

Briefs Fresh **census** approved

KHAYAM ABBASI



on

Tuesday said that the federal cabinet had given approval for a fresh census that will be conducted through the use of "modern technology" in line with the global best practices. In a tweet, the minister said that after the approval of the cabinet, the government will now move the Council of Common Interests (CCI) so that a fresh census could be held before the next general elections. "This will be the first time in Pakistan's history that a census would be conducted within five years," he added.

Zuckerberg apologizes on shutdown

WEB DESK



Army takes note of Indian propaganda

Corps Commanders Meet

The forum expressed resolve to take all necessary measures to safeguard Pakistan's territorial integrity

CENTRELINE REPORT

RAWALPINDI: The 244th

ence was held at the General

Headquarters on Tuesday in

which the forum took note of

Qamar Javed Bajwa.

kistan's territorial integrity.

Investiture ceremony Corps Commanders Confer-

held at GHQ

STAFF REPORT RAWALPINDI: Investiture

Ceremony of Rawalpindi & Mangla Corps was held at Army Auditorium GHQ. Commander Rawalpindi Corps, Lieutenant General Sahir Shamshad Mirza was Chief Guest on the occasion. According to a statement from Inter Services Public Relation (ISPR), awards of Sitara-i-Imtiaz (Military), Tamgha-i-Imtiaz (Military) and Tamgha-i-Basalat were conferred on Army officers and soldiers. 25 Shaheed Soldiers were awarded Tamgha-i-Basalat. Next of kins of Shuhada received their awards posthumously. 67 officers were awarded Sitara-i-Imtiaz

(Military) and 122 officers

Saudi Naval Chief calls on COAS

DNA

malicious propaganda by the RAWALPINDI: Commander Indian military with the army Royal Saudi Naval Forces chief, the Inter-Services Pub-Vice Admiral Fahad bin Ablic Relations (ISPR) said. The dullah Al- Ghofaily called on meeting was presided over by Chief of Army Staff (COAS) Chief of Army Staff General General Qamar Javed Bajwa at GHQ on Tuesday. During 'The baseless propaganda only the meeting matters of mureflects their frustration and an tual interest, regional securiattempt to divert attention from ty situation and cooperation their internal contradictions in military and maritime especially gross human rights domains were discussed. violations being committed in The army chief reiterated India-occupied Kashmir," the that both countries share army chief observed. The forum a great history of cordial expressed resolve to take all necrelations and deep-rooted essary measures to safeguard Paspirit of brotherhood, which has transformed into an A comprehensive review of the enduring partnership. The evolving security situation in current situation in Afghanthe region was taken, with a istan and its bearing on particular focus on border manregional peace and stability agement and internal security,

also came under discussion.

The visiting dignitary appre

ciated Pakistan's role in the

Afghan situation, especially

the assistance in successful

evacuation operations and

with Pak for regional peace.

Pak, Iran agree to remain engaged FM Qureshi received Iran's

Deputy Foreign Minister for **Political Affairs**

STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: Foreign Minister Makhdoom Shah Mahmood Qureshi received Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister for Political Affairs, Dr. Ali Bagheri Kani, on Tuesday. Recalling fraternal relations between the two countries, the Foreign Minister remarked that the recent high-level exchanges have further reinforced existing ties. He emphasized

early implementation of

the steps, agreed during

Prime Minister's meeting

with President Raisi on the

margins of SCO Summit in

Dushanbe. Foreign Minis-

ter Qureshi underlined the

need for regular convening

of institutional frameworks

to boost trade and economic

relations. He said that the

upcoming session of Joint

Trade Committee would

provide further impetus to

Continued on Page 06

Positivity rate

below 3%

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan has reported 54 deaths in the

last 24 hours by novel coro-

navirus as the number of

positive cases has surged to

1.252,656. The nationwide

tally of fatalities has jumped

According to the latest fig-

ures by the National Com-

mand and Operation Center

(NCOC) 1,308 persons test-

ed positive for COVID-19 in

Punjab remains the worst-

hit province in terms of

deaths followed by Sindh

and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

Till now 12,710 individuals

have lost their lives to the

epidemic in Punjab 7,442 in

Sindh 5,593 in KP, 929 in Is-

lamabad, 738 in Azad Kash-

mir, 349 in Balochistan, and 186 in GB. – **DNA**

to 27,947 on Tuesday.

the past 24 hours.



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Imran Khan chairs a meeting of federal cabinet. - DNA

No consultation with Opposition

Ordinance for NAB chairman appointment

The information minister said it would have been better had the Opposition proposed a name, but unfortunately, they could not do so



'Probe to ascertain legitimacy of offshore companies'

KHAYAM ABBASI

ISLAMABAD: Federal Information Minister Fawad Chaudhry has said that a high-level cell comtion agencies will probe more than 700 Pakistanis named in the Pandora Papers scandal and ascertain which offshore companies were illegal or involved in money laundering. Fawad, while briefing the media, said the matter of Pandora Papers was discussed in the meeting, chaired by Prime Minister Imran Khan on Tuesday. Pakistanis who own offshore companies have been

dia services went down for almost six hours - impacting more than 3.5bn users worldwide. The billionaire said sorry after an internal technical issue took Facebook, Messenger, Whatsapp and Instagram offline at about 16:00 GMT on Monday. The scramble to bring it back online eventually succeeded at around 22:00. But it is likely to increase scrutiny of the social media giant's reach.

Umer Sharif's funeral today

NAZIR SIYAL

KARACHI: Veteran come-Umer dian Sharif's body will be flown Karachi to the earhours of ly

Wednesday from Germany. According to Express News, the late artist's remains will be brought to Pakistan via Istanbul and the funeral prayers will be held in Clifton at 3pm today (Wednesday). Previously, the funeral prayers of legendary comedian were offered in Germany on Monday. According to details, Sharif's funeral prayer was offered at the Turkish Mosque in Nuremberg.

> Business community played key role in uplifting Faisalabad - Page 02

Inside.

Italy desires to uplift trade ties with Pakistan: Envoy - Page 03

NAB believes in development of the country: Justice Javed – Page 04

> New strides of Pakistan's foreign policy - Page 05

Pak cricket cannot rely on ICC funding alone: Ramiz Raja – Page 06

Pakistan keen to expand bilateral trade with Belarus – Page 07

PM for halting illegal money outflow from developing states – Page 08

the military's media wing said. were awarded Tamgha-i-Im-According to ISPR, the forum tiaz (Military) for renderwas "apprised on measures ing meritorious services to being taken to thwart nefarious the nation. A large number designs of inimical forces to of senior Army officers and destabilise Pakistan and spoil families of awardees attended the ceremony.

pledged to continue working **Continued on Page 06**

AJK govt 'puppet' just as Punjab and Centre: Bilawal

"If free and fair elections are held, PPP will have govts both in Pakistan and the AJK," says Bilawal

BUREAU REPORT KOTLI: Pakistan People's

Party (PPP) Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari on

that just like in the central government, there was a 'puppet' government in Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK), media reported. Addressing a public gathering at Kotli in AJK, he claimed that Kashmir still belonged to PPP. "If free and fair elections are held, the party will have governments both in Pakistan and the AJK," he said, and added, "We are those who have faced dictators. When we could not be deterred by dictators,

Continued on Page 06

Continued on Page 06

Government of Japan supports KP govt for Locust Control

The items handed over during the ceremony included 20,000 liters of insecticide, 170 battery-operated sprays pumps, 170 generator-operated spray pumps and 77 units of motorcycles

G 0 ΜΟΝΥ JICA HANDING OVER ITEMS GRICULTURAL EXTENSION DEPARTMENT

ISLAMABAD: The Government of Japan in collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations handed over locust control items to the Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, in a ceremony organized in Islamabad, under the Grant in Aid project titled "Project for the Restoration of Livelihoods in the Merged Districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa".

MAHNOOR ANSAR

Continued on Page 06

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Information Fawad Chaudhry said Tuesday the government has finalised the draft for the National Accountability Bureau (NAB) chairman's appointment, which will remove the "legal laguna" of consulting with the Opposition on picking a new chief or extending the incumbent's tenure. The minister, addressing a post-cabinet press conference in Islamabad, said the new ordinance would empower the accountability courts, as the government wants to strengthen the systems, and not an individual. The information minister said it would have been better had the Opposition proposed a name, but unfortunately, they could not do so. He reiterated that the government would not hold talks with Opposition Leader in the National Assembly Shahbaz Sharif, as he was a suspect in a NAB case.



IBRAR KHAN Tuesday said humiliation faced by his party after losing elections in the Azad Jammu and Kashmir and Gilgit Baltistan.

ISLAMABAD: Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting Farrukh Habib on Tuesday reminded Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Chairman Bilawal Zardari of the

PPP to face worst ever

defeat in AJK: Farrukh

PPP would face worst ever defeat in the upcoming by-polls

in the Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK), he said in news statement while reacting to Bilawal's claim of victory of the candidate fielded by his party in LA-12 Charhoi, AJK. The minister said it was part of the history that whenever Bilawal run election campaign for any candidate, he met with crushing defeat. He mocked Bilawal Zardari for day dreaming about formation of his party governments in all the federating units and centre in the general and by elections. Farrukh said the lies of PPP chairman could be gauged

NATIONAL

Islamahad **POST** Wednesday, October 06, 2021



ISLAMABAD: President G-14 Allottees Association Sardar Irshad Shaheen addressing press conference at National Press Club. - DNA

DC Faisalabad listens to public complaints

BUREAU REPORT

FAISALABAD: Deputy Commissioner Ali Shehzad went to the seat of disable person and listenend his complaint patiently and urged the concerned department to take immediate action. Deputy Commissioner is listening the public complaints on daily basis under open door policy in his office and instructions are being issued on the spot to the concerned officers for resolving various issues of the citizens.

Talking to the applicants, he



said that speedy solution of er for holding open court public issues is one of the top priorities.

He said that clear instructions have been issued to the heads of district departments to refrain from delaying tactics in resolving public issues. He said that to provide maximum relief to the public is utmost and departmental heads are asked to increase the level of progress.

He also issued necessary actions on the complaints of men, women and elder persons. Public present on the spot appreciated the efforts of Deputy Commission-

every day. Earlier, Deputy Commis-

sioner Ali Shehzad expressed concern over the delaying tactics for public grievances on the Pakistan Citizen Portal and directed some departments for improving the performance graph and said that in the future the department's showed below 45% satisfactory level would given showcause notice.

He was presiding over a review meeting on the progress of resolution of public grievances received on the Pakistan Citizen Portal against different departments.

The Deputy Commissioner directed the district heads that applicant should be satisfied with the speedy resolution of the grievances.

He clarified that in order to increase the level satisfactorily, if fake and fictitious entries were reported, the concerned department would be not only responsible but also accountable. He ordered

mented in the US, the UK,

India and many other coun-

tries around the world. The

government is bringing a

system of quality and merit.

"Instead of protesting, let this

new system work so that Pa-

kistani medical education is

Shahbaz Gill further said

that similarly, tests are

taken from doctors all over

the world every few years

and after that their licens-

es are renewed. "Pakistan

also needs such standards.

Therefore, we have to sit

down and talk about these

things and avoid protests

and vandalism," he said.

also world class," he said.

Citizens accuse govt of backing encroachers

Arij Ghaznavi

ISLAMABAD: Illegal occupation of land belonging to government employees was addressed by Irshad Shaheen at the National Press Club Islamabad on Tuesday. He said that the ownership of land worth Rs. 2.85 billion has been encroached by land mafia which has political support. The land belongs to 4000 government employees and due to the case being prolonged since 2004, 1200 out of them have passed away. The legal owners have de-

manded compensation for their land but on action has been taken to enforce this. In 2014, even the high court gave a verdict that the owners should be given compensation.

He raised concerns about the current DG of the housing authority, that he and his team refuse to conduct meetings and allow this act by the land mafia carry on. Illegal construcan audit of some departments regarding solution tion of houses, building and infrastructure is taking place, and the government is not taking action against it. He said that Asad Umer and Ali Nawaz, are backing these encroachers, and also the cost of maintenance, salaries and other corruption, violation of merit expenses are being cut gave birth of this non-standfrom the pensions of those 4000 employees. ard education system across the country. To ensure world He stressed that the prime minister should class standards, a new test system MDCAT for medical take immediate notice on this issue, otherwise they students has been introduced wouldn't have any other option than to protest. The special assistant also

Business community played key role in uplifting Faisalabad

"Now, I want to harness the skills of our youth so that they could serve the nation and country with a renewed commitment and zeal"

the last 24 years this cham-

ber has played a key role

to facilitate the Business

Community in addition to

contributing its role in the

overall uplift of Faisalabad

city. He said that he will

welcome every interested

and capable person to join

FCCI and serve it for the

betterment of the business

Earlier, newly elected presi-

dent Mr. Atif Munir Sheikh

said that he has been picked

to serve the business com-

munity. "It is a very sacred

task and he is fully exploit-

ing the potential of his

community and city.

