



# Islamabad POST

Saturday, September 25, 2021

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

Price Rs. 20

**Pakistan will work with Taliban to contain TTP threat**

Detailed News On Page-01

**China extends felicitations on JCC meeting**

Detailed News On Page-08

**Injured Messi to miss out for PSG again**

Detailed News On Page-06



## Briefs

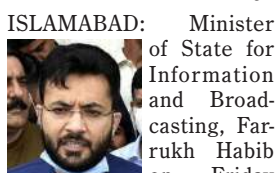
### Vaccine works against variants

DNA



ISLAMABAD: Special Assistant to Prime Minister on National Health Services, Regulations, and Coordination Dr. Faisal Sultan on Friday said that the COVID-19 vaccine is very effective to protect citizens from medical complications from many virus variants. "Keeping in view the detection of new COVID-19 variants in Pakistan and raising questions on the effectiveness of vaccine process, I advise country people to must go for vaccination against the virus to avoid facing more complications and hospitalization," Dr. Faisal said in a statement. He said that everyone eligible for vaccination should register and get vaccinated as per the government guidelines. He said that the government has taken appropriate measures and tightened restrictions to curb the COVID-19 disease in the country.

### NAB to continue accountability



ISLAMABAD: Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting, Faruk Habib on Friday appreciated the role of National Accountability Bureau (NAB), for continuing trial against powerful personalities involved in corruption and money laundering cases. This is first time in the history of the country that accountability bureau is taking strict action against high profile persons found guilty in corruption cases, he said while talking to a private television channel. Shahbaz Sharif and Nawaz Sharif who were facing money laundering cases, wanted to shut the doors of accountability process, he stated. Commenting on extension of NAB chief, he said a legal team is looking into the matter. He hoped that accountability process would continue after the decision of NAB chief.

### Holiday Notice

The offices of daily Islamabad POST shall remain closed on Saturday on account of weekly off therefore there will be no newspaper on Sunday.  
- Editor

## Inside...

NAB apprehended big fishes for the first time  
- Page 03

ICCI organizes largest IT expo 21 to promote trade  
- Page 03

Pakistan a land of infinite opportunities: VC Air Varsity  
- Page 04

Reopening US Consulate in East Jerusalem essential  
- Page 05

Climate protests start in Germany ahead of elections  
- Page 06

Rathore woos Pak diaspora for works in education, tourism  
- Page 07

PM Imran launches Digital Media Development Program  
- Page 08

## Pak will work with Taliban to contain TTP

"I believe that US can work with a new govt in Afghanistan to promote common interests and stability," The PM says

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Imran Khan on Friday said Pakistan would work with the authorities in Afghanistan to halt Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) and other sources of terrorism emanating from the neighboring country. He said Pakistan was "extremely concerned" about the threat of terrorism from Afghanistan, particularly from the TTP, which had conducted thousands of attacks against Pakistan from the territory of Afghanistan with the sponsorship and support of "certain hostile intelligence agencies". In an exclusive conversation with Newsweek magazine, Khan pointed out that the "plethora of terrorist groups" could take advantage of the conflict in Afghanistan. The conversation with senior journalist Tom O'Connor conducted via email focused on a number of subjects including Afghanistan, the relations with United States, China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), counterterrorism efforts and pandemic. Imran Khan mentioned that TTP had also been responsible for most of its attacks on Chinese citizens working in Pakistan, perhaps with the support of the East Turkestan Islamic Movement (ETIM).

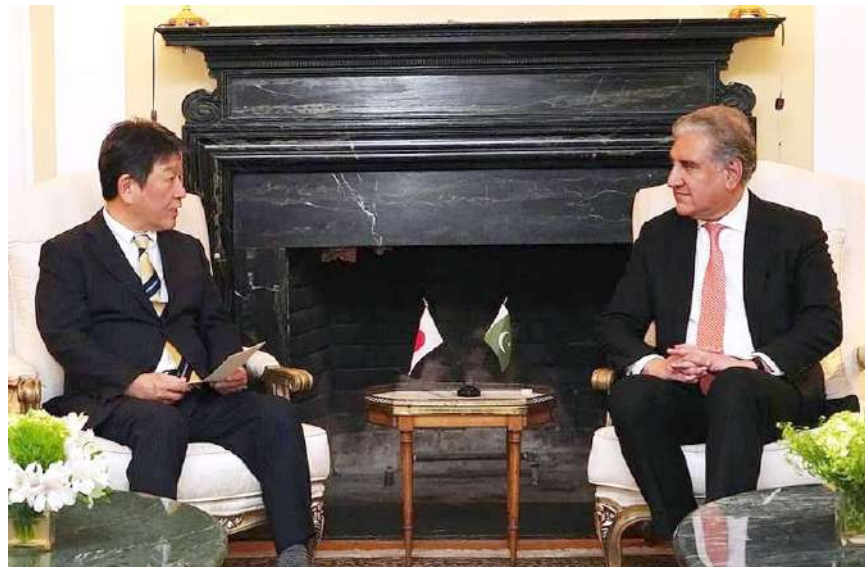
Continued on Page 06

## Japan a trusted partner of Pakistan, says Qureshi

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Foreign Minister Makhdoom Shah Mahmood Qureshi on Friday met the Foreign Minister of Japan, Motegi Toshimitsu, on the sidelines of the 76th session of the UN General Assembly in New York. The two Foreign Ministers exchanged views on bilateral relations between Pakistan and Japan as well as on other issues of mutual

Continued on Page 06



**NEW YORK:** Foreign Minister Makhdoom Shah Mahmood Qureshi in a meeting with the Foreign Minister of Japan, Motegi Toshimitsu. - DNA

## PM briefed on national security

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Imran Khan on Friday appreciated the diligent efforts of the Inter Services Intelligence (ISI) for national security and expressed his satisfaction over professional preparedness. The Prime Minister along with key Federal Ministers, Chief Ministers of Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa visited the ISI Secretariat. Chief of Army Staff General Qamar Javed Bajwa, Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Muhammad Amjad Khan Niazi and Chief of Air Staff Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Ahmad Babar were also present, a press release issued by the PM Media Office here said. Lieutenant General Faiz Hamid, Director General Inter Services Intelligence welcomed the dignitaries. A comprehensive briefing was given to the National and Military leadership on the national security and regional dynamics with focus on ongoing situation in Afghanistan.

ALI FURQAN

NEW YORK: Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi on Friday called for the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) more representative, democratic, transparent, effective and accountable to address the multiple challenges facing the world. The foreign minister expressed this resolve while speaking at the ministerial meeting of the Uniting for Consensus Group on UNSC reform on the sidelines of the General Assembly's 76th Session in New York.

Continued on Page 06



**ISLAMABAD:** DG ISI Lieutenant General Faiz Hameed receives Prime Minister Imran Khan and General Qamar Javed Bajwa upon arrival at ISI headquarters. - DNA

## Taliban issues 11 rules for media organizations

The restrictions include directives against publishing topics or content that are in conflict with Islam

NEWS DESK

KABUL: The Taliban in Afghanistan have unveiled '11 rules' for scribe organisations. These curbs include directives against publishing topics that are in conflict with Islam or insulting to national personalities, and also instruct journalists to produce news reports in coordination with the government media office, The New York Times reported. "Journalists are just frightened," said Steven Butler, a senior member of Amer-

## Defence minister orders crackdown on abuses

AGENCIES

KABUL: The Taliban's new defence minister has issued a rebuke over misconduct by some commanders and fighters following the movement's victory over the Western-backed government in Afghanistan last month, saying abuses would not be tolerated. Mullah Mohammad Yaqoob said in an audio message that some "miscreants and notorious former soldiers" had been allowed to join Taliban units where they had committed a range of sometimes violent abuses. "We direct you keep them out of your ranks, otherwise strict action will be taken against you," he stated. "We don't want such people in our ranks."

ica-based press freedom organization adding that "the organization had been receiving hundreds of emails from [Afghan] journalists asking for help." Since the collapse of Afghan government, Over 150 media outlets in Afghanistan have shut down their operations as they struggled to carry out their day to day functions. There has been a change in the content being shown on private TV channels. Critical news bulletins, political debates, entertainment and

Continued on Page 06

## 6 terrorists killed in Balochistan

DNA

RAWALPINDI: The Frontier Corps (FC) Balochistan South on Friday killed six terrorists including two commanders amid intense exchange of fire during an intelligence based operation (IBO) conducted on confirmed intelligence about presence of terrorists in a hideout near Kharan, Balochistan. As soon as the troops cordoned the area, the terrorists opened fire to flee from the hideout, said an ISPR news release. During intense exchange of fire, the six terrorists including two commanders namely Gul Mir alias Pullen and Kaleem Ullah Bolani got killed. A large cache of arms and ammunition was recovered from the area, it added.

## Sabina's murder reignites fears over women's safety

WEB DESK

LONDON: The murder of a 28-year-old teacher in a London park has reignited a national conversation over women's safety, six months after the death of Sarah Everard, who was killed by a police officer, topped the United Kingdom's political agenda. Sabina Nessa, a primary school teacher, was killed a week ago on the evening of September 17 while walking in Cator Park in Kidbrooke, an area in the capital's southeastern Borough of Greenwich. It is understood that she was on her way to meet a friend at a bar less than a 10-minute walk away from her home on Astell Road when she was attacked at about 8:30pm, according to



London's Metropolitan Police Service (Met). Her body was found by police officers in Cator Park the following afternoon, nearly 24 hours later, close to a local community centre. A post-mortem carried out on Monday proved inconclusive. As the Met's probe continues, calls are growing for authorities to tackle what campaigners say is an "epidemic of violence towards women in the UK".

Continued on Page 06

## Pakistan condemns killing of 3 Kashmiris

KHAYAM ABBASI

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan on Friday strongly condemned extra-judicial killing of three Kashmiris, including a 65-year-old man, in Uri sector along the Line of Control (LoC) in Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IOJK). Foreign Office Spokesperson said, this is another example of India's unabated state-terrorism being perpetrated against Kashmiris for decades. He said, "The so-called 'anti-infiltration' operation in Uri is the typical false flag operation by India that Pakistan has been warning the world about". The spokesperson said, it is high time that India recognized that no amount of staged-managed mischief and brutal clamp down on Kashmiris can suppress the Kashmiris' movement to achieve right to self-determination nor would it mislead the world into accepting India's desperate attempt to portray that as a victim of terrorism.

## UN Chief warns of climate change

UNITED NATIONS: UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has warned that no region is immune to climate disasters, and that "our window of opportunity" to prevent the worst climate impacts is "rapidly closing". Speaking in a UN Security Council debate on climate and security, he drew attention to the "deeply alarming" report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) last month, and said that "much bolder climate action is needed" to maintain international peace and security. - APP

## Pakistan expresses concern over Assam violence

It was conveyed to the Indian official that the recent incidents of violence are, unfortunately, only a continuation of the relentless anti-Muslim violence

SAIFULLAH

ISLAMABAD: The Indian Charge d' Affaires Cd'A was summoned to the Foreign Office and conveyed Government of Pakistan's grave concern over the recent targeting of Muslims in India's State of Assam, where a brutal eviction drive against the Muslim residents of the State has been launched. The video which shows killing of an unarmed man by the Police and the desecration of his mortal remains by the individuals embedded with the security forces is shocking beyond belief. It was conveyed to the Indian official that the recent incidents of violence are, unfortunately, only a continuation of the relentless anti-Muslim violence which has become a norm in India under state patronage. Security forces

are either themselves involved in perpetrating brutalities against Muslims with impunity or provide protection to the 'Hindutva' extremists and terrorists who regularly indulge in lynching and other forms of torture against Muslims. A series of anti-Muslim and anti-minority legislations enacted by Government of India and incidents of violence against Muslim highlight the rising levels of intolerance and lack of respect for the minority communities in India. The CdA was told that the Government of India must investigate the recent anti-Muslim violence in Assam and other such incidents that have happened throughout India and punish the perpetrators of these crimes. It should also take measures to stop such incidents from recurring in future. Thousands staged protests in

India's Assam state on Friday, a day after two people were killed when hundreds clashed with police over the state government's eviction of Muslim families from their homes. Assam's government has faced widespread condemnation over the tactics used to eject the families, with critics pointing to them as the latest example of discrimination against Muslims under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). The BJP has been accused of exploiting the ethnic and religious fault lines in Assam for electoral gains, and running a hate campaign against Muslims, who account for a third of the state's population. "Assam is on state-sponsored fire," tweeted India's opposition Congress party leader, Rahul Gandhi.

## Media worker attacks a man shot by police

NEW DELHI: A video of a photographer stomping and attacking the body of a man shot by the police in the northeastern state of Assam has gone viral in India, triggering uproar and protests. In the video, a man is seen running with a stick towards a group of policemen in riot gear, holding firearms, in Sipajhar village in Assam's Darrang district on Thursday. The photographer, identified as Bijoy Bania, is also seen with the policemen, who immediately open fire on the charging man. As soon as he falls to the ground after being shot, nearly a dozen policemen continue to attack him with batons. As the wounded man, identified by the police as Moinul Haque, lies on the ground - a red stain on his vest marking the area where he was shot - Bania approaches the body and begins to stomp on it. The photographer, his face covered and a camera slung around his neck, also punches and kicks the body before he is taken away by the policemen. Seconds later, Bania returns to repeat his attack. This time, Haque's body appears to be lifeless. Towards the end of the 72-second video, Bania is seen being hugged by a person in civilian clothes present at the spot.

