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China refutes accusation of "fake image"

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Fazl summons PDM meeting on December 8

Detailed News On Page-01



Briefs

Fazl summons meeting

DNA

MULTAN: Head of Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) Maulana Fazl-ur-Rehman has said that future strategy of the anti-government movement will be announced after December 8 meeting of alliance's leaders. Talking to media person along with former Prime Minister Yousaf Raza Gillani in Multan, Maulana Fazl-ur-Rehman said that people of Multan have rejected the selected government and sons of Yousaf Raza offered sacrifices and became victim of police brutality.

Dar skips question on his return

DNA

LONDON: Former Finance Minister during the Nawaz Sharif rule, Ishaq Dar on Tuesday claimed that he had no properties abroad and only owned a residence in Pakistan that was already seized on the orders of the incumbent government. The absconding former finance minister seemed to be perplexed during the BBC talk show, HARDtalk, when the host asked if he and his family had any properties abroad as claimed by the authorities in Pakistan. "I owned a single property in Pakistan, which is now under the custody of the government while my children own a villa," he said when asked if they had properties in London and Dubai.

Cases against PDM rally organizers

ABID RAZA

LAHORE: The Punjab government has decided to register cases against the organizers of the Pakistan Democratic Movement's (PDM) Multan jalsa, Chief Minister Buzdar's special assistant Firdous Ashiq Awan said Tuesday. The development comes a day after the 11-party alliance held a massive rally in Multan despite the government's repeated warnings against doing so, urging it to suspend political gatherings in light of the novel coronavirus.

PM values China's support for Kashmir

General Wei Fenghe conveyed warm greetings of President Xi Jinping and Premier Li Keqiang to the Prime Minister

ANSAR BHATTI / DNA

ISLAMABAD: The Prime Minister Imran Khan deeply appreciated China's principled support on Jammu and Kashmir in the wake of India's unilateral and illegal actions of 5 August 2019. Chinese State Councilor and Minister of Defence General Wei Fenghe called on Prime Minister Imran Khan on Tuesday. Welcoming the Defence Minister's visit to Pakistan, Prime Minister Imran Khan underscored the importance of regular high-level exchanges, even in the time of COVID-19. The Prime Minister appreciated China's consistent support to Pakistan in pursuit of Pakistan's national development goals. He also appreciated China's success in dealing with COVID-19 pandemic. He underlined the serious threat posed by RSS-BJP dispensation through belligerent actions, discriminatory measures against Indian minorities, and harsh steps to curb all the freedoms of innocent Kashmiris in the Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir. (Picture on Back Page)

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Pakistan rejects India's criticism

NAVEED MIRAJ

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan on Monday rejected India's statement on the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation's (OIC) Resolution on the Jammu and Kashmir dispute, a statement from the Foreign Office said. The unanimously adopted resolution – at the 47th Session of OIC Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM), held in Niamey, Niger, on November 28 – is the collective voice of the Muslim Ummah, said the FO. The statement from the Foreign Office highlighted that the OIC is the second-largest international organisation after the United Nations with 57 members and five observer states. "Jammu and Kashmir is one of the oldest internationally recognised disputes on the agenda of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC)," the statement said.

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Govt approves \$150m for vaccine

Commenting on PDM's recent public rally in Multan, Shibli Faraz urged the opposition not to play with the lives of people

RANA FARRUKH

ISLAMABAD: The Federal Cabinet has approved the grant of 150 million dollars to procure anti-Covid vaccine. This was announced by Prime Minister's Special Assistant on National Health Dr. Faisal Sultan along with Minister for Information and Broadcasting Shibli Faraz while giving details about decisions taken by the federal cabinet, which met in Islamabad on



Tuesday. The Special Assistant shortlisted, contacted and few companies have been

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Non duty paid cigarettes seized by tobacco squad

The cartons recovered were of brands Kisan, Hero, Classic, Highway, Chance, Metro, Melbourne

BUREAU REPORT

FAISALABAD: Tobacco squad Faisalabad on secret information visited the sales office of Habib karyana store, Timber market and recovered hundreds of cigarette cartons.

In line with the policy guidelines, Tobacco Squad of Intelligence and Investigation, Inland Revenue, Faisalabad under the supervision of Deputy Director, Imran Zafar, exercising powers u/s 38 of the Sales Tax Act, 1990 read with Rule 62 of the Federal

Excise Duty, 2005 visited the business premises and sales office of a registered person in Timber Market. The godown located near Lari Ada, Tandlianwala, was searched after getting a search warrant from the

Continued on Page 06



ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Poland Piotr Opalinski exchanging views with leader of the house in Senate Dr. Shahzad Waseem. – DNA

Pakistan Covid19 cases cross 400,000

DNA

ISLAMABAD (DNA): Pakistan's COVID-19 tally rose to 400,482 on Tuesday after 2,458 new cases were detected in the past 24 hours across the country. The number of coronavirus deaths reported in Pakistan on November 30 reached its highest in nearly five months, offering more evidence that the pandemic was gaining fresh momentum across the country as cooler weather sets in. The data issued by the National Command and Operations Centre (NCOC) on Tuesday showed that the virus claimed 67 lives in the past 24 hours, raising the death toll to 8,091. The country's fatality rate stands at 2.0% against the global mortality rate of 2.3%. The number of new cases began trending higher over six weeks, with health experts and authorities warning that the second wave may hit harder than the first if SOPs are not followed.

Wuhan to Islamabad direct flights started

DNA

ISLAMABAD: China Southern Airlines has launched a direct flight from Wuhan city to Islamabad on every Monday. The first flight, Boeing 787, departed with 143 passengers carrying 12 tons of goods, including communication devices and medical equipment has arrived in Islamabad. In line with the current COVID-19 prevention and control measures, passengers of direct regular commercial flights from Pakistan to China are required to complete nucleic acid tests and produce certificates with negative results.

KSA opens airspace for Israeli planes

This will help the route of Israeli flights to UAE – to start from this month onwards – shorten by half

RIYADH: Saudi Arabia agreed on Monday to let Israeli airliners cross its airspace en route to the United Arab Emirates after talks between Saudi officials and White House senior adviser Jared Kushner, a senior Trump administration official said. Kushner and Middle East envoys Avi Berkowitz and Brian Hook raised the issue shortly after they arrived in Saudi Arabia for talks. According to the Israeli 24news, the Tel Aviv administration asked Washington to persuade Saudi Arabia to allow use of its airspace and Kushner stepped in. The agreement was hammered out just hours before Israel's first commercial flight to the UAE was planned on Tuesday morning. The Israil flight was at risk of being canceled with no overflight agreement. An announcement by Saudi Arabia's official news agency said that the kingdom's civil aviation authority had approved a request by UAE's aviation authority "which includes the desire

to allow flights coming to and departing from the United Arab Emirates to all countries to pass through the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's airspace". This will help the route of Israeli flights to UAE – to start from this month onwards – shorten by half. The permit was only valid for the UAE and Israeli companies will not be allowed to use the Saudi Arabian airspace for flights to other countries, said Israel's local media report. – Agencies

SC seeks details of tree Tsunami project

There are no trees in Nathia Gali, Malam Jabba, and even Murree," observed the top judge, questioning the Billion Tree Tsunami project

KHAYAM ABBASI / DNA

ISLAMABAD: The Supreme Court of Pakistan on Tuesday took notice and sought details of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) government's Billion Tree Tsunami project in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. A two-member bench comprising Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Gulzar Ahmed and Justice Ijaz ul Ahsan, hearing a case pertaining to tree plantation near rivers and canals, has also summoned the secretary of climate change and issues contempt of court notices to Sindh and Punjab governments over failure to submit a report on the matter. "There are no trees in Nathia Gali, Malam Jabba, and even Murree," observed the top judge, questioning the Billion Tree Tsunami project. He remarked that the Islamabad administration boasts planting 500,000 trees but they are nowhere to be seen. "Were they planted in Bani Gala? There are no trees planted along the rivers from Islamabad to Karachi. There are no trees in Peshawar and there is deforestation going on in Nathia Gali." The bench sought details of the funds spent on the Billion Tree Tsunami including records of expenditure and their justification, and count of trees planted along with photographic evidence – satellite view.

