



# Islamabad POST

Tuesday, September 07, 2021

Pakistan's First And Only Diplomatic Daily

Price Rs. 20

## Italian FM thanks Pak for facilitating its evacuation operations

Detailed News On Page-01

## China lauds Pakistani PM Khan's remarks

Detailed News On Page-08

## Pak condemns harassment of Geelani's family

Detailed News On Page-01



## Briefs

### Blinken in Doha amid Afghan crisis

DNA

DOHA: US Secretary of State Antony Blinken arrived in Doha on Monday for talks with the Qataris after the Taliban claimed to have full control over Afghanistan. Shortly before landing, an official disclosed that four Americans had left Afghanistan with Taliban knowledge, in the first departures arranged by Washington since its chaotic military pullout. The four US citizens left by land and were greeted by US diplomats, said the senior official, without specifying to which country they crossed, adding that "the Taliban did not impede them".

### Fawad pays tribute to Martyrs

KHAYAM ABBASI

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Information and Broadcasting Chaudhry Fawad Hussain said on Monday that the sun of September 6 rises every year to commemorate the day with renewal of national commitment to sacrifice lives for the homeland. In a message on the occasion of Pakistan Defense Day, he said that on September 6, 1965, brave armed forces of Pakistan thwarted the enemy's evil designs alongside the entire nation made this day a symbol of courage, self-sacrifice and national unity forever.

### Exports witness an increase

STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's exports of various sectors, including textiles and agriculture registered an increase in August 2021, a senior government official said on Monday. In a tweet, Adviser to the Prime Minister on Commerce and Investment Abdul Razak Dawood said that during August 2021, the exports of home textiles, men's garments, cotton fabric, rice, jerseys, fruits, vegetables and T-shirts increased, compared with August 2020. The exports of various items decreased during the same period, he added.

## Criminals' entry in Pakistan Pak concerns genuine, says Zabihullah

Those who have valid documents such as passports etc, are allowed to cross over adding a system of proper checks and balances is direly needed



DNA NEWS AGENCY

KABUL: The spokesperson of the Taliban Zabihullah Mujahid has made it clear that all efforts shall be made to stop sneaking of criminals into the neighboring countries for Afghanistan adding the Northern Alliance leaders have fled to Tajikistan and therefore Taliban are in full control of Panjshir now. He expressed these views during a news conference on Monday. Regarding a question about closure of various crossing points such as Spin Boldak, Torkham, Zabihullah Mujahid said they are in touch with the Pakistani authorities. He also mentioned Pakistani security delegation's visit to Afghanistan adding the Pakistani side is concerned about pilferage of criminals

Continued on Page 06

### Afghan forces asked to integrate with new regime

NEWS DESK

KABUL: The Taliban on Monday called on former members of the Afghan forces to integrate with the new hardline rulers. "The Afghan forces who were trained in the past 20 years will be asked to rejoin the security departments alongside Taliban members," spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid told a press conference in the capital Kabul. The spokesman added that any insurgency against their rule would be "hit hard", after earlier saying they had captured the Panjshir Valley – the last pocket of resistance. "The Islamic Emirate is very sensitive about insurgencies. Anyone who tries to start an insurgency will be hit hard. We will not allow another," Mujahid said. "Anyone who picks up arms and start another resistance, without any doubts, will be our enemy. 'The war has ended, the country is getting out of the crisis. It is now time for peace and reconstruction. We need the people to support us.'"

## 70th Anniversary

## Logo of Pak-Japan relations unveiled

Amb. MATSUDA conveys his congratulations and best wishes to the people of Japan and Pakistan



STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: To commence the celebrations of Year 2022 which marks the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Japan and Pakistan, the Government of Japan has announced the Official Logo for this special occasion signifying historic relations between Japan



and Pakistan. The logo epitomizes the hope for further development of friendly ties between Japan and Pakistan through the depiction of pigeons as the symbols of peace and friendship in origami style. Besides commemorating the 70th anniversary of friendly relations between Japan and Pakistan, the year 2022 will also be celebrated as "Japan-Southwest Asia

Exchange Year" to further strengthen bilateral relationship between Japan and each country of Southwest Asia including Pakistan. The logo will be used throughout 2022 in all events endorsed as official events of the Celebration Year. The information on events endorsement will be shared later on.

Continued on Page 06



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Imran Khan exchanging views with Italy's Foreign Minister Luigi Di Maio. Italian ambassador is also present on the occasion. – DNA

## Peaceful Afghanistan vital for region: PM

Foreign Minister Luigi Di Mario thanks Pakistan for the facilitation of its evacuation operations

ANSAR M. BHATTI

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Imran Khan has said that Pakistan has suffered enormously due to protracted conflict and instability in Afghanistan. As such, a peaceful, secure and stable Afghanistan was in the best interest of Pakistan as well as regional countries. He was talking to Italy's Foreign Minister Luigi Di Maio, who called on him on Monday. Views were exchanged on the latest developments in Afghanistan as well as bilateral relations. The Prime Minister noted that, at this critical juncture, it was vital to stabilize the security situation in Afghanistan, take steps to consolidate peace, and preclude any mass exodus of refugees. In this context, preventing humanitarian

Continued on Page 06

## Italian FM meets Army Chief, Qureshi

STAFF REPORT

RAWALPINDI: Luigi Di Maio, Foreign Minister of Italy called on General Qamar Javed Bajwa, Chief of Army Staff (COAS), on Monday. According to ISPR, matters of mutual interest, regional security, current situation in Afghanistan & collaboration in humanitarian assistance for Afghanistan were discussed during the meeting. COAS said that Pakistan values its relations with Italy and we earnestly look forward to enhance mutually beneficial multi-domain relations based on common interest. The visiting dignitary appreciated Pakistan's role in Afghan situation including successful evacuation operations, efforts for regional stability and pledged to play their role for further improvement in diplomatic cooperation with Pakistan at all levels. Separately, Foreign Minister Makhdoom

Shah Mahmood Qureshi also held talks with Foreign Minister of Italy Luigi Di Maio. The talks covered the latest developments in Afghanistan and bilateral relations. Foreign Minister Qureshi shared Pakistan's perspective on the evolving situation in Afghanistan. Stressing the importance of a peaceful and stable Afghanistan for Pakistan and the region, the Foreign Minister highlighted Pakistan's efforts for regional peace, security and stability. The Foreign Minister underlined that it was vital to support the Afghan people at this critical juncture. He emphasized the importance of stabilizing the security situation in Afghanistan, preserving the peace, and preventing any mass exodus of Afghans as refugees. Foreign Minister Qureshi underscored the need for the international community to enhance engagement with

Continued on Page 06

### Kamran Ali Afzal new Chief Secy Punjab

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister (PM) Imran Khan has approved the appointment of new Punjab chief secretary. According to the sources, former federal finance secretary Dr Kamran Ali Afzal will replace Chief Secretary Jawad Rafique Malik. While, Punjab Safe Cities Authority (PSCA)

Continued on Page 06

Estd. 1860

**MURREE BREWERY**

ISO 9001, 14001, HACCP & OHSAS Certified Company

**MAZEY KI DOUBLE DOSE**

- Trendy drink for trendy people -

f murreebrewerycompany www.murreebrewery.com

## Inside...

40th AEO edu expo attracts hundreds of students in Lahore – Page 02

Pakistan products have great potential for exports: Aitor – Page 03

Eternal sacrifices of martyrs never to be forgotten: Mushahid – Page 04

Hindutva regime and atrocities against Muslims – Page 05

Misbah, Waqar step down from Pak coaching roles – Page 06

Six Palestinians escape from high-security prison in Israel – Page 07

Our war is to fix the system, says PM Imran – Page 08

## Pakistan condemns harassment of Syed Ali Geelani's family

The spokesperson urged the international community to take serious note of this unprecedented repression

CENTRELINE REPORT

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan on Monday strongly condemned the "reprehensible act" of registration of cases against the grieving family members of the iconic Kashmiri leader Syed Ali Shah Geelani by the Indian Occupation Forces. Foreign Office spokesperson said in a statement that after denying the family the right to bury Syed Ali Shah Geelani as per his will, the Indian forces had further resorted to harassing the family of Syed Ali Shah Geelani by registering cases against them on trumped up charges.

Continued on Page 06



NEWS DESK

MUMBAI: Security was beefed up outside the residence of writer-lyricist Javed Akhtar in Mumbai on Monday

after a Maharashtra BJP MLA demand an apology from him over his remark where he allegedly compared the RSS with the Taliban, a police official said. Adequate police bandobast was placed outside Akhtar's residence near the ISKCON temple in the Juhu area, the official said, adding that security personnel, including women constables, were deployed outside the lyricist's home. Akhtar recently told a news channel that the right-wing all over the world has an uncanny similarity. "The Taliban want an Islamic country. These people want to make a Hindu Rashtra,"

Continued on Page 06



## Briefs

PAF Cadets  
assume  
charge at  
Mazar-e-Quaid

DNA

ISLAMABAD: A smartly turned-out contingent of cadets of Pakistan Air Force (PAF) Academy Asghar Khan on Monday assumed duties of the guards at father of the nation Quaid-i-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah's mausoleum.

The Pakistan Air Force held an investiture ceremony at the Mazar-e-Quaid or shrine of the Founder of Pakistan in connection with Defence and Martyrs Day here, said a media release.

Air Officer Commanding Asghar Khan Academy Air Vice Marshal Muhammad Qaiser Janjua was the chief guest on the occasion.

The contingent of Pakistan Air Force Academy Asghar Khan comprised a total of 44 cadets including four women and 40 men.

The chief guest laid a wreath at the shrine of Quaid-i-Azam and offered Fateha.

DC, ADC pay  
surprise visit  
to SDC Shami  
Road

STAFF REPORT

PESHAWAR: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Captain (Retd) Khalid Mahmood and Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Gul Bano paid a surprise visit to Service Delivery Centre (SDC), Shami Road here on Monday.

On this occasion, Deputy Director (Data-base), SDC, Mohammad Asghar Khan gave them a detailed briefing regarding facilities available to the people in the Service Delivery Centre.

The deputy commissioner checked computerized record at different counters and met applicants to collect firsthand information about their problems.

Speaking on the occasion, the deputy commissioner directed the Deputy Director and other staff for extending all possible facilities and creation of easiness in provision of record.

The Incharge of the Service Delivery Centre told that land record of 108 villages has been digitalized where in the facilities like Fird, transfer and other facilities are being provided while computerization of more villages is in progress and they also be made online soon.

IoBM  
organizes  
webinar on  
Afghanistan

STAFF REPORT

KARACHI: A webinar was recently held discussing the US withdrawal from Afghanistan and the geopolitical implications for the region and Pakistan. The panelists included Ambassador Najmuddin A. Sheikh and Lt. General Naem Khalid Lodhi. Ambassador Ghulam Rasool Baluch was the moderator. The panelists deliberated upon what geopolitical implications will surface for the South Asian region and Pakistan in the days following the US withdrawal. The webinar was organized by The Global and Regional Studies Centre, IoBM, Karachi. Amb. Sheikh said that the Taliban are engaged in the task of reconciliation and creating a new government. He added that the Taliban leadership is looking forward to the representation of all political parties. Time will tell if this representation will include the common man living in Afghanistan who has given his blood and sweat for freedom. He said that Afghanistan needs immediate economic assistance through humanitarian organizations and its government's efforts. Taliban's relations with Al-Qaeda and Sirajuddin Haqqani Group will be scrutinized during these changing times. He further added that the history of Pakistan-Afghanistan must be set aside as Kabul will look to Pakistan for support. The UN can facilitate in creating and maintaining administrative structures in Afghanistan with help from Pakistan.

40th AEO education expo  
attracts hundreds of students

The AEO expo provides an ideal platform to prospective students across the country, to get free expert advice and counselling about how to apply to study in at top ranked international universities in Australia, USA, Canada and UK

NAZIR SIYAL

LAHORE: With world gradually moving back to normal, the day when international borders of top study destinations of the world will open for foreign students, is coming closer. It is time that the students gear up and start preparing themselves to realize their dreams to study at top ranked international universities.

With over 5000 alumni and 200,000+ IELTS registrations, AEO Pakistan over the past two decades has established itself as Australian & Global Education Specialists, the most trusted IELTS Official Test Centre and now the official OET Test Centre in Pakistan. AEO Pakistan operates as the official Liaison office for over 40 leading Australian Universities/Institutions and facilitates the enrolment of international students at these Universities / Institutions. Since 2002, AEO Pakistan has been conducting Australian Education Expos providing an excellent opportunity to Pakistani students planning to Study in Australia. Over the years thousands of students have benefitted



from AEO expos held twice annually, across all major cities of Pakistan.

This September once again AEO Education Expo is being organized across 8 major cities of Pakistan i.e., Lahore, Islamabad, Karachi, Multan, Sialkot, Faisalabad, Abbottabad and Peshawar. The AEO expo provides an ideal platform to prospective stu-

dents across the country, to get free expert advice and counselling about how to apply to study in at top ranked international universities in Australia, USA, Canada and UK. Representatives of more than 20 universities/institutes are participating at the expo providing golden opportunity for Pakistani students to get free guidance and counsel-

ling for their future study endeavours. Information about IELTS test and preparatory classes is also being provided at the expo.

