

Samana

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Pakistan's First And Only Diplomatic Daily

Price Rs. 20

US is engaging with the Taliban on Afghanistan flights

Detailed News On Page-08

PAF prepared to defend Pak sovereignty

Detailed News On Page-04



Inam Butt aims back to back medals





Taliban unfurl 'not all-inclusive' govt

Hasan Akhund to lead the 'acting' govt; Baradar will be deputy leader; Sirajuddin gets interior minister portfolio; Zabihullah dismisses allegations of Pak support





Who is

Mullah

Hasan

Akhund?

Akhund, who is

on a UN sanctions

list, hails from

Kandahar,

the birthplace

of the Taliban

WEB DESK

power from 1996-2001.

the movement's reclusive

first leader, Mullah Moham-

mad Omar. Akhund, who is

on a UN sanctions list, hails

from Kandahar, the birth-

A UN sanctions report

described him as a "close associate and political ad-

viser" to Omar. Akhund is

highly respected within the movement, especially by its

supreme leader, Haibatullah

Akhunzada, a Taliban source

said. He is the author of sev-

eral works on Islam.

place of the Taliban.



Mullah Baradar **Deputy Prime Minister**

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

KABUL: The Taliban has announced the names of several acting cabinet ministers of a new caretaker government in Afghanistan led by Mohammad Hasan Akhund. Abdul Ghani Baradar will be the deputy leader and Sirajuddin Haqqani, son of the founder of the Haqqani network, has been named as interior minister, chief spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid said at a press conference on Tuesday. Meanwhile, Mullah Mohammad Yaqoob, son of Mullah Omar, has been named as defence minister. Hedayatullah Badri will be the acting Minister of Finance.

"It's also important to say that a lot of these names, the vast majority of them are actually Pashtun and are not taking into consideration, arguably critics would say, the vast great ethnic diversity of this country. And it was interesting to hear his [Mujahid's] comments about the Panjshir Valley which we know predominantly has the Tajik ethnic minority," he added. "He said [Mujahid] had no problem with the Tajik people whatsoever, and their voices would be included in any future administration." Mujahid reiterated the cabinet was an "acting" government and that

Continued on Page 06

Pak among six states invited for oath taking

A sister publication of **CENTRELINE & DNA News Agency**

PM Imran summons high level meeting to discuss recognition issue

ALI FURQAN

ISLAMABAD. Taliban have invited their six international partners including Pakistan to participate in the oath taking ceremony of their newly formed government, it is learnt by Islamabad Post. According to sources, China, Russia, Turkey, Iran Qatar and Pakistan are invited to attend the inaugural ceremony, paving way by the Talibans as a first step into foreign policy formulation.

Glimpsing their geopolitical alignment, Taliban extended invitations to these six countries to attend the oath taking ceremony even before the announcement of the new government in Kabul. The government formation ceremony is expected to be held this week in Kabul. Notably, these six are among the very few countries still operating their embassies in Afghanistan after the takeover by the Taliban. Although most nations are adopting a "wait and watch" policy before recognising this new administration in Afghanistan, the complete isolation of this new Taliban government is unlikely. Interestingly, Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates were not asked to join this important event by the Taliban. It may be recalled that during the previous Taliban's government in 1990s only three countries Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and UAE have recognised. Today, the Taliban have forged new ties and made allies although most nations are adopting a "wait and watch" policy before recognising this new administration in Afghanistan.

Continued on Page 06

High level postings in Pakistan Army

Lieutenant General Azhar Abbas has been appointed as the Chief of General Staff

NEHAL MIRAJ

army on Tuesday an-

nounced new postings

Pakistan

RAWALPINDI:

and appointments in its ranks. In a statement, the Inter-Services Public Re-KABUL: The Taliban have lations (ISPR) said that named Mullah Mohammad Lieutenant General Sahir Hasan Akhund to lead their Shamshad Mirza has been new interim government, posted as the Commander nearly three weeks after Rawalpindi Corps and Lieuthe group seized control of tenant General Muhammad the country. Mullah Akhund Chiragh Haider as the Comis the longtime head of the mander Multan Corps. Taliban's powerful deci-The ISPR said that Lieutension-making body Rehbari ant General Azhar Abbas Shura, or leadership counhas been appointed as the cil. He was previously the Chief of General Staff. foreign minister and then Similarly, Lieutenant Gendeputy prime minister dureral Muhammad Waseem ing the Taliban's last stint in Ashraf has been appointed the Director-General Like many in the Taliban Joint Staff Headquarters. leadership, Mullah Akhund In April this year, 37 brigderives much of his presadiers including two womtige from his proximity to





al, the ISPR announced in a board from

statement. "Promotion Brigadier to Major General was held at General Headquarters. Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Qamar Javed Bajwa presided





[the meeting]," the military's media wing said. On November 5 last year six major generals of the Pakistan Army were promoted to the rank of lieu-

tenant general, a statement

issued by the ISPR said.



PM blames the lack of rule of law for the state Pakistan is in today

STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: The tragedy of Pakistan is that there have been separate sets of rules for the poor and rich, believes Prime Minister Imran Khan. He expressed this belief during his speech ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Imran Khan on Tuesday while regretting District Courts building on Tuesday.

Continued on Page 06

'Will ensure transport facilities in Karachi'

at the groundbreaking of the Islamabad that the past governments had neglected Karachi, the economic hub of Pakistan, resolved that the federal government would ensure transport The prime minister spoke at length facilities to the residents of country's largest city. about the rule of law, speedy justice The prime minister said it was amongst the government's top priorities

and development, highlighting where to enable the labour class and manpower of Karachi to have an easy ac-Pakistan went wrong. We used to see cess to industries, so that they could earn their livelihood. Pakistan moving forward and then it The prime minister expressed these views during a meeting with Minis-

started moving backwards, Prime Minter for Planning Asad Umar who called on him to apprise the prime minister Imran Khan said, recalling that ister of the progress on different uplift projects in Karachi. The prime minister was further briefed that the approval process for initiation of New Karachi Circular Railway (KCR) would be completed soon. - DNA

2 soldiers Romanian FM lauds martyred Pakistan's support

STAFF REPORT

RAWALPINDI: Two Pakistan Army soldiers were martyred in an improvised explosive device (IED) attack in North Waziristan on Tuesday, the military's media affairs wing said. In a statement, the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) said that security forces were conducting a clearance operation in the district's Dosalli area when the IED exploded. As a result, 25-year-old Sepoy Zia Akram and 20-yearold Sepoy Musawwar Khan were martyred, it said.

Akram hailed from Muzaffarabad while Khan was a resident of Bajaur, according to the ISPR. Pakistan Army troops immediately cordoned off the area to apprehend the terrorists who had planted the IED, the statement said. During intense exchange of fire, one of the terrorists, who were trying Romanian foreign ministo flee, was killed, it added.



DNA

ISLAMABAD: Foreign Minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi received a telephone call from Romanian foreign minister Bogdan Aurescu. Both the ministers discussed matters pertaining to mutual interest, particularly the Afghanistan situation.



ter appreciated Pakistani assistance in evacuating 49 Romanian citizens and an additional 156 Afghans from Afghanistan on the request of Romania

The Romanian foreign minister also lauded Pakistan's positive role for peace and stability in Afghanistan. It was further agreed upon to enhance the bilateral ties between the two countries

PIA uplifts 5.9m doses from China

BEIIING: Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) continues to uplift Covid-19 vaccines from China to Pakistan as its two special cargo flights transported a new batch of 5.9 million doses of vaccines from Beijing Capital International Airport to Islamabad. Special cargo flights PK6852 and PK6853 took off from Beijing Capital Airport for Islamabad on Monday and Tuesday and transported 5.9 million doses, Qadir Bux Sangi, PIA Country Manager for China told APP here on Tuesday. One August 29, the national flag carriers airlifted around 12 million doses of anti-Covid-19 vaccines through its four special cargo flights. The PIA special flights PK-6852, PK-6853, PK-6854 and PK-6856 transported 12 million doses of Sinovac vaccine procured from China for vaccination of people under government's ongoing prevention and control drive against Covid-19 pan-

Red list: several UK concerns removed

"We hope the British government will review its policy," Fawad Chaudhry says the true number of COVID-19 feedback, determined that per-

SHUJAAT HAMZA

en officers of the Pakistan

Army had been promoted

to the rank of major-gener-

Inside. ICCI ready to co-op with PBM for welfare of needy persons - Page 03 Consequences of marginalising the Talihan – Page 05 the British government will review

US praises Qatar's support in Afghan - Page 06

CPEC makes progress in areas including energy - Page 06

ISLAMABAD: The government has "removed" several reservations of the UK on the Pakistan's COVID data, Minister for Information Fawad Chaudhry said Tuesday. as the country seeks to exit Britain's travel red list. Special Assistant to Prime Minister on Health Dr Faisal Sultan spoke at length about Pakistan's coronavirus testing mechanism with Britain's chief medical scientist, Chaudhry said, as he addressed a post-cabinet meeting media briefing. "We hope

its policy," he added. Pakistan was retained on the red list, in the latest review of the country's travel ban, despite a diplomatic offensive by several top government officials.

The British government said that it had decided to keep Pakistan on the travel ban red list because

cases are likely much higher than reported across the country, a leaked letter written by Britain's health minister revealed. A proposal was presented to the federal cabinet for non-Indian Punjabi films to be screened in Pakistan for the cinema industry's revival, the information minister said. The federal cabinet, giving its

mission to import all foreign movies except Indian should be given, the information minister said, adding that his ministry would present an amended proposal soon. "In the proposal, we will seek permission to allow foreign movies in Pakistan.



Pakistan conveys its reservations to UK govt

Ali Furqan

ISLAMABAD. Pakistan has conveyed it's strong reservations and concerns to the Britain government about continued placement of its citizens on COVID-19 Red List. Diplomatic souces told Islamabad Post that the political leadership of Pakistan shared their concerns to the British Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab during his Islamabad visit last week. During his two days visit Dominic Raab met with the prime minister Imran Khan, Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi and Army Chief General Qamar Javed Bajwa. Souces says that Islamabad has placed recommendations for the immediate removal of Pakistan's name from the red list.

Pakistan recoments to allow pessangers who are fully vaccinated to travel as well as having a prior COVID-19 negative test report. Islamabad also suggested rapid COVID-19 tests on the airports for the satisfaction of the British authorities. According to sources the British Foreign Secretary did not objected and assure the Pakistani leadership to take up their concerns with the Prime Minister Boris Johnson and other concen departments.

Continued on Page 06

demic, he added. - APP Covid-19 positivity below 7%

ISLAMABAD: reported a coronavirus positivity rate of less than 7% for the seventh consecutive day, government data showed Tuesday morning. According to the NCOC, 52,314 COVID-19 tests were conducted across the country in the last 24 hours, of which 3,316 returned positive. The country has recorded less than 4,000 daily infections for nine out of 10 days since August 29.

Per the official portal, the rate of positive cases during the last 24 hours was 6.33%. Since August 24, Pakistan's positivity rate has been under 7% on 13 out of 15 days. The number of deaths from COVID-19 in the country has risen to 26,330 after 98 people died from the virus.

Briefs

Edu dept. to be made digital, says Minister

DNA

LAHORE: Provincial Minister for School Education Department (SED) Dr. Murad Raas said on Monday that all functions of the department would be 100 percent digitized by the end of current year. He announced this while addressing the inaugural ceremony of teachers training on digital skills here at the Quaid e Azam Academy for Educational Development (QAED).

Senior officials of SED, QAED and Microsoft were also present on the occasion. The Minister said that following the vision of Prime Minister Imran Khan to digitalize every sector, SED launched the 21st Century Digital Skils Programme to give training to all teachers through the Microsoft.

He said that all resource es were being utilized to achieve complete digitalisation target.

He said that under the training project, Microsoft would train 72 Lead Trainers who would further train 8700 Master trainers to initiate the programme in future while total 5000 teachers would be trained in the first phase.

The Minister said that the digital revolution would not only resolve the problems of teachers, students and staff but also help ensuring transparency.

Referring to major issues of the department, Dr Murad Raas said that transfer, posting, attendance and appointments of the staff were successfully put on digital system.

Minister pays tribute to PAF falcons

LAHORE: Punjab Minister for Human Rights and Minorities Affairs (HRMA) Ejaz Alam Augustine on Tuesday paid glowing tribute to the Pakistan Air Force (PAF) and said that air-power of the enemy on Sept 7, 1965, and wrote a new chapter in the history of bravery and courage.

In his message on Air Force Day, he said that nation will always remember those martyrs who rendered their lives for the sake of the country.

The minister said that the PAF eagles had valiantly defended the aerial boundaries and beat the enemy. He added that Air Force was ever-ready to give a befitting reply to every misadventure of the enemy. -APP

Pesco issues power suspension program

STAFF REPORT

PESHAWAR: Peshawar Electric Supply Company (Pesco) on Tuesday notified that due to maintenance work power supply will remain suspended from 132 KV Warsak Power House Grid Station on 8th and 9th September from 6 6a.m. to 4 p.m. resultantly during this period additional load shedding will be carried out on 11 KV feeders emanating from 132 KV Shahi Bagh, sakhi Chashma, Peshawar Cantt, Jamrud and Warsak grid stations.

It said power supply will remain suspended from 132 KV Swabi Grid Station on 9th,14th and 16th September from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. due to which consumers of 11 KV Mansabdar, Sheikh Jana, Char Bagh, Col Sher Khan, Nawa Kale feeder will face inconvenience.

The power supply will also remain suspended from 132 KV Dhobian Grid Station on 9th, 14th and 16th September from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. resultantly consumers of 11 KV New Yar Hussain, New Kalu Khan, Daulat, Tarakai, Sodhe, Dargai, Gumbat, Jamra feeder will face inconvenience.

The power supply will also remain suspended from 132 KV Jehangira Grid Station on 9th, 14th and 16th September from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. resultantly consumers of 11 KV Mankai, Kher Abad, New Kher Abad, Jehangira Town, Jalbai, New Tordher, Attock, Jalsi, Akora 1,2 feeder will face inconvenience.

