Soon From LAHORE & KARACHI A sister publication of **CENTRELINE & DNA News** Agency www.islamabadpost.com.pk **ISLAMABAD EDITION** Samahar Thursday, June 03, 2021 Pakistan's First And Only Diplomatic Daily Price Rs. 20 People of Pakistan, **Carlo Ancelotti** 10 key steps to rebuild Turkey enjoy historic, returns to strong relations **Karabakh Real Madrid Detailed News On Page-06 Detailed News On Page-01 Detailed News On Page-07**

Asad for harnessing **ECO trade** potential

MAHNOOR ANSAR



Planning and Develop ment Asad Umar has underlined the need for

harnessing the trade potential of ECO countries by creating infrastructure of connectivity Addressing the General Conference of the Parliamentary Assembly of ECO which is continuing in Islamabad, he said we have to develop rail, road and air linkages besides simplifying the visa regime to achieve the objective. The Minister for Planning said that promotion of trade amongst the ECO is important to lift up the peoples of this region and provide them the prosperity.

CPEC to strengthen Sino-Pak ties

STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: Minister Rail for ways Azam Khan Swati Wednesday said that China-Pakistan Corridor (CPEC)

Briefs Pak, Tajikistan committed to **Afghan peace**

PM Imran says talks with India only if Kashmir's special status restored; Tajik president supports the establishment of a 'trade corridor' passing through Pakistan

ANSAR MAHMOOD BHATTI

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan and Tajikistan in their delegation-level talks held unanimity of views that a consensus political government in Afghanistan was vital for peace of the region. Pakistan and Tajikistan on Wednesday entered into 12 accords for cooperation in diverse fields including trade, anti-corruption, infrastructure, education and culture. The resolve was presented during a joint news conference of Tajik President Emomali Rahmon and Prime Minister Imran Khan.

Prime Minister Imran Khan reiterated that Pakistan would only hold talks or do trade with India if New Delhi restored the pre-August 5, 2019 status of Occupied Jammu and Kashmir. Imran Khan said "If Pakistan revives its relations with India (without the latter restoring the status of Kashmir), it will be similar to turning our back on the Kashmiris."

Continued on Page 06

MoUs signed between Pakistan and Tajikistan

SAIFULLAH

ISLAMABAD: Following MoUs were signed between Pakistan and Tajiistan. Academic Cooperation Agreement between Tajik Technical University named after academician M. S Osimi and Indus University of Pakistan

Agreement on Cooperation between the Chamber of Commerce & Industry of the Tajikistan and Chamber of Commerce & Industry Quetta Balochistan

Agreement on Cooperation between the Chamber of Commerce & Industry of the Republic of Tajikistan and the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry of Pakistan

Continued on Page 06



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Imran Khan and President of Tajikistan Emomali Rahmon exchange documents during a MoU signing ceremony held at the Prime Minister House. - DNA

KHAYAM ABBASI

ISLAMABAD: The Econom-

ic Cooperation Organization

countries have emphasized

on enhancing cooperation

in all forms of tourism for

The national parliamentary

delegates from Azerbaijan,

Afghanistan, Pakistan, Tur-

key and Uzbekistan attend-

ed in person while Hon.

MPs from Iran and Turk-

menistan participated virtu-

ally. A joint statement adopt-

Continued on Page 06

and poverty alleviation.

development

sustainable

COAS visits training area

Expresses satisfaction

over combat readiness of the formation

NEHAL MIRAJ

RAWALPINDI: General Qamar Javed Bajwa, Chief of Army Staff (COAS) visited field training area near Kotli. COAS was briefed about conduct modalities of a Corps level exercise 'Taskheer-e-Jabal'. The exercise is aimed at

ed at the concluding session of the General Conferenhancing operational preence of the Parliamentary of formations

ECO countries mull cooperation

PM for effective use of PAECO platform

SAIFULLAH

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Imran Khan savs the platform of Parliamentary Assembly of Economic Cooperation Organization should be used for collective efforts to cope with the common challenges including climate change, water crisis and poverty alleviation. He was addressing the concluding session of the General Conference of the Parliamentary Assembly of ECO on Wednesday. The Prime Minister said the population of the region is 450 million and every country of the region can benefit from this huge population utilizing their potential in different sectors. He said many countries are facing water shortage due to global warming and parliamentary integra-

would further strengthen Sino-Pak friendship. In a meeting with Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan Nong Rong, the minister thanked the ambassador for his keen interest in the Main Line-I (ML-I) project from Karachi to Peshawar under CPEC. The matters pertaining to mutual interest and the CPEC projects were came under discussion during the meeting. The minister appreciated the services rendered by the envoy and agreed to launch the ML-I project as soon as possible.

Tarin seeks proposals on refinery policy



directed the concerned officers of Finance Division and Chairman Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) to come with concrete proposals regarding the proposed refinery policy. Chairing a meeting with the delegation of representatives of oil refineries operating in the country, the minister directed that proposals should be made in consultation with all stakeholders.

Pak-Turkish ties brotherly DNA

ISLAMABAD: Speaking at Federal the concluding ceremony of 2nd General Conference of Parliamentary Assembly of the Economic Cooperation Organization (PAECO) here, Speaker of Grand Na-Wednesday tional Assembly of Turkey Prof. Dr. Mustafa Sentop said the people of Pakistan and Turkey had strong historic relations.

He said the COVID-19 pandemic had affected the world but the crisis also provided an opportunity towards more human and integrated world.



to Ambassador of Switzerland Benedict Cerjat during his visit. DNA

'Covid pushes over 100m into poverty'

News Desk

GENEVA: After working hours plummeted and access to good-quality jobs evaporated, the United Nations said Wednesday the coronavirus pandemic has forced more than 100 million more workers into poverty. And the labour market crisis created by the pandemic is far from over, the UN's International Labour Organisation warned in a report. Employment was not expected to bounce back to

2023 at the earliest, it said. The ILO's annual World Employment and Social Outlook report indicated that the planet would be 75 million jobs short at the end of this year compared to if the pandemic had not occurred. And it would still have 23 million fewer jobs by the end of next year than would otherwise have been the case. COVID-19 "has not just been a public health crisis, it's also been an employment and human crisis", ILO chief Guy Ryder told reporters.

Continued on Page 06

encompassing defensive and offensive tasks during various contingencies within an operational cycle. The troops and units participating in exercise will rehearse various defensive and offensive manoeuvres in the mountainous terrain. Appreciating dedication and professionalism of participating troops,

Continued on Page 06 UAE extends Pak travel ban

STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: The United Arab Emirates has extended its ban on the arrival of passengers from Pakistan till June 30 in the wake of its measures to contain Covid-19 spread by imposing restrictions on international travel. According to sources, the UAE government on Wednesday extended its ban on Pakistani passengers till June 30.

of Italy to Pakistan Andreas Ferrarese has shared the message with the people of Pakistan on National Day of Italy. He said today was the 2nd of June and the Italian all over the world are celebrating republic day.

On this day back in 1946, referendum was held inItaly where people were asked to choose between monarchy or republic for their state, 54.3% of voters opted for their republic, and thus Italy became republic on the 2nd of June 1946, he added.



Moreover, he said, every year Italy celebrates this day as the republic day or National day, following the covid-19 SoPs, we are not able to celebrate National day this year with our friends, but we are looking forward to celebrating after

vaccination completes. Furthermore, I would like to thank our Pakistani friends who sent messages of warmth and solidarity on our national day. Pakistani stood by Italy since the very beginning of the pandemic. People in the government of Italy sincerely appreciate all the support and sympathy offered by the Govt and the people of Pakistan, says the ambassador. He added Let us play our role to curb the contagion and celebrate all our festivities responsibly. From everyone at Italian embassy, I wish you all a Bona-fiesta. Pakistan-Italy Dosti Zindabad.

THERE ARE CLEAR REASONS WHY AN ASSEMBLAGE OF ALL THE ORGANISATIONS OF THE INDEPENDENT PRESS IN PRINT, BROADCAST AND DIGITAL MEDIA HAS UNANIMOUSLY REJECTED THE PROPOSED ORDINANCE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION ...



hinges upon industrial growth – Page 02

First batch of Pakistani mangoes to reach China - Page 03

Inside.

Economic survival

CGSS, HSF discusses climate change security challenges – Page 04

Wakeup Pakistan: Getting too late for food security – Page 05

Cultural show held to mark Pak-China diplomatic ties – Page 06

Azerbaijan unveils 10 key steps to rebuild Karabakh – Page 07

India's variant threatens to rapidly spread in sub-region - Page 08

SHUJAAT HAMZA



"In this regard, examinations for class 9 and 10 will be held first," Mahmood said while addressing a news conference in Islamabad, "Today it was decided that students of ninth and tenth will be examined only in elective subjects and mathematics... that is, only four subjects of class 9-10 will be examined. Students of 11 and 12 grades will also be examined only in optional subjects," he said. education minister The



also took to Twitter to announce the decision. The marks percentage taken by students in elective subjects will also be proportionately allocated to subjects in which exams are not being taken, he added. Mahmood, during today's presser, also said that the issue of non-completion of the course was also discussed during the meeting. "We had reduced the curriculum by 40 per cent few months ago to make it easier for teachers and

students to prepare for the examinations," he added. He said that due to Covid-19 pandemic for the past oneand-a-half-years, all decision have been taken unanimously by the ministers of education of all provinces so that they can be implemented with ease, adding that the decision regarding the examinations was also

taken with consensus. "We have decided unanimously that no one will be promoted without passing examinations [this year], he added. The education minister said that there will be no review of the decision. "Students should prepare [for the exams]... we have already been very lenient with the legitimate demands of the students... this (the decision) concerns the future and education of our children," he added.





PAKISTAN MEDIA DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

The proposed PMDA Ordinance is a declaration of war against independent journalism. It seeks to erase all critical voices from the media through a system of coercive censorshi

The all-powerful regulatory body would exercise a draconian control over the media and would be appointed by the President on the Federal Government's advice.

The proposed body can impose arbitrary sanctions including invading media premises, the imposition of huge fines, or the closing down of any media outlet on the flimsiest of pretexts. Its verdict will be exempt from review by any court except the Supreme Court.

All existing media outlets will be made to pay extortionate license fees to the government in addition to normal taxes in order to

 Pakistan Broadcasters Association
 Council of Pakistan Newspaper Editors
 Association of Electronic Media Editors and
 Pakistan Federal Media Editors and News Directors Union of Jour

ZUBAIR AHMAD ISLAMABAD: Ambassador

tion among ECO member countries will be helpful in resolving challenges in a befitting manner. Italian envoy thanks Pakistan for support

NATIONAL

Islamabad **POST**

Thursday, June 03, 2021

Briefs

Saqib visits vaccination center

FAISALABAD: Commissioner Saqib Manan on Wednesday paid a surprise visit to Corona Vaccination Center at Social Security Hospital Madina Town. The commissioner reviewed facilities provided to people at the center and urged staffers to provide speedy services to people.

He appealed to people to get vaccination at the earliest to protect from the COVID-19. On the occasion, MPA Firdous Rai also appreciated arrangements at the center. Medical Superintendent Dr Ijaz Mumtaz Sheikh was also present. - APP

Changan inaugurates second shift operations

DNA

KARACHI: Master Changan Motors is proud to announce the inauguration of a second shift operation in their State-of-the-Art manufacturing and assembling facility on 20th May'2021. As their maxim goes, "Breaking the Status Quo" the company is revolutionizing the automobile industry in Pakistan. Even though a double shift operation was always in the company's original plan, it can be seen that it started much earlier than the anticipated time due to a couple of reasons. Master Changan Motors is all geared up to work with banks on the Government's RDA program by reserving a separate quota for RDA holders. The company always seems to be on board when it comes to helping the economy grow and supporting government initiatives. By starting a second shift earlier than planned, the company is ready to provide RDA customers with their vehicles within one month. The company plans to treat every customer equally and deliver its products as per

its commitments. In light of the overwhelming response to Changan vehicles in Pakistan, the compa-



ISLAMABAD: Zafar Bakhtawari Secretary General United Business Group Pakistan is Presenting his book "Jahan Doost" to Qazi Jamil Ur Rehman, Inspector General Police Islamabad at the reception. Sardar Yasir Ilyas president ICCI, Sardar Tahir Mehmood president IEAA and Saif Ur Rehman ex vp ICCI are also present. - DNA

Economic survival hinges upon industrial growth

ISHFAQ MUGHAL

FAISALABAD. Economic survival of Pakistan hinges upon speedy, reliable and sustained industrial growth and in this connection Puniab Government must forward effective, result oriented and pro-industrial proposals to be included in the Federal budget for the next financial year of 2021-22, said Engineer Hafiz Ihtasham Javed President Faisalabad Chamber of

Commerce & Industry (FCCI). He was addressing a zoom conference organized by the Planning & Development department of the Punjab. It was participated by the different chambers of commerce and industry of the Punjab province. "Provincial government will finalize comprehensive budget proposals' ', he hoped and said that the present government had focused on a tri-pronged strategy to gear up the economic development. These include enabling an environment for industrial growth

through Ease Of Doing Business, trimming Cost Of Production and catalysing Industrial Development. He quoted the saying of Federal Minister Mr. Shoukat Tareen that industrial growth is prerequisite to achieve progress and

prosperity. Engineer Hafiz Ihtasham Javed said that Faisalabad is the third major city, which is playing a pivotal role in the overall economic development of Pakistan. "Being a hub of the textile sector Faisalabad has the privilege to formulate first progressive textile policy even before the PTI came into power", he said and disclosed that he himself prepared the component relating to the processing sector. "It also included fixation of electricity tariff at 6.5 cent and gas at 7.5 cent. Appreciating the government's endeavours, he said that it provided best opportunities to the industrial sector even during the corona lockdown. "I am currently serving FIEDMC as its acting Chief Executive Officer (CEO)", he disclosed

and added that he had a chance to closely witness and examine the problems confronted by the foreign investors. He said that one window operation is working just as a post office. He stressed the need to make this facility result oriented in accordance with its true spirit for which necessary legislation is imperative. He said that our concerned departments are handicapped when foreign investors demand comparative analysis of different aspects regarding our regional competitors including Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Vietnam etc. He said that overcrowding of departments is creating problems instead of facilitating the investors.

Engineer Hafiz Ihtasham Javed said that the government provided maximum facilities to the industrial sector during the corona outbreak. Relief was provided in electricity bills to the SME sector but this facility was short-lived. He also mentioned TUF (Technology Up-gradation Fund) and said that

it helped the industrial sector to replace the old, obsolete and redundant power looms with new and hi-tech looms.

"During this period at least 40-50 thousand looms were added", he said and added that the share of direct exporters in exports is only 30-33% while indirect exporters are contributing 66% share. He lamented that the DTRE facility is only doled out to the direct exporters but it should also be extended to the indirect exporters.

President FCCI said that the Prime Minister is proceeding abroad to host an international conference on global environmental changes. He said that scientifically organized and planned industrial estates must be established in every city. "The scattered industrial units must be shifted to these estates where pollution could be easily contained", he hoped.