The first event of the series was successfully held today at PC Hotel Lahore, with strict observation of COVID-19 SOPs. Hundreds of students along with their parents participated at the expo with great interest and excitement to enrol for admissions at top ranked Australian and other leading International Universities. The participants appreciated AEO's effort in provision of a perfect platform offering free counselling sessions with official representatives of international universities to explore the options of enrolling for a degree of their choice.

The next expo of the series is scheduled to be held in Sialkot 8th September Hotel the Jeeven's, Islamabad 9th September at Marriott Hotel, Faisalabad 9th September at Hotel One, Multan 10th September Garrison Library Cantt, Karachi 11th September Beach Luxury Hotel, Abbottabad 11th September at Hotel One, and Peshawar 12th September at PC Hotel. Entry to the exhibition is FREE with a mask and Scholarships up to 75% are also available.



ISLAMABAD: Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral Muhammad Amjad Khan Niazi interacting with Shuhada families on the occasion of Defence & Martyrs day of Pakistan at Naval HQs. – DNA

Lt. Gen. (r) Qayyum  
addresses seminar  
in memory of Gilani

DNA

RAWALPINDI: The wars and conflicts in various regions and the unresolved global conflicts show that the United Nations has failed in its mission. And now, since the United Nations came into being, more than 20 million people have died in various wars, including the Vietnam War, Isra-

el's atrocities on the Palestinians, and a million people inside Kashmir.

This was stated by Defense Analyst Lt. Gen. (ret'd) Abdul Qayyum Malik while addressing a seminar in memory of renowned Kashmiri leader Syed Ali Gilani here. He said that Ali Gilani was a symbol of Pakistan's ideology and freedom in the occupied valley, a model of perseverance that could

not be shaken even by the atrocities of India. Since the founding of the United Nations, more than 20 million people have died in Kashmir, Afghanistan, Russia, Iraq, Syria and other regions.

The reason for this failure is that the major powers have their own interests that prevent the United Nations from operating independently.

Inter-district  
transport  
suspended till  
Sep 12

NEWS DESK

PESHAWAR: The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Transport and Mass Transit Department has notified that as per the instruction of NCOC the inter-district transport service would remain suspended till September 12 in eight districts of the province. The notification said that the decision has been taken to contain the spread of coronavirus infection in the eight districts including Peshawar, Swabi, Malakand, Swat, Haripur, Abbottabad, Mansehra and DI Khan due to high prevalence of corona cases.



SWAT: Sardar Waqat hosed Ibrahim Alhamdani Ambassador of Kingdom of Jordan to Pakistan & his family. The love we shared by exchanging views between our families and the memories made when he planted a saplings in my garden will blossom forever to strengthen friendship between people of Pakistan and Jordan. – DNA

Silani Trust donates  
dialysis machines to GGH

ISHFAQ MUGHAL

FAISALABAD: Two dialysis machines have been donated to Government General Hospital (GGH) Samanabad by the Silani Welfare Trust while four government machines are already functional in the hospital and services for dialysis of kidney patients are also being started in the third shift soon. Divisional Commissioner Saqib Manan visited Government General Hospital Samanabad and inspected the dialysis process of the patients. He was accompanied by MPA Mian Waris Aziz while Chief Executive Officer Health Dr. Mushtaq Sipra, Tehmina Riaz, officials of Silani Welfare Trust and doctors were also present. Silani officials also donated four wheelchairs and two stretchers to the hospital management.

The Divisional Commissioner appreciated the exemplary welfare services of Silani Welfare Trust and said the services of those

who helped in the efforts of the government are commendable. He urged the hospital management to take steps to take care of the dialysis machines and save the patients from the hassle of waiting.

He also inquired about the health of the patient undergoing dialysis. The MPA said that the Buzdar government was providing quality medical services to the patients but saluted the services of the assistants in the health sector.

Meanwhile Divisional Commissioner in collaboration with the Sailani Welfare Trust, a dastar khan was inaugurated at the available premises of the hospital. He said that the establishment of Sailani Dastar Khan would provide food to a large number of deserving people.

The CEO Health said that the Silani is on a mission for the betterment of humanity. A representative of Sailani Welfare Trust said that the organization has been implementing other welfare programs along with setting up of langar khana.

PAF releases  
documentary  
“I am  
Prepared”

STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Air Force (PAF) Directorate of Public Relations on Monday released a short documentary “I am Prepared” on the occasion of Defence and Martyrs' Day, highlighting the spirit of patriotism.

The documentary paid homage to the martyrs of the homeland and renewed the pledge that every member of the Pakistan Air Force would play his or her full role in the defence and development of the beloved motherland alongside the entire nation, said a PAF news release.

Rupee  
depreciates  
against US  
dollar

ISLAMABAD: The exchange rate of Pakistan rupee depreciated by 33 paisas on Monday against the US dollar in interbank trading and closed at Rs167.23 as compared to the previous day's closing of Rs 166.90.

According to Forex Association of Pakistan (FAP), the buying and selling rates of dollar in the open market were recorded at Rs 167.3 and Rs168.3 respectively.

The price of euro was appreciated by 26 paisas and closed at Rs198.40 against the last day's trading of Rs198.14, the State Bank of Pakistan reported.

The Japanese Yen gained one paisa to close at Rs1.52, whereas an increase of 62 paisas was witnessed in the exchange rate of British Pound, which was traded at Rs 231.49 as compared to its last closing of Rs 230.87. The exchange rates of Emirates Dirham and Saudi Riyal increased by 08 paisas each to close at Rs 45.52 and Rs 44.59 respectively. – APP

Daraz debuts  
Pak's first in-  
app shop-able  
technology

DNA

LAHORE: South Asia's leading e-commerce marketplace, Daraz, is introducing Pakistan's first in-app shop-able livestream feature to elevate people's user experience. With the livestream technology, Daraz's real-time content will be available to customers from today and enable greater interactions between sellers and buyers. On top of this livestream feature the new user interface will allow consumers to engage directly with sellers via comments in real-time and feature a diverse range of content, including product showcases, trivia games and Q&A sessions.

These new features are underpinned by Daraz's commitment to support local businesses in adapting to new digital business models, as the pandemic continues to take a toll on brick-and-mortar retail. By blending entertainment with instant purchasing, sellers will be able to deliver personalized shopping experiences and build trusting connections with customers.

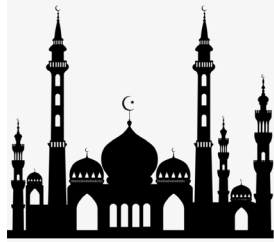
Syed Murtuza Hasan Askari, Project Lead of Daraz Live, says the new feature will revolutionize Pakistan's e-commerce industry and consumers' online shopping experience and habits.

“In-app shippable live stream technology has made significant strides across Asia and Western markets, and we are excited to introduce the concept of in-app shoppertainment for the first time in Pakistan. The introduction of this technology in South Asia is a reflection of the region's improved e-commerce infrastructure and shows that we are on the right path towards digital transformation,” said Mr. Askari.

Over the past year, driven by the onset of COVID-19, South Asia's e-commerce sector has grown rapidly with businesses turning to alternative platforms to sustain operations. As more users join the ecosystem, Daraz is taking the next step in the region's e-commerce push through the adoption of new technologies that enable a seamless shopping experience.



## SERVICES



Namaz Timings	
Fajr.....	04:20 am
Zohr.....	12:06 pm
Asr.....	04:38 pm
Maghrib.....	06:27 pm
Isha.....	07:52 pm



Hotels & Restaurants	
Serena Hotel.....	111 133 133
Marriott.....	051- 2826121
Monal.....	0334-5421812



Airlines	
Turkish Airlines.....	8494949



Emergency	
Rescue (Police).....	15
Bomb Disposal.....	15
Fire Services Rawalpindi/ Islamabad.....	1122 & 16
Emergency Ambulance..1122 & Rescue Services..4451122	
Motorway Police.....	9266044
Motorway Police.....	9270601-20
Women Police Stations Islamabad.....	9222596
Rawalpindi.....	9270601-20



Enquiry	
Edhi Ambulance.....	115
PIA Flight Info.....	114
PIA Cargo.....	9280979
Railway Inquiry.....	117
Railway Exchange.....	9270831-5
WASA Rawalpindi.....	5555489
CAA.....	9281092



Hospitals	
CMH.....	5611111
MH.....	561116
Cantt Hospital.....	9270907-11
DHQ.....	5556311-4
RGH.....	9290301-7
Holy Family.....	9290322-7
PIMS.....	9261170-79
Polyclinic.....	9218300-09
Shifa International.....	4603666



Departments	
CDA.....	9221334-43
CDA.....	9208301-04
Met Office.....	9250360-6
RDA.....	5555864
TMA.....	5770886
Cantonment Board	9270151-3



Complaints	
Water Tanker Service	
E-7, F-10 & F-11.....	9204654
G-5, G-6, G-7, G-8.....	9203883
G-9, G-10, G-11, G-12, H-8.....	9266316
Wapda Islamabad.....	9217579
Wapda Rawalpindi	111-309-309

Islamabad Metropolitan	
Corporation.....	9209224
Potohar Town.....	9209224
Rawal Town.....	5773343

Wasa Water Tank	
Rawalpindi.....	0331-5022125

# Pakistan products have great potential for exports: Aitor

Aitor Santiago Garin, Attaché of Spain Embassy says that the current trade volume between Spain and Pak is quite low

**DNA**

ISLAMABAD: Spain and Pakistan have great potential to improve bilateral trade in many areas, which still remain untapped and businessmen of both countries should step up efforts to develop strong connectivity for promoting volume up to their real potential. This was stated by Aitor Santiago Garin, Economic and Commercial Attaché of Spain Embassy while interacting with the business community during his visit to Islamabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry. He said that the current bilateral trade volume between Spain and Pakistan was quite low with the bulk of Pakistan's exports to Spain confined to textiles products. However, trade could be increased significantly by developing business linkages between the private sectors of both countries. He said that lack of awareness about Pakistani products in Spain was a major trade barrier, which should be addressed to enhance trade ties.



He said that Pakistani fruits including mangoes have great potential for exports and Pakistani fruits exporters should focus on complying with the Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) standards to capture EU market. He said that Pakistan should develop easy trade dispute resolution mechanisms to attract more foreign investors. He said that Spain gives great importance to Pakistan and there was an equal opportunity for Pakistan to penetrate European trade markets. He assured that the Spanish embassy would cooperate with ICCI in further increasing trade and economic relations between Spain and Pakistan. Speaking at the occasion, Sardar Yasir Ilyas Khan, President, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry said that Pakistan could export many products at cost effective prices to Spain including mangoes, agro products, pharmaceuticals, sports goods, leather products, surgical instruments, IT products and Spanish importers should focus on Pakistan for imports.

## Police recover four years old girl

**DNA**

ISLAMABAD: The Margallah police of Islamabad Monday reunited a four-year old missing girl with her parents, a police spokesman said. Sanaya went missing from Faisal Masjid and could not be traced despite hectic efforts by family members. Following the information, Margallah police team started efforts to trace the girl. Various people were inquired about the missing girl, and finally succeeded to recover her safely. The parents of girl thanked the police team over safe recovery. IGP Islamabad Qazi Jamil ur Rehman has appreciated the performance of police team and gave commendation certificates to two Assistant Sub-Inspectors Sagheer and Musharraf Shah who traced out the girl.

## Dacoit gang busted, three arrested

**STAFF REPORT**

RAWALPINDI:Rawalpindi district police Monday busting a gang arrested three robbers including a ring leader besides recovering cash 813,000, weapons and other items. According to a police spokesman, Morgah Police team under the supervision of SHO made hectic efforts and managed to net three dacoits namely Azaz Khalil alias Gulu, ring leader, Zubair Khan and Umar Khan who were dacoit gang members and allegedly involved in number of dacoities and other crimes. They confessed to have committed dacoities and other crimes in different areas. Police recovered snatched cash Rs 813,000 and weapons from their possession after identification parade. SHO informed that the dacoit had snatched cash from a citizen on gunpoint in New Lalazar area nearly one and half month ago. An accused namely Yousaf was arrested on the spot while his two other accomplice were rounded up later. City Police Officer, Rawalpindi Muhammad Ahsan Younas appreciated performance of Superintendent Police (SP) Potohar, DSP Civil Line and SHO Morgah and directed to continue operation to net the lawbreakers.



**ISLAMABAD: Senator Dr. Sania Nishtar, SAPM on Poverty Alleviation holds a workshop on Ehsaas Digital in BISP call centre. – DNA**

# Police held 10 outlaws; recover six stolen bikes and narcotics

**NEWS DESK**

ISLAMABAD: The police here on Monday arrested 10 outlaws including five bike-lifters and house burglars and recovered six stolen motorbikes, foreign currency, cash, narcotics and weapons from them. According to a news release, SSP (Operations) Dr. Syed Mustafa Tanweer had directed all zonal officers to accelerate their efforts to curb the crime and drug pushing activities in the city, following orders of DIG (Operations) Afzaal Ahmed Kausar. SP (City-Zone) Rana Abdul Wahab constituted a special police team under

the supervision of ASP Asad Ali, SHO Bhara Kahu Inspector Asjad Mehmood along with other officials, that arrested five accused Sajjad Hussain, Adeel Ahmed, Mohsin Iqbal, Yaseen and Muhammad Aqib and recovered 2750 gram hashish, 20 gram Ice, and weapon along with ammunition from their possession. Similarly, SP (Rural-zone) Muhammad Usman Tipu constituted a team under the supervision of DSP Abid Ikram including SHO Khurram Shahzad and others that apprehended two accused identified as Faizan and Yousaf and recovered six stolen motorbikes from their possession.