Indoor dining banned in Capital

SHUJAAT HAMZA

ISLAMABAD: The Capital administration has restricted indoor dining in Islamabad. According to a notification, only take aways and dining outside in open area is allowed. All Assistant Commissioners / Sub Divisional Magistrates are in field ensuring the orders issued under Epidemic Diseases Act in order to prevent further covid infection. It is worth mentioning here that Islamabad is witnessing a surge in Covid-19 cases, with 283 new cases and 4 deaths reported on Sunday. Total number of cases reported in federal capital stand at 30,406.

OIC Kashmir resolution a victory: Qureshi

ISLAMABAD: Foreign Minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi has said that adoption of the Resolution on Kashmir in the OIC Council of Foreign Ministers Meeting is a victory for the Kashmiri people and the principle position of Pakistan. Talking to PM's Special Envoy for Religious Harmony and Middle East Allama Tahir Ashrafi in Islamabad today, he said Pakistan, as a founding member, considers the Organization of Islamic Cooperation as the most important and suitable forum for resolving issues facing Muslim Ummah. The Foreign Minister said that he highlighted the issue of serious human rights violations in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir and Indian state terrorism during meetings with his counterparts of different Islamic countries. He said fight for Kashmiris' right to self-determination will be continued at every forum. China Southern Airlines has launched a direct flight from Wuhan city to Islamabad on every Monday. – APP

2020: Japan offers 61 training programmes

Japanese Government would be pleased if these trainees who will learn many things in Japan could build a bright future of Pakistan

SHUJAAT HAMZA

ISLAMABAD: The Japanese Government has offered training programmes, which are held in Japan for Pakistan annually every year as a part of development cooperation for the further development of Pakistan. These programmes are implemented by JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency), thanks to the support by Japanese ministries, municipalities, universities and relevant organizations. Although around 80 trainees to participate in a total of 61 courses in FY2020, due to restriction on overseas travel by the COVID-19 pandemic, these curriculums had to be reconsidered. Therefore,



JICA is exploring alternative methods such as online courses so that opportunities to participate in the trainings will not be lost even in challenging times. The programmes are gradually being decided as shown in the attached tables.

The programmes will restart on a full scale once the pandemic calms down. Japanese Government would be pleased if these trainees who will learn many things in Japan could build a bright future of Pakistan.



(1) Group and Region-Focused Programme
- Many trainees participate in a course of diverse sectors.
- Around 60 trainees participate in 50-60 programmes for basically 1-2 months with the participants from

the other countries.
- Approximately 5,000 trainees have joined under this programme since 1957.
(2) Young Leaders Training Programme
- The programme targets young people who are around

20-35 years old and are expected to lead the development of Pakistan in the future.
- Around 10 trainees participate in 1 programme for 2-3 weeks.
- 495 trainees have joined under this programme since 1991.
(3) Long-term Training Programme
- Participants study at Japanese universities pursuing masters or post-doctoral degrees for 2-3 years.
- 32 trainees have studied under this programme since 2016.
(4) Country Focus Training Programme
- Order-made programmes which focus on specific sector for a certain country.
- The period is less than one year.

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Briefs

SHC extends interim bail of Qaim Ali Shah

DNA

KARACHI: The Sindh High Court (SHC) on Tuesday extended the interim bail of Sindh's former Chief Minister Syed Qaim Ali Shah in a case related to illegal land allotment. The former chief is facing NAB inquiry into illegal land allotment case. Shah appeared before the court as his bail expired on Tuesday. Upon plea, his interim bail was extended till January 13. The SHC has directed the NAB to present arguments at the next hearing of the case. The former chief minister is also facing charges of massive corruption in Roshan Sindh project initiated by the provincial government for the installation of solar streetlights across the province.

The senior PPP leader has won seven out of eight general elections he contested, becoming a MPA six times, and Member of National Assembly (MNA) and senator once. Shah completed his 2nd term as Chief Minister of Sindh on 21 March 2013. He was once again, for the third time, elected to the office of chief minister of Sindh after the 2013 general elections. In July 2016, the PPP leadership decided to replace Shah with Murad Ali Shah as CM Sindh.

Health minister calls for enhanced awareness on HIV

LAHORE: Punjab Health Minister Dr Yasmin Rashid Tuesday called for enhanced awareness among youth on HIV/AIDS stigma reduction and its modes of transmission. While addressing a seminar in connection with World AIDS Day at a local hotel here, she said that creating awareness among university students about communicable diseases, especially HIV/AIDS, was of paramount importance as the disease was spreading at a fast pace. She emphasized that removing stigma attached with HIV/AIDS must be the prime focus of the campaign. The minister said, "I am grateful to the vice chancellors for coming forward for a great cause. The role of Academia is integral in generating awareness among youth on prevention and control of communicable diseases. We must discourage the trend of using injections for treatment by healthcare providers and the public. Injection must be used only when it becomes extremely necessary. Use of infected syringes, surgical/piercing instruments and unsafe blood transfusion are major causes of HIV spread in Punjab." - APP

Railway traffic suspended in Karachi

DNA

KARACHI: A large number of sacked employees of the Pakistan Steel Mills (PSM) have blocked the main railway track near Bin Qasim, suspending the rail traffic for the last two hours. As per details, the employees of Pakistan Steel Mills (PSM) have staged a sit-in at the railway track near Bin Qasim against the sacking of their services by the federal government. As a result, the up and down rail traffic is suspended, whereas Karachi Express and Sir Syed Express are waiting at the stations for clearance for the last two hours.

The enraged protestors are urging the government to take back its decision to laying-off their services. The 4,544 PSM employees, including teachers, drivers, firemen, operators, health and security staffers, SEDGMs, managers and others had been sacked, a spokesperson from the Steel Mill said the other day. Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Chairperson Bilawal Bhutto Zardari while criticising the PTHed federal government, last week, had said in his tweet that the heartless government has sacked 4500 workers of Pakistan Steel Mills. PPP will return each and everyone back to work.



ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi conferring Nishan-e-Imtiaz (Military) on minister of national defence of China, General Wei Fenghe, at Aiwan-e-Sadr. - DNA

'Ties with China cornerstone of Pakistan's foreign policy'

"On 5 August 2019, India moved to alter the disputed status of Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) and change its demographic structure," he said

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan and China have reiterated their resolve to further consolidate their friendship for the mutual benefit of the two countries. This was discussed at a meeting between the visiting Chinese Minister for National Defence, General Wei Fenghe, and President Dr Arif Alvi, at Aiwan-e-Sadr, today. Welcoming the Chinese Defence Minister, the President said that Pakistan's friendship with China was the cornerstone of its foreign policy and Pakistan wanted to further improve and cement its ties with the People's Republic of China so as to address the security challenges being faced by the region. The President informed the delegation that Pakistan and China were great friends and Pakistan strongly

President Alvi confers Nishan-e-Imtiaz on Chinese Defense Minister

DNA

ISLAMABAD: President Dr. Arif Alvi has conferred Nishan-e-Imtiaz Military on Chinese Defense Minister Wei Fenghe in recognition of his services for further promoting and strengthening defense cooperation between Pakistan and China. A special investiture ceremony was held at the

adhered to One-China Policy and supported China on issues of Taiwan, Tibet, Xinjiang and South China Sea. The President expressed concern over the Indian hegemonic designs that posed a threat to regional peace

and stability. The President also highlighted India's state-sponsorship of terrorism against Pakistan. President Dr Arif Alvi appreciated the economic progress made by China as well as the measures taken by the Chi-

greatly values our time-tested and brotherly relations with China. We have been standing together all along, and our relations will be no different in wake of future challenges. Visiting dignitary acknowledged and appreciated Pak Army's sincere efforts for the regional peace. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was also signed for enhancement of defence cooperation between both the Armies.

