

Briefs Pak have an edge over **India in UAE**

DNA



ates and cap tain Babar Azam claims that will give his men the edge over India in their World Cup opener. "Definitely we have played a lot of cricket in the UAE," Babar said in a news conference when asked about his team's dismal 0-5 record against India in T20 World Cup clashes. "These conditions suit us and we know how to play here. We need to keep things simple in all the departments."

Maryam digging her political grave

STAFF REPORT



Opp to launch protests over rising inflation

"We appeal to the entire nation to fully participate in the protests and rallies," the PODM chief says

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

ISLAMABAD: ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Democratic Movement chief Maulana Fazlur Rehman on Sunday announced that within the next two weeks, the Opposition will hold countrywide protests against the growing inflation. "As soon as we are done with the celebrations of the Eid Milad un Nabi (SAW), we will start a full-fledged campaign against inflation," he said while speaking to the media after holding an information meeting with party members in Islamabad.

"We appeal to the entire nation to fully participate in the protests and rallies," he said while giving details of how the government incurred debts and increased inflation in the country. Earlier in the day, PML-N President and Leader of the Opposition in the National Assembly Shahbaz Sharif had a telephonic conversation with Fazl and announced that the Opposition will start a campaign against the rising inflation in the country.

Continued on Page 06



'Economic woes

Qureshi Sunday said that economic hardships were temporary as the government was trying its best to strengthen country's economy.

While talking to people, hailing from his constituency NA-156 here, the foreign minister stated the government was well aware of difficulties and problems of the masses. "Poverty alleviation is top priority of the incumbent government." Ehsas Programme, he mentioned. Health Card Scheme and some other

Continued on Page 06

MPAs hopeful of no trust motion's success

Balochistan Governor has summoned an important meeting of Balochistan Assembly on October 20



OSLO: Ambassador of Pakistan to Norway Babar Amin presented his credential to His Majesty King Harald V of Norway, at the Royal Palace. His Majesty congratulated Ambassador Babar Amin on his appointment and welcomed him in Norway. – DNA

Russia sees record high daily cases

DNA

MOSCOW: Russia reported 34,303 cases of new coronavirus infections in the past 24 hours, a record-high number since the start of the pandemic, data from the state coronavirus task force showed. It also reported 997 deaths from the disease, five fewer than the daily record-high of 1,002 reported the previous day.

India invites Pak in NSAs meeting

New Delhi has proposed two dates – November 10 and 11 - for the NSA Meeting

CENTRELINE REPORT

NEW DELHI: India has proposed to host a meeting of the national security advisers (NSA) of key crisis and discuss the evolving situation in Afghanistan. According to a report published in India Today, invitations for the meeting have been extended to key

Taliban welcomes Turkish role in renovation

DNA

stakeholder countries to ANKARA: Turkey can play "an active role in investaddress the humanitarian ing, realizing some projects, renovating and restor-

yam that dragging the army into a debate at Dhobi Ghaat or Lahore's Mochi Gate will "result in a political smackdown similar to what occurs in a dhobi ghaat" (when clothes are beaten with sticks while washing them). He said Maryam's moves to call out state institutions and speak against the country's leaders is "foolish". "With these judo karate-like manoeuvres with the aim to slander (institutions), she is digging her political grave," he remarked.

Afghan peace vital for region

DNA



the entire region. Addressing a function in Swabi on Sunday, he said Pakistan wants peace in Afghanistan which will bring positive impact on the situation of the whole region. Asad Qaiser said Rashakai Economic Zone will create hundreds of job opportunities besides promoting economic activities.

STAFF REPORT QUETTA: The political uncertainty in Balochistan regarding the fate of beleaguered Chief Minister Iam Kamal Alyani who is facing no-trust motion in the provincial assembly has entered the final stage as the estranged cabinet members of the ruling Balochistan Awa-

their efforts to dislodge Kamal who on his part has also spurred his efforts to defeat the move. Sources said on Sunday that the angry lawmakers have accelerated their anti-CM campaign making contacts and consultation on Mr Kamal's removal. The estranged leaders including Speaker Abdul Qadoos Bezinjo, Zahoor Buledi,

LAHORE: Chakkrid Krachaiwong, Ambassador of Thailand to

Pakistan enjoys corn cob during his recent visit to Lahore. - DNA

coordinating the implemen-

2: Pakistan and Egypt

itary bilateral relations.

How do you plan to fur-

bilateral military rela-

many countries are facing

as a result of the pandem-

ic crisis of Coronavirus,

this did not affect the de-

the two countries. As, the

insistence on conducting

tions?

tation of joint exercises.

mi Party have intensified Asad Ullah Baloch and others were seen making contacts with the opposition and allied parties for the success of their impending no-trust motion. The angry lawmakers claimed that the no-confi dence movement against CM Kamal would be succeeded with majority. They decid ed to summon a meeting of

Continued on Page 06

latest coronavirus The deaths brought the official national death toll to 223,312, with a total of almost eight million cases. Russian authorities blame a slow vaccination campaign for the sharp rise of infections and deaths, which forced the health ministry to ask retired, vaccinated medics to return to hospitals.

Warship in Taiwan strait: China slams West

DNA

BEIJING: The Chinese military condemned the United States and Canada for each sending a warship through the Taiwan Strait last week, saying the North American nations were threatening peace and stability in the region. China's People's Liberation Army's Eastern Theatre Command said its forces monitored the ships and "stood guard" throughout their passage. "The united states and Canada colluded to provoke and stir up trouble ... seriously jeopardising peace and stability of the taiwan strait," it said.

Continued on Page 06

Coalition 'kills 160' Yemen rebels as battle intensifies The coalition has said that since Monday, more than 700 rebels have been killed in air attacks The rebels rarely comment

News Desk

RIYADH: The Saudi-led coalition supporting Yemen's government says it has killed 160 Houthi rebels in air raids south of the strategic city of Marib, where loyalists say rebels have made advances. "We carried out 32 strikes .. in Abdiya over the past 24 hours," the coalition said on Saturday, as cited by the state-run Saudi Press Agency, adding that "11 military vehicles were destroyed and more than 160 terrorist elements eliminated".

ing Afghanistan," with the resources it possesses, according to that country's acting foreign minister. In an exclusive interview with Anadolu Agency, Amir Khan Muttagi said the official recognition of his government and international aid held great importance to the recovery of the country's economy.

Continued on Page 06

No. of critical covid patients falls below 2,000 720 more people got infected with the viral disease

STAFF REPORT

on reported losses and ISLAMABAD: The Covid-19 the toll could not be indepandemic claimed 17 more lives in Pakistan during the Monday, more than 700 past 24 hours, taking the rebels have been killed in death toll to 28,269. Accordair attacks in the battle for ing to the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC), 720 more people got infected with the viral disease, lifting the nationrenewed their offensive wide tally of confirmed infections to 1.264.384. A total thousands of people have of 44,831 samples were tested, out of which 720 turned province this year, nearly out to be positive, showing

Continued on Page 06

pendently verified. The co-

alition has said that since

Marib. The Houthis began

a major push to seize Mar-

ib province in February

and, after a lull, they have

in recent weeks. Tens of

been displaced in the

Continued on Page 06

Inside.