Club. Then he became pres-

ident of the FCCI and later

elevated to head the FPC-

CI. "This training helped

him to successfully project

Pakistan as the president

of the D-8 which comprises

20 different countries", he

said and added that it was

vet another honor for him

to become international

director of the Lions Club.

"Now, I want to harness the

skills of our youth so that

they could serve the nation

and country with a renewed

commitment and zeal". he

said and added that this city

has given us an opportunity

ISHFAQ MUGHAL

FAISALABAD: National Group has (NG) has transformed the Faisalabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry (FCCI) into an informal Business University that is successfully resolving the issues of the Business Community and Faisalabad on fast track basis, said Mian Muhammad Idrees Chairman National Group. Addressing a reception din-

ner hosted by Mr. Shahid Nadeem Chief Executive Zara Chemicals in honor of newly elected President FCCI Mr. Atif Munir Sheikh by, he said that Faisalabad is full of competent and highly specialized business entrepreneurs.

He said that with the direct involvement of Lions Club International have further harnessed the professional skills of the "would be business leaders" by providing them guidance to develop their own teams of dedicated workers, explicitly plead the issues of Business Community at the highest forums and resolve the same through concerted efforts. He said that every year a new leadership emerges and tries its optimum best to deliver. He said that he himself start-

ed his career from the Lions

Speakers for joint efforts to combat climate change

PESHAWAR: The speakers at a workshop here Tuesdav underlined the need for collaborative and inclusive efforts to combat climate change challenges.

Disasters occur due to cli-

For the last two decades.

75% tube wells shifted on solar energy

ness community and this

metropolis. He said that the

first executive committee

meeting was held in which

we shared informally our

vision to resolve the imme-

diate issues and hopefully

this team will deliver at a

much faster pace. He said

that he will develop close

liaison with the government

to resolve the core issues.

He was optimistic that due

to his performance National

Group will emerge strong-

er and effective during the

next election. He also ap-

preciated the efforts of the

retiring president and said

PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) Minister for Public Health Engineering (PHE), Shakeel Ahmad Khan Tuesday said 75 per cent tube wells of the department have been shifted

to build industrial empires wingers and executive comthat projects initiated by him would be completed in and earn respect. However, mittee to supplement his addition to starting new and now it is time to pay back to efforts to work in unison for the betterment of the busithe city. He said that during innovative projects. mbiante

mate change and rising temperatures

Pakistan has suffered from a series of natural disasters including floods, GLOF, earthquakes, hurricanes, avalanches and droughts. He emphasized that it is the time that we do our part to identify the subtle and hidden consequences of climate change. If we are going to defeat climate change and address its impacts, we need to work together. He further said that PDMA Khyber Pakhtunkhwa is an active Disaster Management Organization at the provincial level that deals with Disaster Management, Disaster Risk Reduction, Preparedness and Planning. Director, Disaster Risk management Zuhra Nigar

said, it is high time that we explore future potential challenges and start acting on them right now. It is our collective responsibility to protect those around us

FAISALABAD: Deputy Commissioner Ali Shahzad listening the complaint of disable person sitting beside him. - DNA

Over 3.08m people vaccinated in Faisalabad

FAISALABAD: As many as 3,087,229 people have so far been vaccinated against COV ID-19 in Faisalabad district. District Health Officer Dr. Ataul Mun'im said on Tuesday that 2,286, 849 citizens had been given the first dose while 748, 414 were administered the second dose of vaccine.

He further said that 29,714 health workers were given the first dose, while 22,252 received the second dose of vaccine.

The DHO said that sufficient stock of anti-coronavirus vaccine was available in the district. As of now 486.967 first doses and 324. 645 second doses were in the stock at Faisalabad.

He said that 37 vaccination centers and 20 mobile vaccination camps were operational in Faisalabad where registered persons were getting anti-coronavirus vaccine doses. - APP

Livestock department distributes 800 poultry units

FAISALABAD: The Livestock Department has so far distributed 800 poultry units in two districts of the division. In the second phase, 400 poultry units were distributed in district Chiniot on Tuesday. As many as 150 units were given in tehsil Chiniot, 130 in tehsil Bhowana and 120 in tehsil Lalian.

Director Livestock Dr Ashfaq Anjum said that the Livestock Department was struggling for promotion of the poultry industry in the province under the vision of Prime Minister Imran Khan.

He said that each poultry unit comprising five hens and one male hen is being given at the rate of Rs 1,140 per unit. Earlier, 400 poultry units had been distributed in district Faisalabad. - APP

percentage Violence will not be acceptable

DNA

LAHORE: Special Assistant to Prime Minister on Political Communication Dr Shahhaz Gill has said that peaceful protest is the right in Pakistan." of medical students but forcibly entering into the buildmentioned that this system ing and violence will not be has been successfully imple-

acceptable at any cost. Reacting to the protest of medical students, the special assistant took to twitter and said, "The protest is the right of medical students but entering into the buildings, blocking the roads and beating the people are against the law. As long as you protest according to the law, you will get respect and security as per the law. When anyone takes law in their hand, then action will be taken according to the law." Shahbaz Gill maintained that there was a high demand for Pakistani doctors all over the world at one time but now for the last several years the Pakistani degree has not been rec-

Earlier in the day, Police have baton-charged and fired tear ognized in the world including the Middle East. "This did not happen overnight. Many years of mismanagement, capital

Provincial Disaster Manage ment Authority, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in collaboration with Islamic Relief Pakistan (IRP) organized a sensitization workshop on "Climate Induced Migration in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa" at PDMA Headquarter Peshawar. Representatives from Provincial line departments, Academia, PDMA and international Non-Governmental organizations participated in the workshop. Director General PDMA

KP, Sharif Hussain said on the occasion that climate change has many hard hitting and obvious impacts like flooding and droughts.

who are more vulnerable. She urged all stakeholders to take actions and to materialize efforts in true spirit to cope with the expected impact of climate change. She thanked Umair Hassan (Country Director Islamic Relief Pakistan) and his team for their support and congratulated the Islamic Relief and Abdul Wali Khan University Mardan on producing a study on such a critical topic Umair Hassan said Islamic

Relief Pakistan has taken multiple initiatives to counter the challenges that climate change imposes on Pakistan. – APP

The provincial minister ex-He further directed SDOs missioners, local elites and prayers' leaders of Masajid mainstream and social me-

Accused given bail in IIU student molesting case

ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad High Court (IHC) on Tuesday accepted the bail application of a main accused Ibrahim Khan allegedly involved in molesting a student in International Islamic University (IIU). The court accepted the bail against surety bonds worth Rs100,000 and ordered to release the accused.

The court noted that the first information report (FIR) was not registered by the victim and secondly the report was registered after six days of the incident.

It further noted that neither the medical examination was conducted immediately nor the statement of victim was recorded under section 161. The petitioner had stated that he was blamed for the crime due to old rivalry in universitv but this matter would be seen by the trial court. The court order said that the case investigation officer couldn't satisfy the bench and on this basis the accused couldn't be kept in iail further. – APP

Pakistan, Saudi Arabia enjoy strong ties: Punjab governor

LAHORE: Punjab Governor Chaudhry Mohammad Sarwar Tuesday said that Pakistan and Saudi Arabia enjoy strong and historic relations, which had been strengthening with the passage of time.

House According to Governor's spokesman here, Mohammad Sarwar was talking to the media and Pakistanis living in Saudi Arabia after his visit to Masjid-e-Nabawi at the special invitation of the Saudi government.

The governor said that relations between Pakistan and Saudi Arabia had been based on cooperation in economic, political, security and military spheres. The relations between the two brotherly countries were time-tested and were getting stronger with the passage of time, adding that whenever



Pakistan faced difficult times, the Saudi government and its people extended full support to it.

Chaudhry Sarwar said that Saudis and Pakistanis share fraternal ties, adding that Pak-Saudi relations were deep and historic and the hearts of the peoples of

always stood by each other in difficult times. He said that Pakistan would always stand by Saudi Arabia to safeguard its integrity and sovereignty. He said Pak-Saudi relations had grown stronger under the leadership of PM Imran. Appreciating the role of overseas Pakistanis for the development and stability of the country, the governor said that the federal and Punjab governments were taking practical steps

to solve problems of overseas Pakistanis. He asserted that for the first time in the history of the country, special judges had been appointed to the Lahore High Court and the lower judiciary to hear the cases of overseas Pakistanis. He called upon all sections of society to work together to make Pakistan strong and prosperous. – APP

gas on doctors protesting outboth the countries beat together. He said side Pakistan Medical Comthat Pakistan had a spiritual bond with mission (PMC) in the federal Saudi Arabia and both the countries had

Bench & bar have imminent role in justice system Justice Gulzar Ahmed said that housing society for lawyers had been inaugurated, adding that now it was the responsibility of Bar Councils to help needy lawyer for the construction of their own houses

DNA

LAHORE: Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Justice Gulzar Ahmed on Tuesday said that bench and bar were part and parcel to each other as both had an imminent role in dispensation of justice.

He expressed these views while addressing a ceremony regarding lawyers protection Act organized by the Punjab Bar Council (PBC) here. Lahore High Court (LHC) Chief Iustice, Iustice Ameer Bhatti, PBC vice chairman Farhan Shehzad, Executive Committee Chairman Afzal Dharala, PBC member Azam Nazir Tarar, Ahsan Bhoon and other were also present on the occasion.

Chief Justice of Pakistan Justice



Gulzar Ahmed said the proposed lawyers protection Act would be discussed with the higher authorities, adding that the departments concerned also need to work seriously on it.

He said the lawyers act would be reviewed and practical steps would be taken for its betterment. He said that sometimes lawyers appeared before the court without preparation related to their cases, adding that lawyers should appear in cases with preparation so that cases could be concluded as soon as possible.

Justice Gulzar Ahmed said that housing society for lawyers had been inaugurated, adding that now it was the responsibility of Bar Councils to help needy lawyer for the construction of their own houses. The Chief Justice of Pakistan said: "We are well aware that lawyers faced financial difficulties during

the coronavirus pandemic. He lamented and said that a lawyer in Faisalabad killed his client for not paying fee, adding that lawyers should make efforts for the prevention of such like incidents in future.

On the occasion, LHC Chief Justice Amir Bhatti said: "We have to think about why an Act is needed to protect lawyers". He said that lawyers should have to reconsider their behavior and keep their language polite.

Vice Chairman Punjab Bar Council Farhan Shehzad and Chairman Executive Committee Afzal Dharala also spoke on the occasion.

on solar energy.

He was presiding over a review meeting of the annual development programme 2021-22 here in PHE Secretariat. Besides, Secretary PHE Mohammad Idrees Chief Engineer Khan. (North), Abdul Sami and Chief Engineer (South), Abdul Latif Khan, executive engineers (EXN) and sub-divisional officers (SDOs) from all parts of the province also attended the meeting.

The meeting was given a detailed briefing on completed and ongoing schemes in the province.

pressed anguish over slow pace of work on schemes and directed speedy completion of all ongoing schemes. for increasing revenue of the completed schemes and holding meetings with concerned MPAs, deputy comand carrying a campaign on dia for the purpose.



SERVICES



Italy desires to uplift trade ties with Pakistan: Envoy

Namaz Timings

Fajr 04:42 am
Zohr 11:56 am
Asr 04:06 pm
Maghrib 05:47 pm
Isha 07:10 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 MotorwayPolice..9270601-20 Women Police Stations Islamabad......9222596 Rawalpindi......9270601-20



Enquiry

Andreas Ferrarese, Ambassador of Italy said expressed these views while addressing the business community during his visit to ICCI

SHUJAAT HAMZA

ISLAMABAD: H.E. Mr. Andreas Ferrarese, Ambassador of Italy said that the business environment in Pakistan is much better now and his country wants to further strengthen bilateral trade and economic relations with Pakistan to achieve mutually beneficial outcomes. He said that 21st century is the century of Asia and Italy wants to develop closer cooperation with Pakistan and help it to improve the competitiveness of its economy. He expressed these views while address-

ing the business community during his visit to Islamabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry. He termed lack of awareness in the Italian business community about Pakistan a problem for trade

promotion, however, he said that efforts are being made to bring the Italian Trade Commissioner from Dubai to Pakistan that would help



in addressing issues and improving bilateral trade gratulated President ICCI and his team of new office between the two countries. bearers and expressed good He said that Pakistan should wishes for them. focus on value addition of its

Speaking at the occasion, Muhammad Shakeel Munir, products and Italy can help it with its advanced technol-President, Islamabad Chamogy in various fields includber of Commerce & Industry (ICCI) said that the bilateral ing marble and tourism. He said that the Italian embassy trade of less than USD 2 billion between Pakistan and is considering giving longterm business visas to prom-Italy is not reflective of their inent Pakistani businessmen true potential and stressed that both countries should on the recommendation of Pakistani chambers of comfocus on developing strong merce and industry. He conbusiness linkages between

their private sectors to increase bilateral trade volume. He said that Italy has advanced technology and its technological cooperation with Pakistan in textiles, construction, marble, pharmaceuticals, agriculture, processed food, dairy, livestock and other sectors would enable our country to upgrade its industrial capacity and produce value added products for exports promotion. He said that Pakistan has huge reserves of marble &

granite and Italian technology would help it to produce value-added marble products and boost their exports. He said that Pakistan is keen to promote its tourism sector and Italy's cooperation in this field would help Pakistan to develop a modern tourism infrastructure. He said that Pakistan provides easy access to the Middle East, Central Asia and Southeast Asia and by investing in Pakistan, Italian companies can promote exports to many re-

Government working on export based growth

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting Farrukh Habib said on Tuesday that Prime Minister Imran Khan had special focus on exports and the government was working on increase in production and export-based growth.