During the primary interrogation, the accused confessed their involvement in motorbike lifting in the area of koral police station and various areas of the city. Moreover, SP (Saddar-zone) Noshewan constituted a team under the supervision of DSP Sajjad Bukhari including SHO Golra along with officials of Chowki D-12 and arrested three members of house burglars gang, identified as Ghulam Mustafa, Muhammad Imran and Ehsan Ullah and recovered looted foreign currency, cash and weapons used in crimes. Separate cases have been registered against the accused and further investigation is underway from them.

## Defence Day ceremony held at Police Line HQ

**STAFF REPORT**

RAWALPINDI:Rawalpindi District Police organized a ceremony on Monday at Police Line Headquarters to mark Defence and Martyrs' Day. Senior Army officers on behalf of Chief of Army Staff and Senior Officers of Pak Army and the Armed forces laid floral wreaths at the martyrs monument. Guard of honor was presented while the participants prayed for the eternal peace of the departed souls of the martyrs who sacrificed their lives in the line to serve the nation and for the well-being and prosperity of the country. Senior Superintendent of Police, Rai Mazhar Iqbal on the occasion said that the unforgettable sacrifices rendered by the Pak Armed Forces and law enforcement agencies personnel would be remembered forever. City Police Officer, Muhammad Ahsan Younas said that the entire nation along with the armed forces celebrate the Defence Day with a renewed pledge to continue safeguarding the motherland against all threats. The nation commemorates 6th September to pay tribute to 'Shuhada' and Ghazis for their supreme sacrifices rendered to ensure security of the country, he added.

## IESCO issues power suspension schedule

ISLAMABAD: Islamabad Electric Supply Company (IESCO)'s spokesman, System Maintenance/Development Work is in process. Therefore power supplyof below mentioned feeders/areas will be temporary suspended as per givenschedule:On 07th September From07:00 AM to 12:00 PM, Borain, Chip Board, Industrial, Pura, Fatehpur,Kohar, Sohawa City Feeders, From 08:00AM to 01:00 AM, Shakardara, Attock Rural, Hameed, Gondal, Mansar, HajiShah , Sarka, Shadi Khan, AWC, Shahiya, Rashid Minhas, Sarai Kharboza, PindParyan, ECHS, Sangjani, Paswal, Shah Allah Ditta, Wahdat Colony, Fateh Jang Rural, Khanda, Lanawala, Raja Sultan, Eid Gah Feeders and surroundingareas will remain off. – APP

## CDA, Islamabad Police start crackdown against encroachments



**CDA admin says that protection of govt lands is our top priority**

**KHAYAM ABBASI**

ISLAMABAD: On the directions of the management of the Capital Development Authority, the Department of Enforcement, with the help of the district administration and Islamabad Police, carried out operations against encroachments and illegal constructions in various parts of Islamabad. In which illegal buildings, houses and other illegal structures were demolished According to details, the operations were carried out in Sector F-13 of Islamabad, where an illegal plaza with 30 shops and a new illegal under-construction market were demolished with the help of heavy machinery. In addition, four kanals of government land in Sector F-13 was occupied by land mafia one gate was and a four wall was constructed illegally which was demolished with the help of heavy machinery. On this occasion, the CDA administration said that the protection of government lands is our top priority and no concessions will be made to the land mafia. It should be noted that for the last several months, the CDA has been conducting continuous operations against encroachments and illegal constructions in the Federal Capital, which has resulted in the retrieval of billions of rupees of government land.

# HEC announces phase-III of post doctoral fellowship programme

**ZUBAIR AHMAD**

ISLAMABAD: The Higher Education Commission (HEC) has announced Post-Doctoral Fellowships Programme (Phase-III). According to the Official sources, HEC has invited applications from Pakistani/AJK nationals for the programme. Sharing the details of eligibility criteria for the programme, the sources told that the applicant must have PhD degree from HEC recognized local or international university (in possession of HEC attested PhD degree or HEC Equivalence Certificate for foreign PhD). The applicant be a regular employee of public/private sector HEC recognized university/degree awarding institution or public sector

R&D organisations (recognized by Pakistan Council of Science and Technology), the sources said. He/She must not have availed any post-doctoral fellowship either funded or self-funded before. The applicant should also not be more than 45 years of age (i.e born after September 20, 1976). The applicants should possess five years recognized work experience in Pakistan after completion of foreign PhD. They must have a placement letter in top 200 QS World Ranked Universities/research institutes from a relevant supervisor, the sources mentioned. He/She should have acquired requisite qualification on or before closing date. HEC has announced that the last date for submission of applications is September 20. It is to mention here that the applicants were required to submit online application through research.hec.gov.pk. Applicants have to deposit/online transfer Rs.1000/- (non-refundable), as application processing fee in favor of Director General Finance, HEC in A/C No. 1742-79001334-01 of Habib Bank Limited. Only 'Submitted' applications on the online portal by the closing date will be processed. SAVED applications will not be considered, it said. The applicants are encouraged to visit www.hec.gov.pk/site/postdoc for detailed information. Please carefully read the "User Manual" before attempting application submission. The application would be processed on the basis of information/documents provided by the applicant on the online portal. In case of any error/omission and misrepresentation/concealment of facts, HEC reserved the right to reject the application/cancel selection at any stage. HEC warned that incomplete applications and those submitted without complete supporting documents/ NOCs would be rejected.

Estd. 1860

MURREE BREWERY

Open House for Diplomatic Missions

Murree Brewery Company Limited located in Rawalpindi is an icon reflecting the past and the present history of the subcontinent.

Murree Brewery Company is pleased to invite friends from diplomatic missions to visit us and share the experience of our efforts towards keeping it afloat for over 160 years of operation.

We cordially invite diplomatic missions to visit us on any Saturday from 10 am to 1:30 pm to enjoy our hospitality and our products tasting. However, since, we are located in the Red Zone / Prohibited area and it will be mandatory to obtain No Objection Certificate (NOC) from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs well in advance of the intended visit date. We look forward to welcoming you all soon.

For further information please contact the following.

Maj (r) Sabih Ur Rehman

Mobile: 0300 8553342



## Briefs

Monsoon  
currents to  
penetrate  
upper parts;  
produce rain

ISLAMABAD: Monsoon currents are likely to reach upper and central parts of the country from Tuesday evening or night that would bring rain in the upper parts of the country.

According to the Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD), rain wind-thunderstorm is likely in Islamabad, upper Punjab, upper Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Kashmir during the next 24 hours. Hot and very humid weather is expected in most parts of the country.

According to the synoptic situation, continental air was prevailing over most parts of the country.

However monsoon currents reaching upper and central parts of the country will persist during the week.

The rain recorded during the last 24 hours was 10mm in Mithi.

The highest maximum temperatures recorded during the period were Dadu 45 C, Mohenjo-daro and Nokkundi 42 C. — APP

Police Line  
Headquarters  
marks  
Defence Day

RAWALPINDI: Rawalpindi District Police organized a ceremony on Monday at Police Line Headquarters to mark Defence and Martyrs' Day.

Senior Army officers on behalf of Chief of Army Staff and Senior Officers of Pak Army and the Armed forces laid floral wreaths at the martyrs monument.

Guard of honor was presented while the participants prayed for the eternal peace of the departed souls of the martyrs who sacrificed their lives in the line to serve the nation and for the well-being and prosperity of the country.

Senior Superintendent of Police, Rai Mazhar Iqbal on the occasion said that the unforgettable sacrifices rendered by the Pak Armed Forces and law enforcement agencies personnel would be remembered forever.

City Police Officer, Muhammad Ahsan Younas said that the entire nation along with the armed forces celebrate the Defence Day with a renewed pledge to continue safeguarding the motherland against all threats.

The nation commemorates 6th September to pay tribute to 'Shuhada' and Ghazis for their supreme sacrifices rendered to ensure security of the country, he added. — APP

SNGPL,  
SSGC plan  
524,000  
new gas  
connections

ISLAMABAD: Sui Northern Gas Pipelines Limited (SNGPL) and Sui Southern Gas Company (SSGC) have planned to give 524,000 new connections during the current fiscal year in their respective operational areas across the country.

"It is expected that gas will be supplied to approximately 524,000 new consumers, subject to approval/revision by OGRA, during the fiscal year 2021-22," according to an official document.

The SNGPL and SSGC would collectively invest Rs17.571 billion on transmission projects, Rs91.812 billion on distribution projects and Rs3.156 billion on other projects, bringing the total investment of Rs12.539 billion.

During the first eight months of the current fiscal year, the companies provided the gas facility to around 70 villages and towns, laid 143 KMs gas transmission network, 2,616 KMs distribution and 886 KMs services lines across their operational areas.

Besides, they awarded as many as 304,573 additional gas connections including 303,243 domestic, 1,020 commercial and 310 industrial across the country.

The country's average gas consumption stood about 3,723 Million Cubic Feet per Day (MMCFD) including 950 MMCFD volume of RLNG during July-Feb 2021. Currently, as many as two Floating Regasification Storage Units (FRSUs), having capacity of 1,200 MMCFD, are operating in the country. — APP

Eternal sacrifices of martyrs  
never to be forgotten: Mushahid

He remarked that the presence of all provinces of Pakistan and all political parties was a proof that the entire nation was united for national security

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Chairman Senate Committee on Defence Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed on Monday, paying tribute to the martyrs of the nation, said eternal sacrifices of martyrs rendered in protection of the motherland could never be forgotten.

On the occasion of Defence and Martyrs' Day, the Chairman of the Senate Standing Committee on Defence along with the Committee members visited the mausoleum of Lance Naik Muhammad Mahfooz Shaheed (Nishan-e-Haider) and Major Mudassar Shaheed, said a news release.

Senator Mushahid Hussain Syed laid wreath at the memorial and offered Fateha, where the committee members also met the family of Lance Naik Muhammad Mahfooz Shaheed.

In his brief address, the Chairman Committee addressed the function at the mausoleum of Lance Naik Mahfooz Shaheed (Nishan-e-Haider).

Speaking on the occasion, he said, "The bravery and courage of Lance Naik Mahfooz Shaheed on the battlefield is an example to



ISLAMABAD: Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed, Chairman Senate Standing Committee on Defence And Members Of The Committee offering fateha after laying wreath at mausoleum of Lnk Muhammad Mehfooz Shaheed, NH, Pind Malkan. — DNA

be followed by all the defenders of the motherland."

"Salute to those brave souls of the motherland who sacrificed their lives for the protection of the country. Our martyrs are our pride, salam to the martyrs," Senator Mushahid Hussain Syed.

He remarked that the presence of all provinces of Pakistan and all political parties was a proof that the entire nation was united for national security.

Senator Mushahid remarked, "It is because of the sacrifices of our brave martyrs that we sleep

peacefully today." He said that those who sacrificed their lives for the protection of national borders were the benefactors of the nation.

On this day of re validating the national resolve, he said, "Greetings to the martyrs whose blood is the

guarantee of our freedom and also to the ghazis (who returned from the battle with pride) whose courage is the invincible defence of our borders."

The committee members later met the family of Major Mudassar Shaheed at his residence. The committee members paid homage to the martyr for his immortal sacrifice for the protection of the motherland.

"The sacrifices of brave sons of the homeland like Major Mudassar will not go away," the Chairman Defence Committee said.

The Committee members talked to martyr's family members and said, "Our martyrs are our pride and the whole nation salutes their families for their great sacrifices." Senator Mushahid Hussain Syed praised the courage of the family of the martyrs. The committee members also spent time with the children of the martyr, where Senator Talha Mahmood offered Fateha at the house of the martyr.

"Thousands of martyrs like Major Mudassar hold an exalted rank in our lives who have sacrificed their lives for us; we are proud of Major Mudassar's martyrdom for his homeland," he said.

9 arrested,  
weapons,  
liquor, drugs  
recovered

RAWALPINDI: Rawalpindi Police in crackdown against illegal weapons, drugs and bootleggers rounded up nine persons from different areas and recovered 840 grams charras, 20 liters liquor, three 30 bore pistols, 15 kites and other items from their possession, said a police spokesman on Monday.

He informed that Bani and Gujar Khan Police conducted raids and arrested Arif with 180 grams charras, Zain ul Abideen for having 180 grams charras and Muhammad Imran on recovery of 480 grams charras.

Gujar Khan police rounded up Mubeen Ahmed for having 10 liters liquor while Gujmandi police also recovered 10 liters liquor from the possession of Tariq.

Meanwhile, R A Bazar, Saddar Baroni and Chontra police held three, namely Ajmar Khan, Ali Shan and Kamran and seized three 30 bore pistols and ammunition.

Sadiqabad police arrested a kite seller and recovered 15 kites and a kite flying string roll from his possession.

