alvi said that even Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah believed that Pakistan could only progress if the women participated in industrious activities side by side with men. She applauded Serena Hotels for supporting Behbud Association, a non-profit organization providing employment to thousands of women artisans for over 50 years at the grassroots level and reaching out to the underprivileged women in urban slums. The opening event was attended by notable members from the diplomatic corps, foreign dignitaries, corporate and business sectors. Stringent compliance with Covid-19 health and safety protocols and SOPs were observed at the event. Embroidering Dreams was an exhibition of exquisite handmade products promoting traditional needlework and embroideries of Pakistan. The three-day exhibition aimed to celebrate home based workers and women artisans of Pakistan, that continue to produce such marvelous artefacts under trying circumstances. Guests witnessed different types of traditional crafts/needlework that come from various regions of Pakistan including Ralli, Kantha, Chikankari, Block Printing, Smocking, Cutwork, Cross-stitch, Taarkashi, Phulkari, Crochet, Knitting etc. The master artisans were present at the stalls to showcase a live display of their craft and technique. A large number of people attended the exhibition on all three days and enjoyed the detailed tour of the exquisite crafts.

Crafts extravaganza at ISH draws huge interest

Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah believed that Pakistan could only progress if the women participated in industrious activities side by side with men: First Lady Samina Alvi

NEWS DESK / DNA

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Ms. Abida Malik said that Behbud was run entirely by women volunteers and has over the years evolved into Pakistan's premier brand for ethical and sustainable fashion. Behbud, inaugurated in 1972, is ranked as one of the largest and oldest non-profit organizations in Pakistan, providing employment to thousands of women artisans for over 50 years. Having trained 300,000 artisans spanning five generations, Behbud, at its core, aids marginalized women by providing them with free of cost vocational training in local embroideries, free healthcare, counseling and education for their children. The non-profit also provides educational facilities in the form of a comprehensive adult literacy program, has set up a Behbud Primary School (in the capital's Saidpur Village), a Behbud Model High School (in Rawalpindi) and eight home schools (from Pre-Nursery till Grade 5), for the children of the underprivileged communities in Islamabad and Rawalpindi.

10 Covid patients die in Romania hospital fire

BUCHAREST: Ten Covid-19 patients were killed and others were in critical condition after fire broke out in an intensive care unit in northeast Romania on Saturday, a hospital spokesperson said. The fire occurred in the early evening in the intensive care of the hospital in the town of Piatra Neamt. It was under control an hour later by the emergency services. "Ten people have been declared dead and seven people are in critical condition," including a doctor, said hospital spokeswoman Irina Popa. Eight of the victims died in the flames and two others were pronounced dead following their evacuation. The doctor on duty, who tried to help the victims, suffered second and third degree burns to 80 percent of his body, the rescue service said. The cause of the blaze was unclear and the prosecutor general opened an enquiry into the tragedy. The health ministry suggested the fire could have been caused by an electrical short circuit. The local prefect set up a crisis

Pakistan expresses condolences to Romania over loss of lives

ISLAMABAD: The government and people of Pakistan have expressed their deepest condolences and sympathies to the Government and people of Romania as well as to the families of the victims of fire at Covid-19 intensive care unit in Piatra Neamt, the Foreign Office spokesperson said in a tweet on Sunday. He further posted "We wish the injured quickest recovery". According to Romanian officials quoted by press, a fire spread through the intensive care ward designated for COVID-19 patients in Piatra Neamt had killed at least 10 people and critically injured seven others. - DNA

Italian envoy to inaugurate IPTTC

Italian Ambassador to Pakistan Andreas Ferrarese will visit NTUF here on Monday (November 16) and inaugurate the IPTTC

ASHFAQ MUGHAL
FAISALABAD: National Textile University Faisalabad (NTUF) has established Italy-Pakistan Textile Technology Center (IPTTC) to exchange latest technology for boosting up textile productivity with new inventions. In this connection, Italian Ambassador to Pakistan Andreas Ferrarese will visit NTUF here on Monday (November 16) and inaugurate the IPTTC. All arrangements in this regard have been completed to hold inaugural ceremony of IPTTC in a most befitting manner at 10 a.m. on Monday, said a spokesman of NTUF today.