Exports reached 7.7 billion in first quarter of 2021-22 which were \$5.47 billion in the first quarter of 2020-21 last year which was 28 per-

assured that ICCI

hammad Faheem Khan Vice

President ICCI and former

Presidents ICCI including

Sheikh Amir Waheed, Sardar

Yasir Ilyas Khan, Khalid Iqbal

Malik, Zafar Bakhtawari,

Mian Shaukat Masud, Ejaz

Abbasi, Baser Daud, Muham-

mad Ahmed as well as Malik

Sohail Hussain, Sheikh Ri-

zwan and others also spoke

at the occasion and offered

useful suggestions for further

improving bilateral trade and

investment relations between

Pakistan and Italy

cent growth, he said. He said that cotton production rose 100% and reached to 3.8 million bales mark this month. This will not only help Pakistan achieve more than 5% GDP growth but also significantly increase exports, he remarked. In the past, he said Ishaq Dar's credit card and artificial growth brought the country close to bankruptcy.

CPO holds 'Khuli Kutchery' at CPO office

DNA

RAWALPINDI: City Police Officer (CPO) Rawalpindi Muhammad Ahsan Younas on Tuesday held a 'Khuli Kutchery' here at CPO office which was attended by a large number of citizens. Police officers concerned were also present on the occasion where 49 citizens recorded their complaints and presented applications to the CPO. Muhammad Ahsan Younas on the complaint of a woman issued explanation to investigation officer of New Town Police Station. He also listened to the complaints of the citizens and issued orders to the police officers concerned. According to a police spokesman, the CPO is holding Khuli Kutchery on daily basis to provide relief to the citizens.

Pakistan, Ukraine enjoy excellent relations, says Ambassador Chuckuk

Ukraine has a prominent position in the world in terms of production of wheat and sunflower oil and has



Police arrest eight for possessing weapons

DNA

RAWALPINDI: Rawalpindi Police in a crackdown against illegal weapons on Tuesday rounded up eight persons besides recovering seven 30 bore pistols, a 12 bore gun and ammunition from their possession. According to a po-

lice spokesman, Kalar Syedan police held four, Sher Khan, Barkat Javed, Usama Nazir and Abdul

CDNS receives Rs 241 billion fresh deposits in FY 2021-22 Q1

KHAYAM ABBASI

ISLAMABAD: Central Directorate of National Savings (CDNS) received Rs 241 billion fresh deposits in the first quarter of current fiscal year 2021-22 from the month (July 1 to September 30). The CDNS has set an annual gross receipt target of Rs 980 billion from July 1 to June 30 of the previous fiscal year 2020-21 to promote savings in the country, a senior official of CDNS told APP here on Tuesday. He said the CDNS had set Rs 250 billion annual collection target from July 1 to June 30 for the year 2020-21 as compared to Rs 352 billion for the previous year (2019-20) to enhance savings in the country.

The CDNS had set Rs 352 billion annual collection target for the year 2019-20 as compared to Rs350 billion for the previous year (2018-19), he said. The CDNS had received an increased investment of Rs 80 billion by June 30 2021, from the newly registered Premium Prize Bond of Rs 40,000 and Rs 25000 by the institution. In the last year (2020-21), investors withdrew Rs 300 billion after the suspension of the said bond. He said new registered Premium Prize Bonds of Rs 40,000 and Rs 25,000 were registered by the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) and encashed only by the registered financial institutions under the SBP. Replying to a question, he informed, "We paid the encashment of Rs 155 billion by June 30th of this month to the investors against the suspension of prize bonds of Rs 25,000." He said the federal government recently withdrew the Rs 25,000 prize bonds and had given a six-month deadline to investors to encash their total savings of Rs160 billion. The senior official of CDNS said National Savings had paid Rs148 billion to its customers in the last six months after withdrawing Rs. 7,500 prize bonds and the remaining Rs 5 billion out of the total Rs 160 billion would also be paid by October 30, 2021, he said. He informed that the government had already canceled prize bonds of Rs 40,000 and CDNS repaid to the investors the encashment worth of Rs258 billion in the previous fiscal year 2019-20. He said the CDNS had opened new avenues for public and private investment to document the country's economy and ensure transparency in the financial system.

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a special interest in increasing its imports

SAIFULLAH / DNA

ISLAMABAD: "Pakistan and Ukraine have friendly relations and we need to take further steps to promote trade and investment said Ukrainian Ambassador Markian Chuchuk. He said that Ukraine has

a prominent position in the world in terms of production of wheat and sunflower oil and has a special interest in increasing its

relations.

Imtiaz,

and

ISLAMABAD: Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari Former Vice President ICCI is presenting a bouquet to Ukrainian Ambassador Markian Chuchuk during a meeting at the Ukrainian Embassy Islamabad. - DNA

imports to Pakistan. dor to Thailand for 6 years He expressed these views and has extensive experience in ASEAN region. during a meeting with Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari, for-Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari spoke about his company's mer Vice President, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce introduction as well as his and Industry and CEO of efforts to increase trade D.Watson Group, at his embassy in Islamabad today. He said that the private sector should come forward to

volume in Ukraine and Pakistan. He further said that the increase in trade volume would provide an opportunity for the two promote trade between the two countries and assured countries to come closer. all possible cooperation in Embassy Secretary Dr. this regard. He said that he Olena Bordilovska was also present at the meeting. has served as an Ambassa-

Rasheed and recovered four 30 bore pistols and ammunition from their possession. Civil Line police nabbed

Muhammad Arslan and Muhammad Usman for possessing two 30 bore pistols and ammunition. Airport police rounded up an accused namely Khawar on recovery of a 30 bore pistol while Naseerabad police netted Zaifullah with a 12 bore rifle. 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.

'Public support vital to curb corruption'

ISLAMABAD: Chief Executive Officer IESCO Dr Muhammad Amjad Khan said that public support was vital for corruption free environment in the country. The Chief requested valued IESCO customers that for provision of new electricity connections and rectification of power related complaints, never pay cash to any the company employee or an agent. Any work relates to IESCO, relevant office issued demand notice and same were deposited only in relevant banks, he said. – DNA



TWIN CITIES



64 held during snap checking

ISLAMABAD: The police arrested 64 persons during snap checking in last week and recovered 56 pistols, two rifles, one Kalashnikov, five guns and 410 rounds from them.

Following the directions of Inspector General of Police (IGP) Islamabad Qazi Jamil ur Rehman, the police have accelerated efforts to nab those persons involved in criminal activities. Zonal Superintendents of Police (SPs), Sub-Divisional Police Officers (SDPOs) and Station House Officers (SHOs) are conducting snap checking themselves along with police teams and ensuring effective policing.

During the last one week, the police arrested 64 persons during snap checking in last week and recovered 56 pistols, two rifles, one Kalashnikov, five guns and 410 rounds from them.

The overall snap checking efforts are being monitored by the DIG (Operations) Afzaal Ahmed Kausar and the purpose is to ensure effective security and protection to the lives and property of the citizens. Owing these efforts, crime rate is also declining in the city and such endeavors will continue.

Earlier, SSP (Investigation) Atta ur Rehman told a press conference that Islamabad police nabbed 10 persons including car receivers and recovered 22 vehicles from them. These vehicles have a total worth of Rs 35.7 million and include eight Toyota Corolla cars, seven Mehran cars, four pick-ups and one each Honda, Suzuki FX and Suzuki Alto. - APP

IRSA releases 150821 cusecs water

ISLAMABAD: Indus River System Authority (IRSA) Tuesday released 150821 cusecs water from various rim stations with inflow of 138625 cusecs.

According to the data released by IRSA, water level in the Indus River at Tarbela Dam was 1511.76

Briefs NAB believes in development of the country: Justice Javed

NAB has referred the cases of Income Tax, Sales Tax and Under Invoicing to FBR as per law. He said that NAB has established a special desk under the supervision of Director and deputy director at NAB headquarters Islamabad to address the complaints of the business community

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Justice Javed Iqbal, Chairman NAB has said that NAB strongly believes in 100% development in the Country. NAB has great regard and respect for the business community which is playing an important role in the country's progress.

He said that he had not only addressed business community at Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce Karachi (FPCCI), Chamber of Commerce Lahore and Islamabad Chamber of Commerce, Islamabad but held various meetings with a delegation of Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce Karachi (FPCCI),

delegation of Flour Mills Association, delegation of Cotton Ginners Association and delegation of Gwadar Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

NAB has referred the cases of Income Tax, Sales Tax and Under Invoicing to FBR as per law. He said that NAB has established a special desk under the supervision of Director and deputy director at NAB headquarters Islamabad to address the complaints of the business community. The business community leaders lauded the efforts of Chairman NAB for taking personal interest in addressing their problems timely which is very much on record. He said that the performance of



NAB has been appreciated by reputed national and international organizations like Transparency International Pakistan, World Economic Forum, Global Peace Canada, PILDAT and Mishal Pakistan. As per a survey of Gillani and

Gallup, 59 percent people have shown trust upon NAB. Currently, 1278 references of NAB are under trial in the learned Accountability Courts throughout the country having approximately worth of Rs. 1305 billion.

He said that NAB during the tenure of present management has recovered Rs. 539 billion directly and indirectly which is a record achievement.

The total amount recovered by NAB since its inception is Rs. 819 billion. He said that NAB is determined to eradicate corruption, money laundering, cheating the public at large, assets beyond known sources of income, illegal housing societies and modarba scandals.

The illegal housing societies neither handed over plots to affectees nor had returned their hard earned money.

The poor investors are running from pillar to post to get their money back. NAB has returned billions of rupees to affectees of housing societies after recovering from illegal housing societies which were working in Lahore, Multan, Quetta, Karachi, Peshawar, Rawalpindi, Islamabad and other areas of the country. He said that NAB has no affiliation with any individual, party or organization. NAB officers are working with renewed energy for eradication of corruption from the country considering it as their national duty.

Policemen injured during protest

ISLAMABAD: As many as 11 cops of Islamabad police got injured in attempt to control protestors entering the building of Pakistan Medical Commission (PMC). According to police spokesperson, the protestors tried to enter the building of Pa-

kistan Medical Commission (PMC) after breaking its gate and also damaged the building. During the protest, young doctors, some mischievous elements pelted stones on the police result ing injuries to SP (Saddar) Nosherwan and ten other policemen.

Police used teargas to avoid damage to government property and disperse the protestors.

. Islamabad police is a responsible as well as professional force and does not believe in dealing people strictly without any reason, the police spokesperson added. - APP

Decent attitude important for policing affairs

ISLAMABAD: Success in policing affairs can be ensured through decent attitude as polite interaction with people can help to convince them to follow rules and fulfill their responsibility to ensure safe road environment.

It was stated by Senior Superintendent of Police (Traffic) Syed Karar Hussain while addressing policemen in `Police Darbar' here at Traffic Police Headquarters. SP (Traffic) Sarfaraz Ahmed Virk, Zonal DSPs and other police officials and jawans were also present on the occasion.

The SSP (Traffic) stressed for decent attitude of policemen with public for success in policing affairs.

He said a policy of zero tolerance against traffic rules violators should be pursued and ITP to strictly follow its operational codes and achieve its objectives including equal application of law. He said that ITP had got image of disciplined and corruption free force and further efforts should be made to inculcate friendly police ecology in the city besides enhancing liaison with citizens to bring improvement

EOBI directed to pay outstanding pension dues

in traffic system. – APP

ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi has set aside an impugned order of the Wafaqi Mohtasib on a widow's plea, directing the Employees' Old Age Benefits Institution (EOBI) to make payment of pension arrears since the death of her husband during 2017.