Pakistanis uplifting UAE through their services: Envoy

UAE has suspended air flights from Pakistan to Dubai due to the threat of Delta virus and said that actually this step was taken on the request of the Pakistan government, says envoy

ISHFAQ MUGHAL

FAISALABAD: Dubai Expo-2020 will serve as a stimulus to accelerate the vibrant economic activities in this region by offering extensive investment, marketing and export opportunities to the global investors, said UAE Ambassador Hamad Obaid Ibrahim Salim Alzaabi. Addressing the business community in Faisalabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry (FCCI) here today, he expressed satisfaction over the brotherly relations

between UAE (United Arab Emirate) and Pakistan and said that Pakistan was the third country that had recognized UAE about 50 years ago. He said that we are going to celebrate 50th anniversary of our relationship this year in a

He said that 1.7 million Pakistanis are working in the UAE. "They are not only contributing their productive role in the economic uplift of UAE but also sending 6 billion dollars foreign remittances to Pakistan", he added.

He also expressed stratification on the volume of bilateral trade between the two countries and said that about 3 years ago when he took charge, the bilateral trade was 14 billion dollars which is now touching the figure of 17 billion dollars.

He said that Emirates Airlines is operating day and night for the convenience of importers and exporters. "Pakistan is ex-



porting mango and other fruits to fulfill the domestic needs of UAE in addition to sending the same to the other international destinations", he added.

Regarding corona, he said that the world is facing challenges of food security and we must join hands to meet our food requirements.

He said that the UAE was introducing a golden and green visa policy to attract maximum participation in Dubai Expo-2020. "Under new policy multiple visas would be issued instead of single entry visas to the foreign investors", he said and assured that the details of golden and green visa policy would be provided very soon to the FCCI for its onward distribution among its members. He further said that currently

UAE visa centers are working in Islamabad and Karachi while a new center would become operational very soon in Lahore. "The investors of UAE could fulfill their needs of manpower through this visa center", he opined.

He said that both countries enjoy the best cordial relations despite sporadic rumors. He said that he has good relations with his Pakistani counterparts and immediately contacted the concerned counterpart to clarify the situation. He contradicted that UAE has sus-

pended air flights from Pakistan to Dubai due to the threat of Delta Virus and said that actually this step was taken on the request of the Pakistan government. He further said that Pakistani in-

vestors should also avail the facil-

ity of golden and green visa to establish their links with the global markets through UAE.

He said that he will also invite Prime Minister Imran Khan to visit the Dubai Expo-2020 while Chief Minister Punjab has also agreed to participate in it.

Earlier, Engineer Hafiz Ihtisham Javed President FCCI introduced Faisalabad and Faisalabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry. He said that this city contributes 33 % share in overall exports and 65 % in textile exports of the country. He said that this city is strategically located in the heart of Pakistan which is flanked by two motorways passing from its east and west. "Through these motorways, we could send export consignments to China, Afghanistan and

Central Asian states in the north and through Gwadar and Karachi in the south", he added.

About Faisalabad Industrial Estate Development & Management Company (FIEDMC), he said that it is developing the largest industrial estate of Punjab. "It has launched three projects including Value Addition City, M3 Industrial City and Allama Iqbal Special Economic Zone which is also a part of CPEC", he said.

He further said that 72 global industrialists are establishing their units in Faisalabad including Turkish, Chinese and others in addition to the local investors. "They are setting up a wide range of industrial units including crockery, ceramics, plastic, pharmaceutical and steel, etc.", he added.

He said that the textile sector is the mainstay of our economy as we have local raw material and cheap labor. Quoting the recent visit of the Australian High Commissioner, he said that Australia was interested in launching joint ventures in food products which could also be exported to Dubai. He said that UAE has expertise in the steel and construction sector

and we could launch joint ventures in these fields which will create a large number of new job opportunities for the Pakistanis. He was optimistic that the new government in Afghanistan will ensure peace which will pave the

way for safe access to the Central Asian States and thus help us in enhancing export to this land-

Health, education sectors given top priority

MULTAN: Commissioner Dr. Irshad Ahmed Tuesday said that the Punjab Chief Minister has given him task of development of Multan division while health and education sectors were being given top priority.

Addressing a meeting arranged here, he said sewerage problem in the city had reached at critical stage for which a final deadline been issued to WASA. An ideal sanitation system would be introduced in the city, he added. He said scope of Multan Waste Management Company would be extended to the rural union councils.

He said special attention would be given to the Walled City Project to enhance the beauty. Cultural heritage of the city would also be promoted to highlight the centuries-old history of the city of saints, he maintained.

Irshad Ahmed said that 158 corona patients were being treated in critical condition at Nishtar hospital out of which 99% patients not vaccinated against corona vaccine. He said special attention would be paid to hold transparency in registry branch. - APP

Punjab, KPK to co-op for promotion of investments

ABID RAZA

LAHORE: A delegation led by Advisor to Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK) on Industries and Commerce Abdul Kareem Khan called on Provincial Minister for Industries and Commerce Mian Aslam Iqbal at Punjab Board of Investment and Trade (PBIT) here on Tuesday.

Both the sides agreed upon mutual cooperation to enhance partnership and promote local investment.

The two sides exchanged views on the steps taken for the promotion of investment and reforms made in their respective provinces.

On this occasion, the KPK CM's Advisor Abdul Kareem Khan said the Puniab government had taken excellent opportunities and to facilitate the business community. "We want to benefit from the experience of Puniab and increase our partnership with Punjab in the industry and trade sector," he added.

Provincial Minister for Industries and Trade Mian Aslam Igbal welcomed the KPK delegation to Punjab and assured that the Punjab government would extend all possible cooperation to the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government in the industry and trade sector.

E-commerce has huge potential in changing world

BUREAU REPORT

FAISALABAD: E-commerce has emerged as the most effective and affordable means of trade as corona has entirely changed the global economic scenario.

Addressing a seminar on American E-commerce giant Amazon, said Senior Vice President Faisalabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry (FCCI) Chaudhary Talat Mahmood said that this platform has 300 million active customers in 180 countries while unique user in America alone are 195 million which indicate the huge potential of E-commerce in this fast changing world.

He appreciated the efforts of Mr. Abdul Razak Dawood, Advisor to Prime Minister on Commerce & Investment and said that he convinced Amazon to include Pakistan in its seller's list. He said now the responsibility to get maximum benefit from this facility rests on Pakistani youth.



He said that young entrepreneurs and startups must launch their own businesses instead of running after the jobs. He said that they are not required to build large units as they could take a humble start from cottage, micro or small scale units. He quoted different examples of big industrial players who had started their businesses as SMEs. He also thanked the Trade Development Au-

thority of Pakistan (TDAP) for organizing this training session in FCCI and said that it has targeted 20,000 entrepreneurs and will ensure that out of these at least ten thousands could start their businesses though Amazon. He said that these facilities will not only help young entrepreneurs to earn respectable living but also play their dynamic role in strengthening the national economy. Assistant Director Rohail Nazir, Hafiz Kamran Ahmed, Urva Hassan, Adil Mukhtar and Assistant Manager Amir Khan gave in depth lectures and provided basic information to start successful businesses with Amazon. They told us about the four seller's modules including procedure for registration with Amazon, product projection & account management, procedure for the payment and transport & logistics. More than hundred participants physically attended this seminar while some also participated in it online.

Later a question answer session was

Navy Day occasion to commemorate iconic sacrifices of martyrs

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Muhammad Amjad Khan Niazi on Tuesday said the Pakistan Navy Day on 8th September is a glorious reminiscence of the nation's history celebrated every year to acknowledge the sacrifices, spirit and iconic contributions of the Naval heroes who embodied determination, courage and valour during the 1965 War. "The day reminds us of the heroic deeds and daring achievements of our Ghazis and Shuhada (martyrs) who fought gallantly with absolute faith in Allah SWT," the Naval Chief said in his message on the occasion of Navy Day. He added that this day

marked a golden chapter in the rich naval history and source of inspiration and pride for the future generations. On the night of 7/8 September 1965, a Flotilla comprising seven major warships



A department

of Pakistan Navy, in a daring operation code named 'SOM-NATH', bombarded Indian port of Dwarka. The swift and precise action destroyed important shore installations including Indian radar station and a radio beacon directing Indian Air Force Bombers for attacks on Karachi shattering the Indian pride.

Navy Day is also in commemoration of Pakistan Navy lone Submarine Ghazi's historic achievement in 1965 which reigned supreme and remained unchallenged at sea throughout the war. Her presence in the vicinity of Indian port kept the Indian Navy Ships including their Aircraft Carrier bottled up in harbour and ineffective to venture into the North Arabian Sea.

Pakistan Navy is unceasingly proving its mettle and has emerged as a potent naval force in the region. PN proactively contributing in collaborative maritime security initiatives as partner of international navies beside its own initiative of Regional Maritime Security Patrols (RMSP) for a secure maritime milieu in the region and beyond, the Naval Chief said.

PN, he said is alive to its mounting responsibilities and role in the success of CPEC Project ensuring vital and focused security initiatives.

'The Navy is fully capable and vigilantly guarding country's maritime interests. PN besides its core task of maritime defence of the country is committed to the development of maritime sector and bringing the dividends of Blue Economy to the nation," he

"As we commemorate the spirit of Navy Day, all ranks of Pakistan Navy reaffirm solidarity with their Kashmiri brethren and denounce the blatant and illegal annexation of Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu & Kashmir (IIOJK). Pakistan will continue to support Kashmiris' rightful struggle according to the aspirations of Kashmiri people and relevant UNSC Resolutions, the Naval Chief resolved.

The Naval Chief concluded his message with his prayer, "Today, Officers, Men and Women of Pakistan Navy renew their resolve and commitment to stand firm in the face of any adversity and defend our beloved motherland, to the last man and the last drop of our blood.Mav Allah (SWT) be our Guide and Protector (Ameen)." he Naval Chief's message was followed by the slogans of PAKISTAN NAVY ZIND-ABAD, PAKISTAN PAIND-

Federal govt to play a role for resolving issues of Sindh

NAZIR SIYAL

KARACHI: Central Vice President PTI and Leader of the Opposition in Sindh Assembly Haleem Adil Sheikh, Tuesday, said that federation would play its role to resolve the issues being faced by people of Sindh.

Haleem Adil Sheikh, while addressing Anti-Drug Conference organized by Pakistan Tehrek Insaf at Press Club Hyderabad, said that menace of drug abuse has widely spread in Sindh and joint efforts by all relevant authorities were needed to save the future generation from negative effects of the slow poison.

Haleem Adil Sheikh termed the narcotics peddling as a part of fifth generation war that was aimed at spoiling minds of Pakistani youth and stressed that Federal Investigation Agency, Anti-Narcotics Force, Customs and all other law enforcing agencies have to play proactive role to frustrate the evil designs of enemies of Pakistan. Haleem alleged Sindh government and

partment was heavily politicized and it

could not take any action to check illegal

activities. Land grabbing and illegal trade

in real estate sector was a major concern

PPP leadership of patronizing illegal trade of narcotics, dacoit gangs and land grabbing in the province while police de-

of FATF, he noted.

He also quoted some incidents when drugs were recovered from vehicle and house of police officials in Jamshoro and Mirpurkhas but no legal action was initiated against the culprits. Fifty percent problems could be solved by rounding up black sheep present in different government departments, he opined.

"Stop patronizing the drugs and other mafias and revamp the deteriorated system to effectively check the illegal activities of anti-social elements." Haleem urged the Sindh government and said that PTI will file a petition in Sindh High Court for seeking the remedy and ensure implementation on court orders.

Malakand division DNA PESHAWAR: Chief Minister Mahmood Khan on Mon-

CM chairs meeting

on matters of

day chaired a meeting convened to discuss administrative matters of Malakand division particularly relating to Swat City including anti-encroachment operation, law and order situation, steps to stop logging.

Chief Minister expressed his displeasure over recent unpleasant incidents of law and order in Malakand division. He gave a deadline of one month to district administration and police to improve law and order in the division and give fool proof protection to visitors and warned reshuffling of officers if law and order did

Chief Minister said that incidents of mistreating visitors would be not tolerated and directed devising a comprehensive strategy to stop such incidents in future and sought weekly report on law and order and administrative matters.

He further directed to expedite anti-encroachment operation in Swat and clear river banks of illegally erected structures. He said that indiscriminate operation would continue against land mafia. Chief Minister said that strict action would be taken against those violating River Protection Act and directed to register cases for challenging writ of the state. Chief Minister directed Secretary Forest to finalize plan to stop illegal cutting of forests in Kalam and complete delimitation of forests. He allowed new recruitment in the forest department to stop illegal cutting of trees.

CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY **Works Division-III**

NDER NOTIC

Pakistan Engineering Council in appropriate category and having the codes mentioned against the work

;	S.#	Name of Work	NIT Cost	Earnest Money	Date & Time for Receipt of Tender	Date & Time for Opening of Tender	Tender Fee	PEC Code
	1	Upgradation of Citizen Facilitation Center G-7/2, Islamabad (E&M Work)	Rs.6,674,847/-	Rs.200,245/-	27-09-2021 at 11:30AM	28-09-2021 at 12:00 Noon	Rs.2000/-	EE-04

1. The tender form complete can be download from CDA website; however, contractor is responsible for followings: a) Contractor must pay tender fee of Rs.2000/- before opening of tender in shape of deposit at call non-refundable or

cash payment in office of Dy. Director Works Division-III, CDA. Contractor must sign and seal all pages of tender documents at lower right corner of each page. Tender name should clearly be mentioned on the envelope with the information that the documents inside are

downloaded or purchased directly from the office of DD Works-III, CDA d) Before opening of tender contractor must provide the valid attested copy of enlistment in PEC in the above

e) Tender pages must be properly stapled in sequence. Tender forms can also be purchased on cash payment (non-refundable) for above mentioned work from the office of Dy Director Works Division-III, CDA located at Room No. 48 Old Naval Head Quarter, G-6 Markaz, Islamabad till 27-09-2021

12:00 P.M. No application for issuance of tender shall be entertained after 12:00 P.M. Application for issuance of tender documents shall accompany name, address(s), signature of contractor, and valid

enlistment of Firm in PEC in the above referred code. Tender will be issued those firms who have valid PEC registered certificate having appropriate category EE-04.

In case of the total bid amount is less than 10% of NIT cost, the bidder shall submit call deposit as measure of security equal to the difference between NIT cost and total quoted amount less 10% of NIT cost. The performance security of the successful bidder shall be released after completion of project, otherwise the tender will be rejected at the time of opening.