Government in containing the Covid-19 pandemic. He lauded the steadfast Chinese support to Pakistan on the Jammu & Kashmir dispute, including at international fora. The President underlined that

there was huge scope of bilateral defence cooperation that needed to be further expanded for the mutual advantage of the two countries. General Wei Fenghe stated that military relations between the two all-weather friends had made significant progress and expressed the hope that his visit would further strengthen the defence cooperation. He said that China wanted to share dividends of development with Pakistan that would help in economic uplift of Pakistan. He thanked the President for being the first foreign dignitary to visit China during March 2020 amidst the Covid-19 pandemic as well as sending the medical equipment. He also thanked the President for conferring the award of Nishan-e-Imtiaz (Military) on him, saying that it reflected the true friendship between the two countries.

Zinda-dil-a'an-e-Lahore - Billboard Project

DNA

LAHORE: The Lahore Biennale Foundation in partnership with Parks and Horticulture Authority (PHA), today revealed a list of 16 participating artists and 7 new commissions of artists who are from the City or have strong connections to Lahore for an upcoming billboard project, running from 24th November 2020 to 7th December 2020. Curated by Qudsia Rahim, Executive Director of the Lahore Biennale Foundation, Zinda -dil-a'an-e-Lahore - Billboard Project.

to the City and it's Citizens - a reminder of the humanity that holds it together. The participating artists are Shah Abdullah, Hamra Abbas, Ajaz Anwar, Naazish Ata Ullah, Faiza Butt, Ruby Chishti, Salima Hashmi, Ayesha Jatoi, Ali Kazim, Asif Khan, Atif Khan, Saba Khan, Waqas Khan, Imran Qureshi, WardhaShabbirandMasooma Syed. With a focus on the city and its residents, the project is a response to the prevailing Covid-19 situation. "This project is an awareness campaign to interest people towards the concept of contemporary art which is largely missing in our environment. The idea is to also attract the audience, largely unaware of contemporary arts", said Qudsia Rahim, curator of the project and Executive Director of the Lahore Biennale Foundation.



ANKARA: Chief of Naval Staff of Pakistan Admiral Muhammad Amjad Khan Niazi arrived in Ankara on a 4-days official visit to Turkey. He was received at the airport by Pakistan Ambassador to Turkey Syrus Sajjad Qazi and senior officials of the Turkish Navy. - DNA

NH&MP organizes AIDS awareness program

Besides a professional commitment by all the team members, the credit also goes to the strict imposition of traffic rules, awareness campaigns inculcating road sense among our citizens and bailing out the commuters in distress. Dr. Marlin, Country Director for UN AIDS

DNA

ISLAMABAD: On the occasion of World AIDS Day, a special awareness program was conducted at the National Highways and Motorways Police Headquarters in collaboration with the National Highways and Motorways Police and UN AIDS. UN AIDS officials and senior officers from the National Highways and Motorways Police attended the ceremony. DIG Headquarters, Asghar Ali Yousafzai, while delivering a welcome address, explained the reasons for the spread of AIDS and said that today's special event would help in the prevention of AIDS. Inspector General of National Highways and Motorways Police, Dr. Syed Kaleem Imam,



said that the National Highways and Motorways Police in collaboration with UN AIDS have been instrumental in raising awareness, prevention and eradication of HIV / AIDS in Pakistan. On the occasion, Inspector General, Dr Syed Kaleem Imam, assured that the Motorway Police would extend

full cooperation to UN AIDS to make the campaign success. He further added that in a short period after its inception, the NHMP has displayed remarkable results in reducing road accidents, both fatal and non-fatal, thus saving and preserving precious lives. Besides a professional commitment by

all the team members, the credit also goes to the strict imposition of traffic rules, awareness campaigns inculcating road sense among our citizens and bailing out the commuters in distress. Dr. Marlin, Country Director for UN AIDS, while appreciating the role of Motorway Police, said that the

Government of Pakistan is taking state responsibilities for the prevention and treatment of HIV / AIDS seriously. She said unprotected blood transfusions, organ / tissue transplants and sex can spread HIV. However, air, water, insects, pets, food, drinks and tears are not the sources to spread AIDS. She said that approximately 190,000 people in Pakistan are infected with AIDS whereas 5,300 of them are women. She assured that UN AIDS would extend full cooperation to the Government of Pakistan for the eradication of HIV / AIDS from Pakistan. She elaborated the steps taken by the government of Pakistan to control it. In the end of the program, souvenirs were presented to the distinguished guests.

Mangrove plantation campaign announced

KARACHI: Chairman Karachi Port Trust (KPT) Rear Admiral (retd) Jamil Akhtar termed the plantation of mangroves as extremely necessary for the ports and port cities to avoid natural calamities like Tsunamis, Heat Waves and announced a full year Mangrove Plantation Campaign 2020-21 under which KPT will plant 100,000 mangroves every quarter. The Chairman KPT made this announcement while speaking at the launching ceremony of mangroves plantation campaign 2020-21 here on Tuesday. The ceremony was attended by all the General Managers, senior and middle management officials of KPT besides media and other guests. Sharing the details of the program, the Chairman KPT informed further that mangrove plantation will take place quarter-wise throughout the campaign year and side by side activities like public awareness campaign out-reaching school children in second quarter, conferences and symposia arrangements in third quarter and marine eco-tourism entertainment for local hotels in fourth quarter have been scheduled under this campaign. - APP

'Govt ready to discuss all issues with opposition'

LAHORE: Punjab Governor Chaudhry Mohammad Sarwar on Tuesday said that apart from accountability, the government was ready to discuss every issue with the opposition. Addressing an event regarding anti-polio campaign at Governor's House, he said there could be no compromise on elimination of corruption and transparent accountability. Besides, the government was ready to hold talks with the opposition on all issues and the option of negotiations was never ruled out in democracy. He said if the opposition wanted to end the accountability process, it was not possible. To a question, he said that there was complete democracy in Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) and every member of the party had the right to give his opinion on any issue including the opposition rallies. He said political parties should also introduce democracy in their ranks and let everyone speak. He said that Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) government did not believe in political revenge and no one was being targeted for political revenge. To another question, he said that in a telephonic conversation with Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) President Shehbaz Sharif, he had only expressed condolences on the death of his late mother and no other discussion had taken place. - APP

Smart lockdown imposed in 6 localities

ABBOTTABAD: The district administration Tuesday imposed a smart lockdown in six areas to prevent further spread of the COVID-19. According to the notification issued by the DC office, the smart lockdown was imposed on the recommendations of the health department to prevent the local transmission of COVID-19 in Hassan Town, Noor Colony, Supply, Maira Rehmat Khan, Chatra, Lal Gah Muslim Abad Havelian, Jugan Nawan Shahr and Govt. Girls High School Nawan-shahr. No general entry or exit to these localities by any person, except for supply of essential commodities, shall be allowed. All types of gatherings within these premises would be strictly prohibited. Anyone contravening the directions would be proceeded against under section 17 and 18 of the KPP Epidemic Control & Emergency Relief Ordinance. In the district, total number of confirmed coronavirus positive cases were 2463 whereas 1907 patients have been recovered from the virus, 459 patients were under treatment and 97 have been expired. A total number of 25116 coronavirus tests have been conducted in the district out of which 21306 were negative, 2463 were positive while results of 1278 samples were awaited and 69 were inconclusive.

Briefs

20,000 surgical masks gifted to Cops

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Green Inspire Foundation (GIF) on Tuesday handed over 20,000 surgical masks to Islamabad police which is standing on the frontline in struggle to curb COVID-19. These masks were formally handed over to SP (Headquarters) Syed Arif Hussain Shah Director GIF Ch. Sheeraz here at Central Police Office. The SP (Headquarters) thanked the representative of GIF and said that Islamabad police is performing role at front line to combat this daunting challenge. Following directions of IGP Islamabad Muhammad Amir Zulfiqar, he said that efforts are also being made for to protect health of policemen so that they may accomplish their responsibilities in an effective manner. He said that Islamabad police is standing with its citizens and the morale of the force is very much high. He said that Islamabad police is creating awareness among citizens to adopt precautionary measures and also doing its best to ensure protection to the lives and property of the citizens.

The SP said that these masks would be distributed among those performing duties in field including traffic policemen so that they could work in safe atmosphere. He also appealed the citizens to cooperate with Islamabad Police in its efforts to curb COVID-19. Director GIF Ch. Sheeraz also lauded the efforts of Islamabad police in curbing spread of coronavirus and ensuring implementation on SOPs in this regard.