Engineer Hafiz Ihtasham Javed also explained the problems confronted by the Faisalabad Dry Port and said that local importers and exporters have to pay double taxation in the form of Provincial Road Infrastructure Development cess i.e. first in Sindh and then in Punjab on each and every import and export consignment originated from this up country port. He said that he had three successive meetings with the Provincial Finance Minister who has assured to withdraw it in the upcoming provincial budget.

Regarding energy, he said that the government must freeze electricity and gas tariffs for five years so that investors could freely implement long-term policies. He said that a new textile policy was also pending. "It must be approved and announced at the earliest, as we could not stabilize our economy without enhancing our exports to at least 35-40 billion dollar", he added. He chided the previous government and said that he had turned Pakistan into a consumer economy instead of promoting the industrial sector, which is imperative for creating new job opportunities.

12000 traffic pamphlets distributed

ISHFAQ MUGHAL

FAISALABAD: Prevention is better than cure. This is the high time to display responsibility in the third lethal wave of Corona Virus. SSP Punjab highway patrol Mirza Anjum Kamal said while releasing Mobile Education unit performance

report of May, 2021. While talking to media he told that Mobile Education unit of Punjab Highway Patrol (PHP) Region Faisalabad has relentlessly pursued traffic awareness campaign in four Districts of Region Faisalabad to educate public about appropriate safety precautions, traffic rules and COVID-19. In this regards, pamphlets, brochures and leaflets distributed among road commuters. Further, he told that Incharge MEU Muhammad Rizwan Bhatti and his team visited 11 educational institutions, 18 Patrol pumps, 24 Banks, 14 villages, 15 Union councils, 15 Hospitals, 34 Goods Transport, 38 Commercial Markets, 35 Bus/Rickshaw stands, 35 Public places, 36 Road shows, 03 awareness seminars and distributed 12000 Pamphlets among citizens and road users to create awareness about Road safety and mobilization to fight against deadly Pandemic. Every day, accidents happen due to human error.

IoBM organizes ASKGrant Challenge

ATHAR SUFI

KARACHI: The Institute of Business Management (IoBM), Karachi recently announced the winners of the Dr. Ahmer S. Karim (ASK) Grant Challenge. The events and its proceedings were held virtually.

Five student teams have been selected so they can take their innovative business startup ideas to the next level. They will undergo a rigorous capacity building and monitoring program under the aegis of Shahjehan S. Karim Business Incubation Centre (SSK-BIC) at IoBM. The winning teams were Boltay Haroof, Karachi University; Bridge, IoBM; Healthitol-A sugar story, Karachi University; Pak Senicare, Karachi University; Tactonic Bio, COMSATS University Islamabad. the judges of Grant Challenge were Jehan Ara, Founder and CEO, Katalyst Labs and Member of Prime Minister's Taskforce on IT & Telecom; Ms. Shahnaz Kapadia Rahat, CEO, Mera Maan Pvt Ltd; Furgan Qureshi, Founder.

JCSC addresses **NSWC** participants

RAWALPINDI: Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee, General Nadeem Raza Wednesday addressed the

ny has aggressively invested in capacity enhancement and has successfully gone into double shift production. The double shift plan has not only divided the workload to meet excessive demand but also has created an addition al 1,000 new jobs in management as well as for highly skilled labor to serve the market demand. As a result of this, the plant capacity has increased from 30,000 units to 50,000 units per annum (more than 66% increase) in a short span of time.

Expressing his views on the double shift inauguration, Mr. Danial Malik, CEO of Changan Master Motors said, "We are making technologically advanced vehicles accessible to every Pakistani customer - not just the rich. By increasing our production capability we intend to make the customer win and ensure delivery as early as possible."

SMIU, Hashmani Hospitals ink MoU

DNA

KARACHI: Sindh Madres-Islam University satul (SMIU) and the Hashma ni Group of Hospitals on Wednesday inked the memorandum of understanding to provide health facilities to the employees and students of the SMIU.

The SMIU Vice Chancellor (VC) Professor Dr. Mujeebuddin Sahrai Memon and the Chief Executive Officer of Hashmani Group of Hospitals Mr. Arslan Hashmani signed the documents at the VC Secretariat. The Hashmani Group of Hospitals will provide health facilities to the SMIU employees and its students. It will also set up medical camps and conduct health awareness sessions at dif ferent occasions.

Prof. Dr. Mujeebuddin Sahrai Memon briefed the delegation about university and said that we were living in pandemic situation and in addition to safety health of employees and students was university's priority. "SMI is a historical institute and relationship with it is considered an honour for any organization," said Professor Memon.

participants of National Security and War Course, at National Defence University, Islamabad, said a statement issued by Inter Services Public Relations. Chair man Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee said that Pakistan Armed Forces face a multitude of challenges which demand a well-considered response strategy.

Dilating upon the Revolution in Military Affairs, Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee said that the world is now witnessing the introduction of autonomous and semi-autonomous weapons and the preferred mode of warfare is unannounced, undeclared and invisible, commonly termed as Hybrid Conflict. Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee also emphasized that officers must remain focused to pursue professional excellence and should remain abreast with the latest developments. Earlier, upon arrival at NDU, Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee was received by Lieutenant General Muhammad Saeed, President NDU. - DNA



HYDERABAD: Women of PPP showing empty water storage Matka in which sand is coming out to mark a protest as Sindh is facing shortage of water now a days. - DNA Photo by Jan Ali Laghari

Javed Jabbar leads IUCN activity ration 2021-2030.

NAZIR SIYAL

As the global host of the World Environment Day KARACHI: IUCN and Part-2021. Pakistan has made ner Organizations arranged headlines across the world, activity led by former gaining immense populari-Federal Minister and wellty and appreciation. known socialist Javed Jabar On the occasion, Dr. Babar Hussain IUCN Natuas chief guest in connection with World Environral Resources Specialist, ment Day 2021 to celebrate while giving details on the for ecosystem Restoration importance and useful-2021-2030 internationally. ness of mangrove forests IUCN, WWF and the offiprotection sea erosion cials of Sindh Forest Deand other marine life. He partment gave a briefing said that restoration of regarding climate change natural ecosystem regardand marine Forest life to ing mangrove forests is a protect Ecosystem restogreat importance in the

conservation of land erosion and other breeding species and fish also. In this regard, IUCN along with other social and governmental individuals take part in 2000 seed plantation regarding the drive of Billion Tree project officials told.

The theme of the day "Ecosystem Restoration" was attended by other partners included the Officers of Sindh Forest Department, WWF, Thardeep (TRDP), HANDS and climate change experts, academics, researchers and media.

LDA public friendly LAHORE: Minister Housing & Urban Development Punjab Mian Mehmood-ur-Rasheed has said that Lahore Development Authority (LDA) worked with revolutionary swift to solve the problems of the public during the last two years. He was addressing a press conference regarding performance of LDA at

E-system

makes

Johar Town Sports Complex on Wednesday. SACM Dr Firdous Ashiq Awan , MPA Saadia Sohail Rana, and other senior officers were also present. - APP

Navy ready to tackle maritime security challenges: CNS

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral Muhammad Amjad Khan Niazi Wednesday emphasized the need to keep Armed Forces abreast with the emerging trends and make further endeavors to deal with current complex and dynamic security environment. The Naval Chief was addressing to Command & Staff Collage, Quetta during his visit, said a Pakistan Navy news release. Upon arrival, the Naval Chief was received by the Commandant, Command & Staff College, Quetta. While addressing the Staff Course participants, Admiral Muhammad Amjad Khan Niazi paid rich trib-



utes to the sacrifices of the Pakistan Armed Forces in defence of the country. The Admiral added that jointness remained central to the modern concept of military operations as no

force could achieve success country by active support of in today's warfare single Sister Services. Later on, Chief of the Naval Staff inhandedly. The Naval Chief further highlighted that Pakiteracted with faculty and stan Navy was always ready students including foreign to tackle the maritime seofficers undergoing course curity challenges facing the at the premier institution.

CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY STREET LIGHTS DIVISION-II

TENDER NOTICE

Sealed tenders are hereby invited on percentage basis for the following works from contractors / firms duly enlisted with Pakistan Engineering Council (PEC) in appropriate category & Codeshaving validity / renewal of PEC license Electrical License issued by Electrical Inspector Islamabad for execution of Electrical & Mechanical Works in Rawalpindi / Islamabad and NTN & GST

| S.# | Name of works | Estimated cost | Earnest Money | Date & time of receipt of tender | Date & time of opening of tender |
|-----|--|-----------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. | Rehab/Renovation of existing traffic Blinkers at Parliament House at Constitution Avenue Islamabad | Rs.971,048/- | Rs.29,131/- | 17-06-2021 11:30AM | 17-06-2021 12:00PM |
| 2. | Providing / Fixing Of Street Light System At Steel Market I-10/3, Islamabad | Rs.1,720,362/- | Rs.51,611/- | 17-06-2021 11:30AM | 17-06-2021 12:00PM |
| 3. | Repair / Maint of Street Light Transformers and allied Equipment Installed at Various Location Of Sectors E-7, F-5 to F-7 & G-5 To G-7, Islamabad | Rs.2,918,584/- | Rs.87,558/- | 17-06-2021 11:30AM | 17-06-2021 12:00PM |
| 4. | Rehab / Renov / Improvement Of Street Light System At Green Belt (Margalla) Park F-10/2 & F- 11/3, Islamabad | Rs.2,799,926/- | Rs.83,998/- | 17-06-2021 11:30AM | 17-06-2021 12:00PM |
| 5. | Repair / Maint Of Street Light Transformers And Allied Equipment Installed At Various Location Of Rawal, Shahzad, Margalla, Humak Towns & VVIP Route, Islamabad | Rs.2,949,356/- | Rs.88,481/- | 17-06-2021 11:30AM | 17-06-2021 12:00PM |
| 6. | Repair / Maint of street light transformers and allied equipment installed at various location of sectors F-8 to F-11 & D-12, Islamabad | Rs.3,859,152/- | Rs.115,775/- | 17-06-2021 11:30AM | 17-06-2021 12:00PM |
| 7. | Repair / Maintenance of Broken / Accidental Embrace Type Poles at Jinnah Avenue to F-10 Round about, Islamabad | Rs.935,348/- | Rs.28,060/- | 17-06-2021 11:30AM | 17-06-2021 12:00PM |
| В. | Installation of traffic signal and street light system at Khayaban-e-lqbal with Service Road East F-10 & Link Defense Complex, Islamabad. | Rs.3,421,967/- | Rs.102,659/- | 17-06-2021 11:30AM | 17-06-2021 12:00PM |
| Э. | Repair / Maint of street light transformers and allied equipment installed at various location of sectors G-8 to G-11 & Kashmir Highway TF complex to G-12, Islamabad | Rs.3,999,187/- | Rs.119,975/- | 17-06-2021 11:30AM | 17-06-2021 12:00PM |
| 10. | Providing/Installation of traffic signal at NIH Chowk National Park Road, Islamabad | Rs.1,678,345/- | Rs.50,350/- | 17-06-2021 11:30AM | 17-06-2021 12:00PM |
| 11. | Rehab/Maintenance of Street Light Transformers and allied equipment installed at various location of sectors in I-8 to I-11 H-8 to H-11 Islamabad | Rs.3,3,95,684/- | Rs.101,871/- | 17-06-2021 11:30AM | 17-06-2021 12:00PM |

Tender Documents can be purchased up to 14-06-2021 before closing hours against payment of Rs.1,000/- for S.No.01,02 07and 10and Rs.2,000/-for rest of tenders(Non-Refundable) in shape of cash from the office of Deputy Director Street Light Division, Shop No.01, Bazar No.08, Street No.57, SectorG-6/4, Islamabad.No application for tenders willbe receivedafter schedule date and time

- Tenders will be issued to those firms who provide copies of valid PEC License for the current financial year havingappropriate Category / Codes EE-04, EE-06& EE-05 for tenders at S.No.03, 05, 06, 09 and 11 and valid Electrical License issued by Electrical Inspector Islamabad renewed for the current financial year 2020-21 and NTN & GST registration certificate along with written request on original letter pad of firm / contactor. In case of representative, copy of CNIC alongwith authority letter forginal power of attorney may also be attached with application.**PEC Certificate, Electrical License & Professional Tax** Certificate 2020-21 in original will also be seen before issuance of Tender document.
- Bid Security / Earnest Money shall also be accompanied with the request in the shape of Deposit at Call (CDR) clearl indicating the Name of Firm issued by local scheduled bank in favor of Deputy Director, Street Light Division-II, CDA and should be generated only from firm's account. Cash / Cheque or open CDR without indicating name of firm will not be
- accepted and No application without Bid Security / Earnest Money will be accepted for issuance of tender. The tender will be issued only to those firms who provide at least 03 work orders for last 02 financial years in the relevan field including satisfactory completion / performance certificate issued by head of any government department along with
- application of therwise tender will not be issued to firm. The tender will be issued only to those firms who provide an undertaking on Stamp Paper worth not less than Rs.50/, that the firm / contractor are neither involved in any litigation nor black listed by any government, semi government or autonomous body in Pakistan and also undertakes that if any information or document provided by firm for issuance of tender document is found incorrect or fictitious the firm is liable for legal action under the law. Without the undertaking tender will not be issued to firm.
- If the contractor wants to participate in the tendering through representative, the contractor will provide general / special powe of attorney duly attested by respective court and only to legitimate attorney holder would be allowed to get tender documents. Relative of tendering authority may not be entertained for participation in the tenders. If the contractor or his authorized representative does not sign the tender opening register, their call deposit will be liable for
- In case of the total bid amount is less than 10% below the NIT amount, the bidder shall submit call deposit as performance security equal to the difference between NIT amount and total quoted amount less 10% of NIT amount. The perfo ecurity of the successful bidder shall be released after completion of project
- Tenders at S.No.03 to 06 and 08 to 11 will be opened by Director E&M (Maint)and S.No.01, 02 & 07will be opened by undersignedlocated at Room No.05 Ground floor P Block Pak Secretariat Islamabad on schedule date and time. CDA may reject all bloc or proposals at any time prior to the acceptance of a bid or proposal. The CDA shall upon request communicate to any supplier or contractor who submitted a bid or proposal, the grounds for its rejection of all bids or
- proposals, but is not required to justify those grounds.
- 12. 13.
- In case of any Gazetted / Occasional Holiday(s), the tenders will be opened on the next working day. The additional valid documents mentioned in Clause-16 of tender document must be submitted by the firm while submitting the tender, otherwise tender will liable for rejection. The Bid Security / Earnest money and Performance Security of unsuccessful biddes will be retained / deposited in CDA bank account and released in the favor of firm's account only after acceptance of contract
- Tender Notice can be seen on both CDA website <u>www.cda.gov.pk</u> and PPRA website <u>www.ppra.com.pk</u>, whereas, ter Notice can be downloaded from CDA's website <u>www.cda.gov.pk</u>.