Punjab Chief Minister facilitation cell to attract investments - Page 02

Swedish ambassador urges for sustainable living standards – Page 03

Largest long-term study on faith conversions in Sindh – Page 04

Shaping US Middle East policy amidst failing states - Page 05

Turkey in talks with US on sale of F-16: Tayyip Erdogan - Page 06

Businessmen reject high jump in petroleum, power tariff rates – Page 07

Khan turning the country into 'Tiger Force': Bilawal - Page 08

Pakistan military academies one of the best

Egyptian Defence Attache Col Mahmoud says, he had the opportunity to be one of those trainees in the Pakistani military academies, which greatly contributed to his career

EXCLUSIVE

ANSAR M BHATTI

ISLAMABAD: The Defence Attache of Egypt in Pakistan Col. Mahmoud Hassan has said relations between Egypt and Pakistan continued to grow even during the pandemic adding both countries can further cooperate with each other in various fields. Col Mahmoud expressed these views during an interview with Daily Islamabad POST.

This is his first interview to a Pakistani media after assumption of the charge of Egyptian Defence Attache. The interview shall also be published in the November issue of Centreline magazine. Here is the text of his interview.

the Egyptian-Pakistani joint exercise (Sky Guard-1) on 1: Defence Attache of

June 2021 and the participa-Egypt's Role in Pakistan Egyptian defence Attache tion of the Pakistani armed works on developing bilatforces in the joint exercise (Bright Star 2021) is one of eral ties between Egypt and Pakistan in the military and the most important successdefence fields, exchanging es in deepening military bivisits of military delegations lateral ties and more in the future between both countries and

> 3: Military Attaches in Islamabad have a service

enjoy good political, milther deepen/ enhance Despite the difficulties that velopment of ties between

attaches association, to which you are also a member. Please tell us how such kind of associations can be helpful in strengthening relations with the host country? (COSA) is the corps of attaches which service

through which communication between all defense attaches and it facilitates their mission and develops links with the country of accreditation. Mainly, it is being planned to conduct many activities and visits that allows service attaches window to witness many directions

represents the IslamabadPOS

and identify the available capabilities that may be useful for increasing aspects of collaboration with Pakistan. 4: Do the Egyptian military officials get training in Pakistani academies? Academic education is one of the most important means that contributes to preparing

officers in the military, and the Pakistani military academies are among the most important institutions that provide distinguished training and qualifications for officers. It is worth mentioning that I had the opportunity to be one of those trainees in the Pakistani military academies, which greatly

contributed to my career. I would like to point out that the Egyptian Armed Forces celebrate this month the 48th anniversary of the glorious October victories, which arouse pride in the hearts of Egyptians and revive hope for the future. The Egyptians proved on the sixth of October that their determination was unrelenting and that victory was the result of the steadfastness of Egyptian people and the insistence of its army on restoration of dignity.



SERVICES

Namaz Timings

Fajr 04:51 am
Zohr 11:53 am
Asr 03:52 pm
Maghrib 05:32 pm
Isha 06:55 pm



Hotels & Restaurants

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



Airlines Turkish Airlines......8494949



Emergency

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



Enquiry

Swedish ambassador urges for sustainable living standards

"We have to make good changes in our lives according to the environment and change things that are not compatible with the environment" he said

Agencies

ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Sweden to Pakistan, Henrik Parson on Sunday urged the need to meet the environmental challenges by making changes in various areas, including business strategy, for an environmentally friendly and conducive life. The world will face environmental challenges by reviewing all plans and policies, including business and industry, for an environmentally friendly and sustainable life, he said.

The Swedish Ambassador, said this while launching a seven-day awareness campaign on the topic of sustainable living standards and

better living in accordance with the environmental standards at his residence for creating awareness on 'Eat, Move and Live sustainability' jointly organized by Sweden embassy in Islamabad and World Wildlife Fund (WWF) here. "We have to make good changes in our lives according to the environment and change things that are not compatible with the environment" he said. The Ambassador said that climate change has its effects on sustainable development life goals and is also affecting dif-

ferent major aspects of the life. quality agriculture, Today, food, water scarcity and other life-threatening factors are threatened by climate change, which we



must address, he said. "By stopping the use of plastic bags and other eco-adverse items, "we can prevent carbon emissions from the atmosphere," said Henrik Parsons. Now "We need to take some

practical steps to make changes that will help address environmental issues," he said.

He said that the present government of Pakistan has taken important steps to address the negative effects of climate change and to maintain quality of life in the coun-'Billion Tsunami Tree and try. Green Pakistan' are the most important projects that will play an important role in fostering a sustainable and environmentally friendly life. He said that Pakistan and Sweden have a lot of potential for work in the fields of environment and sustainable living. The social media can be a great tool to raise awareness about these issues among the people at this time, he informed.

Addressing the function on the occasion, Senator Mushahid Hussain Syed said that today the environment has emerged as a major issue in the world which has an impact on economic, social and human living standards. "Now that national security requirements have changed, we need to review our policies," he said. He said that in modern world un-

conventional security challenges such as climate change, food security, health, education and water are major threats to the national security. He said that Sweden has an excellent culture and music trend and new avenues of cooperation could open up in these fields between the two countries.

ICC pays glowing tributes to Dr. Qadeer

ISLAMABAD: Islamabad Citizens Committee (ICC) at a specially held meeting here paid glowing tributes to Mohsin-i- Pakistan Dr. Abdul Qadeer Khan. Syed M.Siddiq Hasan, President of the Committee and other members noted that Dr. A. Q Khan was their national Hero and Saviour of dear motherland.

He was not only promoted nationalism, but by working very hard and with consistency made the country's defences invincible and impregnable, they added. The committee also adopted a resolution, acknowledging the glorious services of Dr. A.Q.Khan for the nation. Later, they offered Fateha Khawani and laid floral wreath on the grave of Dr.A.Q.Khan. - APP

AIOU starts final exams of BA/B Ed programs

KHAYAM ABBASI

ISLAMABAD: Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU) is commencing final examinations of programs offered in spring 2021 semester today, i.e. October 18, 2021. These examinations will be held simultaneously throughout the country. According to the details, roll number slips have been dispatched to the students as well as uploaded on the university website (www.aiou.edu.pk) for the programs including BA (Associate Degree), 1.5/2.5 and 4 -year B Ed, Associate Degree in Commerce, Associate Degree in Education, BBA and BS (ODL) programs. If any student has not received roll nunber slip yet, they may download from the university website which would be acceptable in the examination halls.Controller Examinations has instructed that invigilation staff as well as students ensure strict implementation of COVID-19 SOPs

in the examination halls.



ISLAMABAD: Ambassadors of Palestine Ahmed Rabei, EU Ambassador Androulla Kaminara, Canadian High Commissioner Wendy Gilmour, CEO Serena Hotels Aziz Boolani giving certificates on the occasion of a seminar regarding breast cancer awareness. - DNA

Smart expo property exhibition on 29th The business community of

KPK will participate in large numbers with their families

DNA

ISLAMABAD: The Smart Expo Property Exhibition and Conference organized by Future Development Holding and Pak World Trade Center will be held on 29-30 October 2021 at PC Hotel Peshawar - this three-day exhibition will showcase Future Development Holding's projects. There is a different event in which people will join online. After this three-day exhibition, a conference will be organized under the name of Invest in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

In this three-day exhibition, the business community of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa will participate in large numbers with their families. And people from abroad will join online - Aslam Malik, Chief Operating Officer, Future Development Holding, told the media that the move by the government of Pakistan to further develop the construction industry in the wake of the horrific Karuna wave is a great one. Millions of jobs have been restored due to this.