Court adjourns LNG reference till Dec 8

ISLAMABAD: An Accountability Court (AC) on Tuesday adjourned hearing on LNG reference till December 8, against former Prime Minister Shahid Khaqan Abbasi. AC-II Judge Muhammad Azam Khan conducted hearing on graft reference filed by National Accountability Bureau (NAB) against Shahid Khaqan, his son Abdullah Khaqan, former finance minister Miftah Ismail and others. At the outset of hearing, the court started testimony of prosecution witness Muhammad Hassan. The defense lawyer Barrister Zafarullah objected on the proceeding and said that the NAB had not provide the complete copies of reference against his client to this the prosecutor said that his department had already shared the copies of reference and it could provide against if the defense required it. — APP

CDA restoration of roads underway

ISLAMABAD: The work of Capital Development Authority (CDA) on restoration and repairing of all the main roads, link roads, streets in the city is underway. Work of carpeting, kerb stones, lane marking, and cutting of shrubs is also continued with full pace. Jogging tracks are also being constructed along the various roads. Upon the special directions of the Chairman CDA, Aamir Ali Ahmad all the departments of CDA are working in two shifts to complete the work as soon as possible. Chairman CDA himself inspecting the work of progress, development, and beautification by making the sudden visits of the sites. The projects upon which work has been completed include repairing and restoration of Srinagar Highway, Plaining of land at Park enclave 1, Jogging track at Nazim-Uddin road, restoration and repairing of sector D-12, construction of water land at Margala road, cutting of grass at School Road F-6, removal of illegal speed breakers, kerb stones at Bilal road F-11, lane marking at Diplomatic Enclave, Installation of speed breakers, Lane marking at G-6/1 and G-6/2, and lane marking and installation of speed breakers in sector G-5. — DNA



ISLAMABAD: Sardar Yasir Ilyas, President ICCI presenting souvenir to Paul F. Koyl, President Tanzania Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture during their visit to ICCI. — DNA

ICCI and TCCIA vow to work together

Addressing the delegation, Sardar Yasir Ilyas Khan, President, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry said that despite huge potential, Africa was still an unexplored market for Pakistan

RANA FARRUKH

ISLAMABAD: Africa was the future for the world and Pakistani investors should visit Tanzania to explore JVs and investment in order to capitalize on the emerging business and economic opportunities in the African region. This was observed by Paul F Koyl, President of Tanzania Chamber of Commerce, Industry & Agriculture (TCCIA) while addressing the business community during a visit to Islamabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry (ICCI). He visited ICCI along with a delegation of Tanzanian entrepreneurs and exchanged views with Sardar Yasir Ilyas Khan, President ICCI and his team to promote bilateral trade and economic relations with Tanzania and Pakistan. Mian Akram Farid Chairman Found-

er, Abdul Rehman Khan Vice President ICCI, Umar Hussain, Omais Khattak, Muhammad Shkir, Khurshed Barlas, Khalid Chaudhry and others were also present at the occasion. Paul F Koyl said that Tanzania was determined to promote business relations with Pakistan and that's why despite the challenges of Covid-19, Tanzanian business delegation has come to Pakistan to interact with Pakistani counterparts in order to explore business collaborations. He said that there was a disconnection between the private sectors of both countries as for the 3 decades, no Tanzanian delegation had visited Pakistan. Therefore, more meetings and exchange of delegations were needed to know each other, build confidence and improve trade rela-

tions. He said that being agro economies, Pakistan and Tanzania have good potential to cooperate in value addition of agro products. He said both countries should set up joint working groups at government level and a Pak-Tanzania Business Council to promote long-term cooperation between the private sectors of both countries. Addressing the delegation, Sardar Yasir Ilyas Khan, President, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry said that despite huge potential, Africa was still an unexplored market for Pakistan, however, now Pakistan has made a Look Africa policy to focus on this big market. He said that developing close relations with Tanzania was important for Pakistan to get better penetration into the African market. He said that our

neighbours were exporting products worth billions of dollars to Africa in which Pakistan also has competitive advantage. He emphasized that with more focus and strenuous efforts, Pakistan can make a significant increase in its exports to Africa. He said that Pak-Tanzania bilateral trade of around US\$ 154 million in 2019-20 was much below their actual potential and stressed that both countries should focus on promoting business linkages between their private sectors to further improve bilateral trade volume. He said that many Pakistani products including pharmaceuticals, textiles, surgical instruments, sports goods, engineering goods, IT products could find a good market in Tanzania. He identified agriculture, pharmaceuticals, minerals, IT, tourism as potential areas of

mutual cooperation between Pakistan and Tanzania. He assured that ICCI would take a delegation to Tanzania to explore JVs and investment. Mian Akram Farid, Chairman Founder Group said that frequent interactions between private sectors and exchange of trade delegations should be the way forward for promoting bilateral trade and economic relations between Pakistan and Tanzania. He said that Tanzania provided Pakistan easy access to the huge African market while Pakistan provided easy access to Tanzania to South Asian market, thus promoting strong bilateral business cooperation should be a high priority of both countries. ICCI and TCCIA also signed an MoU to promote bilateral trade, JVs and investment between Pakistan and Tanzania with joint efforts.

ChildLife to expand life-saving operations

DNA

ISLAMABAD: ChildLife Foundation (ChildLife) has selected Oracle Cloud Infrastructure (OCI) to support its third party hospital management system application. As a result, ChildLife has significantly increased the utilization of the application by improving its availability and performance, at a reduced cost. This is helping it direct the maximum amount of funding and resource towards achieving its mission: providing quality and free-of-cost emergency healthcare to every child in Pakistan. ChildLife operates in 21 hospitals with 10 state-of-the-art, model emergency rooms in all public-teaching hospitals across Sindh and Baluchistan provinces and 11 telemedicine satellite centers serving farflung areas, providing services that typically help save one million lives annually. ChildLife has been expanding its operations

exponentially since its inception in 2010. To continue this, it needed a stable, secure and scalable platform to underpin its hospital management information system and support this ongoing growth. "Preventable deaths claim the lives of hundreds of children annually in Pakistan, with pneumonia alone killing 92,000 children annually. Our aim is to save as many of them as possible by making rapid access to free-of-cost and quality emergency medical care possible across the country," said Dr. Ahsan Rabbani, CEO - ChildLife Foundation. "Knowing that our hospital management system application is running on a reliable, performant and secure cloud like Oracle Cloud, gives us peace of mind and allows us to ensure that the majority of our funding goes towards delivering an efficient healthcare system."

Chairman NAB for eradicating corruption

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Corruption is mother of all evils. NAB is geared up to bring the corrupt elements to justice to eradicate corruption from the country. This was stated by Honorable Justice Mr. Javed Iqbal. He said that NAB has perfected its procedures and its officers/officials are working with the realization that eradication of corruption is their national duty. NAB role model for entire SAARC countries. He said that Pakistan and China have inked Memorandum of understanding MoU for eradication of corruption. Pakistan and China are jointly working for ensuring transparency in China Pakistan economic coordination in CPEC project. NAB has established a state of the art training academy on modern lines to train its in-

vestigation officers in order to inquire/investigate white collar and complex cases more professionally and on a scientific basis. He said that NAB is determined to eradicate corruption by using all its resources. NAB's proactive Anti-Corruption Strategy has started yielding positive dividends. Due to its effective anti corruption strategy, NAB has not only recovered Rs. 466 billion looted money from corrupt and deposited it in national exchequer which is a record achievement of any Anti Corruption Organization working in Pakistan. NAB's conviction ratio is about 68.6 percent. We have also adopted a policy to arrest Proclaimed Offenders and Absconders to bring them to justice as per law. He said due to NAB's proactive anti corruption Strategy, eradication of corruption has become the

voice of the whole nation as corruption free Pakistan can lead us towards a prosper and develop country. The Chairman NAB said that NAB is committed to eradicate by adopting "Accountability for All" policy. He said that there are about 1130 references under trial in respective Accountability Courts and their approximately worth is Rs 943 billion. He said that NAB has conducted probe in 56 public limited companies in Punjab, probe in 435 off-shore companies, probe in alleged illegal allotment of Industrial and Commercial plots by Gwadar Industrial and Estate Development Authority, NTS, LNG Terminal, Narawal Sports City Project, Billion Tree Tsunami, illegal Housing/Cooperative Societies and Modaraba scams etc. On the instructions of Chairman NAB, NAB's perfor-

mance is being evaluated under monitoring and evaluation system. On the basis of annual evaluation, all concerned of NAB are being informed about their strengths and weaknesses under NAB's self Accountability Mechanism. They are also being directed to overcome their shortcomings which are helping in improving the overall performance of NAB. On the directions of Honorable Mr. Javed Iqbal, Chairman NAB, NAB's effective awareness and prevention campaign is in process in order to aware people about the ill effects of corruption throughout the country. Chairman NAB has directed multiple efforts for eradication of corruption and to arrest Absconders/Proclaimed Offenders. Joint efforts of all could ensure eradication of corruption and corruption free Pakistan a reality.