Separate cases have been registered against all the accused while further investigations are underway, he said and added that police would continue their raids against lawbreakers and they would be sent behind bars. — APP

Police  
conducts  
search  
operations

RAWALPINDI: Police on special directives of City Police Officer (CPO) Rawalpindi Monday launched search operations in Shams Colony, Rehmanabad and adjoining areas in the jurisdiction of New Town and Airport police stations to ensure law and order and net the outlaws, said a police spokesman.

He informed that heavy police contingents, Elite Force, Special Branch personnel and ladies police under the supervision of station house officers of New Town and Airport police stations conducted operations and searched 178 houses besides checking 92 tenants, and 274 persons.

According to divisional superintendents of police, the search operations were being conducted to net criminals and proclaimed offenders and ensure law and order.

They informed that the operations were regularly being conducted under National Action Plan in different areas. — APP

CPO holds  
'Khuli  
Kutchery'

RAWALPINDI: City Police Officer (CPO) Rawalpindi Muhammad Ahsan Younas on Monday held a 'Khuli Kutchery' here at CPO office which was attended by a large number of citizens.

While on this occasion, the police officers concerned were also present.

50 citizens recorded their complaints and presented applications to the CPO.

Muhammad Ahsan Younas on complaint of a citizen directed the officers concerned to issue charge sheet to Sub-Inspector Adil posted in Waris Khan on corruption charges.

He also listened to the complaints of the citizens and issued orders to the police officers concerned. — APP

ECP issues 12 point  
code of conduct for  
media representatives

Media has been urged to provide balanced coverage to all parties running for the polls during their election campaign

ISLAMABAD: Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) on Monday issued code of conduct for all media representatives covering the Cantonment Boards Elections to follow in letter and spirit.

In its 12-point code of conduct, the ECP has maintained that radio, television channels or print media will not be allowed to broadcast or publish anything that could adversely affect public opinion against a particular party or candidate.

The election authority has asked media organisations to refrain from disseminating information about a party or a candidate, which is not supported by cogent evidence, and to take great care in ascertaining veracity of any news related to a candidate before it gets telecast.

The print and electronic media will only be allowed

to telecast or publish election results once they have been issued by the respective presiding officers, returning officers or the ECP.

Similarly, media has been urged to provide balanced coverage to all parties running for the polls during their election campaign, and to avoid indulging in making remarks about personal life of any candidate.

According to the code of conduct, representatives of print and electronic media will have to obtain accreditation cards from the ECP if they want to observe election process inside the polling stations.

If a candidate makes allegations against another candidate, media should try to seek comments from both sides before broadcasting or publishing such allegations, the code adds.

"Wild allegations and statements which may harm national solidarity or may create law and order shall be strictly avoided." The print and electronic media shall not use language in reporting events which may incite violence on any grounds, including race, sex, language and religion" reads the code of conduct.

Meanwhile, Pemra has been asked to monitor the coverage given to parties through public and private radio and TV channels. The regulatory authority will now be required as per the code to obtain transmission certificates, details of payments made by the candidates or parties for campaign.

Pemra will forward these details to ECP and ensure the compliance of code of conduct by all media organisations. — APP



ISLAMABAD: Italian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Luigi Di Maio, Planted a pine tree in the lawn of Foreign Office along with Shah Mehmood Qureshi. — DNA

AIOU extends  
admission  
date till  
September 20

ISLAMABAD: Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU) has extended the admission date of Matriculation/FA and I.Com with late fee charges for the autumn semester 2021 till September 20th.

Vice Chancellor, AIOU, Prof. Dr. Zia Ul-Qayyum approved the extension and said that those who want to get admission should be allowed to continue their education as it is our national responsibility to do so. Earlier, the last date for admissions was September 6.

According to Syed Zia-ul-Hasnain, Director Admissions, late fee charges for the matriculation program are Rs. 300 and for FA and I.Com late fee charges are Rs. 500. Banks have been directed to collect fees from students till the new date.

Admission forms and prospectuses are available on sale points set up at the University's main campus in Islamabad and regional offices in different cities of the country.

For the convenience of the students, prospectuses and admission forms of all the programs have also been provided on the AIOU website [www.aiou.edu.pk](http://www.aiou.edu.pk). — APP

US educational  
representatives  
meet students

ISLAMABAD: Over 100 accredited US College and university representatives met with prospective undergraduate and graduate Pakistani students at this year's US University Virtual Fair.

Hosted virtually by Education USA at the United States Educational Foundation in Pakistan (USEFP), the fair was a unique opportunity for students across Pakistan to explore the diverse academic programs available to them at world-class educational institutions in the United States, all from the safety and comfort of their homes.

"The Virtual tour provided a flexible platform for Pakistani students to explore the full range of world class U.S. educational opportunities," Ray Castillo, Minister Counselor for Public Affairs at the U.S. Embassy in Islamabad said.

"This was the second year of the virtual platform, and it proved to be successful in reaching qualified students from the furthest corners of the country. The US Embassy is proud to have played a part in bringing career-enhancing educational resources to Pakistan."

The US University Virtual

Fair consisted of a Graduate Virtual Fair on August 27th aimed at prospective Master's and Ph.D. students, and a separate Undergraduate Virtual Fair on September 3rd for prospective Bachelor's students.

Both events provided valuable information about academic programs, campus life, financial aid options, application procedures, and safety precautions in response to the continuing COVID-19 pandemic.

The fairs provided resources to find programs in line with students' personal and professional aspirations.

"USEFP is pleased to be able once again to bring students and U.S. higher education representatives together virtually through the U.S. University Virtual Fair," said USEFP Executive Director, Rita Akhtar.

"Students across Pakistan not only have the opportunity to learn about U.S. colleges and universities, including admissions requirements and financial aid prospects, they can also follow up with EducationUSA advisers for free guidance and feedback on how to submit a successful U.S. university application, she added." — APP

## India's narrow outlook ostracized Kashmiris

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for National Food and Security Syed Fakhar Imam Monday said that India's narrow and myopic outlook had ostracized 8 million Kashmiris and called upon the world to immediately act to avoid any untoward incident since these two nuclear powers Pakistan and India were looking at each other eyeball to eyeball.

He was chairing a Seminar on Kashmir organized by Jammu Kashmir Self Determination Movement International on the Defence here along with President Azad Jammu and Kashmir Sultan Mehmood Chaudhary. The event was also attended by numerous MPs of United Kingdom, parliamentarians and civil rights activists.

Fakhar Imam praised the services of Syed Ali Geelani and reiterated that the decision of Quaid-e-Azam to create Pakistan had once again been validated by the Hindutva policy of Indian PM Narendra Modi

regarding Kashmir.

He said that PM Modi was trying to change the demographics of Kashmir.

The minister said that United Nations had on numerous occasions discussed the issue of Kashmir in the aftermath of the illegal and unilateral action of India on 5th August 2019, which proved that Kash-

mir was a disputed territory. He reiterated that the status of Kashmir was as a disputed territory.

Fakhar said that the world had started to open its eyes to the human rights violations in Kashmir which had been highlighted by international media such as NY Times, Washington Post, Wallstreet Journal etc.

Fakhar said that the emerging strategic partnership between USA, Japan, Australia and India had allowed India to expand its hegemonic designs in the region.

He said that India's ethos had completely changed under the RSS ideology of the Modi government.

The minister said that Imran Khan had raised the plight of the Kashmiris on every forum and would continue to do so in the future.

He said that the government of PTI would continue to expose India as an oppressor and aggressor denying the Kashmiris their right of self-determination in violation of the resolutions of the United Nations Security Council.

Fakhar said that India had the highest civilian to military ratio (9:1) in Kashmir to suppress their freedom.

India should know that the government of Pakistan and every Pakistani fully supported the people of Kashmir, he added. — APP



## PUBLIC NOTICE

I Jalal Anwar S/o Muhammad Anwar CNIC No. 43201-5079604-9, Resident of B-47 Government Employees Housing Society Qasimabad Hyderabad Sindh.

I got married to Ana Carolina Daza Vivas (Revert) D/o Luis Alberto, citizen of Venezuela bearer of Passport number 12904914 and National Identity card No. 18565369, dated 14th April 2012 as per Muslim Law Ordinance 1961.

She was given fifteen Tola gold as well as one lac rupees as Haq mahar at the time of Nikah. I have three kids with her:

1. Muhammad Ibrahim born 15th Nov 2013 at Hyderabad (son)
2. Maryam fatima born 3rd Feb 2018 at Hyderabad (daughter)
3. Sarah Rehman born 23rd Sept 2020 at Venezuela (daughter)

In the month of Feb 2020 she went back to her country along with all her possessions and two kids the third child Sarah Rehman was born in Venezuela.

After that she refused to come back. Finally on 21st oct 2020 in the presence of two witnesses I divorced her. The divorce was communicated to her.

After that she blocked me from all the modes of communication. I have no contact with my kids.

I am responsible for all above mentioned statement. Kindly keep it on record.

**Jalal Anwar S/o Muhammad Anwar**  
CNIC No. 43201-5079604-9



## Right to grieve

**O**CCUPYING troops in IIOJK continued to impose strict curfews following the death of Syed Ali Geelani last Wednesday. These oppressive measures are being put in place to prevent people from grieving and marching towards the Hyderpora area of Srinagar to pay tributes to the veteran Hurriyat leader and an icon of Kashmir freedom movement. Over the past couple of days, there have been clashes between residents and government forces with thousands of armed personnel patrolling the streets to deprive Kashmiris of their right to mourn the loss of their leader.

The situation is untenable to say the least considering how mobile internet service remains suspended since the death of Mr Geelani was announced, preventing people from sharing information about the ongoing situation of the occupied territory. This blatant attempt at stifling voices of dissent and the flow of information cannot be allowed to continue and the international community must wake up from its slumber. A lot of this is expected behaviour on part of the Modi government however, as this has been a constant trend since the illegal measures that were taken on August 5, 2019.

Mirwaiz Umer Farooq has rightly stated that the actions of the occupying forces over the past week are extremely shameful to say the least and only further bring to light the authoritarian characteristics of the BJP-led government. The message is clear, the occupying forces will dismiss all civil and human norms in order to perpetuate the occupation of Kashmiris.

Even the family of Mr Geelani continues to be harassed during this difficult period, as reports reveal that the police officials have registered a case against them for raising pro-independence slogans. The paranoia of the occupying forces knows no bounds and it is evident that Mr Geelani's spirit will continue to haunt them even after his passing away.



## The electricity conundrum

**S**UMMERS in Pakistan are always subject to several pitfalls with regards to power and electricity supply. The power crisis hit its peak in June this year, with load-shedding extending up to several hours at a stretch in different cities. However, the government appears to have understood the issue of seasonal adjustments and has introduced several policies for electricity and power supply. Energy Minister Hammad Azhar stated recently that a proposal was being moved for seasonal energy pricing for domestic and commercial consumers to encourage power consumption during off-peak months. This includes seasonal adjustments in electricity prices, a package for domestic and commercial consumers and reduction of capacity payments. Seasonal differences are a root cause behind the electricity dilemma in Pakistan. In winter months, the electricity demand drops to less than 10000 MW against the installed capacity of 33000MW, which creates the issue of capacity payments that are unaffordable especially for idle power plants. With burdensome capacity payments, power plants are discouraged to continue the supply, leading to extreme shortages when demand shoots up as the summers roll around. These new packages appear to be generating results—the country reported an all-time high-power generation and transmission of 24,467MWs in a single day last month.

However, it is to be seen whether these investments will indeed be smart decisions in the future. This is a problem which requires far more introspection than just government spending and subsidies—instead of supply, which can only temporarily be kept at bay, the demand model in the Pakistani market needs to be transformed. Low demand months require solutions and the government must figure out a way to shift demand from gas to electricity in the winters, as the former is already in short supply. This requires a shift in the heating ecosystem of the country, which with evolving technology and a global shift from gas, is not an impossible task.

# Hindutva regime and atrocities against Muslims

Muhammad Akhter



The treatment of mosques in India is not hidden from anyone. Now this latest incident is enough to open the eyes of the world once again. If this is how Muslims are treated in India, then guess what the Indian occupied forces are doing to the Muslims in Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK). Where there is an army everywhere, there is so much oppression. In the incident in Ajmer, an accused was also seen kicking the head of a boy with the victim

**I**T is well-known to everyone, the Violence or ill-treatment of Muslims in India is nothing new or unusual. Such incidents occur in every regime, but under the rule of Narendra Modi, the problems of Muslims have increased, life has become narrow and their movement has become limited. Since there is a bigoted regime in India, a government that does not give importance to people belonging to any religion other than Hindus at the official level, there are various incidents of mistreatment of people belonging to all religions except Hindus.

