**ISLAMABAD EDITION** Soon From LAHORE & KARACHI A sister publication of **CENTRELINE & DNA News** Agency www.islamabadpost.com.pk Samanar Thursday, September 09, 2021 Pakistan's First And Only Diplomatic Daily Price Rs. 20 **Azeri-Turkish PIA's services** Looking forward to joint drills serve boost multi-domain during Afghan relations with the EU crisis lauded regional stability **Detailed News On Page-07 Detailed News On Page-01 Detailed News On Page-08** 

### Briefs **PM plans to** attend Expo **2020 Dubai**

ZUBAIR AHMAD



being held from 1 October 2021 to 31 March 2022, on October 9. It is pertinent that Expo is a platform that will serve as a stimulus to accelerate economic activities affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. PM Khan will address the Expo on October 9 and will also hold key meetings with foreign investors and Pakistani community on the sidelines of the event.

#### Pak must accept will of Afghans

#### KHAYAM ABBASI



kistan must accept the will of the Afghan people and refrain from imposing its decision on Afghanistan. She made this statement in response to a query from a journalist ask-

# Pak against arms race in the region

NCA expresses confidence in the command and control systems as well as security measures to ensure security

#### SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

ISLAMABAD: The National Command Authority (NCA) on Wednesday asserted that Pakistan would take all measures to ensure the strategic stability in the region without entering into an arms race. Prime Minister Imran Khan chaired 25th meeting of the NCA held here at the Headquarters of Strategic Plans Division. All members of the NCA including Federal Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Defence, Finance and Interior; Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee; Chiefs of Army, Navy and Air Force; and Director General Inter Services In-

telligence (ISI) attended the meeting. According to a press release issued here by the PM Media Wing, NCA expressed full confidence in the command and control systems as well as security measures in place to ensure comprehensive security of strategic assets of Pakistan. The NCA re-affirmed that Pakistan as a responsible nuclear state would continue to contribute meaningfully towards the global efforts to improve nuclear security and nuclear non-proliferation measures.

Continued on Page 06

**UAE lauds** Pakistan's role on Afghan issue

#### **STAFF REPORT**

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Information and Broadcasting Chaudhry Fawad Hussain has said UAE is the biggest trading partner of Islamabad and Pakistani pavilion at the upcoming Dubai Expo will be unique and one of its

kind. Talking to United Arab Emirates Ambassador Hamad Obaid Ibrahim Al-Zaabi in Islamabad on Wednesday, he said the ministries of commerce and information are making strenuous efforts for the mega event. Chaudhry Fawad Hussain said UAE is home to 1.6 million Pakistanis,

**Continued on Page 06** 





ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Imran Khan chairing 25th meeting of the NCA held here at the Headquarters of Strategic Plans Division. - DNA

### Pakistan warns against Afghan humanitarian crisis

The participants welcomed Pakistan's initiative to organize the meeting and concurred on the importance of the mechanism of Afghanistan's neighbouring countries

#### STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: Foreign Minister Makhdoom Shah Mahmood Qureshi chaired the Ministerial meeting on the Afghan issue among the neighboring countries of Afghanistan, held virtually on Wednesday. The meeting was attended by China, Iran, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

During the meeting, views ere exchanged on the evolv



**ISLAMABAD:** FM Shah Mahmood Qureshi addressing the virtual meeting of foreign ministers of the neighbouring countries. - DNA shared approach would help Afghanistan on its path to peace and stability and would result in enhanced economic integration and realization connectivity projects. of

#### Aid for Afghanistan dispatched

DNA

ISLAMABAD: The Govern ment of Pakistan has decided to dispatch humanitarian assistance comprising food and medicines for the people of Afghanistan. Three -130s are being dispatched

ing whether Pakistan should recognise the new Taliban government in Afghanistan. Talking to media in Islamabad, Maryam suggested that Pakistan collaborate with the international community for rehabilitating people and rebuilding infrastructure in the war-torn country. The PML-N leader said Afghanistan was a sovereign country and insisted that Pakistan must not interfere in the internal matters of the neighbouring country.

#### Minister dies trying to save man

#### AGENCIES



ty detail died in the Arctic on Wednesday while trying to save the life of a film director who fell into a river. his ministry said. Yevgeny Zinichev, 55, a close Putin ally who had headed the high-profile emergencies ministry since 2018, was in the remote city of Norilsk to oversee large-scale training exercises in the region.

Army Chief's remarks came during a meeting with EU envoy Androulla Kaminara



**RAWALPINDI:** Androulla Kaminara, Ambassador of European Union (EU) called on General Qamar Javed Bajwa, Chief of Army Staff (COAS). - DNA

#### **MAHNOOR ANSAR**

#### RAWALPINDI: Chief of the Army Staff (COAS) General Qamar Javed Bajwa on Wednesday said Pakistan valued its relations with European Union (EU) countries and was earnestly

looking forward to enhancing mutually beneficial multi-domain relations based on common interests. The remarks by the army

chief came during a meeting with EU Ambassador Androulla Kaminara who called upon the COAS, according to the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR). The military's media wing stated that during the meeting, matters of mutual interest, the regional security situation including the current situation of Afghanistan and enhanced bilateral cooperation with the EU were discussed

appears to be a stopgap ar-

rangement according to Taliban

spokesperson Zabihullah Muja-

hid, has to face a number of chal-

lenges. The first and foremost

task shall be how to form an all

inclusive government. After the

Panjshir episode, the top Taliban

The visiting dignitary appreciated Pakistan's role in Afghanistan, including the successful evacuation operations, efforts for regional stability and pledged to play their role for further improvements in diplomatic cooperation with Pakistan at all levels, the ISPR added. In August General Bajwa said Pakistan desired to maintain a long-term and enduring relationship with the United States

for a regional approach. Sharing Pakistan's perspective, Foreign Minister Qureshi emphasized the importance of proceeding with a realistic approach in view of the changed reality in Afghan-

ing situation in Afghanistan

#### World reacts as Taliban announces new govt

#### **News Desk**

KABUL: The Taliban has announced an all-male caretaker government drawn exclusively from its inner echelons, including a man under United Nations sanctions as prime minister and another on a United "terrorism" States list as interior minister. The names announced for the new government on Tuesday, three weeks after the Taliban swept to military victory as US-led foreign

Continued on Page 06

istan. He added that the well-being of the Afghan people must remain the focus, as they had suffered enormously due to prolonged conflict and instability for more than forty years. The Foreign

Minister underlined that a

to Afghanistan. After the first immediate tranche through air. further supplies would continue through land routes. The Governof Pakistan would ment

**Continued on Page 06** 

### 'Pakistan highly values relations with Poland' Polish Foreign Minister had a telephone conversation with Shah Mehmood Qureshi

Continued on Page 06

#### STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: Foreign Minister Makhdoom Shah Mehmood Qureshi has said that Pakistan attaches special importance to bilateral relations with Poland. According to details, Polish Foreign Minister Zignorau had a telephone conversation with Foreign Minister Makhdoom Shah Mehmood Qureshi in which bilateral relations between the two Foreign Ministers and the emerging situation in Afghanistan were discussed. Besides exchange of views on the unfolding situation in Afghanistan, the two foreign ministers also discussed bilateral relations, a press release issued here by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said.





ish foreign minister of Pakistan's perspective on Afghanistan, stressing the need for peace, stability and security as well as economic well-being of the Afghan people. He underlined the importance of engaging with Afghanistan and positive messaging on part of

**Continued on Page 06** 

# **Challenges ahead for the new Afghan govt**

#### Inside.

Pakistan Navy conducts naval drills with US, German Navy – Page 02

Digital Monitoring of Ehsaas Panagahs on the anvil: Sania – Page 03

Experts urge global co-op on climate change – Page 04

Palestine: An open-air museum of colonialism - Page 05

Shahram maiden Pakistani in US 9-Ball Pool C'ship – Page 06

Azerbaijan seeks Qatar's part in Karabakh rehabilitation - Page 07

Speakers support initiation of EU-Pak **Business Forum** - Page 08

**OPINION** ANSAR M BHATTI

THE Taliban has finally unveiled nuch-awaited government, which has taken many First.

is not the one which was expected. Mullah Baradar was widely seen as the likely head of the government but instead Mullah es among various Taliban ranks Hasan has been picked up for the and after the announcement of job albeit for an interim period. the interim govt it appears the Mullah Hasan was heading the differences are still there. Talipowerful Taliban shura that used ban has not pronounced Mullah to make all key decisions. Then, Hibatullah as the supreme leader there is nobody in the governbecause according to the previment from the opposition side, ous reports some of the Taliban which means the idea of an inleaders do not seem eye to eye clusive government appears to with this preposition. The nascent Afghan govt, which

have been shelved by the Taliban leadership, although it says the plan of an inclusive govt was very much on the table. Similarly, no woman has been taken on board. This is one of the

reasons that the initial response from the USA towards formation of the govt turned out to

be hostile. As one of the Taliban leaders opined, the US response would have been hostile even if there were an all-inclusive set up. In that case the US would have come up with some other excuse. But practically the US stance on the issue does matter and Taliban need to have working relations with the leading power when it comes to recognition of the Afghan govt by the international community. This newspaper has published a story regarding internal differenc-

> leadership is reluctant to take on board anybody from the Northern Alliance. But their friends both from within and without Afghanistan are said to have advised them accommodate the opposition parties as well, even if vou don't like the idea.

The economic challenges seem to be even of a bigger magnitude. For the moment Taliban does not have even a single penny to run the day to day affairs. The government servants including the police and military whatsoever have not been paid for last many months. Therefore the daunting task in front of the incumbent government shall be as

"The economic challenges seem to be even of a bigger magnitude. For the moment Taliban does not have even a single penny to run the day to day affairs. The government servants including the police and military whatsoever have not been paid for last many months

> to how and from where to generate funds. Cash aid from friendly countries such as China, Turkey, Qatar and to some extent Pakistan appears to be a quick fix solution. This kind of aid ostensibly will have a price also but in the given circumstances that may be the only available way out until and unless Taliban comes out with something magical.

Then, creation of a military as well as police force shall also be a hard nut to crack because both these institutions have literally gone bankrupt. Majority of police and military personnel have either left the job or went into hibernation fearing a possi-

ble crackdown from the Taliban leadership. The allied forces trained and rather indoctrinated the security people against Taliban, and this is also a fact that these security people did their best to eliminate Taliban. In this backdrop, both can find it difficult to co-exist.

ISI chief Lt. Gen Faiz Hameed's Kabul visit drew huge world attention, especially from the Indians. As a matter of fact he was not the only head of spy agency rather heads of Turkish and Qatari spy agencies were also present in Kabul that day. Pakistan was approached by some countries including the UK to help evacuate people via Torkham border. Pakistan could do this only with the approval of the Taliban leadership. Apart from that, there is no denying the fact that in the coming days Pakistan, Qatar, Turkey and China will have a key role in Afghanistan. Taliban may have some reservations about Pakistan govt recent steps to fence the border, however they have to reconcile with this reality for the ultimate good of regional peace and stability.

of the Taliban govt, Pakistan has rightly observed that it would be too early to discuss this possibility. Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi while speaking during a conference of six neighboring countries stressed for an Afghan led and Afghan owned solution besides calling upon the international community to help Afghans at this critical juncture. He also suggested a regular consultative process among the neighbouring countries as all these countries have a direct stake in Afghanistan.

It chiefly depends on Taliban as to how do they conduct themselves in the coming days. They have reiterated more than once that they would try to live up to the expectations in terms of formation of an inclusive government and ensuring that the Afghan soil is not used against any other country. Taliban need to be given adequate time to prove their commitments because realistically speaking Taliban has to start from a scratch therefore in some cases the govt may take more time than expected, to fulfill its vows made to the international community.

On the question of recognition

by surprise for a variety of reasons. the announced head of the government

# $\mathbf{02}$

# NATIONAL

Islamabad **POST** Thursday, September 09, 2021

### **DC reviews** development schemes' pace of work

# Briefs Pakistan Navy conducts naval

#### BUREAU REPORT

FAISALABAD: As many as 942 development schemes were being completed in the district. This was informed in a meeting held here at DC complex with Deputy Commissioner Ali Shahzad in the chair.

The meeting was informed that Rs. 14.56 billion had been utilized, out of Rs. 18.97 billion released so far for these development schemes. It was further informed that 77 percent development work of 462 schemes under Provincial Development Program, 312 under Sustainable Development Goals Program Phase III, 154 under Community Development Program Phase III, 5 under RAPII and 9 under Sugar Cess had been completed.

US Navy ship.

relations.

Pakistan Navy has always

ABID RAZA

LAHORE: Punjab Chief

Minister Usman Buzdar

announced to set up three

new Trauma Centers and

**Emergency Block projects** 

in Lahore. He also sought

a master plan for accom-

modation of doctors, nurs-

es and paramedical staff in

Services Hospital.

The meeting considered

the provision of 'Sehat

Insaf Card' to the entire

Reviewing the pace of work on the development schemes, the DC directed the concerned departments to utilize available funds expeditiously. He said that no compromise would be made on transparency and if there was any quality complaint in any project, the concerned department would be held accountable. Additional Deputy Commissioner Finance Afifa Shajia, Deputy Director Development Rana Tahir, FDA, WASA, PHA, Local Government, Public Health Engineering, Road Construction, Highways, Of ficers from Irrigation, Buildings, Metropolitan Corporation, Fesco, Sui Gas, Sports, FIC, GCU and other depart ments were also present.