Sania visits Ehsaas Kafaalat payment site

"It is critical to ensure all standard operating procedures are followed with regard to COVID-19 and deliver quantum change in relation to quality of cash transfers", Dr. Sania reiterated while interacting with the Ehsaas and partnering bank teams

ISLAMABAD: Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Social Protection and Poverty Alleviation, Dr Sania Nishtar Tuesday visited Kafaalat Payment site in Tarnol area of Islamabad and interacted with the beneficiaries. The Ehsaas Kafaalat tranche for the period July-December 2020 has been released this week. With the release of Kafaalat tranche nationwide, biometrically enabled payment operations have also been mobilized in the entire country to serve Kafaalat recipients. Dr Nishtar met the Kafaalat beneficiaries who had arrived to collect Rs. 12,000 payment for the period July 2020-December 2020. She also witnessed biometrically driven cash withdrawal demonstrations along with COVID-19 protective safeguards, said a news release issued here. "It is critical to ensure all standard operating procedures are followed with regard to COVID-19 and deliver quantum change in relation to quality of cash transfers", Dr. Sania reiterated while interacting with the Ehsaas and partnering bank teams. The main precautionary preparations being ensured at the Ehsaas

campsites include social distancing compliance, cleaning, hand sanitization and fumigation of campsites etc. Alongside that, security agencies are ensuring the safety of beneficiaries by managing crowd and social distance. Describing the scale of Ehsaas Kafaalat operations, Dr. Sania stated that the Ehsaas Kafaalat payment will be made in phases.

Phase-I has commenced this week where disbursements have begun to 4.3 million women beneficiaries nationwide. Each Kafaalat beneficiary will be paid Rs. 12,000 covering the period July 2020 to December 2020. Prime Minister has already given approval to increase the number of Kafaalat beneficiaries to seven million women. Payments to addi-

tional beneficiaries will be made December 2020 onwards and the process will be completed in the current fiscal year, she said. Ehsaas Kafaalat is the government's flagship social protection program through which it gives cash stipends of Rs. 2,000 monthly and bank accounts to the most deserving and poorest women across the country.

This time round, Ehsaas Kafaalat beneficiaries have the choice of going to, a biometrically enabled ATM or the payment sites. Under Ehsaas, HBL serves cash disbursements in Punjab, Sindh and Balochistan and Bank Alfalah across Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Gilgit Baltistan and Azad Jammu and Kashmir. Both banks are enhancing services across the country to ensure that women have easy access to their payments in a decent manner. Later in the day, Dr. Nishtar visited Panagah (shelter home) being built in Tarnol. She took round of the site and reviewed the progress of construction work. Aon Abbas Buppi, Managing Director Pakistan Bait ul Mal gave an overview of the construction work being done at the site. PM's Focal Person on Panagah Naseem ur Rehman and other senior officials were also present. The construction work is ongoing under the supervision and management of PASSD through its executing agency, Pakistan Bait ul Mal. Tarnol Panagah is expected to be completed for inauguration by the end of Dec 2020 and it will serve 100 people with shelter and 800 people with meals everyday. — APP



Hult Prize 2020 held at IoBM

DNA

KARACHI: The Hult Prize is a global competition that crowd-sources ideas from MBA and college students. Recently this event was held at the Institute of Business Management (IoBM), Karachi. The theme was 'Food for Good.' The participating teams of IoBM students shared business ideas to reduce food wastage and envision such viable food enterprises that can improve supply chains and stimulate economies. All students from IoBM were invited to participate. Over the years, the Hult Prize has brought impact-focused programs, events, and training to over a million students globally, creating opportunities for youth to act for a better tomorrow. Mr. Talib Karim, President IoBM delivered the Welcome Address. He praised the initiative and said that it will add value to IoBM's efforts in developing entrepreneurs. The ten student teams from IoBM selected to present their ideas for the Hult Prize were mentored by leading corporate icons of Pakistan. The Keynote Speakers were Ali Mukhtar (CEO, Fatima Gobi Ventures) and Shaista Ayesha (CEO, Seed Ventures). The judges included Owais Shaikh (Startup Mentor, Founder Institute), Tehmina Chaudhry (Managing Director, INSTA Foods), Syed Zafar Hussain (Program Manager, National Incubation Centre), and Rehan Muzammil (HoD Entrepreneurship Department, IoBM). Sohaib Amir (Vice Curator, Global Shapers), Talha Bin Afzal (Program Manager, Pasha), and Naureen Hayat (Co-Founder, Tez Financial Services) were the Guests of Honor. Dr. Shujaat Mubarak, Associate Dean, CBM, IoBM, presented the closing note. He appreciated the organizing committee's efforts to present such a thought-provoking online event during challenging times.

Nadra chief visits different centres

DNA

ATTOCK: The chairman of Nadra, Usman Y. Mobin, paid visits to different centres of the authority on Tuesday. The Nadra spokesman said the Chairman NADRA Usman Y. Mobin visited NADRA Centres Hassan Abdal, Wah Cantt. and Pindi Gheb. The NRCs have recently been refurbished and equipped with one-window operations and extended capacity. The Chairman urged the Nadra staff to ensure strict observance of SOPs to avoid 2nd wave of Covid-19. He commended the efforts of DG Islamabad in transforming NADRA Centres. Pindi Gheb center have recently been remodelled and established with one-window operations, enhanced capacity and other modern facilities. Chief purpose of Chairman NADRA's visit was to encourage NADRA staff to contact serve the general public, however, implementing all mandatory SOPs in order to avoid COVID-19's current wave.

3 bootleggers arrested, 373 liquor bottles seized

DNA

RAWALPINDI: Police in their crackdown against anti-social elements have arrested three bootleggers and recovered 373 bottles of liquor for their possession, a police spokesman said on Tuesday. He said Cantt police team conducted a raid and arrested Tanveer Masih for possessing 48 bottles of liquor. Later, the police party on information of the accused carried out another raid at a liquor factory and seized 325 bottles of liquor and other items besides, netting two other accused identified as Ahsan Khan and Sohail Khan. A case has been registered against all the accused and police started further investigation.

Protecting the vulnerable

DAILY wage earners in Pakistan top the list of the most vulnerable employees. Since the provincial labour departments do not protect them, many employers violate their rights with complete impunity. However, it seems that the government of Punjab has realised the plight of the daily wage earners; the decision to introduce a modern smart e-card scheme to solve daily wage earners' social security problems is a great initiative. Under the new plan, daily wage earners will receive medical facilities, including medical treatment and wages if they are ill. The project will also cover the cost of diagnosing various diseases. This is, undoubtedly, a revolutionary step, for it aims to provide some social security to the masses that work either on or below minimum wage. But, initiating a scheme is one thing; implementing it is a different ball game.

The real challenge before the government will be to ensure that all employers comply with the new initiative's requirements. Moreover, the officials will also need to keep a separate database of such ad-hoc workers to ensure that they get all the announced benefits. The introduction of smart e-cards for daily wagers will include the workers who earn their livelihood from the informal economy. The initiative will benefit the most disadvantaged groups such as the poor women, the elderly, and the migrant workers that often remain caught in a continuing cycle of poverty and vulnerability. Indeed, the initiative is a much-needed intervention from the government to offer some protection to the daily wagers since the global pandemic has further destabilised them economically. The step will offer safety against poverty reduction challenges that the pandemic has exacerbated due to a decline in economic activity. The provincial government must take more steps like this and expand them to other sectors to give people easy access to other socio-economic rights that the employers violate otherwise.