Earnest money in the shape of deposit at call as mentioned against the work and in terms/clause of NIT in favor of Dy

Director, Works Division-III, CDA from local schedule bank of Islamabad must accompany with the application, without call deposit no application for issuance of tender will be entertained. Cash/cheque will not be accepted. Tender shall be issued to only those firms who had experience of atleast three (03) projects of similar nature in last Two (02)

8. The bid security of all bidders would be deposited in CDA Bank account and same may be returned after acceptance of contract with the successful bidder 9. If any contractor wants to participate in tender opening process through its representative, then he should issue authority

letter on the letter head of the firm depicting complete valid address & contact number along with attested copy of CNIC. 10. Tender for the work mentioned above will be received and opened in the office of Director E&M Development, CDA located at Room No. 49, Ground Floor Old Naval Head Quarter Building, G-6 Markaz, Islamabad on same date and time in presence of the contractor or their authorized representatives. 11. CDA may reject all bids or proposals at any time prior to acceptance of a bid or proposal. The CDA shall upon at request

ommunicate to any supplier or contractor who submitted a bid or proposal, the ground for its rejection of all bids or proposals, but shall not be bound to justify those grounds. Advertisement can also be seen at CDA website ww.cda.gov.pk and PPRA website www.ppra.org.pk

13. The contractor will provide following additional documents while submitting the tender, otherwise the tender will be liable

Power of Attorney attested through respective court

Programme of Work Income Tax Registration Certificate Registration Certificate

Partnership Deed Non-Relationship Certificate Professional Tax Certificate Non Judicial Stamp Paper worth Rs.10/-

> Ikhlaq Hussain **Deputy Director (E&M) Works Division-III, CDA** Ph: 051-9209886

PID (I) No. 1454/21



Namaz Timings

raji	04.20 an
Zohr	12:06 pm
Asr	04:37 pm
Maghrib	06:25 pm
Isha	07:50 pm



Hotels & Restaurants

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



Airlines

Turkish Airlines......8494949



Emergency

Rescue (Police)15
Bomb Disposal15
Fire Services Rawalpindi/
Islamabad1122 & 16
Emergency Ambulance1122
& Rescue Services.4451122
Motorway Police9266044
Motorway Police9270601-20
Women Police Stations
Islamabad9222596
Rawalpindi9270601-20

Edhi Ambulance11	LE
PIAFlightInfo11	14
PIA Cargo928097	7 (
Railway Inquiry11	17
Railway Exchange9270831-	5
WASA Rawalpindi555548	9
CAA928109)2



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 Internation	nal.4603666



Denartments

Dcpuit	
CDA	9221334-43
CDA	9208301-04
Met Office	9250360-6
RDA	5555864
TMA	5770886
Cantonment Be	oard 9270151-3



Complaints

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

Islamabad Metropolitan

Corporation	9209224
Potohar Town	9209224
RawalTown	5773343

Wasa Water Tank

Rawalpindi.....0331-5022125

ICCI ready to co-op with PBM for welfare of needy persons

Malik Zaheer Abbas Khokhar, Managing Director Pakistan Bait-ul-Mal (PBM) gives detailed briefing to the ICCI delegation about the initiative

ZUBAIR AHMAD

ISLAMABAD: Sardar Yasir Ilyas Khan, President, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry (ICCI) leading a delegation visited 'Panahgah' Centre in Sector G-9/4, Islamabad and interacted with the beneficiaries of the facility.

Fatma Azim Senior Vice President, Abdul Rehman Khan Vice President ICCI, Mehmoob Ahmed Khan, Khalid Chaudhry, Zarif Khan, Ms. Nasira Ali, Zia Khalid Chaudhry, Tahir Mehmood, Saeed Ahmed Bhatti, Ch. Irfan and others were

in the delegation. Speaking at the occasion, Sardar Yasir Ilyas appreciated the quality of facilities being provided at Panahgah to the needy and deserving persons.

He also lauded the efforts of the Prime Minister of Pakistan to provide Panahgahs to the poor people of the society, which was a great service to humanity. He said that ICCI was ready to work with PBM for the welfare of needy persons to provide them a better life. The ICCI delegation along with Managing Director PBM also enjoyed a lunch with the PAL holds seminar

on literary relations

ISLAMABAD: A seminar on "75 Years of Literary Relations be-

tween Pakistan and Various Countries" will be held on Thurs-

day, September 09 at the Pakistan Academy of Letters (PAL).

Syed Asif Haider Shah, Federal Secretary, National Heritage

and Culture Division will be the chief guest. Prof. Dr. Asghar

Nadeem Syed, Dr. Moinuddin Aqeel will be included in the Pre-

sidium. Prof. Dr. R. F. Parikh and Prof. Dr. Rubina Tareen will

be the guests of Honor said a press release issued here. Dr.

Yousuf Khushk, Chairman, PAL will give the Key-note address.

Prof. Dr. Soofia Lodhi, "The Role of Pakistani Universities and

Institutes in Literary Relations with foreign countreis", Prof. Dr. Eynulla Maditi, "Literary Relations between Pakistan and Azerbaijan", Mr.Saeed Naqvi, "Literary Relations between Pa-

kistan and USA", Mr. Said Muhammad Salim Al-Sqlavi, "Liter-

ary Relations between Pakistan and Oman", Prof. Dr. Ali Bayat,

"Literary Relations between Pakistan and Iran", Mr. Marco

Lucchesi, "Literary Relations between Pakistan and Brazil",

Mr. Basir Kazmi, "Literary Relations between Pakistan and

England", Prof. Dr. Muhammad Mahmoodul Islam, "Literary

Relations between Pakistan and Bangladesh", Prof. Dr. Yaqoob

Yawar, "Literary Relations between Pakistan and India", Prof.

Dr. Khalil Toker, "Literary Relations between Pakistan and

Turkey" and Dr. Olena Bordlovska, will express their views on

"Literary Relations between Pakistan and Ukraine" Dr. Asma

Constable arrested

for injuring citizens

Naveed will be the moderator. - DNA

RAWALPINDI: Kalar Syedan

police have arrested four

accused including a police

constable who had opened

fire and injured four citizens.

According to a police spokes-

man, City Police Officer,

Muhammad Ahsan Younas took notice of the incident

in which four persons, Tal-

ib Mehboob, Rizwan, Latif

and Shakeel were injured in a firing in Mamiam area of

KalarSyedan police under

the supervision of SHO on

KalarSyedan.



beneficiaries of Panahgah. Zaheer Khokhar, Managing Director Pakistan Bait-ul-Mal (PBM) gave a detailed briefing to the ICCI delegation about the initiative. He said that this project encompasses the most vulnerable community of the country including daily wagers, labourers, passengers, and attendants with the patients. He informed the delegation that at present twenty-two (22) such centres were operational throughout the country, whereas on the directions of the Prime Minister of Pakistan, the expansion plan of this project

was also being implemented on a fast track basis. He also highlighted the effective policy to provide the uniform facilities in all the Panahgahs including stringent measures taken to ensure the quality and hygienic meals in the centres.

Fatma Azim Senior Vice President, Abdul Rehman Khan Vice President ICCI and other members of delegation also appreciated the good facilities being provided in the Panahgah and reiterated that the business community would cooperate with the Pakistan Bait ul Mal for the welfare of needy persons.

One Window Ehsaas being up scaled nationwide

KHAYAM ABBASI

ISLAMABAD: Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Poverty Alleviation and Social Protection, Dr. Sania Nishtar Tuesday said that One Window Ehsaas is being up scaled nationwide to serve Ehsaas beneficiaries.

Dr. Sania said this during her visit to the One Window Ehsaas Center in Sitara Market along with the Chief Secretary Balochistan, Mather Niaz Rana. The SAPM said that the miniaturized versions of One Stop Shop Ehsaas Centers will be opened in all districts of the country including Balochistan. One Window of Ehsaas has six pillars:

firstly, a one stop shop, the Ehsaas Center; secondly, back office digital interface; thirdly, a public facing digital information and services platform; the fourth component is a mobile app; the fifth component is cognitive API architecture-the integrated database; and finally, the Ehsaas One-Window Beneficiary Selection and Targeting Policy. Chief Secretary Balochistan was briefed about the first One Stop Shop of Ehsaas, 'One Window Center', which ensures access to all the facilities and services of Ehsaas under one roof. CS Balochistan richly lauded the consolidation of all Ehsaas benefits and services at the

Ehsaas sought a collaboration of the CS for expansion of One Window Ehsaas Operations in the province. The CS assured full support and facilitation from Balochistan to open One Window Ehsaas Centers in all districts of the province.

During an interactive demonstration, Chief Secretary was also apprised that under the Ehsaas umbrella, there are many programs for 14 different target groups. But often, a poor family is not aware of the benefits they are entitled to and, if they are aware, they need to go to multiple offices to seek help.

With One Window Ehsaas, the aim is to deliver services through a single window, a one-stop shop.



ISLAMABAD: CDA staffers planting the seasonal plants at a greenbelt area. - APF

Future of LNG in Pakistan

mind, it is important to under-

the directives of CPO con-

up four namely Tasadaq

Mehmood, Arslan, Ghulam

Murtaza and Abdul Qayyum

allegedly involved in firing

An accused namely Tasadaq

Mehmood is a police con-

stable who has been sus-

pended and the department

has started departmental

investigation action against

CPO said, the accused

would be challaned with

solid evidence and no one

would be allowed to play

with the lives of the citizens.

him, he added.

and injuring the citizens.

Arij Ghaznavi

IN the global market of LNG, Pakistan is relatively new, and has become one of the major importers of it. The driving force for acquiring LNG sources are the depletion of natural gas reserves and the needs for a better and cheaper source of energy. The country already has the basic infrastructure to support the supply and demand of the gas to different industries in Pakistan. In order to avoid an energy crisis in Pakistan LNG is a best solution and also the future energy source for Pakistan. The government is looking to bring in the interest of the private sector towards this emerging source of energy.

In order to successfully implant LNG into the Pakistani energy sector and ensure a stable supply of it throughout the country, the government needs to learn the international practices and ensure the establishment of proper regulations on the LNG market. At present, nearly 23 percent of the country's natural gas consumption is being met through imported LNG. The import of LNG has also helped reduce overall electricity generation cost in the country by around Rs 234 billion during FY17-20. With the shortage of Natural gas in the country, Pakistan is looking for a more sustainable solution and as a result of this the demand of import of LNG has increased. Though renewable energy sources are a more sustainable and environmental friendly solution, however, for the Pakistani energy

sector to install the required

infrastructure for generating

renewable energy the cost

Keeping these limitations in

would be extremely high.

stand that Pakistan needs an urgent solution to its energy crisis, and from the looks of it the magnitude of future LNG requirements would be high in demand for the short-medium period, if the exploration levels of natural gas as well as the pricing policy do not change. By official authorities (Ministry of Energy and OGRA) it is suggested that only around 22.3% of the demand is being fulfilled by Pa-

kistan's indigenous supply by the year 2030. If the long-delayed I-P and TAPI gas pipeline projects do not become operational, the average annual net gas shortfall during 2021-2030 is projected to be 2,593 mmcfd. This shows the need for the development of the LNG

market in Pakistan in order to reduce this upcoming deficit, this development can be brought through the implementation of strong regulations as well as improve the infrastructure, this will eventually help in running the domestic gas sector in a more sustainable manner and help strengthen the energy security of Pakistan. With the government allowing the private sector to start

the importing of LNG and with that the government has issued license to the interested parties, the duration of long term sovereign contracts imply that the operation will take place with public private partnership. However, this effort will not be enough to solve the current challenges that the government is facing in establishing a stable LNG market. Expensive LNG means rising price of electricity, as well as a rising subsidy bill, because the government is committed to providing LNG at subsidized

businesses. The price spiral could also put pressure on the reserves, public debt as well as inflation.

In particular, while addressing bottlenecks in the existing import, regasification, and pipeline infrastructure is necessary, it is equally important to expand the LNG user-base in the country; this is specially to reduce the per unit terminal capacity charges, which the private sector would also be paying for. Subsidy rationalization is also important in the context of managing fiscal and quasi-fiscal costs of the government, especially when imported LNG is provided to already heavily subsidized sectors, such as households and fertilizer. The situation could become more challenging for the gas distribution companies when their high-revenue sectors (such as transport and power) start shifting their gas demand to the private sector. In this context, political consensus and strong provincial coordination is needed to get a policy buy-in for the rationalization of subsidies. Natural gas was historically

traded via networks of extensively laid inter- and intra-country pipelines, as its low density made it costlier to store and trade via shipping channels as compared to oil. Over time, however, the industry saw rapid advancements in purification, liquefaction and regasification technologies. These not only made it cost-effective to transport gas in liquefied form via specialized vessels, but also increased the commodity's trade potential by reducing the need for highly capital-intensive long-distance pipelines. As a result, this mode of transportation became increasingly popular.

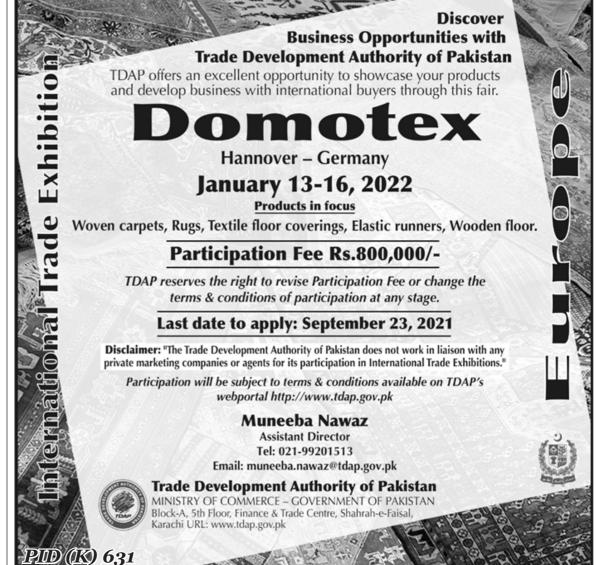
SECP for opportunity to companies to file **UBO** declaration

ISLAMABAD: The Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) has advised companies which have not yet submitted Beneficial Ownership Declaration on Form 45, to do so at the earliest, as the SECP would

be concluding the ongoing adjudication

proceedings. Every company is required by law to obtain information of its ultimate beneficial owners (UBOs) and file a declaration to this effect with SECP. This is aligned with international practices, designed to improve standards of transparency in ownership and control structure of corporate entities. In this regard, SECP has issued periodic reminders to registered companies concerning their obligation to comply with this provision of law and also carried out extensive awareness campaign through print and social media. In order to facilitate companies

in compliance, SECP has introduced a mechanism for online submission of Form 45, which has received an encouraging response. It is important to note that failure to file the requisite Form 45 may result in imposition of penalty up to Rs. 10 million, and therefore, SECP has issued final announcement to companies to comply with this requirement, before conclusion of the adjudication proceedings. SECP remains fully committed to promote compliance culture and good governance in the corporate sector, in the larger interests of various stakeholders.