In recent days, another video of fanatical Hindus abusing and torturing Muslims has surfaced. In the video, a group of five people beaten a Muslim man in Rajasthan's Ajmer district and asked him to go to Pakistan. The cruel way in which these fanatical Hindus have targeted these Muslims on the basis of religious bigotry is a blot on the name of the world's largest democracy. Since such incidents are part of the norm, it cannot be said that such incidents are based on misunderstanding or that the occurrence of sporadic incidents does not reflect the society as a whole. They are targeting and torturing Muslims in particular is part of their religion. They consider violence against Muslims as a religious duty. Those who do so are never set a precedent, but are given legal protection. The treatment of mosques in India is not hidden from anyone. Now this latest incident is enough to open the eyes of the world once again. If this is

how Muslims are treated in India, then guess what the Indian occupied forces are doing to the Muslims in Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK). Where there is an army everywhere, there is so much oppression. In the incident in Ajmer, an accused was also seen kicking the head of a boy with the victim. Police have confirmed that the incident took place in Subhash Nagar area, but no FIR has been registered so far. A case will be registered under the provisions relating to disruption of harmony.

It is pertinent to mention here that, the FIR of the incident which took place on the August 20, 2021 has not been registered yet while it is not possible as the victim could have dared to do so or if he had this status he would have been resisted on the spot. But the attitude of the police is always to encourage the perpetrators in such incidents. When the video is with the police, everything is clear, there is no ambiguity, nothing is hidden, then why not take action against the perpetrators of violence and those who disrupt religious harmony.

India finances such incidents in Pakistan, it politicizes planted events in Pakistan, runs false trends on social media to confuse the common people of Pakistan. The other side of the picture is that in India, no one belonging to any religion other than Hindus can feel safe. When police-sponsored bullying and violence becomes commonplace, it doesn't take long to understand what state policy really is.

The NarendraModifascist regime is working on the philosophy of Hindutva. India's biggest target is the believers of Islam. When they see the religion, then NarendraModi regime considers biggest enemy is Pakistan. They are attacking from all sides to harm our homeland. The chaos they have spread through Afghanistan over the past few years, the support they have given to terrorists, is an eye opener and enough to shake the conscience of the so-called civilized world.

There is ample evidence that India is one of the major money laundering and terrorist financing countries, but despite knowing the facts, the world does not take any action while Pakistan is trapped in the FATF. The rising incidence of violence against minorities in India is also a major challenge for human rights organizations.

The growing human rights violations in India shows what game Fascist Modi regime is playing with fire and blood everywhere. Indian Muslims have every right to live freely. No Hindu has the right to take advantage of being a majority to torture Muslims and advise them to go to Pakistan. It is the prime responsibility of international organizations to take steps to prevent violence against Muslims in India and Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK). If the international community also remains silent in this regard, then it will be proved that the target of all is only Muslims.

– *The Writer is a Freelance Columnist, he can be reached at @MAkhter\_*

## Celebrating 56 years of resolve

Amna Tauhidi

On the eve of 6th September 1965, Indian Army not only violated the international border with Pakistan, but also launched an ill-devised offensive against Lahore, Sialkot, and Rajasthan. There are many speculations about who won and who lost the '65 War. Truth be told, given the violent air,ground and sea escalation, if the former Soviet Union had not brokered the Tashkent Agreement, and if a ceasefire had not been announced on 23rd September 1965 under the auspices of the United Nations

**P**AKISTAN is commemorating its 56th Defence Day in remembrance of thwarting India's sinister ambitions to wage war against us while offering unwavering political support to the self-determination struggle of our Kashmiri brethren in the light of United Nations Security Council Resolutions.

On the eve of 6th September 1965, Indian Army not only violated the international border with Pakistan, but also launched an ill-devised offensive against Lahore, Sialkot, and Rajasthan. There are many speculations about who won and who lost the '65 War. Truth be told, given the violent air,ground and sea escalation, if the former Soviet Union had not brokered the Tashkent Agreement, and if a ceasefire had not been announced on 23rd September 1965 under the auspices of the United Nations, there is no doubt that Pakistan's Armed Forces would have fought with every ounce of blood left in them to defend the motherland. Hence, any narrative and literature promoting the utter loss of Pakistan simply does not hold water when seen from an unbiased historical lens. For example, the Pakistan Air Force achieved 6:1 air dominance over the Indian Air Force that outnumbered us 5:1. This comparison was drawn by one of the finest aviators of the 21st Century – Chuck E. Yeager. According to some Australian analysts, Pakistan was also victorious in the tank battle at Chawinda. Despite being a much smaller

force, Pakistan did not lose any territory to India in the battle.

Nearly six decades later, the situation in South Asia remains precarious and the region remains prone to conflict escalation because of India's growing ultranationalism, war hysteria and inhumane policies in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK).

Since independence and especially after the events of the 1965 War, Pakistan and its gallant Armed Forces have remained committed to defending the country's territorial integrity and sovereignty. Beside this resolve, Pakistan has stood steadfast in rejecting any dialogue or peace plan with India that fails to address the IIOJK cause. On the other hand, India continues to demonstrate Hindutva-inspired political tendencies and actions which are destroying IIOJK's political identity and historical legacy. Under the current BJP government and its hegemonic policies, there remain chances of dangerous and reckless military adventurism in the region, such as the one in 2019.

In the wake of all these activities, we as a nation must remain alert to the exploitative and offensive strategies of our adversary in the region. Other than three kinetic wars, countless border skirmishes and cross border ceasefire violations, India has been at the forefront in maligning Pakistan internationally by launching disinformation and propaganda campaigns. While Pakistan has always supported

peace and stability in South Asia, India falsely and maliciously keeps painting our efforts in a negative light.

India has also been trying to sow seeds of discontent in the country internally by planting its spies on our land. As Pakistani citizens, we must confront India on the basis of facts and the truth. We must remain vigilant and stand against all those who are trying to hurt our homeland – a land which was won and fought tooth and nail.

This Defence Day, we should all renew our pledge that we will stand united against the sinister ambitions of our enemies, no matter how strong they may be. Pakistan's institutions and Armed Forces should keep the spirit of 1965 alive and shed their institutional, political, religious, and cultural differences in the larger interests of the nation as a whole. Our academia must also play an active and constructive role in promoting Pakistan's national interests and recognizing the sacrifices made not only by our pilots, sailors, and soldiers, but also their families.

Defence of one's country is something to take pride in. As Pakistanis, we should take pride in our history and applaud the efforts of the country's Armed Forces safeguarding our home.

– *The author is a researcher at Centre for Aerospace & Security Studies (CASS), Islamabad, Pakistan. She can be reached at cass.thinkers@gmail.com*



## Briefs

## Pak concerns genuine, says Zabihullah

FROM PAGE 01  
who have recently been freed from the Afghan jails or got freedom as a result of jail breaks. He said the closure of these crossing points is in the backdrop of this development. He said, those who have valid documents such as passports etc, are allowed to cross over adding a system of proper checks and balances is direly needed to stop unwarranted people from crossing over to the neighboring countries or for that matter into Afghanistan. To a question about relations with China, he said, we want to establish good relations with China and for that matter all the neighboring countries. We do want to fulfill various gas projects such as CASA 1000 and other projects. 'We do want these projects to complete as per the deadlines. However security is the main issue and we first want to make sure that these projects do not have challenges'. Regarding Panjshir he said the area is now in full control of Taliban. He announced amnesty for the people of the area. He also invited the Northern Alliance leadership who had fled abroad to come back and be part of the rebuilding of Afghanistan. He said Taliban shall soon announce a new government however he did not give a specific deadline. He said parleys are going on and hopefully a new set up shall be announced sooner rather than later. Zabihullah said that Turkish and Qatari engineers are doing their best to make the Kabul airport operational. While the domestic flights have already been started, now all attention is being focused on the resumption of overseas flights. He said the Americans have done great damage to the Kabul airport. Even the Control Tower is damaged badly, but he hoped all will be well in a few days.

## Logo of Pak-Japan relations...

FROM PAGE 01  
On the occasion of the announcement of official logo, MATSUDA Kunio, the Ambassador of Japan to Pakistan, conveyed his congratulations and best wishes to both the people of Japan and Pakistan for their significant contributions in solidifying this friendship over the last 70 years. 'Let's celebrate this momentous occasion with renewed zeal and fervor to further strengthen the existing friendly relations between the two countries', said the Ambassador.

## Kamran Ali Afzal new Chief Secy...

FROM PAGE 01  
director general Additional IG Rao Sardar will replace IGP Inam Ghani. The sources said that the prime minister has given initial approval for the appointment of both the officers. It added that the decision was taken during the meeting between the premier and the Punjab chief minister. Meanwhile, the Establishment Division will issue a notification for the new chief secretary and the new IGP Punjab after the approval of the federal cabinet. It is pertinent to mention here that the Punjab government is changing the chief secretary and the IGP for the fifth and seventh time, respectively in the PTI-led government's three-year tenure. – DNA

## Pakistan condemns...

FROM PAGE 01  
He said India's mistreatment of Syed Ali Shah Geelani's family was part of its agenda to force Kashmiris to prevent them from demanding the exercise of their inalienable right to self-determination. However, it will never succeed, as the resolve of the Kashmiri people is getting strengthened with the passing of every day, he added. The spokesperson urged the international community to take serious note of this unprecedented repression, and the persisting systematic human rights violations in the Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IOJK). He also called for holding India to account for its inhuman, unjust and illegal actions.



ISLAMABAD: Players of Nishtar Hockey Club and Faisal Hockey Club posing for a group picture on the occasion of an exhibition match played in connection with the September 6, the Defence Day of Pakistan. – DNA

## Misbah, Waqar step down from Pak coaching roles

This change was in the air soon after Rameez was nominated the PCB chairman as he remains always critic of Misbah ul Haq's coaching and captaincy style

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan men's national cricket team head coach Misbah-ul-Haq and bowling coach Waqar Younis have stepped down from their respective roles. They communicated their decisions to the Pakistan Cricket Board on Monday. The move came on a day when PCB named a T20 squad for World T20 and days earlier when Rameez Raja is set to officially take charge as PCB chairman. This change was in the air soon after Rameez was nominated the PCB chairman as he remains always critic of MisbahulHaq's coaching and captaincy style. It may also give both the past greats a chance to exit from the set up honorably as Pakistan chances in WorldT20



look bleak considering the squad named for the event. Misbah and Waqar were appointed in September 2019 and still had a year each left in their contracts. With the New Zealand side due to arrive on 11 September for the three ODI and five T20I series and the Pakistan side to assemble in Islamabad on 8 September, the

PCB has appointed Saqlain Mushtaq and Abdul Razzaq as interim coaches for the series, with the team management for the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2021 to be appointed in due course. Misbah-ul-Haq said: "The quarantine in Jamaica post the West Indies series provided me with an opportunity to reflect on the past 24 months as well as the schedule for inter-

## 'Misbah, Waqar exposed themselves' Shoaib Akhtar

KARACHI: Former speedster Shoaib Akhtar slammed Misbah-ul-Haq and WaqarYounis for leaving their jobs before T20 World Cup. Speaking to a local news channel, Akhtar said Misbah and Waqar should have waited for Ramiz Raja to resume Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB)'s chairmanship and see what happens then. "This is the same thing that the Taliban did with the American forces. I don't think they had any need to do this, I would call this running away," he was quoted saying. "They both exposed themselves with their decision. They should have discussed their concerns with Ramiz Raja – who has emerged as the leading contender to take over as the PCB chairman – and tried their best till the end of the 2021 T20 World Cup," he added. Moreover, Akhtar said Misbah's resignation wasn't unusual for him. "You could have only expected this from them and they had to do this. It was not an unusual thing for me that Misbah resigned, I know what kind of person he is," he concluded. – DNA

national cricket ahead. Considering that I would have had to continue to spend considerable time away from my family and that too in a bio-secure environment, I have decided to step down from the role. I understand that the timing

may not be ideal but I don't think I am in the right frame of mind for the upcoming challenges and it makes sense for someone fresh to step-in and take the side forward. "The past 24 months have been thoroughly enjoyable

and I want to thank my team and the management for their support. I wish the Pakistan cricket team best of luck in the upcoming events and will continue to support them every time they will take the field to represent Pakistan."

## Pak announce World T20 squad with vulnerable batting line

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Cricket Board's chief selector Muhammad Wasim on Monday announced a 15-member squad for the upcoming World Twenty20. The same squad will also play against New Zealand and England. The squad for the World Cup seems to lack firepower and credibility especially in the batting line up with Pakistan seemingly remained to mostly dependent on Babar Azam and Muhammad Rizwan only. Muhammad Hafeez may give Pakistan batting some credible support and all other choices would only add to Pa-

kistan woes as proved in the past. Azam Khan, Asif Ali, Khushdil Shah and Sohaib-Maqsood have so far shown some glimpses of their batting prowess in the domestic events and T20 leagues and that too in tits and bits without any consistency. However, none of them has played any credible or memorable innings whenever they got a chance at the international level. Especially Asif Ali has proved time and again that he is quite useless for the team when it comes to the international stage. Asif played his 29th and last T20I for Pakistan against Zimbabwe earlier in April and averages just 16.38. Khushdil Shah has a 21.66

average in his nine T20Is. On the other hand, Azam Khan has been inducted as wicket-keeper batsman in place of Sarfaraz Ahmed. In fact, in most of the domestic and league T20s, Azam hardly played this role and the lack of his fitness shows his clumsiness in the field as well. Shoaib Malik remains out of favour again though his presence could have given a boost to Pakistan's middle order considering the event is being played on the UAE pitches. The selectors have placed FakharZaman in the reserve squad though he could have proved much lethal and a better choice than the above quartet of players.