This is the best opportunity for Smart Property Expo builders, developers and property buyers to come together. Chairman Pak World Trade and Expo Center Khursheed Barlas said that Smart Property Ex SPO will play an important role in terms of investment in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, which will boost the province's economy.

Edhi Ambulance	115
PIAFlightInfo	114
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WASA Rawalpindi555	5489
CAA928	81092



Hospitals

СМН МН	
Cantt Hospital	.9270907-11
DHQ RGH	
Holy Family PIMS	
Polyclinic	
Shifa Internatio	nal.4603666



Departments

CDA	9221334-43
CDA	
Met Offi	ce9250360-6
RDA	5555864
ТМА	5770886
Cantonm	ent Board 9270151-3



Complaints

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

Islamabad Metropolitan

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

Wasa Water Tank

Rawalpindi.....0331-5022125

Miland-un-Nabi (PBUH)

Rawalpindi district.

ficers to take strict security

measures in this regard. In

this connection the main

procession of Milad-un-Nabi

would start in the morning

from Bunni Chowk and after

passing from Circular road,

Waris Khan, Murree Road,

Committee Chowk, Iqbal

force, will be the worst suf-

ferer. "Climate change will

affect it in two ways; heavy rains will destroy major

crops like wheat, rice, sug-

ar-cane, maize and cotton

on one hand, and due to the

changing pattern of annual

weather, our farmers will

be unable to predict prop-

erly annual rainfall, cold and

heat," Javed Jabbar said,

adding that at times, there

will be severe drought con-

ditions and at times heavy

Abid Qayyum Sulehri, Exec-

utive Director, Sustainable

Development Policy Insti-

tute said, unfortunately, we

have no proper planning

and infrastructure to cope

with this kind of situation.

Thus, global warming will

result in less economic

growth and abject poverty

in rural parts of the coun-

try where 63 percent of the

population lives. Her said

global warming will result in glacier melt. - DNA

rainfall and floods.

All set to celebrate Eid

RAWALPINDI: All the arrangements are being finalized to celebrate the Eid Milad-un-Nabi (PBUH) on 12th of Rabi-ul-Awwal on Tuesday (Oct. 19), to mark the birthday of the Holy Prophet

Muhammad (PBUH) with religious fervor and enthusiasm. Rawalpindi city has been decorated beautifully and the preparations are in full swing to celebrate the birth of Holy Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) in a befit-

ting manner. The roads, streets and buildings in Rawalpindi district have been decorated by the faithful with colourful lights and buntings. A number of programmes are being chalked out to celebrate the birth of Holy Prophet (PBUH) with great reverence and devotion. Different Naat committees in the city are organizing Naat competitions to celebrate 12 Rabi-ul-Awwal.

ISLAMABAD:

changes are expected to have wide-ranging impacts

such as reduced agricultur-

al productivity, increased

variability of water availa-

bility, increased coastal ero-

sion, sea water incursion

and increased frequency

of extreme climatic events

in Pakistan, experts have

warned. A webinar organ-

ized by Pakistan Human-

itarian Forum provided a

platform to leading environ-

mentalists to share their

thoughts about the grave

environmental challenges

Writer, scholar, environ-

mentalist and former Sen-

ator Javed Jabbar, said that

Pakistan will either face continuous drought or sud-

den heavy rainfall due to

drastic climate changes and

agriculture, which makes

Pakistan's economy with

21 percent contribution to

GDP and 45 percent absorp-

tion of the country's labour

being faced by Pakistan.

Road, Fowara Chowk, Raja Bazaar, would end at central Iamia Mosque Rawalpindi. The district administration has set up a control room for Like every year, the govthe surveillance of the proernment and religious or-

cessions and reviewing secuganizations have planned rity arrangement. The entry a number of activities to of Tractor trolley, trucks and

Experts warn of

looming climate

change impacts

Climatic

celebrate the annual event. other heavy vehicles would Eid Milad-un-Nabi would be be prohibited at the route observed with religious ferof the main procession. The vor and respect on October Ulema and people belonging to different sects have been 19, (Tuesday). As a tradition, Milad-un-Nabi processions taken on board and urged to would be held in all areas of play their role in maintaining law and order and foil nefarious designs of the miscre-Strict Security arrangements are also being finalants. Provincial Minister for ized to ensure security of Literacy and Non-Formal Education, Raja Rashid Hafeez the processions of Eid Milad-un-Nabi. Punjab Governhas said that Holy Prophet is a beacon of life for the entire ment had directed all District and Tehsil administration ofhumanity.

Addressing the participants of a prize distribution ceremony of Naat and Speech Competition among school students organized here in connection with Ashra Shan-e-Rehmatul-lil-Alameen he said that Prime Minister Imran Khan had declared the establishment Shan-e-Rehmatul lilof Alameen Authority and the step is being appreciated by the Muslims.

The event was arranged under auspices of Punjab Arts Council in collaboration with APPSMA. - APP

kg hashish, 150 kg opium DNA

ANF seizes 21

kg heroin, 457

RAWALPINDI: Anti Narcotics Force (ANF) Pakistan has seized 21.719 kg heroin, 457.79 kg hashish, 150 kg opium, 4.170 kg morphine, 1.442 kg cocaine, 6.600 kg amphetamine, 257.957 kg methamphetamine (Ice), 295 ecstasy tablets (0.200 kg), 23 MDMA tablets (0.00878 kg) and six LSD stickers (0.001 kg). According to an ANF narcotics spokesman, worth US\$95.314 million in international market were recovered while 41 culprits including three

tionals were arrested. ANF also impounded 12 vehicles while conducting 38 counter-narcotics strikes throughout the country. The spokesman informed that ANF Balochistan recovered 421.302 kg drugs in six operations while arrested six accused besides

women, two Nigerian na-

seizing two vehicles.

Youth APC pays tribute to Dr Abdul Qadeer, Ali Geelani Pakistani and Kashmiri Youth.

Dr Syed Mujahid Gilani said

that Syed Ali Geelani was an

with Struggle and Patriotism.

It was Sved Ali Geelani who

trickled the spiritual strength

to the youth to stand against

the Indian Occupation. Other

speakers such as Sardar Us-

man Khan, Bilal Rabbani, Sha-

heer Sialvi and Ubaid Quer-

ashi said that Quaid E Azam

Muhammad Ali Jinnah found-

ed Pakistan and Dr AQ Khan

provided a steal defence to the

country. The whole nation is

indebted to Dr AQ Khan.

DNA

ISLAMABAD: In order to pay tribute to the atomic scientist Dr Abdul Qadir Khan and Hurrivat Leader Sved Ali Geelani, Kashmir Youth Alliance (KYA) organized Youth All Parties Conference (APC)

at National Press Club Islamabad, where more than 60 youth leaders participated. Youth APC was Presided by President Kashmir Youth Alliance & Nephew of Syeda Aasia Andrabi Dr Syed Mujahid Gilani. Former President of AJK Sardar Masood Khan was the Chief Guest of the event.