#### DC reviews ongoing tree plantation drive

SIALKOT: Deputy Commissioner Tahir Farooq on Wednesday visited Khawaja Safdar Road, Railway Road and Hajipura Road and reviewed the ongoing drive for plantation of trees under the Clean Green Programme and upgrade the garbage lift system in the

### drills with US, German Navy The exercises were aimed to enhance interoperability, mutual learning and experience sharing among participating navies DNA



remained committed in Region and beyond. Trilatmaintaining peace and se-

eral and bilateral exercises were a testimony of PN

peace and maintain close resolve in maintain good naval ties with other navies. order at sea for regional

#### Govt's flagship housing Punjab CM to set up 3 Trauma scheme gains momentum centers in Lahore

Banks approved housing finance of over Rs 59b this year, out of applications of Rs 154b received since the launch of scheme

#### NAZIR SIYAL

KARACHI: The government's flagship markup subsidy scheme Mera Pakistan Mera Ghar (MPMG) has picked up momentum as the banks approved housing finance of over Rs. 59 billion up till August 31 this year, out of applications of Rs. 154 billion received since the launch of scheme.

issued by State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) on Wednesday, by August 31, 2021, disbursement under the scheme has reached Rs.

11.5 billion, showing an increase of around Rs. 3.8 billion or 49% in August 2021. On average, to date banks have approved 38 percent of amount applied and 19 percent of approved amount has been disbursed.

months as banks have put in place the needed upfront investment in procedures and technology to process applications for low-cost housing.

Under the scheme the banks disbursed amounts in different stages of construction or purchase. Thus the pace of disbursement is contingent upon the speed of construction and completion of purchasing process. Since the announcement of MPMG scheme last year, SBP has taken various enabling steps such as introducing standardized and simple application form; adopting informal income assessment model; providing relaxations in prudential regulations; establishing help desks at all SBP field offices; and, designing a complaint portal supported by a network of focal per-

geographical areas. On the instructions of SBP, banks are accepting MPMG applications from over 8,000 dedicated branches across the country. Further, SBP has also allo-

cated targets to each bank under MPMG. An e-tracking system within each bank and a dedicated joint call center for facilitation of the applicants has also been established. Naya Pakistan Housing Development Authority (NAPHDA) and Pakistan Banks' Association (PBA), a representative body of banks, are fully sup-

#### PTI govt upgrades 1533 schools in three years

#### DNA

LAHORE: Punjab Chief Minister (CM) Usman Buzdar says the Pakistan Tehreeke-Insaf (PTI) government upgraded 1533 schools in three years whereas the previous government upgraded only 1330 schools in five years.

In his message on International Literacy Day, CM Buzdar said that the literacy ignites human consciousness and it is only through knowledge that nations rise to glory. He said that the provision of education was the basic right of every child and the Government of Punjab was in action to provide children with this right.

"Comprehensive Punjab School Education Policy 2020 has been introduced in the history of the province," said Usman Buzdar. Usman Buzdar said that for the first time, spcial attention has been paid to transgender education to increase literacy rate in the province.

"Our government opened first school for transgenders in Multan," he said. "More than 31,000 School Teaching Interns (STIs) are being recruited to compensate for the shortage of teachers in school," said Usman Buzdar. "The process of recruiting more than 33,000 male and female educators will begin soon," said the chief minister adding that recruitment rules have been relaxed to address the shortage of teachers in schools in 10 backward districts. Punjab CM further stated that 7,000 more schools will be upgraded during current fiscal year.

2,317,176 people vaccinated in Faisalabad

#### **BUREAU REPORT**

FAISALABAD: As many as 2,317,176 people have so far been vaccinated against COVID-19 in the district. District Health Officer Dr. Ataul Mun'im said on Wednesday



a new 200-bed emergency block will be built at Services Hospital.

According to details, a He announced that a traufour-hour long meeting ma center and emergency was held under the chairblock would be set up on manship of chief minister 56 kanals of land in front Usman Buzdar in which of Jinnah Hospital while a 1,000-bed hospital would the progress on ongoing projects of the health debe set up on 123 kanals of partment for providing land on Ferozepur Road. quality health facilities to The Punjab Chief Minister directed to expedite the the people was reviewed. work on Mother and Child Hospitals and said that for the first time in the history of Punjab such hospitals were being set up in remote areas. The Mother and Child Block at Ganga Ram Hospital will be completed soon, he added. The meeting was attended by Provincial Health Minister Dr Yasmin Rashid, Health Advisor Hanif Pitafi and concerned officials.

According to a news release

These approval and disbursement ratios have similarly risen over the past few

sons of all banks across all porting MPMG.

plantation campaign

lasting positive impact on the overall eradication of coronavirus epidemic.

Governor inaugurates tree

city and ongoing works of beautification.

Municipal Corporation Sialkot Chief Officer Faisal Shehzad and MD Sialkot Waste Management Company (SWMC) Khalid Manzoor Goraya were also present on the occasion. On this occasion, Deputy Commissioner Tahir Farooq said that saplings were being planted at green belts and parks.

The DC said that citizens also have a responsibility to take care for public sector projects and cooperate with the administration in making their city beautiful and clean. – APP

#### DC orders for price control mechanism

#### BUREAU REPORT

FAISALABAD: Deputy Commissioner Ali Shehzad has asked assistant commissioners to ensure strict implementation of price control mechanism in accordance with the government directives.

Presiding over a meeting to review price control mechanism on Tuesday, he ordered for setting up Insaf Sasti Shops counters at mega marts and superstores besides ensuring sale of basic commodities at fixed rates.

He said that prices of fruits vegetables including and onions, potatoes, peas, tomatoes should be checked indirectly and the prices of any commodity should not be unduly increased. He said that assistant commissioners should continue their regular visits to vegetable markets and continue monitoring implementation of fixed prices of fruits and vegetables.

The DC also reviewed the performance of revenue department and ordered for expediting the campaign for recovery of government dues. He also ordered for ensuring issuance of fard and other land documents to the applicants without any delay.

Additional Deputy Commissioner Revenue Fazal Rabi Cheema, Assistant Commissioners Omar Magbool, Syed Ayub Bukhari, Faisal Sultan, Mohammad Zubair, Numan Ali and Mohammad Haider besides DO Industries Shahbaz Khan, Extra Assistant Director Agricultural Marketing Mohammad Usman and other officers were also present.

addition, the meeting considered the provision of 'Sehat Insaf Card' to the entire population of Puniab under the Health Insurance Program. The chief minister directed to present the plan of Services Hospital Emergency Block and Building Structure in 7 days. Usman Buzdar said that three new Trauma Centers and Emergency Block projects would be started in Lahore, adding

#### News Desk

LAHORE: Punjab Governor Chaudhry Mohammad Sarwar inaugurated the tree planting campaign here on Wednesday. Talking to media on this occasion, the Governor said that the entire world community was appreciating the Clean and Green Pakistan initiative of the present government. "There is no other example of massive work done by PTI government for tree planting campaign that will not only make Pakistan clean and green but also have long

global environment," he observed. Chaudhry Sarwar was of the view that ensuring country's development and people's prosperity was the top priority of the present government for which public-private partnership was very important, and the doors of Governor House were always open to facilitate business community by resolving their genuine problems at the earliest. He commended that the industrialists. businessmen and philanthropists had so far extended a total Rs 12 billion as donation to the Governor House for

He said that PTI government had managed to save Pakistan from economic bankruptcy, asserting that the country had also received benefits of more than US \$ 24 billion through GSP Plus status (Generalized System of Preferences) granted by European Union. Present government, he added, believed in strengthening institutions because strong institutions always strengthen the very basics of a country. He said that all sections of the society would have to play their due role in weeding out the menace of corruption.

#### 4 more die of corona in Faisalabad

#### BUREAU REPORT

FAISALABAD: Another four patients died of COVID-19 while 72 people were tested positive in the district during the last 24 hours. A spokesperson for the health department said on Wednesday that 849 coronavirus tests were conducted in public and private sector labs during the same period. He said that total active cases in Faisalabad were 1,511 while 22,407 patients had so far recovered from the disease.

He said that 339 beds were allocated at the Allied Hospital, 133 at the DHQ Hospital and 150 at Government General Hospital Ghulam Muhammad Abad for COVID-19 patients. At present, 262 patients were under treatment at the Allied Hospital, 71 at DHQ Hospital and 40 at General Hospital.



ISLAMIC

REPUBLIC

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Maritime Affairs, Syed Ali Haider Zaidi addressing a press conference. - DNA

#### that 1,810,078 citizens were injected first dose while 456,699 were administered second dose of vaccine. He further said that 29,374 health workers were also given first dose while 21,025 received

the second dose of vaccine. He said that sufficient stock of coronavirus vaccine was available in the district.

As of now 110,590 first doses and 73,727 second doses were in the stock in Faisalabad. He said that 37 vaccination centers and 20 mobile vaccination camps were operational in the district where registered people were getting coronavirus vaccine doses.

People can get vaccinated themselves from the vaccination centers established in various areas of the city including Allied Hospital, District Head Quarters Hospital, Government General Hospital G.M Abad, Faisalabad Institute of Cardiology, Government General Hospital Samanabad, Children Hospital, Sports Complex Samanabad, Tehsil Head Quarters Hospital Jaranwala, Samundri, Tandlianwala, Chak Jhumra, Sports Complex Chak Jhumrah, Sports Complex Jaranwala, Government General Hospital Chak 224-RB and New Building RHC Khurrianwala.

2257 challaned over using tinted glasses

#### STAFF REPORT

PESHAWAR: The City Traffic Police (CTP) has challaned 2257 persons during last month over using tinted glasses in their vehicles. On the directives of Chief Traffic Officer (CTO) Abbas Majeed Marwat, the CTP carried out operation against the use of tinted glasses in vehicles and collectively fined 2257 persons, said a press release issued here on Wednesday. During the operation, black stickers were removed from the glasses and the drivers of such vehicles were directed to avoid using tinted glasses in future.

Chief Traffic Officer (CTO) Abbas Majeed Marwat has urged upon the people to ensure adherence to traffic laws and warned of initiating strict action against the violators.

### 'Experts must team-up to ensure food security'

Pakistani scientists will have to work hard in the field of research to solve local problems and having an eye on international research in order to uplift country's economy and ensuring food security

#### ISHFAQ MUGHAL

FAISALABAD: Intellectuals must collaborate to make concerted efforts to control various diseases, ensure food security and better environment.

This was stated by National University of Medical Sciences Vice Chancellor, Lt. General (retd) Syed Muhammad Imran Majeed while addressing third National One Health Symposium organized by the Faculty of Veterinary Sciences, University of Agriculture Faisalabad (UAF). He said universities should play an

entists will have to work hard in the field of research to solve local problems and having an eye on international research in order to uplift country's economy and ensuring food security. He said that nature had created all

dustry linkages. Pakistani sci-

living beings for a purpose but human beings had distorted the balance for their own benefit which was causing diseases and climate change and hinder human development.

He said that agricultural, medical and environmental experts would have to come up with a plan of action to balance biodiversity.

important role in developing the He stressed the need to promote economy of any country through tolerance in the society so that their research and academia-innew avenues of development could be opened. University of Agriculture, Faisalabad Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Iqrar Ahmad Khan said that UAF , in collaboration with the University of California, had launched projects under 'One Health' a few years ago meant to cope with human, plant, animal and environmental health.

He said that many diseases in humans were transmitted by animals. He said that more than 50 percent of the population in the country was suffering from malnutrition and it was essential to create awareness among the people to deal with it. He emphasized the need for joint efforts with medical experts, saying that this would lead to improvement in the med-

ical field as well as prosperity in agriculture.

Faisalabad Medical University Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Zafar Ali Chaudhry said that joint efforts would be made with the experts of the UAF on One Health. He said that more than 22 percent of cancer deaths were due to smoking. Diseases can be reduced by educating the people about healthy lifestyle and balanced diet. He said that UAF had rendered tremendous services in the field of dengue and nutrition.

Pro-Vice Chancellor Dr. Anas Sarwar Qureshi said that UAF being the first agricultural university in the sub-continent has rendered immense services for agricultural production and livestock. He said

that One Health Symposium was providing opportunities for medical, agricultural and environmental scientists to work together for the solution of national issues. Prof. Dr. Wasim Akram said that Punjab was badly affected by Vector Borne Disease in 2011 which affected 22,000 people in just 72 hours. He said that UAF had played an important role in controlling dengue in Punjab.

Later, Vice Chancellor NUMS Syed Muhammad Imran Majeed along with UAF Vice Chancellor UAF Prof Dr Iqrar Ahmad Khan, Faisalabad Medical University Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Zafar Ali Chaudhry and Principal Officer Estate Management Dr. Qamar Bilal also planted a sapling.





Namaz Timings

Fajr..... 04:21 am

Zohr..... 12:06 pm

Asr..... 04:36 pm

Maghrib..... 06:34 pm

Hotels &

Restaurants

Serena Hotel.....111 133 133

Airlines

..... 08:10 pm

# **SERVICES** Digital Monitoring of Ehsaas Panagahs on the anvil: Sania

"PM has given instructions that people visiting Panagahs should be served with dignity and there should be no compromise on quality of service, maintenance, hygiene and cleanliness and food quantity as well as quality", emphasized

#### DNA

ISLAMABAD: Senator Dr. Sania Nishtar, SAPM convened a stocktake workshop with Ehsaas Panagah teams in Islamabad.

Secretary of Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety Division (PASSD), Muhammad Ali Shahzada, Malik Zaheer Abbas Khokhar, Managing Director Pakistan Baitul-Mal and Additional Secretary PASSD, Captain (Retd) Saeed Ahmad Nawaz were also present. "Prime Minister has given strict instructions that people visiting Panagahs should be served with dignity and there should be no



duce digital monitoring of Ehsaas Panagahs", she further added. To ensure that people are served with utmost dignity and self-respect, Ehsaas is providing refresher training to the staff of Panagahs.

monitoring staff of all five Ehsaas Panagahs including Assistant Directors, Deputy Directors and Shift Supervisors joined the workshop. During the workshop a stocktake was done of the factors which impact quality, gaps were assessed,

and a strategy was developed to improve standards. New monitoring protocols were also developed. "Digital monitoring will now be mapped into monitoring dashboards and there will be strict accountability," said Dr. Sania

The workshop comprehensively reviewed living and catering standards to create a more viable living environment in Panagahs. Under the Ehsaas umbrella, 22 Panagahs have been built up so far nationwide. These Panagahs provide "one star+ bed and breakfast facility with meals, essentials, hygiene and security standards. Each Panagah serves free meals to 400 people and offers 100-bed facility for overnight stay. Leveraging on IT capabilities, the

living standards have already been structured with enhanced infrastructure for food catering and living, security protocols, standardized capacity, organized HR, eligibility criteria, effective monitoring, regulated donations and financial details. Panagah is one of the priority programmes of Prime Minister Imran Khan. Panagahs not only provide shelter to daily wage earners but also a two-time meal to them.