Continued on Page 06





# National Newspaper Readership Day



## MESSAGES



**Dr Arif Alvi**  
President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan

Reading plays a vital role in my life, and I would not hesitate to say that it stands almost at the top of my pleasures. The credit for reading goes to my late mother Iffat-un-Nisa Begum, a graduate from Lucknow, who sometimes lovingly or sternly helped inculcate this

habit. She forced books upon me that I thought were beyond my understanding until I read few pages. May her soul rest in peace (Ameen).

My interests are very diverse, which I like to share with people on a yearly basis as recommendations of the best ten books I had read. Also, reading has helped me discover new horizons of life which educated me about human nature, intellect, philosophy, and science.

The more I read, and I am a voracious reader, the more I realise that my ignorance is huge, actually increasing day by day as I realise the extent of existing human knowledge. This ignorance by itself is a bliss. Life is too short and we should make the best of it.

I must appreciate the efforts of the All Pakistan Newspapers Society (APNS) to celebrate the National Newspaper Day on the 25th of September and my heartfelt congratulations to them for spearheading this cause. Why limit it to newspapers? Paper itself as we know it may be on the way out, but knowledge is not, and it will keep on coming in different 'containers' that may be virtual.

The decline in reading habits requires our immediate attention and we should make collective efforts to revive the culture of reading among our young generation.

Society is also facing a problem of fake news. The hazard of fake news can only be overcome by the bearers of news and the newspapers. I urge both print and electronic media to promote moral and ethical values according to societal values and discourage the circulation of fake news.

While commemorating this day, we need to encourage and educate our people to develop the habit of reading.



**Imran Khan**  
Prime Minister of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan

The Government of Pakistan appreciates the initiative of All Pakistan Newspapers Society (APNS) to observe 25th of September as the National Newspaper Readership Day to acquaint the nation regarding the significance of the utility of newspaper reading to

obtain reliable information in an era of massive proliferation of fake news and compromised content, especially on digital, online and social media platforms.

Newspapers have traditionally been a source of reliable and authentic information. The role of newspapers in unifying the nation during crucial times cannot be denied as it happened at the time of the Independence movement that culminated in the creation of Pakistan.

It is encouraging to observe that newspapers have upheld their authenticity and reliability despite the advent of digital media. Today, we need free yet socially responsible media to steer the nation towards success and reiterate the passion for harmony, discipline, and unity.

Newspapers and media have played a commendable role in aiding our government to combat the COVID-19 pandemic by creating precautionary awareness among citizens. Moreover, newspapers have also helped in putting Pakistan's stance across the globe on various important international issues. They work as a gauge to ascertain our successes and as a mirror for any shortcomings.

In the wake of the prolific invasion of fake news in social media, newspapers' responsibility has increased manifold.

On this occasion, I want to reiterate my government's resolve to promote freedom of expression and at the same time urge the media to join hands with the government towards developing an educated, enriched and enlightened nation that can face the challenges both inland and beyond our geographical boundaries.



**Mohammad Sarwar**  
Governor Punjab

I congratulate the All Pakistan Newspapers Society for its decision to celebrate National Newspaper Readership Day on 25th of September every year. The initiative will help in promoting the importance of newspapers reading habit in the country which unfortunately is declining due to the challenges faced by the society with the advent of electronic and social media.

It is pertinent to mention here that the print media is still considered to be the most credible and authentic source of information in disseminating news and information. The promotion of reading habits amongst the people of the country will effectively cope with the challenges that have arisen due to the unchecked onslaught of fake news. The Government of Punjab firmly believes in the fundamental and constitutional right of freedom of the press and considers that an independent and free media is definitely required for a developed and civilised society. We also believe that without freedom of the press and ensuring people's right to know, our cherished goal of a strong and democratic Pakistan cannot be materialised.

I appreciate the initiative of the APNS and am confident that celebrating this Day would disseminate and inculcate the importance of reading newspapers.



**Imran Ismail**  
Governor Sindh

I am glad to learn that the All Pakistan Newspapers Society (APNS) is celebrating 25th of September as the National Newspaper Readership Day. In the human history, newspapers have always been a great source of mass media. It plays a pivotal role in imparting information, knowledge, awareness and consciousness among people. Therefore, it possesses a proven significance for making the world civilised.

Even today, I begin my day with reading a newspaper. I understand that the words are more lasting and printed newspapers are actually the historical documentation of the happenings around the world. In the present age, where the electronic and social media is growing fast and spreading the news quickly from one part to the world to other, the newspapers are still considered more credible providers of information.

I am of the considered opinion that the newspapers, civil society and the govts should come forward to promote reading habit amongst the people particularly our youth for creating an informed, educated and enlightened society.

I once again extend my admiration to APNS for celebrating this day, and assure my whole hearted support to them in this regard.



**Shah Farman**  
Governor, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

This is very appreciable that APNS observes the National Newspapers Readership Day every year on 25th of September to promote reading habits among the masses in the country.

Despite the rapid growth of electronic media, the importance of newspaper reading is still intact and the people of urban and rural areas like to read the national, regional and local newspapers to keep themselves informed on regional, national and local issues as well as the government policies, decisions and other social issues.

The newspapers should adopt the professional approach and provide credible, authentic, fair and balanced news to their readers otherwise it will damage their credibility.

On this occasion, I also urge masses particularly youth to adopt newspaper reading habits in daily routine life. Reading newspapers not only keeps us well informed but also enables us to take part in discussions pertaining to the current events and issues.

I also appreciate the efforts and steps being taken by the APNS forum for observing the National Newspaper Readership Day. It indeed highlights the importance of newspapers and helps newspaper society in meeting modern challenges.



**Syed Zahoor Ahmed Agha**  
Governor Balochistan

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the All Pakistan Newspapers Society (APNS) for celebrating the National Newspaper Readership Day on 25th of September every year, highlighting the importance of newspaper readership in the country.

Initiated in 2019, the National Newspaper Readership Day is an extremely relevant day to establish and promote the habit of reading in Pakistan. In the digital age and time, one cannot deny the importance of newspapers as they provide us news with facts and information with sources.

The Government of Balochistan wholeheartedly supports the National Newspaper Readership Day and urges the entire nation to develop a habit of reading newspapers and checking facts before falling prey to fake news and rumours.

Let's join hands for this cause of combating fake news. We should also instill the habit of reading newspapers in our children so that they grow up as responsible and socially aware citizens. Our young generation should also focus on reading books to safeguard their future. Once again, I would like to appreciate the step taken by APNS and acknowledge their efforts for the said cause. Wishing to celebrate the National Newspaper Readership Day for years & years to come!



**Usman Buzdar**  
Chief Minister, Punjab

I felicitate the All Pakistan Newspapers Society on the National Day of Newspaper Readership. It goes without saying that newspapers' reading is a positive activity which keeps everyone aware of the current issues.

Before the creation of Pakistan, the newspapers with their excellent composition and poetic writings had litten up the freedom movement.

In my opinion, the role of print media is unforgettable during the freedom struggle of Pakistan. Although the newspaper readership has shown a decline over a period of time, with the revolution of social media, the newspaper's reading is increasing day by day.

The fact of the matter is that, no day passes without reading a newspaper, I give preference to reading newspapers and would also give advice to the young generation to read newspapers which would increase their knowledge and boost their wisdom because reading newspapers inculcates a very positive impact on the personality and character building of young people. The new generation should focus on newspaper's reading which not only gives information but also promotes the Urdu language. On the day of national readership, I pay tribute to the media persons and workers for their tireless struggle.



**Syed Murad Ali Shah**  
Chief Minister, Sindh

I appreciate and congratulate the APNS for continuously observing 25th of September as the National Newspaper Readership Day since 2019. This is a very important step towards reinforcing and re-establishing the habit of newspaper readership amongst the people. Despite the changing dynamics of media and the existence of electronic and social media, newspapers are an important source of information and cater to the basic people's "right to know". It is stated that the communication revolution has opened new avenues of instant information but they lack credibility and authenticity whereas newspapers are considered as the most credible source of news and information.

The Government of Sindh strongly believes in the importance of print media as an important medium to inform and educate the people of Sindh particularly about the inclusive socio-economic developments taking place in the province. Our government gives due importance to promote education and literacy in the province and are of the considered opinion that the newspapers play a very important and vital role in educating the people.

I wish the APNS success in their endeavours.



**Jam Kamal Khan**  
Chief Minister, Balochistan

It is a matter of immense pleasure that the All Pakistan Newspapers Society (APNS) is celebrating 25th of September as the National Newspaper Readership Day. I would like to take this opportunity to support and congratulate APNS for celebrating this day and highlighting the importance of newspaper readership in the country for the last two years.

Despite the growth of electronic media and social media, newspapers still play an important role in creating awareness and educating the citizens about various social issues, development works and major events happening across the world and the country.

In these times of the pandemic and digital era, we realise that how fake news travels fast and causes chaos in society. Currently, our country is also facing the challenge of fake news and disinformation.

Newspapers need to discourage this trend by promoting responsible, unbiased, ingenious and genuine journalism. I would like to urge the newspapers to counter fake news and disinformation.

I would also like to urge the people, particularly the young generation, to develop the habit of reading to keep themselves abreast of the latest developments in the fields of science and technology, sports, education and politics.

I would like to appreciate the initiative taken by the All Pakistan Newspapers Society (APNS) for celebrating this day which will help promote reading habits in society.



**Mahmood Khan**  
Chief Minister, KPK

This is pleasure to note that the All Pakistan Newspapers Society has taken a lead to highlight the importance of the readership of newspaper amongst the people of Pakistan and initiated to celebrate 25th of September as the National Newspaper Readership Day every year. The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Government profoundly supports the efforts of the APNS to instil the awareness of the importance of newspapers readership among masses. Newspapers not only disseminate news and record the history of a society but in developing countries, they also perform a gigantic role in shaping the socio-economic fabric in line with the global developments and changes. This role can only be successful if newspapers are massively read by all segments of society.

To achieve the above objective, not only newspapers but the governments, educational institutions and civil society at large should play their role and make efforts to encourage and inculcate readership habits in different sections of society.

This is unfortunate that in our society, the reading habits are decreasing especially among young generation, who due to the advent of social media, is not attracted towards read newspapers. This situation requires special and concentrated efforts. I hope that all the concerned will put their best efforts to raise this issue and work for this cause for the overall development and progress of the society.

The government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa believes in the importance of the growth of print media and is making all out efforts to support and strengthen the newspaper industry in the province.

I fully support the cause of newspapers readership and wish every success to the APNS in this regard.



**Fawad Chaudhry**  
Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting

We, the Government of Pakistan in general and the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting in particular, command and acknowledge this initiative of the All Pakistan Newspapers Society (APNS) to observe 25th of September as the National Newspapers Readership Day which aims at drawing the nation's attention towards the significance of newspaper reading to acquire reliable information in an era proliferated by

fake news and misleading content available at various media platforms.

We owe a profound debt of gratitude to the newspapers for supporting the creation of Pakistan whereby the nation was unified to exhibit a collective ideology much required to get their independent homeland.

I would also like to acknowledge the role of newspapers and media in supporting our government to combat various

challenges particularly the COVID-19 pandemic. The responsibility and reliability of the newspaper have immensely enhanced in a time where society is experiencing plentiful fake news on various fronts.

We, as key stakeholders of the information set up in the country, welcome the presence of newspapers on the modern technological platforms for information sharing as it provides the users an opportunity to get fast and reliable information

concerning the country and recognise the falsehood in malicious media campaigns orchestrated by hidden hands both domestic and foreign ones.

I urge the newspaper industry of the country to exhibit the same resolve once followed by our forefathers to safeguard our beloved country which is possible with a free socially responsible media to lead the nation towards success and educate them to follow the principles of

unity, faith, and discipline as envisioned by Quaid-i-Azam.

In the end, I reiterate PTT's government's commitment towards freedom of expression but, at the same time, urge the media particularly the newspapers to support our government in nurturing a knowledgeable and progressive nation that can emerge victorious to the challenges presented both at the national and international fronts.

## 'A good newspaper is a nation talking to itself'

A Newspaper is a piece of material which provides knowledge about all the latest news and events happening in the world. Since its origin in the 17th century, the newspaper has become one of the essential parts of our daily lives.

Reading newspaper is a very useful activity to start our day. Generally, there are many useful sections like political news, tech news, sports news, commerce & business news, editorials, puzzle games, etc, catering to the taste of both children & adults.

Newspapers help people become aware of current affairs and stay curious about them. Furthermore, newspapers help us become more informed citizens. Newspapers convey the public opinion to the policy makers on important issues. This will, in

turn, help people review the government and its performance.

Newspaper as a source of information for students

There are many advantages for students to read newspapers.

Improving their reading skills, which further enhances their knowledge base. Reading three-four paragraphs of any news that interests them daily can help in improving their reading skills.

Enhancement of Knowledge - Newspapers include the latest information about different fields including sports, politics, and business. Reading newspaper regularly helps in enhancing general knowledge and also provides knowledge about the current affairs.

Strengthen Vocabulary - Newspa-

per articles and news write-ups include rich vocabulary. Students who read the newspapers regularly develop a good vocabulary.

Why newspapers are important?

Newspapers are an authentic source of information. Newspapers remain the most time-honored medium through which news is delivered to people of all ages throughout the world.

Nearly 90 percent of Americans say they prefer to get their news straight from a reliable source such as a newspaper rather than hearing it from friends online or through other sources.

World News

Reading newspapers daily helps in getting information about the latest

world events. The news could involve matters of high consequence, such as war, climate, the economy and national elections, or topics that are arguably more trivial, such as political scandals, celebrity gossip and debates on minor issues.