Despite that, the selectors have claimed that they have selected an experienced, well-balanced and formidable 15-player squad for the upcoming Twenty20 Internationals against New Zealand and England, and the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2021. The 15-player squad includes five batters (Asif Ali, Babar Azam, Khushdil Shah, Mohammad Hafeez and Sohaib-Maqsood), two wicket-keeper-batters (Azam Khan and Mohammad Rizwan), four all-rounders (Imad-Wasim, Mohammad Nawaz, Mohammad Wasim Jnr and Shadab Khan) and four fast bowlers (HarisRauf, Hasan Ali, Mohammad Hसनन and Shaheen Shah Afridi).

## Haider Ali accorded warm reception

DNA

LAHORE, Pakistan Water and Power Development Authority (WAPDA) athlete Haider Ali, who won Gold Medal for Pakistan in Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games in discus throw, was accorded warm reception by WAPDA Sports Board (WSB) at Lahore Airport on his return to Pakistan. WSB General Secretary Muhammad Razzaq Gill and other officers and officials welcomed Haider Ali on his arrival and presented flower bouquet on behalf of WAPDA. It is worth mentioning that the Gold Medal won by WAPDA athlete Haider Ali is the first-ever Gold Medal for Pakistan in the history of Paralympic Games. Talking to media at the airport, Haider Ali thanked Almighty Allah for giving him the strength to bring this laurel to Pakistan, adding that he is grateful to his family, friends and the whole nation for their prayers for his historic success. Haider Ali also thanked WAPDA Sports Board for its continuous support and patronage throughout his career. WAPDA has been patronizing sports in Pakistan for more than five decades. WAPDA players have not only been showing their class at the national level but also bringing laurels to Pakistan in international competitions.

## S Korea extends Covid-19 restrictions

AGENCIES

SEOUL: South Korea extended its COVID-19 restrictions for another month ahead of a major national holiday, local media reported on Monday. Health authorities remain cautious about virus resurgence as people will travel during the fall harvest Chuseok holiday, set for Sept. 20-22, Yonhap news agency reported. Hence, they decided to extend the current social dis-

tancing measures – Level 4 in the greater Seoul area, which is the highest in the four-tier system, and Level 3 in other regions – through Oct. 3. The Southeast Asian country has been banning gatherings of more than four people nationwide, but the revised guidelines allow gatherings of up to six in the capital area. Restaurants and bars in the greater Seoul area will be allowed to operate until 10 p.m., an hour later than the current restriction of 9 p.m.

## Uproar as Brazil-Argentina clash abandoned

SPORTS DESK

SAO PAULO: Brazil's World Cup qualifying clash against Argentina was sensationally abandoned shortly after kick-off on Sunday as controversy over Covid-19 protocols erupted. Amid incredible scenes at Sao Paulo's Neo Quimica Arena, the match between the two giants of South American football was halted when Brazilian health officials ran onto the pitch, triggering a melee involving team officials and players from both sides. The stunning intervention came just hours after health authorities in Brazil said four England-based players in Argentina's squad should be placed in "immediate quarantine" for breaching Covid-19 protocols. According to Brazil's National Health Surveillance Agency (ANVISA), Premier League players Giovanni Lo Celso (Tottenham), Emiliano Martinez (Aston Villa), Emiliano Buendia (Aston Villa) and Cristian Romero (Tottenham) provided "false information" upon their entry to Brazil. Romero, Lo Celso and Martinez were all in the Argentina starting line-up that kicked off Sunday's game – prompting the surreal intervention of AN-



VISA officials. The four players were accused of failing to disclose that they had spent time in the United Kingdom in the 14 days prior to their arrival in Brazil, where Covid-19 has claimed more than 580,000 lives. Argentina captain Lionel Messi and his teammates trooped off the field as confusion reigned over the fate of the game.

Messi later hit out at the intervention by Brazilian officials. "We've been here for three days, why are you doing this just now?" he said on Argentina's TyC network. Argentina coach Lionel Scaloni was similarly incensed, telling media that "at no time were we told that they could not play the game." Argentina were due to fly back to Buenos

Aires later Sunday on a charter flight. Argentina Football Association president Claudio Tapia said the federation had followed FIFA protocols for the game, pushing back at the claim that players had falsified entry records. "It is not possible to speak of any lie," Tapia said. Brazilian officials were unrepentant about the decision to halt the game however. "We got to this point because everything that ANVISA directed, from the first moment, was not fulfilled," ANVISA director Antonio Barra Torres said on Brazilian television. The four players "were directed to remain isolated while awaiting deportation, but they did not comply. They went to the stadium and they entered the field, in a series of breaches," the official added. A government order dating from June 23 prohibits the entry into Brazilian territory of any foreign person from the United Kingdom, India or South Africa, to prevent the spread of variants of the coronavirus. "ANVISA considers that this situation represents a serious health risk and recommends that the local health authorities (of Sao Paulo) order the immediate quarantine of the players, who are prohibited from taking part in any activity and from remaining on Brazilian territory," the agency said in a statement earlier Sunday.

## Peaceful Afghanistan vital for... region: PM

FROM PAGE 01  
crisis and stabilizing the economy were the most urgent priorities. The Prime Minister stressed that the international community must stand in solidarity with the Afghan people, undertake positive engagement, and create incentives for ensuring sustainable peace, stability and economic development in Afghanistan.

In the bilateral context, the Prime Minister stated that Italy was a vital partner for Pakistan and stressed the importance of enhanced collaboration in diverse areas, including trade and investments, defence, and people-to-people contacts. The Prime Minister also highlighted that the large Pakistani diaspora in Italy constituted a strong bridge between the two countries. Foreign Minister Luigi Di Mario thanked Pakistan for the facilitation of its evacuation operations. He underscored Italy's commitment to enhance bilateral cooperation in diverse fields. The Italian Foreign Minister also conveyed invitation to the Prime Minister to visit Italy. The Prime Minister extended invitation for Prime Minister Mario Draghi to visit Pakistan.

## Italian FM meets Army Chief, Qureshi

FROM PAGE 01  
Afghanistan with positive messaging and through constructive actions. In particular, he emphasized the imperatives of addressing the urgent humanitarian needs and ensuring economic stability of Afghanistan.

The Foreign Minister also apprised the visiting Foreign Minister of his interactions with the leadership of the immediate neighbouring states of Afghanistan and efforts to evolve a coordinated approach. Noting Pakistan's facilitation of evacuation operations, the Foreign Minister reiterated support for Italy's endeavours. In the bilateral context, Foreign Minister Qureshi underlined the importance Pakistan attached to its relationship with Italy and affirmed the desire to further expand mutual cooperation in all fields. The Foreign Minister also expressed satisfaction at close cooperation between the two countries in the multilateral fora, including the EU and the UN. The Foreign Minister invited the Italian Foreign Minister to visit Pakistan for the Second Ministerial Review under the Strategic Engagement Plan. Foreign Minister Luigi Di Maio thanked Pakistan for supporting Italy's evacuation efforts and also noted the important role of Pakistan in support of efforts for regional peace and stability. He also expressed Italy's resolve to strengthen bilateral cooperation in diverse sectors including trade, investments, energy, higher education and people-to-people exchanges.

## Extremists target writer over RSS-Taliban comment

FROM PAGE 01  
the lyricist said without naming the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS). BJP MLA and state party spokesperson Ram Kadam condemned Akhtar's remark. The legislator from Mumbai said no film involving Akhtar will be allowed to be screened in the country until he apologises to Sangh functionaries over his comments. The Shiv Sena, which shares power with the NCP and Congress in Maharashtra, on Monday said Akhtar was "completely wrong" in comparing the RSS with the Taliban. "How can you say those who favour the concept of a Hindu Rashtra are of Taliban mindset? We don't agree with this," an editorial in the Sena mouthpiece 'Saamana' said.



## Briefs

## Azerbaijan joins int'l services expo in China

## FOREIGN DESK

BEIJING: Azerbaijan participates in China International Fair for Trade in Services (CIFTIS), the most important international exhibition of China in the field of trade in services, which opened in Beijing on September 3, Azertag has reported. The country's participation is supported by the Economy Ministry and the organization of Azerbaijan's trade representative office in China. Chinese entrepreneurs visiting the Azerbaijani stand are able to obtain detailed information about the conditions created for foreign investors in the country, and the benefits provided. Moreover, the Center for Analysis and Coordination of the Fourth Industrial Revolution under Azerbaijan's Economy Ministry is represented at the exhibition for the first time. Visitors can learn about the transit and transport potential of Azerbaijan, services offered to residents in industrial parks, and the opportunities and services offered to investors in the Alat Free Economic Zone. Furthermore, tourism opportunities in Azerbaijan, food and agriculture products under the brand "Made in Azerbaijan" and sold in China are presented at the fair. The main organizers of the exhibition, which is held at the state level since 2012, are China's Commerce Ministry and the Beijing Municipality. The exhibition will cover more than 100 events of six types, including a global services trade summit, forums, conferences, exhibitions, presentations and discussions.

## China organizes int'l peacekeeping drill

## AGENCIES

ZHENGZHOU: "Shared Destiny-2021," an international peacekeeping drill, kicked off Monday in central China's Henan Province. It is the first time the Chinese military organized such drill, with the participation of troops from countries including China, Mongolia, Pakistan and Thailand. The drill included battlefield reconnaissance, policing and patrol, protection of civilians, counter-terrorism tasks, medical rescue and epidemic response. Scheduled to run through Sept. 15, the drill aimed to promote pragmatic cooperation among countries contributing troops to United Nations peacekeeping and boost the capability of peacekeeping standby forces.

## Germany condemns verdict against Belarus leader

BERLIN: Germany on Monday slammed the sentencing of one of Belarus's most prominent opposition figures, Maria Kolesnikova, and her lawyer to long prison sentences as "unjustified". "The German government condemns the unjustified verdict against Maria Kolesnikova and Maxim Znakh and the instrumentalisation of the justice system for political repression in Belarus," a foreign ministry spokeswoman, Andrea Sasse, told reporters. Kolesnikova was sentenced to 11 years in prison after she led unprecedented protests against President Alexander Lukashenko last year. Kolesnikova's lawyer Znakh was handed a 10-year sentence, as part of a crackdown by Lukashenko, in power since 1994, on opponents since the demonstrations. Sasse called the verdicts an example of the "ruthless continuation of oppression and intimidation by the Belarus regime against opposition politicians and civil society". She said Kolesnikova and Znakh had stood up for "freedom, democracy and human rights in Belarus" since the "fraudulent presidential election". - APP

## Six Palestinians escape from high-security prison in Israel

The prisoners escaped from the Gilboa prison, which is supposed to be one of Israel's most secured facilities. Such breakouts are extremely rare

## FOREIGN DESK

JERUSALEM: Israeli forces have been searching for six Palestinian prisoners who managed to escape from a high-security facility in northern Israel early on Monday. The prisoners escaped from the Gilboa prison, which is supposed to be one of Israel's most secured facilities. Such breakouts are extremely rare. "Overnight, we received a number of reports about suspicious figures in agricultural fields and from the prison service, which discovered very quickly that prisoners were missing from their cells and that six escaped," police spokesman Eli Levy told Israeli Kan Radio. Police, soldiers, and agents from Israel's powerful internal security agency Shin Bet joined the search effort, officials said. Sniffer dogs were deployed and checkpoints set up in the area surrounding Gilboa. The army said its forces were "prepared and deployed" in the occupied West Bank as part of the operation. Local media reports said the men, who

likely shared the same prison cell, escaped through a tunnel and appeared to have received some outside help. The tunnel appeared to have been dug from below a toilet in the cell, from which the prisoners crawled their way out of the facility. The prisoners included Zakariye Zubeidi, 46, a former Fatah party leader in the northern West Bank city of Jenin, as well as five Palestinian Islamic Jihad members serving life sentences for involvement in attacks on Israelis during the Palestinian Intifada - or uprising - in the early 2000s. The other detainees were identified as: Monadel Yacoub Nafe'at, 26, Yaqoub Qassem, Yaqoub Mahmoud Qadri, 49, Ayham Nayef Kamamji, 35, and Mahmoud Abdullah Ardah, 46. At least four men were serving life sentences, according to local media reports. Translation: Watch the #TunnelOfFreedom, through which six detainees from the Gilboa high-security prison managed to escape from. The men were believed to have been headed for Jenin, where the internationally recognised Palestinian Authority wields little control and where Palestinians in recent

weeks have confronted Israeli forces - some of whom were from the police's Mustarbeen - an undercover unit made up of Israelis disguised as Palestinians. Qadura Fares, head of the Palestinian Prisoners' Club, described the brazen escape as a victory against the Israeli security system. "We are happy with this escape. We have called a lot for the necessity of liberating all Palestinian prisoners. If the prisoners can free themselves, this is a great thing," Fares, who spent 18 years in prison, told Al Jazeera. Al Jazeera's Walid al-Omari, reporting from Ramallah, said Israeli authorities discovered the prisoners' escape at about 3:30am. He said police launched a widespread search operation involving helicopters in towns and villages near the northern area of the West Bank, as well as an area bordering neighbouring Jordan. The detainees could have escaped to Jenin, Jordan, or could be hiding out in the agricultural lands surrounding the prison, al-Omari added. Hamas, the group that controls the Israeli-blockaded Gaza Strip, called the escape a "real defeat" for Israel's security system.