Deputy Director, Street Lights Division-II, CDA. Contact No.0300-9189525

PID (I) No. 6614/20



Briefs 13 FIRs registered under ZARA App

ISLAMABAD: A total 13 First Information Reports (FIRs) were registered under Zainab Alert Response and Recovery ACT (ZARA) application reports filed by the citizens highlighting child abuse case of various nature.

According to Ministry of Human Rights, out of 262 preliminary examinations 21 verifications were carried out and 13 FIRs were registered against the culprits and 25 investigation were conducted of various incidents.

Regarding status of the incidents, the ministry said open cases were 321 and closed cases were 231 that were reported on the ZARA App. Giving details of personal incidents, it reported that there were 288 personal incidents recorded on the App whereas social responsibility cases were 248 registered. Giving the details of last month, it said around 10 open cases has been received and 1 closed complaint was noted during last month of May. While the registration of child abuse cases faced 76 percent decrease as compared to last months, out of the total reported incidents the applications mentioned were 313 pertaining to male victim and 238 complaints regarding female victim. – APP

NAB meeting postponed till Friday

STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: The Executive Board Meeting of National Accountability Bureau (NAB) meeting chaired by Justice (Retd) Javed Iqbal was postponed till Friday (June 4, 2021) after reviewing different cases. Speaking on the occasion NAB Chairman Justice Javed

First batch of Pakistani mangoes to reach China

"This year, we want to conduct the mango export earlier, so that we can have proper marketing in China." Due to the COVID-19, when mango or any kind of shipment arrives in China customs, they will first conduct COVID-19 tests on everything

ZUBAIR AHMAD

ISLAMABAD: First batch of Pakistani mangoes will arrive China next week, according to Gwadar Pro. "This year we will start mango export to China on 10th of June. So they will reach China on the 11th," said Adnan Hafeez, founder of Imperial Ventures who has been doing Pakistan mango and orange exports to China for 5 years.

"This year, we want to conduct the mango export earlier, so that we can have proper marketing in China." Due to the COVID-19, when mango or any kind of shipment arrives in China customs, they will first conduct COVID-19 tests on everything. If goods are detected positive, the shipment will be destroyed. So many of our previous buyers stopped bookings to avoid such loss."

Adnan told us that they started the B to C sale last year. They do promotions online to sell mango to individual customers in small quality on WeChat or other platforms. A lot of Chinese customers have already pre-



booked their mangoes. "In this way, the customers do not need to bear any loss." Similar to the last year, the mango will

be transported from Lahore to Kunming airport with the support of YTO Express. "We can achieve 72 hour delivery from Pakistan to your doorstep."

According to Adnan, the transportation cost is around RMB 7 to 8 per kilogram from Lahore to Kunming. "Now we have bookings about 2 tons. We still have one week. If we can get higher quantity, the transportation price can be further reduced."

"Last year Shanghai conducted the mango event in the mall. So this year I suggested using the same strategy in Beijing, that we find some supermarket to hold the promotion activity.

After the event, the display can continue, so people can come to buy and taste."

Adnan believes that in this way, they can get better feedback from the people. "We actually have never marketed our mango to the Chinese people.

If you ask them what choices of mango they have, they never think of Pakistani mango. This is why we should put our mango in some better place where people may get to know that Pakistan also has mango, and it's one of the five largest mango producers in the world." This year, Adnan has started some new cooperation with Chinese partners in online sales. "Our new partner has never sold Pakistani mangoes before.

They only did some small-scale marketing. When our first shipment arrives, they will check everything and start marketing aggressively in the next phase. We also expect that we get a better sale in the next phase." "Last year we started mango export quite late, this year we started quite early. We expect that for every 10 days we will have one batch of mango sending to China. We're planning like that. But let's see what the market response is after the first batch." Adnan said.

> BA exams starts from June 5

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Allama Iqbal Open University has decided to conduct semester terminal examinations for BA (Associate Degree) programs in the fall semester 2020 postponed previously due to Covid19. The examinations will start from June 5. The question papers of all the course codes (examination papers) of the students will be uploaded in the roll number slip section of AIOU website. Students will send hand written answer scripts to the mentioned tutor in time. Information of concerned tutors will be given on roll number slips. Students will have to take an affidavit with



Economy improving steadily

ISLAMABAD: State Minister for Parliamentary Affairs Ali Muhammad Khan on Wednesday said countrv's economy was growing rapidly despite the Covid-19 pandemic and the institution were working independently. Talking to a private news channel, he said the all developed nations were facing pandemic crises which destroyed their economy, negative GDP was also recorded in whole world. Minister said the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) led government through prac-

tical steps and policies achieved betters results in gross domestic Product (GDP) growth rate and enormous increase in exports. He said a huge investment through foreign remittances, which was improving different sectors of the economy, construction industry was reviving and robust construction activities across the country proved as pragmatic steps of the government, he added. – **APP**

Zero tolerance in the anti-polio campaign: DC

DNA

RAWALPINDI: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Amir Aqiq Khan Wednesday said that government would take stern action against those showing negligence in the

anti-polio campaign. Chairing a meeting to review polio campaign arrangements starting from June 7 to June11 in the entire district, he underlined the need for effective utilization of all available resources to run the campaign successfully, particularly in the high-risk union councils of the district. Under the drive, the DC said that 2964 polio teams, 396 area in charges, 204 medical officers, and allied hospitals, and tehsil headquarter hospitals would participate in the campaign, adding

Iqbal said that the bureau was determined to recover the looted money from the corrupt elements. The priority of NAB was to take the culprits of various scams like money laundering, sugar, flour, fake accounts, assets beyond resources, illegal housing societies, modarba till logical conclusion.

He said the accountability court accords final approval to a plea bargain case, in which a culprit not only confesses his crime but also pledge to return the looted money. The meeting was attended by bureau's Deputy Chairman, Prosecutor General Accountability, Director General Operations and other senior officers.

Six Covid-19 patients died in 24 hours

DNA

RAWALPINDI: As many as 37 more COVID-19 positive cases were reported during the last 24 hours, raising the tally of confirmed cases to 26,332 in the district while six lost their battle of life against the deadly virus.

As per the latest data released by the District Health Authority here Wednesday,13 international passengers who had been tested positive for COVID-19,8 were quarantined at Women University Satellite town, one at Shalimar Hotel and four were allowed to go to their homes as their reports were tested negative.

The report said among the new cases,10 reported from Rawal Town.9 from Potohar town,10 from Rawalpindi Cantt,4 Gujjar Khan,2 and one each from Jehlum and AJK. "Presently 65 confirmed patients were admitted to various city facilities, counting 17 in Holy Family Hospital,15 in Benazir Bhutto Hospital,21 in Institute of Urology,8 in Fauji Foundation Hospital, 3 in Bilal hospital and one in

Bilal hospital and one in Hearts International Hospital," the health authority report said. District Health Authority updated that so far 24,842 patients were discharged after recovery while 1151 were quarantined including 694 at home and 454 in isolation.



ISLAMABAD: President of Tajikistan, Emomali Rahom planting a sapling during his visit to Pakistan. – DNA

Private schools to educate children of Police employees

ISLAMABAD: Islamabad police on Wednesday entered into an agreement with two private schools of the city to ensure quality education to the children of in-service, retired and martyred employees of the capital police department. According to the details, the police signed an agreement with American Lycetuff Dnk School System Pakistan and International Learning Hub School Pakistan under which the children of police martyrs would be given fee concession up to 80 percent while the children of in-service and retired employees will pay nothing under the head of security/admission.

They will also avail 50 percent concession in tuition fee. Furthermore, they would be charged just Rs 3000 as Registration Fee. DIG (Headquarters) Kamran Adil, other senior police officers and representatives of the school management were present during the signing ceremony. According to police spokesperson, IG Islamabad Qazi Jamil ur Rehman said that signing an agreement with private educational institutions is to ensure quality education to the children of the employees at affordable expenses. He said the police was busy in providing relief to its employees in whatever possible way which, he believed, will boost morale of the force.

The department had earlier took several initiatives for the welfare of the employees including signing agreements with the educational institutions as Islamabad Science School and College, Nicon Group, Air Foundation School System, and The Smart School. – **APP**

Increased revenue, economic development welcomed

Zahid Hussain said the finance minister enjoys the confidence of the business community and some important opposition leaders

Shujaat Hamza

ISLAMABAD: Chairman of National Business Group Pakistan, President Pakistan Businessmen and Intellectuals Forum, and All Karachi Industrial Alliance, and former provincial minister Mian Zahid Hussain on Wednesday said the business community is pleased at the steps taken by the government to improve the growth rate. The decision to freeze power tariff for industrial consumers for one year and reduce power tariff for domestic consumers will improve the economic situation and provide relief to the masses, he said.

Mian Zahid Hussain said that travel and tourism sector which is closed for over a year due to pandemic should be given relief package.

Talking to the business community, the veteran business leader said that the government has decided to improve



the agriculture sector, increase and diversify exports, increase subsidies and extend construction sector amnesty scheme to December 31 are good steps however the issue of water scarcity should also be tackled on preference. He said that the finance minister enjoys the confidence of the business community and some important opposition leaders which will help him forge

ject, construction of new dams, launch of

Green Eurobond Scheme, Recharge Paki-

stan Project, introduction of electric vehi-

cles, and restoration of ecosystems, particu-

Mr. Aslam said that we will have to factor

larly in national forests and wetland areas.

each course paper that we have solved this paper ourselves and did not use any unfair means. This affidavit will also be available with the roll number slip. Irrelevant, stolen, copied material from a book or other media will be considered rejected and a legal action will be taken.

consensus on important issues making

the economy competitive in few years

which will reduce the deficit and im-

The government should strive to re-

duce the cost of doing business in the

budget while making the tax system

easy while improving taxes from the

retails sector through various steps

including strengthening point of sale

He said that the government is planning

to extend power sector repayment of

loans including that of IPPs and power

sector which will reduce circular debt

while payment of 90 billion rupees of

35 IPPs within days will improve overall

The government has decided to

abolish peak and off-peak tariff for

domestic consumers and reduce the

tariff for people consuming addi-

tional electricity which will increase

demand for electricity and save gas

conditions in the power sector.

that is a right move, he said.

system, he demanded.

prove the living standard of masses.

the drive would also be utilized for creating awareness about Covid-19 and anti-dengue preventive measures.

gue preventive measures. During the campaign, he said, 885,000 children would be administered polio vaccine. He said staff deployed for the campaign has been warned that no negligence would be tolerated in this regard. The DC advised parents to come forward and play their role in ensuring vaccination of their children to eliminate the crippling disease.

VC WASA reviews work of Nullah Leh

STAFF REPORT

RAWALPINDI: Water and Sanitation Agency (WASA) and Rawalpindi Development Authority (RDA), Vice Chairman, Haroon Kamal Hashmi Wednesday inspected dredging and desilting work of Nullah Leh at Gawalmandi Bridge. He said that this year the project would be completed with the cooperation of Bahria Town.

On the occasion, Additional Chief Executive Officer, Bahria Town Haji Amjad Mehmood and Managing Director WASA Raja Shoukat Mehmood were also present. He said, the dredging work would help in preventing floods in the Nullah. Bahria Town staff briefed about the project and informed that heavy machinery was being used to complete the project. Haroon Kamal thanked the administration of Bahria Town for the services being rendered to prevent flash flooding and avoid loss of lives and property during heavy rains in monsoon season. He expressed the hope that the dredging work would be completed within shortest possible timeframe. MD WASA informed that the agency had launched the project earlier with the special grant released by the Punjab government but, now the pace of work would be accelerated due to cooperation of Bahria Town.

MPA PP13, Haji Amjad Mehmood told that this year too, the project would be completed with the help of Bahria Town like last year. He said, Bahria Town always plays an important role in public welfare projects and the cooperation would continue in future as well.

Pakistan redesigning policies for climate change

Amin Aslam elaborated on all the aspects of climate-related challenges and options for Pakistan. He said that if you keep on pushing nature, it will react. Therefore, it is vital to make nature an ally in this battle

DNA

ISLAMABAD: "Pakistan is honoured to host World Environment Day and celebrate the UN Decade of Ecosystem Restoration. We are not just playing a victim card on climate front, rather we are formulating nature-based responses in an effort to make nature our ally in this global crisis." This was stated by the Minister and Advisor to the Prime Minister on Climate Change, Honourable Malik Amin Aslam, in a public talk on "Climate Change: Challenges and Options for Pakistan" hosted by the Centre for Strategic Perspectives (CSP) at the Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI) under its Distinguished Lecture Series as part of Pakistan's upcoming Environment Day celebrations. Mr. Amin Aslam elaborated on all the aspects of climate-related challenges and options for Pakistan. He said that if you keep on pushing nature, it will react. Therefore, it is vital to make nature an ally

in this battle. Pakistan is not a big emitter but we are the victims of greenhouse emissions. He identified and elaborated nature-oriented programs that the current government is undertaking in order to mitigated the impact of climate change. These include the Ten Billion Tree Tsunami Pro-





meet the challenges of climate change. He informed the audience that Pakistan is redesigning policies and smart infrastructures and it is not waiting for any external aid to make the country adaptable and resilient in terms of climate crisis. He said that the introduction of the Green Eurobond will add to green credibility of the country's business profile. Earlier, in his welcome remarks, Ambassador Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry, Director General, ISSI noted that climate crisis has become a formidable challenge worldwide. He lauded the efforts and commitment of the present government to mitigate the impacts of climate change in the country. He said that climate change is a global problem, and so is its solution. He was of the view that Pakistan must showcase three capabilities in order to put up a strong front against climate-related challenges: collective responsibility, both in terms of political will and infrastructure: financial burden sharing mechanisms; and policy framework, including forging partnerships with the relevant entities.

TWIN CITIES



Briefs **New Girls'** hostel inaugurated

at QAU

CGSS, HSF discusses climate change security challenges

DNA ISLAMABAD: Vice Chancel-

lor, Quaid-i-Azam University (QAU) Islamabad, Dr. Muhammad Ali has inaugurated the girls hostel and new academic block in the university. The academic block for pharmacy department would be completed in 18 months with total cost of Rs. 183 million, while the stimulated time for completion of girl's hostel is 13 month with the cost of Rs 173 million. After completion, the hostel would provide accommodation to around 300 students.

On the occasion, VC Muhammad Ali directed to complete the projects timely. He also vowed to provide all possible facilities to the students.

Agri machinery, inputs worth \$73.498m

STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: Agricultural machinery and inputs worth of \$73.498 million were imported during 10 months of current financial year as compared the imports of \$79.728 million of the corresponding period of last year. During the period from Ju-ly-April, 2020-21 import of agricultural machinery and imports decreased by 7.28 percent as compared the imports of same period of last year.

Meanwhile, during the period under review agricultural chemicals including fertilizers, pesticides, plastics materials and medicinal products worth \$7.256 billion imported in order to fulfill the domestic requirements as compared the imports of the same period last year.