Local News

Another major advantage of newspapers is to get updated on important local news. Whether you live in or near a big city or small town, things are happening regularly that affect your life in various ways. It's crucial to be informed about both good and bad things that affect your community, because that will keep you up-to-date on public safety issues, new attractions, upcoming elections, changes in local policies, and other related news.

Sports

Newspapers are a plentiful source of sports coverage. No matter which sports are in season, chances are there's a decisive win or an upset to be reported from the grounds of one of the major sporting fields.

The Classifieds

Perhaps you're not so interested in the latest news or entertainment stories but would like to know about gigs or yard sales in your area? For all of that and more, there's the classified ads section, which contains ads for everything from job opportunities to car sales and various other offers that could make or save you money.

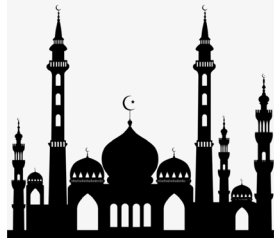
All in all a newspaper is not a lifeless paper but it contains information which can make or break your life.



**President Dr. Arif Alvi's memorable childhood photo with his late mother Iffat-un-Nisa Begum who instilled reading habits in him since childhood.**



## SERVICES



### Namaz Timings

Fajr..... 04:34 am  
Zohr..... 12:01 pm  
Asr..... 04:19 pm  
Maghrib..... 06:02 pm  
Isha..... 07:20 pm



### Hotels & Restaurants

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



### Airlines

Turkish Airlines.....8494949



### Emergency

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



### Enquiry

Edhi Ambulance.....115  
PIA Flight Info.....114  
PIA Cargo.....9280979  
Railway Inquiry.....117  
Railway Exchange9270831-5  
WASA Rawalpindi..5555489  
CAA.....9281092



### Hospitals

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



### Departments

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



### Complaints

**Water Tanker Service**  
E-7, F-10 & F-11.....9204654  
G-5, G-6, G-7, G-8.....9203853  
G-9, G-10, G-11, G-12, H-8.....9266316  
Wapda Islamabad....9217579  
Wapda Rawalpindi 111-309-309

### Islamabad Metropolitan

Corporation.....9209224  
Potohar Town.....9209224  
Rawal Town.....5773343

### Wasa Water Tank

Rawalpindi.....0331-5022125

# ICCI organizes largest IT expo 21 to promote trade

Ali Nawaz Awan said that the government attaches great importance to the IT sector as its promotion would help the govt to provide better services to the people

ZUBAIR AHMAD

ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI) has organized one of the largest IT & Tech Expo 21 at the ground floor of Centaurus Mall, Islamabad to highlight IT's sectors potential for trade and exports.

A large number of international and local IT companies participated and displayed their software & hardware products. The Expo will continue till September 25, 2021 and the participating companies are offering their products to the public at discounted rates. The local universities have also been provided free space in the Expo so that their students can present their business ideas for commercialization and advancement in the IT sector. Mian Akram Farid Chair-



man Founder, Mian Shaukat Masud, Ch. Nadeem Gujjar, Javed Iqbal, Rana Qaiser Shehzad, Muhammad Ali Mirza, Hameed Abbasi and others were also present. Speaking on the occasion, Ali Nawaz Awan said that the government attaches great importance to the IT sector as its promotion

would help the government to provide better services to the people. He said that the government had set up a fund of Rs.10 billion for the IT sector to carry out skills development, capacity enhancement of IT companies, branding, marketing and establishment of software

technology parks across Pakistan. He further said that the government was ready for all possible co-operation with the private sector to further improve the IT sector. He appreciated the ICCI initiative for organizing IT & Tech Expo as holding such exhibitions regularly was

instrumental in promoting trade and exports of the IT sector. Expressing his views, Sardar Yasir Ilyas Khan, President, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry, said that it was important to hold exhibitions for better development of business activities, exports and economy. In line with

this objective, ICCI had recently held a mega Property Expo and now it has organized a major IT & Tech Expo to highlight the business potential of this important sector of the economy. He said that Pakistan is a country of young population and there are innumerable opportunities for youth in the IT sector for a prosperous career. He said that if the government cooperates and pays special attention to its development, the IT sector has the potential to export up to US\$10 billion annually. He further said that moving towards the digital economy is extremely important for Pakistan to grow as a strong country of the region and urged that the government should further reduce the internet rates along with expanding the internet network in cities and villages that would lead to better growth of the IT sector.



**ISLAMABAD:** Ambassador of Qatar Sheikh / Saoud bin Abdulrahman Al Thani met today with Chris Kaye, Representative and Country Director WFP, and Jichang Ai, Head of Partnerships, Communication and Reporting WFP. During the meeting different issues of common interest were discussed. – DNA

## “APNS celebrates ‘National Newspaper Readership Day’

ISLAMABAD: On the request of the APNS, the Pakistan Post has issued a commemorative stamp to mark the ‘National Newspaper Readership Day’. The postal stamp will be available from the Post offices across the country from Saturday, September 25, 2021. – DNA



## RCCI inks MOU with Business Botswana South Africa

RAWALPINDI: The Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI) and Business Botswana inked a memorandum of understanding aiming to strengthen trade and economic relations, facilitate business community of both regions and further cementing ties between chambers of commerce.

RCCI President Mohammad Nasir Mirza and CEO Business Botswana Norman Molelee signed the MOU document at a ceremony held on a virtual platform. The MOU ceremony was witnessed by High Commissioner of South Africa Mazhar Javed, Trade and Investment counselor MsHu-

mairaIsrar, Senior Vice President Osman Ashraf, Vice President Shahriaz Malik, newly elected office bearers, chairman regional trade Khurshid Berlas and executive members. High Commissioner of South

Africa Mazhar Javed lauded RCCI role in promoting trade activities and engaging the global chamber of commerce through virtual platforms. President Nasir Mirza said that the Chamber has always strived to enhance

trade relations with African countries. Under the Africa Trade Forum and the government's Look Africa policy, our focus was to explore new markets. The MoU will strengthen the Chamber's Charter, he added. – DNA



**RAWALPINDI:** RCCI President Mohammad Nasir Mirza and CEO Business Botswana Norman Molelee signed the MOU document at a ceremony held on a virtual platform. – DNA

# NAB apprehended big fishes for the first time

He said that corruption breeds injustice, poverty, undermines social, economic development of societies and affects the countries around the world

SHUJAAT HAMZA

ISLAMABAD: Justice Javed Iqbal, Chairman NAB chaired a meeting to review overall performance of NAB at NAB Headquarters. He said that NAB has apprehended untouchables and big fish for the first time in its history and not only brought them to justice as per law but also recovered Rs. 538.935 billion directly and indirectly from corrupt elements during the tenure of the present management of NAB from Oct 2017 to August 31, 2021.

He said that NAB will not come under any pressure and criticism and will continue to perform its national duties in order to eradicate corruption and corrupt practices. He said that NAB is determined for logical conclusion of mega corruption cases of money laundering, Fake Accounts, Misuse of authority, Assets beyond known sources of Income, Cheating public at large, housing societies and Modarba by utilizing all its resources as per law. He said that out of 179 mega corruption cases of NAB, 66 mega corruption cases have been brought to logical conclusion while 93 mega corrup-

tion cases are under trial in the learned Accountability Courts of the country. NAB has decided to file requests for early hearings of the under trial cases in the learned Accountability Courts as per clause 16 (a) of NAB Ordinance, 1999. He said that NAB had received 496,460 complaints since its inception, out of which 487,124 complaints were disposed of. NAB has authorized 16,093 Complaint Verification (CVs), while 15,378 Complaint Verification

were completed. NAB has authorized 10,241 inquiries, out of which 9,275 inquiries have been completed. NAB has authorized 4,654 Investigations, out of which 4,358 Investigations have been completed by NAB since its inception. NAB has recovered Rs. 819 Billion directly and indirectly since its inception. NAB had filed 3754 references in various Learned Accountability Courts, out of which 2477 References were decided by Learned Accountability Courts. Currently, 1274 refer-

ences having worth of Rs. 1335.019 Billion are under trial at various Learned Accountability Courts. He said that Corruption breeds injustice, poverty, undermines social, economic development of societies and affects the countries around the world.

He said that NAB being the focal agency of Pakistan under United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) is determined to weed out this scourge of corruption and to make Pakistan Corruption free by adopting “Accountability for All” policy. He said that NAB is the Chairman of SAARC anti-Corruption Forum.

NAB has signed an MOU with China to oversee CPEC projects in Pakistan. NAB has introduced a new concept of Combine Investigation Team (CIT) in order to benefit from the experience and collective wisdom of senior supervisory officers in order to further improve the standard and quality of inquiries and investigations on the basis of solid evidence as well as statements of witnesses and documentary evidence besides establishing state of the art Forensic Science LAB which has facilities of Digital Forensics, Questioned Documents and Fingerprint analysis.



## Govt to solve workers' problems on priority

STAFF REPORT

RAWALPINDI: Punjab Minister for Labor, Ansar Majeed Niazi has said that the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) government was striving to solve the workers' problems for which a monthly ‘Khuli Katchery’ would be held in every district of Punjab so that the problems of the workers could be solved immediately.

He said that on the directives of Prime Minister Imran Khan, an online App has been launched for the workers who want to get marriage, scholarship and death grants. Now, the workers are able to submit an online application to the authorities concerned without visiting offices to get the grants, he added.

He said this while presiding over separate meetings of local PTI office bearers and District Labor Department officials on Friday at the PTI headquarters in Rawat.

Ansar Majeed Niazi said that 21 industries were registered during 2002 to 2021 while more than 4,000 industries had been registered from March 2021 to September this year.

He said that industrial areas camps would be set up for the registration of laborers while an App has also been launched for the recruitment of laborers in industrial units and the wages of the laborers, recruited through the App would be fixed by the government. The provincial minister said that the labor card would be provided to the workers on the spot at the time of recruitment and the government would fight for the rights of the workers on all fronts.

## Police arrest 7 for possessing weapons

DNA

RAWALPINDI: Rawalpindi Police in their crackdown against illegal weapons, liquor and drugs rounded up seven persons from different areas and recovered 180 grams hashish, 10 liters liquor, five 30 bore pistols and ammunition from their possession, said a police spokesman on Friday. He informed that Pirwadhai, Cantt, Westridge, and Civil Line police held Taous Khan, Shabbir Hussain, Wahadullah, Farhan Naseer and Majid Hussain and recovered five 30 bore pistols and ammunition from their possession. Gujran Khan Police netted Babar Ali for having 10 liters liquor while Waris Khan Police recovered 180 grams hashish from Aftab. Separate cases have been registered against all the accused while further investigations are underway, he said and added that police would continue their raids against lawbreakers and they would be sent behind bars.

## Leather exports witness record increase

ISLAMABAD: The Leather Manufacturers exports during the first two month of fiscal year of 2021-22 grew up by 8.21 per cent as compared to the exports of the corresponding period of last year. During the period from July-Aug 2021, Leather Manufacturers worth US\$ 106,284 exported as compared to exports worth US\$ 98,218 during same period of last year. According to the data released by the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, the exports of Leather Garments increased by 8.50 per cent, worth of US\$ 56,985 were exported as compared to the exports of US\$ 52,520 of same period of last year. Meanwhile, Leather Gloves exports also increased by 7.35 per cent as the exports during current fiscal year recorded at worth US\$ 46,272 as compared to the exports during the same period of last year which recorded US\$ 43,105. During period under review, other Leather Manufacturer exports increased by 16.74 per cent, worth US\$ 3,027 exported in current fiscal year as compared to the exports of valuing US\$ 2,593 of same period of last year. – APP



## Briefs

Lok Virsa to  
organize 'flute  
learning'  
classes

STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: National Institute of Folk and Traditional Heritage –Lok Virsa in collaboration with Echo Records would organize "flute learning" a musical instrument classes from October 4.

In this regard, Lok Virsa has started the registration process for the admissions in the classes.

Renowned classical flute player Salman Adil will be the instructor of the music classes. He said that experienced flute player who has had the opportunity to perform with several foreign musician delegations to produce instrumental fusion encapsulating his creative abilities. This course is a headstart for all students pursuing higher education in music.

In this course, participants will get to develop into the world of flute playing by learning flute techniques and Ragas and further improving.

34 dengue  
suspect cases  
reported in  
district

STAFF REPORT

RAWALPINDI: As many as 34 new dengue suspect cases were reported during the last 24 hours in the Rawalpindi district with 11 belonged to Rawalpindi and 23 from the federal capital. District Coordinator Epidemics Prevention and Control (DCEPC) Dr. Sajjad Mehmood told APP that among the new cases seven were reported from Rawalpindi Cantonment area, three from Rawal Town, one from Taxila while 23 cases were reported from Islamabad. He informed that the number of confirmed cases has been reached 179 since January of this year while 149 had been discharged after recovery.

Dr. Sajjad said presently 50 patients were admitted in Allied hospitals of the city out of which 30 were tested positive while results of the remaining 20 were being processed.

He updated that the number of positive cases belonged to the Rawalpindi area have been reached 64 so far while 17 patients of the Rawalpindi area were presently admitted in the Holy Family, District Headquarters and Benazir Bhutto Hospitals. The DCEPC informed that case response activity was being carried out at those residences and workplaces from where 11 patients were reported on the last day.

Climate  
Change  
inclusion in  
SNC urged

DNA

ISLAMABAD: The Climate activists on Friday demanded the incumbent government to ensure inclusion of climate change as a subject in the Single National Curriculum (SNC) and ensure rigorous implementation of climate change policies for clean and green environment.

The climate activists hailing from Friday for the Future Pakistan and Impact and Youth Climate Activists staged Climate Strike as part of the global protests held all over the world under the theme Uproot the System.