Islamic Jihad spokesman Dawood Shehab, described the breakout as a "heroic act" that was a "severe blow" to the Israeli army and Israel's entire "security apparatus". "This is a long and open struggle ... The occupation must understand the lesson well, our people will never surrender," Shehab said in a statement carried by the Palestinian news agency Maan. "[Israel's] terrorism will not succeed in breaking the will of our people," he added. Israeli Prime Minister Naftali Bennett in a statement called the escape "a serious incident" and said he was receiving regular updates about the search. Israel holds some 4,750 Palestinians across dozens of prison facilities, including 42 females, 200 children, and 550 administrative detainees, according to prisoners' rights group Addameer. While rare, it was not the first escape of Palestinian prisoners from Israeli prisons. In 1995, three Palestinians broke out from the Kfar Yona facility, and in 2014 Shata prison, near Gilboa, discovered an escape attempt similar to Monday's through tunnels.



ISLAMABAD: Federal minister for industries and production, Makhdom Khuro Bakhtyar in a meeting with Japanese ambassador to Pakistan, Kuninori Matsuda at his office. - DNA

## Germany protests to Russia over cyberattacks

## AGENCIES

BERLIN: Germany has protested to Russia over attempts to steal data from lawmakers in what it suspects may have been preparation to spread disinformation before the upcoming German election, the Foreign Ministry in Berlin said today. Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Andrea Sasse said that a hacker outfit called Ghostwriter has been combining conventional cyberattacks with disinformation and in-

fluence operations, and that activities targeting Germany have been observed for some time. She said that, ahead of Germany's parliamentary election on Sept. 26, there have been attempts - using phishing emails, among other things to get hold of personal login details of federal and state lawmakers, with the aim of identity theft. These attacks could serve as preparations for influence operations such as disinformation campaigns connected with the parliamentary election, she told reporters in Berlin.

## Uzbekistan, Egypt to expand economic ties

## DNA

TASHKENT: On the sidelines of the Annual Meeting of the Board of Governors of the Islamic Development Bank, Deputy Prime Minister - Minister of Investment and Foreign Trade of the Republic of Uzbekistan Sardor Umurzakov met with Minister of Planning and Economic Development of the Arab Republic of Egypt Hala Helmi Elsaid. During the dialogue, the parties discussed the current agenda of Uzbek-Egyptian cooperation in trade, economic, investment, cultural and humanitarian spheres, as well as measures to further intensify bilateral interaction. In particular, the possibilities for creating joint ventures in the fields of agriculture, pharmaceutical, electrical, leather and foot-

wear and textile industries were considered. There were noted ample opportunities for increasing the volume of mutual trade. According to the results of the first half of the year, the volume of trade between the two countries more than doubled, in connection with which the parties expressed their readiness to develop concrete practical measures to increase the supply of Uzbek and Egyptian products to the markets of the two countries. The parties agreed to create a joint group in order to timely implement the agreements reached and work out new areas of bilateral trade and economic cooperation. On a bilateral basis, work will be carried out to develop proposals for eliminating existing barriers in bilateral trade and identifying the most promising projects for subsequent implementation.

## Pak Defence, Martyrs Day commemorated in Turkey

Sajjad said that on 6 September 1965, Pakistan's valiant Armed Forces and the entire nation stood united to defend Pakistan

## DNA

ANKARA: Pakistan Embassy Ankara today organized an event to mark the Defence & Martyrs Day Pakistan. In his remarks, Ambassador of Pakistan to Turkey, Mr. Muhammad Syrus Sajjad Qazi, highlighted the significance of the Defence & Martyrs Day. He said that on 6 September 1965, Pakistan's valiant Armed Forces and the entire nation stood united to defend Pakistan and defeat an adversary much bigger than its size. "Defence is a concept which is not just fighting in the field but also making sure that those who are fighting for us are provided the necessary moral and material support," said Ambassador Qazi. He noted that with the strong support of the Pakistani na-



tion to our valiant armed forces, there is no force on earth that can ever hurt, damage or destroy Pakistan. "We pledge ourselves to the defence of our dear homeland and will not hesitate to make any sacrifice to uphold its freedom, independence and sovereignty," he added. Earlier, Deputy Head of Mission, Mr. Arshad Jan Pathan, and Defence & Air

Attaché, Air Commodore Farooq Haider Tareer, read out messages of the President and Prime Minister of Pakistan respectively. Pakistani leadership in their messages paid glowing tributes to Pakistan Armed Forces and the resilient Pakistani nation for their immense sacrifices. They noted that 6th September 1965 stands out in history as a symbol

of courage, patriotism and commitment shown by the Armed Forces who displayed unprecedented bravery and professionalism, and thwarted the evil designs of the enemy. Pakistani leadership underlined that India has constantly perpetrated terrorism against Pakistan. They demanded that the world must hold India accountable for its rogue behavior.

## Legal system for Russian mandate under discussion

## NEWS DESK

BAKU: Azerbaijani presidential aide Hikmat Hajiyev has said that "some discussions" on additional legal mechanisms for the mandate of Russian peacekeepers in Karabakh are still underway. Hajiyev made the remarks in an interview with British media. He noted that the activities and operations of Russian peacekeepers in Karabakh were carried out in line with the trilateral declaration signed by the



Azerbaijani, Russian and Armenian leaders on Nov 10. The presidential aide added that the November 10 trilateral agreement established a "political and to some extent legal framework" for peacekeeping forces. "As for additional agreements and additional legal mechanisms

on the mandate of peacekeepers, the parties have had initial contacts and some discussions are still ongoing," Hajiyev said. He stressed that all territories in Karabakh are Azerbaijan's sovereign lands. "All of Karabakh is the sovereign territory of Azerbaijan, the international community recognizes Azerbaijan's territorial integrity and sovereignty, and in accordance with the November 10 statement, peacekeeping forces have been temporarily deployed in a certain part of Azerbaijan's Karabakh region."



KABUL: Pakistan ambassador to Afghanistan Mansoor Ahmad Kan met Chinese ambassador Wang Yu and discussed efforts for peace and stability in Afghanistan and collaboration for humanitarian needs of Afghan people in the coming time. - DNA

## Baku working to ensure IDPs' return to Karabakh

The document added that the restoration of agriculture in the liberated territories has been continuing successfully. Ameliorative measures and cultivation of crops were carried out

## DNA

BAKU: Baku has said that the Azerbaijani government continues to work to ensure the return of IDPs to their native lands liberated from Armenia's occupation in the last year's war. "The government of Azerbaijan continues its work to ensure the safe and dignified return of IDPs to liberated territories," the Foreign Ministry said on its official Twitter account on September 6. The ministry tweeted that 300 days have passed since the trilateral statement signed between Azerbaijan, Armenia and Russia on November 10, 2020.

The ministry also posted on its Twitter account a factsheet describing the major developments over the past 300 days. "More than 46,486 mines and unexploded ordnance [were] cleared from over 15,510 ha on the liberated territories. 160 Azerbaijani citizens have been killed or injured by mines laid by Armenia during the conflict. This includes two journalists and a government official who were killed in a fatal mine explosion whilst carrying out their duties," the factsheet noted. It underlined that the first international airport in liberated Fuzuli region has begun test flights and that two international airports are also under construction in Zangi-

lan and Lachin regions. The document stressed that Azerbaijan Airlines was among the first organizations to open job vacancies on the liberated territories, providing displaced communities returning to their homes in Karabakh with significant career opportunities. The factsheet said that a master plan for the city of Aghdam was approved as many iconic cultural buildings and historical monuments were restored in the city of Shusha. It noted that the "smart village" project in Zangilan region's Aghai village had been launched and its finalization is planned for early 2022. The document added that the resto-

ration of agriculture in the liberated territories has been continuing successfully. Ameliorative measures and cultivation of crops (including perennial crops) were carried out. Measures have also been taken to develop livestock, as primary herds and bee families have been relocated to these areas. The Azerbaijani government secured a perspective energy deal with British oil producer, BP, with plans to establish a solar energy production facility in the liberated lands. The deal is part of Azerbaijan's drive to implementing sustainable energy projects in the region. A strategic roadmap encompassing railway infrastructure, roads and highways to increase the eco-

nomical integration of the region's countries, as part of the trilateral statement's provision to unblock all economic and transport links in the region was prepared. The Culture Ministry completed the inventory of 1,376 historical and cultural monuments (864 cultural institutions and 512 monuments and facilities of historical and archeological importance) in the liberated lands, including libraries, museums, music schools, cinemas, theatres, galleries. Almost all monuments and objects of historical, architectural, and archeological significance, cultural institutions have been completely demolished or vandalized.

## German ambassador to China dies two weeks into the job

## AGENCIES

BEIJING: Germany's ambassador to China, Jan Hecker, who was a former foreign policy adviser to Chancellor Angela Merkel, has died suddenly, less than two weeks after taking up his post. Hecker, 54, had presented his credentials at China's foreign ministry on Aug. 24, the embassy in Beijing told media. The cause of death has yet to be confirmed. "I mourn the loss of a highly esteemed, long-standing advisor of deep humanity and outstanding professional expertise," Merkel, who expressed shock at the news, said in comments posted on Twitter by her spokesman. In the Chinese capital, foreign ministry spokesperson Wang Wenbin also offered condolences, when asked about the death. "We are shocked to learn about the sudden death of Ambassador Hecker, who had been working actively to promote China-Germany relations since assuming his post," he told a regular media briefing. China would provide assistance to Hecker's family and the embassy, he added. Hecker had appeared "happy and all right" when he hosted an event about German artist Joseph Beuys at his Beijing home last Friday, a guest at the event said. German and European Union flags flew at half-mast on Monday at the embassy in Beijing.

## Nipah virus reappears in India's Kerala state

NEW DELHI: A 12-year-old boy died of Nipah virus in India's southern state of Kerala on Monday, a federal health ministry official confirmed. Earlier, the Nipah virus had hit the state's two districts - Kozhikode and Malappuram, in May-June 2018, leading to more than 15 deaths. "A suspected case of Nipah virus, a 12-year-old boy who presented with features of Encephalitis and Myocarditis was reported on Sept. 3 from the Kozhikode district of Kerala," a federal health ministry statement said, adding that the virus is spread by saliva of fruit bats. The boy was hospitalized and passed away on Sunday morning, said the health ministry. Following the death due to the Nipah virus, the federal government rushed a team of the National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) to the state. The team will provide technical support to the state's health authorities, said an official statement issued by the federal health ministry on Sunday. - APP

## Guinea awaits future after coup leaders demand talks

CONAKRY: The West African state of Guinea awaited word on its future on Monday as a new military junta summoned the outgoing cabinet a day after toppling the president. Elite troops led by Lieutenant-colonel Mamady Doumbouya told outgoing ministers and institutional leaders to gather at 1100 GMT at parliament in the capital Conakry. "Any refusal to attend will be considered a rebellion," they warned. Impoverished and volatile, the West African state was hit by fresh turmoil on Sunday when special forces arrested 83-year-old President Alpha Conde, declared they were scrapping the constitution and imposed a curfew. Land and air borders have been shut, the government dissolved and top governors and other senior administrators have been replaced by the military, the junta said. Discontent had been growing for months over a flatlining Covid-hit economy and the leadership of Conde, who became Guinea's first democratically elected president in 2010. Five years later, he was re-elected - but in 2020 he sparked fury after ramming through changes to the constitution enabling him to sidestep a two-term limit. - APP



## Briefs

Air Chief  
pays homage  
to Shuhada,  
Ghazis

SHAHEEN HANIF

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan Air Force (PAF) Chief of the Air Staff Air Chief Marshal Zahoor Ahmed Babar Sidhu on Monday while celebrating the Defence and Martyrs' Day said, "We pay homage to our 'Shuhada and Ghazis' for their epic deeds of heroism and owe them an eternal debt of gratitude."

In his message on the Defence Day of Pakistan paid tribute to Shuhada (martyrs) and Ghazis (who returned from the battle with pride), he said the day holds a special significance in the nation's history, said a PAF media release.

It symbolized the remarkable show of unity by the nation and was also a lasting reminder of professionalism, valour and sacrifice displayed by the Armed Forces of Pakistan, he said.

The Air Chief underlined, "Certainly, the aggressor challenged the very existence of a peaceful but resolute state. Undoubtedly, Pakistan Air Force, in unison with sister services, delivered a knock-out punch to the enemy and set a legacy of fighting outnumbered."

Taliban  
officials meet  
Turkish envoy

DNA

KABUL: The Taliban on Monday said their officials held discussions on the situation in Afghanistan with Turkey's ambassador to the country.

Suhail Shaheen, a Taliban spokesman, said on Twitter that Qari Din Mohammad Hanif, head of Taliban's Political Office Department for Turkey and Russia, met with Turkish Ambassador Cihad Erginay in Kabul on Sunday. "He was accompanied by Malavi Hamidullah, Taliban's acting Minister of Aviation," Shaheen said.

"Both delegations discussed the current Afghan situation, issues related to the Kabul airport, bilateral relations and mutual cooperation," he added.