Tareen, Shehbaz Sharif booked in sugar case

ISLAMABAD: The Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) has registered two separate FIRs against industrialist and PTI member Jahangir Tareen and PML-N President Shehbaz Sharif in the sugar crisis case. Other accused include Tareen's son Ali Tareen, and Hamza and Suleman Shabbaz, the sons of Shehbaz Sharif. They were booked on charges of cheating, criminal breach of trust, fraud and money laundering. The FIRs were registered at the FIA's Anti-Corruption Circle Lahore. An inquiry commission made stunning revelations in May about how sugar barons had cheated farmers, benefited from subsidies and created conditions so that the price of sugar would go up. The commission was formed by the PTI government and headed by FIA Director-General Wajid Zia. Tareen was among those accused of benefitting the most. The report said that six major groups control 51% of the total sugar production and Tareen's JDW Mill has the biggest share-20% of the total production. His mills made Rs200 billion in three years. They were also found to be running double books. The mill was underreporting its revenue. Tareen and his son left Pakistan for London soon after the report was made public. They returned recently, after seven months. The PTI leader was disqualified from holding public office on January 30, 2018 but remained a senior member of the party. - DNA

Pak Rosewood handicrafts hailed by Chinese buyers

DNA
BEIJING: Pakistan's Rosewood handicrafts were well received by Chinese buyers during the recent four-day China Yiwu Import Commodities Fair held in Zhejiang Province, says a report carried by Gwadar Pro on Sunday. Since its establishment, Yiwu Imported Commodities Fair has become one of the best trade platforms for foreign goods to enter the Chinese market. "This is not only my first time to Yiwu city and my

first time to the Yiwu expo, but also my first participation of an expo this year," said Usman Anjum, CEO of Sanaullah Handicraft Pakistan. According to Usman, a lot of Pakistani people who do business in China went back to Pakistan due to the COVID-19. There are only 3 Pakistani exhibitors in this year's Yiwu expo, which is much fewer compared with the normal years. Usman has a store in Kunming, where the China-South Asia expo is held every year. This year that expo was canceled as well.

Usman this time had to use buses to transport goods from Kunming to Yiwu. The products that he sold are mostly big wooden furniture. "The transport is quite expensive. He hoped that the sale this time will be good. "In Usman's expectation, the four day's sale during the whole Yiwu expo should be 100,000 Yuan. "Chinese customers love Pakistani wooden furniture. It's handmade and made of Pakistani rosewood, and it's much cheaper than Chinese ones." "This little box is 80 yuan, while the same size

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Pak, China working on transportation projects, says Ambassador Moin

DNA
BEIJING: Pakistan and China are discussing and working on many other transportation projects under the framework of China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) in major cities, including Karachi, capital of Sindh province, and Quetta, capital of Balochistan. The CPEC, in its first phase, focuses on infrastructure and energy development, referencing Gwadar Port projects in Southwestern Pakistan under the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). The port will enhance connectivity between our two countries and the rest of the world, he said in an interview with Global Times. Ambassador Haque said the metro line is an extremely important project under the CPEC that will provide a modern, efficient, and affordable transport services to the people of Lahore, a metropolis of 12 million people with serious traffic congestion. The line will also help reduce car-

bon emissions and air pollution in the city as more people use it to commute, he added. Pakistan's first metro line, built by Guangzhou Metro Company, opened on October 25 in Lahore. It will be jointly operated by Chinese and Pakistani companies. In the second phase, he said, the CPEC will mainly concentrate on the areas of agriculture, science and technology, and vocational training, which are very important for Pakistan's poverty alleviation, and economic and social development. By learning China's experience, we are building a number of special economic zones across the country, which will provide opportunities for investors from China and other countries, he said. Ambassador Haque noted that Pakistan and China have a long history of interaction and people-to-people exchanges, helping foster their relationship and mutual understanding in a variety of cultural sectors. The two neighbors are getting closer than ever, from arts and culture,

infrastructure and poverty alleviation to cooperation in regional security, he added. While commenting release of Parwaaz Hai Junoon, the first Pakistani film which hit Chinese mainland theatres in decades, he said that he expects the movie to be warmly welcomed by Chinese audiences. It is one of the most popular and highest-grossing movies to be made in Pakistan, which had done very well in box office in Pakistan and across the world, he said. So we are very happy that it has become one of the first movies after a gap of almost 40 years to be screened in China, and would like to thank Fire International Media for its role in screening of the movie. He mentioned the two countries are also planning joint production in the film industry. So this movie will be a trailblazer and a starting point for such a cooperation. Ambassador Haque said there is a long history of interactions between people living in China and Pakistan. So after our two countries became independent, this history and cul-

tural affinity brought them closer and closer to each other, he said, mentioning the two sides signed their first cultural cooperation agreement in 1965. Since then, we had numerous events between Pakistan and China in the fields of art, festivals, sports, literature, and music. We have also established a number of sister cities and sister provinces between the two sides, he added. We are also planning a number of cultural activities to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the establishment of our ties in 2021. Cultural and people-to-people exchanges between the two countries help foster their relationship and mutual understanding, he said. "We have also set up Pakistan study centers in a number of Chinese universities, and similarly, there are also Confucius Institutes in Pakistan which are teaching Chinese language and history." According to the ambassador, China is the top overseas destination for Pakistani students, 28,000 of whom are studying in China.