#### **IGP** orders to shift impounded vehicles

#### DNA

ISLAMABAD: Inspector-General of Police (IGP) Islamabad Qazi Jamil ur Rehman has directed DIG and SSP (Operations) to shift impounded vehicles out of police stations creating parking and other issues to citizens.

He further instructed that the vehicles and motorcycles wanted in the cases should also be shifted to other places immediately and recovered vehicles should be handed over to their owners as soon as possible.

He said arrangements should be made to auction the unidentified vehicles and motorcycles in collaborations with the relevant departments.

The IGP said police stations should be made clean, green, and beautiful by changing the internal environment there while the friendly environment for the citizens to be ensured.

He further said special care should also be taken for the cleanliness of the residential barracks of the employees so that they can perform their professional duties in the best possible manner. He said protection of property is the first priority of the citizens coming to the police station.

Their problems should be resolved immediately and a decent attitude to be demonstrated during interaction with them.

#### No consumer filed complaints of over-billing

#### STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: The National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (NEPRA) has observed some media reports regarding complaints of over-billing in terms of raising hills beyond an proved billing period by various power distribution companies (DISCOs). "NEPRA Authority wants to clarify that till today no consumer has filed such complaint before National Electric Power Regulatory Authority Consumer Affair Division. The Authority encourages consumers and other stakeholders to please report any such complaint to our Consumer Affair Division if they have any evidence in this regard so that the Authority may take stringent action as per applicable rules/regulations," said a clarification issued by the authority here Wednesday. National Electric Power Regulatory Authority Consumer Affair Division can be approached though its regional offices or at NE-PRA Tower Ataturk Avenue (East), Sector G-5/1. Islamabad, Pakistan+92 51  $2013200 \ +92 \ 51 \ 2600021$ cad@nepra.org.pk



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

Emergency



Enquiry



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Law and Justice Barrister Dr. Muhammad Farogh Naseem administering oath to members of Press Association of Supreme Court. - DNA

Media is vital for democracy

#### SHAHEEN HANIF

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Law and Justice Barrister Farogh Naseem on Wednesday said that media is the fourth pillar of the state and it plays vital role for strengthening democracy.

Addressing the media persons after oath taking ceremony of the newly elected cabinet of the Press Association of the Supreme Court, the minister said that pen was more powerful than the sword. He said that federal information minister Fawad Chaudhry would soon announce the good news about Media Development Authority Bill.

Edhi Ambulance115	5
PIAFlightInfo114	4
PIACargo9280979	9
Railway Inquiry117	7
Railway Exchange9270831-5	5
WASA Rawalpindi5555489	)
CAA9281092	2



#### Hospitals

•
CMH5611111
MH561116
Cantt Hospital9270907-11
DHQ5556311-4
RGH9290301-7
Holy Family9290322-7
PIMS9261170-79
Polyclinic9218300-09
Shifa International.4603666



#### Departments

CDA	.9221334-43
CDA	.9208301-04
Met Office	9250360-6
RDA	5555864
ТМА	5770886
Cantonment Boa	rd 9270151-3



#### Complaints

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

#### Islamabad Metropolitan

Corporation......9209224 Potohar Town......9209224 RawalTown.....5773343

Wasa Water Tank Rawalpindi.....0331-5022125 **Rainfall increases** threat of dengue larvae spread

#### STAFF REPORT

**RAWALPINDI:** The present spell of rains has increased the threat of dengue larvae, which needs to be tackled on an urgent basis as the Met Office has forecast more rains in the week. Chairing a meeting to

review the anti-dengue campaign on Wednesday, Deputy Commissioner Muhammad Ali directed officials to revise anti-dengue plan keeping in view the changing weather condi-

#### DWAF to organize sign language session

ISLAMABAD: Deaf Welfare Awareness Foundation (DWAF) in collaboration with Punjab government would organize one month sign language session from September 15. According to DWAF, Farhat Aslam will the training session.

non-profit, non-government and non-political organization registered under the be the resource person of City District Government Lahore working for uplift

The main purpose of the of poor deserving deaf comcourse was to able the stumunities since 36 years.



is a method of communica-

tion for the deaf and hard

of hearing. Like spoken lan-

guages, it has unique rules

language skills through

for standard method of

communication. DWAF is

promotes

and advocates

of grammar and syntax.

DWAF

The

courses

ing of mosquito larvae as this was the only way to

combat the dengue. Muhammad Ali warned that September was crucial for dengue mosquito breeding as the temperature was being decreased with each passing day. He called upon the residents to keep an eye on junkyards, schools and under construction buildings which lead to the spread of dengue larvae and leave no place wet or with stagnant water.

dents to use sign language by kistani students. digital smooth and modern experience. Sign language

### Hashoo Group, CTTI launch tourism management school

#### KHAYYAM ABBASI

ISLAMABAD: Hashoo Group has launched a professional tourism and hospitality management school in partnership with Construction Technology and Training Institute (CTTI) campus in Islamabad, Pakistan. Sheffield Hallam University & Business School (SHU) has provided the curriculum to Hashoo School of Hospitality Management (HSHM) and this will be the first time that foreign instructors will be teaching Hospitality and Tourism Management to Pa-

Following a two-year aca-

demic journey at the CTTI campus in Islamabad, qualifying students of HSHM will have the opportunity to complete an additional third year at the Sheffield Hallam University in the UK. This will enable them to graduate with an internationally recognised BSc Honours degree. Along with this leadership programme, HSHM is also offering short courses in Artificial Intelligence and Blockchain fundamentals. It

is pertinent to mention that Hashoo Group is offering guaranteed job placement to HSHM's students in its hotels across Pakistan. "To meet growing demands

hospitality industry, we will need to empower our youth with knowledge and understanding required to provide the highest and globally accepted levels of hospitality. At HSHM, students will learn how to become business managers of the future; we will develop leaders and entrepreneurs," said Hashoo Group, Chief Operating Officer Hospitality and Education Division, Mr. HaseebGardezi while speaking at the launch of HSHM at Islamabad Marriott Hotel on Tuesday, 31st August 2021. Mr. Gardezi also said. "I would like to thank CTTI, FWO for inviting us to join in their vision for educating and empowering

the youth of Pakistan. " While speaking on the occasion, Mr. Jawad Akram, DG NTB added "Education is the key towards growth and success of our nation, and we are excited to play our part in providing new and unique opportunities for learning to our prospective students.' "Pakistan is experiencing a growth in domestic tourism right now and combined with the much-improved security situation and other initiatives such as a more welcoming visa regime, our country's potential growth will, no doubt, eclipse the average as we emerge into the international spotlight," FWO DG Major Gen. Kamal Asfar.

#### IESCO notifies power suspension programme

ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad Electric Supply Company (IESCO) on Wednesday notified a power suspension programme for Thursday for various areas of its region due to necessary maintenance and routine development work. According to IESCO Spokesman, the power

supply of different feeders and grid stations would remain suspended for the period from 07:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Doomily, Bhagwal, Hasnot, KarnabKaswal, Sukho, Bengali, Bahr Kalial Feeders, from 08:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m., Gulshanabad. Major Masood Kayani, BB Shaheed, Rata, Race Course, Mangtal Feeders, from 08:00 a.m. to 01:00 a.m. Shakardara, Attock Rural, Hameed, Gondal, Mansar, Haji Shah, Sarka, Shadi Khan, AWC, Shahiya, Rashid Minhas, New City, Sony, Malwali, Kohsar Valley Feeders, from 09:00 p.m. to 02:00 p.m., Misryal Road, AMC, AFIRM, Gharial, Coral, Tarlai, Khanna East,

#### Domail Feeders and surrounding areas. - APP

**Farrukh dares Maryam for evidence in Avenfield case** The minister expressed the hope that this time Maryam would not submit a 'Qatari' letter to the court

#### Shujaat Hamza

ISLAMABAD: Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting Farrukh Habib on Wednesday asked Maryam Safdar to produce evidence to prove her innocence before the court in the Avenfield case.

"I challenge Maryam, who has been convicted by the accountability court in the Avenfield reference, to produce supported evidence and request the court to hear her case on daily basis if she assumed herself innocent," he said while talking to media persons in response to the PML-N vice president talk, she did after her appearance before the court which was hearing her appeal against the conviction.

The minister expressed the hope that this time Maryam would not

submit a 'Qatari' letter to the court as evidence. Farrukh said the Pakistan Mus-

lim League-Nawaz (PML-N) had already helped her father Nawaz Sharif, whose conviction had been restored by the court after rejecting his appeal in a corruption case, to escape the country and jail term. It was very unfortunate that her father, instead of returning to Pakistan, was watching polo matches and strolling Hyde Park

in London, he added. The minister said likewise, her daughter Maryam also took refuge behind adjournments and opting to delaying tactics to further slowdown the accountability process. He said appeal of Marvam Safdar was being heard by the Islamabad high court for since long and she. instead of seeking day-to-day hearing, made different excuses to



abstain from appearing before the court. Initially, Maryam made excuse that her appeal against conviction in the Avenfield reference was not being heard on regular basis, but in fact she, through her lawyer, had so far sought adjournment of her case for ten times.

The minister said when the court remarked today that now the case would be heard on regular basis at all cost, she sought more time for hiring another lawyer as the previous

one had excused from pursuing her case any further. Opting to delaying tactics and taking refuge behind adjournments was an old habit of the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N), he said, adding it was the same practice through which they were trying to further delay decision in a corruption case against their party President Shehbaz Sharif.

He recalled that the party had adopted same tactics in the Hudaibiya Paper Mills case which was not heard on merit and later dismissed on technical grounds.

The fundamental question from Sharif family was that as to how they fell ill whenever they were asked about their corruption and faced accountability process, he added. Earlier, it was told that Nawaz Sharif was not well and health condition of Shehbaz Sharif was serious, but now, interestingly, they claimed that

their lawyer fell ill. The minister said the same lawyer Amjad Pervaiz was appeared before the Accountability Court in a case on August 31. When this lawyer could appear before the court just a day before Maryam's hearing then how he could not appear in her case, he added. The minister said that it seemed that Maryam, herself, had asked the lawyer to stop from pursuing the case in which she was convicted for seven years and a fine of two million pounds imposed on her for not producing money trail of the Avenfield flats before the court. Farrukh recalled Maryam's past

statement in which she said she did not own any property in Pakistan, as well as, in London and said the nation knew that she was the same woman who ridiculed herself by producing fake 'Qatari' letter in the court as evidence.

of the tourism, travel, and CDA starts tree plantation to make Islamabad beautiful

HELOPMEN, TUTHORIT BANN ISLAMABAD: Under the Clean and Green Pakistan Campaign, tree plantation is in full swing in the Federal Capital. The Department of Environment is engaged in tree planting across the city to make Islamabad more beautiful and attractive under the special directions of the CDA management. In this regard with a comprehensive plan and solid strategy duties have been distributed among the among the among the among the special direction. comprehensive plan and solid strategy duties have been distributed among the concerned staff at different times. In addition, the CDA's Environment Department, following the direction of the CDA management, times. In addition, the CDA's Environment Department, following the direction of the CDA management, planted more than four lakhs plants and fruit trees on various highways, intersections, green belts, roads and drain slopes and various parks in Islamabad In addition, on the special directions of the CDA longing to civil society, various NGOs and private institutions, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and other institution are also being made part of tree planting under the Clean and Green Pakistan campaign. - DNA

# 04

# **TWIN CITIES**

Experts urge global co-op on climate change

The aim of the dialogue was sharing ideas on climate change in the

run up to the 26th UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26)



### **Briefs**

### Huawei launches 'Tiger Programme'

ISLAMABAD: Huawei Paki stan in collaboration with the EZY Technologies organized the launching ceremony of the Huawei Pakistan Tiger Programme 2021.

KHAYAM ABBASI

here on Wednesday.

for Pakistan, it is important to give

the message at COP26 that despite

being affected by climate change in

an unjust manner, the country will

adopt nature-based approaches to

be a part of the solution to climate

Parliamentary Secretary for Foreign

Affairs Ms Andleeb Abbas stated

that climate was a priority of the

change

This programme is designed to prepare an elite class of technical leaders who will be masters in their respective assigned technologies. The programme will provide focused mentorship to individuals so that they are capable of elaborating business as well as technical advantages of the solution and will become future leaders in Pakistan ICT industry.

This 1-1 mentorship will be drive through the Regional/ HQ Technology Experts via focused sessions and hands on cloud demo sessions. After the successful completion of the programme, the participants will go through an extensive evaluation criteria. The candidates, who

pass the evaluation, will be awarded the membership of Pakistan Technology Tiger Club in their respective technology along with prizes and recognition. Speaking at the occasion,

Shahzad Rasheed, CTO EBG - Huawei Pakistan said, "Huawei Pakistan is continuously investing in the ICT resource development by enabling their Partnered ICT companies. These resources will be highly valuable for the future ICT Industry and will be contributing in Digital Pakistan making a fully connected intelligent Pakistan."