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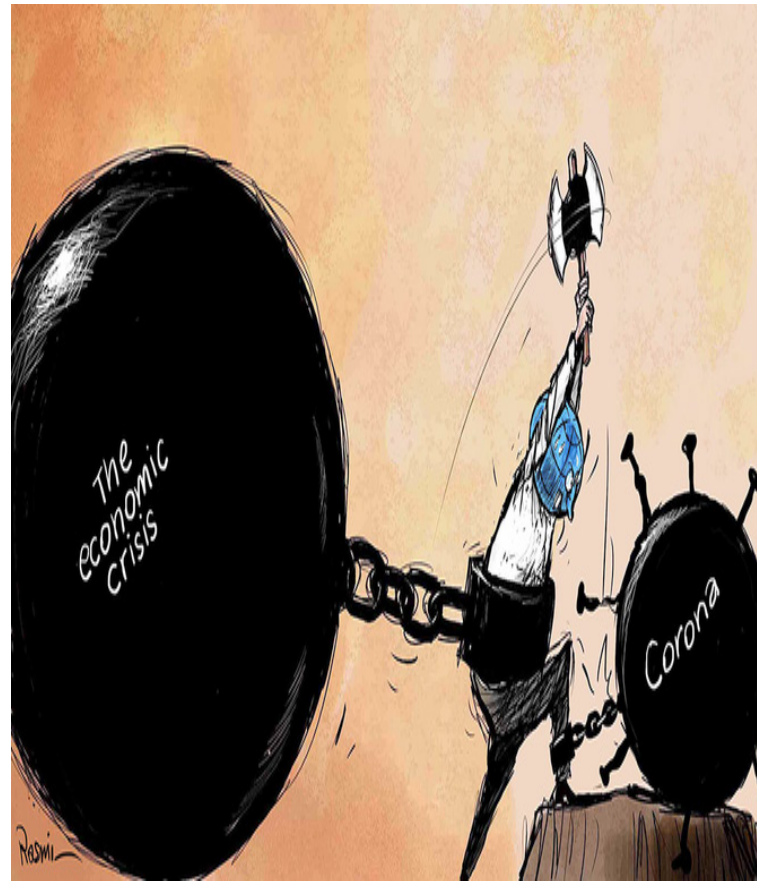
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National reconciliation

THERE is little that the opposition and the government can agree to these days. Every issue portends another barrage of point scoring against one another. The PDM jalsas have now become the main bone of contention where the government points to the pandemic as a reason to hold off on public gatherings and the opposition contends that that the ruling party is only using coronavirus as an excuse to suppress voices against its rule. Both have valid points. This is why Shehbaz Sharif's call for national dialogue and reconciliation between political parties across the spectrum is one that should be taken seriously. There is little in the way of any agreement, and what that does is take away from actual governance. The opposition is always bent on castigating the government, while the treasury benches are quick to dismiss any productive ideas from the opposing side as political statements.

In the current political scenario, there is no room for compromise, no middle ground. The polarisation is too stark. This must change. The Multan rally has made it apparent that sides will stick to their guns; the blockages by the government and bullish response of PDM all but confirms this. Across the world, political leaders engage with one another no matter how vast their differences—for the good of the general public. This is something that parties here must look to do as well. If the former CM is truly committed to standing by his words, his party and others in the alliance must first step back from their rally schedule—this is needed for the welfare of the public. They must then look to cooperate with the government on controlling the pandemic, finding solutions to revive the floundering economy and attempt to stabilise Pakistan's position in a very tumultuous region. The government must look to step back from its tactic of consistently painting the opposition as a villainous entity. The ruling party must also be willing to listen to legitimate grievances where possible. Cooperation will soon follow if both sides actually want it.

Anti-conversion laws and Hindu hostility

Farooq Alay

The USCIRF has recently called for putting India on the religious freedom blacklist. "India should be considered amongst the world's worst violators", the CIRF observes. The situation of religious minorities in India has seen a steady decline during much of independent India's history as well as the onslaught of a hateful and divisive ideology that has sought to impose political and cultural hegemony by Hindu majority. They are being harassed and forcefully converted to being Hindus; their young females are being kidnapped and put in the unwedded solitary confinements so that they conceive Hindu babies, says the report

PEOPLE belonging to non-Hindu minority religions are facing a new wave of hostility at the hands of Hindus backed by BJP-led fanaticism. A similar, but with a different modus operandi, kind of plot has been hatched for the people of Kashmir, involving young women who are being forced to marry RSS goons for conceiving children who will be considered born Hindus. Elsewhere in other states, Muslims, Christians and low castes are threatened to either convert to Hinduism or else leave India for good. This is how the Modi government is following "Hindustan is for Hindus; all others have no room to enjoy citizenship in India. Several Indian states have passed anti-conversion laws aimed at restricting the right to propagate religion, which is guaranteed by Article 25 of the Indian constitution. This has been of late a big question mark for the saner elements amongst the ruling Hindu comity but now it is thing of the past. India's so-called diversity and traditional ethos of tolerance exists no more; this has been marred by hostility and hate along caste and religious lines.

It is no more a secular country; Hindutva's penetration into Naziist mentality that is hell bent upon forced conversions is very much the new reality. Reality is that the Narendra Modi government is not only harboring a grudge against anti-conversion laws introduced by various states, but also working on implementing the agenda of either expelling those who defy the orders or obediently accept Hinduism as their new religion. Ever since the Bhartiya Janata Party has taken over power in India in 2014, religious intolerance and anti-Christian violence by Hindu-RSS terrorists has surged across the width and breadth of this country. Religious persecution, especially of Muslim and Christian communities, now caricatures the changed Indian constitution. All minorities have a miserable life, their plight at the hands of goons who have gone berserk with swords and daggers in their hands is at its all-time peak. The preachers, including the in-charge of Delhi preaching center, have been challenged under the anti-terrorism and anti-money

laundering laws. This is a fact, which has not only perturbed the minorities at home but also the world community and the intelligentsia. They are demanding their respective governments to exert pressure on Modi government to eschew the path of violence against the minorities and let them live peacefully.

The United States Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF) has recently called for putting India on the religious freedom blacklist. "India should be considered amongst the world's worst violators", the CIRF observes. The situation of religious minorities in India has seen a steady decline during much of independent India's history as well as the onslaught of a hateful and divisive ideology that has sought to impose political and cultural hegemony by Hindu majority. They are being harassed and forcefully converted to being Hindus; their young females are being kidnapped and put in the unwedded solitary confinements so that they conceive Hindu babies, says the report.

Christian missionaries, priests and bishops are being harassed; they are either expelled and deported or even being killed. The BJP government recently ordered 'deportation of three American missionaries who belonged to the Church of Christ in North Carolina on the first available flight to the US. In a similar incident, a Christian missionary was burnt alive to death right in front of his two minor kids in the Indian state of Orissa by his two minor kids named Dara Singh.

What to talk of the Muslim minority community, which is the major target of victimization and violence at the hands of RSS goons, who are avenging the centuries long Muslim rule over Hindustan. A Muslim girl named Gul Naz was kidnapped, manhandled and repeatedly raped by Satish Kumar and his friends. When they found that the girl was no more in her senses, the perpetrators set her on fire by and by pouring kerosene oil. Her charred and mutilated body was later found in front of the house of the victim family, which is now demanding justice from the Indian police and courts of law, but no one is listening to them even af-

ter many weeks have passed. In the past, such kind of heinous crime and gory incidents have been resented by the saner elements, liberal Hindus and educated lot, including intelligentsia and educationists.

The Bollywood actors had been voicing their outrage over the discriminatory treatment meted out to the minority communities, their young girls and children, but now they too have gone silent, probably out of shame or fear of the RSS goons. The silence of liberals and political leaders on Gul Naz's tragic molestation and torching to death is deafeningly deplorable. The Muslim minority community in India has either been left on the mercy of perpetrators or its own to bear the losses, abductions of females and young boys and wait for another similar kind of incident happening in front of their elders.