Sardar Masood Khan said that Syed Ali Geelani and Dr Abdul Qadir Khan were Patriots of Pakistan. The Youth and Pakistani Nation salutes the two great leaders. The Freedom Movement shall always remember these personalities as they live in the hearts of the

Islamabad marred with another 147 dengue cases

DNA

Ideology and he was the loudest voice of Pakistan in the ISLAMABAD: The den-Occupied Valley. Dr AQ Khan gue case surge in the federal capital has seen is the hero of Pakistan. Both another fresh 147 cases the personalities stayed loyal to the ideology of Pakistan. in the past 24-hour period Secretary General Razi Tahir on Sunday and has so far claimed six lives in the and Vice President Palwasha Saeed said that the youth ongoing trend. The rural areas saw 88 fresh must derive lesson from Dr. cases while 59 urban cases AQ Khan and Syed Ali Geewere reported in Islamalani. Syed Ali Geelani and Dr AQ Khan's lives were filled bad, the health department

sources have revealed. The new cases today, 147, take the Islamabad tally of fresh cases to 1,948 in the fresh season, the sources have confirmed. The break up for them is 1,249 from rural parts and 699 from urban areas.

Separately yesterday, as many as 142 new cases of mosquito-borne dengue fever have been reported in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP).

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Dengue crisis

S the world grapples with the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, another familiar more urgent health emergency threatens the country and its health infrastructure. Pakistan has suffered the brunt of dengue epidemics before, with the country undergoing dire situations in 2017 and 2011. The numbers for dengue this year have not reached the height of emergency as they had in previous numbers, but the rising infection rate is alarming, with more and more dengue patients reporting in hospitals every day. The outbreak appears to have started in Lahore and has been getting worse in the provincial capital day by day. Lahore saw 146 new cases of the dengue virus in one day this week, with 740 patients admitted to Lahore hospitals. On Wednesday, the city reported 229 cases of the dengue virus out of the province's total number of 325.

At this rapid pace, the ICUs, already crumbling with coronavirus patients, will soon run out of beds. What is unfortunate is that despite the early warning signs, the government was unable to contain the dengue epidemic to Lahore, and the virus has gained ground in Islamabad and KP as well now. The season's highest number of dengue cases was reported in the capital on Thursday, with 125 cases being reported in one day this week. The KP government has reported a grand total of 3,300 cases in the province, evoking bitter memories of the past when cities like Peshawar suffered the worst of dengue.

Pandemics and epidemics cannot be compared, but the death toll of dengue has so far been reported being higher than the coronavirus. The rate of deaths in Islamabad from dengue fever has risen to six in an alarmingly short time. While the country continues to do well with dealing with the Covid-19 positivity rate, keeping it below 3 percent while its recovery rate has also improved, the government's negligence towards dengue cannot be ignored. The prevalence and spread of the dengue virus are unforgivable considering the country has time and time dealt with this health emergency and has protocols in place already. The government must start an aggressive dengue awareness programme and enact fumigation campaigns as soon as possible.

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Monday, October 18, 2021

Rebuilding Afghanistan

HE lightning military victory of the Taliban in Kabul is a song-albeit astounding-of the yore for the daunting realities of an unimaginable humanitarian crisis have begun to set in. With an empty treasury, frozen foreign reserves and skyrocketing inflation, what else could have been expected from an economy already in a catastrophic free fall. Business is far, far from usual, no matter what goodwill Kabul may have up his sleeve. Ergo, propitious tidings from Washington at the end of first direct talks with Taliban must have come as a pleasant surprise to long queues of hapless Afghans and their empty coffers. If hope could magically solve all their predicaments!

Since Biden Administration sounded just as reluctant as other international donors who are in no mood to deliver upon pledges of over \$1 billion, one can only pray for those still clinging to promises. Leaving haphazardly, the US troops had set the alarm bells ringing in the rentier state. For how could Afghanistan's weak economy function sans grants that made up 43 per cent of its GDP? How to ensure an uninterrupted food supply when only five per cent of households have enough to eat?

Renewing aid linkages-that too, without waiting for political reconciliation-is of paramount importance here. Hunger cannot be allowed to turn into outright chaos. The collapsing healthcare (ill-equipped hospitals and salaries up in the air) when the country is plunging deep into the third wave of coronavirus is another sob story altogether.

However, loosening the drawstrings alone cannot do the deed. More critical are the steps needed to ensure "self-reliance" in a system so deeply dependent on outside help. We need the taps back on so that Afghans can finally access the funds in their accountsThe beaming faces of Afghan girls returning to schools after the change in status quo is a heartening sight. Given the loss of those oiling the government machinery, keeping the education system functional remains the only viable solution. Let's just pray that cool heads prevail over the Taliban this time. If not for the welfare of their people, to gain a token of legitimacy? The abolition of the poppy crop in their earlier stint could have brought in many different policies had the world taken notice. Fingers crossed for 2021 when the poor and the destitute may find the miracle their mighty aggressors failed to bring to their doorstep!

Shaping US Middle East policy amidst failing states

James Dorsey



Mr. Kissinger was focused on regional balances of power and the legitimisation of a US-dominated order. It was order, not peace, that Kissinger pursued because he believed that peace was neither...

the Biden administration narrow the gap between its human rights rhetoric and its hard-nosed, less values-driven definition of US interests and foreign policy. A cursory glance at recent headlines tells a tale of failed governance and policies, hollowed-out democracies that were fragile to begin with, legitimisation of brutality, fabrics of society being ripped apart, and an international community that grapples with how to pick up the pieces. Boiled down to its essence, the story is the same whether it's how to provide humanitarian aid to Afghanistan without recognising or empowering the Taliban or efforts to halt Lebanon's economic and social collapse and descent into renewed chaos and civil war without throwing a lifeline to a discredited and corrupt elite. Attempts to tackle immediate problems in Lebanon and Afghanistan by working through NGOs might be a viable bottom-up approach to the discredited top-down method. If successful, it could provide a way of strengthening the voice of recent mass protests in Lebanon and Iraq that transcended the sectarianism that underlies their failed and flawed political structures. It would also give them ownership of efforts to build more open, pluralistic, and cohesive societies, a demand that framed the protests. Finally, it could also allow democracy to regain ground lost by failing to provide tangible progress. This week's sectarian fighting along the Green Line that separated Christian East from the Muslim West in Beirut during Lebanon's civil war highlighted the risk of those voices being drowned out. Yet, they reverberated loud and clear in the results of recent Iraqi parliamentary elections, even if a majority of eligible voters refrained from going to the polls. "We never got the democracy we were promised, and were instead left with a grossly incompetent, highly corrupt and hyper-violent monster masquerading as a democracy and traumatising a generation," commented Iraqi Middle East counterterrorism and security scholar Tallha Abdulrazaq who voted only once in his life in Iraq. That was in the first election held in 2005 after the 2003 US invasion. "I have not voted in another Iraqi election since." Mr. Abdulrazaq's disappointment is part and parcel of the larger issues of nation-building, democracy promotion and provision of humanitarian aid that inevitably will shape the future US role in the Middle East in a world that is likely to be bi-or multi-polar. Former US National Security Council and State Department official Martin Indyk argued in a recent essay adapted from a forthcoming book on Henry Kissinger's Middle East diplomacy that the US policy should aim "to shape an American-supported regional order in which the United States is no longer the dominant player, even as it remains the most influential.'

of that policy. While in a world of realpolitik the United States may have few alternatives, the question is how alignment with autocracies and illiberal democracies would enable the United States to support a bottom-up process of social and political transition that goes beyond lip service. That question is particularly relevant given that the Middle East is entering its second decade of defiance and dissent that demands answers to grievances that were not expressed in Mr. Kissinger's time, at least not forcefully.