The import of above mentioned commodities into the country were stood at \$6.196 billion during first ten

ZUBAIR AHMAD

ISLAMABAD: Online Roundtable Discussion on "Climate Change as Non-Traditional Security Challenge: Relevance for Pakistan" was held. It was jointly organized by Center for Global and Strategic Studies (CGSS), Islamabad and Hanns Seidel Foundation (HSF) Pakistan. Mr. Shakeel Ramay Advisor, Asian Institute of Eco-civili-

zation Research and Development, Consultant SDPI & Member board of Advisors, CGSS, commenced the session with opening remarks. Dr. Steffen Kudella, Resident Representative, Hanns Seidel Foundation, Pakistan gave the welcome remarks. He welcomed all the participants and distinguished panelists. Dr. Kudella highlighted that on 5th June 2021, Pakistan is hosting the international Environment Day. Last year this day was hosted by Germany

and Colombia. Dr. Kudella said that it is important for Pakistan to raise awareness on climate change and mitigate its negative impacts. He stated that climate change is both, the rise of the average temperature of the Earth's climate system and also largescale weather shifts. It is one of the most threating situations for Pakistan. These non-traditional security challenges are non-military in nature, but risks to the survival and well-being of people. Dr. Kudella stated that the rising temperatures are leading to the melting of glaciers in Pakistan. Moreover, they

lead to a degradation of ecosystems, impact biodiversity, and cause desertification and flooding, which in turn can cause serious problems such as mass migration, starvation or poverty. He emphasized on the importance of holding these roundtables to address critical issues Ms. Romina Khurshid Alam,



Assembly of Pakistan and Former Secretary of Climate Change Ministry stated that climate change is a subject on which we all need to work cohesively. She said that pollution has also increased in

this pandemic and explained that Pakistan has the Climate Committee and is working to mitigate the negative impacts of climate change. She

suggested that in this regard think tanks can play an important role in policy orientation

Shujaat Hamza

ISLAMABAD: Wateen Tele-

com, a leading ICT company

with a fiber infrastructure

process and Government should implement the devised policies

PEIRA sets up vaccination center for teachers

DNA ISLAMABAD: The Private

are devastating as Pakistan is among the top ten most effected countries. This has led to water insecurity. Dr. Rashid explained that climate change can lead to a number of challenges. One is the scarcity of water. Second. water availability will become erratic and put strains on population. Third, this situation will result in higher evaporation rate and raise demand of water. Dr. Rashid said that if these factors are likely to continue, it will increase frequency of droughts. While concluding, Dr. Rashid suggested that the government should devise policies which can be practically implemented.

Dr. Yusuf Zaraf, TI, Former Chairman, Pakistan Agricultural Research Council (PARC) explained the relevance of climate change

organization.

tomers

will give the required impe-

tus to offer new opportuni-

ties to benefit small, medium

& large enterprises, financial

institutions, cellular mobile

operators, education sector,

internet resellers across Pa-

kistan and international cus-

Adil Rashid, CEO Wateen Tel-

ecom, said on the occasion,

"As an organization that is al-

ways innovating to stay ahead

Educational Institutions Regulatory Authority (PEI-RA) has set up a coronavirus vaccination center here at Aims Education System H/8 Campus for the teaching staff of private sector schools. Special Assistant to the Prime Minister (SAPM) Ali Nawaz Awan inaugurated the center. Parliamentary Secretary for Federal Education and Professional Training Wajiha Akram and PEIRA Chairperson Ms. Zia Batool were also present at the inaugura-

tion ceremony. Speaking on the occasion, Ali Nawaz Awan said despite being a major populated country, the Covid pandemic was under control due to policies and efforts made by the government led by National Command and Operation Center (NCOC) Chairman and Federal Minister Asad

Umar. On the contrary, he said, neighboring country India was facing dangerous situation with high number of corona cases. He said around 0.4 million people were being vaccinat-This network modernization ed daily in Pakistan, and the

> whole population would be vaccinated till December. He said on the direction of NCOC, PEIRA had started a campaign to vaccinate the teachers of private sector

schools. Wajiha Akram said the vaccination of teachers was being done on the directives of NCOC. Examinations schedule had also been announced, she added.

She urged the teachers to vaccinate themselves as soon as possible.

Wardens get prizes for offering cold drinks

RAWALPINDI: Chief Traffic Officer Rawalpindi Rai Mazhar Iqbal distributed certificates of commendation and awarded cash



ISLAMABAD: Federal Secretary for Narcotics Control, Akbar Durrani (TI)/PAS met with Prof. Dr. Masoom Yasinzai, the rector of the Intermational Islamic University, Islamabad to curb the menance of drugs from educational institues. - APP

Three held for selling firecrackers

RAWALPINDI: Police have arrested three firecracker sellers and recovered huge

to digitalization." CDA board approves **Rs 156 bn budget for 2021-22**

across 250 cities in Pakistan, has signed an agreement with Huawei Pakistan to modernize its countrywide data transmission network. Wateen will be deploying a state-of-the-art Optical Transmission Network from Hua-

hore at the Wateen Telecom head office by Adil Rashid, CEO Wateen Telecom and Mark Meng, CEO Huawei Pakistan.

to upgrade network hanced capacities and higher speeds on its nationwide

optical fiber network after the completion of project. As demand for superior network performance continues to grow, both domestically and internationally, Wateen's network is designed to facilitate growth to meet the exponential increase in internet capacity demand. The new network capacity holds the potential to perform at 100G to 400G rates to future band-

of tomorrow's needs, we are Wateen Telecom is fully proud to have Huawei's techgeared for 4G growth and nologies onboard to serve 5G era with its futuristic netour customers best. This sucwork architecture, resilient cessful innovation is only one fiber footprint, high-capacity of the many that will follow as transmission infrastructure Pakistan advances on its path and nationwide field services

width requirements.

wei to revolutionize digital landscape of the country. The agreement was signed in La-

Wateen Telecom will have en-

to GHG.

Dr. Rashid Aftab, Director with agriculture sector. He of Riphah Institute of Public stated that Pakistan ener-Policy, Riphah International gy consumption is low and it is not contributing much University stated that the outcomes of climate change Wateen, Huawei partner

months of last financial year, according the data of Pakistan Bureau of Statistics.

During last 10 months of current financial year imports of agricultural chemicals into the country recorded about 17.10 percent growth as compared the imports of same period of last year.

About 1,298,820 metric tons of fertilizers manufactured valuing \$457.938 million were also imported during the period under review as compared the imports of 1,519,626 metric tons valuing \$513.959 million of same period of last year.

In order to enhance output of agriculture sector during current season, an amount of \$152.310 million was spent on the import of 32,561 metric tons of insecticides as against the import of insecticides valuing \$130.679 during same period of last year.

During last 10 months of current financial year, country spent \$990.669 million on the imports of medicinal products as it imported 29,350 metric tons of medicinal products as compared the imports of same period last year.

Al-Shifa Trust Eye hospital holds free medical camp

STAFF REPORT

Public School Lane No

3, Gulistan Colony, Rawal-

pindi. During camps, the

eye specialists examined

350 patients, conducted

25 operations and provid-

ed required medication to

The specialists also ad-

vised people to take care

of their eyes and must go

for checkups at least once

a year. Director, Hira Pub-

lic School, Raja Kamran

Zameer thanked the team

of doctors for their concern

and free of charge services.

He lauded the services of

Al-Shifa Trust Eye Hos-

pital which is fighting

against blindness as a no-

patients.

ble cause.

RAWALPINDI:

quantity of fireworks from their possession, informed

police spokesman. Ganimandi police held 3 firecrackers sellers identified as Tayyab Elahi, Mohammad Javed and Zafar and recovered huge quantity of firecrackers from their custody. Police have registered separate cases against them and started investigation. -APP

DNA

ISLAMABAD: After opening

of Pakistan National Council

of the Arts regional office at

GB and formation of a fully

equipped audio studio, PNCA

initiated its first music project

from GB Studio named Gems

of GB. The program compris-

es of high-quality recording

sessions of an album of the

renowned singer of GB re-

gion Mr. Jan Ali. The legend-

ary senior artist, musician,

composer and poet - Jan Ali

has recorded 10 songs and 3

instrumentals on traditional

PNCA will release a complete

audio and video album titled,

"Gems of GB". It will be the

opening release of the mega

musical series, followed by

instrument Shehnai.

DNA

PNCA initiated its

first musical project

from GB studio

ISLAMABAD: CDA Board has approved the largest budget in the history of CDA for the new financial year 2021-22, a budget of over Rs 156 billion with an estimated expenditure of Rs 82 billion and revenue collection of Rs 156 billion while a surplus of Rs 73 billion. According

recording and preservation

of folk musical assets of Pa-

kistan. The said project is

aimed to gain multiple out-

comes such as to streamline

an equipped audio studio at

GB, said project is also aimed

to research on folk tales of

Shina Language and relevant

material by famous research-

er in that domain Mr. Abdul

PNCA deputed a musical

team of professionals (com-

prising of Khurram Latifi

-Director Performing Arts,

Sherry Bakshi - a renowned

musician, music arranger

along with other crew mem-

bers) to record & preserve

precious but dying folk songs,

tunes and traditional instru-

ments with modern recording

Khaliq Taj.

studio

der the chairmanship of CDA Chairman Amir Ali Ahmed .Board Members Shakeel Iazeb (Member Finance), Amir Abbas Khan (Member Administration), Naveed Elahi (Member Planning), Munawar Shah (Member Nayyar Ali Dada (Member Architect), Iftikhar Arif, Chaudhry

CDA Board was held un-Engineering), Muhammad

and renowned architect Ali Asghar attended the meeting.Member Finance Shakeel Jazeb presented the budget for the financial year 2021-22 in which Rs. 40 billion has been allocated for various development projects. These projects include Rs 2 billion for construction of houses for low income people in Farash Town, Rs 60 million

ladies club.

Free Corridor, Rs 10 million for Margalla Avenue while other development projects include IGP Road, PWD Underpass, Seventh Avenue, Tenth Avenue, a new slaughter house and a

In addition, Rs 5 billion has been allocated for beautification and renovation projects of the city, including water supply, street lights, sanicollection.

to details, the meeting of Ali, Dr. Muhammad Ali for Rawal Chowk Signal tation and park projects.A budget of Rs 50 billion was set during the last financial year, making it the largest budget in the history of the CDA. CDA has further approved Corona Allowance for next 5 months for Grade 1 to Grade 19 employees and officers. Other than that, CDA Board also approved the construction of a landfill site in F-16 for the city's garbage

prizes to traffic wardens for offering cold drinks to the motorists in scorching heat.

Traffic Officer Chief Rawalpindi Rai Mazhar Iobal said that such traffic wardens deserves appreciation and are a source of pride for department.

Those who received commendation certificates, cash prizes were Aamir. Traffic Warden Ramzan, Traffic Warden Nawazish and Traffic Assistant Muhammad Akbar.

On the occasion, Chief Traffic Officer Rawalpindi Rai Mazhar Iqbal said that the spirit of the traffic warden is commendable and his good deeds will be encouraged on every platform so that they can perform their duties with more courage and dedication.

He further said that the initiative taken by the on-duty traffic police personnel with the spirit of service to the road users is a perfect example for other personnel. He urged road users to follow traffic rules to avoid fatal accidents. - APP

MDCAT exam syllabus finalized

STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: The National Medical and Dental Academic Board meeting was held here on Wednesday to finalize the NLE (MBBS) and MDCAT examinations' structure and syllabus.

recommendations The have been forwarded to the Medical and Dental Council, where the body will convene on Friday for final approval and implementation thereafter.

According to the Pakistan Medical Commission spokesman, the commission is committed in its efforts to maintain the highest standards of transparency and competence, following rigorous protocols of approval processes across multiple channels. He said that PMC is striving to set standards of excellence and continues to work towards implementing them in every medical and dental institute across Pakistan, both for postgraduate and undergraduate education.

Intra-Afghan accord critical for peace: IPS webinar The speaker urged regional countries, especially Pakistan, and internal

KHAYAM ABBASI

ISLAMABAD: An all-inclusive Afghan-owned accord among Afghanistan's internal power contenders is the only solution to end the issues engulfing the country's people and the region. Otherwise, bloodshed will continue in the war-torn country, which is already on the brink of a civil war, in case the US leaves the Afghans on their own, as it had done before, without striking an intra-Af-

ghan agreement. This was the crux of a webinar titled 'US withdrawal from Afghanistan: Threats to regional peace, within and without' organized by the Institute of Policy Studies, Islamabad. Syed Abrar Hussain, IPS' vice-chairman and Pakistan's former ambassador to Afghanistan, chaired the webinar, which was addressed by

associate and geostrategic analyst, as the keynote speaker. Khalid Rahman, IPS' chairman, Jumma Khan Sufi, author and Afghan affairs expert, and Hasan Khan, senior iournalist and analyst, were among the discussants. In his address, Said Nazir said that as the date of US withdrawal is coming closer, violence in Afghanistan is increas-



struggle that is going on between the Taliban and the Afghan government. He said Washington, after the pullout, would act as a mere distant spectator of the mess it would leave

the US by Pakistan, he feared that if such action is taken, it would be detrimental to peace and stability in the region and Pakistan as it will have direct consequences for the countries that will provide assistance to the US in this regard.

As the Taliban have also cautioned regional countries against such a move, this will further intensify the armed conflict, resulting in the influx of Afghan refugees, he warned. Providing facilities of bases to the US in Pakistan, he argued, will not serve national interests. Instead, it will allow anti-state elements, including Daesh and the TTP, which are gaining ground along the Pak-Afghan border inside Afghanistan, to label Pakistan a US proxy.

The speaker urged regional countries, especially Pakistan, and internal power contenders to mitigate any chances of a civil war. Pakistan needs to beef up its efforts and precautionary measures for

lasting regional peace in the presence of spoilers, especially India, which will try to add fuel to the

Sufi was of the view that the British government is trying to bring Pakistan and Afghanistan closer in a bid to solve bilateral issues that have prevailed between the neighbors for a long time. He revealed that the UK facilitated the recent meeting between the Pakistan Army chief and Afghan President Ashraf Ghani. He stressed that Pakistan needs to press the regional power brokers to ensure Afghanistan recognizes the existing Pak-Afghan border for a long-term settlement.

Talking about his recent visit to Afghanistan, Hasan Khan said that the Afghan people generally like Pakistan and did not despise it as is often depicted in media, especially social media.

Al-Shifa Trust Eye Hospital Rawal power contenders to mitigate any chances of a civil war pindi on Wednesday con ducted a one-day Minhaj Brigadier (r) Said Nazir, IPS' senior ing - underlining the intense power Free Eye Camp at Hira

L.F

behind in Afghanistan. Commenting on the much-debated air and ground logistical support to

ongoing fight, he warned.



ISLAMABAD: President Pakistan, Romanian Friendship Forum Zahid Magbaool and Atif Ikram techniques in state of the art presenting bouquet to Zafar Bakhtrawri on his election as Secretary General UBG group. - DNA

Covid and politics

HE coronavirus pandemic and politics have often clashed with each other in various parts of the world. We have seen this in the US and in other countries in Europe and Australia, as well as countries closer to home. We now see it in Azad Jammu and Kashmir, where the Assembly completes its term on July 29, with the constitution of the territory stating that a new poll must be held within 90 days. The NCOC suggested that polls in Jammu and Kashmir be delayed by two months in light of the high number of Covid-19 cases, so that more people could be vaccinated.