The directive was issued on the instant representation made by the complainant, Avesha Arif widow of Arif Mehmood, assailing the order of Wafaqi Mohtaisb of 25-11-2020 in which it upheld EOBI's decision of grant of pension along with payment of six months arrears under survivor's pension against her claim made

As per directive of the Pres-

ident's Secretariat (Public),

the compliance of the same

case should be made within

thirty days of the receipt of

The hearing of the case

was held on July 14. The

president in an order noted

that section 22B of the Act

1976, dealt with Survivors'

pension, under which the

surviving spouse became

"It nowhere inhibits or re-

stricts the entitlement as

in Section 22 (3) of the Act.

Since Section 22B deals

exclusively with Survivors'

entitled to pension.

on 06-08-2019.

the said order.



RAWAT: Federal Education Minister Shafqat Mahmood visiting Rawat Fort to oversee maintenance work, which is in progress. - DNA

DNA



Pak-KSA vows to enhance defence cooperation

teet, which was 119.76 feet higher than its dead level 1392.00 feet. Water inflow and outflow in the dam was recorded as 78200 and 75000 cusecs respectively. The water level in the Ihelum River at Mangla Dam was 1185.45 feet, which was 135.45 feet higher than its dead level of 1050.00 feet whereas the inflow and outflow of water was recorded a 14604 and 30000 cusecs respectively. The release of water at Kalabagh, Taunsa and Sukkur was recorded as 108035, 96672 and 56018 cusecs respectively. Similarly, from the Kabul River a total of 15400 cusecs of water was released at Nowshera and 30421 cusecs released from the Chenab River at Marala. – APP

People demand to regulate transport fares

ABBOTTABAD: People in Hazara division Tuesday demanded to regulate the transport fares after transporters of Hazara division increased the fares of public transport which is running on Compressed Natural Gas (CNG). According to the details, inter-district transporters of Abbottabad, Haripur, Manshera and other cities of the Hazara region have increased the fares for intercity transport without the consultation of the Regional Transport Authority (RTA).

Fares from Abbottabad to Masnerha and Haripur increased 10 rupees for each route, although the price of petroleum products increased public transport which is 100 percent running on CNG increased fares. Muhammad Sulman a commuter demanded KP government to take the notice of current fare increase and regulate the public transport fares with the consultation of all stack holders including the masses A couple of years ago, owing to an increase in petroleum prices RTA notified the five rupees increase in the fares of local transports in Abbottabad which was canceled by the Commissioner Hazara division on the public grievances and ordered to resume the old fares until the price of the Gas price would cross a certain limit in KPK which was later justified by the local transport ers with 15 rupees. - APP

larvae breeding RAWALPINDI: Chief Exec-

the district since the Janu-

utive Officer (CEO) District ary of this year. Health Authority Dr Faiza Giving details about the Kanwal on Tuesday said the indoor and outdoor surveilpresent spell of rains had lance which had been carincreased the threat of denried out from September 27 to October 4 in all tehsils of gue larvae breeding which needed to be tackled on an the district ,Dr Faiza told emergency basis as the Met that 225 teams had checked Office had forecast more 45,289 houses during indoor surveillance in Potohar town rain in the week. Talking to APP, the CEO and larvae was detected in 1028 houses,124 teams found said that authority had delarvae in 1010 houses in the vised an effective micro plan to control the spread of Rawalpindi Board area during checking of dengue keeping in view the year, 2019 statistics. the 25,247 houses,206 teams She informed that 3613 casfound larvae in 1007 houses out of total 19,263 houses in

es had been tested positive in 2019.12 in 2020 while Rawal town area,105 teams only 313 confirmed cases detected larvae in 446 houses had so far been surfaced in in tehsil Taxila area. – APP

ISLAMABAD: Commander Roval Saudi Naval Forces. Vice Admiral Fahad Bin Ab dullah Al Ghofaily called on Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Muhammad Amjad Khan

Niazi at Naval Headquarters Islamabad. Upon arrival at Naval Headquarters, the visiting dignitary was received by Naval Chief. A smart contingent of Pakistan Navy presented Cantonment Guard of Honour to the Commander Royal Saudi Naval Forces. The visiting dignitary was then introduced to Principal Staff Officers at NHQ. Later, Vice Admiral Fahad Bin Abdullah Al Ghofaily called on Chief of the Naval Staff in



his office, where discussions on professional matters and bilateral naval collaboration were held. Various avenues of cooperation between the two Navies

were focused. A briefing on role and capabilities of Pakistan Navy was also given to the visiting dignitary. The Admiral also highlighted Pakistan Navy's commitment and efforts for ensuring maritime security & stability in the region including Pakistan Navy's initiative of Regional Maritime Security Patrols (RMSP). Commander Roval Saudi Naval Forces appreciated and acknowledged Pakistan Navy's efforts and commitments in support of

DNA

AIOU invites

Research,

tor, ORIC stated that this

initiative would serve to be

critically instrumental in

achieving the objectives of

and

collaborative maritime security in the region. Both the dignitaries agreed to further enhance mutual interaction in diverse fields of training. mutual visits and defence collaboration. The visit is

expected to strengthen the bilateral collaboration between the two Navies

pension, it operates independently." the finding said. The order further said that as general rule applicable to Muslims on the death of a Muslim, the succession opened without any intervention and the rights vested in the Muslim heir automatically as held in Ghulam Ali and others vs Mst. Bhulam Sarwra Najis PLD 1990 SC1. – APP

Petition against Chawala dismissed

ISLAMABAD: The Supreme Court on Tuesday dismissed petition seeking disqualification of Sindh Provisional Minister Mukesh Kumar Chawala.

A three-member SC bench comprising Justice Umar Ata Bandial, Justice Mazhar Alam Khan Miankhel and Justice Qazi Muhammad Amin Ahmed dismissed the petition filed by a citizen Younis Ilvas over time bar. During the course of proceedings, the bench observed that the petition not dilating upon the merits of the case.

The court remarked that the petitioner did not narrate the appropriate reason for the delay in filing case in the Supreme Court.

The petitioner alleged that Mukesh Kumar Chawla sold liquor. The locals had also filed a petition against Mukesh Kumar's sale of liquor, he added.

Justice Qazi Amin said that 'Sadiq and Amin' would also apply to non-Muslims.

Justice Bandial observed that the petitioner did not file petition before the Election Tribunal on time. – APP

SYED WAQAR ALI SHAH

LIMATE alludes to the atmospheric conditions of a specific place over anextensive period of time, generally 30 or 35 years. Climate change

Climate change is a broad term used to refer to changes in the Earth's climates, at local, regional, or global level, and can also denote to the effects of these changes.

Climate change in Pakistan In recent decades, the term 'climate change' is most often used to describe changes in the Earth's environment driven primarily by human activity since the pre-Industrial

period (1850 onwards) mainly the burning of fossil fuels and removal of forests.

As per German Watch, Pakistan has been positioned globally in the top ten countries most affected by climate change in the past 20 years owing to its geographical location. In Pakistan the quickly arising climatic changes are perhaps the greatest threats to the sustainability of human existence and expected to have wide-ranging impacts, such as: decreased agricultural productivity, increased variability of water availability, increased coastal erosion and sea water accessibility, and expanded frequency of extreme climatic occasions. According to the Climate Risk Index annual report for 2020, Pakistan has lost 0.53 percent per unit GDP, suffered economic losses worth US\$

3792.52 million and perceived 152 extreme weather events from 1999 to 2018.

The Government of Pakistan being aware of the circumstances and taking actions at policy, management and functioning levels to mitigate the adverse effects of climate change in the country.

The Government has launched the Eco-svstem Restoration Initiative (ESRI) for smoothing the evolution towards environmentally resilient Pakistan by mainstreaming variation and mitigation through ecologically targeted wits.

Besides this the other government departments, including the Ministry of Climate Change, are at the top of the list in mapping out its climate-resilient development trajectory.

The major achievements in this regard is the Ten Billion Tree Tsunami Program (TBTTP) The objective of this program is to combat the adverse effects of global warming. This is an umbrella project covering all the provinces.

In June 2021, 1007 million trees have been planted across the country. The highest number of 408 million trees were planted in Sindh. Khyber Pakhtunkhwa 390 million, AJK 110 million, In Punjab only 68 million trees were planted, Gilgit-Baltistan 20 million and Baluchistan 6 million trees were planted. (Ministry of Climate Change)Apparently, with these initiatives Pakistan is moving into countries that are increasingly working to counter issues such as climate change and global warming.

struct new knowledge and sustainable development participate in the process as delineated by UNO. **Climate change in Pakistan: an overview** Pakistan has been positioned globally in the top ten countries most affected by climate change in the past 20 years owing to its geographical location



ISLAMABAD: Cdre Syed Wajeeh-ul-Hassan called on leader of the house in the Senate, Dr. Shahzad Waseem at Parliament House, Islamabad and exchanged views on matters of mutual interests. - DNA

applications for research projects of national development. In this regard, Office of Innovation Commercialization (ORIC), AIOU has invited research proposals for internally funded project grant for the year 2021-2022. Dr Muhammad Latif Gondal, Executive Direc-

Global responsibility

HE long-standing animosity between China and Taiwan continues as Beijing sent 100 fighter jets and bombers into Taiwan's air defence zone-another incursion outside of the five reported since Friday. Reactionary statements have consequently been issued with the US expressing concerns about China's 'destabilising' actions. Effectively, it has set global expectations that the conflict will escalate further and has shied away from encouraging peace and resolution. Instead, it seems as though the personal rivalry has dictated the US condemnation of China. Taiwan and China have been at odds with one other due to opposing views on whether the former is a sovereign state. In the past few years, tensions have escalated as Beijing moves towards its announced objective of recovering the land of Taiwan. The global community must play its part in maintaining its neutrality and proposing avenues through which peace can be attained. The US should especially be advised to facilitate negotiations instead of mounting more pressure and apprehension.

Accusatory statements that only state China's actions as being 'provocative', 'risking miscalculations' and 'undermining regional security' followed by complete silence on what solutions can be employed only furthers the anxiety of the region at large. A country like the US, which has often flexed its global credentials is supposed to honour its promise of promoting reconciliation, regardless of its relations with concerned parties. These statements are also nothing but an eyewash. Even if we were to entertain the worst possible scenario feared by the US-the complete takeover of Taiwanthe probability that the US would intervene is extremely low. Back when Russia invaded Ukraine, President Obama made the same statement of being 'deeply concerned by destabilising Russian actions in the region' but little was done to mitigate the damage done. If this is the future that awaits Taiwan even in the worst case scenario, then all the bravado with which the US is reacting is rather meaningless.

Pakistan's First And Only Diplomatic Daily

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

Member APNS / ABC Certified Vol: 02 Issue: 130 Email: dailvisbpost@gmail.com Phone: 051-2266165 / 051-2261960 Off: Awan Plaza, Block 18-A, G-8 Markaz Islamabad



Wednesday, October 06, 2021

Vaccination drive

INCE the start of October, the federal government has initiated a drive to arrest and fine unvaccinated individuals. These measures are being put into place following the announcement by the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) that unvaccinated individuals will not be allowed to travel domestically, enter wedding halls, shopping malls, hotels and guest houses. While some of these measures may appear to be little overboard, these are unfortunately necessary considering how the government has tried everything to facilitate voluntary vaccination, the progress for which has remained slow.

Meanwhile, the Covid-19 positivity ratio, which was in double figures a couple of months ago, has now declined to 3.21 percent which illustrates that significant progress is being made when it comes to fighting the pandemic. Additionally, about 60 million individuals have received at least one dose, while the number of fully vaccinated individuals has reached the mark of 30 million. Both the NCOC and National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) should be lauded for the handling of the situation and ensuring that vaccine shipments continue to arrive on a timely basis.

In order to preserve these gains and to ensure that we can achieve our target of vaccinating 70 million citizens by the end of December, stricter measures that have been recommended by the NCOC are the need of the hour. While the government has done a commendable job at communicating the importance of vaccines through various awareness campaigns, a significant portion of the population continues to disregard the severity of the issue. While placing restrictions on individuals who don't comply should always be the last resort, it has clearly worked on more than one occasion. Not long ago in August, the government had given a deadline for workers in public-facing roles to obtain vaccination certificates which resulted in a significant uptick in vaccination numbers. Similarly, the decision by the Sindh government to block SIM cards of unvaccinated individuals also achieved positive results. While this change in strategy must be appreciated, perhaps the government must consider tracking unvaccinated individuals via the data obtained from ID cards instead of conducting raids or doing spot checks. Such a strategy would not only be more streamlined, but it would also be less taxing for the police, and easier to execute on a national scale.