The fear and dread is so prevalent that even the girl Gul Naz, on the bed in hospital had recognized and named the perpetrators in her testimony before succumbing to burn injuries, no action has so far been taken by the police, local administration, political leadership or the court of law. So much so very little coverage was given to such a horrendous act, which has put a shameful curtain on the barbaric act by Satish Kumar and his accomplices.

Needless to say, the Muslim and Christian minority communities are the most vulnerable targets of the Hindutva extremists in today's India. Both the communities are being offered only two options with them: become Hindu or leave Hindustan. The RSS and its backed Hindu goons are distributing pamphlets or dropping leaflets at homes or train stations throughout the country, warning the Christians as well as Muslims to leave India or convert to Hinduism, or they will be killed by year 2021.

Already in 2016, a global index of human rights and social and religious freedoms by PEW Research Center has placed India among the worst 10 of the world's 198 countries when judged for "social hostilities".

— The writer is freelance columnist based in Islamabad

Breast cancer and CVD

BREAST cancer is the most common non-skin cancer in women. It is estimated at over 1.38 million cases, according to GLOBOCAN of WHO. It is a major health risk for women all over the world.

It was considered to be the no.1 killer in women, but now cardiovascular {CVD} causes more deaths than Breast cancer. Now these two deadly diseases have become interlinked. For breast cancer survivors CVD represents the greatest single non cancer cause of death, accounting approximately 35 % of non-breast cancer mortality for women of 50 years of age and older. In Asia, Pakistan has the highest rate of breast cancer. 1 in 9 women are diagnosed with this cancer.

Every year 90 thousand new cases are diagnosed and 40 thousand die annually. Socio-economic conditions are responsible for poor health of women. Illiteracy is also a major cause of the problem. Most women here do not have proper access to the medical facilities due to gender based discrimination

Different treatment modalities include Surgery, radiation, medical and complementary like yoga, acupuncture and psychotherapy.

Cancer by itself is catastrophic and heart is an easy victim to its collateral damage .Cardio-oncology specific CVS disorders in cancer survivors are
1-High blood pressure
2-diseases of heart valves

3-diseases of heart muscle [cardiomyopathy] And finally heart failure.

Treatment especially chemotherapy may be lifesaving but it does not come without a hefty price.

It also causes unfavourable changes in lipid levels and increases the risk of cardiovascular events.

Radiation therapy, especially onleft sided breast cancers may increase the risk of heart diseasethrough injury to Heart muscle or surrounding blood vessels

The severity or form of radiation induced CVD is less fatal than chemotherapy induced heart disease.

And now the most important question is of preventing women from primary breast cancer and treatment related heart disease.

Primary prevention includes screening with MAMMOGRAPHY; it is very helpful and effective in the detection of the disease. But it is expensive and many women may not have access to tertiary care centers with radiological facilities, simplest isself-examination.

We need to educate women about this very effective diagnostic method.

How can we prevent cardiac disease after treatment for breast cancer. CVD becomes a disproportionate cause of death in cancer survivors, especially those treated with chemotherapy.

It is recommended that Breast cancer survivors should be closely monitored for development of heart disease, beginning in the years immediately following diagnosis

and treatment.

In order to arrive at a timely diagnosis, it is important to have pretreatment ECG, Cardiac markers and blood test to estimate serum cholesterol and blood sugar levels. Evaluation of liver and kidney function is important by ordering relevant tests.

Echocardiography is very important to assess the pumping function of heart. Must have a baseline echocardiographic examination; repeat it at three, six and nine months. The main treatment goals of managing chemotherapy induced cardio. Myopathy is focused on management of Heart failure. Future opportunities include work to standardize a specialized and multi-disciplinary approach to screening and effective management approaches.

Registries to better understanding the true incidence of CVD and the utility of current treatment would be invaluable for this growing population of breast cancer survivors.

Risk factors modification is beneficial in CVD prevention and should be addressed at baseline and at follow up visit-in patients with a history of breast cancer.

Role of women cardiologists is very important in our country, as the ladies are more comfortable discussing this problem with a lady cardiologist.

Women constitute 52 % of society and have very important role in nation building. So prevention is very important and this can be achieved by educating masses, encouraging early detection and treatment.

Nusrat Majeed



Primary prevention includes screening with MAMMOGRAPHY; it is very helpful and effective in the detection of the disease. But it is expensive and many women may not have access to tertiary care centers with radiological facilities, simplest isself-examination

Briefs

Application for extending parole submitted

ABID RAZA

LAHORE: Pakistan Muslim League Nawaz (PML-N) representative in Pakistan, Dr Palitha Mahipala on Tuesday said that WHO was fully committed to continue supporting the efforts of government, civil society organizations and people living with HIV (PLHIV) to strengthen health systems to increase their resilience against the disease. In a message on World AIDS Day, Dr Palitha said that there were many new approaches that WHO was adopting to ensure HIV care during the COVID-19 pandemic like providing multi-month dispensing of HIV medicines and courier distribu-

WHO to keep supporting Pakistan against HIV

In the year 2019 alone, 25,000 new HIV infections occurred in the country, a 75% increase compared to the baseline year of 2010

DNA

tion and virtual support groups to protect the health of people on HIV treatment and to reduce the burden on a stretched health services. "Today we are commemorating the 'World AIDS Day, 2020. This day was intended to be a milestone year for achieving the global 90-90-90 targets because by 2020, the aim was to ensure that, 90% of people living with HIV knew their status, 90% of people with diagnosed HIV infection received treatment, and 90% of those receiving treatment were virally suppressed." He said, "However, we were already behind on these global targets and then came the COVID-19 pandemic, which has caused widespread disruption and has threatened to

reverse many gains made in health and other developmental areas. Dr Palitha said, "We have worked tirelessly to respond to COVID-19 and ensure that affected essential health services, including HIV prevention, diagnosis and treatment are least disrupted. He said



that COVID-19 has come at a critical time for the HIV epidemic, in Pakistan. There are an estimated 190,000 people living with HIV (PLHIV) and the epidemic is evolving on an unprecedented scale. In the year 2019 alone, 25,000 new HIV infections occurred in the country, a 75% increase compared to the baseline year of 2010. Yet only one third of PLHIV in the country have been diagnosed and only 15% are accessing antiretroviral therapy, he added. He said that during lockdown measures, it became difficult for PLHIV to get to the health facilities, for outreach workers to reach out to key populations and for health services to cope with COVID-19 alongside other diseases.

He said that the HIV services workforce has been depleted, either due to redeployment in the COVID-19 response or, unfortunately, COVID-19 infection. This has put many PLHIV at risk of not receiving their life-saving medications and services on time. He said that the pandemic has also offered an opportunity to introduce innovations such as multi-month dispensing and courier distribution of medicines, and virtual support groups and consultations with patient. Similarly, partnership with civil society has been a key in ensuring continued engagement with HIV service clients, maintaining continuity of their services and supporting their adherence during this difficult time, he added.

NAB summons JUI-F chief's close aides

DNA

ISLAMABAD: The National Accountability Bureau (NAB) has issued call-up notice to Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam Fazl (JUI-F) supreme Maulana Fazlur Rehman's close aides while making progress in an investigation into corruption allegations. Maulana Fazlur Rehman's close aides including Gul Asghar and Noor Asghar have been summoned by NAB investigators on December 10. The accused persons are facing charges of possessing assets beyond known sources of income and their alleged involvement in corrupt practices. Both accused have been directed to appear at 11:00 am on December 10 where he will be questioned by a combined investigation team of the anti-corruption watchdog, the call-up stated. Earlier on September 22, National Accountability Bureau (NAB) Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) chapter had summoned Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam-Fazl (JUI-F) Chief Maulana Fazlur Rehman on October 1 in assets beyond means case. However, the religious-political party's JUI-F had claimed that its supreme had not received any notice from the anti-graft watchdog. The accountability watchdog had initiated an inquiry against JUI-F chief in assets beyond means case, sources privy to the development said.