Instantly, there has been retaliation from the main opposition parties, notably the PML-N, and also the PPP as well as various other political groups. The parties have said there is no constitutional provision for the polls to be delayed and that the tactic is simply a way for the PTI to force candidates from other parties to join its ranks. The PPP has said this process is already underway, with arm-twisting to force candidates to defect. We are told that the Covid positivity rate is going down in the country. Even then it is possible there may be concerns of a very genuine nature over political gatherings and attendance at rallies. But there seems to be no need to create more animosity with the political opposition by leaving them out in the cold ahead of the announcement by the NCOC.

In politics, all things need to be worked out collectively and through dialogue. This after all is the essence of democracy. The Covid situation could have been discussed with Farooq Haider, the present prime minister of AJK, and other party leaders who have been active already in campaigning in the territory. It could so easily have been worked out simply by talking and by bringing all parties together to do so. The fact that this was not done has resulted in a situation where there is growing anger which could spill over into the polls as the campaign gets underway in the AJK.

Islamabad POST

Pakistan's First And Only Diplomatic Daily

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

ABC CERTIFIED

Vol: 02 Issue: 27 Email: dailyisbpost@gmail.com Phone: 051-2266165 / 051-2261960 Off: Awan Plaza, Block 18-A, G-8 Markaz Islamabad



Iranian elections

HE 2021 Iranian presidential elections are scheduled to be held soon. Under the Iranian constitution, Hassan Rouhani, the incumbent president, is ineligible to run for re-election as he was limited to two terms, which means that the succeeding President will be a new candidate, prompting several predictions about the inevitable change in Iran's policies. This election is particularly impactful since it comes at a time when Iran is at a headway. Decisions made at this time can change the trajectory of Iran's course completely for the next four years. How the next Iranian president will negotiate with US President Joe Biden over the Iran deal right now is crucial in determining the new US administration's approach with Iran.

The longstanding Middle East cold war might also finally be slowing down, as three weeks ago, Iran's foreign ministry stated for the first time that talks have been held with regional rival Saudi Arabia. While an Iranian President does not have complete power, considering the ultimate authority lies with the Supreme Leader, if Rouhani's successor takes a calm and conciliatory approach, it can go a long way in reducing hostilities in the region, and in resolving Iran's catastrophic economic crisis brought about because of debilitating sanctions and the pandemic.

While in all likelihood, it appears that a 'hardliner' will replace Rouhani—with Chief Justice of Iran Ebrahim Raisi leading the polls—it is important for Pakistan to keep up active engagement with the next president. A stable Iran is crucial for Pakistan and the region. Pakistan and Iran share several outstanding border trespass and smuggling issues, for which economic cooperation and regional connectivity is required. Pakistan is also poised to play its role in seeking rapprochement between Saudi Arabia and Iran—for that, constant engagement and a closer friendship with both sides is needed.

Wakeup Pakistan: Getting too late for food security

Munir Ahmed



Shandana Gulzar, Convener of the Parliamentary Sub-Committee on Agriculture, feels determined to provide opportunities to young people and women to engage in food productions and processing systems and mechanisms in the country. She believes that food security policy 2018 shall be implemented in letter AKISTAN is a graveyard of national policies. The recently buried one is the 'Food security' that was finalized and approved in 2018. Almost three years on, the stakeholders are waiting for any action on it. The participants of the recently organized conference by Awaz CDS and Pakistan Development Alliance, VSO-Pakistan and UKAid on "Food Security and Sustainable livelihood in Pakistan" have shown grave concerns on the policy dusting shelves. They demanded immediate kick off the implementation and letter and spirit.

The stakeholders voiced numerous challenges related to food, agriculture, and livelihoods and shared their recommendations for the federal and provincial governments in somber. They believe that on their charter of demand, the real and practicing smallholder women and men farmers should be included in the government committees at provincial and federal levels raise their voices to safeguard their rights for better production, fair prices and sustainable livelihoods; food and nutrition security should be brought as enforceable fundamental right in the constitution of Pakistan; and while the nutrition is important for people, it should be incorporated in all the programs of agriculture and food security No doubt, the government should initiate training and support for kitchen gardening in rural and urban areas for improved nutrition. Indeed it's true that rising cost of production is negatively impacting small farmers. The provincial and federal governments shall monitor erratic price of inputs for the benefit of farmers. Substandard quality of seeds and inputs negatively impact agricultural production and farmers livelihoods, the relevant government departments shall monitor quality issues of agricultural inputs, and also ensure fair price of agricultural products to ensure sustainable livelihoods. The small farmers shall receive concessionary loans and crop insurance in all provinces and regions. The conference emphasized the extension departments shall be revitalized to provide required technical support to small farmers; wages of agriculture workers shall be implemented according to the national or provincial minimum wage rates whichever is higher; the farmer men and women shall be supported through trainings and financial resources to

initiate value addition of their crop, vegetables, fruits, livestock and other agricultural products.

The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and federal governments shall have special emphasis on the newly merged districts of FATA in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa to explore potential agriculture and food production, and micro finance support shall also be extended to the natives of these areas. Women at the moment are not the focus in the agriculture system despite being in the heart actually, so women farmers shall be prioritized from university curriculum to research up to extension system. Government shall induct women staff to ensure timely and quality extension support for women farmers. Women should receive capacity building and financial support for crop, livestock, vegetable production as well as poultry and goat farming.

Sindh Women Agriculture Workers Bill 2019 is still pending. It shall be implemented in letter and spirit. All other provinces shall also ensure the replication of the similar legislations in their respective provinces and regions. Special programs should be included in government policies to address drought related situations in crop, livestock and all forms of agricultural production. Storage dams should be constructed to ensure food and agricultural production in drought hit and flood prone areas in all provinces. Livestock training and mobile livestock veterinary services should be provided in all the provinces. Women should also be given on farm training on livestock, goat and sheep and poultry farming to empower the marginalized women. Climate change is the worst threat to national water and food security. Agriculture and related policies and programs shall integrate climate change resilience from curriculum to research and up to extension systems. Government shall conduct scoping studies to assess climate related risks and related measures in all provinces and regions, and strengthen efficient water utilization for agriculture in all provinces. Crop and food diversity is important for nutrition and climate resilience. This should be encouraged through a variety of crop cultivation and naturally bred bio-fortified seeds. Pakistan has 11mhc cultivable waste. These marginal lands should be developed into new areas to produce agriculture and food crops. Shandana Gulzar, Convener of the Parliamentary

Sub-Committee on Agriculture, feels determined to provide opportunities to young people and women to engage in food productions and processing systems and mechanisms in the country. She believes that food security policy 2018 shall be implemented in letter and spirit while taking all the provinces and other related stakeholders on board equally. "We will encourage provinces to develop their own food security policies in accordance with the national food security policy 2018. Before the 18th constitutional amendment in 2010, it was possible to have uniform policies for the whole country, however now provinces have their own agricultural policies too. They need to sync their agricultural policies with that of national food security policy if there is any challenge in this respect." MNA Riaz Fatyana- Convener, National Parliamentary Task Force on SDGs shared that the government has initiated many social protection initiatives to ensure food security of poor and marginalized communities under Ehsaas Program including Rashan Cards. The program will be kicked off soon. He also shared that small land holders and farmers will be given Kissan cards to enhance their productions. Government is also encouraging Agriculture Chambers and the first ever agriculture

chamber will be initiated in Lahore soon.

Zia ur Rehman, National Convener of Pakistan Development Alliance, believes that food security should be considered as a basic human right. Pakistan is also a signatory of many international treaties and conventions including UDHR, ICESCR, CRC, CEDAW, SDGs and Voluntary Guidelines to support the progressive realization of the right to adequate food for all citizens. These commitments demand that Pakistan should recognize food and nutrition security as fundamental human rights; however this is pertinent to mention here that Pakistan's Constitution has yet to recognize the right to food for all. Wakeup Pakistan government before it's too late to secure food for 220 million people. Your slow response or no response would lead to a disaster we could never imagine.

- The writer is a freelance journalist and broadcaster, Director Devcom-Pakistan, a policy advocacy and outreach think tank in Islamabad. His email: devcom.pakistan@gmail.com Twitter Handle: @EmmayeSyed

2021 World Environment Day hosted by Pakistan

Munaza Kazmi



The theme for World Environment Day 2021 is "Ecosystem Restoration" and will see the launch of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration. Ecosystem restoration can take many forms: Growing trees, greening cities, rewilding gardens, changing diets or cleaning up rivers and coasts. This is the generation that can make peace with nature. Ecosystem restoration means assisting in the recovery of ecosystems that have been degraded or destroyed

N 1972, the UN General Assembly designated 5June as "World Environment Day". The first celebration, under the slogan "Only One Earth" took place in 1974. In the following years, World Environment Dayhas developed as a platform to raise awareness on the problems facing our environment such as air pollution, plastic pollution, illegal wildlife trade, sustainable consumption, sea-level increase, and food security, among others. Furthermore, World Environment Dayhelps drive change in consumption patterns and in national and international environmental policy.

The theme for World Environment Day 2021 is "Ecosystem Restoration" and will see the launch of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration. Ecosystem restoration can take many forms: Growing trees, greening cities, rewilding gardens, changing diets or cleaning up rivers and coasts. This is the generation that can make peace with nature. Ecosystem restoration means assisting in the recovery of ecosystems that have been degraded or destroyed, as well as conserving the ecosystems that are still intact. Healthier ecosystems, with richer biodiversity, yield greater benefits such as more fertile soils, bigger yields of timber and fish, and larger stores of greenhouse gases. However, restoration can happen in many ways - for example through actively planting or by removing pressures so that nature can recover on its own. It is not always possibleor desirable to return an ecosystem to its original state. We still need farmland and infrastructure on land that was once forest, for instance, and ecosystems, like societies, need to adapt to a changing climate.

Between now and 2030, the restoration of 350 million hectares of degraded terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems could generate US\$9 trillion in ecosystem services. Restoration could also remove 13 to 26 gigatons of greenhouse gases from the atmosphere. The economic benefits of such interventions exceed nine times the cost of investment, whereas inaction is at least three times costlier than ecosystem restoration. All kinds of ecosystem can be restored, including forests, farmlands, cities, wetlands and oceans. Restoration initiatives can be launched by almost anyone, from governments and development agencies to businesses, communities and individuals. That is because the causes of degradation are many and varied and can have an impact at different scales.

Every year World Environment Day is hosted by a different country, in which official celebrations take place, and this year's host is Pakistan.

The Government of Pakistan plans to expand and restore the country's forests through a 10 Billion Tree Tsunami spread over five years. The campaign includes restoring mangroves and forests, as well as planting trees in urban settings, including schools, colleges, public parks and green belts. Through the 10 Billion Tree Tsunami, Pakistan is contributing to the Bonn Challenge, a global effort linked to the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration. Under the challenge, countries are pledging to bring 350 million hectares of the world's deforested and degraded land into restoration by 2030. World Environment Day is celebrated every once a year, to remind us that we are not alone on this planet. There is a huge biological ecosystem that exists, and we as a human being survive because of that, since we are all bead of a chain, removing or damaging a bead can disturb the beauty and existence of the whole chain.

Preserving nature is our responsibility, that can be done by adopting simple steps, why it's the most urgent to throw the peel off out of the car windows? We can keep it in paper and then to throw in dustbin. We go to recreational spots in order to pollute them, I believe first educate oneself then others. It is only the human that pollutes, damages and harms, can't we just change this habit. We have taken a lot from this nature, it's the time to refund, however its not refund but an investment. Next, it's an appeal to the parents and institutions to create awareness among the younger generation, tell them aspects about nature and the significance of birds, animals, ecology, and even the small insects. A humble example could be our six-legged friends - bees. The contribution that bees make to food production is astonishing. Moreover, respect Biodiversity & nature. Biodi-

versity plays an important role in offering ecological services that make life livable on Earth. Each species, no matter how big or small, has a considerable impact on the ecosystem.



WORLD / SPORTS

Islamabad **POST** Thursday, June 03, 2021

Pakistan,

Tajikistan committed..

Imran Khan said that if India takes back the steps

it took on August 5, "then

we can definitely hold

talks". Meanwhile, Pres-

ident Emomali Rahmon

expressed his country's interest to access Paki-

stan's Gwadar and Karachi

seaports as the 'shortest

trade route' for the land-

locked Central Asian state

to connect with the region.

The Tajik president, in this

the establishment of a

'trade corridor' passing

through Pakistan. The

two leaders, who earlier

held wide-ranging discus-

sions on diverse areas of

cooperation, expressed

willingness to further

strengthen the bilateral

Rahmon stressed "full-

fledged cooperation" be-

tween Tajikistan and Pa-

kistan to manage energy

and water resources

and also tapping the po-

tential of Central Asia-

South Asia (CASA-1000)

President Rahmon termed

Pakistan a "reliable and trustworthy partner" of

Tajikistan at the interna-

power project.

Emomali

multifaceted ties.

President

regard, supported

From Page 01

Briefs

ECO countries mull cooperation

From Page 01 Assembly of ECO in Islamabad Wednesday said that the member states must pool their resources to build the capacity of local communities through education and training of their population, especially in livelihoods connected to tourism.

It also stressed the need for promoting religious, cultural, and health tourism through enhanced connectivity and development of infrastructure and institutions in the tourist industry of all member states. All member states also reiterated the importance of sustainable eco-tourism, which is both a powerful source of perpetual poverty alleviation as well as environmental conservation for coming generations. The statement said elimination of terrorism is a key to ensuring security in our region which is vital to attract and develop our tourist industries.

The key recommendations of the session are include: i. We recognize the fact that our common heritage viz a viz the historical silk route and enormously beautiful geography gives the ECO region enormous potential as an international tourist destination; ii. ECO country governments must cooperate in all forms of Tourism, which remains as a great driver of sustainable development and poverty alleviation.

We must pool our resources to build the capacity of local communities through education and training of our population especially in livelihoods connected to tourism; iii. ECO states must promote religious, cultural and health tourism, which will be possible through enhanced connectivity and development of infrastructure and institutions in the tourist industry of all member states.

'Covid pushes over 100m into povertų'

Cultural show held to mark Pak-China diplomatic ties

Pakistan Ambassador to China, Moin ul Haq thanked the Chinese dignitaries for their warm sentiments for Pakistan and said that friendship between Pakistan and China was unprecedented in history of inter-state relations due to its scope and depth

BEIJING: Acolourful cultural show two all weather friends. It had been mesmerized the audience at a reinstantly hit and seen by millions of people of Pakistan and China. During ception held here to mark the 70th anniversary of establishment of the show, the special cultural show diplomatic relations between Pahighlighted the history and culture of kistan and China. Senior Chinese the two countries. Chinese and Pakiand Pakistani officials, businessstani singers sang national songs of men, representatives of media or-Pakistan and China. ganisations and prominent citizens The high quality performance

from both sides attended the event.