Speaking on the occasion, President, Friday for the Future, Rida Rashid said the world in general and Pakistan in particular was undergoing serious climate crisis due to increased carbon emissions driving environmental degradation.

Ms. Rashid added that as per Carbon Disclosure Project, 100 companies from 1988 till 2015 were responsible for emitting 71 per cent of the total greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs).

"These firms running over fossil fuels are rapidly damaging the environment leading to environmental pollution and natural calamities which should be taken to task for committing serious crimes against humanity," she maintained.

Pakistan a land of infinite  
opportunities: VC Air Varsity

The Vice Chancellor, while exchanging his worthy views, stated that the varsity is committed that its students must have industrial as well as academic exposure and experiences according to the needs of the modern era

SHUJAAT HAMZA

ISLAMABAD: Vice Chancellor Air University Air Marshal (R) Javaid Ahmed has said that Pakistan is a land of infinite opportunities, emphasizing that the Air University is making its best efforts to provide adequate training, skill development and career opportunities to tap the potential of the talented youth. He made these remarks during an MoU signing ceremony held at the Nayatel Corporate Office here at Islamabad. On the occasion, CEO Nayatel Wahaj-us-Siraj, Vice President HR & Admin Taimur Aziz Bhatti, Senior Manager HR Osama Farooqi, Ali Pervaz Sultan and other officials were also present. On behalf of Air University, Director Student Affairs Fazaila Ali, Director ORIC Air Cdre (R) Afzaal Ahmed Khan, Assistant Director Sabah Uddin Qazi (Placement & Alumni Affairs) and Placement Officer Gulnaz Batool graced the ceremony. The Vice Chancellor, while exchanging his worthy views, stated that the varsity is committed that its students must have industrial as well as academic exposure and experiences according to the needs of the modern era. Terming the inspiring struggle of Nayatel a success story and trendsetter for the entire Pakistani business community, the VC expressed that he



would recommend university students to carry in-depth research studies and case studies on the organization. Earlier, CEO Nayatel Wahaj-us-Siraj, in his welcoming remarks, highlighted the key achievements of his company. "To be a role model of trust, we must set higher standards of quality and ensure adding positive values to the society," he expressed, adding that Nayatel is one of the leading and fastest growing companies with a work-

force of highly-qualified technical and managerial staff.

DSA Fazaila Ali, during the discussion, highlighted different aspects of academia-corporate collaboration opportunities through research and job placements. According to her, AU Placement & Alumni Affairs is working on development of employee-ready skills among the students since they enrolled in the university. "The technical and soft skills are focused in

a balanced way to meet the requirements of the demand-driven job market," she said. On the occasion, VP HR Taimur also acknowledged that several AU alumni are currently working with Nayatel where many of them are holding senior positions. Chair Department of Electrical Engineering Prof. Dr. Waseem Khan expressed the need for bridging gaps between curriculum and industry skills particu-

larly in the field of electrical engineering and telecommunication. "Air University always strives hard to ensure the course content is aligning with industry-driven knowledge and skills," he said. Similarly, Director ORIC Air Cdre (R) Afzaal Ahmed Khan, who signed the MoU on behalf of Air University, also exchanged his views in order to promote the culture of research in Pakistani universities and strengthen industry-academia linkages.

Voice services  
available in  
all ex FATA  
districts

STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs Ali Muhammad Khan on Friday told the Senate that currently, voice services were available in all districts of ex-FATA.

Responding during Question Hour, he said recently, in pursuance of Government's vision of providing internet services across the country, internet services have been restored in Bajaur, South Waziristan and Khyber Districts, whereas internet services in Kuram, Orakzai, North Waziristan and Mohmand Districts would be restored in phases after review of security situation by the quarters concerned. He said Prime Minister Imran Khan has also issued directives for extending of 3G and 4G services to the said areas.

He said Ministry of Information Technology and Telecommunication (MoITT) issued Policy Directive under Section-8 of Pakistan Telecommunication (Re-Organization) Act, 1996 regarding "Closure of Telecom Services due to National Security Concerns".

IESCO  
issues power  
suspension  
programme

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Islamabad Electric Supply Company (IESCO) on Friday notified 2-day power suspension programme for Saturday and Sunday in 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 on Saturday from 09:00 AM to 02:00 AM, Koral, Lohi Bhair, Dalwal, Katas, Dawlatullah, Adi, Lawa, Chakral, AFIRM, Zafarul Haq, Committee Chowk, Arya Mohalla, CM Pak Zong, Rahara, Bahria Enclave, PHA, Isolation Hospital, Park Enclave, Chatta Bakhtawar, Choa Syedan Shah, Basharat Feeders, from 07:00 AM to 01:00 AM, Line Park, Bhikri, Millat Chowk Feeders, from 08:00 AM to 12:00 Noon, Gulshan Abad, Major Masood Kayani, BB Shaheed, Rata, Race Course, Mangtal Feeders, from 08:00 am to 01:00 pm, Chakri Arsalan Poultry Farm, SPD, Padial, Gagan, Chahan, Mahouta Feeders, from 07:00 am to 12:00 Noon, Kataria, Holy Family, F Block, Bani, Sanghui, Nathwala, Sadfar Shaheed, Thackray, Kantrila, Shams Colony, Feeders, from 08:00am to 04:00pm, Kohistan Enclave, Mix Industry, Model Town, Kashif Gul, Kohsar Valley, Wah General Hospital Feeders, from 09:00 AM to 05:00 PM, NDC-II Independent Feeders.

On Sunday from 09:00 AM to 02:00 PM, Lawa, CNC, Humayoun Road, Jhanda feeders, from 07:00 AM to 12:00 Noon, Mandi Behlwal Shams Colony Feeders, from 07:00 am to 01:00 pm, Line Park, Bhikri, Millat Chowk Feeders, from 08:00 am to 04:00 pm Kohistan Enclave, Mix Industry, Model Town, Kashif Gul, Kohsar Valley, Wah General Hospital, Feeders and surrounding areas.

Stock  
market loses  
223 points

ISLAMABAD: KSE 100-index of the Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) witnessed bearish trend on Friday, losing 223.36 points, with a negative change of 0.49 per cent, closing at 45,073.52 points against 45,296.88 points on the last working day.

A total of 369,537,354 shares were traded during the day compared to the trade of 443,777,435 shares the previous day whereas the price of shares stood at Rs11.778 billion against Rs12.381 billion the previous day.

As many as 510 companies' transacted shares in the stock market, 146 of them recorded gain and 351 sustained losses whereas the share price of 13 companies remained unchanged. The three top trading companies were World-Call Telecom with a volume of 39,708,500 shares and price per share of Rs 2.87, Unity Foods Ltd with a volume of 36,178,100 and price per share of Rs 31.94 and Byco Petroleum with volume of 29,571,500 and price per share of Rs7.56. — APP



ISLAMABAD: Malik Amin Aslam SAPM Ministry of Climate Change chairs a meeting with the high-level World Bank delegation held at the Ministry of Climate Change. Both sides agreed to boost collaboration in climate action through green initiatives. — DNA

Steel Industry  
adopts advanced  
monitoring system

ZUBAIR AHMAD

ISLAMABAD: A formal inaugural ceremony of commissioning of "EnergyEyer" — an intelligent Energy Monitoring and Management System (EMMS) at Fazal Steel (Pvt) Ltd was held. It was a collaborative project of National University of Sciences and Technology (NUST) and Fazal Steel under active technical support by United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO). Dr. Iftekhar Ahmad the Principal Investigator (PI) of the project from SCME-NUST while explaining about the project said that EnergyEyer was specially developed by NUST team for process industries by incorporating the concepts of AI, wireless communication, and cloud computing in the conventional Energy Management System (EMS), to manage the

energy losses in the industry. He specially thanked his colleague Dr. Mian Ilyas Ahmad (Co-PI, RCMS)—NUST, for his immense contribution in the project and said that the EnergyEyer was successfully tested and implemented in the MATCAST Plant of Fazal Steel Limited (FSL) and now showing positive results.

On this occasion, a plaque was unleashed by the Chief Guest Pro-Rector NUST Air Vice Marshal SI (M) Dr. Rizwan Riaz. The ceremony was attended by representatives of NUST, UNIDO and Fazal Group of Companies both Staff and Executives.

Mr. Masroor Ahmed Khan, National Project Manager Sustainable Energy REEE UNIDO, speaking on behalf of Nadia Aftab, UNIDO Country Representative shared his thoughts "UNIDO in Pakistan has an extensive and successful portfolio in industrial development cooperation.

Senior  
actor Talat  
Iqbal dies  
in US

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Former senior actor Talat Iqbal has passed away in the United States (US) after a short illness. His family has confirmed the death on Friday.

As per details, he was hospitalized in a critical condition in Dallas, US, two weeks back, days after the death of his daughter Sarah Talat earlier this month. According to the family, Talat's funeral will be held after Jumma prayers in Al Rehman mosque and he will be buried in Dallas graveyard, private news channels reported.

The veteran actor played key roles in several dramas in the 70s and 80s. He also starred in several Pakistani films during his long entertainment career. The Pakistani community is mourning the death of the late actor Talat Iqbal.

Fakhar urges experts to  
address issues of farmers

ISHFAQ MUGHAL

FAISALABAD: Federal Minister for National Food Security and Research Syed Fakhar Imam has said that researchers should come up with viable solution to address the problems of farming community and increase productivity in order to ensure food security.

He was talking on a Chinese Academy of Tropical Agricultural Sciences (CATAS) and University of Agriculture, Faisalabad (UAF). CATAS-UAF workshop and a memorandum of understanding was inked among five institutions one of China and four from Pakistan to promote technology transfer and cooperation.

The institutions include Institute of Tropical Bioscience and Biotechnology of CATAS, China; University of Agriculture Faisalabad (UAF); MINSOL Consultant (Pvt) Limited, Pir Meher Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi; and



MNS University of Agriculture (MNSUA) Multan. As per agreement, MINSOL will strive to viably commercialize the products developed in collaboration with other parties. MINSOL will serve as a conduit for all commercial aims and objectives of the Chinese institution in Pakistan.

Syed Fakhar Imam said that we must switch over to high-value crops to secure space in the global food market. He said that we have to learn from the experiences of the other countries. He hoped that the collaboration will China will bring the

tangible results to address the problems of the farming community. He said that this year we have substantial increase in the production of three major crops. This year, per acre wheat production has boosted up which was stagnant for the last ten years, resulting in the significant increase of 2.2 million ton in the national wheat production.

He said that it is increased by 1.5 ton per acre. We had harvested a bumper wheat crop of 27.5 million tons, while rice and maize production also stood at around 8.5 million tons each.

## CPO Rawalpindi visits RCCI

CPO Ahsan Younis gave a detailed presentation on the key initiatives taken by the Rawalpindi Police to protect the lives and property of the people and to maintained law & order in city

KHAYAM ABBASI

RAWALPINDI: City Police Officer Ahsan Younis visits Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce, announces establishment of Police Khidmat Markiz in the Chamber Rawalpindi City Police Officer Ahsan Younis visited the Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI).

He was accompanied by SSP Operations Rai Mazhar Iqbal who has additional charge of CTO. CPO Ahsan Younis gave a detailed presentation on the key initiatives taken by the Rawalpindi Police to protect the lives and property of the people and to maintained law & order in city. He announced to set up a service center in the chamber



in which learner traffic license, character certificate, registration of employees, verification and many other facilities would be available. He also announced to reactivate

the Chamber Police Coordination Committee which will be set up in every police station in the city. The CPO further said that number of initiatives helped us to restore people confidence and improve

image of police. These includes Khuli Ketchery, for public service delivery, presence of SHO's in police stations in the offices from 4 to 6 pm daily, computerized issuance of diaries,

Qmatic system and progress on crime registration and cases including records.

The data is being updated on the website on a daily basis to improve the image of the police in the public and business community. On the occasion, President Chamber Nasir Mirza appreciated the role, professionalism and commitment of the CPO in eradicating crime from the city, immediate arrest in robbery and recovery of money. Group Leader Sohail Altaf said that the relationship between the police and the business community can be strengthened only through constant liaison and interaction with the business community. Representatives of Anjuman-e-Tajirani talked about improving the traffic in the city and shared suggestions.



Pakistan's First And Only Diplomatic Daily

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

Member APNS / ABC Certified

Vol: 02 Issue: 121

Email: [dailyisbpost@gmail.com](mailto:dailyisbpost@gmail.com)

Phone: 051-2266165 / 051-2261960

Off: Awan Plaza, Block 18-A, G-8 Markaz Islamabad



## Expansionary policies

IT looks like the fiscal policies followed by the government so far are set to change trajectory once more. From Finance Minister Shaukat Tarin's comments on Wednesday, where he advocated taking restrictive measures so that the "overheating" economy could cool down, it seems that the government will be reversing the track it has so far followed expansionary fiscal policies.

This is a shift from what the same Finance Minister previously advocated as well in recent times. When the budget was being passed before the start of the new financial year, there was debate about the consequences of expansionary fiscal policies and spending, and whether the economy could withstand the pressure. However, the government at the time hoped that growth would follow with the spending, expecting that an increase in government spending, a decrease in tax revenue, or a combination of the two—would spur economic activity. The minister himself at that time had opined that the economy can sustain over a 6 percent growth rate. Globally as well, with governments attempting to deal with the economic impact of the coronavirus pandemic, the trend worldwide was towards an increase in spending.