Gang busted, 2 arrested; 6 rickshaws recovered

DNA

RAWALPINDI: The Bani police have busted a gang allegedly involved in several cases including bike and rickshaw lifting, mobile snatching and arrested its two members besides recovering six stolen motorcycles, two rickshaws, three mobile phones, cash Rs 3000 and other items from their possession.

According to a police spokesman, the police team under the supervision of SHO managed to net two record holder criminals namely Mudassir Ali and Numan Khan, who were members of a gang and allegedly involved in several cases registered in different police stations.

The police recovered six stolen motorcycles, two rickshaws, three mobile phones and other items from their possession.

They confessed to have committed several crimes in different areas of the city. A case has been registered against them while further investigation was underway, he added. Superintendent of Police, Rawal appreciated police team and directed to continue raids against the lawbreakers.

Police arrest 6 for possessing liquor, drug RAWALPINDI: Rawalpin-

di Police in their crackdown against lawbreakers rounded up six people from different areas and recovered 320 grams charras, over 16 liters liquor, 25 rounds of 30 bore pistol and 25 kites from their possession, said a police spokesman on Tuesday.

He informed that Murree police held Muhammad Israt Zaman for having 320 grams charras while Waris Khan, Race Course and Guiar Khan police recovered over 16 liters liquor from the possession of Sanawal, Waqar Ahmed and Anjum Mushtaq.

Sadiqabad police arrested an accused namely Kashif for possessing 25 rounds of 30 bore pistol. Meanwhile, Pirwadhai po-

lice held a kite seller and seized 25 kites and kite flying string rolls from his possession. Separate cases have been registered against all the accused while further investigations are underway, he said. - APP

Wednesday, September 08, 2021

Govt releases

funds for aviation

projects

ISLAMABAD: The government has released funds

amounting 374.418 million in the current fiscal year 2021-

22 so far to execute around

17 ongoing aviation sector

projects under the Public

Sector Development Pro-

According to Planning Com-

mission, the government

earmarked funds amounting

to Rs Rs3,558.200 million

for advancement of 17 ongo-

ing Aviation sector schemes

in the Public Sector Devel-

opment Programme (PSDP

As per the PSDP document,

an amount of Rs11.077 mil-

lion has been allocated for

construction of double story

Ladies Hostel/Barrack with

provision of third storey

along with Mess, Recrea-

tion Hall and allied facilities

at Allama Iqbal Internation-

al Airport, Rs37.581 million

for construction 2X double

storey Barrack with provi-

Airport and Rs50 million for

construction of Barrack ac-

commodation for ASF per-

sonnel along with Mess and

allied facilities, Ladies Rest

Room MT, Store, Kote Mag-

2021-22).

gramme (PSDP 2021-22).

Briefs

CTP committed to improve traffic flow

RAWALPINDI: City Traffic Police (CTP) on the directives of Regional Police Officer (RPO) Rawalpindi Imran Ahmar is striving to improve flow of traffic on the city roads and was utilizing all available resources to remove encroachments.

According to a CTP spokesman, Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP) Traffic, New Town Circle Ali Rafique on Tuesday met with Chief Metropolitan Officer Ali Bukhari and representatives of the business community to improve the flow of traffic on Murree Road and Sadiqabad sector of New Town and eliminate encroachments.

They discussed the complaints of the citizens about traffic congestion and encroachments in Sadiqabad sector and the proposal submitted on Pakistan Citizen Portal to close Naz Cinema Litura

Vice President Sadiqabad Haji Taj and General Secretary Rawalpindi Islamabad Business Union Arshad Usman Shami attended the meeting on behalf of the business community.

They said that Naz Cinema U-turn should not be closed as the closure would increase the traffic pressure on Committee Chowk. They also assured the Chief Metropolitan Officer and DSP Traffic that the business community would cooperate fully with the traffic police and the metropolitan staff to improve the flow of traffic on Murree Road, Naz Cinema, Committee Chowk and Sadiqabad sector and eliminate encroachments. - APP

IBCC to adopt E-filling system

ISLAMABAD: Inter Board Committee of Chairmen (IBCC) has decided to implement E-office & E-filling system to make use of modern technology to expedite the office affairs at its Secretariat.

The decision was taken on the directives of Federal Minister for Education & Professional Training Mr Shafqat Mahmood, during an important meeting of IBCC IT & Equivalence Team held here Tuesday.

The meeting was chaired by Dr Ghulam Ali Mallah, Secretary IBCC.

While addressing the meet ing, Dr Mallah said that it is an urgent need to adopt e- filing and office automation system to expedite the affairs of the organization. He added that the adoption of digital system would eliminate outdated office system and the new system would track the file which will lead to timely implementation of government policies and would also bring transparency in affairs of the organization. Dr Mallah appreciated the IT & Equivalence team for successful launch of IBCC web-portal & Mobile Apps for equivalence to facili-

He directed the team to provide maximum assistance to the applicants for applying through IBCC web portal & Mobile App and resolve the issues related to digital payments. – APP

tate general public.

Three pickpockets arrested in Rawalpindi

RAWALPINDI: Race Course police on Tuesday have arrested three who were allegedly involved in robbing passengers in public transport.

According to a police spokes-

man, the accused namely Arif, Waris and Umair used to steal money and mobile phones from the passengers in public service vehicles.

Police also recovered cash Rs 74,000 and a motorcycle from their possession, he said adding, they confessed to have committed crimes along with

their accomplices. He informed that SHO Race Course and his team traced the accused with the help of modern technology and hu-

man intelligence. He said, their accomplices and facilitators would also be arrested soon.

arrested soon.
Superintendent of Police,
Potohar said that those who
deprive the citizens of their
valuable assets cannot escape
the law. – APP

PAF is prepared to defend sovereignty of Pakistan: CAS

Air Chief paid tribute to all heroes of Pakistan Air Force who responded to the nation's call with unparalleled courage and put their lives ahead of others for a cause greater than life

DNA

ISLAMABAD: PAF observed 07 September as Martyrs' Day at all PAF Bases throughout the country. The day started with special Du'aa and Quran Khawani for the Shuhada of 1965 & 1971 Wars and those who laid down their lives in action since creation of Pakistan.

Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Ahmed Baber Sidhu, Chief of the Air Staff, Pakistan Air Force was the Chief Guest during a Martyrs' Day Ceremony held at Air Headquarters, Islamabad.

During his address the Air Chief paid tribute to all heroes of Pakistan Air Force who responded to the nation's call with unparalleled courage and put their lives ahead of others for a cause greater than life. "PAF is alive to the evolving situation in the region and remains fully prepared to defend sovereignty and territorial integrity of Pakistan, said the Air Chief.



On this special day, he extended reverence to the generations of Kashmiris who have laid down their lives fighting for freedom. He assured Kashmiri brothers and sisters of resolute commitment and steadfast moral, political and diplomatic support.

To pay homage to the martyrs, the Air Chief laid floral wreath at the Martyrs' Monument and offered "Fateha". Principal Staff Officers, officers, airmen and PAF civilians attended the ceremony.

Earlier in the day, a wreath laying ceremony was also held at the grave of Pilot Officer Rashid Minhas Shaheed, (Nishan-i-Haider) at Karachi.

Air Vice Marshal Zaeem Afzal Air Officer Commanding, Southern Air Command, offered 'Fateha' and laid floral wreath at the grave of the Shaheed on behalf of Chief of the Air Staff, Pakistan Air Force. Similar wreath laying ceremonies were also held at the graves of PAF Martyrs all over the country.

RCCI urges for new trade avenues and promoting trade

DNA

RAWALPINDI: Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI) urged the Government to explore new trade avenues and strengthen regional trade ties. Pakistani products are in high demand in Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan and Tajikistan. Acting President RCCI, Osman Ashraf in a statement said that "The country's exports can be increased by promoting regional trade. We need to find new markets".

Pakistan can benefit from greater trade with Central Asian Republics (CARs) which are abundant in Oil, Gas and energy resources. There is a need to sign more transit and preferential trade agreements with these countries, he urged.



Half of the world's population lives in this region. Pakistan, Russia, China, Central Asian countries and SAARC countries can form a new economic bloc, he added.

Acting President Osman
Ashraf said that "Exports have been affected by the to re-examine our market and products," he said.
Through the virtual plat-

lockdown, but we have to promote our products through virtual platforms."

"In the current challenging situation, there is a huge opportunity for us to re-examine our market and products," he said. Through the virtual plat-

form, chambers can liaise with the government to identify different sectors and industrial zones, as well as sharing information of respective trade sectors with commercial consuls abroad. He said that the bilateral trade volume between Pakistan and CARs is less than a billion dollars and efforts can be put forth and we can double our trade volumes within the next couple of

China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) offers great regional connectivity and integration from South Asia, Central Asia and beyond," he added. However, he urged that there was a need to improve the banking channel, transportation, road and rail network so that perishable goods could get more sustainability.

FDE prohibits teachers from wearing jeans

DNA

ISLAMABAD: The Federal Directorate of Education (FDE) has introduced a new dress code for teachers, prohibiting the educationists from wearing jeans, tights and t-shirts during the duty hours, it emerged on Tuesday. In a notification, the FDE directed the teachers to wear

teaching gowns in class and lab coats in the laboratory. The FDE has prohibited female teachers from wearing jeans or tights, while male teachers can't wear jeans and T-shirts. The FDE reasoned that research has proven that attire has an influence on people's perceptions and is more than just about something you

"At first instance, the outlook imposes a very positive expectation subjective to the

are wearing.

likeliness and behaviour pattern of the students," read the FDE notification. For female teachers, a "sim-

ple and decent shalwar

kameez/trousers shirt with

dupatta/shawl" has been rec-

ommended by the regulatory

authority.
Only formal shoes, which include pumps, loafers and mules, are allowed. But owing to long-standing hours during teaching, comfortable shoes like sneakers and sandals can

be worn as well. The teachers wearing headscarves will be allowed to wear scarves and hijab, it added

Male teachers will not be allowed to wear shawls (chadars) during winter, but can wear sweaters, coats and jerseys. If a male teacher is coming in to work wearing shalwar kameez, he has to was a weisteoot with it.

at the moment all regional

countries, including Russia

are in a wait and see mode.

Dr. Alexander A. Kornilov

said that Afghanistan cannot

be conquered and cannot be

won. Russia is not interested

in the disintegration of Af-

ghanistan. Officials in Russia

have made it clear that if the

Government in Afghanistan

partners with regional coun-

tries, it will be able to coun-

ter all external and violent

threats within the country.

The sooner the Taliban form

a government, the easier

it would be for the group

to communicate with other

countries. Hence, in this

regard, they should make

a framework that ensures

regional security. He also

pointed out that Qatar and

Turkey will now be actively

and deeply involved in the

sion of third storey for Corporal to Inspectors and Assistant Director along with separate Mess and allied facilities, Recreation Hall at Quetta Airport, Rs20 million for construction of Airport Security Force (ASF) Camp at Islamabad International

azine, Quarter Guard and OC Accommodation/Room at Skardu Airport. – APP

PMDU

registers
3.4m citizens

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Delivery Unit (PMDU) has so far registered 3.4 million citizens from different areas of the country including local, overseas Pakistanis, and foreigners to provide better and swift assistance to redress civic complaints. According to three years, the performance of PMDU registered complaints by social segments; complaints of vulnerable segments of society were treated specially. special flags were used to distinguish them while protecting identity.

The complaints, registered pertaining to special citizens were 47 percent, minorities 47 percent, and senior citizens 35 percent, were received from all the provinces of Punjab, Sindh, Balochistan, Islamabad, AJK, and GB.

The PMDU category wise complaints were registered comprised of municipal services 45 percent, Law and Order 56 percent, Education 46 percent, Transport, and Communications 45 percent, Energy and Power 44 percent, Health 47 percent, Land Revenue 32 percent, human rights 41 percent and Licenses certificates and registrations 62

PMDU highlighted the ratio of public registration on the portal at the local and abroad level, efficient complaint resolution and facilitation system and success stories of the complainants granted relief.

The success stories on various issues noted accounts of relief granted. – APP

Experts hold discussion on Afghan peace process, highlight Russia's role in Afghanistan

DNA

ISLAMABAD: The Centre for Afghanistan, Middle East & Africa (CAMEA) at the Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI) had a Panel Discussion on 'Conversations on the evolving situation in Afghanistan: Russia's Role in Afghanistan,' fifth in a series of conversations CAMEA is having on Afghanistan – under its Conversations on the evolving situation Afghan series.

The distinguished speakers included: Ambassador Omar Samad, Nonresident Senior Fellow Atlantic Council; Dr. Alexander A. Kornilov, Prof. Dr. at Lobachevsky State University of Nizhni Novgorod, Head of Region Studies of Foreign Countries; Dr. Nigel Gould-Davies, Senior Fellow for Russia and Eurasia at the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS); Ambassador Qazi M. Khalilullah, Executive Directions

tor Center for Internation-



the discussion.

During her opening remarks, Ms. Amina Khan,
Director CAMEA, said that with the US withdrawal, the real test for Afghanistan has only just begun. It is imperative for the Taliban to engage with Afghan stakehold-

ers and form a government that is inclusive and representative of all Afghans. This is a historic opportunity for all Afghans to come together and work for the future of Afghanistan. Despite previous differences, regional stakeholders, including Russia are coming out of the woodwork to assume a more substantive role in the future of Afghanistan. Pakistan, Iran, Russia, China, and the Central Asian nations appear to have a common (regional) vision for the future of Afghanistan, which entails regional ownership, recognition of a negotiated settlement with the Afghan Taliban as a key component, inclusive political set up, as well as curbing transnational terrorist group, the illegal flow of arms and trade. Needless to say, in such trying times, Russia's role has been revitalized as a supportive regional actor highlighting Moscow's keen involvement in the peace process and is its desire to showcase itself as a leading player and advo-

Is regional cate for peace and stability in the region.

Ment with an as a key sive politure politure ful Afghanistan and we see

said that Russia has been striving hard for a peace-ful Afghanistan and we see quite a bit of congruence between Russia and all regional countries in their approach towards amnesty in Afghanistan. Though the Taliban have given assurances, the challenges have however, only begun and we have yet to see to what extent will the Taliban live up to their commitments. It appears that

process in Kabul. He said that the future government must be representative and inclusive, which will be sustainable for a certain period without facing any major internal political threat.

the region and has an impact on

Today, the poets who have paid

homage to the martyrs and veter-

ans with their poetry has done

a great job throgh which an ideal

Addressing the function, President

Islamabad Chamber of Commerce

and Industry Sardar Yasir Ilyas

Khan said that we are fortunate to

be breathing in the open air and it

is bacuase of our brave army that

societies can be formed.

the world at large.