Mr. Kissinger was focused on regional balances of power and the legitimisation of a US-dominated order. "It was order, not peace, that Kissinger pursued because he believed that peace was neither an achievable nor even a desirable objective in the Middle East," Mr. Indyk said, referring to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Mr. Indyk noted that in Mr. Kissinger's mind the rules of a US-dominated order "would be respected only if they provided a sufficient sense of justice to a sufficient number of states. It did not require the satisfaction of all grievances... 'just an absence of the grievances that would motivate an effort to overthrow the order'.' The popular Arab revolts of 2011 that toppled the leaders of Egypt, Tunisia, Libya, and Yemen, even if their achievements were subsequently rolled back, and the mass protests of 2019 and 2020 that forced leaders of Sudan, Algeria, Iraq, and Lebanon to resign, but failed to fundamentally alter political and economic structures, are evidence that there is today a will to overthrow the order. In his essay, Mr. Indyk acknowledges the fact that "across the region, people are crying out for accountable governments" but argues that "the United States cannot hope to meet those demands" even if "it cannot ignore them, either." Mr. Indyk may be right. Yet, the United States, with Middle East policy at an inflexion point, cannot ignore the fact that the failure to address popular grievances contributed significantly to the rise of violent Islamic militancy and ever more repressive and illiberal states in a region with a significant youth bulge that is no longer willing to remain passive and /or silent. Pointing to the 600 Iraqi protesters that have been killed by security forces and pro-Iranian militias, Mr. Abdulrazaq noted in an earlier Al Jazeera op-ed that protesters were "adopting novel means of keeping their identities away from the prying eyes of security forces and powerful Shia militias" such as blockchain technology and decentralised virtual private networks. "Unless they shoot down...internet-providing satellites, they will never be able to silence our hopes for democracy and accountability again. That is our dream," Mr. Abdulrazzaq quoted Srinivas Baride, the chief technology officer of a decentralised virtual network favoured by Iraqi protesters, as saying.

Is the party over?

Fahd Husain



The stand-off has also brought the army's routine postings – announced on Oct 6 to a standstill. This too may be unprecedented. Since the prime minister has not signed the notification for Lt Gen Nadeem Anjum to take charge as DG ISI, he has not relinquished charge as corps commander Karachi. Lt Gen Muhammad Saeed cannot therefore take charge as corps commander Karachi and Lt Gen Nauman Mahmood cannot relinquish charge...

star generals. This too is making many in the institution very uncomfortable. PTI ministers, parliamentarians and party members are in a daze. Their political compass seems to have gone all wonky and true north is becoming impossible to navigate. They suddenly find themselves in 'Nawaz Sharif territory' in reference to tension with the establishment and this is as alien to them as landing on Mars. The situation has all the hallmarks of situations past when governments started their slide. "Is this the beginning of the end?" asked a PTI senator this week. He may have been reflecting the fears of a majority of his colleagues.

Things were building up. Sources have confirmed that it was back in July this year that army chief Gen Qamar Bajwa had asked Prime Minister Imran Khan that he needed to make transfers and postings and Lt Gen Faiz Hameed would have to move out of the ISI as a routine. The PM had deferred the decision. The army chief raised the topic again in August and September and both times the PM said he would discuss the issue soon. In October, Gen Bajwa told the PM he could not wait much longer as three lieutenant generals were retiring and he had to order the transfers. Matters subsequently escalated into the events of the last 10 days. The stand-off continues. Till 10 days back, PTI was dreaming of a second five-year term. Now many in the party are concerned how they can hang on till the next elections. Their existential fears are based on the following: (a) their wafer-thin majority in the National Assembly is dependent on their allies MQM, GDA and PML-Q and if the allies ditch them the party for them might be over; (b) many among their own members are those who won as independents and will now be sniffing the wind, (c) a large number of PTI ticket holders are pro-establishment politicians and if they were forced to choose between the two sides, no one is in doubt which side they will opt for; (d) one establishment official recently remarked: "all we have to do is step back." This rupture was not supposed to happen so soon. Now that it has, the opposition has also gone back to the drawing board. PML-N is possibly drawing the following conclusion at this stage: (a) no change in the National Assembly or in the Punjab Assembly can happen without PML-N as per the numbers; (b) bringing down the PTI government in Islamabad is not a difficult task if the establishment steps back and withdraws its crucial support - more difficult is to agree on who or what replaces it; (c) PML-N will not like to be part of any set-up in the centre between now and elections in 2023, but it can support a new coalition if it means the ouster of PM Imran Khan; (d) This means PML-N can drive a hard bargain for this support but not such a hard one that it becomes a deal-breaker because if the present set-up is packed off, PML-N will be the biggest game in town - again. PM Khan would also consider his options: (a) refuse to step back and insist he appoints the DG ISI on his terms thereby sending a signal that he is the boss - regardless of the cost; (b) escalate further and appoint someone other than the person already announced; (c) send everyone packing home and call early elections; (d) get ousted and conjure up an anti-establishment narrative None of these are good options knowing that PTI is burdened with: (a) weak parliamentary numbers and acute dependency on unreliable allies and members; (b) poor governance performance; (c) political isolation as a result of divisive politics; (d) shortage of anti-establishment space on the political spectrum in the presence of Nawaz Sharif.

HE future of US engagement in the Middle East hangs in the balance. Two decades of forever war in Afghanistan and continued military engagement in Iraq and elsewhere in the region have prompted debate about what constitutes a US interest in the Middle East. China, and to a lesser degree Russia, loom large in the debate as America's foremost strategic and geopolitical challenges.

Questions about US interests have also sparked discussion about whether the United States can best achieve its objectives by continued focus on security and military options or whether a greater emphasis on political, diplomatic, economic, and civil society tools may be a more productive approach. The debate is coloured by a pendulum that swings from one extreme to the other. President Joe Biden has disavowed the notion of nation-building that increasingly framed the United States' post-9/11 intervention in Afghanistan.

There is no doubt that the top-down nation-building approach in Afghanistan was not the way to go about things. It rested on policymaking that was informed by misleading and deceitful reporting by US military and political authorities and enabled a corrupt environment for both Afghans and Americans. The lesson from Afghanistan may be that nation-building (to use a term that has become tainted for lack of a better word) has to be a process that is owned by the beneficiaries themselves while supported by external players from afar. Potentially adopting that posture could help

Mr. Indyk reasoned that support for Israel and America's Sunni Arab allies would be at the core

Why only beg or dance? (Transgender)

Hira Ali Malik



"People often tell us to do a proper job with the able bodies God has blessed us with. No one would hire us though"

SKING for money in streets with the intrusiveness of a beggar and dancing in 'dreadful' night functions is how most of us remember our first encounter with a transgender. Any person in a respectable, praiseworthy profession can either be a man or a woman. Finding a transgender in that position? Well, that will be stretching the normative character of our society a bit too far.