It was co-organized by the China

International Cultural Communi-

cation Centre (CICCC), China Pa-

kistan Friendship Association and

the Embassy of Pakistan in China.

The major attraction of the cul-

and Chinese singer YiangMinqi.

70th anniversary of the establish-

of Chinese troupes of Miao and Zhuang artists from Yunnan and Guangxi provinces on Pakistani and Chinese songs was deeply appreciated by the audience. Speaking on the occasion, Pa-

kistan Ambassador to China, tural show was the newly released MoinulHaq thanked the Chinese song "you stole my heart" sung by dignitaries for their warm senti-Pakistan's famous artist Ali Zafar ments for Pakistan and said that friendship between Pakistan and This song was released on eve of China was unprecedented in history of inter-state relations due to ment of diplomatic relations between its scope and depth. He said that



70th anniversary was an opportune moment for the two sides to take pride in their past achievements and reaffirm their resolve to expand bilateral friendship to new areas of cooperation. Ambassador Moin said that to

build Pakistan-China community of shared destiny was a strategic decision of the country's leadership and added, the diplomats, members of the different institutions and enterprises would fulfill their commitment to make shared destiny of the two countries a reality. During his speech, President of China-Pakistan Friendship Association, Ambassador ShaZukang paid glowing tribute to the succeeding generations and leadership of two countries for their endeavours to deepen Pakistan-China friendship. Reaffirming China's strong commitment to strengthening strategic ties with Pakistan, Ambassador Sha said that Pakistan-China friendship was driven by mutual respect, bilateral understanding and commonality of interests. He added that the two countries

would continue deepening their

fraternal ties as envisaged by their leadership and the peoples. In his welcome address, President of CICCC, Long Yuxiang congratulated the peoples and governments of both countries on the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties.

He said that besides ever-growing political and economic ties, Pakistan and China were rapidly expanding people-to-people and cultural exchanges which would further deepen their bilateral friendship. President Long reiterated that CICCC would continue its efforts to enhance cultural ties between Pakistan and China in future. It may be mentioned here that both the countries would organize more than 120 events to commemorate seven decades of diplomatic relations. - APP

Mahoor earns **Olympics** spot

SPORTS DESK

KARACHI: Mahoor Shahzad has made history as she has become the first-ever badminton player from Pakistan to qualify for Tokyo Olympics, Pakistan Badminton Federation (PBF) said on Tuesday. "This is indeed a result of her endless efforts and hard work that she has been selected to participate in the prestigious event," President of PBF Nisar Ahmed Shahwani and Secretary General PBF Wajid Ali Chaudhry said in a joint statement. With the support of PBF, she was selected in the Asian Olympics program of Badminton Asia that helped her improve her world ranking, enabling her to earn a spot in the event, they said.

From Page derstanding between

Agency for State Financial Control & Struggle against Corruption of the Republic of Tajikistan and National Accountability Bureau of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan and the Government of Islamic Republic of Pakistan for Cooperation in the Field of Prevention & Liquidation of Emergency Situations.

ISLAMABAD: Foreign Minister Shah MehmoodQuraishiwelcome Tajikistan FM SirojiddinMuhriddin to the Foreign Office & to follow up on discussions in Dushanbe on strengthening all bilateral ties across economic, political, defence and education spheres. - DNA

Pak decries use of hospital image for 'Hamas HQ' post

Djokovic saunters into FO round two

tional stage, where the two countries had similarity of agenda to pursue mutually beneficial cooperation. MoUs signed

between...

• Memorandum of Understanding between Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry and the Chamber of Commerce & Industry of the Republic of Tajikistan. Memorandum of Un-

Agreement between

From Page 01

"Without a deliberate effort to accelerate the creation of decent jobs, and support the most vulnerable members of society and the recovery of the hardest-hit economic sectors, the lingering effects of the pandemic could be with us for years in the form of lost human and economic potential, and higher poverty and inequality."

The report showed that global unemployment was expected to stand at 205 million people in 2022 - far higher than the 187 million in 2019. But the situation is worse than official unemployment figures indicate. Many people have held onto their jobs but have seen their working hours cut dramatically. In 2020, 8.8 percent of

global working hours were lost compared to the fourth quarter of 2019 - the equivalent of 255 million fulltime jobs.

While the situation has improved, global working hours are far from having bounced back, and the world will still be short the equivalent of 100 million full-time jobs by the end of this year, the report found. Global employment is expected to recover more quickly in the second half of 2021 - provided the overall pandemic situation does not worsen.

FOREIGN DESK

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan has taken "serious exception' to an Israeli far-right politician's use of an image of a hospital in the capital city Islamabad, claiming it was a Hamas headquarters and "the largest medical complex in Gaza," foreign office spokesperson ZahidHafeezChaudhri said.

"We have seen the statement by Israel's former war minister and we believe that it is casual misjudgment at ment," he added. best, and deliberate mis-Since last month, Pakistan representation at worst." has launched a diplomat-Chaudhari told Arab media. ic onslaught in support "We also take serious exof Palestine and to mobi-



It's the largest medical complex in Gaza

ception to the fact that lize international support a Pakistani building was against Israeli airstrikes in misquoted in the statethe Gaza Strip.

The attacks killed more than 240 people in the Palestinian territory between May 10 and May 21 when a cease-fire was announced.

On May 20, Israeli far-right politician and former war minister Naftali Bennett posted a video on Twitter showing an image of a hospital that he said was the "largest medical complex in Gaza" and a Hamas headquarters from where the group was "conducting terror actions against Israel." Social media users were quick to point out that the photo was of the Shifa International Hospital in Islamabad. Prime Minister Imran Khan's special representative on the Middle East, Tahir MahmoodAshrafi, called Bennett's video a deliberate attempt

to mislead the world.

SPORTS DESK

PARIS: World number one Novak Djokovic kicked off his French Open campaign with a routine 6-2 6-4 6-2 win against American TennysSandgren on Tuesday in the first men's match to be scheduled in a night session.With no spectators allowed on Philippe Chatrier court due to a 9pm local curfew, the Serbian went through the gears as he dispatched his opponent seemingly effortlessly.

Djokovic, who is chasing a 19th major title and looking to narrow the gap to 20-time Grand Slam champions Rafael Nadal and Roger Federer, showed some signs of frustration in the second set but world number 66 Sandgren was never close to bothering him. The third set was a mere formality as Diokovic, who won his only Roland Garros title in 2016, won five games in a row in what resembled a training session. He aces Urue x t guay's Pablo Cuevas on his vay to a potential semi-final show o w n with 13-time French Open cham· pion Nadal. While ciated he appre-

playing night session at Roland the first men'

Garros, Djokovic said he would have preferred to play in front of crowds like he did last week in Belgrade, where he won the title. "I'm honoured to be the first men's match to play a Roland Garros night session. It was very interesting to say the least, I liked the conditions and the way I played, the way I moved, the way I felt, it worked out pretty well," he told a courtside interviewer.

"Tennys played some good tennis. He challenged my serve, in the second set he had six break points. But it was awfully quiet, with crowds it would have been the perfect scenario, perfect setting, but hopefully this is

Agreement etween the Government of Islamic Republic of Pakistan and the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan in the

field of Art and Culture. Memorandum of Understanding between Tajik Institute of Languages, Dushanbe Tajikistan and National University of Modern Languages (NUML) Pakistan.

Memorandum of Understanding between Technological University of Tajikistan and COMSATS University Islamabad

• Agreement on International Road Transport

 Cooperation Programme between Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Tajikistan Joint Declaration on

Next Steps in Building Strategic Partnership for Regional Solidarity and Integration.

COAS visits training area

From Page 01

COAS expressed satisfaction over combat readiness of the formation. Rigorous training and continued practice of operational drills are imperative for effective response to wide ranging threats, COAS emphasized.

Earlier, on arrival, COAS was received by Corps Commander, Lieutenant General Azhar Abbas.

ASEAN leaders plan Myanmar visit this week

FOREIGN DESK

JAKARTA: The chair and secretary-general of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) plan to travel to Myanmar this week even as the 10-nation group remains divided on how to respond to the military coup there, four diplomatic sources have told the Reuters news agency. Myanmar is a member of ASEAN and has a policy of non-interference in the affairs of members, but it has led the main diplomatic effort to resolve the crisis that has engulfed the country since February 1 when the military staged a coup and removed the democratically elected government. The military has detained Myanmar's civilian leader, Aung San SuuKyi and imprisoned political opponents amid a deadly crackdown on protesters, resulting in a growing refugee crisis and the collapse of the economy.

ErywanYusof, the second minister for foreign affairs for Brunei, ASE-AN's chair this year and the group's Secretary-General Lim Jock Hoi, also from Brunei, are scheduled to meet leaders of Myanmar's military this week, the sources, who asked not to be identified, said. The sources warned that a trip could be delayed or derailed by last-minute logistical and diplomatic impediments.

It is unclear if the pair will meet opponents of the military government, many of whom are imprisoned or in hiding. ASEAN Parliamentarians for Human Rights (APHR), a grouping of Southeast Asian MPs, said it was crucial that civilian leaders be included and that ASEAN representatives had to meet Aung San SuuKyi and U Win Myint, who was president before the generals snatched power.

"If ASEAN only meets with the military it risks, once again, playing into the junta's public relations exercise and granting them legitimacy, when all they deserve is admonition," Charles Santiago, APHR chairman and a Malaysian MP, said in a statement.

the last match without a crowd for me in this tournament." One night session a day is scheduled until June 9, but only the last one is set to be played in front of fans with the French government pushing back the curfew until 11pm next Wednesday. Tourism potential game changer for

United States history riddled with massacres, genocide

enne,

according to David E. Stan-

nard in his book. American

Holocaust: The Conquest of

Around 12 million indig-

the New World.

OVUNC KUTLU

S President Joe Biden's controversial recognition of 1915 between Armenievents ans and Turks as genocide brings to light massacres in American history in the last 500 years. Biden called the events of 1915 an "Armenian genocide" on April 24, breaking American presidents' long-held tradition of refraining from using the term. But during the course of American history, the US and its European ancestors have been involved in numerous massacres and carried out genocides against indigenous peoples. Genocide is an act commit-

ted with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national. ethnic, racial or religious group, according to the Geneva Convention.

With that in mind, the conquest of the Americas in 1492. European colonization led to the systematic surviving descendants of eradication of indigenous Native American tribes live peoples on the continent. in poverty on federally recognized Indian reservations Native American genocide The 13 American coloacross the US. Almost 100 nies' population grew from million indigenous people about 2,000 to 2.4 million in the Western Hemisphere between 1625 and 1775 have been killed or died prematurely because of the while displacing Native Americans from eastern Europeans and their descendants in five centuries,

North America. After the colonies declared independence in 1776 from Great Britain and formed the US, the settlers started to move west, clashing

with and eradicating the enous people died within Apache, Cherokee, Cheypresent US geographical Chinook, Navajo boundaries between 1492 and Sioux tribes. Some of and 1900, according to Rusthe names today are sadly sell Thornton in American used for American warfare Indian Holocaust and Surhelicopters and ubiquitous vival: A Population History sport utility vehicles. The since 1492.

Genocides against Africans and slavery Despite having unalienable rights - life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness – as enshrined in the American Declaration of Independence, not all in the new colonies were considered equal.

The colonies had a system of slavery, which European settlers carried as a practice into the Americas from the Old World, despite English Protestants praising themselves as Puritans.

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Information and Broadcasting Chaudhry Fawad Hussain on Wednesday said Prime Minister Imran Khan was taking keen interest in the promotion of tourism as it was a potential game changer for Pakistan and its economy. "Pakistan was a beautiful and peaceful country. Prime Minister Imran Khan has a special focus and taking keen interest for the promotion of tourism in the county as PM

believed tourism was the sector which could be the potential game-changer of Pakistan and its economy," he said while addressing the second Conference of the Parliamentary As-



side, Pakistan was a peace-

ful and beautiful country,'

he said. He said it was

responsibility of Pakistan

embassies across the world

sembly of the Economic Cooperation Organization (PAECO) Countries. We would like people to come to Pakistan and see our beautiful country, mis-

to guide people and inform understood by many, we them about beautiful tourist have huge tourist's resourcdestinations. Fawad said the es at our disposal, we have government was working remarkable history on our on an easy visa policy. "We

need to work on our visa regime and need to work our security perceptions for the promotion of tourism in the country," he added. He said Switzerland was half of Pakistani Gilgit Baltistan but Switzerland was earning huge money from tourism. "Turkey was a world leader in tourism, we can learn from Turkey and we must," he added. The minister stressed the need for overcoming hurdles - saying, "We need to work on our visa regime, and need to work our security perceptions for the promotion of tourism in the country,' he added. He said Pakistan had great demography; it has top mountains to visit. There is no example of diversity in weather right from K-2 mountains to Karachi seaport.



BUSINESS / WORLD



Briefs

07

EU for tax transparency for multinationals

Azerbaijan unveils 10 key steps to rebuild Karabakh

Iranian navy vessel sinks after catching fire

FOREIGN DESK

WEB DESK

BRUSSELS: European Union member states and lawmakers reached a deal on Tuesday on tougher tax transparency measures for multinationals.

international increased pressure on the issue of multinationals and tax avoidance, not least since a change of leadership in the US where many of the biggest companies are based. The measures approved in theory on Tuesday would do nothing to bring in more tax revenues, but would force multinationals to show where they're making major profits within the EU, and perhaps paying far more modest taxes. The new law would apply to multinational corporations with a turnover of more than 750 million (\$916 million) annually in two consecutive years. They will have to declare profits made, taxes paid, and their number of employees in each EU country where they operate, as well as in countries on the EU's tax haven blacklist.Data on tax paid in other countries out side the EU and not on the tax havens blacklist must be provided but not broken down. This is because not all EU governments agreed to a more detailed coun-

try-by-country breakdown.

US halts oil

drilling in

Arctic refuge

FOREIGN DESK

dent Donald Trump.

DNA

BAKU: Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Leyla Abdullayeva has unveiled 10 key steps that Azerbaijan has been taking to rebuild, regenerate and redevelop the liberated lands over the past 200 days since The proposal comes amid the signing of the trilateral Karabakh peace deal in autumn 2020. Commenting on a document entitled "Factsheet: 200 days since the Trilateral Statement" posted on her official Twitter account on June 1, Abdullayeva said: "Have a look at 10 kev developments during 200 days since the trilateral statement was signed in November 2020. Azerbaijan has been looking to rebuild, regenerate and redevelop the liberated territories, helping return IDPs to their homes decades after they were forced to leave."

The document noted that "May 29 marked 200 days since the trilateral statement was signed between Azerbaijan, Armenia and Russia, in November 2020 to put an end to the almost

30-year-long occupation of Azerbaijan's internationally recognized territories

by Armenia". Since then, Azerbaijan has been looking to rebuild, regenerate and redevelop the liberated territories, helping return IDPs to their homes decades after they were forced to leave. In efforts to ensure it adheres to the rule of law, Azerbaijan has also filed a complaint in the European Court of Human Rights against Armenia in January 2021 to hold Armenia accountable for numerous breaches of human rights throughout this period, it added. "This factsheet details 10 key developments and statistics illustrating the work and efforts undertaken in the 200 days since then, and the lives impacted in that time," the document added. Below are the key points

in question.