Earlier on Monday, Zabihullah Mujahid, another Taliban spokesman, told a news conference in Kabul that Turkey and Qatar "were working hard" to fully reopen the Kabul international airport.

Last week, a Taliban leader and Ariana Afghan Airlines officials told Anadolu Agency that the departing US troops had damaged civilian aircraft and the airport's terminals and radar system.

Sinovac  
booster shot  
increases  
protection:  
report

LAHORE: A booster shot of the two-dose Sinovac's inactivated vaccine provides effective protection against the Delta variant of coronavirus. According to a report in Chinese media, the third dose would increase the potency, scale, and duration of anamnestic responses against Covid-19.

It further reported that a full course immunisation with Sinovac's inactivated vaccines could effectively protect against severe illness caused by the Delta variant. It said the administration of a third dose can raise a "better neutralization breadth and long-lasting humoral response in warding off COVID-19". According to the report, the third dose booster of "inactivated vaccine can elicit an expeditious, robust and long-lasting recall humoral response which continues to evolve with an ongoing accumulation of somatic mutations, emergence of new clones and increasing affinities of antibodies to antigens, conferring enhanced neutralizing potency and breadth".

Collectively, the findings rationalise the use of three-dose vaccination regimens, it was reported. — APP

Our war is to fix the  
system, says PM Imran

The premier said that to attract investment from overseas Pakistanis, it was essential to introduce incentives and ensure protection as they had earlier lost trust due to corrupt practices in the country

DNA

ABBOTABAD: Pakistan's greatest need is to increase its wealth, Prime Minister Imran Khan said Monday while addressing a groundbreaking ceremony of an international five-star hotel in Nathia Gali. The premier said the government was struggling to establish rule of law in the country to attract foreign investment and promote tourism.

"We are fighting a battle to reform the system and establish rule of law. No country can prosper sans rule of law. Many countries with sufficient resources are suffering poverty just because of absence of rule of law," the prime minister said. "Our war is to fix the system," he said. Federal ministers Shibli Faraz, Azam Swati, Ali Haider Zaidi, State Minister Farrukh Habib, Parliamentary Committee on Kashmir Chairperson Shahryar Afridi and provincial ministers attended



the ceremony.

The hotel will reportedly be Khyber Pa-

ktunkhwa's first ever international five-star hotel.

The prime minister, who earlier unveiled the plaque and also planted a sapling under his government's 10 Billion Tree Tsunami, said wealth creation was the country's dire need which would ultimately generate jobs, enhance tax collection and lead to repayment of foreign debts.

Prime Minister Imran Khan said that to attract investment from overseas Pakistanis, it was essential to introduce incentives and ensure protection as they had earlier lost trust due to corrupt practices in the country.

The premier urged overseas Pakistanis to invest in Pakistan, assuring any hurdle in their way will be removed.

He noted that overseas Pakistanis are our biggest asset, regretting that this potential has not been tapped in its true sense. Pakistanis with money and skills are sitting abroad, Prime Minister Imran Khan said, adding that when overseas Pakistanis invest into the country, the currency will gain strength.

Uzbekistan lifts  
school scarf ban

AGENCIES

BAKU: Uzbekistan will allow girls to wear headscarves in schools in a bid to ensure devout Muslim families send their daughters to school, the Central Asian country's education ministry said.

Islam is the dominant religion in Uzbekistan, but the government is

staunchly secular and has retained tight control over the faith in the three decades of independence from the Soviet Union.

Education minister Sherzod

Shermatov said the authorities "intend to allow national headscarves and skullcaps in white or light colours" in schools after "the appeals of many parents".

He said the move was necessary to ensure every child got a secular education. Prototypes of the permitted headscarves presented by Shermatov suggested girls of school age would not be able to cover their chin as is the case with the hijab — a head covering popular throughout the Muslim world.

Shermatov did not specify what age category the measures would affect.

UK vows to  
get 311 Afghan  
support staff out

MONITORING DESK

LONDON: Britain on Monday said it would do its utmost to rescue more than 300 Afghans who helped its armed forces but are now languishing under the new Taliban regime. Addressing parliament, Prime Minister Boris Johnson failed to answer a question on how many British-Afghans remained after a hurried Western airlift was ended.

Thousands made it out from Kabul on packed Royal Air Force planes, but he said 311 people were left behind who are eligible for the UK's Afghan Relocations and Assistance Policy, such as interpreters.

"We will do everything we can to ensure that those people get the safe passage that they deserve," Johnson said. The airlift was "one of the most spectacular operations in our country's post-war history", he said, vowing an "equal effort" to house and educate Afghans newly arrived in Britain.

Johnson demanded the Taliban honour commitments to allow out those wishing to leave, and to respect women's rights, if the militia wants to gain access to billions of dol-

lars in Afghan funds frozen overseas.

Meanwhile, Britain is investigating whether or not some veterans from the Afghan war have taken their own lives because they are so devastated by the chaotic withdrawal of US-led forces from the country, Britain's armed forces minister said on Monday.

The humiliation of the lightening Taliban takeover in Afghanistan after a 20-year war that cost hundreds of thousands of lives and at least a trillion dollars has dismayed veterans of the war. Britain lost 457 armed forces personnel in Afghanistan or 13 per cent of the international military coalition's 3,500 fatalities since 2001.

James Heappey, a junior defence minister, initially told Sky News that some soldiers had taken their own lives in the past week "because of the feelings they have had over what's happening in Afghanistan". But Heappey later rowed back from the comment, telling the BBC that his remark had been inaccurate.

"We're looking very, very carefully at whether or not it is true that someone has taken their life in the last few days," he told BBC TV.

Former  
US army  
sniper kills  
4 in Florida

NEWS DESK

FLORIDA: A former sniper in the US military has killed four people, including a woman and her three-month-old baby boy who was in her arms, then surrendered to police in central Florida.

The suspect, identified as Bryan Riley, 33, also wounded an 11-year-old girl who underwent surgery for seven gunshot injuries, Polk County Sheriff Grady Judd told a news conference on Sunday.

Riley, who had no connection to the victims, engaged in an intense shootout with police before giving up. He later tried to grab a police officer's gun while being treated in the hospital for his own gunshot wound, before being subdued again, Judd said. A veteran of the US wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, Riley worked as a bodyguard and security guard. Judd said his girlfriend told investigators he suffered from post-traumatic stress disorder and occasional depression, adding about a week ago his mental health worsened and he started "speaking with God".

Quetta suicide  
bomber arrived  
from Afghanistan

4 FC personnel were martyred and 19 others were injured Sunday when a suicide bomb blast targeted an FC checkpoint at Mustang Road

SHUJAAT HAMZA

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Interior Sheikh Rasheed said Monday that the suicide bomber who targeted the FC checkpoint a day earlier, had arrived from Afghanistan.

Four FC personnel were martyred and 19 others were injured Sunday when a suicide bomb blast targeted an FC checkpoint at Mustang Road.

"The terrorists involved in Quetta and Gwadar blasts were both from Afghanistan," Rasheed revealed, speaking during a press conference in Islamabad.

He added that both terrorists have been identified. The minister lashed out at India, saying that it has been defeated in Afghanistan and that it is the "only country in the region that has faced humiliation repeatedly."

Rasheed shot down speculation of the presence



of any refugee camp in Pakistan for Afghans, saying that such claims are "absolutely false" and part of "India's baseless propaganda."

"We have assured Afghanistan that our land will not be used against them," Federal Minister for Interior Sheikh Rasheed noted, adding that he will discuss the issue in detail once the Taliban form their government in Afghanistan.

Rasheed added that Af-

ghanistan has also vowed not to let anyone use its territory against foreign countries. He also shed light on other issues and said that the issue of the Chaman border would be resolved by September 12.

Answering a question about Pakistan's internal politics, Rasheed said Pakistan People Party Chairman Bilawal Bhutto, Shahbaz Sharif, and Maulana Fazlur Rahman's politics have "come to an end."

India used  
Afghan soil  
for terrorism  
in Pakistan

KHAYAM ABBASI

ISLAMABAD: Special Representative to the Prime Minister for Religious Harmony and Middle East Hafiz



Tahir Mehmood Ashrafi said India had used Afghan soil for terrorism in Pakistan by imparting training and funding to militants.

Talking to media after cutting ribbon to inaugurate exhibition of Ghilaf-e-Kaaba and sacred relics of Holy Prophet (PBUH), he said Afghan army had melted away without putting up fight against Taliban.

He said people conspiring against Pakistan while sitting in Kabul had not even find sanctuary at their own land. Pakistan has intimate relationship with Saudi Arabia and strengthening relations with Islamic world was an integral part of country's foreign policy.

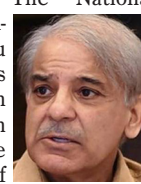
He said Pakistanis have deep relations with holy Harmain Sharafian. The defense of the two holy shrines was the defense of Pakistan. The priority of foreign policy was to improve relations with Islamic countries. Pakistan will participate in Green Conference being held in Saudi Arabia.

Pakistan will attend Green Conference being held in Saudi Arabia in October 2021. He said Pakistan has rendered over 80,000 sacrifices in war against terrorism. He paid rich tributes to Pak army for rendering unprecedented sacrifices for the motherland.

NAB to seize  
Shahbaz'  
family assets

STAFF REPORT

LAHORE: The National Accountability Bureau (NAB) has initiated an operation to seize the assets of



the daughter and son-in-law of Opposition leader Shahbaz Sharif, media reported Monday citing sources.

Sources said that NAB has sought details of the assets possessed by Rabia Inman and Ali Inman and has issued a letter to the registration authorities for full details of the assets.

It was further revealed that the country's accountability watchdog has sent letters to other agencies including Excise, Cooperatives, State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) and Securities & Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP), asking for records in the names of Ali Inman and Rabia Inman.

Once the list of all assets is completed, NAB will take possession of all the assets, sources told media. The bureau had directed action against Shahbaz Sharif's daughter and son-in-law for their continuous failure to appear for an explanation.

NAB rejects  
Ahsan Iqbal's  
allegations

DNA

ISLAMABAD: The National Accountability Bureau (NAB) on Monday rejected the remarks of Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) leader Ahsan Iqbal and termed the former interior minister's statement as contrary to the facts, baseless and misleading.

The anti-graft watchdog in a statement said that the NAB had filed a reference against PML-N leader Ahsan Iqbal in the accountability court on basis of solid evidence. Ahsan Iqbal's fabricated allegations against NAB are an attempt to influence the cases pending before the accountability court, read the statement.

The anti-corruption body said that Ahsan Iqbal's remarks are part of a vicious propaganda campaign to tarnish the image of NAB. NAB will continue to perform its duties without any threat, it added. PML-N leader has criticised NAB while talking to media outside accountability court here on Monday.

## China lauds PM's remarks on poverty alleviation

Giving some details, the spokesperson said that by the end of 2020, China had fulfilled its poverty alleviation target for the new era as scheduled

BEIJING: Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesperson on Monday appreciated Prime Minister Imran Khan's recent remarks on China's poverty alleviation campaign and said China was ready to strengthen exchanges and cooperation with other countries in poverty reduction.

"China is ready to make greater contribution to the building of a poverty-free community with a shared future for mankind featuring common development," Wang Wenbin said during his regular briefing in response to PM Imran Khan's positive remarks.

In his video message screened at the Forum on the 20th Anniversary of Juncao Assistance and Sustainable Development cooperation last week, PM Imran Khan said that China was a role model for developing

countries in poverty alleviation. China's remarkable growth had brought 800 million people out of poverty over the past four decades, he added. While coming on the statement, Wang said China appreciated the positive remarks by Prime Minister Imran Khan.

Giving some details, the spokesperson said that by the end of 2020, China had fulfilled its poverty alleviation target for the new era as scheduled, lifting nearly 100 million impoverished rural residents living below the current poverty line out of poverty. "Since the beginning of reform and opening-up, 770 million rural residents in China have been lifted out of poverty," he added.

According to the World Bank criteria, the Chinese population lifted out of poverty accounts for over 70



percent of the world's total over the same period of time, he said.

He said that as a major country with nearly one fifth of the world's population, China had achieved the poverty reduction goal set in the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development ten years ahead of schedule.

This has enabled hundreds of millions of Chinese people to live a better life, and significantly reduced the impoverished population in the world. Such accomplishment is not only a milestone in the history of the Chinese nation's development and the history of mankind's poverty reduction, but also a vivid illustration of the understanding of human rights with Chinese characteristics that "the rights to subsistence and development are the basic human rights of paramount importance". It marks an important contribution to the global human rights cause.

Wang said, the key to China's historic achievement in eradicating absolute poverty lies in the fact that the Communist Party of China (CPC) always put people first, gave high priority to poverty reduction in its

governance and eliminated poverty through development. China has proposed and implemented a creative strategy of tailor-made poverty alleviation, using precise and strict standards and rigorous monitoring and assessment to make poverty alleviation efforts more targeted and effective. He said the Chinese side had been advancing poverty reduction based on its own reality, giving full play to the principal role of the impoverished population and pooling the strength of all parties to form strong synergy.

He said that China's successful poverty reduction showed that poverty was not invincible, adding, "The path of poverty reduction with Chinese characteristics offers a Chinese solution to the challenges of modern state governance." — APP