"Some called me lerki. Others opted for khusra and aunty.My life was anything but normal. And I stopped going to school," says Sapna. Gifted with the same two legs, two hands and a brain with equal capacity to develop an uneducated transgender remains confined to begging and dancing in order to earn a living.

Finding work is equally hard for the moderately literate ones. "People often tell us to do a proper job with the able bodies God has blessed us with. No one would hire us though. The response for a job request is always the same; go find it somewhere else," says Rania with a matriculation certificate. More than the qualification it's the stigma with which our society at large has come to define transgenders.

On a more practical level, it's the failure on part of the state apparatus to provide Identity to transgender. "Many people will not trust us without proper identity cards in this time of uncertain security conditions prevailing in our country," says Reema. "Identity Cards would at least remove a legal impediment in our quest to find proper employment." However, "since the provision of third gender on the registration certificate only a few could get themselves registered withNational Database and Registration Authority (NADRA) due to the cumbersome procedure adopted by the database authority. When most of them are not able to identify their guardians or fulfill prerequisites of registration process, they disengage with the practice of getting a gender-specific Identity" says Sapna. In this regard there is a dire need to fix the procedure which is made simple under the directions of the apex court, and is required to be further simplified.

In fact, it is the callousness, and consequently of the state, with which our society approaches the presence of transgender individualsliving among us that is at the root of the problem. At the societal level there is an absence of respect for all things human. This lack of respect comes down to seeing everyone through lenses of religion, caste, social status, and above all, gender. Politically, the proportion of transgender individuals in our society is not large enough to invite attention from our leaders. More-importantly, in the post-covid scenario where vaccination based on National Database and Registration Authority(NADRA) is the only government adopted rule, there is no concern or an inclusive policy for those without an identity. The programs launched by government such as Sehat Sahulat Program (SSP) also enrolls only those with the valid NIC.Back in March 2021, there were only 1600 transgender people registered with NADRA as reported by the Ex-Special Assistant to the Prime Minister (SAPM). And only 500 out of the total got enrolled for SSP which is vet again alarming.

Isn't it time we stop showing our young ones any transgender individual in market and discourage them when they narrate the incident back home as if they have seen something out of the ordinary? Isn't it time we stop pitying them and not offending them for fear of sin and start treating them as human beings? Isn't it time we stop letting Alisha lie to die while we wait to decide which ward of the hospital she belongs in?

Identity is their foremost need and a constitutional right like everybody else inthis Islamic Republic of Pakistan. To either beg or dance shall be nobody's only choice to earn a living. It must not be their only option either. Need of the hour is that transgender individuals should be provided with their due rights and be treated as plain human beings regardless of their gender. OLITICS has gone into a tailspin and stakeholders could be heading back to the drawing board. Here are 10 key pointers:

The relationship between PTI and the establishment is under unprecedented strain ever since Prime Minister Imran Khan refused to notify Lt Gen Nadeem Ahmad Anjum as the new DG ISI as announced by the ISPR on Oct 6, 2021. The strain is getting more intense by the day as the disagreement slowly but menacingly morphs into a stand-off. It may get resolved sooner or later, but the damage appears to have been done.

The stand-off has also brought the army's routine postings - announced on Oct 6 -to a standstill. This too may be unprecedented. Since the prime minister has not signed the notification for Lt Gen Nadeem Anjum to take charge as DG ISI, he has not relinquished charge as corps commander Karachi. Lt Gen Muhammad Saeed cannot therefore take charge as corps commander Karachi and Lt Gen Nauman Mahmood cannot relinquish charge as corps commander Peshawar to join as president National Defence University because Lt Gen Faiz Hameed cannot relinquish charge as DG ISI to take over as corps commander Peshawar. And round and round it goes for the others who received their posting orders 10 days ago. Things do not work like this in the army.

Confusion exists whether the PM Office has received the summary containing three names for the appointment as DG ISI. There is a strange silence from the government. On Wednesday, ministers had confirmed the summary had been received and TV channels as well as newspapers ran the story. Military sources later denied the summary had been sent. In yet another unprecedented move, the names and photos of the three lieutenant generals supposedly presented for selection in the summary were flashed across TV screens. This made many within the establishment very uncomfortable. Now the PM wants to meet all three candidates so he can reject two three-

- Published in Dawn, October 16th, 2021

06

WORLD / SPORTS

Briefs **Opp to launch**

Turkey in talks with US on sale of F-16: Tayyip Erdogan



Islamabad **POST**

Monday, October 18, 2021

FROM PAGE 01 all parliamentary leaders of the BAP after the success of the no-trust motion. Balochistan Governor Syed Zahoor Ahmad Agha has summoned an important meeting of the Balochistan Assembly on October 20. The Balochistan governor has also signed the summary of the session. However, a no-con-

Jam Kamal will be tabled in the meeting on October 20. Secretary Balochistan Assembly issued the agenda of the proceedings of the house which included the presentation of the no-confidence resolution against CM Kamal. He also released a notification of the Balochistan governor regarding the summoning of

On the other hand, Chief Minister Jam Kamal is hope-

Sources disclosed that the Kamal camp was making hectic efforts to reverse the motion. The chief minister and his supportive members would also hold meetings. The angry members are meeting at Speaker Bezinjo's house later today.

India invites Pak in NSAs meeting

stakeholders in the region, including Russia, China, and Pakistan. New Delhi has proposed two dates - November 10 and 11 - for the NSA meeting. Meanwhile, India will participate in the Moscow Format meeting on Afghanistan on October 20, its Ministry of External Affairs said. Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Arindam Bagchi said that India's policy towards Afghanistan is guided by its friendship with the Afghan people.

protests over rising inflation "We are working to further develop our fleet from the modernisation of the F-16s in our possession to new additional F-16 purchases," the Turkish leader said

FOREIGN DESK

ANKARA: President Recep

Tayyip Erdogan says the

United States proposed

selling F-16 fighter jets

to Turkey in return for its

investment in the F-35

programme, from which

Ankara was removed after

purchasing missile defence

Speaking to reporters on

Sunday before departing

for a trip to Africa, Erdo-

gan said Turkey wants a

return for its investment

in the F-35 programme

systems from Russia.

FROM PAGE 01

Taking to its official Twitter account, the PML-N confirmed that Shahbaz and Fazl criticised the government's policies during the phone call and have decided to launch a full-fledged campaign against "the worst inflation in the country's history". The two leaders agreed to join anti-government protests of other Opposition parties.

During the phone call, Shahbaz told Fazl that leaders need to get out of their homes to "save the nation from inflation, unemployment, and the ongoing economic catastrophe across the country". The two leaders confirmed that to protest against the "histor ic" inflation, there will be

demonstrations, rallies, and marches across the country. Earlier in the day, criticising the PTI-led government, Shahbaz said that with the country already battling inflation, negotiations with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) have also failed. "After the failure of the talks with the IMF, the government should revert the hike in prices," Shahbaz demanded. He questioned the government's monetary policy and said: "Despite accepting all the conditions laid down by the IMF, talks with the body still failed. What sort of a strategy is this?"