1. The Government of Azerbaijan has allocated over \$1.3 billion to conduct reconstruction works in the liberated territories for the Year 2021. Reconstruction works have begun at major towns, mosques, historical

ate awareness among stake-

holders before launch of its



monuments, mausoleums, museums, and so forth.

2. Initial monitoring has been conducted in the liberated territories by the Ministry of Culture, 314 state-registered historical and cultural monuments were inspected. The absolute majority of these monuments were completely destroyed.

3. Nearly 35,000 mines and unexploded ordnances cleared from over 9,106 hectares in the liberated territories (currently one of the most mine-contaminated areas in the world). More than 120 Azerbaijani have been injured or killed

by mines planted by Armenia throughout the years of occupation as well as during the withdrawal from the oc-

cupied territories. Over 15,000 people 4. signed a petition calling on Armenia to release the location of mines and unexploded ordnance in the liberated territories which is one of the most signed petitions on change.org

5. The Government has engaged in discussions with large corporations for reconstruction works on the liberated territories. These territories will be the home to green energy and renewable energy investments. Iapanese Tepsco advises the Government on the strategy fr green energy. BP plans to set up a solar energy production facility here. 6.The Government has announced the construction of the first "smart" villages and cities in the liberated district of Zangilan, the first village to be rebuilt by early 2022.

7. Road constructions, helping build highways linking towns in the liberated territories to improve infrastructure and ease the return of IDPs are underway. At present, about 600 km of roads in 7 directions, 158 km of railways in 2 directions, as well as 3 airports are being designed and built in the liberated territories. A new international airport being built in Fuzuli will test first flights this fall. Two more airports will be built in Zangilan and Lachin districts soon.

8. The master plan for the key city of Aghdam has been approved, with a new industrial park, memorial and victory parks, Barda-Aghdam highway, and rail link.

9. Completed inventory of over 13,000 buildings and over 1,500 km of road in 169 settlements in 10 regions of the liberated territories

TEHRAN: An Iranian vessel ahead of reconstruction efsank in the Gulf of Oman on forts. 409 settlements were Wednesday after unsuccesscompletely destroyed during ful efforts to put out a fire, the Armenian occupation. the navy said, adding that 10. Shusha, announced as the crew was able to disemthe cultural capital of Azerbark with no loss of life. baijan, hosted the Khari Iranian state television said Bulbul Music festival for the

first time in nearly 30 years.

On November 10, Baku

and Yerevan signed a Mos-

cow-brokered deal that

brought an end to 44 days

of fighting between Armenia

and Azerbaijan. The Azerbai-

jani army declared a victory

against the Armenian troops.

obliged Armenia to withdraw

its troops from the Azerbaija-

ni lands that it has occupied

Before the signing of the

had liberated around 300 vil-

lages, settlements, city cen-

tres and historic Shusha city.

On January 11, the Azer-

baijani, Russian and Ar-

menian leaders signed the

second statement since

the end of the 44-day war.

The newly-signed state-

ment is set to implement

clause 9 of the November

2020 statement related to

the unblocking of all eco-

nomic and transport com-

munications in the region.

since the early 1990s.

signed agreement

The

the fire broke out on the "Kharg," Iran's highest-tonnage naval vessel, at around 2:25 a.m.on Wednesday (21:55 UTC) near the Iranian port of Jask. The ship was on a training

mission some 1,270 kilometers (790 miles) southeast of Tehran on the Gulf of Oman. Firefighting efforts continued "for 20 hours" before the ship went down, Iran's navy said.

"All efforts to save the vessel were unsuccessful and it deal, the Azerbaijani Army sank," the semi-official Fars news agency reported.

The cause of the fire, which according to a navy broke out in "one of the systems" of the vessel, was not immediately known.

Photos of the fire on social media showed Iranian sailors evacuating on speedboats as huge plumes of smoke were seen rising from the vessel behind them. Kharg, named after the island that serves as the main oil terminal for Iran, was the country's largest navy ship. It served as one of a few vessels in the Iranian navy capable of providing replenishment of supplies most notably refueling - to other vessels at sea.

Baku to host int'l agri, food exhibitions

BAKU: Azerbaijan's capital Baku will host Azerbaijan International Food Exhibition (InterFood Azerbaijan 2021) and the 14th Azerbaijan International Agriculture Exhibition (Caspian Agro 2021) on June 10-12.

InterFood Azerbaijan exhibition aims to promote quality products on the market and establish direct contacts between exhibitors and visitors. Producers of products such as confectionery, vegetables and fruits, meat dairy products,

cessing fruits and vegetables,

marking equipment and much

FPCCI organizes webinar on PSW

SHAHEEN HANIF

ISLAMABAD: The Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FPCCI), in collaboration with the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) organized a webinar on Pakistan Single Window (PSW) program at

WASHINGTON: US President Joe Biden's administra-June 1, 2021. tion announced on Tuesday it would suspend oil and gas leases in Alaska's Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, reversing a drilling program approved by former Presi-

The remote region, known as ANWR, is home to polar bears, caribou, and other vulnerable wildlife, includ ing migrating birds from six continents. It is also rich in oil reserves making it a long-contested quest of the oil industry. The Interior Department said it was notifying the leaseholders of the freeze in petroleum development ac tivity, pending a comprehensive environmental review. The review will "determine whether the leases should he reaffirmed voided or subject to additional mitigation measures," the agency said in a statement. Tuesday's decision reverses one of Trump's signature efforts to expand fossil fuel development in the US. It also delivers a setback to the Alaskan state government which had hoped to open the enormous refuge that would help revive its declining oil industry. Trump had announced the leasing plan shortly after losing the presidential election to Biden last November. US officials auctioned 11 oil tracts in the refuge in January, two weeks before Trump left office.

their countrywide offices on

The PSW program is a major reform initiative led by Pakistan Customs that aims to transform the management of imports, exports, transit trade and related logistics. The program includes re-engineering of processes and automation of dozens of regulatory agencies to reduce romnliai - cost

DNA

MINSK: Ambassador Sajjad Haider Khan called on the Chairman of Belarusian House of Representatives H.E. Mr. Andreichenko Vladimir this morning.

The meeting was also attended by the Chairperson of the Standing Commission on International Affairs/Head of Pakistan-Belarus Friendship Group H.E. Mr. Savinykh Andrei. Welcoming the Ambassador to Belarus, the honourable Chairman recalled his last visit to Pakistan in 2017, highlighted the team attended the webinar

Amb. Sajjad meets Chairman of Belarusian assembly



tions which crossed US entary tion from Pakistan headed by the Speaker of National Assembly during this year.

growth in trade, people to

Appreciating the cordial the Ambassador handed \$ 52 million in 2020 and relations between the two over an invitation on bereiterated his invitation to countries, potential for half of H.E. Mr. Asad Qaisinices, tea, tobacco, delicacies Assembly to the Chairman and other food products, as al collaboration, defence to visit Pakistan at mutualwell as equipment for proly convenient dates.

It is pertinent to mention that the government has promulgated the Pakistan Single Window Act, 2021 to ensure smooth operations of PSW. The PSW implementation

first module - related to subscription in June 2021. Under this module traders and users will be able to avail electronic subscription and registration

facility without needing to visit any government department. This will be followed by other 6 major releases by PSW in the current year to facilitate cross border trade and enhance government controls while integrating other government agencies.

Melbourne extends lockdown

MONITORING DESK

MELBOURNE: Melbourne was ordered Wednesday to remain in lockdown for a further week, as Australi an authorities attempt to stamp out a small spread of a variant first identified in India and referred to as "Kappa."

in all, were identified on Wednesday in the country's second-most populous city, meaning some 5 million residents will not be exiting the Victorian capital's seven-day lockdown this week, as had

"We've got to run this thing to ground otherwise people will die," Victoria's acting state Premier James Merli no said, describing the Kappa variant as "quicker and more contagious than we

The initial seven-day lockdown applied to the entire state, but Wednesday's extension will only apply to the greater Melbourne area and will run until 11.59 p.m. on June 10.

and explained salient fea and complications. tures of the new system to The webinar was part of the familiarise the participants PSW's outreach plan to crewith this system.

potential for bilateral cooperation, expressed satisfaction over the growing trade and economic rela-

people contact, educationand cultural cooperation.

80 Myanmar soldiers killed: Anti-coup group

FOREIGN DESK

YANGON: At least 80 Myanmar military soldiers were killed in clashes with anti-coup fighters in the country's eastern Kayah State, the fighters said.

In a Facebook post, the Karenni Nationalities Defense Force (KNDF), a new group of civilian fighters, said the clashes occurred when 150 troops marched from the

launched artillery on Demoso," the group said in a statement. Fighting between the junta

and the Karenni resistance broke out in Demoso on May 21 and has since spread beyond. At least eight fighters and 23 civilians were killed by junta forces in 10 days, according to local daily The Irrawady.

more, will all be presented at the exhibition. Caspian Agro 2021 exhibition will bring together the most important players in the agriculture industry, local and foreign experts, and thousands of professional visitors, including importers, exporters, distributors, representatives of wholesale and retail trade, and farmers. As part of the exhibitions, bilateral meetings (B2B) are to be held to provide new opportunities for partnerships and distribution. Both exhibitions are supported by Agriculture Ministry, Food Safety Agency, Azerbaiian Export and Investment Promotion Foundation, Small and Medium Business Devel-

opment Agency, Association of Food and Beverage Producers and Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. – DNA

CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (ELECTRICAL DIVISION – II) **TENDER NOTICE**

Sealed tenders are hereby invited on percentage basis for the following works from contractors having valid / ewed registration in Pakistan Engineering Council in appropriate categories and codes:

| S.# | Name of work | | Earnest | Date & time |
|-----|--|---------|---------|-------------|
| | | | Money | Opening of |
| | | | 5 | tender |
| 1 | Supply of Store material for Inquiry store in AGPR Colony G-9/2, Islamabad. | 4054948 | 121648 | 17/6/2021 |
| 2 | Electrification of 5 Nos Govt. Houses 3/3-E, St.52 F-6/4, 47/5-D, St.38 F-6/1, 42/2-D, St.38 F-6/1, 83/6-D, St,32 F-6/1, 79/6-D, St, 32 F-6/1, | 442954 | 13289 | 17/6/2021 |
| 3 | Electrification of Govt. House No. 22-D, St.52 G-6/4, 119-C, St.17 G-6/2, and H.No.463-D, St.103 G-6/1-4, Islamabad. | 463470 | 13904 | 17/6/2021 |
| 4 | Providing/Replacement of defective ATS panel and allied work of 100 KVA Generator installed at Capital Hospital CDA Islamabad. | 477876 | 14336 | 17/6/2021 |

v) Contractor should provide documentary evidence of similar nature of work at least three number of completion certificates from the government / semi government organization in last two financial years before issuance of tender documents will be observed.
vi). That the bid security of all bidders would be deposited in the CDA bank account and same shall be returned after the acceptance of the contract with the successful bidder.
Tender Forms/documents can be purchased on cash payment of Sr. No. Rs.2000/- and Sr. 3 to 4 Rs. 500/-(Non refundable) from the Deputy Director Electrical Division- II, Shop No.7, Bazar No.8, Street-57, G-6/4, Islamabad up to 15-06-2021 before closing hour. No application for tenders will be received after schedule date and time.
Tender will be issued to those firms who having valid PEC registration certificate with appropriate category Code and valid electric license issue by Electrical Inspector, Islamabad renewed for the current financial year for execution of E&M works at Rawapinidi / Islamabad.

E&M works at Rawalpindi / Islamabad. Sr. No.01 Tender will be received up-to 11.30 AM and opened at 12.00 P.M in the office of Director E&M(Maint).

CDA, P Block Sett office Islambad in the presence of representatives of contractors, given schedule above.
Contractors shall produce, valid / renewed PEC Registration Certificate, electric License and Earnest Money in shape of Call deposit (CDR) /Bank Draft in favour of Deputy Director., Electrical Division-II, CDA, for issuance of the standard deposit (CDR) /Bank Draft in favour of Deputy Director.

tender documents. 7. In case the total bid amount is less than 10% below the NIT Amount, the bidder shall submit call deposit at performance security equal to the difference between NIT amount and total quoted amount less 10% of NIT amount. That is required performance security NIT amount total bid amount 10% of NIT amount. This call deposit shall be in addition to the earnest money for the work and shall be deposited at the time of submission of bids. Bids not carrying the performance security shall be rejected. The performance security of the successful bidder shall be released after ompletion of the work

Bidder should visit the site and study carefully bidding documents to assess quantum and scope of work before filling

8. Bidder should visit the site and study carefully bidding documents to assess quantum and scope of work before filling and submitting tender.
9. If the contractor or his authorized representative does not sign the tender opening register, their call deposit will be liable for forfeiture and their tender shall also be cancelled.
10. CDA may reject all bids or proposals at any time prior to the acceptance of a bid or proposal. The CDA shall upon request communicate the grounds for its rejection but shall not be bound to justify those grounds.
11. In case of any Gazetted / Occasional Holiday (s), the tenders will be opened on the next working days.
The following original and one photocopy attested valid documents must be provided by the firm along with application for purchasing of tender documents. Otherwise tender will be not being issue.
I approxed fattore were applied.

v. Income tax certificate.
 vi. Electrical License
 vii. PEC Registration certificate of firm.
 viii. Professional Tax Certificate 2020-21

(Faique Ali) **Deputy Director** Electrical Div-II, CDA

PID (I) No. 6622/20

Expulsion of Palestinians a 'violation' of law by Jewish settler organisations. FOREIGN DESK Mass protests against their forced

GILGIT: Australian High Commissioner to Pakistan Dr Geoffrey Shaw and Gaynor Shaw

were delighted to visit Gilgit-Baltistan, home to the three highest mountain ranges on

earth, Himalaya, Karakorum and Hindu Kush, and the world's second highest peak K2.

They enjoyed visiting the bazaar with shops and stalls selling handicrafts and Gilgit's famous walnuts and apricots. - DNA

> dispossession in May quickly spread across historic Palestine and caught the attention of the international media. An Israeli crackdown on protesters spread to Al-Aqsa Mosque, where Israeli security forces stormed the compound numerous times during the holy month of Ramadan, wounding hundreds of Muslim worshippers.

high court delayed the ruling on the expulsion of four Palestinian families. A new court date will be announced in 30 days, it said.

lives of these eight families risk being turned upside down for the second time within nearly three generations of being Palestinian refugees," said Lazzarini. "I saw one home which Israeli settlers have already taken over half of the house. The house is actually divided in two - a Palestinian family and a settler family. It is surreal."

