

agri sector

**Detailed News On Page-08** 

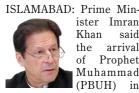
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# **Briefs**

# **PM pays** tribute to **Prophet** (PBUH)

APP



(PBUH) in the world brought a revolution in every aspect of the human society breaking the system of oppression in the world and opening doors of welfare for the humanity. In a message on the occasion of Eid Miladun Nabi, he said, "Congratulations to all humans of the world especially the Muslims on the occasion of Eid Miladun Nabi."

# Colin Powel dies of Covid-19

**DNA** 



cy tarnished when he made the case for war in Iraq in 2003, has died from complications from Covid-19. He was 84. "We have lost a remarkable and loving husband, father, grandfather and a great American," the family said in a statement posted to social media on Monday.

# Somalia Envoy visits PAF HQ

STAFF REPORT ISLAMABAD: Ambassador



Khadija Mohamed A1 makhzoumi visited Naval Headquar-

ters in Islamabad on Monday and met Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Muhammad Amjad Khan Niazi. According to Spokesperson of Pakistan Navy, they discussed matters pertaining to mutual interest, regional security situation and bilateral maritime cooperation.

**Holiday Notice** The offices of Daily Islamabad POST shall remain closed on October 19, 2021 on account of Eid Milad un Nabi, therefore there shall be no newspaper on Wednesday October 20, 2021.

# Inside..

- Editor

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PAF fully capable to meet any challenge: Air Chief Page 04

Europe at a turning point Page 05

Pakistan defeat West Indies in T20-WC Page 06

Pakistan-Belarus educational co-op high on bilateral ties - Page 07

More Chinese agricultural technologies to help Pakistan - Page 08

# **COAS** briefed on security at ISI HQ visit

visits ISI Headquarters

Detailed News On Page-01

DG ISI Lieutenant-General Faiz Hamid received the army chief; COAS satisfied over ISI's preparedness



SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

RAWALPINDI: Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Qamar Javed Bajwa on Monday received a briefing on Afghanistan from the Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI). The Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), in a statement, said Director-General ISI Lieutenant-General Faiz Hamid received the army chief on his arrival at the intelligence agency's headquarters. "COAS was briefed on the internal security and ongoing situation in Afghanistan," ISPR said, where the army chief expressed his satisfaction over the preparedness of the organisation. The army chief's visit came after the ISPR on October 6 announced the appointment of Lt Gen Nadeem Ahmed Anjum - the Corps Commander, Karachi - as the DG ISI, the most coveted slot within the military hierarchy after the army chief. Gen Nadeem manders. But the most significant appointreplaced Lt Gen Faiz as head of the country's ment was the change of command at the ISI premier spy agency in a major reshuffle that headquarters, often referred to as Abpara. also includes the new appointments of Karachi, Peshawar and Gujranwala corps com-

# Pakistan wants enduring relations with the US

**DNA** 

RAWALPINDI: Angela Aggeler, US Charge d' Affairs to Pakistan called on General Qamar Javed Bajwa, Chief of Army Staff (COAS) on Monday, the ISPR said. During the meeting, matters of mutual interest, current security situation in Afghanistan and bilateral cooperation in various fields were discussed. The COAS said that Pakistan desires to maintain the tradition of bilateral engagement and wishes for an enduring relationship with United States. The COAS also reiterated the need for global convergence on Afghanistan for avoiding humanitarian crisis and coordinated efforts for economic uplift of the Afghan people. The visiting dignitary appreciated Pakistan's role in Afghan situation, efforts for regional stability and pledged to play their role for further improvement in diplomatic cooperation with Pakistan at all levels.

**Continued on Page 06** 

# Pakistan keen to broaden economic ties with Japan

PM Khan congratulates Japanese envoy Matsuda Kuninori on successful completion of his tenure



ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Japan Kuninori Matsuda calls on Prime Minister Imran Khan. - DNA

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Kuninori Matsuda, Ambassador of Japan to Pakistan, called on Prime Minister Imran Khan on Monday.The Prime Minister congratulated the Ambassador on the successful completion of his tenure in Pakistan and conveyed best wishes for future assignment.