However, two months later and with an import bill exceeding \$12 billion, the situation has evolved and the government is considering changes to sustain the economy. The State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) has already increased the discount rate by 0.25 percent while also signalling a further increase at an appropriate time. These are important decisions to make—the central bank has called for urgent measures. However, switching up policies after a few months is not a good approach, and will not lead to the stability the economy needs. The government should have expected the costs of its fiscal policies—switching up after a few months will undo the growth the government hoped to have as well. This is a path we have tread upon before—what is the plan to avoid a repeat incident?

## Iran-US deal

THE question of whether the US and Iran will return to a peace deal has turned into a 'will-they-won't-they' saga. It was expected that Joe Biden's presidency would signal a complete shift from the hostility of the Trump administration towards Iran and result in a return to the Iran Nuclear Deal. However, some incident or the other occurs, and relations between the two countries appear to worsen again.

For the past few months, it seems that signs were changing and relations might move towards normalcy but voting in of the new President, the conservative Ebrahim Raisi, stalled the process.

However, the sessions of the UN General Assembly on Tuesday may break the shackles of that stagnancy. The leaders of both countries, in a backhanded way, indicated a desire to return to normalcy, or at least acquiesced to being open to negotiations.

President Ebrahim Raisi voiced support for reviving the nuclear deal and for renewed nuclear negotiations, even while in the midst of a tirade against what he called the decline of US hegemony. On the other hand, US President Joe Biden, in his own address, reiterated his willingness to return to the nuclear accord and lift sanctions, but also asserted firmly that he would do everything to prevent Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons.

While these may not be the most diplomatic statements of conciliation, the addresses at the UNGA are a positive sign that relations are thawing. The Vienna talks, where world powers were to hold six rounds of indirect talks between the United States and Iran in Vienna to try and work out how both can return to compliance with the nuclear pact, were adjourned in June. Iran has now formally announced its interest in resuming the talks, which could go a long way in bringing a return to the JCPOA.

# Reopening US Consulate in East Jerusalem essential

Ray Hanania

The Palestinian affairs unit of the US State Dept was forced to operate from the embassy in West Jerusalem. Reopening the US Consulate would allow the staff to work their peace magic there. When not in Israel and Palestine, Blinken essentially works via Dy Assistant Secretary for Israeli and Palestinian Affairs in the Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs Hady Amr, who now has a means to expand his efforts to reinforce peace efforts. Amr was born in Beirut, but grew up in Saudia. He has a long and distinguished diplomatic career and was tapped by Biden to "engage in working toward a lasting peace" and to ease the conflict between Israel and Hamas, according to White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki

ISRAELI officials this week reiterated their opposition to President Joe Biden's plan to reopen the US Consulate in East Jerusalem in order to restore diplomatic channels and support for Palestinian interests. After Biden's predecessor Donald Trump threw the Middle East into turmoil by moving the US Embassy from Tel Aviv to West Jerusalem in May 2018, the US Consulate was "merged" with the embassy in March 2019, but formally ceased all operations.

Trying to unscramble the mess Trump made of Middle East peace, Biden had Secretary of State Antony Blinken announce the reopening of the consulate during meetings with Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas in Ramallah on May 25. The move will help the US restore ties with the Palestinians and support the two-state solution. Clearly, those goals are not shared by Israel's government.

Israeli Foreign Minister Yair Lapid, who is in a government-sharing agreement with Prime Minister Naftali Bennett to take over as leader in September 2023, said while visiting Morocco last month to sign three accords as part of a peace deal between the two countries that the reopening of the consulate will undermine Israel's government.

Lapid has made it clear that, while Israel wants "peace" with the Arab world, it does not want peace with the Palestinians — something more and more of the Arab world, including Morocco, has been willing to concede. The last thing the Bennett-Lapid government wants to do is temper its violent occupation of the Palestinian territories with a new drive toward peace with the Palestinians. Reopening the US Consulate in East Jerusalem would give Palestinians living under that brutal occupation a place to go to not only obtain any necessary documentation, but also to com-

plain about Israeli government policies that undermine their human rights.

But Biden's aim is to give peace a base from which to grow. The truth is that, when Trump moved the US Embassy, it reinforced restrictions that prohibited Palestinians living under occupation, including in East Jerusalem, from having access to the embassy.

Israel severely restricts Palestinian movement and blocks most of them from entering Israel. Despite annexing East Jerusalem, access to the area has been slightly better for Palestinians. Reopening the US Consulate would make it easier, though many of Israel's apartheid restrictions would still obstruct their access.

More importantly, it would also offer Palestinians a place to go without having to acknowledge the US Embassy move, which was a slap in the face of peace. Like the Abraham Accords, the embassy move negated critical foundations for peace with the Palestinians that required quid pro quos from Israel under the old formula of pursuing peace. Israel will get what it wants without having to make any concessions to the Palestinians. Its peace accords with Jordan and Egypt in the past were tied to Israel's commitment to pursue peace with the Palestinians. Not so under the Abraham Accords.

The Palestinian affairs unit of the US State Department was forced to operate from the embassy in West Jerusalem. Reopening the US Consulate would allow the staff to work their peace magic there. When not in Israel and Palestine, Blinken essentially works via Deputy Assistant Secretary for Israeli and Palestinian Affairs in the Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs Hady Amr, who now has a means to expand his efforts to reinforce peace efforts.

Amr was born in Beirut, but grew up in Saudi

Arabia. He has a long and distinguished diplomatic career and was tapped by Biden to "engage in working toward a lasting peace" and to ease the conflict between Israel and Hamas, according to White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki.

Many obstacles to peace remain, mostly from the Israeli side. The Israelis have been incensed by Biden's appointments of more than a dozen Arab-Americans, such as Amr, to key positions in order to reignite the peace process. The appointees have all come under attack as part of a widespread campaign of defamation. Anyone who has ever criticized Israel or expressed support for Palestinian rights has been called "anti-Semitic" by the Israeli government-controlled media and its colleagues in the Western press.

Most of the Arab-Americans working in the Biden administration have remained silent in order to survive their appointments, making their social media accounts private to hide past comments challenging Israel's violence and propaganda.

Amr has the skills to navigate that treacherous and biased media minefield and is clearly destined to play a key role in helping to resuscitate the peace process, on which Israel's government has forcefully placed its knee.

Closing the consulate constituted a total rejection of peace for the Palestinians, and it undermines Blinken's vow that he made while visiting the US Embassy in Jerusalem. During his May visit, Blinken said: "We want to see a future in which Israelis and Palestinians alike know equal measures of peace, security, justice and, maybe most fundamentally of all, dignity, because that may be one of the most powerful human emotions that binds us all together."

— Courtesy: Arab News

# AUKUS dispute opens the door for Russia

Dr. Theodore Karasik

France's role in the Middle East region has certainly just taken a very interesting turn. It is interesting to note the assassination of Daesh-Greater Sahara chief Adnan Abu Walid Al-Sahrawi in Mali just as the shifting architecture gears toward the Indo-Pacific. This Western infighting shakes up the international arena and the role of Paris in contested spaces. This is a factor that might allow Russia to make a move that may fit into French plans. Moreover, Parly visited both Niger and Mali immediately after this break with the US

THE AUKUS tripartite announcement regarding a new Indo-Pacific security structure also means a sharp shift in the maritime defense industry. In addition, Australia is to acquire at least eight highly advanced nuclear-powered submarines with support from the US and the UK. The AUKUS announcement threw France and the West into a crisis about strategic thinking at exactly the wrong time. It prompted Paris to recall its ambassador to the US for the first time.

What is occurring between France and Australia is very significant for the future of Western geostrategic thinking. Some officials have labeled the new AUKUS agreement as ANZUS 2.0, in reference to another layer of security architecture in the Indo-Pacific region. But this is not the case at the moment.

The AUKUS announcement highlights the shifting world order. This alliance is a game-changer that represents an entree to the crown jewels of military and intelligence capability. The agreement is not just about China's current and future strategies, even though AUKUS is focused on the Indo-Pacific, but is also about Russia, which has significantly increased its capability in recent years. AUKUS sits alongside the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue, ensuring a layered approach and thrusting the technology requirement east. This announcement fits nicely with the conceptual aspects of the Quad.

France was mortified at the decision by its allies. Foreign Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian said the recall of France's ambassadors from Washington and Canberra "is justified by the exceptional gravity of the announcements made on 15 September by Australia and the

United States." French Armed Forces Minister Florence Parly reserved particular disdain for the US, saying France is "clear-eyed as to how the United States treats its allies." The AUKUS deal hit France's Naval Group especially hard, as it had already signed contracts with the Australian government. Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison's treatment of France in this regard seriously damages the two countries' alliance.

The AUKUS announcement and the split between the Western powers create a strategic opportunity for Moscow. Russian Security Council Secretary Nikolai Patrushev noted that the Americans are trying to create local platforms, which are advantageous for them, within the EU as part of a new anti-Russian union and an effort to create a so-called buffer zone along Russia's borders. Patrushev said that he expects Germany, France and Italy to break with this buffer policy, which is a strong indicator of exactly where Moscow can exploit the cleavages between European states.

Russia's response to France's predicament was to make fun of Paris. The Russian Embassy in South Africa tweeted a photo of a Mistral-class carrier with the caption: "What goes around comes around." In 2014, Russia purchased French-made Mistral carriers, but they ended up in the Egyptian Navy after complaints from the West about Russia's seizure of Crimea forced an end to the deal. With the AUKUS agreement, Russia feels as if France has got a taste of its own medicine.

France's role in the Middle East region has certainly just taken a very interesting turn. It is interesting to note the assassination of Daesh-Greater Sahara chief Adnan Abu

Walid Al-Sahrawi in Mali just as the shifting architecture gears toward the Indo-Pacific. This Western infighting shakes up the international arena and the role of Paris in contested spaces. This is a factor that might allow Russia to make a move that may fit into French plans. Moreover, Parly visited both Niger and Mali immediately after this break with the US and Australia in order to firm up Paris' commitment to Sahel security. Moscow, meanwhile, is trying to send a contingent of Wagner Group forces to Mali, which France disagrees with.

France's anger brings up the possibility that Paris may accommodate Moscow more in order to send sharp messages to the US, UK and Australia. While trying to stop Wagner's deployment to Mali, there is little doubt of coordination between Moscow and Paris on counterterrorism issues. And there is an intersection of interests on issues in Africa and the Levant that Russia can now leverage with an angry Paris.

Overall, the AUKUS dispute between Paris and its Western allies opens the door for Moscow to use its influence to sway France into actions that may be upsetting to its allies. The upcoming election in Libya and the overall trajectory of the country becomes a principal point of impact in terms of possible collaboration because of the AUKUS announcement. Algeria's ties with France also become very important because of the Algiers-Moscow relationship. The next few months may be dicey for the Western allies, with Moscow continuing to "win" in the Middle East and North Africa.

— Courtesy: Arab News



## Briefs

## Pak will work with Taliban...

FROM PAGE 01  
He said Pakistan desired to promote a comprehensive, not selective, approach to neutralizing terrorist threats from Afghanistan. He stressed the need to work with the authorities in Kabul to neutralize terrorist groups present in Afghanistan, adding that both Pakistan and the United States needed to prevent terrorism arising from Afghanistan. "We will cooperate with the international community, including the United States, in this effort," he said. "The last thing Pakistan wants is more conflict and turbulence in Afghanistan". After 20 years of military intervention in Afghanistan, he said the international community could not exonerate itself from its responsibilities towards the people of Afghanistan and "must stay engaged". "It is our hope that Afghanistan will be stabilized, through humanitarian help, economic support, and connectivity and infrastructure projects, and that the U.S., China and Russia will all contribute to pacifying and reconstructing Afghanistan," he said. On the immediate impact of the U.S. military withdrawal from Afghanistan on Pakistan and the region, he said as the Taliban gained control over the entire country for the first time in 40 years, there was a hope that security could be established. "A peaceful Afghanistan will be beneficial for Pakistan, opening up possibilities for trade and development projects," he said. Imran Khan emphasized on addressing the humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan due to the COVID-19 pandemic, conflict, and the failures of the previous governments. He said as for China, any offer of economic support to Afghanistan, would be naturally accepted by Afghans. He mentioned that the Taliban had welcomed the prospects of being incorporated in the CPEC and establishing close relations with China. However, he said the U.S. too could play an important and positive role in Afghanistan by providing humanitarian assistance, contributing to its recovery and reconstruction, and cooperating in containing terrorism.

Imran Khan recalled that during the Doha peace process, the U.S. had established a working relationship with the Taliban and maintained direct cooperation during the evacuation process. "I believe that the U.S. can work with a new government in Afghanistan to promote common interests and regional stability," he said. Asked if Pakistan intends to recognize the new Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan, he said as the Taliban had established an "acting government", Pakistan was obliged to engage with the de-facto authorities in Afghanistan to prevent an economic and humanitarian collapse and the resurgence of terrorism. "Once a government in Kabul establishes control over the entire country, it would legally qualify for recognition," he said. However, he stressed that Pakistan would prefer to reach a decision regarding recognition of the new government together with other neighbors of Afghanistan. To a question on Quadrilateral Security Dialogue, he said Pakistan had its own views over the credibility of this strategy.