New strides of Pakistan's foreign policy

Dr. Muhammad Akram Zaheer



Pakistani foreign policy is guided by the vision and principles of Quid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah. According to him "Our foreign policy is one of the friendliness and good will towards all the nations of the world. We do not cherish aggressive design against any country or nation. We believe in the principle of honesty and fair play in national and international dealings and we are prepared to make our utmost contribution to the promotion of peace and prosperity among the nations of the world

N the age of globalization, a country cannot live independently. Every country L seeks development of its multi-dimensional relationships with other countries to assure its survival, security and strengthen its economy. For this, each country formulates its foreign policy according to its national interest. Nevertheless, Foreign policy directs how to deal with other nations to achieve political, economic and military goals, and somewhat less extent how to behave with non-state actors. We can say that foreign policy is a combination of strategies and actions to maintain strong relationship with other states and to deal with the nonstates actors for the protection and promotion of state's national interests.

Pakistani foreign policy is guided by the vision and principles of Quid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah. According to him "Our foreign policy is one of the friendliness and good will towards all the nations of the world. We do not cherish aggressive design against any country or nation. We believe in the principle of honesty and fair play in national and international dealings and we are prepared to make our utmost contribution to the promotion of peace and prosperity among the nations of the world. Pakistan will never be found lacking in extending its material and moral support to oppressed and suppressed people of the world, and in upholding the principles of the United Nations Charter". The foreign policy of Pakistan is framed to achieve main five goals such as; maintenance of territorial integrity, maintenance of its political independence, acceleration of social and economic development, strengthening its place on globe and keep cordial and friendly relations with all countries. To protect its freedom and sovereignty, Pakistan came into existence on account of great sacrifices of innocent Muslim. Like other nations, Pakistan also preserves its independence and does not allow any country to challenge its freedom

stone of Pakistan's foreign policy. Not interference in other countries affairs, Pakistan always tries to establish cordial relationship with all the neighbors and other countries of the globe is another vital element of Pakistan's foreign policy. Pakistan always expresses its concerns against India and Israel arrangements and about the critical situation of Kashmir, Palestine, Afghanistan and Middle East. Pakistan has always been offering its shoulders to safeguard and protect the rights of Muslim world and has been raising voice for their issues. Pakistan follows the principle of national sovereignty, non-use of force against any state and policy of not interference in other states affairs. Pakistan also acts upon United Nations charter and supports for all moves which are taken by UN for the implementation. Pakistan has been seeking the settlement of disputes through dialogue and negotiation with neighbors. In addition, Pakistan follows the policy of non-alignment and does not like to be the part of any supper power bloc but unfortunately Pakistan is considered as a partner of the United State during the cold-war. During Afghan-Soviet war, Pakistan was front line ally of United States and played a vital role to disintegrate Soviet Union. Pakistan was an allied of Washington and NATO forces to seek out of its own security because Soviet Union was creating a security threat on Pak-Afghan border. Post-Cold war Pakistan again facilitated Washington to establish peace in Afghanistan and fight against terrorism. Today Pakistan is struggling to follow its primary principle of non-alignment policy and avoid being part of any military bloc and major conflict. That's why; Islamabad is making efforts to rescue the United States forces from Afghanistan. Pakistan has always been remained on the front line to eliminate racism and colonialism. It has also been supporting Kashmiri people for their right of self-determination.

and sovereignty. Thus, this goal is a corner Although Pakistan is a nuclear power but its intention is to maintain minimum deterrence. It has always been following the international nuclear non-proliferation promise and it is supporting the collective attempts for peace and security without use of arms. Disarmament is considered an imperative condition for durable peace at global level. That why, this principle is included in the principles of Pakistani foreign policy to promote peace and stability in the world. Pakistan is also the member of United Nations, OIC, NAM, ECO, SCO, SAARC and ASEAN. Being the members of these international organizations Pakistan is struggling for the regional and global peace and unifying Muslim countries to promote mutual cooperation in political and economic activities. Satisfaction and dissatisfaction has always been existed in past but today Pakistan is moving on the better side in the world affairs. At the end of cold war, the world has shifted from bipolarity to uni-polarity and now multilateral system. Since the breakdown of bipolarity, United States allies have been more inclined to act independently and multilateral system has emerged in the world. Now Pakistan is considered as a power in the regional and international system who worked with the West to transform the international system from bipolar to uni-polar world. Today, Pakistan has helped United States to come out from Afghanistan. Soon after, the uni-polarism started to decline due to overstretching and facing of economic crisis. And now the United States is going to withdraw from the international engagements and is opening new vacuum for the regional competitors that may be refilled by the regional powers like China, Russia and Pakistan. Therefore, Pakistan is also struggling to extricate itself from the United States influence and form new alliances with China and Russia in order to pave way for the new regional blocs.

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Trouble for Biden as Iran deal fails

Maria Maalouf

Yet the Biden administration will not support an Israeli preemptive attack against Iran's nuclear reactors, since such an act could embolden Iran's regional allies to agitate more against American interests in the Middle East and around the world

HAT will the Biden administration do if Iran refuses to return to the negotiating table over its nuclear ambitions? There are a few options available and the best may well be a return, even temporarily, to the 2015 deal known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action.

Perhaps Iran can accept the formula known as "less for more." This phrase has been circulating in Washington for some time. It means that Iran will agree to enrich uranium at a lower rate. In return, the US will lift more sanctions on

Tehran. This would be an ad hoc accord without any formal authorization.

Nevertheless, so many things are unclear about how President Joe Biden will deal with Iran if the negotiations in Vienna collapse. From the Iranian side, any analyst can predict several policies. First, Tehran will declare its stances a victory and a defeat for the US and the West. Second, it will blame the US and the West for the failure of the negotiations.

Third, it will continue enriching uranium. Iran is determined to be a nuclear power regardless of its uranium enrichment rate, and will eagerly use any funds it can get as a result of even a minor lifting of sanctions to finance its regional ambitions.

The crucial thing for Tehran is to isolate the US and make Washington the subject of criticism for its failure to reach an agreement.

The regime will step up its cooperation with Hezbollah in Lebanon and also coordinate more closely with its affiliated militias in Iraq to make it harder for Prime Minister Mustafa Al-Kadhimi to govern. There could also be growing economic cooperation between Turkey and Iran, especially if the former increases its role in Afghanistan. This

that the Taliban do not do anything to hurt Tehran's national interests.

In addition, it is not clear how an angry France will handle its relations with the US in the context of negotiations with Iran. France is still tough on Iran becoming a nuclear power. But it could establish stronger economic ties with the country if a number of sanctions are lifted. Moreover, things are still vague on how a potential left-wing government in Germany under the So-Most likely, it will emulate France in its dealings with Tehran. This could lead to greater German investment in Iran. For sure, Iran will enhance its military China and Russia.

The crucial thing for Iran is to isolate the US and make Washington the subject of criticism for its failure to reach an agreement with the regime over its nuclear activities.

That would be a major setback for Biden personally. He made it a campaign issue to reverse Donald Trump's order to quit the deal with Iran. If Biden acknowledges any failure to sign a nuclear deal with Iran, the American people will say that Trump was right. It will

could be one way for Iran to ensure also complicate his relations with the Republicans, especially in Congress. They may force him to refuse any future negotiations with Iran. Congress may pass laws preventing the resumption of talks with Iran except under severe conditions, and could well reimpose sanctions. Ultimately, there will be extremely difficult choices if Iran refuses to return to the negotiations, signifying that it will go solo in its campaign to be a nuclear power.

The US does not want a nuclear powcial Democrats might approach Iran. er/nuclear arms race in the Middle East. Ultimately, there could be disagreement between Washington and Israel, as the latter will see a genuine Iranian nuclear threat to its existence. and economic cooperation with both Yet the Biden administration will not support an Israeli pre-emptive attack against Iran's nuclear reactors, since such an act could embolden Iran's regional allies to agitate more against American interests in the Middle East and around the world.

> Each of these scenarios is highly unpopular among many constituencies. As a result, it is more likely that the Biden administration will offer the Iranian regime even more generous concessions in order to quickly reach a nuclear deal. Courtesy Arab News

WORLD / SPORTS



Pak cricket cannot rely on ICC funding alone: Ramiz

FROM PAGE 01

the hard earned peace and stability". The forum further expressed concern over the "brewing humanitarian cum security situation in Afghanistan concluding that meaningful engagement and sustained support by international community is imperative for paving way for peace and stability in Afghanistan and the larger region". Gen Bajwa appreciated operational preparedness of formations and focus on training including enhanced collaboration with foreign militaries and conduct of joint exercises in the operational and counter terrorism domain.

Pak, Iran agree to...

FROM PAGE 01 efforts for strengthening economic linkages. Foreign Minister Qureshi thanked Iran for its steadfast support on Jammu and Kashmir, especially at the Supreme Leader level. He underlined that Iran's support is reassuring to the oppressed people of occupied Jammu and Kashmir in their just struggle for the right to self-determination.

Sharing Pakistan's perspective on the latest situation in Afghanistan, the Foreign Minister underscored the need for close coordination for the mutual advantage of the two countries and the region. He said that Afghanistan required immediate provision of humanitarian assistance and that the international community should fully support the Afghan people at this critical juncture.

AJK govt 'puppet'...

FROM PAGE 01 how can we be intimidated by this government installed by the establishment?' Bilawal asked PTI as to what had become of its promises which it had made to the people prior to coming to power in 2018. "Where are 10 million jobs and five mil-

PCB Chairman urged the business community to lend a helping hand. Due to unforeseen circumstances, such as Covid, PCB can easily cut down the money promised

DNA

KARACHI: Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) Chairman Ramiz Raja has insisted on having a strong financial system for the betterment of cricket in Pakistan. newly-elected Chairman The traveled to Karachi on Monday to seek help from the city's corporate institutions and business communities to achieve his goal. It was revealed that the cricket board has prepared several plans which will be presented to the in-

vestors for consultation. "If our team becomes number one in the world, then foreign teams will not refuse to come and play in the country. [...] Our cricket is relying on ICC's funding right now and when I see the books, I get very scared because the contribution of local entrepreneurs is

it to the Pakistan Stock Exchange. Ramiz said that relying on ICC

minimal," Raja said during his vis- alone is always going to put Paki- as it has suffered in recent times. stan cricket at a disadvantage and our identity will continue to suffer

The PCB Chairman urged the business community to lend a



KARACHI: Chairman PCB Ramiz Raja struck the gong to open trading at Pakistan Stock Exchange. – DNA

helping hand. "Due to unforeseen circumstances, such as Covid, PCB can easily cut down the money promised. This will continue to worsen Pakistan cricket's situation from a financial point of view." he added. Speaking about the utilisation of the funds. Ramiz said that the money will be spent to improve the conditions of the cricket grounds.

He added that a substantial amount will also be allocated to ensure that grassroots cricket is given importance and young children are playing cricket at decent venues. "We must be on the same page, it is about the national spirit [...] The pie of our cricket from the financial point of view is just 5% percent as compared to our neighboring countries where interest is massive and due to investments there teams have surpassed us," concluded Ramiz.

Government of Japan supports KP govt for Locust Control

Islamabad **POST**

Wednesday, October 06, 2021

FROM PAGE 01

The items handed over during the ceremony included 20,000 liters of insecticide, 170 battery-operated sprays pumps, 170 generator-operated spray pumps and 77 units of motorcycles for mobilization of staff of the Agriculture Extension Department for future locust control activities in the merged districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

The support will strengthen the operational capacities for desert locust control operations through better preparedness and response to the crisis.

The handing over ceremony was attended by H.E. Mr. MATSUDA Kuninori, Ambassador of Japan to Pakistan, H. E. Mr. Mohibullah Khan, Minister for Agriculture Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Mr. FURU-TA Shigeki, Chief Representative, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Pakistan Office, Ms. Florence Marie Rolle, FAO Representative in Pakistan and Dr. Muhammad Israr Khan, Secretary Agriculture GoKP as well as other senior officials of the relevant departments of the Government of KP.

The aforesaid project, which provided grants worth 560 million Japanese Yen (Equivalent to around USD 5.1 million / around PKR 840 million), started in April 2018 and will be completed within 2021. The Project has been implemented in order to restore livelihoods in the Merged Districts of KP by improving productivity and value addition in the Agriculture Sector. Under the project, activities like establishment of fruit nurseries, rehabilitation of irrigation channels, and distribution of poultry packages have taken place and benefitted more than 32,000 households (around 295,000 individuals). The provision of the locust control equipment was added so that the KP Government can effective-

French clergy sexually abused '216,000 children' since 1950

the victims were boys.

sary preventive measures, he

said, but also turned a blind

eye to abuse and sometimes

knowingly put children in

"The consequences are

very serious," Sauve said.

touch with predators.