Addressing candidates, Adnan Zafar, Director EBG - Huawei Pakistan, highlighted the key aspects of the Tiger Program and explained how this program will help in producing technology experts in the ICT industry of Pakistan. - APP

#### Pak elected member of ASOSAI Governing Board

ISLAMABAD: The depart-

#### ISLAMABAD: Climate experts and practitioners termed climate change a shared responsibility and urged the need for global partnership on the subject. They were speaking at the 'Pre-COP26 Dialogue' organized by the Institute of Regional Studies (IRS) in collaboration with the Civil Society Coalition for Climate Change (CSCCC), the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), and the Embassy of France The aim of the dialogue was sharing ideas on climate change in the run up to the 26th UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26) to be held in Glasgow from 31 October to 12 November. Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Climate Chain Mr Malik Amin Aslam, in his keynote address, said that

ISLAMABAD: Parliamentary Secretary for Foreign Affairs Andleeb Abbas, British HC Dr. Christian Turner, Italian ambassador Andreas Ferrarese, Charge D' Affaires of France Yves Manville are present at the 'Pre-COP26 Dialogue'. - DNA

tsunami, the switch to cleaner fuel. and introduction of an electric vehicle policy as some of the achievements of the government. The British High Commissioner to Pakistan Dr Christian Turner shared that COP26 had four major goals:

Government of Pakistan and a permore national commitments on sonal focus of Prime Minister Imran emission reduction by 2030; further Khan. She listed the ten billion tree support for vulnerable countries like Pakistan in terms of climate adaptation; climate finance mobilization to the tune of \$100 billion annually; and developing partnerships not only between governments but also with the private sector and the civil society

He further stated that Pakistan was in a great position to assume global leadership on climate change owing

to its climate vulnerability and its prioritization of climate in national policymaking.

Italian Ambassador to Pakistan Mr Andreas Ferrarese stated that Pakistan contributed only 1 percent to the worldwide greenhouse gas emission but it was 8th in the world in terms of climate vulnerability. He shared that Italy and Pakistan will be

co-hosting a side-initiative of COP26 on mountain climate in which Pakistan will play a central role in addressing challenges related to conservation of the central Karakoram ecosystem, meant to be a model for the world.

The Charge D' Affaires of France in Pakistan Mr Yves Manville shared that the French government was supporting Pakistan in providing small grants to civil society organizations for projects on climate change and awarding climate scholarships to Pakistani students. He added that the French government was also assisting the Government of Pakistan directly though the French Development Agency. Urging the need for collaboration, Chief Executive of CSCCC Aisha Khan said that Climate Diplomacy would be the most important aspect of bilateral and multilateral engagements in future. This will require careful diplomacy and inspired leadership to leverage cooperation at the regional and international level. Quoting an Asian Development Bank (ADB) study, President of IRS Ambassador Nadeem Riyaz stated that Pakistan was facing a \$3.8 billion annual economic loss due to climate change. He added that COP26 was expected to play a crucial role in paving the way for sustainable recovery and setting

ambitious but achievable targets for

climate adaptation and mitigation.

NIFTH to resume weekly Classes

ISLAMABAD: The National Institute of Folk and Traditional Heritage (NIFTH) will resume weekly "Folk and Handicrafts Training Classes" from next week to promote the country's rich and diverse handicraft her-

itage. Talking to APP, Executive Director Lok Virsa said that NIFTH has started a weekly training program in folk crafts under Master Craftsman.

He said the first program of Calligraphy and Folk Paintings was held in February 2020 at Heritage Museum which continued till 15 March 2020.

However, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, all programs and activities planned after March was postponed. He further said that NIF-TH is ready to re-imagine its potential and celebrate the rich and diverse cultural heritage of Pakistan as well as re-imagine the role of cultural heritage in ensuring a better future for Pakistanis. - APP

#### **IRSA** releases 239263

cusecs water

ISLAMABAD: Indus River System Authority (IRSA) Wednesday released 239263 cusecs water from various rim stations with inflow of 172551 cusecs.

According to the data released by IRSA, water level in the Indus River at Tarbela Dam was 1534.05 feet, which was 142.05 feet higher than its dead level 1392 feet. Water inflow and outflow in the dam was recorded as 106900 and 160000 cusecs respectively.

The water level in the Jhelum River at Mangla Dam was 1192.90 feet, which was 142.9 feet higher than its dead level of 1050 feet whereas the inflow and outflow of water was recorded as 21388 and 35000 cusecs respectively.

The release of water at Kalabagh, Taunsa and Sukkur was recorded as 173638. 159289 and 68601 cusecs respectively. Similarly, from the Kabul River a total of 14500 cusecs of water was released at Nowshera and 29763 cusecs released from the Chenab River at Marala. - APP



ISLAMABAD: A view of stagnant water accumulated at Fruit and Vegetable Market

### Court adjourns LNG reference Abbasi's lawyer continued his

cross examination with witness chief engineer SSGCL Farhan ISLAMABAD: An Account-He said that he had not ability Court (AC) on Tuessigned on the statement day adjourned LNG corwhich was recorded before ruption reference against former prime minister

Shahid Khaqan Abbasi and others till tomorrow. Abbasi's Lawyer Barrister Zafarullah continued his cross examination with witness chief engineer sui southern gas company Farhan Umer.

He stated that he had been serving on the said

post since 2016.

National Accountability Bureau (NAB)'s investigation officer. He, however, said that he had signed the seizure memo. The court adjourned further hearing till Wednesday. AC-II Judge Muhammad Azam Khan heard the case. Shahid Khagan Abbasi and

their legal team. - APP

other accused appeared before court along with

ment of Auditor General of Pakistan - supreme audit institution of Pakistan - has been elected as member of the Asian Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (ASOSAI) Governing Board for the term 2021-24.

The election process in this regard was held in the 15th ASOSAI Assembly hosted by the State Audit Office of Thailand on Tuesday through virtual platform, said a press release issued by the office of AGP.

Acting Auditor General of Pakistan Ghulam Muhammad Memon along with delegates, participated in the Assembly meeting.

ASOSAI comprises the Supreme Audit Institutions (SAls) of 47 Asian countries. The Governing Board is the executive arm of the ASO-SAI. It executes and implements, the policies of the Organization in accordance with the rules and regulations approved by the Assembly and also approves the annual financial plan and budget of the ASOSAI. - APP

### RCB confiscates 7 truckload goods

RAWALPINDI: The Enforcement Department of Rawalpindi Cantonment Board (RCB) has confiscated seven truckload goods from different markets during the last three days in its ongoing campaign against encroachments. The anti-encroachment operation was carried out on special directives of the cantonment executive officer (CEO).

The CEO also directed the anti-enforcement department to speed up the operation against the encroachers in RCB areas to provide relief to the citizens. According to details, the teams of the enforcement depart-

ment of RCB, led by the superintendent carried out operations against encroachment in Tench Bhatta, Saddar, Adam Jee Road, Haider Road, Gawalmandi, Chor, Misrial Road and other areas.

The teams demolished the encroachments besides confiscating seven truckload goods during the operation.

A spokesman said that the grand clean-up operation against encroachments was underway in RCB areas while now it had further been accelerated. He said that President Cantonment Board, Brig. Ijaz Qamar Kiani during his surprise visit to different Cantt areas had directed the authorities concerned to remove permanent and temporary encroachments from different areas particularly from all footpaths to facilitate the citizens. – APP

### SIH lauded work of physical therapists during Covid-19

#### ZUBAIR AHMAD

ISLAMABAD: World Physical Therapy Day is celebrated every year on the 8th of September. The day is an opportunity for physical therapists to create awareness about the fundamental contribution therapist makes in keeping people pain free, mobile and independent. The focus for this year's World PT Day is rehabilitation and Long COV-ID and the role of physiotherapists in the treatment and management of people affected by Long COVID.

Shifa International Hospital's Rehabilitation Department carried out multiple activities focusing on creating aware-

Speakers pay tribute to 1965 war martyrs, heroes

Poets, writers and intellectuals from all walks of life participated in the event



ness regarding the role of physical therapy in the COV-ID-19 rehabilitation process. Mr. Taimoor Shah, Chief Operating Officer, SIH stated with regard to the Physical therapy day, physiotherapy is an established profession

globally and the role physical therapists are playing during this pandemic in the management of patients admitted to hospital with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 is commendable.

Mr. Kashif Khan, Associate

General Manager Rehabilitation Department, SIH stated, physical therapists aim to improve physical recovery following acute illness. He shared, the data suggest that physiotherapy is beneficial for improved respiratory mechanism and physical rehabilita-

tion in the long COVID. Ms. Faiza Badar, Manager Rehabilitation Department, SIH while highlighting the importance of continuation of care after discharge from hospital, talked about the integration of technology-based healthcare solutions, how patients can access experienced & qualified physical therapists and other healthcare services at their doorstep utilizing home health services.

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 na-

Prominent poets Ali Akbar Abbas, Naseem

Sehar, Hassan Abbas Raza, Mehboob Za-

far, Rana Saeed Doshi, Dr Junaid Azar and

Shahbaz Chauhan also paid homage to the

martyrs and veterans with their poetry on

tion of martyrs forever.

#### PCE calls upon govt to honor int'l commitments

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Coalition of Education (PCE) calls upon the federal and provincial governments to honor the international commitments that serves the Sustainable Development Goal 4 i.e., "to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all"

In a statement issued in connection with International Literacy Day, PCE said that literacy enables an individual to engage in critical thinking so that they identify, understand, interpret the decisions regarding their lives and explore the answers. Literacy rate of Pakistan has been steadily increasing from 25.7 percent in 1981 to 59.1 percent in 2017.

This increase is very slow as compared to regional countries and therefore signifies the importance of educating the children for the prosperity of the entire nation, it

added. The SDG 4 provides a plan of action for people, planet and prosperity. It is a direction both federal and provincial governments must take in order to increase the overall literacy rate in Pakistan so that we can meet the internationally acceptable benchmarks.

The government must ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes.

It is the responsibility of the government to provide access to quality early childhood development, care and pre-primary education to all the boys and girls so that they are ready for primary education. Sustainable development of the education sector requires equal access for all women and men to affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education, including university.

However, progress is not possible unless an enabling environment towards equality is sustained in the society, the statement said. - APP

#### **PNCA** pays tribute to musician Wazir Afzal

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan National Council of the Arts (PNCA) on Wednesday paid a glowing tribute to late legendary musician Wazir Afzal. He died in Lahore yesterday due to a prolonged illness. PNCA said in a statement that Wazir Afzal was a generous man and a great musician. His melodious and rhythms will keep the hearts of music lovers beat ing for a long time.

He was the composer of the famous song "Seoni Mere Dil Da Jani", he gave hundreds of everlasting songs to the country's film industry. He was also awarded the Presidential Award Pride of Performance in recognition of his outstanding services. Wazir Afzal also worked with legendary musician Khawaja Khurshid Anwar. He composed 209 songs for more than 73 films.

Wazir Afzal's films include Yar Matane, Dil Da Jani, Juma Janj Naal, Sohna, Do Matiyaran, and Zameen, while singer Noor Jahan sang many hits songs in his music. - APP

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.

Shujaat Hamza

Poets, writers and intellectuals from all walks of life participated in the event.

Addressing the function, Chairman 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 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 civilization and culture throughout the region and has an

impact on the world at large. Today, the poets who have paid homage to the martyrs and veterans 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 for-

societies can be formed.

tunate to be breathing in the open air and it is bacuase of our brave army that 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, Defence Day Of Pakistan.

after heavy rain. - APP

### TTP's warning

N one of the more bizarre and troubling reports to emerge this week, it was revealed that the pro-scribed Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) has is-sued a stark warning to national media and journalists, asking them to refrain from calling them a "terrorist outfit" or they will be treated as enemies. This delusional statement was released by the TTP on social media, where its spokesman

Mohammad Khurasani stated that the group was keeping track of critical media coverage where they are being termed as extremists and terrorists.

Such threats coming from banned terrorist groups is of serious concern. Not only is the resurgence of this group a grave national security threat, but the sense of entitlement underscoring this statement must also raise eyebrows. Under no circumstances can we allow the group to regain its strength on our soil and pose a threat to our citizens. There should be no need to spell this out given the wave of militancy and violence that we have had to overcome during the last decade.

Several Pakistan journalists-particularly in erstwhile FATA and KP-have been assassinated, wounded and kidnapped in the war against terrorism across the country. Keeping this in mind, such statements cannot be taken lightly and state authorities need to be vigilant going forward.

Just this week, the TTP claimed responsibility for the tragic suicide attack that was carried out in Quetta. If the attack was indeed planned in Afghanistan and facilitated by India as the Interior Minister has claimed, then it is imperative that this matter be taken up with the Afghan Taliban and the international community at the earliest. A lot of lives have been sacrificed in fighting this menace and we cannot afford a repeat of this doomsday scenario.

#### Pakistan's First And Only Diplomatic Daily

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

Member APNS / ABC Certified Vol: 02 Issue: 107 Email: dailyisbpost@gmail.com Phone: 051-2266165 / 051-2261960 Off: Awan Plaza, Block 18-A, G-8 Markaz Islamabad



### Introducing 5G

G, the fifth generation technology standard for broadband cellular networks, and successor to 4G, has been a late guest to Pakistan. While millions of people worldwide have access to 5G, the technology standard is not yet available in Pakistan. However, now a timeline has been estimated for when Pakistan will roll out 5G-the Ministry of Information Technology and Telecom has announced that it is aiming to roll out 5G in 2023. This is still quite some time to go. The GSMA, in a report titled "The Mobile Economy Asia Pacific 2021", has projected that Pakistan will be at the lowest end in terms of smartphone users as well as in the 5G coverage. Pakistan is behind countries like Brunei Darussalam, India and Cambodia, which are set for 5G roll-outs in 2022, and a far cry from South Korea, Australia, Maldives and New Zealand, which rolled out 5G in 2018 and 2019. However, it is hoped that a timeline will provide impetus for telecom providers to get on infrastructure development. The Minister for Information Technology and Telecommunication Syed Amin Ul Haque said key initiatives have been taken which will help the country surpass the projections made by the GSMA.