He said that the PTI government's "three years of blind obedience to the IMF' could reap no benefits because the people continued to suffer the whole while. "The government could achieve nothing." Shahbaz said that the government "deceived the masses and

also tricked the IMF". "This government has been seeing to the economic murder of people for the last three years," he said in the statement, adding that the government should explain why it had to increase the prices of electricity, gas, petrol, flour, and sugar. "The government should also let the nation know what talks were held with

in return for these payter it acquired Rusments," Erdogan said. sian S-400 missile "And regarding this, we said defence systems. let's take whatever steps The decades-old partnership between are needed to be taken to meet the defence needs of the NATO allies has gone 'We are working to further through develop our fleet from the unprec modernisation of the F-16s edented in our possession to new tumult in additional F-16 purchases," the past the Turkish leader said. five years Ankara had ordered more over disa-

than 100 F-35 jets, made greements on Syria policy, by Lockheed Martin Corp, Ankara's closer ties with but the US removed Moscow, its naval ambi-Turkey from the protions in the eastern gramme in 2019 af-

Mediterranean, US charges against a state-owned Turkish bank, and Turkey's human rights record. purchase Ankara's of the S-400s has also triggered US sanctions. In Decem· ber 2020. Washing

listed Turkey's Defence Industry Directorate, its chief, Ismail Demir, and three other employees. Erdogan has indicated Ankara still intends to buy a second batch of S-400s from Russia, a move that could deepen the rift with Washington. The US has warned Turkey of further risks to bilateral ties if it bought more

weapons from Russia. Reuters news agency reported earlier this month that Turkey made a request to the United States to buy 40 Lockheed Martin-made F-16 fighter jets and nearly President Joe Biden.

existing warplanes. The request for the jets

rights track record.

80 modernisation kits for its could have a difficult time fidence motion against CM getting approval from the US Congress, where sentiment towards Turkey has

soured deeply over recent years. There is bipartisan support in the US Congress to push the Biden administration to put further pressure on Ankara, primarily over its purchase of Russian weapons and its human Ankara has said it hopes the assembly session. for better ties under US

ful to defeat the motion.

FROM PAGE 01

Earlier this month, Foreign Secretary Harsh V Shringla had said that India is willing to provide humanitarian assistance to Afghanistan and it has engaged with the representatives of the Taliban in Doha. The foreign secretary had said, "We are willing to provide humanitarian assistance to Afghanistan and we have been a constructive partner in the development of the country, before the Taliban took over, investing over \$3 billion."



and that talks on the issue

are ongoing. "There is the

payment of \$1.4bn we have

made for the F-35s and the

US had such a proposal

our country," he said.

SPORTS DESK

MANCHESTER: Manchester United succumbed to a first away league defeat for 30 games by losing 4-2 at Leicester as Liverpool thrashed Watford 5-0. Chelsea remain on top of the Premier League after a hard-fought 1-0 win at Brentford, while Manchester City eased to a 2-0 victory over Burnley. The top three are separated by just

ham and City in their next time sealed a much-needed three league games. Mason win for Brendan Rodgers' men. "We need to look at Greenwood's spectacular strike put the visitors in the whole set-up and balfront against the run of ance of the team and maybe play at the King Power, but something has to give," said were quickly pegged back Solskiaer. by YouriTielemans' dinked

thrash Watford

"Lately, we have not been finish beyond David de Gea. in great form, we've lost A flurry of four goals in the too many points and that is final 12 minutes then consomething we have to look at." Roberto Firmino scored demned Solskjaer's men to a first defeat on the road his first hat-trick since 2018 as Liverpool ran riot CaglarSoyuncu put Leicesat Vicarage Road in Clau-

manager JurgenKlopp of the Egyptian. Salah helped open the floodgates with defence-splitting pass that teed up Sadio Mane to score his 100th Premier League goal.

Firmino tapped home his first goal from James Milner's cross before half-time and took advantage of another open goal after Ben Foster parried Craig Cathcart's attempted clearance. Salah left four Manchester City defenders trailing to score in a thrilling 2-2 draw before the international break and pulled off a similar feat before curling into the far corner. Firmino then completed the rout in stoppage time. City did not need to hit top gear to see off Burnley at the Etihad as Bernardo Silva and Kevin De Bruyne were on target either side of half-time for Pep Guardiola's men. Chelsea needed a series of mi-

raculous saves from Edouard Mendy to ensure they were not the latest giants to be stung by newly-promoted Brentford. Ben Chilwell's goal in first-half stoppage time earned victory for the Eurodio Ranieri's first match as pean champions as they with-

Cameron Norrie beats Grigor Dimitrov to reach Indian Wells final "I've made a conscious decision to

be more aggressive in the bigger moments and taking it to the guys," Norrie said after collecting the biggest win of his career

CALIFORNIA: Cameron Norrie is a win away from one of the biggest titles in tennis after defeating Grigor Dimitrov to reach the final of the BNP Paribas Open in Indian Wells. Norrie will play Nikoloz Basilashvili in the final. Cameron Norrie has produced a dominant performance to beat Grigor Dimi trov 6-2 6-4 to advance to the final at Indian Wells, where he will face Nikoloz Basilashvili after the Georgian edged Taylor Fritz 7-6(5) 6-3. Sunday's match will be Norrie's sixth showpiece match of the year and first at a Masters 1000 event as the Briton's breakout season continues

Norrie raced out to a 4-0 lead and wrapped up the first set in ust 31 minutes with a service winner. Dimitrov attempted to mount a comeback in the second set but after notching impressive come-from-behind victories over Hubert Hurkacz and Daniil Medvedev in his previous two matches, the Bulgarian appeared to run out of gas on a hot day in the California desert Norrie, who won his first ATP title at the Los Cabos Open ear lier this year, held his nerve to serve out the match and sealed the win when Dimitrov netted a service return.

'I've made a conscious decision to be more aggressive in the bigger moments and taking it to the guys," Norrie said after collecting the biggest win of his career.

'I'm not a guy who is going to blow you off the court and hit a ot of winners. So I like to get into the longer rallies and make the match physical. And when it's like that, it's on my terms.' With the win, Norrie will break into the top 20 for the first time when rankings are updated on Monday.

The other semifinal of the day was a slugfest that pitted Basi

ton black Man Utd lose as Liverpool

'Economic woes temporary

FROM PAGE 01 policies of the incumbent government would surely help reduce poverty and provide maximum relief to the poor people, said Qureshi. The country was heading towards industrial development which would surely help in providing more jobs to the unemployed persons besides strengthening the national economy, added Qureshi.

Responding to inflation, the foreign minister stated that it was due to ill-conceived policies of the previous rulers. Criticizing the Opposition, the FM stated those who chanted the slogan "sanctity of vote", actually violated the dignity of voters. What both the PPP and PML-N had given to voters during last 30-years of their rule, he questioned. Shah Mahmood Qureshi stated that PPP and PML N looted national treasury and damaged the voters economical ly. The leaders of Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) were making noise to conceal their corruption and avoid process of accountability, remarked Qureshi

Coalition 'kills 160' Yemen rebels as battle...

FROM PAGE 01 10,000 of them in September alone, according to the United Nations migration agency. Abdiya lies about 100km (60 miles) from Marib city, the internationally recognised government's last toehold in the north. Despite the Houthis' losses in recent days, they are now "at the centre of Abdi ya district after a four-week siege", a loyalist source told AFP news agency.