AGENCIES

PARIS: About 216,000 children are estimated to have been sexually abused by thousands of French Catholic priests, deacons and other clergy since 1950, an independent inquiry has found, alleging the phenomenon was covered up by a "veil of silence".

The details made public on Tuesday are the latest to rock the Roman Catholic Church after a series of sexual abuse scandals around the world, often involving

other people involved in the ing The Liberated Word, told church. About 80 percent of church representatives at the presentation. "In this hell, Speaking at a public, online there have been abominable presentation of the report, mass crimes ... but there has Suave added that the Church been even worse, betrayal had shown "deep, total and of trust, betrayal of morale, even cruel indifference for betrayal of children." Pope years", protecting itself rather Francis thanked victims for than the victims. The Church coming forward. not only failed to take neces-

"First of all his thoughts go to the victims, with great sorrow, for their wounds,' a Vatican statement said. "(His thoughts go to) the Church of France, so that, in the awareness of this terrible reality ... it may embark on a path of reSpeaking after Sauve at the presentation, Eric de Moulins-Beaufort, the archbishop of Reims and head of the Conference of Bishops of France, asked for forgiveness. He called the report a "bombshell" and promised action. The commission was established by Catholic bishops in France at the end of 2018 to shed light on abuse and restore public confidence in the Church at a time of dwindling congregations. It worked independently from the Church during its two-and-a-half-year lifetime, listening to victims and witnesses and studying



MANAMA: Pakistan ambassador to Bahrain Muhammad Ayub and Chief of Afro-Asian Affairs at Ministry of Foreign Affairs Bahrain, Fatima Abdulla, jointly launched the logo, commencing 50th year celebrations diplomatic relations. - DNA



lion homes?" he questioned. The PPP chairman asked the people of Kotli to foil what he called the 'conspiracies' being hatched by the 'puppet' government and vote for the PPP candidate in the by-election to be held on October 10.

PPP to face worst...

FROM PAGE 01 through his claim of having popularity in the AJK despite facing embarrassing defeat in its recent elections. The minister said it was his father Asif Ali Zardari who invented new ways to commit corruption. Fake accounts and money laundering with help of Ayan Ali were inventions of Zardari, he added. The minister said there was worst form of bad governance in Sindh where poverty, lawlessness and employment had touched new heights.

'Probe to ascertain...

FROM PAGE 01

classified into three categories, he said, adding that those who did not declare their offshore assets or found involved in money laundering will be probed by NAB, FIA and FBR officials. Fawad said setting-up an offshore company and declaring it in the tax records is not an offence.

Ordinance for NAB...

FROM PAGE 01 "Opposition should now start searching for a new Opposition leader," Chaudhry said, adding that the matter related to the NAB chairman did not come under discussion during the federal cabinet's meeting. The government, through the new ordinance, seeks to overcome Section 6 of the National Accountability Ordinance (NAO), which suggests that the NAB chairman will be appointed by the president in consultation with the leader of the house and the leader of the opposition in the National Assembly for a non-extendable period of four years. The development comes after the government had decided to give an extension to NAB Chairman.

MADRID: Pakistan ambassador to Spain Shujjat Ali Rathore presented letter of credence to King Felipe VI of Spain in a splendid ceremony held at the Royal Palace of Madrid. – **DNA**

Italy, Spain open Nations League semis

MILAN:Italy and Spain will again face off in a semi-final on Wednesday when they take to the field at the San Siro for the Nations League Final Four opener, a replay of their epic Euro 2020 semi-final. Spain finished on the losing side back in July's European Championship semi-final as the Azzurri prevailed on penalties and went on to win the tournament, beginning an unforgettable summer of sport for Italy. Roberto Mancini's Italy are on a world-record run of 37 matches without defeat and have a squad predictably stuffed full of players who took part in their run to glory in the Euro final over England at Wembley. "We'll be facing a great Italy team: they deservedly beat England in the final of the Euro and they've kept their long unbeaten run going," said Spain coach Luis Enrique after announcing his squad on Thursday. "But like our psychologist says, defeat comes to every team. And that means that they're closer to losing, that time is getting nearer." Mancini admitted that "Spain were the team we struggled against most during Euro 2020". "They are a good team with good players. It will be a good match," he told uefa.com. The only different face from the Euro crowd was supposed to be in-form Roma midfielder Lorenzo Pellegrini, who on Sunday scored his sixth goal of the season in all competitions. - DNA

meet in Paris amid **AUKUS** tensions

Blinken, Macron

PARIS: Emmanuel Macron and US Secretary of State Antony Blinken have held talks in Paris, the French leader's first meeting with a US official since the AUKUS furore plunged the two countries' relations into crisis. The development on Tuesday came as US President Joe Biden's administration moves to repair the damage caused to ties by excluding France from AUKUS, a new security initiative involving the US, United Kingdom and Australia.

Announced last month, the deal saw Australia eschew a multibillion-dollar contract to buy French-made submarines in favour of a deal for US and UK produced nuclear submarines, angering Paris. Blinken was in the French capital for a meeting of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and told reporters he would address the AUKUS imbroglio during a meeting later on Tuesday with French Foreign Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian. A State Department official told reporters that Blinken's previously unannounced one-on-one meeting with Macron lasted about 40 minutes.

The official, who spoke on the condition of anonymity. said the meeting resulted in a "common agreement that we have an opportunity now to deepen and strengthen the coordination" even though "a lot of hard work remains to be done". Macron's government had described the secret talks leading up to the cancellation of the Australian contract as "a stab in the back", and briefly recalled its ambassadors from Washington and Canberra. Paris has portrayed the incident as a strike against Biden's vows to restore transatlantic ties after former President Donald Trump's more adversarial approach to European allies. The Biden administration has since admitted that it handled the situation poorly and could have included more coordination with France. Washington, however, has said the defence agreement was not meant to be an affront to European allies or to replace pre-existing alliances in the Pacific. - DNA

tackle with locust at tacks in future. At the handing over, Ambassador MATSUDA stated, "Japan supported Pakistan to control locust outbreak

by supplying 60 thousand litters of insecticide and material needed, along with financial support to farmers last year. Moreover, we are providing additional material to the Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa because we believe that initial response is essential for locust control in the near future. I hope people in this region will continue stable farming and our cooperation will contribute to their prosperity".

Ms. Florence Marie Rolle, FAO Representative stated that the support from the people of Japan was instrumental in the restoration of livelihoods in the Newly Merged Districts (NMDs) of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and augmenting the capacity of Agriculture Department to cope with future disasters more effectively. She further added that our collaboration with the Embassy of Japan and JICA will further be strengthened in the days ahead for the provision of better services to the crisis hit people in the NMDs and elsewhere in the country.

Mr. FURUTA Shigeki while speaking at the ceremony said that the two phases of projects, funded by Government of Japan ensured food security through sustainable agriculture development that resumed agriculture-based livelihoods of the people who returned after internal displacement. He hoped that the JICA support would make a significant contribution for strengthening capacity of Agriculture Extension Department in combating future locust attack in the targeted areas to minimize crops damages of poor farm families.

Mr. Mohibullah Khan, Minister for Agriculture, KP expressed his appreciation on behalf of the Government of KP. He thanked the Government of Japan and JICA for their extended support through the FAO implemented project for the restoration of livelihoods in the Merged Districts of KP. He further said that this support came at a very critical juncture and much needed time, which had not only revitalized livelihoods of the local people but ensured their food security as well.

Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan to enhance strategic ties The President of Turkmenistan, thanking for the hospitality, emphasized the high level of relations between the two states

FOREIGN DESK

TASHKENT: An official welcoming ceremony for the President of Turkmenistan was held at the Kuksaroy residence. Then, Presi-ShavkatMirziyoyev dents GurbangulyBerdimuand hamedov held a meeting in a narrow format.

At the beginning of the meeting, the head of our state, warmly greeting the leader of Turkmenistan, once again congratulated him on the 30th anniversary of the country's independence, which was celebrated on 27 September, and wished peace and prosperity to the brotherly Turkmen people. - Each of our meetings is a historic and significant event. All the agreements reached have come true and serve our peoples. Today we will have a good

opportunity to discuss in detail the topical issues of our partnership and identify new "points of growth" for the long term. Your visit will expand cooperation at regional and international platforms, - said Shavkat-Mirziyoyev.

The President of Turkmenistan, thanking for the hospitality, emphasized the high level of relations between the two states.

- Uzbekistan is our close neighbor and strategic partner. In recent years, our cooperation has been developing dynamically. It is reflected in politics, trade, economic, and cultural and humanitarian spheres. We support each other on regional and international issues. Since our goals are the same, GurbangulyBerdimuhamedov noted. During the meeting, the heads of state praised the

current level of bilateral relations based on the principles of centuries-old friendship, good-neighborliness, strategic partnership, mutual trust and support. The leaders discussed the whole spectrum of Uzbek-Turkmen multifaceted cooperation, paying special

attention to strengthening constructive political dialogue, expanding trade, economic and investment partnership, deepening cultural and humanitarian ties. Over the past four years. mutual trade has tripled and exceeded US\$400 million.

Since the beginning of the



year, the trade turnover has increased by another 25%. It was noted that the results of the 16th meeting of the Intergovernmental Commission on Bilateral Cooperation on September 14. as well as the Uzbek-Turkmen Economic Forum in Tashkent on 4 October, will serve to further expand mutually beneficial trade and

economic ties. Separately, the huge potential of cooperation between the regions of the two countries, primarily bordering ones, was emphasized. An example is the friendly visits of the leaders of the Lebap and Dashoguzvelayats of Turkmenistan to Bukhara and Khorezm regions of Uzbekistan on 22 September 2021. The Presidents noted that such regular meetings will serve to strengthen mutual understanding and cohesion between the two coun-

tries and peoples. A high assessment was given to cooperation in the water sector. The parties welcomed the successful holding of the first meeting of the Intergovernmental Commission on Water Management Issues on 13 September in the city of Tashkent. They also exchanged views

on the regional and international agenda. The importance of the regular holding of Consultative Meetings of the Heads of State of Central Asia and the implementation of the agreements reached during the last meeting in Avaza on 6 August 2021 was emphasized. The talks in Tashkent have become another confirmation of mutual understanding and cohesion of our countries and peoples, which is especially important today against the backdrop of ongoing events.

N7

BUSINESS / WORLD



Briefs

Fatalities lowest in Malaysia since July

KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysia reported another 8,075 new COVID-19 infections as of midnight Monday, bringing the national total to 2,285,640, according to the health ministry.

Six of the new cases are imported and 8,069 are local transmissions, data released on the ministry's website showed

Another 76 deaths were reported, dipping to double digits for the first time since July, bringing the death toll to 26,759.

As many as 15,456 more patients were released after recovery, bringing the total number of cured and discharged to 2,116,021. Of the remaining 142,860 active cases, 867 are being held in intensive care and 461 of those are in need of assisted breathing. country reported The

221,812 doses of COVID-19 vaccine administered on Monday alone and some 73.3 percent of the population have received at least one dose and 63.4 percent are fully vaccinated. - APP

UK records another 35,077 corona cases

FOREIGN DESK

LONDON: Another 35,077 people in Britain have tested positive for COVID-19, bringing the total number of coronavirus cases in the country to 7,934,936, according to official figures released Tuesday.

The country also recorded another 33 coronavirus-related deaths. The total number of coronavirus-related deaths in Britain now stands at 136,986. These figures only include the deaths of people who died within 28 days of their first positive test. There are currently 6.556 patients in hospital with COVID-19.

The data came as the Britain scrapped its traffic light sys-

Pakistan keen to expand bilateral trade with Belarus

A business delegation from Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce & Industries visited the Belarusian Universal Commodity Exchange (BUCE) for exploring trade with Belarusian counterparts

DNA

MINSK: A business delegation from Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce & Industries visited the Belarusian Universal Exchange Commodity (BUCE) for exploring trade with Belarusian counterparts. Chairman BUCE Mr. Alexander Osmolovsky and the head of Foreign Relations Department, Mr. Alexander Bashily gave comprehensive briefings to the participants.

Chairman BUCE The briefed in detail regarding evolution, organizational structure, operations, and expanding international outreach of BUCE. Established in 2004 and the only mercantile exchange in Belarus BUCE has flourished to enlist 21000 companies from 68 countries as its partners.

Boasting of being the Eastern Europe's largest spot exchange, it clocked in 400,000 transactions with an annual turnover of USD 2.5 billion. The setup transactions. is fashioned as a virtual platform for commodity trade wherein the buyers

and sellers across the

continents are facilitated leading the delegation comthrough secure business prising of 64 businesspersons, one of the largest Shahzad Sabir, a renowned business and trade delegabusinessman and Chairman tions of Pakistan in recent of Pakistan-Belarus Busitimes. The members repness Council (PBBC) is resent diverse business in-

can be long-term peace in

the region," he underlined.