NH&MP to create road safety awareness

ISLAMABAD: Road Safety Awareness Unit of the National Highways and Motorway Police Headquarters Zone on Tuesday started drive to educate the masses about road safety measures.

In order to create awareness among public, the Motorway Police officials were visiting bus stand managers and drivers, factories, educational institutions, madrassas, mosques and various offices to impart complete awareness about road safety, said a NH&MP statement issued here.

NH&MP termed road safety awareness as a shared responsibility of entire society, parents, teachers and concerned institutions. Road Safety Unit is also conducting seminars and workshops at various higher educational institutions aiming to impart useful information about road

Young motorcyclists should always wear a safety helmet while riding for their own safety. – APP

safety.

Armed Forces are our strength: Bakhtawari establishing peace in Afghanistan. their families forward as long as states remembered in the history civilization and culture throughout

DNA

RAWALPINDI: On the occasion of Pakistan Defence Day, a function was organized by the Pakistan Cultural Forum at the Punjab Arts Council Rawalpindi to pay tribute to the martyrs & Veterans of the Pakistan Armed Forces.

Poets, writers and intellectuals from all walks of life participated in the event. Addressing the function, Chair-

man Pakistan Cultural Forum Zafar Bakhtawari said that Pakistan Armed Forces is our strength. Scientists and engineers as well as Pakistan Armed Forces have an important role to play in making Pakistan a nuclear power. The ideology of Allama Iqbal not only gives Armed Forces a new spirit and the aspirations of a greater Pakistan, but it also shaped their vision, as a result of which today a new Pakistan, a dignified Pakistan, is emerging throughout the region. He further said that The end of Afghan war will establishment regional peace and prosperity through roads and railways connectivity, which will also make Pakistan a regional power. He paid homage to the services of Chief of Army Staff General Qamar Javed Bajwa and DG ISI General Faiz Hameed in

establishing peace in Afghanistan. He said on the occasion of Pakistan Defence and Martyrs' Day, that we should not only remember the martyrs and veterans but also their families in the true sense of the word. We Should also brought

their families forward as long as The mission of the martyrs will not be able to reach its full potential in our society.

Addressing the writers and poets present at the event, Zafar Bakhtawari said that there are only those

s states remembered in the history which were based on intellect, philosophy and ideology so we have to bring forward writers, poets and intellectuals to shed light on their thoughts and ideas. We should build a society that respect our



RAWALPINDI: Zafar Bakhtawari Chairman Pakistan Cultural Forum is speaking at a function to mark Defence Day of Pakistan at Rawalpindi art council. Sardar Yasir Ilyas President ICCI, Shakeel Jazib Member Finance CDA, Ali Akbar Abbas and Naseem Sahar are also present at the stage. – DNA

we are save in great Pakistan.

He further said that we should remember our martyrs and veterans through such events.

The speeches delivered at today's

event are commendable.

Speaking on the occasion of Martyrs' Day, renowned poet and member of finance CDA Shakeel Jazeb said that we are proud of our martyrs and veterans through whom we can look at enemy eye with bravery .we should keep enlighten about the sacrifices to the nation of

Prominent poets Ali Akbar Abbas, Naseem Sehar, Hassan Abbas Raza, Mehboob Zafar, Rana Saeed Doshi, Dr Junaid Azar and Shahbaz Chauhan also paid homage to the martyrs and veterans with their poetry on Defence Day Of Pakistan.

martyrs forever.

05

War is over, but questions remain

HE United States rushed the final chapter of its two-decade occupation of Afghanistan in a chaotic, fraught and even bloody departure, leaving the war-ravaged country in the hands of the enemy, Taliban. Years from now, two images will remain edged in the history books that define what most American analysts describe as 'humiliating defeat in Afghanistan'. The image of Major General Donahue, taken by a Pentagon photographer with night-vision lenses, as he boarded the final flight, a military C-17 aircraft, out of Kabul and the image of Taliban fighters firing in the air to celebrate taking full control of the Hamid Karzai International Airport will be the seminal images of this war. America for years has sought an honourable way out of its 'forgotten' and longest running war in Afghanistan. But few expected its exit would be hasty and humiliating, leaving the Taliban to declare victory over "a great power", as noted by Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid, who described final retreat by the US forces as "historical day and a historical moment." The Taliban spokesman may have overshot here but the reality is that it was unexpectedly a uniquely bizarre end to a war that took the lives of nearly 2,500 American soldiers and 240,000 Afghans, and cost around \$2 trillion. It was a brazen failure overseen by one man who should expect a harsh unforgiving judgment from history as well as from the American public opinion: President Joe Biden.

His defenders may claim that the president, who campaigned in the 2020 election on his strength in foreign affairs, inherited a 20-year losing war from his three predecessors and his decision to leave was basically to cut US losses and save lives. But the fact is that his administration failed — in the end — to even organise a pullout that was supposedly years in planning. The administration failed to understand the military situation in a country it had occupied for 20 years, underestimated the ability and swiftness of Taliban's takeover of major cities and overestimated the capabilities of the Afghan government and army.

In his statement late Monday, President Biden said his decision to end the US presence in Afghanistan was based on "unanimous recommendation of the Joint Chiefs and of all of our commanders on the ground to end our airlift mission as planned." He said the US had achieved its objectives in Afghanistan "long ago" — mainly ousting the Taliban and preventing Al Qaeda to use Afghanistan as a base for further terror attacks. Biden will of course face many questions in the coming days and years, from the American public and disappointed allies. They need to know why he botched a supposedly long planned exit, leaving Afghanistan in the hands of a stronger, empowered Taliban.

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Lessons from India's farmer protests

F there was really a way for the Modi government to negotiate an end to the farmer protest that has paralysed Delhi, then protesting farmers wouldn't be encamped just outside the capital since November. Therefore it is a little difficult to understand just what the Indian government means by implying that it is ready to talk to the farmers; even this late in the day. The protesters have simply rejected the legislation that deregulated the entire sector and gave it to corporations to enhance efficiency and cut losses, because they see it as more like throwing them to the wolves because big companies wouldn't think twice before tossing a very large number of them out of work just to protect their bottom lines.

This has become a pretty big problem because about a two-thirds of India's huge 1.3 billion population draws its livelihood directly from farming which means that there, just like here, this sector has the most families associated with it. And most of them struggled to survive even with government support; which explains the abnormally high number of farmer suicides in that country. One would have thought that the government would be a little sympathetic to the plight of the segment of society that gives the whole country its food, regardless of rain or sunshine, but it turns out that the Modi administration is far more concerned with pleasing powerful corporations that underwrite many of its election campaigns.

But the farmers must be given credit for their tenacity because they have simply refused to budge from their position regardless of the kind of pressure the government has tried to put on them; with includes everything under the sky including very harsh police action, on more than one occasion. Now the government itself is in a fix. It's obvious that it cannot shove the new rules down the farmers' throats, even though it's proper legislation, and it can't just back down and lose political credibility as well as its clout with powerful corporations whose money it needs every few years. Plus with crucial elections coming up in the country's most populous state Uttar Pradesh, home to 200 million people and governed by the ruling BJP, it could find itself firmly stuck between a rock and a very hard place.

But the ruling party has only itself, and its dictatorial mindset, to blame for its present impasse. It will have to water down its anti-farmer legislation. The only question is how long it will take before realising it.

Consequences of marginalising the Taliban

Hujjatullah Zia

The Taliban could also have been consulted in the constitution-drafting process. In fact, their representatives would not have stood out that much in the Loya Jirga that passed the constitution since there were a number of conservative figures and religious clerics, including Abdul Rab Rasul Sayyaf, Burhanuddin Rabbani, and Skeikh Asif Mohsini in attendance, who were also insisting on their conservative interpretations of Islamic law. In their defeat, the Taliban leaders may have been more likely to be flexible on certain issues and more likely to engage in dialogue to resolve disagreements

S the world is coming to grips with the sudden change of regime in Afghanistan, it is important to reflect on what led to this point. So far analyses have focused on the corruption and weakness of the Afghan state set up after the US-NATO invasion of the country in 2001 and on the disarray in the Afghan armed forces. But it is important to consider another aspect of the story - the Taliban's refusal to negotiate with the Afghan government, which it saw as illegitimate and its determination to wipe it out. Why was the group so relentless on this? Much of it has to do with decisions that were made mainly by the invading Western forces and their Afghan allies in the 2000s to exclude the Taliban from the nation-building experiment they launched.

In December 2001, a few weeks after the Western forces and their Afghan allies took Kabul from the Taliban, a conference was held in Bonn, Germany to set up the new Afghan government. Attendees included the Northern Alliance, which fought alongside the Western allies, the Peshawar Group of Pakistan-exiled Afghan Pashtuns, the Rome Group of royalists, and the Cyprus Group of Afghans with ties to Iran.

The Taliban, however, was not invited and decisions about the first steps of building the Afghan state were taken without it.

Then in 2002, an emergency Loya Jirga (grand national assembly) was convened, where a transitional government led by Hamid Karzai was elected. The Taliban once again was not invited. In 2003, a Constitutional Commission was set up to start the constitution drafting process, including public consultations, but again the Taliban was excluded from these proceedings. The constitution was passed by a Loya Jirga in 2004, with its provisions guaranteeing women's fundamental rights and liberties, reflecting democratic principles and expressing the commitment of the new government to the United Nations Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The consequences of the Taliban's exclusion from the post-2001 power arrangement have been significant. The Taliban could neither tolerate this marginalisation from the social and

political decision-making in Kabul, nor reconcile its hardline ideology with constitutional rights and liberties. Feeling sidelined at the national and international level, the Taliban regrouped and relaunched offensive attacks against the Afghan government and its Western allies. In the following years, the Taliban inflicted heavy casualties and unnecessary pain and suffering on the Afghan people. It showed no signs of moderating its hardline position on religion.

One could argue that the inclusion of the Taliban in the Bonn Conference would have been problematic and the Northern Alliance would have sought to block it, while families of Taliban victims would have protested it. Taliban presence in the Loya Jirga deliberating the constitution could also have been a barrier to approving the provisions granting women their rights and liberties and protecting human rights in general.

Nonetheless, it is possible that the inclusion of the Taliban in the 2001 administration in some form would have been viable and that would have had a positive impact. The US and its NATO allies could have pressured the Northern Alliance to accept it, conditioning their financial support on the establishment of an inclusive government – the way they are doing now with the Taliban.

The Taliban could also have been consulted in the constitution-drafting process. In fact, their representatives would not have stood out that much in the Loya Jirga that passed the constitution since there were a number of conservative figures and religious clerics, including Abdul Rab Rasul Sayyaf, Burhanuddin Rabbani, and Skeikh Asif Mohsini in attendance, who were also insisting on their conservative interpretations of Islamic law. In their defeat, the Taliban leaders may have been more likely to be flexible on certain issues and more likely to engage in dialogue to resolve disagreements. The whole inclusion process may have moderated their religious views and politics and made their stance less stringent. It may also have reflected on their supporters within the Afghan population, which would not have felt as excluded and marginalised by the new Afghan administration.

Some officials have already expressed regret for not making the Taliban part of the political transition in Afghanistan. As Zalmay Khalilzad, the US special envoy for Afghanistan, wrote in his book, The Envoy: "The delegates represented Afghanistan's diversity, but the Taliban were not present. In retrospect, some have suggested that we erred in not encouraging the Taliban to participate in the Emergency Loya Jirga."

Unfortunately, no serious efforts were made to reach out to the Taliban until it was too late. Having made spectacular territorial gains in the past five years, the Taliban negotiated from the position of strength, not of weakness in the US-Taliban and intra-Afghan talks, and its leadership was, therefore, much more uncompromising.

After returning triumphant to Kabul 20 years after being expelled by a foreign force, the Taliban is now approaching other factions from the position of power. One of the Taliban's main negotiators is Anas Haqqani, a leader of the Haqqani Network, which is still on the US list of terrorist groups. Haqqani is a hardline figure and is unlikely to make compromises on the application of a conservative interpretation of Islamic law. Apart from the hardliners in the leadership, who are pressing for Islamic law, the group's rank and file, as well as supporters among the civilian population, are also expecting a religiously conservative regime to be established. Not doing so would

file, as well as supporters among the civilian population, are also expecting a religiously conservative regime to be established. Not doing so would risk alienating a lot of these people, which is not something the Taliban leadership can afford to do at the onset of its government in Afghanistan. The only course of action left for the US and its Western allies is to try to pressure the Taliban by withholding international recognition or financial assistance. How successful that would be remains to be seen. However, it is for now clear that women's and minority rights as well as democratic principles will suffer a setback in Afghanistan. Afghans have paid a heavy price for the miscalculations and failed policies pursued by Kabul and Washington in the past two decades. This is the sad outcome of the Taliban's exclusion from the post-2001 administration.

– Courtesy Al Jazeera

How many Palestinians must die for Israel's 'security'?

Ramzy Baroud



The emphasis on "killing" in response to any form of Palestinian protests seems to be the common denominator between Israeli officials, military leaders and even ordinary soldiers. The latter, who are purportedly behind the social media campaign, appear to be enjoying their time at the Gaza perimeter. Israeli snipers, according to their own testimonies

LARGE Israeli army campaign is taking social media by storm. The unstated aim of what is known as the "#Untie_Our_Hands" initiative is the desire to kill, with no accountability, more Palestinian protesters at the Gaza perimeter fence. The campaign was motivated by the killing of an Israeli sniper, Barel Hadaria Shmueli, who was reportedly shot from the Palestinian side of the barrier on Aug. 21. An immediate question comes to mind: What do Israeli soldiers want, considering that they have already killed over 300 unarmed Palestinian protesters, and wounded and maimed thousands more at the Gaza fence during what Palestinians referred to as the "Great March of Return" between 2018 and 2020?

This "march" is now being renewed, though it often takes place at night, with frustrated Palestinian youth gathering in their thousands, chanting anti-Israeli occupation slogans and, at times, throwing rocks at Israeli forces.