There has been some positive development-exports of cell phones are a burgeoning potential trade area for Pakistan. According to the Minister Amin Ul Haque, the government is hoping to increase exports of IT services up to \$5bn by the end of 2022-23. However, rather than concentrating on a few areas, the government also needs to lend attention to widening the user base in the country. Accessibility and infrastructure are weak points-as the pandemic and lack of success of online schools have shown. The widening user base needs better and improved infrastructure for the digital economy to truly flourish, along with ensuring that the internet is accessible beyond just urban areas.

### Palestine: An open-air museum of colonialism

**Omar Khalifah** 



Open-air museums seek to give visitors a direct experience of what it was like to live in the past. When I tell foreign friends that settler-only roads surround my tiny village, Burin, located a few kilometres southwest of Nablus in the West Bank, they respond with a disbelieving gasp. For many, it is inconceivable to imagine colonialera conditions in our time, and yet they have been the status quo in Palestine for decades

N a recent visit to Palestine (I belong to a category of Jordanian Palestinians who can visit Palestine using an Israeli-issued ID card), a Palestinian friend of mine in Ramallah invited me to drive with him to Bethlehem. Thirty minutes into the trip, we stopped at an Israeli checkpoint, pulling into a huge queue of cars. The place was engulfed by an apathetic silence, perhaps indicative of how normal the situation was for those experiencing it. I, however, felt increasingly impatient, and I asked my friend if it would take too long before we were allowed to move. My friend responded, rather sarcastically, "This is Palestine. You can never predict when to move or to stop. People have lost any sense of what a meeting time means. You arrive when you arrive." Welcome to Palestine - an open-air museum of colonialism.

For most people nowadays, colonialism is part of a bygone era. The majority of the world's population has no first-hand experience of it, and many cannot imagine what it means to live under total foreign control. Today we have museums of colonialism, where people can go to learn about how this form of rule affected natives' freedoms to live, to move, to speak, to work, and even to die peacefully. We live (supposedly) in a postcolonial world, and museums of colonialism serve to transport visitors back to a cruel era, granting them a glimpse of the damage this type of governance wrought on native communities. What if, however, there were an actual place in our world today where colonialism and post-colonialism co-existed? Herein lies the sad, almost incomprehensible Palestinian contribution to the museum industry. If museums of colonialism reimagine the past in a modern setting, Palestine is both past and present - a colonial and postcolonial reality. In Palestine, there is no need to create a museum of colonialism: the whole country functions as such. At any museum, you can expect to be able to explore different sections on different themes. The same holds true in Palestine - it has various sections, each displaying a different layer of colonialism. There is the West Bank, where you can see illegal Israeli settlements, expropriated land, a separation wall, and a physically controlled population. Then there is Gaza, where open-air museum meets open-air prison, as two million Palestinians have been living under an Israeli blockade for more than 15 years. And if you are more into surveying a surreal case of colonialism, then head to Israel

proper and find out how Palestinians who stayed in historic Palestine after the foundation of Israel live. There, you will learn about stolen houses, demolished villages, second-class citizens, and institutionalised racism.

Open-air museums seek to give visitors a direct experience of what it was like to live in the past. When I tell foreign friends that settler-only roads surround my tiny village, Burin, located a few kilometres southwest of Nablus in the West Bank, they respond with a disbelieving gasp. For many, it is inconceivable to imagine colonial-era conditions in our time, and yet they have been the status quo in Palestine for decades. People who would like to learn about colonialism need look no further than Palestine. It is colonialism incarnate.

Recognising 21st century Palestine as an open-air museum of colonialism casts the longstanding Palestinian-Israeli conflict in a different light. During the latest war in Gaza, some supporters of Israel legitimised its use of force by noting that any sovereign state would have reacted similarly to defend itself had it been under rocket fire from another state. Hamas launched rockets into Israeli territory, so this logic goes, and so Israel has a right to fight back. This repeated argument ignores one crucial reality of the situation: Gaza is not a state. The West Bank is not a state either. In fact, there is no Palestinian state. The conflict between Israelis and Palestinians is not one between two sovereign states. Rather, it is a conflict between a colonised people and their coloniser. Framing Palestine as a colonial question is essential to understanding the peculiarity of the Palestinian condition. For many people around the world, Palestine is an enigma. How is it that for so long Palestinians have been stuck in a situation that is seemingly so unchangeable, fixed, intractable? Statelessness, uprooting, refugeehood, and resistance have practically become permanent descriptors of Palestinians. The conflict between Palestinians and Israelis has evolved into a cornerstone of our modern soundscape - something always happens there, except what happens never brings about any serious change to the status quo. If Palestine is often viewed as a persistent dilemma whose resolution is long overdue, it is because Palestine is more of an anomaly than an enigma. Palestinians have not enjoyed the kind of history that most people in the colonial era have. In most cases, the story of former colonies followed a linear path:

colonialism, anti-colonial struggle, and then independence - a new nation-state. This pattern was so forceful and the defeat of colonialism so successful that the last few decades have witnessed the emergence of a powerful new field of intellectual inquiry aptly named "postcolonial studies". Ironically, one of the grand masters of this field was Palestinian - the late Edward Said. Not so for Palestinians. Unlike other would-be nations in the Middle East, such as Jordan, Iraq, and Syria, Palestine did not witness an end to a British or French Mandate that would lead to the formation of an independent nation-state. Rather, the termination of the British Mandate of Palestine in 1948 led to what Palestinians view as another form of colonialism.

The Zionist movement, which would form Israel and result in the destruction of Palestinian society and the ethnic cleansing of Palestine (a series of events known in Palestinian historiography as the Nakba, or Catastrophe), has successfully managed to halt the linear progression of Palestinians' path to self-determination. Both before and after 1948, Palestinians have been struggling to resist first, British and then, Zionist colonialism; realise their dream of a free, independent state; and cast off their own specific, multilayered experiences of imperialism. Put bluntly, Palestinians have yet to enter the postcolonial world order. As individuals, they live in the 21st century, but as a stateless nation, they are still captive to the pre-1948 colonial moment. This is the anomaly of Palestinian time: as Columbia University professor Joseph Massad characterises it, Palestine can be understood as a "postcolonial colony", a region where two periods, two world views, two eras, fiercely collide. This is why it functions as an open-air museum of colonialism - it is at once past and present, with the exploitative policies and practices of colonialism on perpetual display. It is dangerous to view Palestine as solely a human rights issue - it is drastically more. Palestinians are a living demonstration of what colonialism looks like. They simultaneously belong and do not belong to the postcolonial order. For them, 1948 is not just a memory - it is an ongoing reality, a moment in time that has been stretched to define who they are, and who they are not. Palestine has been turned, brutally, into a permanent museum of colonialism whose doors should have closed long ago. - Courtesy: Al Jazeera

### Urgent action needed to save Afghanistan

Dr. Abdel Aziz Aluwaisheg



**UN Security Council** Resolution 2593, adopted on Aug. 30, is a step in the right direction, despite China and Russia's abstentions. Now is the time to ensure its proper and speedy implementation. One of the most important issues should be to establish a mechanism between willing friends of Afghanistan for regular coordination and consultation

T is now clear that the 20-year effort by the US and its European allies to turn Afghanistan into a stable, democratic country has failed. It is important to remember, however, that the invasion was the brainchild of neoconservatives, who were the main driving force behind the twin invasions of Afghanistan in 2001 and Iraq in 2003. Many others were opposed at the time. America's humiliating withdrawal from Afghanistan should put an end to those grand neocon designs, which failed at almost every turn. That may also be true for those US plans for Afghanistan's future, which were put together on the assumption that Ashraf Ghani's government was stable and would survive the troop withdrawal. US planners now need to come up with updated plans for America's role in Afghanistan and discuss them with allies and partners, whose own plans were thrown asunder by last month's turn of events.

To write off Afghanistan is not an option, as the instability of the country would spill over into the region and create problems that may be more difficult to tackle in the future. In a sign of the limited options articulated to deal with the new crisis, the London-based Daily Telegraph newspaper reported that the UK government is discussing a proposal to blacklist Afghanistan and allow the London authorities to jail people for up to 10 years if they are proven to have visited the outlawed territory. This is obviously not a solution. Besides Afghanistan itself, the Western alliance is the most notable casualty of the Afghanistan debacle. Reports from Brussels hint at a real disappointment among European allies in the way the US and NATO exits were managed. The 27 EU member countries and its institutions are confronting the reality of near-total reliance on US military plans and grasping for new policy options. Despite the fact that 21 EU member states are also members of NATO, they were not able to adjust the withdrawal plans to allow Kabul airport ners, there are more urgent issues at hand. There to remain open for a few more days or weeks to handle evacuations and receive urgent humanitarian assistance. Josep Borrell, the EU's top diplomat, last week wrote an op-ed in The New York Times calling for serious discussions about the EU's over-reliance on the US and the need for better coordination and burden-sharing.

Roland Freudenstein, policy director of the Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies, a think tank associated with the center-right European People's Party, was quoted as saying that much of Europe "is indeed in pretty deep depression now." He added that the widespread gloom reflected the dashed hopes that, despite corruption in the Western-backed Afghan government and the weakness of the Afghan security forces, somehow the mission could succeed. There were people who didn't want to see the writing on the wall. There were people who were deluding themselves," he said.

The joint meetings of EU defense ministers and foreign ministers held in Brussels last week took a decision to set benchmarks for engaging with the Taliban, but made no public announcement about dealing with the security fallout from the troop withdrawal from Afghanistan.

A lengthy written statement issued by European Council President Charles Michel bemoaned Europe's inability to change matters for the better in Afghanistan and asked: "As a global economic and democratic power, can Europe be content with a situation where it is unable to ensure unassisted the safety and evacuation of its diplomats, its citizens and those who have helped them and are therefore under threat?" He added: "Europe must rapidly make choices connected to its strategic interests.

While these are important issues that need to be sorted out between the US and its allies and partis a clear need for Afghans and their friends, including the US, NATO and the country's neighbors, to develop new policies and action plans to deal with the crisis, starting with assessment of the risks and threats emanating from the vacuum left by the Western troop withdrawal and subsequent collapse of the government. Those risks and threats include civil war, terrorists regrouping, worsening COVID-19 conditions, and a severe economic crisis after the International Monetary Fund and World Bank halted aid and the US froze Afghanistan's reserves and stopped the shipment of currency to the country.

UN Security Council Resolution 2593, adopted on Aug. 30, is a step in the right direction, despite China and Russia's abstentions. Now is the time to ensure its proper and speedy implementation. One of the most important issues should be to establish a mechanism between willing friends of Afghanistan for regular coordination and consultation, and to send the Afghan people a message of reassurance and solidarity. The coordination of humanitarian assistance is also urgent and could be carried out by the group.

It is probably too early for most countries to take a clear political position on the situation, which may complicate their work with some Afghan factions, but a call should go out to all Afghan parties to engage in negotiations toward a political solution. It should be emphasized by the group that the international community is ready to engage with all Afghan factions to facilitate the delivery of aid, but also to prevent the country from once again becoming a haven for terrorists. The US, UK and France led the process of adopting Resolution 2593, which makes it appropriate for them to lead the process of implementing it, with UN help.

# 06

# WORLD / SPORTS

Islamabad **POST** Thursday, September 09, 2021

### Briefs **Pak against** arms race in

the region

FROM PAGE 01

build-up in the conventional

and strategic domains. The

NCA viewed these devel-

opments as detrimental to

peace and security and as-

serted that Pakistan would

take all measures to ensure

the strategic stability in the

region without entering into

The NCA reiterated main-

taining Full Spectrum De-

terrence in line with the

policy of Credible Minimum

Deterrence and expressed

satisfaction on the develop ment of strategic capabili-

ties. The NCA appreciated

high standards of training and operational readiness of

the strategic forces, and ap-

preciated the scientists and

engineers whose dedicated

contributions have enabled

Pakistan to successfully pur-

sue the desired objectives.

**UAE** lauds

Pakistan's

role on...

FROM PAGE 01

the second highest number

of Pakistani citizens any-

where in the world. He said

Pakistani diaspora in UAE

has a great role in promoting

people to people contacts

between the two countries.

Talking about situation in

Afghanistan, the Minister

said peace and stability in

Afghanistan is in the best

interest of the region. He

said Pakistan made sincere

efforts for peace and stabili-

ty in Afghanistan and its role

in evacuation of foreigners

from Kabul has greatly been

appreciated. Speaking on

the occasion, the Ambassa-

dor lauded Pakistan s role

for regional stability, espe-

cially peace in Afghanistan.

Pakistan

warns

against...

an arms race.

# Shahram maiden Pakistani in US 9-Ball Pool C'ship

As many as 256 cueists from more than 100 countries including world professional snooker champion Judd Trump will contesting in the US 9-Ball Pool Championship A detailed briefing was given to NCA on evolving conflict being staged at Harrah's Resort Atlantic City in New Jersey from September 13 to 18 dynamics in the region. The NCA noted with concern the destabilizing massive arms

#### **AFZAL JAVED**

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's Asian games bronze medalist and ace cueist Shahram Changezi becomes the first Pakistani to participate in the prestigious US Open Nine Ball Pool Championship to be starting from September 13 th in New Jersey.

As many as 256 cueists from more than 100 countries including world professional snooker champion Judd Trump will contesting in the US 9-Ball Pool Championship

being staged at Harrah's Resort Atlantic City in New Jersey from September 13 to 18. Shahram Changezi, who is associated with the National University of Sciences & Technology (NUST), Islamabad, for the past few years has remained one of the top cueists of the country despite his limited appearances in the national ranking snooker

events in the recent past. He said that it is going to be an invigorating experience to compete among the world's best 256 players. Personally, it is a matter

see my name as the first Pakistani cueist to take part in the US Open 9 Ball Championship. I hope my participation will create a stir in the cue sports community in Pakistan and will be a source of increased interest in 9 Ball Pool in the country.'