Saudi-bound passengers offloaded

DNA

MULTAN: Two Saudi-Arabia-bound passengers were offloaded from the flight on Tuesday at Multan International airport after they were found COVID-19 positive. According to the sources within Civil Aviation Authority (CAA), both the passengers were denied boarding to Medina-bound international flight from Multan airport after their COVID-19 test reports were found positive during checking by the staff of the airlines. Last month, Saudi Arabia had allowed international airlines to fly in pilgrims with valid visas which it had earlier suspended due to novel coronavirus spread. Saudi Arabia had allowed all the airlines to resume flight operations bringing in visitors with a valid visit and Umrah visas in the country. General Authority of Civil Aviation had officially issued a notification to that effect and this applies immediately. GACA had instructed the airlines to strictly ensure Covid-19 Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) implementation and has categorically stated implementation of Covid-19 SOPs extends to all sorts of travelers flying into the Kingdom.

ECP defers all elections until Jan 31

IBRAR KHAN

ISLAMABAD: The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) has deferred the by-elections of the national and provincial assemblies until January 31, 2021, it announced Tuesday following a meeting held on Tuesday and chaired by Chief Election Commissioner Sikandar Sultan Raja. The Election Commission of Pakistan's decision came on the back of a recommendation made by the National Command and Operation Center (NCOC), which would now review the situation regarding the by-elections on December 31, 2020. The by-elections were to be held for two seats in the National Assembly and six in the provincial assemblies. The Election Commission of Pakistan also announced its decision to hold elections on the vacant positions of Islamabad's mayor, directing the relevant schedule be issued.

Taliban suffer heavy casualties

DNA

KABUL: At least 19 Taliban insurgents killed during an operation carried by Afghan National Army (ANA) in Dehrawood district of Urugan on Monday. Ministry of Defense said in a statement. According to the statement, the Taliban plotted an attack against the Afghan National Defense and Security Forces (ANDSF), which was foiled in cooperation by the national army forces. "19 Taliban were killed during preemptive operations of ANA in Dehrawood district of Urugan province yesterday. They had gathered and prepared to attack ANDSF positions when they were targeted by ANA and AAF." Meanwhile, further 11 Taliban were wounded and three of their "strongholds and a large amount of their weapons were destroyed during the operation," said MoD in a tweet.

15 Kashmiris martyred in November

ISLAMABAD: In Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir, Indian troops in their unabated acts of state terrorism martyred fifteen Kashmiris during the last month of November. According to the data issued by the Research Section of Kashmir Media Service, Tuesday, of those killed, one youth was martyred in custody and four in a fake encounter. During the month, 97 youth were critically injured due to use of brute force by Indian police and paramilitary personnel in the occupied territory while 31 people, mostly youth and activists, were arrested, several of them under black law Public Safety Act. The police personnel also misbehaved with at least seven women and damaged a house during the period. - APP

PM to launch third private airline

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Imran Khan will visit Sialkot on December 9 to formally launch the newly established private airline, AirSial. PM will also address a special ceremony to be held at Sialkot International Airport. The federal cabinet meeting chaired by PM Imran also approved the issuance of an aviation license to private airline AirSial. Three Airbus A320-200s of Air Sial - the airline launched by Sialkot's business community - arrived at the Jinnah International Airport, Karachi, from Phoenix, Arizona, early on Sunday morning via Egypt.



ISLAMABAD: Leader of the Tanzanian business delegation Paul Roy speaking during a dinner hosted by Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry. Business leaders Sohail Altaf, Zahid Latif Khan, Zahid Maqbool, Khurshid Barlas, Asad Mashahdi, Fahad Barlas and others also attended. - DNA

Sino-Pak cooperation to boost Pak agro-economy

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Sino-Pak cooperation to drive ahead Pakistan's Agri-economy, under the 2nd phase of CPEC, says a report published by Gwadar Pro on Tuesday. According to the report, China and Pakistan can strengthen cooperation in seed technology, farm machinery, water and irrigation management, food processing, dairy technology, international compliance, corporate farming, technol-

ogy transfer at all levels. Prof. Iqbal A. Khan, Vice Chancellor of University of Agriculture, Faisalabad (UAF) recently told Gwadar Pro that China's yields at the farm level and products in the markets have evidenced huge leap. "China itself is a large consumer market. The two countries can work together for serving markets on both sides. With CPEC and regional connectivity, the two sides can have joint access to markets in a greater region (Central Asia, Middle East, South East and Africa)." Agricultural economy of Pakistan is in urgent need of reform. The yield is stagnant and productivity is lower than other countries in the region, with food imports surpassing \$7 billion. Iqbal argued the priority areas of improvement include Genetics (biotechnology and genome editing), seed technology, mechanization and precision, value addition, good agricultural practices (GAP) and skill develop-

ment in which China can be a great help. Pakistan's high-quality items include rice, cotton made ups, potato, corn, mango, citrus, poultry, beef, fodder and hey etc. "Close proximity is the advantage for China and Pakistan. However, institutional arrangements are still necessitated to be strengthened and the business to business needs a better match making to create successful joint ventures. A facilitation beyond official channels is also required," Iqbal added.

Shafqat wants students to study from home

"Children's health is our priority. When the situation gets better, we will open the schools in January," he said

ISLAMABAD: Federal Education Minister Shafqat Mahmood has advised for students studying remotely: use this time, not as a holiday but to revise courses and complete homework. Taking to Twitter on Tuesday, he said that the decision to close schools and colleges across the country was taken with a heavy heart. "We had to close educational institutions because coronavirus infections were rising very fast." Earlier this month, the National Command and Operation Centre had announced that educational institutions will remain closed until January 10, 2021. Classes will be held online and the term will continue till December 24. Winter vacations will commence from December 25. In these vacations, Mahmood advised students to revise their courses, do homework, and continue their studies as much as possible. Earlier this month, in an interview to a private channel, he said that the government is working to make the online learning experience better. "Children's health is our priority. When the situation gets better, we will open the schools in January," he said. The minister said that the new educational year will begin in August 2021. Exams that were to be held in December have been postponed and will be held when classes resume in January. Entry exams such as MDCAT will be held on schedule. In the first week of January, the committee will meet again to assess the situation as the country continues to battle the second wave of the novel coronavirus. - DNA



ISLAMABAD: Chinese State Councillor and Minister of Defence, General Wei Fenghe called on Prime Minister Imran Khan. - DNA

ADB, Punjab govt to support health care PPPs

SHUJAAT HAMZA / DNA

ISLAMABAD: The Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Government of Punjab have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to jointly promote public-private partnership (PPP) projects in Punjab's healthcare sector through ADB's transaction advisory services. The MOU was signed in Lahore by the Head of Public Private Partnership Cell of Planning and Development Board of Punjab Dr Farrukh Naveed and ADB Country Director for Pakistan Xiaohong Yang. Chairman Planning and Development Board Hamed Yaqoob Sheikh witnessed the signing ceremony. "We are pleased to assist the Government of Punjab in developing hospital PPP projects in major cities in order to

strengthen healthcare capacity and improve quality of life for the citizens of Punjab," said Ms Yang. "It will complement ADB's ongoing support to the PPP programme in Punjab province by creating a pipeline of bankable healthcare PPP projects." "ADB's involvement as transaction adviser for hospital PPP projects will bring genuine improve-



ments to health systems and we're glad to expand our collaboration with Punjab into this crucial sector," said Head of ADB's Office of Public-Private Partnership Yoji Morishita. "ADB's advisory support for the first hospital PPP project in Punjab will help unlock investments in the sector by creating a model case with development of template

project documents based on international best practices. We hope that the first hospital PPP project can be replicated in other cities and accelerates the development of future projects to improve quality and affordability of health care in Punjab." Under the MOU, ADB's Office of Public-Private Partnership will screen potential hospital PPP projects in ten major cities in Punjab including Bahawalpur, Dera Ghazi Khan, Faisalabad, Gujranwala, Lahore, Mianwali, Multan, Rawalpindi, Sahiwal, and Sargodha and will provide transaction advisory services to identify, prepare, structure and tender the top priority hospital projects to develop PPP's. ADB will also provide holistic support in undertaking capacity building and development of a potential project pipeline by mobilizing technical assistance funds.