Months after the Israeli onslaught on Gaza - a relatively brief, but deadly, war from May 10-21 - the stifling status quo in the besieged enclave has not changed: The hermetic Israeli siege, the snipers, the occasional nightly bombardment, devastating unemployment, closures, and a lack of vital supplies from clean water to cement to even cancer medication. So it should be no surprise that Palestinians in Gaza, especially the youth, desperately seek a platform to express their justifiable rage at this continuing misery - thus, the renewed mass protests at the fence. Israeli politicians and media intentionally exaggerate the "threat" posed by Gaza protesters to Israel's security. They speak of "incendiary balloons" as if these were 500-pound bombs dropped by fighter jets. They are terrified by the prospect of Gaza youth "breaching the border," with reference to fences that Israel has arbitrarily established around Gaza without respecting any ceasefire demarcations as recognized by the UN.

This fear-mongering is now back with a vengeance, with the killing of the Israeli sniper offering Israeli

politicians the opportunity to present themselves as defenders of the army and champions of Israeli "security." A political witch hunt quickly followed regarding those who are supposedly "cuffing the hands of our troops." This same assertion was made by Naftali Bennett in 2019 before he became the country's prime minister. "The high court is cuffing the hands of Israel Defense Force troops," Bennett said, vowing to "free the IDF from the high court." A year earlier, Bennett offered more details on how he intends to end Palestinian protests at the Gaza barrier. Responding to a question during an Israeli Army Radio interview on what he would do if he were the country's defense minister, he replied: "I would not allow terrorists to cross the border from Gaza every day, and if they do, we should shoot to kill. Terrorists from Gaza should not enter Israel. Just as in Lebanon, Syria or anywhere else, we should shoot to kill.

The emphasis on "killing" in response to any form of Palestinian protests seems to be the common denominator between Israeli officials, military leaders and even ordinary soldiers. The latter, who are purportedly behind the social media campaign, appear to be enjoying their time at the Gaza perimeter. Israeli snipers, according to their own testimonies, keep track of the number of Palestinians they shoot, try to break each other's records, and cheer on video when they document a "clean shot" of a Palestinian protester, demonstrating the horrific violence meted out against Palestinian youth. Israeli snipers at the Gaza border wall work in pairs. A third person, known as the "locator," helps the snipers locate their next target. Eden, an Israeli sniper who gave testimony to the Israeli newspaper Haaretz, in March 2020, revealed his pride at the grisly milestone that he and his team achieved. "On that day, our pair had the largest number of hits, 42 in all," he said. "My locator wasn't supposed to shoot, but I gave him a break, because we were getting close to the end of our stint, and he didn't have knees. In the end you want to leave

with the feeling that you did something, that you

weren't a sniper during exercises only. So, after I had a few hits, I suggested to him that we switch.

He got around 28 knees there, I'd say." Such testimonies are further validated by video footage of Israeli snipers celebrating after shooting Palestinian youth at the perimeter. In April 2018, a video of cheering soldiers, along with dialogue that indicates that some Israelis have no regard for Palestinian lives whatsoever, was leaked to international media. Even CNN reported on it.

This violent phenomenon is not confined to Gaza. The debate on Israel's "shoot-to-kill" policy in the occupied Palestinian territories has been raging for years. In 2017, Human Rights Watch linked the increased number of Palestinians killed at the hands of trigger-happy soldiers to the violent discourse emanating from the Israeli government itself.

HRW "has documented numerous statements since October 2015, by senior Israeli politicians, including the police minister and defense minister, calling on police and soldiers to shoot to kill suspected attackers, irrespective of whether lethal force is actually strictly necessary to protect life," the report read.

This issue was highlighted by the execution of an incapacitated Palestinian, Abdel Fattah Al-Sharif, in the occupied city of Al-Khalil, Hebron, in March 2016, and by the killing of Ahmad Erekat at a military checkpoint in the West Bank in July 2020. Not only did Erekat pose no immediate threat to the lives of the occupation soldiers, but according to a statement by 83 Palestinian and international NGOs, he "was left to bleed to death for an hour and a half while the Israeli occupying forces denied him access to medical care."

Considering the disproportionate number of Palestinian casualties, it is difficult to understand what Israeli soldiers, army generals and politicians want when they speak of "untying their hands." Far more bewildering is the international community's apathy while Israelis debate how many more Palestinians ought to be killed.

ought to be killed.

– Courtesy: Arab News

World / Sports



Pakistan

conveys its reservations

to UK govt

From Page 01 Dominic Raab responded

that Pakistan's suggestions would duly be considered and responded back in next

week. Following the British

Foreign Secretary's assur-

ance the Prime Ministers

special assistant on health

Faisal Sultan talked to his

counterpart and discuss Pa-

kistan's coronavirus testing

Sources in the British em-

bassy in Islamabad told

Islamabad Post that the

COVID-19 data provided by

the Pakistan was not scien-

Briefs

Taliban unfurl 'not all-inclusive government

From Page 01 the group will "try to take people from other parts of the country". The Taliban, who swept to power last month, had been expected to announce a government since the US-led evacuation was completed at the end of August. They have promised an "inclusive" government that represents Afghanistan's complex ethnic makeup - though women are unlikely to be included at the top levels.

It was not clear what role in the government would be played by Mullah Haibatullah Akhundzada, the Taliban leader, who has not been seen or heard in public since the collapse of the Western-backed government and the takeover of Kabul by the Taliban in August. In response to questions about the Taliban's handling of protests, Zabihullah said that illegal demonstrations would not be allowed. He said protesters must observe the rules during the current emergency in the country.

He dismissed the claims by protesters about Pakistani interference in Afghanistan, saying they were rumors that had been circulated for two decades.

Pak among six states invited for...

From Page 01 Sources told Islamabad Post that it is been considered at the highest level that who will represent Islamabad. Most probably foreign minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi would represent Pakistan in the inaugural ceremony. PM Imran has also summoned a high level meeting on Wednesday to

Red list: several UK concerns...

discuss the evolving situa-

tion in Afghanistan.

From Page 01 In the 70's we had 780 cinemas which have been cut down to 78 so if we don't take immediate steps for the film and cinema industry's revival, it will collapse." The information minister said practical steps had been taken and a package for the film and cinema industry would

be announced next week. Briefing the media about other decisions taken during the cabinet meeting, he said the price of Remdesivir - a drug used to treat patients with COVID-19 - had been lowered from Rs5,680 to Rs3,967. Chaudhry said a detailed discussion was held on electoral reforms, with Adviser to the Prime Minister on Parliamentary Affairs Babar Awan, Federal Minister for Science and Technology Shibli Faraz, and Minister for IT and Telecom Syed Amin ul Haq giving detailed briefings to the cabinet in this regard. The information minister reiterated the claim that "no sitting government" had proposed electoral reforms, and PTI is the "first" to do so. "Nawaz Sharif's PML-N has never won an election without rigging, which is why they are not interested in changing the system."

If the system fails and becomes neutral then the Sharif family has "no future" in politics, he added. "[PML-N Vice-President | Maryam Nawaz and [PPP Chairman] Bilawal Bhutto Zardari can become the prime ministers in case Pakistan's fortunes take a turn for the worst or there is intense rigging there is no other way for them to become prime ministers," he said.

The information minister said no Opposition member has held talks with the government over electronic voting machines, nor have they reviewed the bills in this regard. "Sitting at their homes, they reject all electoral reforms saying 'we don't accept it'," he lamented, adding such an "inept" and "incompetent" Opposition had "never existed" in Pakistan.

The information minister said PML-N and PPP leaders' politics revolved around getting extensions in the hearings of their cases, so the court does not decide against them, as he continued to slam them for not paying heed to reforms and policymaking.

US praises Qatar's support in Afghan evacuations

Blinken and Austin's visit came after the Taliban on Monday claimed total control over Afghanistan, saying it won the key battle for the Panjshir Valley, the last remaining holdout against its rule

AGENCIES

DOHA: US Secretary of State Antony Blinken and Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin have met with Qatar's Emir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani and other top Qatari officials in Doha for talks on Afghanistan - shortly after the Taliban claimed to have taken full control of the country.

Blinken and Austin are the most senior US officials to visit the Gulf since the Taliban's lightning seizure of Afghanistan in August. Qatar, which hosts a major US airbase, has been the gateway for 58,000 people airlifted out of Afghanistan, nearly half the total number evacuated by US-led forces after the Taliban's takeover, Blinken said on Tuesday. In a meeting with Qatar's emir on Monday night, Blinken thanked the Gulf state ruler for "Qatar's extraordinary support in facilitating the safe transit of US citizens, our partners, and other Afghans at risk" during the US's chaotic military pullout from Afghanistan, according to a Department of State readout.

On Tuesday, Blinken and Austin met with Qatari Foreign Minister Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani and defence chief Khalid bin Mohamed Al Attiyah. Blinken said Washington would continue to work with Qatar and other regional partners to evacuate US citizens and vulnerable Afghans from Afghanistan. "Many countries



have stepped up to help the evacuation and relocation efforts in Afghanistan, but no country has done more than Qatar," Blinken said in a joint news conference with Austin and their Qatari counterparts on Tuesday. "The strongest relationship that we and Qatar have built through this evacuation and relocation effort I know is going to pay continued dividends across these so many other key areas in the months and years

ahead," Blinken said. "What Qatar has done here - for Americans, for Afghans, for citizens of many other countries - will be remembered for a long, long time," he added. Qatar's foreign minister, meanwhile, said Qatari teams were continuing to work towards re-opening Kabul international airport, which the Taliban took control of when US troops left on August 30.

"We have already dispatched our teams

there to provide technical assistance that is required to bring the airport and make it up and running again," he said. "We have fixed a lot of the elements over there and we are about to get everything operational very soon."

However, he added: "We didn't reach yet an agreement on how to manage or to run the airport. We are continuing the humanitarian support and we are chartering, almost on a daily basis, flights with humanitarian aid and also receiving supplies from different countries with humanitarian aid". The US officials were not due to meet any of the Taliban's Doha representatives, but State Department official Dean Thompson said Washington would continue to engage with the group "to ensure our messaging with them is clear". Blinken is set to depart Qatar on Wednesday for the US airbase in Ramstein, Germany. Austin is scheduled to travel to Saudi Arabia, Bahrain and Kuwait.

Qatar has been uniquely positioned as an interlocutor between various interest groups as the situation in Afghanistan deteriorated. The Gulf country hosts the Taliban's political office in Doha, which opened in 2013, and subsequently hosted talks between Washington and the group that concluded in 2020 with a troop withdrawal agreement. It was followed by direct negotiations between the Taliban and the Afghan government.

Qatar hands over

Kuwait the Arab

League presidency

His Excellency reiterated

Qatar's firm and supportive

stance for the Palestine

cause and the rights of the

brotherly Palestinian people

CAIRO: The Permanent Representative of Qatar to the Arab League Ambassador HE Salem Mubarak Al Shafi

handed over the presidency of the Arab League at the

delegate level to Permanent Representative of Kuwait to

the Arab League Ambassador HE Ahmad Abdul Rahman

Al Baker during the 156th session of the Arab League on

Tuesday, in preparation for the Arab League's meetings

at the level of foreign ministers scheduled for Thursday.

In a speech before handing over the presidency, Ambas-

sador Al Shafi said that Arab nations are going through

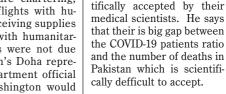
rapid developments, the effects of which are certainly

reflected on all its vital issues, foremost of which is the

Palestine cause, which still represents the first Arab issue

that cannot be circumvented or undermine its status and

His Excellency reiterated Qatar's firm and supportive



mechanism.

Separate rules for poor and...

From Page 01 the country was moving towards development in the sixties, but then things gradually started going downhill. Comparing Pakistan with other poor countries like India and Bangladesh, he said we were far behind and that these countries have taken the lead. The premier blamed the lack of rule of law for the state Pakistan is in today. "We have been left behind due to lack of rule of law," he said, highlighting that the powerful and influential segments of society always want to be above the law. PM Imran Khan said former military ruler General

(retired) Pervez Musharraf had no right to promulgate the National Reconciliation Ordinance (NRO) under which cases against many politicians, political workers and bureaucrats were withdrawn. "The biggest injustice Gen Musharraf did to the country was giving NRO," the premier said, adding that Musharraf didn't have a right to give NRO to the powerful because the looted money was not his but the nation's.

"Only a society that upholds the rule of law is prosperous," Prime Minister Imran Khan said. The weak want justice and the strong want to be above justice. PM Imran Khan said, assuring to extend every possible cooperation to the judiciary in dispensing speedy and inexpensive justice to the common man.

The PM noted that suprem-

acy of law is important to take forward to uplift the society. The provision of justice to the masses is our priority, he said. The premier said he was proud of being part of the 2007 lawyers' movement which was aimed at strengthening democracy and ensuring rule of law. He called it a "historic" struggle. The premier, however, regretted that the movement could not achieve its desired results.



SARGODHA: GOC-III Air Defense Maj. Gen. Asif Mahmood Goraya and Divisional Sports officer Tariq Nazir in a group photo with the winning team after a friendly hockey match between Maj. Shabir Sharif Shaheed hockey team and Maj. Aziz Bhatti Shaheed hockey team to mark the Defence Day of Pakistan played at hockey stadium. - DNA

Tributes pour in for Geelani at references held in Canada

Geelani was a towering personality who used his unwavering courage, resoluteness and steadfastness to wage a lifelong struggle for the cause of freedom and self-determination for the people of Kashmir, and inspired generations of freedom-loving Kashmiris, Pakistanis and the Muslims around the world in the process. This was the crux of thoughts and feelings

human rights activities at two back-to-back virtual con-OTTAWA: Syed Ali Shah dolence references arranged respectively by the Pakistan High Commission in Canada and the Salam Pakistan Canada to pay homage to the great Kashmiri leader who breathed his last on Wednesday.

In the first reference hosted by Consul General of Pakistan Toronto Mr Abdul Hameed, former AIK President Sardar Masood Khan led the tributes to late Syed Ali Geelani whom

he described as a towering personality who suffered persecution all his life but did not flinch back in the path of freedom. The most outstanding aspect of Geelani sahib's personality was the absolute and unqualified trust Kashmiris of all schools of thought reposed in him, he said.

Pakistan's High Commissioner-designate to Canada Mr Ameer KhurramRathore extolled virtues of integrity, character, and charisma as being the hallmark of Syed

Ali Geelani's personality. He also lauded late Geelani for his ability to mobilize millions of Kashmiris and a clear vision he always exhibited to see through the fog of confusion manufactured by various so-called initiatives for diverting Kashmiris from their real objective of self-determination. Former Pakistan ambassador MrKaramatullahGhori eulogized Sved Ali Geelani for dedicating all his life to the goal of freedom and self-determination.