Azerbaijan's readiness for

cooperation for further re-

president stressed

terests such as Petrochemicals, Pharmaceuticals, Transportation, Textile, Chemicals, Construction, Edible oils, Agro chemical, Leather, Fertilizer, Fruits and Seeds. Timber, Furni-

ture, Automotive, Telecom and many other areas. Ambassador of Pakistan to Belarus Sajjad Haider Khan also attended the interaction. thanks for hosting the

meeting, the Ambassador expressed the hope that more and more Pakistani firms would take advantage China renews blue alert for rainstorms

AGENCIES

BEIJING: China's National Meteorological Center on Tuesday renewed a blue alert for rainstorms in various parts of the country and called for precautionary measures. From 8 a.m. Tuesday to 8 a.m. Wednesday, heavy downpours are expected to lash parts of Gansu, Shaanxi, Shanxi, Hebei and the Sichuan Basin. with some areas experiencing up to 120 mm of rainfall, according to the center.

Some of the aforementioned regions are likely to encounter over 50 mm of hourly precipitation accompanied by thunderstorms and gales. The center advised local governments to make preparations for the rainstorms. Drivers were alerted to watch out for flooding and traffic jams.

China has a four-tier color-coded weather warning system, with red representing the most severe warning, followed by orange, yellow and blue.

Azerbaijan, Japan ink cooperation accord

DNA

BAKU: Azerbaijan's National Confederation of Organizations of Entrepreneurs and Japan's TET International Development have signed a memorandum of understanding and cooperation on October 4.

memorandum The was signed by the National Confederation President Mammad Musayev and TET International Development President Taro Sawada during the Japan-Azerbaijan Investment Forum held in Baku. The agreement envisages increasing the number of joint projects, identifying additional areas of joint activities, increasing trade turnover between Japan and Azerbaijan, and the attraction of additional investments in various sectors of Azerbaijan's economy.

During the forum, Musayev They "discussed how the underlined that Japanese investors and companies will

Baku, Yerevan to reach peace if Armenia shows political will

BAKU: President Ilham Aliyev has said Azerbaijan and Armenia can solve their problems without any mediators if Yerevan shows the political will to ensure longterm regional peace.

a meeting with members

of the public in liberated

The

DNA

He made the remarks at

There is political will on the gional development. Azerbaijani side. If there is 'The Azerbaijani public will on the side of Armenia probably knows that I retoo. I think that the two cently said I was ready to countries can resolve these meet with the Armenian issues themselves without Prime Minister [Nikol Paany mediators and there

shinyan]. He also said that he was ready. So what does this show? This shows that our agenda is adopted here. Some are probably concerned about that. But the main thing is to make peace between Azerbaijan and British PM's envoy meets Taliban in Afghanistan



of the BUCE platform for expanding trade between the two countries.

Expressing

tem for international travel, replacing it with just two categories: countries on the red list and everywhere else.

Those coming from countries not on the red list can enter the country without a pre-departure COVID-19 test, and they are not required to do a PCR test eight days after their arrival or isolate at home. Instead, a single test is needed on the second day after arrival in the Britain.

Impact of EU electricity price rise temporary

WEB DESK

BRUSSELS: Finance Ministers of the eurozone agreed that the increase in electricity prices in European Union (EU) countries and its effect on inflation was temporary but monitoring was "essential," European Commissioner for Economy Paolo Gentiloni said on Monday.

Addressing a press conference following an Euro-group meeting in Luxembourg, Gentiloni said that this inflation increase is likely to drop in 2022.

He said the surge of wholesale electricity prices was a combination of factors, with the most important one being the global high demand for gas and the insufficient supply.

To a lesser extent, electricity prices increased due to seasonal and one-off factors including weather condition and infrastructure upgrades which had been delayed due to the pandemic.

He highlighted that coordination between member states is "key in response to this crisis" with the commission working on a toolbox of policy measures that can be deployed to mitigate the impact.

These measures should be temporary and targeted and must be consistent with the transition to a decarbonised economy.

The commissioner pointed out that while some governments have already announced measures to offset the increase in the population's electricity bills, he insisted that "Europe's Green Deal is not the problem."



Jabrayil region on October 4.

borders between Azerbai-

jan and Armenia, the peace

agreement, the recognition

of each other's territorial

integrity, and then the res-

toration of economic rela-

tions, the opening of trans-

port communications - all

these are on the agenda.

"The delimitation of the

Tashkent hosts the Uzbek-Turkmen **Economic Forum** S.Umurzakov.

FOREIGN DESK

The event was also attended by the heads of key minis-TASHKENT: On the eve of tries, departments, industry the visit of the President associations, chambers of commerce and industry, as of Turkmenistan to the Republic of Uzbekistan the well as manufacturers and Uzbek-Turkmen Economic entrepreneurs of the two Forum was held in Tashkent. countries - more than 100 The foreign delegation was people in total. During the speeches, the headed by Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers of heads of the delegations of Turkmenistan E.Orazgeldyev, the two countries noted the and the Uzbek delegation dynamic nature of the develwas headed by Deputy Prime opment of the Uzbek-Turk-Minister - Minister of Investmen economic partnership, ments and Foreign Trade of achieved thanks to the efforts

business forum held in Minsk DNA

MINSK: The Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FPC-CI) in collaboration with the Belarusian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BelCCI) organized the 5th Session of Pakistan-Belarus Joint Business Council in Minsk. The event was attended by the representatives of about 100 Belarusian companies and organizations and more than 60

Pakistani firms. The Chairman of the BelC-

Armenia to sign a heace agreement. We want that,' the president said.

Commenting on recent accusations against Azerbaijan alleging that it wants to change the regional borders. Alivev underlined that Azerbaijan had not violated anyone's borders. "What is the basis of such accusations against us? For some reason. no such accusations were made against Armenia when our borders were violated for 30 years. ... We have not violated anyone's borders.

CI Vladimir Ulakhovich,

Deputy Minister of For-

eign Affairs of the Repub-

lic of Belarus Nikolai Bo-

risevich, Deputy Minister

of Energy of the Republic

of Belarus Denis Moroz,

5th Pakistan-Belarus joint

LONDON: British Prime Minister Boris Johnson's special envoy met Taliban leaders in Afghanistan to discuss the humanitarian crisis and ways to prevent the country from becoming an incubator for militants. Simon Gass, Johnson's high representative for Afghanistan, met Taliban leaders including Amir Khan Muttaqi, Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar and Abdul Salam Hanafi, the Foreign Office said.

Chairman of the Paki-

stani-Belarusian Business

Council Shahzad Sabir and

Ambassador of Pakistan

to Belarus Sajjad Haider

Khan addressed the forum

in the opening ceremony.

UK could help to address the humanitarian crisis, the importance of preventing the country from becoming an incubator for terrorism, and the need for continued safe passage for those who want to leave the country," the Foreign Office said.

"They also raised the treatment of minorities and the rights of women and girls." Gass was accompanied by Chargé d'Affaires of the UK Mission to Afghanistan in Doha.

The speakers emphasized

the importance of expand-

ing trade and investment

ties which currently was

be invited to participate in the reconstruction work in Karabakh. He underlined that in order

to encourage investment in the country, a number of incentive programs and relevant economic zones are being created. Taro Sawada noted the company's readiness to work in Karabakh in the field of agriculture.

"With the liberation of Karabakh, new areas of activity have emerged for entrepreneurship. I am ready to attract the maximum volume of investments to this region," the president of the Japanese company said.

Moreover, Karabakh Revival Fund's Board Chairman Rahman Hajiyev said that the fund is negotiating to attract investments in the field of renewable energy sources. He added that the fund is developing a special project for this purpose.

"Cooperation has already been established with some companies from Japan and other countries. We see great potential for the implementation of projects in the field of renewable energy in Karabakh. Various projects will be implemented in this direction," Hajiyev said.

India reports 18,346 new Covid cases

NEW DELHI: India's COVID-19 tally rose to 33,853,048 on Tuesday, as 18,346 new cases were registered during the past 24 hours across the country, showed the federal health

ministry's latest data. Besides, as many as 263 deaths due to the pandemic since Monday morning took the total death toll to 449,260. Most number of deaths, 149, were reported from the southern state of Kerala, which continues to be the worst COVID-affected state in India.

There are still 252,902 active COVID-19 cases in the country as there was a decline of 11.556 active cases during the past 24 hours. The active caseload was lowest in 209 days, said the federal health ministry. A total of 33,150,886 people have been successfully cured and discharged from

hospitals so far, out of which

29,639 were discharged dur-

ing the past 24 hours. - APP

Japan's new PM Fumio calls Oct. 31 election "I want to ensure we implement large-scale, bold coronavirus countermeasures and economic policies.

To do that, we must ask the people whether they trust me, Kishida, to carry out these policies"

AGENCIES

the Republic of Uzbekistan

TOKYO: Japan's new prime minister, Fumio Kishida, on Monday called a parliamentary election for Oct. 31 and vowed to bolster the country's response to the coronavirus pandemic, shortly after being formally confirmed by law-

makers in the top job. Kishida, a 64-year-old former foreign minister with an image as a consensus builder, earlier unveiled a Cabinet lineup dominated by allies of former Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and ex-Finance Mnister Taro Aso.

"I want to ensure we implement large-scale, bold coronavirus countermeasures and economic policies. To do that, we must ask the people whether they trust me, Kishida, to carry out these policies," he said at his inaugural news conference.

"I would like to pursue a politics of trust and compassion with

the people's mandate," he said, drawing on the main theme in his campaign to become leader of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), making politics more accessible to the public.

of the Heads of the two states.

While Kishida may enjoy a honeymoon period usually afforded new governments, analysts said he probably didn't want to lose time, given risks posed by the pandemic.

His decision to call an election came as a surprise to most analysts who had expected the election to be held in November. Parliament will now be dissolved on Oct. 14.

Kishida said he would consider COVID-19 relief payouts, adding he had also instructed ministers overseeing the pandemic response to come up with policies on vaccinations, to strengthen the medical system and to expand testing to help reopen the economy. New coronavirus cases in Tokyo on Monday totalled 87, the lowest since Nov. 2 last year.

Kishida's predecessor Yoshihide Suga enjoyed support ratings of about 70 percent soon after taking office a year ago, but came under heavy fire over his handling of the pandemic. Following Suga's decision to make way for a new face, Kishida beat three contendwho-will-almost-certainly-beers



next-pm-2021-09-28 for the LDP leadership last week, paving the way for parliament to formally elect him premier on Monday.

Kishida's Cabinet features allies of Abe, Japan's longest-serving premier, who quit last year citing ill health as his dream of another term faded. Of the 20 posts, 13 were filled by people with no prior cabinet experience, in line with Kishida's pledge to promote fresh faces, but many heavyweight jobs went to allies of Abe or of outgoing finance minister Aso.

"He won the election with the support of Abe and Aso, so now it's time for him to return the favour. it's not the time for him to cut them off," said political analyst Atsuo Ito. Aso's replacement at the Finance Ministry is his low-profile brother-in-law, Shunichi Suzuki, who is viewed as likely to continue the government's policy of tempering growth spending with fiscal reform.

below the potential. The chairman of the BelC-CI said that Pakistan was a very important partner, well exposed to the Belarusian machinery and equipment, particularly the Belarus tractor. He highlighted the

prospects of establishing a Joint Venture is being discussed with Pakistan in addition to creating joint ventures in the field of pharmaceuticals and food production.

Kishida said he wanted to pursue

policies that achieve "a new type

of capitalism" that distributes

more wealth to households and

tackles Japan's widening income

gap, adding that tweaking the fi-

nancial income tax rate - which is

levied on investment income --was

among options he would consider.

One of those closest to Abe, for-

mer economy minister Akira Am-

ari, became the ruling party's pow-

Amari, who has promised a big

extra budget after the election,

told reporters on Monday it

would need to include steps to

ameliorate social divisions and

Defense Minister Nobuo Kishi,

who is Abe's brother, retained his

position, as did Foreign Minister

Toshimitsu Motegi, reflecting Kishi-

da's intention to continue Abe and

Suga's push to boost the nation's

security ties with the US while pre-

serving trade ties with China.

erful secretary-general.

COVID-19







Briefs Tenure of NAB Chairman could not be extended

PM for halting illegal money outflow from developing states

SHAHEEN HANIF

ISLAMABAD: Former prime minister Shahid Khagan Abbasi has said that the tenure of the NAB chairman could not be extended. He was talking to the media outside the accountability court on Tuesday he said, "the prime minister has refused to consult with the opposition over the matter." "The ministers are hammer ing out an ordinance and the president is ready to sign over it," criticizing the government PML-N leader said. Commenting on recently surfaced names of 700 people from Pakistan in Pandora Papers, Shahid Khaqan Abbasi said these people should also be subjected to same treatment as the one met by Nawaz Sharif. "A Joint investigation team should be constituted and these people should be investigated while being kept in jail," he said.