Elaborating on his preparations for the Championship, he said, "I have been practicing in a local Islamabad club (Breakers Snooker F-11), where they have an international standard 9 Ball Pool table. On my request, they

of pride and honour for me to immediately recovered the cloth and changed the balls to facilitate me. I am practicing as many hours as possible on a daily basis and I will try to give my best in my maiden US Open 9 Ball Championship." Shahram was the national

ranking champion in 2007 and 2008. He secured bronze medals in the 2010 Asian Games Snooker Team Event in China, the 2015 Asian Team Snooker Championship in Iran and the 2015 World Team Snooker Championship in Pakistan.

#### World reacts as Taliban announces new govt

 $\begin{array}{c} F_{ROM} \ P_{AGE} \ 01 \\ {\rm forces \ withdrew, \ gave \ no} \end{array}$ sign of an olive branch to its opponents. Here is how the countries and international groups are reacting to the announce-

The US said it was concerned about the "affiliations and track records" of some of the people named by the Taliban to fill top posts in Afghanistan's new government. "We note the announced list of names consists exclusively of individuals who are members of the Taliban or their close associates and no women. We also are concerned by the affiliations and track records of some of the individuals," a spokesperson for the Department

Taliban has presented this as a caretaker cabinet. However, we will judge the Taliban by its actions, not words."

#### Turkey Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said he was carefully monitoring developments in Afghanistan.

"We don't know how long it to Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Qatar

The Taliban show "pragmatism" and should be judged on their actions, a top Qatari official told the AFP news agency in an exclusive interview, adding there was "no question" the group were Afghanistan's de facto rulers.

"They have shown a great deal of pragmatism. Let's seize the opportunities there... and look at their public actions," said Assistant Foreign Minister Lolwah al-Khater, who stopped short of announcing formal recognition of Afghanistan's new rulers.

"They are the de facto

### France end winless run and Scotland revive WC hopes

#### **SPORTS DESK**

PARIS: Reigning champions France beat Finland 2-0 in a World Cup qualifier on Tuesday thanks to Antoine Griezmann's double strike to snap a five-game winless streak while Scotland kept their hopes alive with a 1-0 win in Austria.

In other action, Portugal and the Netherlands stayed on track to reach the finals in Qatar next year, with Memphis Depay grabbing a hat-trick for the Dutch in a 6-1 demolition of Turkey. France were roared on 57,000 by passionate spectators in Lyon where Griezmann - who ended an unhappy spell at Barcelona with a loan move back to Atletico Madrid in the transfer window combined well with Karim Benzema as their side overcame a disjointed start. Benzema's delightful backheel released Griezmann



inside the box and he sup-"We did not do everything well but we have rediscovplied a smooth finish after 25 minutes.

Griezmann made it 41 goals France coach Didier Desfor his country when he beat Finnish 'keeper Lukas in our hands and we must Hradecky at the near post finish the job in November." to make it 2-0 in the 54th Scotland grabbed a valuminute. After a frustrating able three points in their 1-1 draw with Ukraine in bid to qualify for Qatar with a 1-0 win against the their last game, the victory was a welcome boost for Austrians in Vienna as Austhe French who are still tralian-born Lyndon Dykes' smarting after crashing out VAR-awarded of Euro 2020 at the last 16

up to second in Group F. seven points behind Euro 2020 semi-finalists Denmark who are cruising with a 100 percent record after thrashing Israel 5-0.

Sky Sports. "I love my play-

ered our confidence," said champs. "This puts our fate penalty notching a hat-trick.

"Some people in (Scotland)

don't believe in this group of players, but I do," Scotland manager Steve Clarke told ers. We're a good team.' The Netherlands were

ruthless against Turkey as Depay's hat-trick took the Barcelona forward's international goal tally to 33 goals. The Dutch led 3-0 by half-time and any remaining chance for the Turks vanished when Leicester defender Caglar Soyuncu was sent off for a second bookable offence shortly before the break. Louis van Gaal's side moved into top spot in Group G by virtue of goal difference above Norway who outclassed minnows Gibraltar 5-1, with Erling Braut Haaland

### Pak HC holds virtual Khuli Katchehri

LONDON: High Commissioner Moazzam Ahmad Khan held the 8th virtual 'Khuli Katchehry' with the Pakistani diaspora in the UK on 07 September 2021. The diaspora members sought redressal of their issues regarding visas, NICOPs, POCs, passports and property matters in Pakistan. While addressing some problems instantly, he assured that the remaining issues would be taken up with the concerned authorities in Pakistan. The High Commissioner also welcomed the suggestions of the diaspora members for the improvement of the services.

The diaspora members were particularly keen to know as to when Pakistan was going to be removed from the UK's Red List for travel. The High Commissioner said that he was in contact with the relevant UK authorities in this regard and removing Pakistan from the Red List was his priority. A large number of community members attended the virtual interaction. They appreciated the initiative of Virtual Khuli Katchehri at the Mission and termed it a useful platform for community facilitation. As per the directions of Prime Minister Imran Khan, the virtual Khuli Katchehri is held at the High Commission every month. - DNA

SLAMABAD. The Pakistan Cricket



### 'Babar is behind every decision of PCB'

AFZAL JAVED

"factually incorrect". Wasim Khan said, there was a consensus on the brand of "It has come to our notice that factually cricket that needs to be played in the incorrect reports are circulating about the Pakistan national squad environment", adding that Babar Azam is fully behind the direction that is being taken. He maintained that the team for the upcoming international series against New Zealand, England and the T20 World Cup assignment has been announced. PCB CEO further said that the players had a "positive meeting" with former Pakistan captain Ramiz Raja, who was recently elected to the PCB board of governors. "On Tuesday afternoon, some of the players had a healthy and positive meeting with former Pakistan captain and member of the PCB Board of Governors, Mr Ramiz Raja, in which

ment. **United States** 

of State said.

'We understand that the

this interim cabinet will last. All we have to do is to follow this process carefully," he told reporters during an official vis-

FROM PAGE 01 Foreign Minister Qureshi drew the attention of the international community to addressing humanitarian crisis and preventing economic meltdown in Afghanistan as the key priorities. The Foreign Minister expressed the hope that the meeting would lay strong foundation for a robust regional engagement on the situation in Afghanistan. The participants welcomed Pakistan's initiative to organize the meeting and concurred on the importance of the mechanism of

Afghanistan's neighbouring countries to address common concerns and advance shared objectives.

#### Aid for Afghanistan dispatched

#### FROM PAGE 01

continue to do its best to help Afghan brethren during the prevalent challenging environment. Pakistan also urges the international community to play its role in helping the people of Afghanistan to avert possible humanitarian crisis.

#### 'Pakistan highly values...

From Page 01 the international community to preclude humanitarian crisis and to ensure economic stability. Foreign Minister Qureshi underlined that the EU could play a pivotal role in this regard. The Polish foreign minister expressed deep gratitude to Pakistan for facilitation in evacuation of their citizens and others from Afghanistan. In the context of bilateral relations. Foreign Minister Qureshi said Pakistan had close ties with Poland and considered it an important member of the European Union and a bilateral partner. He said Pakistan remained committed to further enhancing the relationship with Poland in all areas. The foreign minister invited Foreign Minister Zbigniew Rau to visit Pakistan at an appropriate time. The Polish foreign minister accept ed the invitation. The two foreign ministers agreed to

remain in close contact.



### Arshad thanks Neeraj for defending against Indian media

#### DNA

KARACHI: Pakistan's javelin throw Olympian, Arshad Nadeem thanked his ideal Neeraj Chopra for defending him against Indian media's propaganda. Arshad was awarded cash prizes for his Tokyo Olympics 2020 performance in a private ceremony here at a local university.

While talking on the occasion, the Pakistani hero thanked his hero on the field Neeraj for supporting him throughout. "Neeraj Bhai is really a good man and we spent a lot of time together," he shared. "I felt too happy when he schooled Indian media for propagating against me. I admire him and looking forward to good relations with him," he added. It must be noted here that Indian media alleged Arshad of impairing Neeraj's

javelin before his throw in the final of the event. The propaganda started with Neeraj's statement in which he said "I was searching for my javelin at the start of the final. I was not able to find it. Suddenly, I saw Arshad was moving around with my javelin. Then I told him, 'Bhai give this javelin to me, it is my javelin! I have to throw with it'. Then he gave it back to me. That's why vou must have seen I took my first throw hurriedly." Later on, Neeraj corrected

Indian media for false propagations against his Pakistani counterpart. "I am hurt that they [media] are propagating it and using my name. Please don't do this as sports teaches us to be together and united. I'm extremely disappointed to see some of the reactions from the public on my recent comments," he had said in a Twitter video.

Board (PCB) on Wednesday clears that captain Babar Azam was happy with the team that has been selected for the upcoming T20 World Cup as reports had emerged after the resignations of head coach and bowling coach Misbahul-Haq and Waqar Younis respectively, which had come just minutes after the announcement of the team, that Babar was unhappy with the squad.

Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Wasim Khan said in a statement that the reports of Captain Babar Azam being unhappy with the squad for the ICC T20 World Cup were month," he concluded his statement. It is also mention that, chief selecand November. The squad named for upcoming home T20I series against New Zealand and England.



VIENNA: Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly Qasim Khan Suri meets with the Speaker of the Austrian Parliament, Wolfgang Sobotka. During the meeting, bilateral relations, increasing trade volume between the two countries, peaceful Afghanistan, and other issues of mutual interest were discussed in detail. - DNA

# **Trial begins over 2015 Paris terrorist attacks**

The assaults carried out by Islamic State extremists that killed 130 people deeply rattled France and sent shock waves through Europe. The proceedings are scheduled to last at least nine months

#### AGENCIES

PARIS: Marilyn Garnier, a survivor of a terrorist attack at the Bataclan concert hall in Paris, can never forget that evening. It was Nov. 13, 2015. Firecracker

noises erupted at the back of the crowd. Her partner pushed her to the floor, where they lay still, overcome by the smell of blood and gunpowder. Bursts of gunfire punctuated a deathly silence.

"At that moment, you don't think you are going to survive," Ms. Garnier, now 30, recalled. Nearly six years later, the historic

trial of the those behind the 2015 attacks - which, besides the Bataclan, also targeted an area outside France's national soccer stadium sole surviving attacker, and others and the terraces of cafes and reswho are accused of helping to plan taurants in central Paris - began and coordinate the assaults.

on Wednesday in the French capital. It is expected to last a record nine months. The coordinated assaults - a series of shootings and suicide bombings - were carried out by 10 Islamic State extremists who killed 130 people and wounded nearly 500 others, shaking France to its core. (One survivor who suffered from severe trauma and killed himself in 2017 was officially declared the 131st victim.) Of the 10 attackers, nine were killed. Most carried out suicide bombings or were killed by the police, including in a shootout several days later when the authorities raided a hide-out north of Paris. Twenty men will be tried by a panel of judges, including Salah Abdeslam, who prosecutors say is the

When Mr. Abdeslam, who arrived at the courthouse on Wednesday under tight police escort, was asked by the presiding judge to confirm his name, he started by invoking God. "I abandoned all professions to become a fighter for the Islamic State," Mr. Abdeslam, wearing a black T-shirt and black face mask, said when asked about his job.

Over 300 lawyers and nearly 1,800 plaintiffs will take part in the trial. People can become a "partie civile," or plaintiff, in a French criminal trial if they were harmed by the crime in question, a status that could give them the right to compensation.

A courtroom with space for 550 people was built specifically for the monumental proceedings, which will be the first to be accessible for plaintiffs on a live internet radio. It will also be one of the

rare trials in France to be filmed. "It's the trial of all superlatives," Éric Dupond-Moretti, the French justice minister, said this week at the courthouse on the Île de la Cité, an island on the Seine River that will be partly locked down by the police for the duration of the trial. "The longest trial in our history," he added.

On Wednesday, the courthouse, surrounded by checkpoints, was teeming with camera-toting journalists and police officers with bomb-sniffing dogs. Plaintiffs were offered lanyards indicating their willingness to talk to the news media – green for yes, red for no.

While the November 2015 attacks saw France unite in mourning, it also instilled deep fears. The attacks came months after deadly shootings at a kosher supermarket and at the offices of Charlie

He urged people to back the crick et team ahead of the ICC T20 World Cup next month. "It is important that collectively we get firmly behind the squad so that they have the stability, backing and focus they need prior to going into the ICC T20 World Cup next tor Mohammad Wasim had named a 15-member squad for the T20 World Cup to be held in UAE in October the World Cup will also play in the

Hebdo, a satirical newspaper,

and deepened wounds in French

society that have yet to fully heal.

Unresolved debates continue over

the place of Islam in France, immi-

gration, and the balance between

François Hollande, the socialist

president of France at the time of

the attacks, has told Le Parisien

that his time in office, "whether I

like it or not, bears the traces of

what happened that Nov. 13, and,

more generally, of Islamist terror-

ism." "Each time a new terrorist

attack occurs, it plunges me back

into that dark night," said Mr. Hol-

lande, who will testify at the trial,

a first for a former president. For

some survivors, a door slamming

or a car backfiring may be all it

takes. Ms. Garnier escaped from

the Bataclan uninjured after burst-

ing through an emergency exit.

security and civil liberties.

upcoming series and beyond," he said.

rulers, no question about that.' China

Beijing said it welcomed the end of "three weeks of anarchy" in Afghanistan with the establishment of a new interim government in Kabul, calling on the Taliban to restore order in the country. China has been scath-

ing about the American withdrawal, which it criticised as ill-planned and hasty. On Wednesday it said the new government would help bring stabili-

ty. "China attaches great importance to the announcement by the Taliban of the establishment of an interim government and some important personnel arrangements," said foreign ministry spokesman Wang Wenbin at a press briefing.