Inam Butt aims back to hack medals for Pakistan



ROME: In a video message on Twitter, Inam thanked the Pakistan Sports Board (PSB), Foreign Office, and Pakistan embassies in Italy and Greece for helping him participate in the next stop of the World Beach Wrestling Series. "I would like to thank

PSB, Foreign Office, and both the Pakistani embassies in Italy and Greece for making it possible for me to participate in World Beach Wrestling Series in Greece," he said. "I will try my best to continue the winning streak and win vet another medal for my beloved country,' he added. "I need your prayers and wishes for my next challenge," the wrestler concluded. It must be noted here that Inam remained unbeaten in the Italy leg of the World Beach Wrestling Series and won Gold by beating Ukrainian counterpart Oleksii-Yakovchuk in the final of 90Kg category. – **DNA**

stance for the Palestine cause and the rights of the brotherly Palestinian people, foremost of which is their right to self-determination and the establishment of their independent state on the borders of June 4, 1967, with East Jerusalem as its capital, in accordance with the resolutions of international legitimacy and the Arab Peace Initiative and the foundations on which it was based, foremost of which is the two-state solution. - Agencies

symbolism among the Arab people.



ڈیجیٹائزیشنآفلینڈریکارڑز

وزيراعظم عمران خان كےوژن كى عملى تعبير

جیوگرافیکلانفارمیشنسسٹمکےذریعےوفاقیدارالحکومتکیمکملکیڈسٹرلمیپنگ



◄ اوورسيز پاکستانيوں کی املاک کا تحفظ/آن لائن معلومات تک رسائی ◄ شهری و ديهی علاقوں ميں حدود کا تعين/تمام خسره جات کی مکمل نشاندہی ◄ سيکٹرز، ہاؤسنگ سوسائيٹيز اور ديهي و کچي آباديوں کامکمل سروے ◄ اراضي ملکيت واملاک کےحوالے سے قانوني پيچيد گيوں اور سرخ فيتے سے نجات

◄ مساویوںکی بجائے اب آن لائن نشاند ہی ممکن ◄ درست قیمتوںکا تعین ◄ سروس ڈیلیوری سینٹر زکاقیام

Business / World



Briefs

Turkey confirms first cases of Mu variant

FOREIGN DESK

ANKARA: The Mu variant of COVID-19 has been detected in at least two people in Turkey, the country's health minister said on Tuesday.

First identified in Colombia this January, the Mu strain has been found in 39 countries so far and was recently classified as a "variant of interest" by the World Health Organization.

The variant accounted for less than 0.1% of infections worldwide, but its prevalence in Colombia and Ecuador has been rising and stood at 39% and 13%, respectively, by the end of August, according to the WHO. Speaking to journalists, Health Minister Fahrettin Koca said Turkey is monitoring the situation and no new measures are being considered at the moment.

He said the Delta and Delta plus strains currently account for over 90% of cases in Turkey, but the figure is expected to gradually decline as more people are vaccinated.

"It is essential that we continue to comply with mask, social distancing, and hygiene rules until herd immunity is achieved," he

EU-Uzbek round table on business takes place

News Desk

TASHKENT: The First Business Round Table "EU-Uzbekistan", organized by the Association of European Businesses (AEB), the European-Uzbek Association for Economic Cooperation ("EuroUz") and the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Trade of the Republic, was held in a hybrid format Uzbekistan.

The event became a platform for the exchange of views, ideas and proposals on finding new points of sustainable development and expanding investment and trade and economic cooperation between Uzbekistan and European countries.

The round table was attended by Deputy Prime Minister - Minister of Investments and Foreign Trade, Co-Chairman of the EU-Uzbekistan Business Council S. Umurzakov, Chairman of the Board of AEB Johan Vanderplaetse, Chairman of Mangold Consulting - Co-Chairman of the EU-Uzbekistan Business Council K. Mangold, Director for Russia. Eastern Partnership and Central Asia Countries of the European External Action Service L. Devin, as well as the management of the Direct Investment Fund under the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Trade, Schneider Electric (Germany), Siemens Energy (Germany), Beeline Uzbekistan, Pietro Fiorentini (Italy), SACE and other entrepreneurs.

Russia 'not ready' to recognize Bitcoin

WEB DESK

MOSCOW: Russia is not ready to recognize Bitcoin as an official payment means, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said on Tuesday.

Equating "quasi" (pseudo) currencies with traditional monetary resources cannot cause anything but harm to the financial and economic system. Peskov told reporters in Moscow.

"Russia is definitely not ready for such steps, and so far there is not the slightest reason to take such steps. Equating such quasi-currencies with monetary assets cannot cause anything but harm to the financial and economic system, if we are talking about the full recognition (of Bitcoin) as a means of payment," he said.

Bitcoin is the most famous digital or cryptocurrency invented in 2008 by an unknown person or group of people using the name "Satoshi Nakamoto."

National values, patriotism basis for Azerbaijani education

Aliyev underlined that the Youth and Sports Ministry has a great responsibility to keep this glorious history alive, to protect it, and educate the youth on the basis of the said principles

DNA

BAKU: President Ilham Aliyev has described national values and patriotic spirit as the basis for the education of the Azerbaijani vouth. Azertag has reported. He made the remarks in a video-format meeting with newly-appointed Youth and Sports Minister Farid Guliyev on September 7.

"Azerbaijani values, our national values are the main principle for us, and the young generation must be educated in this spirit, in the national spirit, in the spirit of patriotism," the head of state said. He stressed that the younger

generation must be free of all negative external influences, and there should be educational work to achieve this. "Young people must be educated,

knowledgeable and, at the same time, they should be attached to our national culture. They must understand our national values, keep them alive, and very serious work must be done in this direction. Because there are processes of globalization in the present-day world, and in some cases, foreign circles choose young people as a target. In oth-



er words, efforts are being made to deceive and mislead young people," he added.

Aliyev urged efforts to prevent this tendency. He added that the young generation should grow up as representatives of a victorious nation.

"The feelings of patriotism must come to the fore in this. Of course, our bright and historic victory in the Second Karabakh War must play a key role in educating young people. Every single day of the 44day war is dear to us. The memory of our martyrs who gave their lives for the homeland is dear and

sacred to us, and young people should be educated on the basis of these examples. Our young people will grow up as representatives of a victorious nation," he said.

Aliyev underlined that the Youth and Sports Ministry has a great responsibility to keep this glorious history alive, to protect it, and educate the youth on the basis of the said principles.

The president lauded the achievements of the national sportsmen in the latest major international sports events.

"Our athletes have made us happy at the world, European, and

other international competitions. Although we won fewer medals in the last Summer Olympics than in the Rio Olympics, I still think that our athletes showed good results. In terms of the number of medals, Azerbaijan ranks 33rd, 20th among European countries and fourth among Muslim countries. True, our athletes did not win a gold medal this time, but they came very close... Our Paralympians made us very happy and won many medals, including many gold medals, showing great skill, professionalism and dedication. Of course, this is a very important

event, and we are rightly proud of our Paralympians," Aliyev said. However, the president stressed that shortcomings in the sports sphere must be seriously investigated and analyzed.

"In particular, work in some federations was unsatisfactory in the run-up to the Olympic Games. So the situation in all federations needs to be seriously analyzed. Special attention should be paid to the training process and training camps," he added.

The head of state urged the serious examination of activities of about 50 sports and Olympic centers in regions as Azerbaijan created those centers to enhance the popularity of sports and to train professional athletes.

"Given that young athletes failed to win medals at the Tokyo Olympics, this needs to be scrutinized. The situation in sports clubs should be analyzed as well. In other words, we must draw the right conclusions. We can, of course, be proud of our victories, but there are also shortcomings that need to be addressed. Transparency in this area must be fully ensured and all unpleasant situations must be seriously dealt with," he said.

of Economic Development

and Poverty Reduction Jamshid Kuchkarov; and other

government and private sec-

tor partners to discuss ADB

The Government of Uzbek-

istan has made remarkable

progress in developing pub-

lic-private partnerships in

the past few years, particular-

ly given the huge challenges

presented by the COVID-19

pandemic," said Mr. Lavasa.

"ADB reaffirms its compre-

hensive and integrated sup-

port to Uzbekistan including

through policy advice, ca-

pacity building, transaction

operations in the country.

ADB reaffirms

support for

Uzbekistan

News Desk

TASHKENT: Asian Develop-

ment Bank (ADB) Vice-Pres-

ident for Private Sector Op-

erations and Public-Private

Partnerships Ashok Lavasa

met with senior government

officials and key stakeholders

in the past week in Tashkent,

reaffirming ADB's support

for Uzbekistan's reform agen-

da and efforts to strengthen

Mr. Lavasa met with Depu-

ty Prime Minister, Minister

of Investments and Foreign

Trade, and ADB Governor

Sardor Umurzakov: Deputy

the private sector.

International forum "Smart City" takes place

Foreign Desk

TASHKENT: An online forum "Cooperation and exchange of experience between leading cities and capitals of the SCO countries under the Smart City program" on the topic "Prospects for the application of digital economy programs and smart technologies in business "Smart city" took place.

The purpose of the forum, initiated by the Republic of Tajikistan, is to familiarize the participants with the possibilities of modern information technologies and their influence on the development of infrastructure in the capitals and big cities of the SCO countries. The forum was attended by members of the delegations of the SCO member states, representatives of state authorities, business circles and experts from Russia, China, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, India, Pakistan and Tajikistan, as well as observer countries and SCO dialogue partners. From the khokimiyat of Tashkent, employees of the Department of Digital Development took part in the forum. They presented to the participants the developed geoportal of the capital and the Situation Center, which is being prepared for launch.

During the discussion, the participants got acquainted with the achievements of digitalization of large cities of the SCO countries.

Azerbaijan to host Turkic **Business** Forum

DNA

BAKU: The 10th meeting of economy ministers of the Cooperation Council of Turkic Speaking States will be held in Baku on September 10, Azerbaijan's Economy Ministry has reported.

The meeting will discuss

opportunities for expanding

economic cooperation be-

tween the Turkic-speaking countries. On the sidelines of the meeting, the awarding of the 2nd Turkic Council Business Prize will take place. Moreover, a business forum

will be held dedicated to the role of Turkic business organizations in the restoration of Azerbaijan's liberated Karabakh region.

Furthermore, TurkicWorld reported that Turkic Council Secretary-General Baghdad Amreyev, Kazakh Trade and Integration Minister Bakhyt Sultanov, Kyrgyz Economy and Finance Minister Akylbek Zhaparov, Uzbek Investment and Foreign Trade Deputy Minister Badryddin Abidov, Hungarian Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade Minister Peter Sivarto and Turkish Trade Minister Mehmet Mush will

BAKU: Azerbaijan Minister of Foreign Affairs Jeyhun Bayramov received a delegation led by State Minister for Foreign Affairs of the State of Qatar Soltan bin Saad Al-Moraikhi. - DNA

Amb. Sajjad

meets director

BISR Belarus

DNA

MINSK: The Ambassador

Sajjad Haider Khan met with

the Director of the Belarusian

Institute for Strategic Re-

search (BISR), Oleg Makarov.

The meeting was also attend-

ed by Deputy Director, Vitaly

Stakhovsky, and Expert, Mr.

During the meeting, the

two sides discussed the

Yury Yarmolinsky.

possibilities of cooperation

between the leading think

tanks and research centers

of Pakistan with BISR. The

Ambassador confirmed his

readiness to contribute to

the establishment of strong-

er ties between the think

tanks of Belarus and Paki-

stan and the possibility of

his personal further partic-

ipation in round tables and

events organized by the ex-

perts of the Institute.

Prime Minister and Minister bankable PPP projects. Azeri defence chief inspects Pak-Azeri-Turk drills site

FOREIGN DESK

BAKU: Defence Minister Zakir Hasanov has inspected the venue for the upcoming Three Brothers 2021 international drills by Azerbaijani, Turkish and Pakistani servicemen, the Defence Ministry reported on September 6.

The drills will be conducted in Azerbaijan with the participation of the three countries' special force units. Along with Hasanov, other senior military officials

visited the area, where the military exercises will be conducted and familiarized themselves with the created conditions

The minister gave relevant instructions to organize and hold the exercises at a high level. These joint exercises aim to contribute to the creation of the necessary environment for the preparation of military personnel of friendly states and partner



countries for operations in peace and wartime, as well as the exchange of knowledge and experience. During the 44-day war with Armenia in 2020, Pakistan

was among the first countries voicing political support for Azerbaijan. Pakistan also supports Azerbaijan in the restoration of the country's liberated territories. In the winter of 2014, during the fifth meeting of the

working group on military cooperation between Azerbaijan and Pakistan in the city of Islamabad, the countries signed an agreement on mutual military cooper-

ation. Over the past decade, Pakistani military experts trained about a hundred Azerbaijani military units. Azerbaijan is holding talks with Pakistan to purchase JF-17 Thunder multirole fighter

aircraft. In October 2016 President Alivev and PM Sharif confirmed plans to carry out joint military exercises. Furthermore, the parliaments of Azerbaijan, Turkey and Pakistan have signed the Baku Declaration on cooperation. The document was signed following the trilateral meeting held by speakers of the three countries' parliaments on July



Iran closes border crossings with Iraq

AGENCIES

TEHRAN: For the second year in a row, Iranian pilgrims have been barred from traveling by road to neighboring Iraq for the annual Arbaeen pilgrimage. Officials in southwestern Khuzestan province have announced that no Iranian pilgrims would be allowed through Chazabeh and Shalamcheh border crossings into Iraq this year. Likewise, local authorities

in western Ilam province have also closed the busy Mehran border crossing point. Each year, millions of pilgrims converge in the Iraqi cities of Najaf and Karbala on Arbaeen, which marks the 40th day after Ashura, the day Prophet grandson Muhammad's was killed in 680 AD.

A large majority of these pilgrims travel from Iran, which shares multiple borders with Iraq. The coronavirus pandemic, however, has disrupted the annual religious event, which will start in two weeks. In 2019, some 14 million

pilgrims attended the event, according to official figures, which dropped significantly in 2020 after the Iraqi authorities allowed only 1,500 pilgrims per

Pak could not afford any instability in Afghanistan

Qasim Khan Suri is currently on an official visit to Vienna for participation in the 5th World Conference of Speakers of Parliament. The event is being attended by the Speakers and Parliamentarians of more than 100 countries

DNA

VIENNA: The Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly of Pakistan, Mr. Muhammad Qasim Khan Suri is currently on an official visit to Vienna for participation in the 5th World Conference of Speakers of Parliament. The event is being attended by the Speakers and Parliamentarians of more than 100 countries.