## Media worker...

FROM PAGE 01  
Indian media reports said Bania was arrested late on Thursday and a judicial inquiry into the incident, in which at least one more person died, has been ordered by the state government. Darrang Superintendent of Police Susanta Biswa Sarma, who, according to media reports, is the brother of Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma, told The Indian Express newspaper that police "did what they had to do" in "self-defence". The violence in Sipajhar took place during a protest by Bengali-origin Muslims against a so-called "eviction drive" ordered by the Assam government, led by the Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). — DNA

## Climate protests start in Germany ahead of elections

Founder Greta Thunberg, who joined the event in Berlin, told demonstrators that "no political party is doing even close to enough" to fight the climate crisis

## WEB DESK

BERLIN: Fridays for Future protests are being held across Germany as climate activists seek to make their voices heard ahead of the country's federal election on Sunday. Founder Greta Thunberg, who joined the event in Berlin, told demonstrators that "no political party is doing even close to enough" to fight the climate crisis. "Yes, we must vote, you must vote, but remember that voting only will not be enough. We must keep go-

ing into the streets," Thunberg said at the rally in front of the Reichstag parliament building. Aside from Berlin, protests are also taking place in Hamburg, Freiburg, Cologne and Bonn. The demonstrations in Germany are just one part of a worldwide climate strike that includes 1,400 events in 80 countries. Luisa Neubauer, who heads the Fridays for Future German chapter, told French news agency AFP that they wanted to "create pressure from the streets" ahead of the September 26 vote.

"The political parties haven't taken the climate catastrophe seriously enough," Neubauer said, adding that young people wanted "no more excuses" from older politicians about the state of the world they will leave behind. Jana Boltersdorf, another young climate activist, told DW she was marching "to give a voice to those who are not old enough to vote, but will suffer the most as a result of the climate crisis." Carla Reemstma, one of the organizers of the Fridays for Future rallies in Germa-

ny, told DW that politicians "are not treating the climate crisis like a crisis." "We demand immediate actions to lower emissions, to stop fueling the climate crisis [and] to stop financing fossil fuels like coal and gas," she said. "None of them [the candidates for chancellor] has a political program consistent with limiting the climate crisis... Instead, most of the political parties are fueling the climate crisis through building new coal power plants, highways or gas pipelines," she added. As Chancellor Angela

Merkel's 16-year stint draws to a close, the leader once touted as the "climate chancellor" has failed to push forward any significant environmental legislation in the past decade. In a landmark ruling in April, Germany's top court found the government's plans to curb CO2 emissions "insufficient" to meet the targets of the Paris Agreement and placed an "unfair burden" on future generations. Speaking at the site of catastrophic flooding in western Germany in July, Merkel called on her successor to

do more to tackle climate change, but did not address her own climate legacy. With the Green Party polling in third place ahead of the election, it is possible that they could end up as a junior coalition partner in the next government, particularly considering that polls also show the climate as one of the most important topics to German voters. However, the Greens' platform has been criticized as not being aggressive enough to combat the climate crisis by environmental experts.



RAWALPINDI: A view of cricket match playing between Sindh and Southern Punjab teams during National T-20 Cup 21-22 T20 Cricket match at Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium. — APP

## Sindh win by 5 wickets against Southern Punjab

The fourth match of the T20 Cup will take place at 7.30 PM between Central Punjab and Balochistan

## DNA

RAWALPINDI: Sindh won by 5 wickets against Southern Punjab in the third match of the National T20 Cup 2021 at Rawalpindi Stadium. Sindh chased down the target in the second ball of the last over with Anwar Ali scoring 29 runs off 9 balls. Sindh had a slow start with Sharjeel Khan and Shan Masood both going back to the pavilion early. Khurram Manzoor took the team in

the middle-overs with composed batting. Khurram registered 27th half-century and scored 84 runs off 49 balls, and stroked 10 boundaries and 3 sixes. For Southern Punjab, Aamir Yamin, Naseem Shah and Muhammad Ilyas bagged a wicket each. Earlier, Aamir Yamin guided Southern Punjab to 175/7 in 20 overs. In the middle-overs, he took the responsibility after all main batters were dismissed, and scored 43

runs off 26 balls, smashing 4 sixes and 2 boundaries. Zeeshan Ashraf (34), Zain Abbas (25), Khushdil Shah (21), skipper Sohaib Maqsood (18) and Azam Khan (20) also scored crucial runs. For Sindh, Mohammad Hasnain bagged 2 wickets, while all other bowlers took a wicket each. The fourth match of the National T20 Cup will take place at 7.30 PM between Central Punjab and Balochistan.

## Work on Pakistan-China friendship hospital underway



## DNA

ISLAMABAD: The under construction Pak-China friendship hospital would provide state-of-the-art medical facility to the inhabitants of port city of Gwadar that was being completed with the estimated cost of

\$ 100 million. The project is financed by the Chinese government while the project was being supervised by the government of Balochistan. The hospital being constructed on 68 acres of land would have six medical blocks and each block would have 50 beds each.

Almost 20 percent work on the residential blocks has been completed, said a document of Gwadar Port Authority. Under the proposed project remaining medical blocks, such as nursing and paramedical institutes, medical college, central laboratory, and other allied facilities were also under construction. The project was being constructed under GDA Business Plan duly supported by Public Sector Development Project (PSDP) of the federal government. The project's update feasibility study has been completed by Chinese team to add 100 beds from existing 50, for subsequent extension to 300 beds.

## Bekele to attempt marathon world record

BERLIN: Ethiopia's Kenenisa Bekele has vowed to attack the men's world marathon record in Berlin on Sunday, just nine months after recovering from Covid-19. The 39-year-old Ethiopian came within just two seconds of Eliud Kipchoge's current men's world record of two hours, one minute and 39 seconds when he won the 2019 Berlin Marathon, the last time the race was held in Germany's capital due to the pandemic. "I had Covid nine months ago, it took about a month to get over it, but I am fine now," Bekele told AFP on Friday. "When I come to Berlin, I am trying for a personal best and the world record." Bekele is one of the greatest distance runners of all time, having won world and Olympic gold medals over both 5,000 metres and 10,000m. Despite catching the coronavirus at the start of the year, Bekele says he is now in peak condition and ready to attack his 2019 personal best marathon time of 2:01:41, as well as the world record, on Sunday. After the pandemic decimated the 2020 marathon calendar, Bekele is ready to test himself over 42.195 kilometres (26.2 miles) in Berlin. "I am very happy to come here again after Covid. It has been a really tough time for me," Bekele said. "I wasn't sure two years ago (of my time) and I just came to try to beat my personal best," he said. "I have a bit of a feel for the world record pace, I am full of confidence." — APP

## Injured Messi to miss out for PSG again

PARIS: Lionel Messi will again be sidelined for Paris Saint-Germain for Saturday's game against Montpellier as he continues to nurse a knee injury, his club said. PSG said Messi had started running again and that a new update would come on Sunday, raising hope that he will be able to return for the Champions League clash against Pep Guardiola's Manchester City on Tuesday. "Hopefully everything will be ok and he will be back with us," coach Mauricio Pochettino said at a press conference. "We hope he can be there. We need to be cautious and see how things evolve in the coming days." Messi was taken off in the 76th minute of last weekend's 2-1 win over Lyon in Ligue 1. It only emerged later that he was suffering from a knock to a knee and he played no part in Wednesday's 2-1 league win at Metz. Messi has made just three appearances for his new club since arriving from Barcelona in early August, and has completed 90 minutes just once, at Club Brugge in the Champions League. PSG are looking to make it eight wins out of eight in Ligue 1 this season when they play Montpellier, with Pochettino insisting that is his focus, not the rematch with a City side who knocked them out of the Champions League in the semi-finals last season. "The important thing is the Montpellier game, trying to win and improve in the aspects we need to improve. Manchester City doesn't influence it," said the Argentine. "We want to keep our run of results going, although of course it can help us prepare for the game on Tuesday." Marco Verratti and Sergio Ramos, the close-season signing from Real Madrid, are also still on the sidelines. — APP



## Iran still committed to nuclear talks: Minister

TEHRAN: Iran does not want to abandon talks aimed at reviving a nuclear deal with major powers, its foreign minister said Friday, after Western powers expressed frustration over the slow pace. "We are not seeking to quit the negotiating table," Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian told the official IRNA news agency. "We will certainly pursue a negotiation that serves the rights and interests of our nation." A senior US official this week made clear Washington's frustration with Tehran over the absence of any "positive indication" it is prepared to return to the talks to "close down the remaining issues". European governments said they heard nothing concrete from Amir-Abdollahian during their meetings on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly. — APP

## Sabina's murder...

FROM PAGE 01

Emma Kay, co-founder of WalkSafe, a free mobile app aimed at safeguarding women in public spaces, said many women have been killed by men in the UK since March, when Everard's murder by a Met officer shocked the nation. Everard was 33. Wayne Couzens, 48, has pleaded guilty to murdering her and will be sentenced on September 29. So far this year, at least 108 women in the UK have been killed by men, or in instances where a man is the principal suspect, according to Counting Dead Women, a group that tracks femicide in the country.

## Taliban issues 11...

FROM PAGE 01

music shows, foreign dramas are replaced with programmes tailored to the Taliban government. Meanwhile, the Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) has also asked Taliban to immediately cease detaining journalists in Afghanistan and allow the media to operate freely and without fear of reprisal. Things have changed dramatically since the Taliban began its military advances after the US announced the withdrawal of its troops from Afghanistan.

## Japan a trusted...

FROM PAGE 01

interest including the situation in Afghanistan. The Foreign Minister underscored that Pakistan attaches great importance to its political and economic relationship with Japan. He added that Pakistan views Japan as a trusted development partner. Recalling that the year 2022 will mark the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries, the Foreign Minister called for exploring further avenues to deepen the Pakistan-Japan bilateral relationship in all spheres. Foreign Minister Qureshi shared with his Japanese counterpart Pakistan's perspective on the recent developments in Afghanistan. Minister Motegi expressed his appreciation for Pakistan's cooperation, including the acceptance of Self-Defense Force aircrafts, that enabled a Japanese national as well as Afghan staff of the Japanese Embassy and JICA office to safely depart from Afghanistan and requested continued support. Minister Qureshi responded that the Government of Pakistan would spare no effort on the evacuation of the above-mentioned persons. The two Ministers confirmed that they would further develop bilateral relations on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Japan and Pakistan in 2022.

MATSUDA Kuninori, Ambassador of Japan to Pakistan, stated that the realization of the face-to-face meeting between the two Ministers on the occasion of the UN General Assembly held in New York despite the pandemic, was extremely timely in view of current bilateral relations and regional affairs. He also expressed his appreciation for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Pakistan and the Permanent Mission of Pakistan to the United Nations for its dedications to realizing the meeting.

## FM for making...

FROM PAGE 01

"The reform of the Security Council must be decided by consensus and should enhance the representation of all UN member states," he emphasised. FM Qureshi further said only an acceptable formula with an increase in the non-permanent members and rotation through democratic elections can provide more equitable representation for all states on the Security Council. "Attempts by some states to create new centres of privilege could derail the reform process and exacerbate divisions," he added. Qureshi urged that member states must be allowed the necessary time and space to evolve a solution acceptable to the entire UN membership. "UIC's principled position offered the only practical solution to the reform of the Security Council," he remarked.

## Pakistan, IAEA to provide training to African countries

Practical Arrangement was signed by Mr. Hua Liu, Deputy DG and Head of the IAEA's Department of Technical Cooperation, and Chairman PAEC Muhammad Naeem. Pakistan's Permanent Representative to International Organizations in Vienna, Aftab Ahmad Khokher participated in the signing ceremony

## DNA

VIENNA: Pakistan and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) have signed a Practical Arrangement today under which scientists and experts from African countries will be imparted training in peaceful uses of nuclear technology by the Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission (PAEC). The prime areas of focus in such training programmes will be agriculture and human health. The Practical Arrangement was signed by Mr. Hua Liu, Deputy Director General and Head of the IAEA's Department of Technical Cooperation, and Chairman PAEC Muhammad Naeem. Pakistan's Per-



manent Representative to International Organizations in Vienna, Ambassador Aftab Ahmad Khokher participated in the signing ceremony. Pakistan has made impressive strides in peaceful uses of nuclear technologies in the areas of health and agriculture and remains willing to share its expertise with other developing countries under the auspices of the IAEA. The Practical Arrangement will provide the instructional framework for such trilateral cooperation to be implemented in a smooth and expeditious manner. It is also a concrete example of how Pakistan continues to contribute to the mandate of the IAEA in promoting peaceful uses of nuclear technology for socioeconomic development around the world.



## Briefs

Kyrgyzstan  
delivers  
aid to  
Afghanistan

BISHKEK: Kyrgyzstan has delivered humanitarian aid to Afghanistan, the press service of the Kyrgyz president reported.

A delegation from Kyrgyzstan headed by Deputy Chairman of the Security Council Taalatbek Masadykov delivered cargo aid to Kabul on Thursday for the people of Afghanistan at the instruction of Kyrgyz President Sadyr Zhaparov.

The humanitarian aid was officially handed over to acting deputy prime minister Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar of the newly created government of Afghanistan. During the meeting, Masadykov and Baradar discussed the political situation in Afghanistan and exchanged views on security issues in the country and region as a whole, the report said.

Baradar thanked the president of Kyrgyzstan and the people of the country for the humanitarian assistance. — APP

Greece mulls  
giving up  
majority stake  
in power firm

## WEB DESK

ATHENS: The Greek government is looking into dropping its majority stake in state power provider PPC, whose dominant position in the country's energy sector has long been in the crosshairs of EU regulators.

Two state asset agencies with a combined 51-percent stake in the Public Power Corporation said late Thursday they were "considering" lowering their shareholding. They said they would instead hold a blocking minority, which would allow the state to retain a veto within the company.

The announcement by the Hellenic Corporation of Assets and Participations and its subsidiary came after the PPC announced a 750-million-euro (\$879-million) share capital increase.