He said the UNRWA continues to call on Israeli authorities to "end this dis-

On May 9, under pressure, the Israeli

"It is very difficult to explain how the

placement" and "protect the rights and dignity" of Palestinians in the occupied territories, including in Sheikh Jarrah. Reporting from West Jerusa-

"Israel's foreign minister was at the beginning of May talking about this as a private land dispute. That is not the story as far as the international community and law and the Palestinians are concerned. This is occupied territory beholden to international law, and Israel has a responsibility towards the Palestinian families there.

"Israel is coming under mounting pressure. There is now a political element as far as Israel is concerned," said Fawcett, adding Israel's attorney general has until June 8 to give his legal opinion on the matter.

Also speaking from Sheikh Jarrah, Gwyn Lewis, director of UNRWA affairs in the occupied West Bank, said the Palestinian families in Sheikh Jarrah have the right to support from UNRWA.

A further six cases, of 60

been hoped. said: "This eviction violates international law and Israel's obligation as an occupying power. For UNRWA, these Palestinian refugees are experiencing a second displacement in living memory." He said as head of the UN agency for Palestine refugees it is his job

have ever seen before."

JERUSALEM: United Nations representatives have denounced the potential forced expulsion of Palestinian

"to protect and assist Palestinian

"I have made it our priority to help

prevent another cycle of trauma and

Sheikh Jarrah has been the site of

continuing demonstrations as dozens

of Palestinians living there face forced

expulsion in a case filed against them

refugees".

loss." Lazzarini added.

families from their homes in occupied

East Jerusalem's Sheikh Jarrah neighbourhood as a "violation of international law". Speaking from Sheikh Jarrah on Wednesday, UNRWA commissioner-general Philippe Lazzarini

lem, Al Jazeera's Harry Fawcett said "there has been massing international pressure on this issue".

state capital of Lolkaw to Demoso on Monday afternoon. One of the fighters was killed and six others injured

on Monday in shootouts which lasted into the evening. "By 5 p.m. on Monday, more than 80 soldiers were confirmed dead and, in retaliation, the military used jet fighters, helicopters and



A Power of attorney.
 i. Partnership deed, if any.
 iii. Original call Deposit bearing Name of firm
 iv. Non relationship certificate.
 vi CNIC copy of Contractor.

That the contract must be observed the following conditions before purchase of the tender documents as approved by competent Authority. \
) That deposit at call / earnest money should be generated from firms account.
). The general / Special Power of attorney may be attested through respective Court.
) That the attorney holder may not be the employee of Government / Semi Government institute.
) That only legitimate attorney holder may be allowed to get tender documents.
) Contractor should provide documentary evidence of similar nature of work at least three number of completion fifteases from the government / semi government organization in last two, financial years before issuance of tender.

i)



Islamahar POST THURSDAY, JUNE 03, 2021 | WWW.ISLAMABADPOST.COM.PK



Briefs Turkey **issues travel** advisory for Pakistan

DNA

ANKARA: Following the announcement of new regulations by the Turkish author ities imposing a quarantine of 14 days on passengers arriving from Pakistan with effect from 1st June, the Pakistan Embassy is in touch with the Turkish authorities about this decision.

A number of Pakistanis were resultantly stranded in Istanbul airport as they had started their journey on 31 May and 1st June before the announcement of these rules. At the Pakistan Embassy's intercession, the Turkish authorities have granted a one day exemption (for 1 June 2021) to such passengers, and they are bing allowed entry into Turkey after a negative PCR test conducted at the airport. The Embassy of Pakistan Ankara and Consulate in General of Pakistan Istanbul have been in contact with our nationals at the airport to help minimize the impact of these regulations. A team from the Pakistan Consulate General was also at the Istanbul Airport to render possible assistance and facilitate our nationals entry into Turkey. Passengers traveling from Pakistan to Turkey are requested to re-assess their travel plans in light of these new travel regulations announced by the Turkish authorities.

'Pak keen to enhance ties with Tajikistan'

SAIFULLAH

ISLAMABAD: Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi says Pakistan is determined to enhance bi-



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Imran Khan with Parliamentary Speakers of Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkey and Uzbekistan during closing ceremony of 2nd Parliamentary Assembly of the Economic Cooperation Organisation (PAECO) countries. - DNA

India's variant threatens to rapidly spread in sub-region

The B.1.617 COVID-19 variant, first detected in India, is divided in three lineages: B.1.617.1, B.1.617.2 and B.1.617.3

DNA

GENEVA: The highly-infectious COVID-19 variant first detected in India threatens to rapidly spread in the sub-region, including among refugees, the UN refugee agency has said as it warned of vaccine shortages in the Asia-Pacific region, including for asylum-seekers.

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) spokesperson Andrej Mahecic, at a press briefing in Geneva, said that the fragile health systems in many countries in the Asia and Pacific region have struggled to cope with the

ried about the situation in the Asia and Pacific region, which in the past two months has experienced the largest increase in the number of cases globally,' he said. Over this period, there have been some 38 million recorded COVID-19 cases and more than half a million deaths, the UNHCR

cases.

"We are particularly wor-

spokesperson said. The lack of hospital beds, oxygen supplies, limited Intensive Care Unit (ICU) capacities and scarce health facilities and services have worsened outcomes for those infected with COV-ID-19, particularly in India recent surge of coronavirus and Nepal. The highly in-

fectious variant of the virus which first emerged in India threatens to rapidly spread in the sub-region, including among refugee populations, Mahecic said.

The B.1.617 COVID-19 variant, first detected in India, is divided in three lineages: B.1.617.1, B.1.617.2 and B.1.617.3. The B16172 strain - rechristened 'Delta' by the World Health Organisation (WHO) which has said that only B.1.617.2 is now a variant of concern, observing that lower rates of transmission have been observed for the other two lineages, making them no longer variants of concern. The B.1.617.2 is now labelled variant Delta and has

been reported in 62 countries as of June 1. With COV-ID-19 raging in many parts of the world, the UNHCR warned of shortages of vaccines in the Asia-Pacific region, including for refugees

and asylum-seekers. UNHCR spokesperson Mahecic said: We urge an immediate and stronger support for the COVAX initiative, a worldwide effort aimed at achieving equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines. "This is critical to save lives and curb the impact of the virus, particularly in developing nations. These countries host the vast majority of more than 80 million forcibly displaced people in

the world. Yet so far, they

have benefited from only a fraction of the world's COV-

ID-19 vaccines. The UNHCR stressed that no one can be left behind in the global effort against the coronavirus. "The pandemic will be defeated only when vaccinations become available everywhere on an equitable basis, the agency said.

It said that the current delays in vaccine shipments, brought about by limited supplies to COVAX, mean that some of the world's most vulnerable people remain susceptible to the virus. The UNHCR is adding its voice to the calls for countries with surplus doses to donate to COVAX, and

for manufacturers to boost supplies to the COVAX facility, Mahecic said.

The UN refugee agency said that refugees remain especially vulnerable to the spread of COVID-19 as overcrowded settings, coupled with limited water and sanitation facilities, can contribute to increased infection rates and an exponential

spread of the virus. It said that in Bangladesh's Cox's Bazar, where almost 900,000 Rohingya refugees are living in the single largest and most densely populated cluster of refugee camps in the world, the number of cases has increased considerably in the last two months.

Chinese experience to help Pakistan control water pollution

DNA

BEIJING: China hopes to cooperate with Pakistan in water pollution control, protection of drinking water sources and recycling of waste water as it has gained experience through explorations in the sector.

This was stated by Wang Dong, director of Water Ecological Environment Planning Institute in Chinese Academy of Environmental Research.

Wang Dong stressed that the first step of water pollution control is legislation. China adopts a series of related regulations such as the Water Pollution Prevention Law. "China has more than 60 criteria for industrial waste water emission. Moreover, there are local emission criteria for specific areas".

"In addition to installing online monitoring equipment to inspect conventional water pollution indicators, industries in China also need to conduct manual monitoring regularly. Third-party agencies and environmental management departments also come for monitoring and impose fines on illegal sewage discharge," he told China Economic Net. China started to treat domestic sewage on a large scale in the 1990s, the work started from cities to towns and then to rural areas.

According to Wang Dong, the daily processing capacity of sewage treatment facilities in China now has exceeded 200 million cubic meters. "Collection facilities have also been constructed.

'Economy improving due to govt's policies'

ISLAMABAD: Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting Farrukh Ha bib on Wednesday said the national economy was improving due to the prudent policies adopted by the incumbent government. All the sectors were showing positive indicators as a record tax had been collected during the current fiscal year, he said while talking to a private television. The minister said despite the coronavirus pandemic, the government did not opt for lockdown to keep the wheal of economy running, which had perturbed the opposition. The opposition was confused nowadays and the body language of leaders did not support their words, he added. Farrukh Habib said the previous governments of Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz and Pakistan Peoples Party had done nothing for the people's welfare and the country's development. Instead the two parties' leaderships ruthlessly looted the national wealth and ruined the national institutions, he added. Replying to a question, he said it was the result of the government's economic policies that PML-N leader Miftah Ismail's company was getting more profit as compared to earlier. - APP

lateral cooperation with Tajikistan in diverse fields, including education, housing, infrastructure development, technology and energy. Talking to the visiting

Tajik President Emomali Rahmon in Islamabad on Wednesday, he said the two countries have immense potential to expand multi-faceted bilateral cooperation, including trade. The Minister said it is welcoming that the leadership of both the countries has been endeavoring to further strengthen the bilateral ties. He said timely completion of the important projects like CASA-1000 will help establish energy corridor between South Asia and Central Asia. The Foreign Minister apprised the Tajik President about Pakistan's reconciliatory efforts and its fruits in Afghanistan. He said Pakistan will continue its efforts for regional peace

and stability. He said Pakistan believes that durable peace in Afghanistan is inevitable for progress and prosperity of the region. He said Tajikistan's efforts for peace in Afghanistan are also commendable. The Tajik President thanked the Foreign Minister and the Pakistani leadership for the warm welcome and hospitality.

WB proposes \$200 credit facilities for housing

ISLAMABAD: The Country Director, World Bank (WB), Najy Benhassine in a meeting with the Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue, Shaukat Tarin shared the Bank's proposed \$200 million credit facilities for various interventions in the housing sector.

The Finance and Revenue. Shaukat Tarin, chaired the meeting at the Finance Division with Chairman Naya Pakistan Housing & Development Authority, Lt. General (Retd) Anwar Ali Haider and WB Country Director to consider the possibility of providing additional funds for housing finance in Pakistan. Special Assistant to Prime Minister on Finance and Revenue, Dr. Waqar Masood was also present in the meeting, the statement added. - APP

COAS lauds Qatari support

RAWALPINDI: Sheikh Ali Bin Abdullah Thani J. Al Thani, Chairman of Pakistan-Qatar Takaful Insurance Company & Member of the Ruling Family of State of Qatar called on General Qamar Javed Bajwa, Chief of Army Staff (COAS), on Wednesday. During the meeting matters of mutual interest, regional security situation including recent developments in Afghan Peace Process and bilateral cooperation in various fields were discussed. Acknowledging positive trajectory of Pakistan - Qatar relationship, COAS appreciated Qatar's support to Pakistan in various domains. The visiting dignitary appreciated Pakistan's contributions for conflict prevention in the region & expressed desire for enhanced Pakistan-Qatar bilateral collaboration. - DNA



RAWALPINDI: Sheikh Ali Bin Abdullah Thani J. Al Thani, Chairman of Pakistan-Qatar Takaful Insurance Company & Member of the Ruling Family of State of Qatar called on General Qamar Javed Bajwa, Chief of Army Staff. - DNA

Korean envoy calls on Zobaida Jalal

STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: The Ambassador of the Republic of Korea Suh Sangpyo called on Federal Minister for Defence Production. Zobaida

Jalal at her office in Islamabad. During the meeting, matters of mutual interest, enhanced bilateral & defence cooperation were discussed. Suh Sangpyo expressed Korea's keen desire to explore

new avenues in the mutual relationship with Pakistan in all sectors, particularly in defence, economy and education sectors. Both reiterated the commitment to enhance Pak-Korea bilateral relationship.



Budget 21-22 to include 'no new taxes'

STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: The federal budget 2021-22 having a total outlay estimated at Rs8.4 trillion will be presented before the National Assembly on June 11. According to sources privy to the matter, the total outlay of the federal budget is estimated at Rs8400, with a recommendation of upto 10 to 15 percent increase in salaries of the government employees. "The budget for the pension of the government employees is estimated at Rs470 billion," they said. "It has been recommended in the budget that no new taxes should be imposed on salaries person," they said while sharing the salient features. The sources said that the development budget-Public Sector Development Programme (PSDP)- is estimated at Rs900 billion besides also earmarking Rs500 billion for government expenditure. They further shared that an allocation of Rs400 billion is being set aside in the budget for subsidies. "The defence budget is estimated at over Rs1300 billion for the next fiscal year," they said.

China to host China-Afghan-Pakistan FM' meeting

critical stage of Afghan peace

and reconciliation process

posed new uncertainties to

its domestic situation and

regional security. "As good

neighbours, friends and part-

ners linked by river and sea,

all three countries have the

positive will to uphold re-

gional peace and stability."

he added. The spokesperson

remarked that against such

backdrop, the three countries

decided to hold the fourth

dialogue, adding, "We will

focus on the peace and rec-

onciliation process in Afghan

and cooperation, security and

counter terrorism." He said,

'We believe it will produce

positive outcomes, and pro-

mote regional peace, stability

He said that China, Afghan-

istan, Pakistan trilateral for-

eign ministers meeting was

an important platform for

all the three countries to en-

hance mutual trust and pro-

mote cooperation. "Since its

inception in 2017, at the ini-

tiative of China, it has been

held for three times and

achieved positive outcomes.

As agreed by all, the fourth

dialogue will be chaired by

China," he added

and development.

BEIJING: China will host fourth China-Afghanistan-Pakistan Trilateral Foreign Min-

DNA

isters Meeting on Thursday focusing on peace and reconciliation process in Afghanistan besides cooperation in security and counter terrorism, Chinese Foreign Ministry's Spokesperson Wang Wenbin said on Wednesday. China's State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi will chair while the meeting while Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi and Afghan Foreign Minister Mohammad Haneef Atmar will attend the meeting via video link, he said during his regu-

lar briefing held here. Wang Wenbin said that the three foreign ministers would have in-depth exchanges of views on Afghan peace and reconciliation process, practical cooperation and the counter terrorism and security cooperation.

Responding to question about the special background of the meeting, he said that the unilateral withdrawal of the US and NATO forces in the

Soldier martyred

DNA

RAWALPINDI: A soldier embraced martyrdom during an improvised explosive device (IED) attack near a military check post in South Waziristan's Kaniguram Town, the military's media wing said Wednesday.

The Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), in a statement, said Lance Naik Waqas Ahmed, 26, hailing from Karachi, was the soldier who was martyred due to the attack. A cordon and search operation is underway to apprehend any terrorists found in the area, the military's media wing said. "Pakistan Army is determined to eliminate the menace of terrorism and sacrifices of our brave soldiers further strengthen our resolve," the ISPR added.