"There is no law of investigating these people by an inquiry committee," the opposition politician said."PML-N supremo Nawaz Sharif was convicted in Panama case despite the fact that his name was not there in Panama,' Abbasi added.

Facebook whistleblower to push for regulation

News Desk

WASHINGTON: A Facebook whistleblower goes before US lawmakers Tuesday to urge regulation of the social media giant, after an outage impacted potentially billions of users and high lighted global dependence on its services.

Ex-employee Frances Hau-

The premier said that the illicit outflows are "crushing" the people of the developing world

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Imran Khan on Tuesday reiterated his concern regarding the illicit flow of \$1 trillion from developing countries to tax havens, stressing on the need to halt these outflows.

The prime minister's remarks came during the World Leaders Summit Dialogue organised by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) during its on-going 15th Quadrennial Meeting, hosted by Barbados.

"According to the FACTI panel (UN High Level Panel on International Financial Accountability, Transparency and Integrity) \$7 trillion are parked in these tax havens and haven destinations," he said.

"This plunder is taking place because of the corrupt ruling elite of the developing world," the premier added.

He termed the challenge a "huge crisis", which he predicted will "only get worse" in the coming years.

PM Imran Khan said the only way this will stop is if the recommendations made by the FACTI panel are implemented, while also acknowledging that "unfortunately the richer countries which can do something about



it [have] no incentive to do anything". The premier said that the illicit outflows are "crushing" the people of the developing world, not just because the money is being siphoned off to the developed world - which could instead be spent on human development - but also because resultantly, when the money leaves the country, it affects the local currency which devalues,

leading to inflation, and then more poverty. He said an unseen effect which even the developed world will see in the days to come is economic migrants, which are barely a "trickle" right now.

"I urge you madam secretary general to do everything to raise awareness that this huge injustice which is being done to the people of the developing world, has to stop.

Earlier, PM Imran Khan also spoke of prioritising vaccine equity, debt relief, and climate finance, as part of global economic recovery from the devastating effects of COVID-19 pandemic.

Expressing concerns over vaccine inequity, the prime minister called for a more equitable distribution. Also, recalling his campaign for debt relief, the prime minister advocated for debt relief until the end of the pandemic. Furthermore, he reaffirmed the urgent need for mobilisation of and contribution by richer countries to climate finance in view of the vulnerability and existential challenges faced by Small Island Developing Countries (SIDS) and other developing countries, including Pakistan.

The Prime Minister was invited to the Leaders Dialogue along with Presidents of Kenya, and Guyana, Secretary General UNCTAD and heads of other UN agencies, under the theme of "Building a more prosperous development path: Matching the scale of the moment".

The Quadrennial Conference, hosted virtually by Barbados from 4-7 October 2021, is taking place in the backdrop of unprecedented economic, public health and social effects, induced and exacerbated by COV-ID-19 pandemic.

Saudi Naval Chief

lauds Pakistan's

acquittal from Āvenfield reference

Maryam seeks

KHAYAM ABBASI

ISLAMABAD: PML-N Vice President Maryam Nawaz filed a separate petition in

the Islam-

abad High Court, seeking the annulment of the verdict related to the Avenfield Apartments reference, media reported Tuesday.

Maryam has maintained in her petition, filed through Advocate Irfan Qadir, that the verdict was a "classic example of outright violations of law and political engineering hitherto unheard of in the history of Pakistan.' She added that the "Supreme Court supervised the entire process of the investigation of the case and monitored the prosecution."

"Filing three separate references in the case of assets is also a violation of the law,' she said, adding that the accountability court judge would know why he didn't notice these facts.

Maryam contended that the apex court's "role in the Constitution is neither that of the investigator nor that of the prosecutor".

"NAB is bound to conduct the investigations with transparency," maintained Maryam.

\$630m

STAFF REPORT

RAWALPINDI: Vice Admiral Fahad Bin Abdullah Al-Ghofaily, Commander of the Royal Saudi Naval Forces called on General Nadeem Raza, Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee, here at Joint Staff Headquarters, Rawalpindi on Tuesday.

Besides security, regional issues, particularly the latest development in Afghanistan, matters related to enhancing the level and scope of bilateral military engagements and cooperation in various fields between the two brotherly countries were discussed during the meeting. Chairman JCSC empha-

peace efforts *Czechs sign* sized the need to further enhance the existing defence and security cooperation between both brotherly countries and said that Pakistan-KSA cooperation will have positive impact on peace and security in the region.

The visiting dignitary remained appreciative of the sincere efforts of the Pakistan Armed Forces in bringing peace to the region especially the Afghan Peace Process. They also on Tuesday, the agreement acknowledged the sacrifices will see Prague procure the made by Pakistan in the war Spyder system made by the against terrorism. Israeli state-run company Chairman ICSC thank

deal for air defence system PRAGUE: The Czech Republic has signed a \$630m deal to buy a new air defence system from Israel, marking the central European nation's latest move to modernise its armed forces. Announced

gen is set to testify on Capitol Hill after she leaked reams of internal research to authorities and the Wall Street Journal, which detailed how Facebook knew its sites were potentially harmful to young people's mental health.

She will speak before senators less than a day after Facebook, its photo-sharing app Instagram and messaging service WhatsApp went offline for roughly seven hours, with "billions of users" impacted, according to tracker Downdetector.In excerpts of Haugen's testimony leaked to US media, she argues for regulation of the closely scrutinized company that is woven into the daily lives of so many people.

Romanian PM toppled in confidence vote

BUCHAREST: The centrist government of Prime Minister Florin Citu, which only took power in Romania nine months ago, has been toppled by a vote of no-confidence.

Some 281 lawmakers voted in favor, far above the 234 needed to carry the motion. There we no votes against, as the Citu's National Liberal Party (PNL) and its allies boycotted the proceedings.

The vote threatened more instability for Romania after months of political stalemate, a mounting death toll from the country's fourth wave of the coronavirus and

spiking energy costs. Citu, 49, had been in charge since elections in December, but his coalition had been fragile form the start. Then last month, the center-right Save Romania Union (USR) withdrew from government, citing Citu's "dictatorial attitude.' During debate on the no-confidence motion, Citu asked his opponents: "What do you have to gain by plunging the country into chaos?

The left-wing opposition Social Democrats (PSD) have accused Citu and his Cabinet of "impoverishing Romanians and increasing the country's debts". - Agencies



Naval Forces called on General Nadeem Raza, Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee, here at Joint Staff Headquarters. - DNA

Rafael dignitary and said that Pakistan Defence Forces greatly values its close brotherly ties with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

fuse lingering tensions with Algeria linked to their colo-

nial history, and face up to

France's methods to retain

control of its north African

colony, which won independ-

In 2018, he admitted that

France had created a "sys-

tem" that facilitated torture

during the war and acknowl-

edged that French mathe-

matician Maurice Audin, a

Communist pro-independ-

ence activist, was murdered

In July last year, he tasked

French historian Benjamin

Stora with assessing how

France has dealt with its colo-

"We've said things that are

not easy to hear. I have not

sugarcoated our own history,"

Macron told France Inter.

nial legacy in Algeria.

ence in 1962.

in Algiers.

Systems Ltd. Spyder is capable of providing protection against aircraft, helicopters, bombers, cruise missiles and other weapons.

Advanced

Defens

The Czech defence ministry said the deal, under which the NATO member will get four short-range air defence batteries, is worth 13.7 billion Czech korun (\$630m). Delivery of the components is set to be completed by 2026. The Spyder system will replace an obsolete anti-aircraft Soviet-era 2K12 Kub system to defend military and civilian centres such as industrial hubs, nuclear power plants, airports and other important facilities. Under a separate deal announced last week, the Czech military will acquire 52 Caesar self-propelled gun howitzers from France's Nexter Systems. – Web Desk

Moonis denies allegations

DNA

Minister

hi on Tuesday reacted to the news of his name

being mentioned in the Pandora Papers and denied the allegations of owning an offshore company.

Taking to Twitter, Elahi wrote: "I do not own any offshore company nor do I have any assets which have

not been declared." The minister further said that he refutes "all assertions to the contrary.'

It should be noted that Elahi's name, along with 700 Pakistanis, was mentioned in the Pandora Papers, an investigation uncovering financial secrets held by high-profile individuals across the world.

Aside from Elahi, Minister for Finance Shaukat Tarin; Senator Faisal Vawda; PML-N leader Ishaq Dar's son, Ali Dar; PPP's Sharieel Memon: the family of Minister for Industries and Production Khusro Bakhtiar; and PTI leader Abdul Aleem Khan, among others were mentioned in the report with alleged links to offshore companies.

Macron wants 'calming down' Pak-China institute symbol in tense Algeria relations of friendship Agencies

modation and scholarships

during the training in the

institute. The institute was

an excellent institution not

only for Gwadar but also for

the entire region and would

play a significant role in the

region's development.

DNA

ISLAMABAD: The Pak-China Technical & Vocational Institute established at Gwadar Port is a symbol of 70 years of Pak-China friendship.

He said its establishment The institute which is a part would play an important of China Pakistan Economic role in securing decent Corridor, was completed at employment by imparting a cost of \$10 million in only vocational training to tal-20 months. The institute ented youths. "Technical had been equipped with the institutes play an imporstate-of-the-art machinery tant role in industrial defor imparting the best techvelopment and the trained nical education and skills to youths would have golden the youths of Balochistan, opportunities to get employespecially Gwadar.

ment in Gwadar Port, and According to an official industrial sector and other source, the students would projects of the CPEC," offibe provided free accomcial source said

Emmanuel Macron said on Tuesday he hoped that tensions with Algeria could ease after a row over visas and critical comments by Paris towards Algiers. "My wish is for a calming down because I think it's better to talk and to make

PARIS: French President

progress," Macron told the France Inter broadcaster. adding that his relations with Algerian President Abdelmadjid Tebboune were "truly cordial".

Algeria over the weekend recalled its ambassador from Paris and banned French military planes from its airspace, which France regularly uses to reach its forces battling

militants in the Sahel region. That came after a bitter row over visas, followed by media reports that Macron had told descendants of Algeria's war of independence that the North African country was ruled by a "political-military system" that had "totally re-written" its history.

Algeria said the reported remarks were an "interference" in its internal affairs. Algiers was also angered last week after France said

number of visas it grants to citizens of Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia. Paris said the decision had been made necessary by the former colonies' failure to do enough to allow illegal migrants in France

it would sharply reduce the

to be returned.



The latest row came two weeks after Macron apologised on behalf of his country for abandoning Algerians who fought alongside France in their country's war of independence, which was waged on both sides with extreme brutality, including wide-

spread torture. During his presidency, Ma-

cron has taken steps to de-

Pak keen to bolster ties with Central Asian states

Chairman Senate Sadiq Sanjrani expressed this resolve while exchanging views with Kazakhstan envoy Yerzhan Kistafin

SAIFULLAH

ISLAMABAD: Chairman Senate Sadiq Sanjrani has underlined Pakistan desire to further augment cooperation with Kazakhstan in all fields. Better economic ties between Pakistan and Kazakhstan will help further boost bilateral cooperation, said Sadiq Sanjrani while exchanging views with Kazakhstan envoy Yerzhan Kistafin, who paid a courtesy call on Sanjrani here at Parliament House on Tuesday.

During the meeting, discussion took place on a range of courses including Pakistan-Kazakhstan bilateral cooperation, ways to precipitate the exchange of delegations at parliamentary and trade levels and the overall development of the region.

"Enhanced economic linkages and parliamentary diplomacy would help further cement the bilateral cooperation between the two fraternal countries. Maintaining better ties with Kazakhstan remains



an important part of Pakistan's foreign policy", Sanjrani said. Kazakhstan-Pakistan Friendship

Group in the Senate could also play a crucial role in expanding

the two countries, adding that both sides have maintained excellent relations at international fora,

international and regional issues, Sanjrani further added. In his meeting with the visiting dignitary, Sanjrani called for tapping into the avenues that could help in strengthening economic

ties and elevate the trade volume between the two countries. "Pakistan seeks to further heighten ties with Central Asian countries", Sanjrani underscored.

he noted. Both the countries had

often taken similar positions on

In his meeting with the envoy, Sanjrani highlighted that Pakistan's unique geo-economic location offered tremendous opportunities for transport, trade, transit trade and ICT connectivity to the entire region. He observed that greater regional integration would help drive growth and socio-economic development in the entire region. "Kazakhstan cherishes its relation with Pakistan". Ambassador said. Both sides expressed hope that cowould boost in various fields. The Chairman Senate also extended best wishes to the Ambassador.

parliamentary relations between

ISLAMABAD: Water for Resources Moonis Ela-