During the interactive general debate on agenda item titled "Achieving sustainable development requires more attention on human well-being and environmental preservation than on economic growth", the Deputy Speaker emphasized that sustainable development required comprehensive policy efforts in order to devise a common course towards environmentally sustainable and socially equitable growth without affecting human well-being.

He underlined the environment friendly policies of Pakistan which are bringing positive impact on the environment of not only Pakistan but the region as a whole. He also

highlighted the "Green Economic Stimulus Initiative" of Pakistan as part of its efforts to resiliently recover from the adverse economic impact of the pandemic. He said that under the green Pakistan pro-

gramme, focus of his government was not

only on planting 10 billion trees but also on renewable energy resources. Electric vehicles were also introduced to prevent environmental degradation.

While talking about efforts of the government to uplift the poor and deprived



segments of the society, Qasim Khan Suri said that his Government disbursed Rs.203 Billion (USD1.23bn) to 15 million families through its "Ehsaas Emergency Cash Program".

He urged the global community to adjust the focus of the next phase of SDGs' implementation in a post pandemic era by transforming the world economy into one that was development-oriented and environmentally sustainable.

Taking this opportunity, he also expressed solidarity with the people of Afghanistan and said that peace and stability in Afghanistan were vital for Pakistan and the region. Pakistan has extended its fullest cooperation and worked with international community for evacuation efforts from Afghanistan. He emphasised on an inclusive government in Kabul representing all segments of Afghanistan and respect for fundamental human rights including women rights.

He stated that Pakistan could not afford any further instability in Afghanistan leading to more refugees' influx and other serious security challenges.



Islamahar Post



Tribute paid

to Rashid Minhas on

Air Force Day

DNA

ISLAMABAD: A tribute has

heed in connection with the

According to details, Air

Vice Marshal Zaeem Afzal

and Air Chief Marshal Za-

Air Force Day Tuesday.

been paid to

lot Officer

Rashid

Minhas Sha-

hero,

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 08, 2021 | WWW.ISLAMABADPOST.COM.PK

Briefs

Moeed warns of Indian destabilizing policies

AGENCIES

ISLAMABAD: National Security Adviser (NSA) Moeed Yusuf on Tuesday said the world would

pay a heavy price if it continued to ignore India's destabilizing policies, where its consequences were to go well beyond the region. The National Security Adviser took to the social networking site of Twitter to slam the so-called Indian media orchestrating false news and disinformation against Pakistan. nectivity. Dr Moeed on his official handle wrote, "It is not a

lies vet again. The NSA shared two screenshots in his tweet comprising of UK Defence Journal and BBC news debunking the Indian news channel Times Now that broadcast a Wales based video clip of a US F-15 aircraft as a full fledged Pakistani invasion of Afghanistan.

surprise that Modi's fascist

regime's fake news industry

has been caught peddling

The fake news industry, he said, set up and patronized by Govt of India, was one critical reason for the world being duped into blaming Pakistan rather than looking at internal failures in Afghanistan and India's role in perpetrating terrorism in Pakistan

Taliban fires shots to disperse protests

Foreign Desk

KABUL: The Taliban on Tuesday fired shots into the air to disperse hundreds of people who had gathered several rallies in K the latest signs of defiance by Afghans against the hardline movement which swept to power last month.

Afghanistan's new rulers have yet to form a government, but many in the capital are fearful of a repeat of the Taliban's previous brutal and repressive reign between 1996 and 2001.

At least three rallies were held across Kabul in a show of resistance that would have been unthinkable during the Taliban's last stint in power - when people were publicly executed and thieves had their hands chopped off.

Videos posted on social media of a separate rally showed more than a hundred people marching through the streets under the watchful eye of armed Taliban members.

Australian PM defends trip during lockdown

WEB DESK

CANBERRA: Australia's Prime Minister Scott Morrison hit back at criticism over his decision travel to Sydney on Father's Day during COV-ID lockdown.

In an interview aired Tuesday, Morrison said there was a lot of "misinformation" doing the rounds and that there was no exemption required for him to travel to Sydney. "I can understand people's frustration, but I do think there has been a lot of misinformation about this,' Morrison said.

"I live in Sydney. I often have to be here [in Canberra] for work, there was no requirement to get an exemption to go to Sydney," he added.

"The exemption I require is to come back here to the ACT (Australian Capital Territory) and, as prime minister, of course I need to come back to the ACT."

Opposition leader Bill Short en had said Morrison's decision to travel showed "appall-

ing judgement." The prime minister responded by saying: "Well it's a bit of a cheap shot to be honest. I mean Bill knows full well what these rules are... in fact he took advantage of them. He went home and spent the last three weeks there rather than being in Parliament."

CPEC makes progress in areas including energy

The Chinese FO spokesperson said that China was ready to work with different countries including Pakistan to build high quality Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) to deliver more benefits and share more dividends

WEB DESK

BEIJING: A Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson said on Tuesday that the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) an important priority project in the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) had strongly promoted economic and social development in Pakistan and also played an active role in regional con-

"The CPEC is an important priority project in Since inception, it made progress in many areas including energy," Wang Wenbin said during his regular briefing held while commenting

over commercial operation of 660kV High-Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) Matiari-Lahore Power Transmission Line Project. He emphasised that the

BRI started from China but its opportunities and outcomes benefited the whole world. "So far, there are 140 part-

ner countries that have signed cooperative documents and BRI has already become the largest international cooperation platform benefitting largest scale in the world," he added.

The spokesperson said that China was ready to work with different countries including Pakistan to build high quality BRI to deliver more benefits and share



It may be mentioned here that the flagship HVDC line project achieved its commercial operation date (COD) successfully last week.

The 878-Kilometre 4,000 MW project has been completed by PMLTC (Pvt) Limited on Built-Own-Operate-Transfer basis for 25 vears.

The project will evacuate power from the new generating units located in the south, including Thar coal projects.

The HVDC technology is a maiden addition to the national grid though it has been widely used for long time around the world. It fulfils the need for long-dis-

SHAHEEN HANIF

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minis-

tance high-power transmission from generating stations in far-flung areas to the densely located load centres.

Taliban had on Saturday described China as their "most important partner", saying Kabul looked to Beijing to rebuild the country and exploit its rich copper deposits as the war-ravaged country faced widespread hunger and economic collapse. Taliban spokesperson Zabihullah Mujahid had said the

group supported China's One Belt, One Road initiative that sought to link China with Africa, Asia and Europe through an enormous network of ports, railways, roads and industrial parks.

forward to cooperation and

joint ventures in the field of

The ambassador opined that

Science and Technology."

heer Ahmad Babar laid floral wreath at the grave of Rashid Minhas. The martyred pilot's brother Anjum Minhas was also present on the occasion. Rashid, who was born on February 17 1951, remains the youngest officer to receive the Nishan-e-Haider

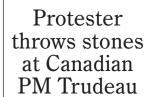
award and was the first recipient of the highest honour of gallantry for the Pakistan Air Force (PAF). He got his early education from Karachi and upon reaching the tender age of 17, he joined Pakistan Air Force Academy in Risalpur as a Flying Cadet. In 1971, Rashid graduated from the

academy as a general duty

pilot and was posted to PAF

base Masroor in Karachi's

Mauripur area to hone his skills as a fighter pilot. On August 20, 1971, as a pilot still under training, Rashid was taxing out a T-33 Jet trainer for take-off, when a Bengali pilot instructor, Flight Lieutenant Matiur Rahman, forced his way into the rear cockpit. In mid-air Rahman knocked Minhas out, seized control of the aircraft and headed towards India.



News Desk



tions this month, has repeatedly faced off against angry protesters on the campaign trail. And now, one has even thrown stones at him.

The incident happened on Monday as the Liberal Party leader was leaving an event at a microbrewery in London, a city southwest of Toronto in Ontario province. Someone in the crowd threw what appeared to be a handful of gravel at the prime minister, TV images showed. Trudeau, members of his security detail and journalists were reportedly struck. No one was injured. The incident drew condemnation from Trudeau's main rival, Conservative leader Erin O'Toole, and New Democratic Party leader Jagmeet Singh.

ter for Science and Technol-Norway was keen to reestabogy, Senator Shibli Faraz and lish cooperation in the field of Norwegian Ambassador to Science and Technology. The Pakistan, Kjell-Gunnar Erikambassador said that there sen in a meeting held here had been more than 50 years Tuesday discussed avenues of Bilateral Development Cofor strengthening bilateral operation between Pakistan linkages between the two and Norway. countries in the field of Sci-"We look forward to proposence and Technology. als and sustainable develop-The minister called upon ment programs benefiting people of Pakistan". Moreoby Norwegian Ambassador, Kjell-Gunnar Eriksen. Speakver, the minister highlighted ing on the occasion, Shibli that the government was in-Faraz said "Pakistan and Norterested in doing sustainable way have a history of friendprojects to benefit people for ly relations. Thus, we look a long duration.

Pak-Norway

to strengthen bilateral linkages

Industries and Production Makhdum Khusro Bakhtyar. - DNA Malaysian envoy holds talks with PIA Chief

Malaysia to open for domestic tourists from September 16

STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: The Chargé d'Affaires of Malaysia, Mr Deddy Faisal Ahmad Salleh met with CEO of PIA Air Marshal Arshad Malik. They discussed various topics of mutual interest related to the aviation industry and ways to further strengthen the trade cooperation between Malaysia & Pakistan businessmen. Apart from that the Chargé

d'Affaires also praised the opening of tourism in Malay sia. The Malaysian government has decided to reopen its tourism sector to fully vaccinated domestic travelers via the travel bubble programme, starting with Langkawi for local domestic tourists from September 16. This pilot project, if successful, will lead to reopening of the tourism sector to fully vaccinated foreigners in the future



Will move SC if NAB chairman's term extended

He said it was hard to understand as to what had led to the govt's interest in seeking extension in the tenure of NAB Chairman

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Tajikistan Ismatullo Naserdin called on Federal Minister for

ISLAMARAD: Former Prime Minister and senior Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) leader Shahid Khagan Abbasi said on Tuesday that he had been at a loss to understand for the last three years as to what was the exact nature of the case framed against him by the National Accountability Bureau (NAB).

Talking to the media outside an accountability court (AC) in Islamabad, he said it was hard to understand as to what had led to the government's interest in seeking extension in the tenure of NAB Chairman Justice (r) Javed Iqbal.

There is no provision in the law under which his term could be extended," he stated categorically, and warned

that if extension was granted to the present chairman, he would move the Supreme Court of Pakistan against it. He said only recently the NAB chairman had been offended by a statement made by PML-N leader Ahsan Iqbal. "And now I am afraid that the NAB might file new cases against him and other PML-N leaders merely because of some of their 'annoying' statements," he said. He was of the view that after paralyzing commercial activities in the country, the so called anti-corruption watchdog was now bent upon denting Pakistan's relations with other countries.

Abbasi claimed that the last PML-N government had signed an agreement with Qatar for the import of cheapest Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG), which had so far helped Pakistan



earn \$20 billion. "Now the Pakistan Tehreeki-Insaf (PTI) government is importing the gas at rates double than those had agreed between the two countries under the deal," he said, and asked, "Now who has minted money in this entire transaction?" Former prime minister

said he was aware that the NAB would not launch an inquiry against the government for purchasing the

The PML-N leader said when he looked at the CV of incumbent NAB chairman, he found out that he had been the Supreme Court (SC) judge. But ironically, he does not

LNG at double rates.

have least understanding of the law," he taunted.

He challenged the government to show hearing of the cases filed against him and other opposition leaders live on television. 'This will sift truth from falsehood," he claimed. He went on to add that the SC decisions were enough to prove what the NAB was up to. "The purpose of its formation was political engineering by changing loyalties of the politicians," he alleged, adding this interference in politics by the Bureau had

Registration of e-vehicles begins in Sindh

DNA

KARACHI: Sindh Excise Minister Mukesh Kumar Tuesday announced that the registration of electric vehicles and motorcycles has started. The decision has been tak-

en keeping in view the increasing demand from people buying electric vehicles and motorcycles, as these customers have been facing difficulties due to the delay in the registration process. Electric Vehicles (EVs) have already attracted the interest of large populations worldwide, and the Pakistani public is also excited about the prospect. Earlier in December, the government had approved the country's first five-year Electric Vehicle (EV) policy for cars to facilitate the auto industry in meeting the international standards of production and supply of electric vehicles. In July, Prime Minister Imran Khan launched Pakistan's first-ever environmentally-friendly electric

motorbike (E-bike). PM Imran Khan had said e-vehicles were important for Pakistan as they would help reduce environmental pollution.

70th Anniversary: German Frigate visits Karachi

Ambassador Bernhard Schlagheck says "The visit of the Bayern is not only a visible sign of the increased importance of the Indo-Pacific for Germany but it also clearly reflects the multifaceted German-Pakistan relations

STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: On the occasion of the 70th anniversary of German-Pakistani bilateral relations, the frigate Bayern will visit Karachi from Sept. 8th to Sept. 12th. The partnership visit takes place within the framework of the German Navy's Indo-Pacific Deployment 2021.

During its six-months mission the frigate is scheduled to call at several ports - Karachi being the first one in the region. Ambassador Bernhard

Schlagheck: "The visit of the Bayern - roughly one month after the PNS Zulfiqar berthed in the port of Hamburg - is not only a visible sign of the increased importance of the Indo-Pacific for Germany but it also clearly reflects the multifaceted German-Pakistan relations. It is truly a special event to kick off our celebrations for the 70th anniversary.'

After the arrival in Karachi on Sept. 8th, the ship's commanding



officer, Commander Tilo Kalski, and Consul General Holger Ziegeler will lay a wreath in Mazare-Quaid, paying respect to the founder of Pakistan, Muhammad Ali Tinnah. On Sept. 10th, the Chief Minister

of Sindh, Syed Murad Ali Shah, will receive the captain and a delegation from the Bayern for a formal greeting ceremony. After weeks at sea, the crew is also looking forward to discovering the picturesque city life and famous hospitality of its first port of call in Asia. On August 2nd, the frigate Bay-

ern left the German port of Wilhelmshaven for Asia. The ship with its crew of over 200 sailors will join in maritime monitoring of the UN sanctions against North Korea, dock at ports in partner countries and take part

in multilateral activities. Foreign Minister Heiko Maas commented on the frigate's departure: "The Indo-Pacific is where the international order of the future will be decided.

We want to help shape it and to

take on responsibility for upholding the rules based international order. Its mission is to support us in upholding international law and improving security in the Indo-Pacific together with our partners.