Allama  
Iqbal's poetry  
translated in  
Portuguese

ISLAMABAD: For the first time poetry of national poet of Pakistan Allama Iqbal has been translated in Portuguese language by Marco Lucchesi, the chairman Brazil Academy of letters.

This was stated by chairman Pakistan Academy of letters (PAL) Dr. Yousuf Khushk on Friday.

He said that the book entitled 'Prelude' was the first translation of poems by Allama Iqbal in Brazil. The book would be released at the end of October.

Dr. Yousuf said that Lucchesi has already translated Rumi and was now dealing with Yunus Emre's translation. His two books of Rumi were awarded in Brazil. In Prelude, there were also some excerpts from Iqbal's thesis on Persian philosophy. — APP

## Rathore woos Pak diaspora for works in education, tourism

Pakistan in the Student Direct Stream (SDS) by Canadian authorities for fast-tracking visa applications of Pakistani students wanting to pursue higher studies in Canada was a welcome step

## DNA

TORONTO: Pakistan High Commissioner-designate to Canada Mr. Ameer Khuram Rathore has said that he plans to engage extensively with the Pakistani diaspora in Canada in coming days to create linkages and collaborations in both countries in the fields of commerce, investment, education and tourism.

He expressed these views while talking to Ms Sadaf Ebrahim, President of Canada Pakistan Association (CPA) National Capital Region and Syed Kashif Alamdar Vice President of Canada Pakistan Association.



tion who called on him to brief him on various initiatives taken by CPA in the field of community welfare, humanitarian work, cultural exchanges, promotion of education and tourism, particularly religious tourism in Pakistan after the opening of Kartarpur Corridor in 2019.

Ameer Khuram Rathore said the Pakistani Canadian organisations and associations were well-placed to promote educational and cultural linkages and promote bilateral trade and investment because of their wide outreach and networks in both countries.

He said the inclusion of Pakistan in the Student Direct

Stream (SDS) by Canadian authorities for fast-tracking visa applications of Pakistani students wanting to pursue higher studies in Canada was a welcome step and there was need for the Pakistani Canadian groups and bodies working in the field of education and consultancy to collaborate with partners in Pakistan to create understanding and awareness of the SDS scheme and the advantages it accrued to the prospective Pakistani students for acquiring higher education in Canada and pitching them for the high-end labour market in Pakistan, Canada and elsewhere in the world.

Lebanon at  
risk of full  
blackout by  
Sept-end

## FOREIGN DESK

BEIRUT: Lebanon's state electricity company EDL said on Thursday it risked a total blackout across the country by September-end as its fuel oil reserves dwindle. Lebanon, in the throes of one of the worst economic meltdowns of modern history, has been plagued by worsening fuel shortages for the past few months with most Lebanese relying on private generators for power.

The company can generate less than 500 megawatts from fuel oil it secured through a deal with Iraq, it said in a statement.

It said its reserves of both Grade A and Grade B fuel oil had reached a critical point and had run out already for some plants that have now stopped production.

"The network already experienced total blackouts across the country seven times and if this continues there is a high risk of reaching total and complete blackout by end September," the statement said.

Iraq signed an agreement in July allowing the cash-strapped Lebanese government to pay for 1 million tons of heavy fuel oil a year in goods and services. The heavy fuel oil is not suitable for use in Lebanon, but it is exchanged in tenders for a suitable grade.

EDL held Lebanon's central bank responsible for not securing dollars in exchange for "the surplus of local currency accumulated in the company's account to generate power."

Extreme  
punishments  
will return,  
says Taliban

## AGENCIES

KABUL: The Taliban's notorious former head of religious police has said extreme punishments such as executions and amputations will resume in Afghanistan.

Mullah Nooruddin Turabi, now in charge of prisons, told AP News amputations were "necessary for security."

He said these punishments may not be meted out in public, as they were under previous Taliban rule in the 1990s.

But he dismissed outrage over their past public executions: "No-one will tell us what our laws should be."

Since taking power in Afghanistan on 15 August the Taliban have been promising a milder form of rule than in their previous tenure.

But there have already been several reports of human rights abuses carried out across the country.

On Thursday, Human Rights Watch warned that the Taliban in Herat were "searching out high-profile women, denying women freedom of movement outside their homes [and] imposing compulsory dress codes."

And in August, Amnesty International said that Taliban fighters were behind the massacre of nine members of the persecuted Hazara minority.

EU Commission proposes new EU  
Generalised Scheme of Preferences

## DNA

BRUSSELS/ISLAMABAD: The Commission has adopted the legislative proposal for the new EU's Generalised Scheme of Preferences (GSP) for the period 2024-2034. The Commission is proposing to improve some of the key features of the scheme to better respond to the evolving needs and challenges of GSP countries as well as reinforce the scheme's social, labour environmental and climate dimension.

The GSP Regulation is a unilateral trade tool that removes or reduces import duties from products coming into the EU from vulnerable low-income countries, supporting poverty eradication, sustainable development, and their participation in the global economy. The proposed regulation covers the standard GSP, GSP+ and "Everything But Arms" (EBA). Pakistan is the largest beneficiary country of GSP+ under the current regulation which will expire in 2023 and to which the new proposal will become the successor.

The Commission's proposal makes the EU's GSP more focused on reducing poverty and increasing export opportunities for low-income countries. It aims to incentivise sustainable economic growth

in low-income countries and offers new room for engagement on environmental and good governance issues.

The new GSP framework strengthens the EU's possibilities to use trade preferences to create economic opportunities and to advance sustainable development. The modernised framework also expands the grounds for the withdrawal of EU GSP preferences in case of serious and systematic violations. Beyond the core human rights and labour conventions already covered, the proposal incorporates environmental and good governance conventions.

The GSP has several features to make sure trade preferences go to countries that need them the most and to support their sustainable development. The new proposal further improves the current scheme by, among others:

- Expanding the list of international conventions that need to be complied with by adding two additional human rights instruments on the rights of people with disabilities and the rights of the child, two labour rights conventions on labour inspections and tripartite dialogue, and one governance convention on transnational organised crime;
- Setting up a well-defined framework for the current GSP+ beneficiaries to adapt



to the new requirements, offering an adequate transition period and requiring the presentation of implementation plans.

To reinforce the importance of meeting climate change and environmental protection standards, the new GSP proposal:

- Introduces the possibility to withdraw GSP benefits for serious and systematic violations of the principles of the conventions on climate change and environmental protection;
- Extends the list of international conventions that GSP+ countries must ratify beyond the current seven environmental and climate instruments, now including the Paris Agreement.

Lessons learned through the application of the current GSP are reflected through:

- Improvements to the monitoring of compliance with

GSP+ requirements, and increased transparency and involvement of civil society in its application;

- A new urgent withdrawal of preferences procedure when a rapid response is needed in exceptionally grave circumstances in a beneficiary country, such as grave violations of international standards;
- An assessment of the socio-economic effects of any proposed withdrawal, to consider any negative impact on vulnerable populations.

European Union Ambassador to Pakistan, Androulla Kaminara said

- "Since being granted GSP+ status in 2014, Pakistan's economy has greatly benefitted from the preferential access to the European Market. Pakistan exports have increased by 60%, making the EU the most important destination for Pakistani goods. The

regulation that is proposed now maintains the same principles: Trade with the EU as a driver of sustainable development. It constitutes thus a great opportunity for Pakistan to further increase its exports, boost business and create jobs. But in order to maintain the trade preferences under GSP+ beyond 2023, Pakistan will have to redouble its efforts to turn the international conventions it signed up to into reality on the ground. To make the case to be eligible under the new GSP+ system, Pakistan, like any other potential beneficiary country, will have to demonstrate tangible progress to convince EU parliamentarians and member state governments."

Representative/ Vice-President Josep Borrell Fontelles said: "The EU promotes human rights and sustainable development in all areas of its external action, including responsible trade and investment. The new GSP Regulation enhances an instrument that is essential for our joint efforts to promote more prosperous, sustainable and fair societies around the world, building on the experience accumulated throughout years of engagement and co-operation with our partner countries."

Pakistan's first Hospitality and Tourism  
school welcomes first batch of students

ISLAMABAD: Hashoo School of Hospitality Management (HSHM) in collaboration with Sheffield Hallam University, UK and in partnership with CTTI is pleased to announce the beginning of their first academic year.

The student orientation ceremony was hosted on 20th September 2021 at the auditorium of CTTI campus, Islamabad. During the ceremony, the students were shown the ropes of how their academic journey will flow at HSHM. The students will be studying at HSHM CTTI campus Islamabad for the first two years, followed by the third year at Sheffield Hallam University, UK from where they will graduate with a BSc. (Hons) degree. — DNA

Malaysia  
reports  
13,754 new  
Covid cases

KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysia reported another 13,754 new COVID-19 infections as of midnight Thursday, raising the national total to 2,156,678, according to the health ministry. Four of the new cases are imported and 13,750 are local transmissions, data released on the ministry's website showed. Another 116 more deaths have been reported, bringing the death toll to 24,681. About 16,628 patients have been released after recovery, bringing the total number of cured and discharged to 1,933,713. — APP

China develops vaccine  
'most effective against  
virus variants'

BEIJING: Chinese people are about to embrace a new COVID-19 vaccine, which experts predicted could be the most effective, developed in China.

The latest research showed 79 percent efficacy against the dominant Delta variant and overall 67 percent efficacy against any variants. The vaccine, a protein-based COVID-19 vaccine candidate developed by Chengdu-based Clover Biopharmaceuticals, is also the world's first COVID-19 vaccine that has been proven effective against all three mutations (Delta, Gamma and Mu), Zhuang Shihua, a Guangzhou-based vaccine expert, told the Global Times.

Clover announced on its website that it had achieved the primary efficacy endpoint and secondary efficacy endpoints in SPECTRA, a global pivotal phase II-III clinical trial.

The results showed that the candidate, SCB-2019, demonstrated 79 percent overall efficacy against COVID-19 of any severity caused by the globally dominant Delta variant, which currently comprises more than 90 percent of all cases worldwide. Efficacy was 92 percent against the Gamma variant and 59 percent against the Mu variant, and collectively these three strains (Delta, Gamma and Mu) comprised 73 percent of all strains identified in the study, according to an announcement the company released on its website.

Overall efficacy was 67 percent against COVID-19 of any severity caused by any strain in the study, successfully meeting the primary endpoint of the trial. Clover's vaccine candidate is one of the first to demonstrate significant efficacy against Delta in a double-blind, randomized clinical trial, read the announcement. The overall efficacy is not bad, given the severity of the variants used in the clinical trial, Zhuang said. "We can say that the Clover candidate faces the most severe phase III environment than any previous one did, such as Pfizer, Oxford and Sinovac candidates," he noted.

The SPECTRA clinical trial enrolled over 30,000 adult and elderly (18 years of age or older) participants at 31 sites in five countries (Philippines, Brazil, Colombia, South Africa, Belgium) across four continents, resulting in one of the most diverse COVID-19 vaccine clinical trials conducted to date, Clover said. Accrual of COVID-19 disease cases for the final efficacy analysis occurred from April 28 through August 10, 2021 - a time when the Delta variant of SARS-CoV-2 became the dominant strain globally, Clover noted in the announcement.

The vaccine also shows 100 percent efficacy against severe COVID-19 and hospitalization, and 84 percent efficacy against moderate-to-severe COVID-19, caused by any strain of SARS-CoV-2 in the SPECTRA clinical trial, according to the company. — APP

ID-19 of any severity caused by any strain in the study, successfully meeting the primary endpoint of the trial. Clover's vaccine candidate is one of the first to demonstrate significant efficacy against Delta in a double-blind, randomized clinical trial, read the announcement. The overall efficacy is not bad, given the severity of the variants used in the clinical trial, Zhuang said. "We can say that the Clover candidate faces the most severe phase III environment than any previous one did, such as Pfizer, Oxford and Sinovac candidates," he noted.

The SPECTRA clinical trial enrolled over 30,000 adult and elderly (18 years of age or older) participants at 31 sites in five countries (Philippines, Brazil, Colombia, South Africa, Belgium) across four continents, resulting in one of the most diverse COVID-19 vaccine clinical trials conducted to date, Clover said. Accrual of COVID-19 disease cases for the final efficacy analysis occurred from April 28 through August 10, 2021 - a time when the Delta variant of SARS-CoV-2 became the dominant strain globally, Clover noted in the announcement.

The vaccine also shows 100 percent efficacy against severe COVID-19 and hospitalization, and 84 percent efficacy against moderate-to-severe COVID-19, caused by any strain of SARS-CoV-2 in the SPECTRA clinical trial, according to the company. — APP

SEPTEMBER 2021

Pakistan's Premier News &  
Diplomatic Affairs Magazine

Find us on:

www.centrelines.com.pk  
www.dnanews.com.pl  
www.islamabadpost.com.pk

@PostIslamabad/ @Editordnanews

A sister concern of

Islamabad POST

11# Block 18-A, Awan Plaza,  
G-8 Markez, Islamabad-Pakistan  
Ph: 051-2261960, 051-2266165





## Briefs

France  
warns Russia  
against Mali  
involvement

WEB DESK

NEW YORK: France's foreign minister has warned his Russian counterpart against involving paramilitaries from the controversial Wagner group in Mali's conflict.

"On Mali, the minister alerted his Russian counterpart to the serious consequences of the Wagner group's involvement in this country," the French foreign ministry said Friday.

Jean-Yves Le Drian met Sergey Lavrov on Thursday on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly in New York.

According to reports, Mali's army-dominated government in Bamako is close to hiring 1,000 Wagner paramilitaries.

France has warned Mali that hiring the fighters from the Russian private-security firm would isolate the country internationally.