"This has ended more than three weeks of anarchy in Afghanistan and is a necessary step to restore order and rebuild the country.

#### European Union

The European Union said the "caretaker" government unveiled by the Taliban in Afghanistan failed to honor vows from the new rulers to include different groups.

"Upon initial analysis of the names announced, it does not look like the inclusive and representative formation in terms of the rich ethnic and religious diversity of Afghanistan we hoped to see and that the Taliban were promising over the past weeks," an EU spokesperson said.

#### **United Nations**

Farhan Haq, a spokesman for the UN, said the global body does not engage in acts of recognition of governments.

'That is a matter that's done by member states, not by us. From our standpoint, regarding today's announcement, only a negotiated and inclusive settlement will bring sustainable peace to Afghanistan," he told reporters.

The UN is committed "to contribute to a peaceful solution, promote the human rights of all Afghans, notably women and girls," and provide life-saving humanitarian assistance, he added.

# 07

# **BUSINESS / WORLD**



### Floods in hospital kill 17 in central Mexico

MEXICO CITY: Floods killed 17 patients in a hospital following heavy rains in Tula, a city in the central Mexican state of Hidalgo, authorities said Wednesday. Rains starting on Monday afternoon in Hidalgo caused the area's Tula River to overflow, disrupting vital services and flooding the General Hospital of Zone No. 5 of the Mexican Social Security Institute (IMSS). "We have, unfortunately, 17 deaths," Governor of Hidalgo Omar Fayad told the press.

According to reports, 15 of the deceased had COVID-19 and died because "the hospital was flooded and was left without power, and unfortunately they were on respiratory support." The other two victims arrived at the hospital without vital signs and they also had

#### Indonesian prison fire kills 41

COVID-19, he said. – APP

JAKARTA: A fire tore through an Indonesian prison on Java island on Wednesday, killing 41 people and injuring dozens of others, an official said.

The blaze at the Tangerang Penitentiary, just outside the capital Jakarta, broke out in the early hours when most inmates were asleep. Rescue teams were able to put out the fire, which was mostly contained in one block that housed prisoners jailed over drug charges, at around 3:00 am (2000 GMT Tuesday) and evacuated the victims.

"Forty-one inmates died, eight were badly injured and 72 others sustained minor injuries," Jakarta police chief Fadil Imran told a press conference.

Victims with serious injuries were rushed to Tangerang's general hospitals for treat ment, while prisoners with minor wounds were treated in a health clinic.

Authorities are still inves-

# Briefs Azerbaijan seeks Qatar's part in Karabakh rehabilitation

Entrepreneurs cooperate in various sectors of the economy and a number of Azerbaijani goods are sold in Qatar's trade networks

#### DNA

BAKU: Azerbaijani Economy Minister Mikayil Jabbarov has invited Qatari companies to invest in Azerbaijan's territories liberated from the Armenian occupation and implement joint projects, during the meeting with Qatar's State Minister for Foreign Affairs Soltan bin Saad Al-Muraikhi on September 8.

The parties discussed bilateral economic relations and exchanged views on issues of common interest. Moreover, the parties noted the development of Azerbaijani- Qatari ties and the importance of mutual visits to develop cooperation.

Jabbarov described trade and investment cooperation as one of the main directions of the Azerbaijan-Qatar partnership. He noted that there are active business relations between the two countries' business circles. Thus, entrepreneurs cooperate in various sectors of the economy and a number of Azerbaijani goods are

sold in Qatar's trade networks. The minister stressed that the creation of the Azerbaijani Chamber of Commerce in Qatar, the organization of the Investment Roadshow, the exchange of information on products with export potential and other measures will contribute to



the strengthening of trade and economic partnership. Furthermore, the participants of

the meeting were informed about the favorable business environment and economic potential of Azerbaijan, logistical opportunities of industrial zones and the Alat Free Economic Zone. The Qatari minister emphasized his country's interest in expanding relations with Azerbaijan and the participation of Qatari companies in projects related to the reconstruction and development of Azerbaijan's liberated lands. In addition. he shared his views on the development of Azerbaijan-Qatar economic cooperation.

Earlier, on September 7, Azerbai-

the two countries amounted to \$2.4 million in 2020.

Qatar, which has been cooperating with Azerbaijan since September 1994, was one of the first countries expressing support for Azerbaijan's sovereignty and territorial integrity amid bloody clashes going in and around Karabakh from late September to early November in 2020.

mation and communication

technologies, agriculture

and food security spheres

since the 16th session of

the intergovernmental com-

mission held in Baku on Oc-

Moreover, the parties are

planned to discuss further

steps to expand future coop-

A protocol on the outcomes

of the 17th session of the

intergovernmental

tober 9, 2019.

eration.

joint

in the first seven months of 2021. In addition, the trade turnover between Azeri, Kazakh ministers to mull economic co-op nomic, energy, transport, DNA logistics, industrial, infor-

jani Foreign Minister Jeyhun Bay-

ramov and Qatari State Minister

for Foreign Affairs Soltan bin Saad

Al-Muraikhi discussed Karabakh's

rehabilitation and further econom-

ic cooperation.

BAKU: Baku will host the 17th meeting of the joint Azerbaijani-Kazakh intergovernmental commission on trade and economic cooperation on September 9, Azerbaijan's Energy Ministry has reported.

Both countries' delegations led by the intergovernmental commission co-chairs. Azerbaijani Energy Minister Parviz Shahbazov and Kazakh Trade and Integration Minister Bakhyt Sultanov, will attend the meeting. The participants will discuss

the activities implemented on the status of bilateral

welcomes govt in Afghanistan DNA

Uzbekistan

TASHKENT: The government of Uzbekistan welcomes the creation of an interim government in Afghanistan. This was stated in the statement of the press service of the Uzbek Foreign Ministry.

"We hope that this decision will be the beginning of achieving broad national accord, establishing sustainable peace and stability in this country," the Foreign Ministry said.

Uzbekistan expresses its readiness to "develop constructive dialogue and practical interaction with the new state bodies of Afghanistan," the statement emphasizes.

#### Germany admits police used Pegasus spyware

FRANKFURT: The German government admitted Tuesday that its federal police service used controversial Israeli spyware known as Pegasus, parliamentary sources told, drawing immediate criti-

cism from rights groups. Germany's BKA federal police bought the software from Israel's NSO Group in late 2019, a closed-door parliamentary committee heard from government officials. The admission, recounted by sources at the meeting, confirmed earlier reports in German media outlets Zeit, Sueddeutsche, NDR and WDR.

Pegasus, which is able to switch on a phone's camera or microphone and harvest its data, came under global scrutiny after a list of about 50,000 potential surveillance targets - including journalists, activists and politicians - was leaked in July. French President Emmanuel Macron changed his phone after his number appeared on a list of potential targets.

commission is to be signed The German parliamentaat the end of the meeting. ry sources said the BKA, The volume of foreign trade which falls under the inteoperations between the rior ministry, used the Petwo countries amounted to gasus software "in a small \$61.4 million in the first sevnumber of cases" It remains unclear whether German intelligence agencies also used the software. Germany's strict privacy laws only allow for data harvesting under very specific conditions, which led the BKA to buy a version of the software in which some spy functions were switched off, the committee heard. - APP



ISLAMABAD: Secretary Board of Investment Farreena Mazhar in a meeting with German

The trade turnover between Azerbaijan and Qatar amounted to \$764,340

cause of incident, but suspected an electrical fault may be behind the fire.

"I have checked the scene, based on early observation, it is suspected (the fire) happened because of a short circuit," Imran said. - APP

#### Meningitis epidemic in **D**R Congo kills 129

KINSHASA: An epidemic of meningitis has been declared in northeastern DR Congo, where 129 people have died, the World Health Organization (WHO) said on Wednesday.

A total of 261 suspected cases have been recorded so far, amounting to a "high case fatality ratio of 50 percent," the WHO's Africa branch said in a statement. "Confirmatory tests carried out by the Institut Pasteur in Paris detected Neisseria meningitidis - one of the most frequent types of bacterial meningitis with the potential to cause large epidemics," it said.

Meningitis is an infection of the lining surrounding the brain and spinal cord, transmitted through respiratory droplets or throat secretions from those infected. The disease is potentially fatal and without treatment can cause neurological damage, especially deafness and mental retardation among young children.

Six strains of the N. meningitidis germ are notorious for causing epidemics. However, the early symptoms of the disease - headaches and fever - can be difficult to spot as they are similar to other common ailments. The epicentre of the out-

break is in Banalia, in Tshopo province. Health officials in the Democratic Republic of Congo have deployed an initial emergency team there and the WHO is bringing in additional drugs and experts,

the statement said. "We are moving fast, delivering medicines and deploying experts to support the government's efforts to bring the outbreak under control in the shortest possible time," said Matshidiso Moeti, the WHO's regional director for Africa. – APP

#### Iran terms Islamophobia challenge in culture of peace

#### AGENCIES

NEW YORK: Iran's Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Mission to the UN Zahra Ershadi described xenophobia and Islamophobia as main challenges in culture of peace. In her statement addressing the United Nations High-Level

Forum on the Culture of Peace, Ershadi said, "Today, culture of peace has been seriously challenged by such phenomenon as hate speech, xenophobia and Islamophobia, creating environment conducive to violence and violent extremism.'

"We support efforts to promote culture of peace and to that end, underline the importance of dialogue among cultures and civilization," she added.

"Our world today is facing pressing challenges," she said adding, "It suffers from wars, conflicts, terrorism and violent extremism, poverty and discrimination, as well as unilateralism and unilateral coercive measures which are contrary to international law."

"As the Secretary-General has rightly put it, world order is becoming increasingly chaotic, democratic principles are under siege, the rule of law is being undermined and multilateralism is under fire, precisely when we need it most," Ershadi said. "They are extremely detrimental to such noble values as peace, justice, equality, tolerance and coexistence upon which the United Nations is founded," she added.

"For, upholding and promoting these values as well as the purposes and principles of the United Nations are more important and necessary than ever," she noted.

'The Charter makes clear that in order to achieve international peace and security, the Organization and its Members shall act in accordance with the principles of sovereign equality of all States, the peaceful resolution of international disputes, the non-use or threat of use of force and non-intervention in matters which are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any State," Ershadi said.

"Accordingly, a culture of peace cannot be promoted when there are threats to the sovereignty and independence of other states and when basic rules of international law are brazenly violated by imposing unilateral coercive measures, targeting the most vulnerable the most," she added.

### Azerbaijani-Turkish joint drills serve regional stability

It is the sovereign right of every state to conduct various exercises in the territory within its international borders

#### DNA

BAKU: Baku has said that ongoing Azerbaijathe ni-Turkish joint drills in Azerbaijan's liberated Lachin region serve to ensure peace and stability in the region, the Foreign Ministry reported on September 8.

Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Leyla Abdullayeva made the remarks while commenting on the Armenian Foreign Ministry's claims that the drills in Lachin contradicts the trilateral statement of November 10, 2020, and undermines peace and security. "It is the sovereign right of every state to conduct various exercises in the territory within its international borders. To date, Azerbaijan has conducted numerous military exercises on its territory, including joint exercises with the participation of partner countries. The joint tactical training launched in Lachin region is of similar origin and serves to ensure peace and stability in the region," she said. Abdullayeva drew the Armenian Foreign Ministry's



attention to the fact that the threat to regional peace and security is not the conduct of military drills by a state on its own territory. She described making claims

to the territories of another state, pursuing a policy of military aggression, keeping the territories of another state under occupation, and violating the principles of international law, as Armenia has done for many years, as a threat to regional peace. If Armenia wants to ensure peace and security in the

region, then it must fulfill its

own obligations, she said. On September 7, the Armenian Foreign Ministry described the joint Turkish-Azerbaijani military exercises in Lachin as "an action harming the steps aimed at de-escalation".

It should be noted that on September 6, Azerbaijan and Turkey started joint drills in Lachin region liberated from Armenia's occupation in the last year's 44-day war.

The combat tactical exercises are being held under a military cooperation agreement between the

#### Pak-China photography exhibition held in Beijing

BEIJING: To celebrate the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Pakistan and China, a photography and art exhibition of Pakistani and Chinese photographers and painters was held here on Tuesday. The exhibition was jointly organized by Embassy of Pakistan and Home and Abroad Press at Huabei Guowen International Gallery. The artworks of Pakistani photographers, Mohammad Azhar Hafiz and Syed Mehdi Bukhari and notable Chinese artists including Feng Shoubin, Chen Manchon, Li Shuangliang, Zhang Bin and Zhang Xiaowen were displayed at the exhibition.

Addressing at the opening ceremony, Pakistan Ambassador to China, Moin ul Haque appreciated the innovative style and rich imagination of the artists to demonstrate cultural diversity, history and social norms and mores of two countries.

He also highlighted the affinity between the culture and artistic style of two countries and its role in solidifying bilateral relations between Pakistan and China.