The official said rebels had "kidnapped, imprisoned and abused" members of Yemeni tribes who supported the pro-government forces. Hussain al-Bukhaiti, a political analyst aligned with the Houthi movement, told Al Jazeera the rebels continued to advance.

two points, but the expected title challenge from United after a summer of heavy investment is not materialising to increase the pressure on Ole Gunnar Solskjaer. United have taken just one point from a possible nine and face Liverpool, Totten-

ASEAN excludes

Myanmar junta

leader from summit

sociation of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) at an emer-

gency meeting on Friday night was an unusually bold step

for the consensus-driven bloc, which traditionally favours a

policy of engagement and non-interference. Brunei, ASE

AN's current chair, issued a statement citing a lack of pro-

gress made on a roadmap that the junta had agreed to with

Singapore's foreign ministry said on Saturday the move to

exclude junta chief Min AungHlaing was a "difficult, but nec-

essary, decision to uphold ASEAN's credibility". A spokes

man for Myanmar's military government blamed "foreign in-

tervention" for the decision. Junta spokesman Zaw Min Tun

told the BBC Burmese news service that the United States

and representatives of the European Union had pressured

other ASEAN member states. "The foreign interventions

can also be seen here," he said. "We learned that some en-

voys from some countries met with U.S. foreign affairs and

received pressure from EU." An official junta statement on

Sunday morning said ASEAN's decision went against its

longtime central principle of consensus. - DNA

ASEAN in April to restore peace in Myanmar.

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN: Southeast

Asian countries will invite a non-po-

litical representative from Myanmar

to a regional summit this month,

delivering an unprecedented snub

to the military leader who led a

coup against an elected civilian gov-

ernment in February. The decision

taken by foreign ministers from the As-

Rashfordequalised on his first appearance of the season after shoulder surgery. Straight from kick-off, United's leaky defence was breached once more as Jamie Vardy smashed home and PatsonDaka's first Leicester goal in stoppage

since January 2020.

ter in front before Marcus

Watford boss. But it was Mohamed Salah who again took most of the plaudits for another stunning solo goal to take his tally for the season to 10 in as many games. "In this moment it is clear that there is no one better than him," said Liverpool

SPORTS DESK

en's set-piece as Everton

suffered their first home

defeat of the season after

three consecutive victories.

Alex Iwobi and Salomon

Rondon both missed good

chances either side of half-

time to put the hosts in front

but West Ham secured suc-

cessive league wins at Good-

return to his former club.

Super Sunday.

stood a late Brentford barrage thanks to their Senegalese stopper. "We were very strong for 70 minutes and very lucky for 20 minutes, to sum it up,' said Chelsea boss Thomas Tuchel said. "We escaped with the three points thanks to Edouard."

lashvili's booming forehand against Fritz's potent serve. San Diego native Fritz had the support of the crowd but came up short in the match's biggest moments, failing to convert any of his seven break-point opportunities, including three in the opener that would have won him the set.

Basilashvili made the most of his lone break opportunity crushing a service return that Fritz could not handle to take a 4-2 lead in the second that he would not relinquish despite needing four match points to reach the finish line. - DNA

Taliban welcomes Turkish...

FROM PAGE 01 Muttaqi led a Taliban delegation on an official visit to Turkey on Thursday to discuss bilateral issues and cooperation on the future of Afghanistan. Turkish Foreign Minister Mevlüt Cavusoglu and Muttagi had a meeting where they discussed issues related to the official recognition of the Taliban and assets belonging to Afghanistan that were blocked by the US.

Muttaqi said the freezing of reserves by the US after the Taliban's takeover, violated international law and human rights. He stressed money blocked by the US was sent from other states for the development of Afghanistan.

"The real question is, why was this money blocked? What did the citizens of Afghanistan do?," he asked rhetorically. "On the other hand, the US and other countries say that humanitarian aid should be given to Afghanistan and human rights should be respected. But, they leave the Afghan people with a population of about 40 million without basic necessities.

No. of critical covid patients...

FROM PAGE 01

the infection rate of 1.60%. At present, there are 1,958 critical patients in hospital across the country. On Saturday, Pakistan received 2.4 million more doses of Pfizer vaccine via the COVAX global distribution programme. The United States (US) Embassy in Islamabad said in a Twitter statement that 2.4 million doses of the American vaccine arrived in Pakistan this morning as part of the 9.6 million shots arriving this month. Last month, the United States (US) shipped 6.6 million doses of Pfizer vaccine to Pakistan.

Oman trounce PNG in T20 World Cup opener Oman trounce PNG in WC opener Maqsood 's four wickets, including three in one over, kept PNG to 129 for nine in the first round match at the Al Amerat ground outside Muscat





Ogbonna header secures

West Ham win at Everton

Everton slip to seventh and miss out on the chance to move into the top four. Everton were seeking to win their first four at Goodison Park in a league campaign for the first time since the 1978/79 season under Gordon Lee, but they looked anxious from the very first whistle. Declan Rice was controlling

ison Park for the first time the contest from the base of since 1930 on David Moyes' the West Ham midfield as The result moves West Ham an inviting low cross from up to sixth in the table as Aaron Cresswell inside the

opening three minutes that missed Michail Antonio by a yard set the tone for a period of early dominance from the visitors. It wasn't until the 15th minute that the hosts flickered into life as moments after Alex Iwobi came close to meeting Andros Townsend's cross, AbdoulaveDoucoure rifled a shot from the edge of the box over, without ever troubling Lukasz Fabianski.

ing, of which there was 76 per cent possession inside the opening 26 minutes, West Ham had only posted two shots on goal, and they very nearly fell behind when Demarai Gray skipped past Ogbonna down the right and his low cross was missed altogether by Iwobi with the goal at his mercy.

Iwobi very nearly atoned for his miss when he looked to turn provider for Gray down the left but Cresswell made a vital late intervention before Doucoure tamely headed wide from another

Townsend cross. West Ham thought they found the breakthrough when Tomas Soucek was on hand to steer his close-range shot into the roof of the net following a fine save low down by Jordan Pickford to deny Bowen but the Czech Republic midfielder was correctly flagged for offside.

For all their impressive pass-

New Guinea on Sunday.

DNA

MUSCAT: Skipper Zeeshan Maqsood returned bowling

figures of 4-20 to set up a 10-wicket win for hosts Oman in

the Twenty20 World Cup opener against debutants Papua

Maqsood's four wickets, including three in one over,

kept PNG to 129 for nine in the first round match at the

Al Amerat ground outside Muscat. Openers AqibIlyas (50

from 43 balls) and Jatinder Singh (73 from 42) then clat-

tered the PNG bowlers around the ground without be-

ing parted to steer Oman home with 6.2 overs to spare.

handing Papua New Guinea a tough lesson in their first

ever World Cup outing. Maqsood remained the hero with

his left-arm spin as he struck thrice in one over to rattle

PNG captain Assad Vala, who made 56 off 43 balls, and

Charles Amini, who smashed 37, hit back with an attacking

third-wicket partnership of 81. But Mohammad Nadeem ran

out the left-handed Amini with a direct throw at the non-strik-

er's end to break the stand and that opened the door for

Maqsood. New-ball bowlers Bilal Khan and Kaleemullah, who

PNG who had lost both their openers for nought.

goes by just one name, took two wickets each.