The Russian company is considered close to Russian President Vladimir Putin and Western countries accuse it of acting on behalf of Moscow.

One killed,  
4 injured in  
capital firing  
incident

ISLAMABAD: One man was killed and four others injured after unknown assailants opened fire on a private vehicle at one of the busiest arteries of the Federal Capital - the 8th Avenue, here on Friday.

Following the firing incident, five injured were shifted to the hospital, out of which one Malik Naveed succumbed to his injuries, a police spokesman said.

He said police teams had been formed under the leadership of Superintendent of Police, Industrial Area to arrest the culprits involved in the firing incident. The spokesman said the safe city cameras would be used to arrest the culprits, and vowed to bring them to justice at the earliest. — APP

Palestinian  
killed by  
Israeli troops  
in West Bank

NEWS DESK

RAMALLAH: A Palestinian was shot dead by Israeli troops Friday when clashes broke out on the sidelines of a demonstration in the occupied West Bank, the Palestinian health ministry said.

The victim was hit in the head by live fire, the ministry said, in the flashpoint town of Beita, scene of regular demonstrations against Israeli settlement expansion, which often degenerate into clashes.

A family member identified the dead man as Mohammed Ali Khabisa, 27.

He was taken to hospital in the northern West Bank city of Nablus where he died shortly afterwards, the ministry said.

Another eight Palestinians were wounded by rubber-coated bullets, the Palestinians' official Wafa news agency reported.

The Israeli military said it launched an investigation into "reports that a Palestinian was killed".

A statement said a "violent riot" had erupted during which "hundreds of Palestinians burned tyres and hurled rocks at IDF (Israeli Defense Forces) troops". Beita residents have been demonstrating since May against the wildcat Jewish settlement outpost of Evitar set up nearby without Israeli permission.

The outpost was evacuated in early July but Israeli army troops remain stationed there while authorities deliberate on its fate.

If the settlement is approved, its founders will be allowed to take up residence more permanently.

## CAA extends Covid curbs on inbound flights till Oct 31

The travellers from countries placed in categories A and B will need to possess a valid PCR test result conducted within 72 hours prior to the commencement of their travel to Pakistan, the CAA said

DNA

KARACHI: The Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) on Friday extended the coronavirus restrictions imposed on inbound flights till October 31, which were earlier stretched till September 30. In a notification, the CAA said all Pakistanis, whose return to Pakistan from Category C Countries is scheduled till October 31, may travel to the country without grant of a special exemption.

They should possess a valid negative PCR test result conducted within 72 hours prior to the commencement of their travel to Pakistan, the aviation authority said. However, passengers of other nationalities, who seek to travel to Pakistan from Category C countries, will not be allowed in the country.

The travellers from countries placed in categories A and B will need to possess a valid PCR test result conducted within 72 hours prior

## Covid-19 national tally shows declining trend

ISLAMABAD: The national tally of Covid-19 active cases on Friday was recorded 60,952 with 2,233 more people tested positive for the deadly virus and 2,789 people recovered from the disease during the last 24 hours. Fifty corona patients died during the past 24 hours, 45 of whom were under treatment in different hospitals and five of them perished in their respective quarantines or homes, according to the latest update issued by the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC). Most of the deaths occurred in Punjab followed by Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP). Out of the total 50 deaths that occurred, 14 of them died were under treatment on ventilators. There were 4,409 Covid infected patients under treatment in critical condition in various Covid dedicated healthcare facilities of the country. The National Covid positivity ratio during the past 24 hours was recorded at 4.23 percent. — APP

to the commencement of their travel to Pakistan, the CAA said. The countries in Category C include Costa Rica, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Iran, Iraq, Mongolia, Mexico, The Philippines,

Slovenia, South Africa, Thailand, and Trinidad and Tobago. In an earlier travel advisory, the CAA had said all inbound passengers of age six years and above will be required to possess a

valid negative PCR test result conducted within 72 hours prior to commencement of travel to Pakistan. "All arriving passengers of age 6 years and above will be tested through rapid antigen testing upon arrival in Pakistan," the travel advisory had said.

Positive testing passengers between the age of six and 12 years will be home quarantined under the supervision of concerned authorities, it said. "Positive testing passengers above 12 years of age will be quarantined at a designated facility as per procedure already in vogue," the travel advisory had said.

Pakistan reported 2,233 more COVID-19 infections during the last 24 hours, pushing the nationwide tally of confirmed cases to 1,234,828, according to official figures released Friday morning. As per the latest statistics of the National Command and Operation Centre, 50 more people died of COVID-19 in the last 24 hours, taking the total number of fatalities from the virus to 27,482.

## Iran FM says nuclear talks will restart 'very soon'

The talks, brokered by the Europeans, seek the return of the United States to the 2015 agreement trashed by Donald Trump — as well as Iran's return to full compliance

AGENCIES

NEW YORK: Iran's foreign minister said Friday that stalled talks on the Iranian nuclear accord would resume "very soon" but accused the United States of sending "contradictory messages" on reviving the deal.

The talks, brokered by the Europeans, seek the return of the United States to the 2015 agreement trashed by former president Donald Trump — as well as Iran's return to full compliance.

"We are reviewing the Vienna negotiations files currently and very soon Iran's negotiations with the four plus one countries will recommence," Hossein Amir-Abdollahian told reporters in New York, referring to Britain, France, Russia, China and Germany. "We see a constructive type of negotiation that will lead to tangible verifiable results in the foreign policy of the new government in Iran," the foreign minister added during a press conference on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly.

Asked what Amir-Abdollahian meant by "very soon," a senior Iranian official said on condition of anonymity that "it can mean a few days, it can mean a few weeks."

"As soon as we finish the review process, without any time to be wasted, we shall return to the negotiations table," the official said. European nations are trying to kick start the deal, known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, that Trump pulled America out of in 2018. He reinstated sanctions on Iran that Washing-

ton had lifted as part of the agreement. Since then, Tehran has also retreated from many of its commitments.

Trump's successor Joe Biden has indicated he wants to return to the deal, but his administration has expressed impatience at the stalled talks.

"From the White House, we keep receiving diplomatic contradictory messages," said Amir-Abdollahian. "In the last few months, we have not seen an iota of positive action by the United States administration."

More  
pro-Tareen  
lawmakers  
meet CM

LAHORE: More supporters of PTI's Jahangir Khan Tareen faction have met Chief Minister Punjab Usman Buzdar, media reported on Friday. The Tareen loyalists who met the chief minister include Noman Langaryal, Khwaja Dawood Salmani, and Abdul Hayi Dasti.

Sources privy to the matter said that the MPAs have expressed trust in CM Buzdar's leadership and said that they stand with the PTI leadership.

The disintegration within the Tareen faction caught pace after loyalist Nazeer Chohan parted ways with the group. This followed another PTI MPA Sardar Khurram Laghari, who too is a Tareen supporter, meeting CM Buzdar.

Sources within the CM House have claimed that more MPAs loyal to Tareen have contacted CM Buzdar and will meet him soon.

## Qureshi, Swedish FM discuss areas of mutual interests



ISLAMABAD: Foreign Minister Makhdoom Shah Mahmood Qureshi held a meeting with Foreign Minister of Sweden Ann Linde in New York on the sidelines of 76th session of the UN General Assembly on Friday and discussed matters of mutual interest.

Recalling their recent telephone conversation, Foreign Minister Qureshi emphasized that Pakistan valued Sweden as an important bilateral partner as well as a key member of the European Union.

The two Foreign Ministers discussed areas of mutual cooperation including trade, investment and development cooperation. The Foreign Minister added that Pakistan would welcome more Swedish companies to take advantage of business-friendly environment in Pakistan. Foreign Minister Qureshi invited Foreign Minister Linde to undertake a visit to Pakistan at the earliest.

The Foreign Minister briefed his Swedish counterpart on Pakistan's perspective on the situation in Afghanistan. He underscored the importance of the international community's engagement with Afghanistan in order to promote peace and stability.

The Swedish Foreign Minister expressed her government's gratitude to Pakistan for facilitating the evacuation of Swedish nationals from Afghanistan.

The Foreign Minister shared with the Foreign Minister of Sweden a Dossier on India's grave violations of human rights and international humanitarian law in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK). — APP

Qureshi,  
Indonesian FM discuss  
bilateral  
relations

ISLAMABAD: Foreign Minister Makhdoom Shah Mahmood Qureshi met Retno Marsudi, Foreign Minister of Republic of Indonesia Friday on the sidelines of the 76th UN General Assembly session in New York and exchanged views on bilateral relations as well as on other regional and international issues of mutual interest.

Foreign Minister Qureshi emphasized that Pakistan highly valued its fraternal ties with Indonesia and desired to further enhance them across the political, trade and economic dimensions. He also expressed the desire to enhance cooperation between the two countries in the framework of United Nations and ASEAN.

The Foreign Minister outlined Pakistan's perspective on the situation in Afghanistan. He highlighted the importance of sustained engagement with Afghanistan to promote peace and stability, and to meet the humanitarian needs of the Afghan people. — APP

DC directs  
officials to  
resolve  
complaints

BUREAU REPORT

FAISALABAD: Deputy Commissioner Ali Shehzad has directed the heads of district departments to satisfy the grievances of the complainants in a satisfactory manner and to abandon the practice of ignoring public issues, undue and unwarranted delays would not tolerated in this regard. Listening to the problems of the citizens in the office, the Deputy Commissioner said that departmental action against the officers who do not listen to the public issues will not be avoided so they should increase the standard of departmental performance in relation to public relief. He asked the Assistant Commissioners to address the grievances and problems of the people at the their level responsibly and keep a close watch on the performance of the tehsil offices so that the people do not face any problem in their affairs. He said that there should be no delay in resolving issues that need to be resolved immediately.

China extends  
congratulations to JCC  
meeting's outcome

BEIJING: Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson on Friday extended congratulations to the outcomes of Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) meeting of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and said that China was ready to work with Pakistan to earnestly implementing important common understanding and the outcomes of the meeting.

"I like to extend congratulations to the outcomes of this meeting. China and Pakistan are all weathers strategic cooperative partners. CPEC is a landmark and pilot program under the Belt and Road Initiative," Zhao Lijian said during his regular briefing while commenting on the JCC meeting held via video link. The JCC meeting was held via video link on September 23. Deputy Head of China's National Development

and Reforms Commission (NDRC), Ning Jizhe and Minister for Planning Development and Special Initiatives, Asad Umar co-chaired the meeting. The spokesperson said that the two sides announced at the meeting the establishment of a joint working group on information technology, industry, signed a number of cooperation documents and announced the signing of cooperation agreements.

Since launch in 2013, the CPEC has achieved fruitful and remarkable results," he added. Zhao Lijian said that China was ready to work with Pakistan to earnestly implementing important common understanding reached by leaders of the two countries, and the outcomes of the JCC meeting. "We will stick to the One Plus Four cooperation mod-

el centering on CPEC and focusing on Gwadar Port, energy infrastructure, and industrial cooperation to increase the utilization rate of existing infrastructure," he added.

He said that the both countries would highlight cooperation in health, green economy, digitalization, step up cooperation in industries, science and technology, agriculture, and people's livelihood so as to view the CPEC into a demonstration program of high quality BRI development and contributing to closer, China, Pakistan community with a shared future in new era. According to the Deputy Head of China's NDRC, the CPEC has reaped fruitful results over the past eight years, bringing a direct investment of US\$ 25.4 billion to Pakistan and creating numerous jobs in Pakistan. — APP

## PM Imran launches Digital Media Development Program

STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Imran Khan has launched the Digital Media Development Program and said that information technology (IT) is a big opportunity for the youth. PM Imran Khan, while addressing the launching ceremony of the Digital Media Development Program in Islamabad on Friday, urged the youth not to underestimate themselves and asked to always set big targets for them.

The premier said that he was happy to see the launching of the Digital Media Development Program for Pakistani youth. He said that the world is going towards digital media and youth were now becoming billionaires in the modern era. He urged people to make collective efforts for the development of the country instead of prioritising personal benefits. The ideology of the creation of Pakistan was to form an Islamic welfare state and an Islamic state would never bow head at any cost.

Imran Khan said that the past rul-



ers had forced the nationals to bow heads before the big powers, however, the current government wants to make the country a dignified and self-sufficient state. "For the first time, every citizen is possessing its own health insurance card for getting free medical facilities in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP). Even in the developed countries like the United States (US), every citizen doesn't have health insurance facility."

"We have to make Pakistan a true Islamic welfare state. A society cannot get developed without the supremacy of law and justice. Our government is making efforts to establish the supremacy of law and justice in the country."

Regarding the propaganda against Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) led government, Imran Khan said that 70 per cent of reports proved false against the current government during the last three years. He said that the opponents should criticise the government but it should be based on truth.

The premier said that media is fully independent in the PTI-led government and not a single government in the past had allowed the freedom of speech.

Digital Media Development Program, a flagship initiative as per the vision of PM Imran Khan is launched by Digital Media Wing, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) focusing on the development and growth of the Digital Media Ecosystem of Pakistan.

## NOW IN PAKISTAN

### Invisible Braces Dental Implants

## Dr. Abrar & Associates

### DENTAL SURGEONS

House # 6-A, Ismail Zabeeh Road, (Service Road Parallel to Faisal Avenue) F-8/3, Islamabad.  
e-mail: [abrar.associates@yahoo.com](mailto:abrar.associates@yahoo.com) | [www.drabrarassociates.com](http://www.drabrarassociates.com)  
Ph: +92 51 228 7691 / +92 51 228 7692 | Fax: +92 51 228 7693