Ambassador Haque informed that Pakistan and China had so far organized more than 70 events of different nature, mostly in culture, which were helping to bring the people of

two countries together. The very special friendship between the two countries had been transformed into an iron brotherhood and all weather strategic partnership and friendship which had grown stronger and stronger year by year, he added. – APP

# **IPU supports parliamentary reforms in Uzbekistan**

The General Secretary of the Ministry of Railways highly appreciated the reforms carried out on the initiative of President Shavkat Mirziyoyev, aimed at further strengthening the role of parliament and political parties in deepening democratic reforms and modernizing the country

#### DNA

TASHKENT: The 13th Summit of Women Speakers and the 5th World Conference of Speakers of Parliaments, organized by the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) in cooperation with the UN and the Austrian Parliament, are being held in the Austrian capital these days. A parliamentary delegation head-

ed by the Chairman of the Senate Tanzila Narbaeva is taking part in them from the Uzbek side. On 6 September, the head of the Senate met with the Secretary

General of the Inter-Parliamenta-

ry Union M. Chungong. The most priority issues on the agenda of interaction between Uzbekistan and the said Organization were discussed there. The General Secretary of the Ministry of Railways highly ap-

preciated the reforms carried out on the initiative of President Shavkat Mirziyoyev, aimed at further strengthening the role of parliament and political parties in deepening democratic reforms and modernizing the country. He expressed support for the priorities of the state policy of the republic to ensure the rights, free-

doms and legitimate interests of



Inter-Parliamentary Union For democracy. For everyone

women, to strengthen their role in public and state life. As you know, the next 14th Sum-

mit of Women Speakers of Parliaments for the first time in the history of Central Asian countries will be held in our country in

organization of this event can be considered as a recognition of the achievements of the Uzbek side in the field of ensuring gender balance. During the meeting, an agreement was reached on establishing close cooperation between the Senate of the Oliv Mailis and the Secretariat of the IPU on holding the summit at the highest organizational and substantive level. According to M. Chungong, the successful holding in June of this year in Bukhara, the International Forum of Interparliamentary Global Cooperation in the Implementation of the SDGs, as well as

2022. It was emphasized that the the Bukhara Declaration adopted as a result of it, will serve a more inclusive, open and transparent implementation of the sustainable development agenda with the direct involvement of legislative bodies in these processes.

The head of the Inter-Parliamentarv Union confirmed the readiness of the Organization to continue to provide all necessary assistance to the Oliy Majlis of Uzbekistan in the successful implementation of reforms to further strengthen the role of parliament in the country's public life, address the most important socio-economic, political and legal tasks.

military decision-making and unit management skills. The clashes between Armenia and Azerbaijan resumed after Armenia launched large-scale attacks on Azerbaijani forces and civilians on September 27, 2020.

two countries.

The joint drills are aimed

at improving interaction

and combat coordination

between the servicemen

during operations, as well

as to develop commanders'

The 44 days of war ended with the Russian brokered peace deal signed on November 10 by the Azerbaijani, Russian and Armenian leaders. The peace agreement ended the 30-vears-old conflict between Baku and Yerevan over Azerbaijan's Nagorno-Karabakh region that along with the seven adjacent districts came under the occupation of Armenian armed forces in the war in the early 1990s. For about three decades,

Armenia failed to implement the UN Security Council resolutions demanding the withdrawal of the Armenian troops, which was the main obstacle to the resolution of the conflict.

Ambassador to Pakistan Bernhard Stephan Schlagheck in her office on Wednesday. - APP

relations in the trade, eco- en months of 2021.







#### Briefs **US and** allies have duty to aid Afghanistan

# **Speakers support initiation of EU-Pakistan Business Forum**

European Union delegation launches forum to facilitate Pakistani SMEs, boost trade to European Union

#### WEB DESK

**BEIJING:** The United States and its allies

Arij Ghaznavi

ing a lead in this regard.

their presence in the EU.

gether. She added diversifi-

cation into other sectors will

boost rade and ultimately

allow Pakistan to take full

The EU ambassador while

responding to media queries

said that a few days ago the

EU heads of missions had

invited the information min-

ister Fawad Chaudhry for

a briefing on the proposed

advantage of GSP plus.

Renowned

the event.



Afghanistan than any other country, said China's foreign minister Wang Yi. According to a statement from the foreign ministry on Wednesday, the minister said that they should help Afghanistan's positive development while respecting its sovereignty and independence. Wang, who is also China's state councillor, made the comments via video to a meeting of diplomats from Afghanistan's neighbours. according to the statement. China shares a land border with Afghanistan, where the Taliban on Tuesday named a new government. The Taliban retook control of Afghanistan last month as US-led foreign forces were ending a 20-year presence in the country. Wang said China would pro-

vide 200 million yuan (\$31 million) worth of grain, winter supplies, vaccines and medicine to Afghanistan, adding that it had already decided to donate an initial batch of three million COVID-19 vaccine doses to the Afghan people.

#### Qatari FM due in Islamabad

#### ALI FURQAN

ISLAMABAD: Qatari Foreign Minister Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani will be paying a daylong official visit to Islamabad on Thursday. He will meet with the Pakistani leadership to discuss the evolving regional situation and recog nition of the Taliban government in Afghanistan. This visit is happening at a time when Taliban announced their government and invited Pakistan and Qatar to participate in the government formation ceremony in Kabul. Qatar and Pakistan are among the only six countries invited by the Taliban for the oath taking ceremony of the newly formed government. Al Thani will meet Prime Minister Imran Khan and deliver the message of the emir of Qatar Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani. Qatari FM will have a discussion with his Pakistani counterpart Shah Mehmood Qureshi at the Foreign Office.



PMDA. The minister told them that there was no draft as such. She said EU believes in the press freedom and that message was conveyed to the minister as well. It may be mentioned here that the inaugural event was attended by representatives of local SMEs from four sectors: Gems, Jewellery and Mining, Information

Handicrafts Technology, and Fashion-wear as well as Travel and Tourism. The EU-Pakistan Business Forum initiative aims to provide opportunities for both EU and Pakistani businesses to work together to become engines of development and partnership and contribute to enhancing bilateral trade. During the first Islamabad

the participants session, were apprised about how they could benefit from the European Union's GSP+ Scheme, that provides two thirds of tariff lines duty free access to the EU market with the rest on preferential duties.

Other sectors including the agricultural and auto-parts manufacturers will be included in subsequent meetings.

The Pakistani economy consists of almost 3.3 million SMEs comprising of service providers, manufacturing units and start-ups.

SMEs make up over 30% of Pakistan's GDP, account for approximately 25% of export EU and Pakistan to enhance generation and provide over 70% industrial employment. well as collaboration in technology transfer and promo-While in the EU, Europe's 25 million small and medium tion of businesses.

interim govt **MONITORING DESK** ISLAMABAD: Federal Information Minister Fawad Chaudhry believes it is

too soon to comment on the Taliban's announcement of an interim government in Afghanistan. In a brief interview with

Premature to

comment on

BBC World shortly after the Taliban made its announcement, the information minister said he had learnt of the caretaker setup in Afghanistan on the programme's intro and so thought it would be too soon to make a comment on it. "I think it would be premature to comment at this time,' he told the BBC anchor.

The BBC anchor then asked for a comment on the presence of ISI chief Lieutenant General Faiz Hameed, who has been in Kabul for the last couple of days. She said it is understood that the ISI chief is helping the Taliban shape the new government in Afghanistan.

He said Pakistan has "deep issues" with Afghanistan, giving the expansion of Daesh, migration and TTP as some of the examples.

For this reason, Chaudhry said, Pakistan has to have an informal line of communication. He said Afghanistan has no foreign minister and asked if Pakistan was to send its foreign minister, who would he meet?

He said this is the only framework to communicate. "I will not say that we have no engagement with [the] Taliban. It was Pakistan's engagement with [the] Taliban that enabled US-Taliban negotiations. It was Pakistan's and Afghanistan's engagement that enabled and facilitated the evacuation of thousands of people stuck in Kabul," he said, adding that this engagement is now being appreciated by the world.

#### Ashraf Ghani apologizes to Afghan nation

According to sources Qatar and Pakistan will discuss the recognition of the Taliban government. Qatar emerges as central player in West's relationship with Afghanistan.

#### Status quo forces do not want free, fair elections

#### ZUBAIR AHMAD



status forces and political parties used to win elections through rigging were not willing to adopt modern technology in elections due to their vested interests.

Addressing a press conference he said, "Status quo forces do not want free, fair, transparent and credible elections in the country, they were not against Electronic Voting Machines (EVM) due to technical issues, but they were against the use of technology due to vested interests."

The minister was of the view that transparent elections were imperative to strengthen parliament and democracy. He said that Electronic Voting Machine (EVM) would help ensure accuracy, transparency in the election results and the use of EVM in election would help prevent vote rigging and eliminating mistrust of the candidates over the polling as well as results compilation process.

### **PIA's services during Afghan crisis lauded**

#### STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: Ambassa-Kuninori Matsuda dor called on Air Marshal Arshad Malik, Chief Executive Officer of Pakistan International Airlines on Monday.

Ambassador Matsuda appreciated Mr. Malik and his team for all their efforts and great work they have been doing during the recent difficult times in this region.

Both had a fruitful discussion for further strengthening mutual connection, not only for passenger flights but also on how both countries addresses improving the international supply chain resilience in such difficult circumstances.

They agreed to keep the door open for any possibility of cooperation with each other and move forward for strengthening Japan-Pakistan relationship.

# Toyota pledges investment of \$100 million in Pakistan

#### **CENTRELINE REPORT**

ISLAMABAD: Matsuda Kuninori, the Ambassador of Japan to Pakistan and Mr. Shinji Yanagi, Vice Chairman, Indus Motor Company Limited (IMC) called on Prime Minister Imran Khan on Wednesday.

During the meeting the IMC declared their tremendous over 100 million US Dollars investment plan to locally produce state-of-the-art hybrid technology vehicles in Pakistan by the end of 2023.

The Embassy of Japan is strongly confident that the decision will bring the economic ties between Japan and Pakistan to the next level, welcomes the decision as a symbolic milestone forwarding the 70th anniversary of the establishment of our diplomatic relations in 2022. Ambassador Matsuda hopes

times.

"We value our rela-

tionship and Toyota's trust in

Pakistan's economy and wel-

come this new investment for

Environment Friendly Hybrid

Electric Vehicles. Indus Mo-

tor Company is a wonderful

example of how global com-

panies can grow successfully

The development comes amid

Pakistan's efforts to ease its

policies for new entrants in

the automobile sector, aim-

ing to bring down car prices

in the country, and increase

localization and exports.

here in Pakistan."

enterprises (SMEs) are the

backbone of the EU econo-

my. SMEs provide two out

of three industrial jobs in the

EU. The Business Forum

will play a key role in bring-

ing together SME's from the

their export orientation as

that the Japanese auto technology will play a key role to realize new Pakistani automobile development plan.

The Embassy of Japan also pledges to continue to make its maximum effort to create supportive business environment for Japanese businesses here in Pakistan in corporation with the Government of Pakistan.

PM Khan appreciated the move and described the carmaker as the "most committed partner" for Pakistan, even in the most testing

#### AGENCIES

DUBAI: Leaving Kabul was "most

difficult decision" of my life, ousted Afghan president Ashraf Ghani said

the

in a statement on Wednesday. Ghani expressed regret that his "own chapter" ended in tragedy similar to his predecessors and that he had to leave Kabul without ensuring stability and prosperity in Afghanistan.

Ashraf Ghani, along with his top ministers, fled Afghanistan as the Taliban marched on Kabul on August 15 of this year. In an initial statement, Ghani had stated that he was 'forced' to leave the country and did so to 'avoid bloodshed'. Days after his departure from Afghanistan, Ghani and his family were granted asylum in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) on 'humanitarian grounds'.

Referring to the events of August 15, Ashraf Ghani said in his latest statement that he left Afghanistan at the urging of the palace security who advised him that remaining in the country could set off the same street-to-street fighting Kabul had witnessed during the civil war of the 1990s.

#### Covid-19 claims 83 more lives

#### DNA

ISLAMABAD: The national tally of total active cases of COVID-19 on Wednesday reported 91,747 with 3,902 more people tested positive for the deadly virus and 4,387 people recovered from the disease during the last 24 hours.

Eighty-three corona patients have died during past 24 hours, including those under treatment in the hospitals and in their respective quarantines or homes, according to the latest update issued by the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC). There were 5,389 Covid infected patients under treatment in critical condition in various Covid dedicated healthcare facilities of the country.

### Islamabad's Cadastral Mapping Project launched The prime minister, speaking at the inauguration ceremony, said the digitalisation of land records was a "big step forward" in curbing land record tampering

#### SHUJAAT HAMZA

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Imran Khan on Wednesday inaugurated Islamabad's Cadastral Mapping Project - which aims to curb land record tampering, ensure monitoring of construction through imagery, and provide information about land ownership on a single click.

**ISLAMABAD: Ambassador Kuninori Matsuda** 

calls on Air Marshal Arshad Malik, Chief

**Executive Officer of Pakistan International** 

Airlines. - DNA

The prime minister, speaking at the inauguration ceremony, said the digitalisation of land records was a "big step forward" in curbing land record tampering.

"The land records should have been computerised earlier [...] not digitising them had aided powerful people," the prime minister said.

PM Imran Khan highlighted that the land-grabbing mafia did not want records to be digitalised as it would have a setback on their motives. "50% cases in courts are of land disputes.

The premier said land grabbers occupy the homes of overseas Pakistanis, however, this digitalised system will now help keep track of the land's ownership

"The land records of Islamabad, Karachi, and Lahore will be digitalised [...] and technology will help beat the land-grabbing mafia," the prime minister said.

The prime minister mentioned that the price of land was surging in the country and it was the government's responsibility to keep a check on it and safeguard the interests of the people.

He mentioned the government had recovered state land worth Rs300 billion in the last three years - since PTI came into power.

seas Pakistanis were the ones most affected by land grabbing as when they come



transferred, people have to pay bribes The prime minister highlighted that overfor it [...] but now in six to seven months, you can get it done while sitting at home," he said.

Overseas Pakistanis will invest in the country once we provide them a conducive atmosphere, he said, adding land occupation will end through the digitalisation project. "The tree-plantation campaign in the country will also benefit from cadastral mapping [...] It will help avert deforestation," the prime minister added.

back to the country, their land is seldom

"It is an ordeal to get the land ownership

occupied by another person.

The mapping project has been conceived and inspired by the prime minister's vision to modernize the old "patwar system", Radio Pakistan reported.

Phase-I comprises digitisation of revenue records of three major cities - Karachi, Lahore, and Islamabad - and state land data, the publication said.

The project will also help overseas Pakistani to verify online information before purchasing land in Islamabad. The new system will also help identify the illicit hinging of state land, encroachment at nullah, and forests.