The Ambassador thanked the Prime Minister for addressing a letter to the new Prime Minister of Japan, H.E. Mr. Fumio Kishida, and recalled Prime Minister's engagement with the Japanese dignitaries on various issues. Prime Minister Imran Khan underscored the high importance Pakistan attached to its relationship with Japan, which was embedded in

mutual trust and understanding. He reaffirmed Pakistan's strong desire to further deepen and broaden bilateral cooperation in the economic, trade, development, and investment sectors. In the regional context, the Prime Minister underscored Pakistan's vital interest in a peaceful and stable Afghanistan.

Continued on Page 06

# Azerbaijan Day

with BCCI

Detailed News On Page-06



ISLAMABAD: Speaker National Assembly Asad Qaiser, Ambassador of Azerbaijan Khazar Farhadov, Turkish Ambassador Mustafa Yurdakul and Senator Talha Mehmood cutting the cake on the occasion of 30th Anniversary of Restoration of Independence of Azerbaijan Day. - DNA

## Azerbaijan's Independence Day celebrated

Asad Qaisar says ties between two countries excellent

## STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: The 30th anniversary of Independence of Azerbaijan was celebrated in Islamabad on Monday Speaker National Assembly Asad Qaiser was the chief guest on this occasion. He, along with the Ambassador of Azerbaijan and other diplomats have cut the cake. During the meeting, the Speaker National Assembly extended greetings to Azerbaijani ambassador on his Independence day. He said that both countries enjoy excellent relations adding Pakistan whole-hearted supported Azerbaijan in the patriotic war against Armenia. The Azerbaijan ambassador Khazar Farhadov thanked Pakistan for support during the Patriotic war and said relations between the two brotherly countries are grow-

# martyred

DNA

Public Relations (ISPR), in

# Shahbaz lashes out at govt over inflation

Says there is no comparison between PTI's governance and Riyasat e Madinah

SHUJAAT HAMZA

### Opposition in National Assembly Shahbaz Sharif said Monday PTI-led

government has snatched people's right to live, as he lashed out at it over rising inflation. The Opposition leader, addressing the floor of the National Assembly, said: "Every child in the country is bearing witness to the worst government in the last 74 years."

Continued on Page 06

# Opp. holding protests just for the sake of it'

# KHAYAM ABBASI

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Fawad Chaudhry on Monday criticised the Opposition and said that the Opposition was holding anti-government protests "just for the sake of it". The minister, speaking to the press, shed light on civil-military relationships and said that Prime Minister Imran Khan and the Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Qamar Javed Bajwa often hold meetings, therefore, a routine meeting was held today too. "All the matters have been resolved," he said. Fawad also talked about Opposition's criticism of the growing inflation in the country and said that, in Sindh, only the prices of wheat have been hiked but other essential items are being sold at reasonable prices.

Continued on Page 06

# ing with the each passing day. Army soldier

RAWALPINDI: A soldier was martyred on Monday as security forces exchanged fire with terrorists in North Waziristan's Spinwam area, the military's media wing said. The Inter-Services

Continued on Page 06

# Iran to host multilateral conference on Afghanistan

FMs of Iran, China, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan and Russia to hold talks in Tehran

CENTRELINE REPORT

TEHRAN: Tehran will host a meeting of Afghanistan's neighbours plus Russia next week, the country's foreign ministry has confirmed, with the October 27 event witnessing the presence of all six foreign ministers. During a press conference on Monday, Iran's foreign ministry spokesman Saeed Khatibzadeh announced that in addition to Iran and

Russia, the meeting will be attended by China, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan, who all have land borders with Afghanistan. According to Khatibzadeh, the meeting

will continue discussions

# FM Qureshi, Iran FM discuss Afghanistan

STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: Foreign Minister Makhdoom Shah Mahmood Qureshi received telephone call from Foreign Minister of Iran Dr. Hossein Amir Abdollahian. During the call, the two Foreign Ministers exchanged views on the regional security situation, particularly Afghanistan. Foreign Minister Dr. Abdollahian invited Foreign Minister Qureshi to participate in the second Ministerial meeting of the neighboring countries of Afghanistan, to be held in Tehran next week, stressing that Iran fully supported Pakistan's initiative for a regional approach on Afghanistan. Foreign Minister Qureshi thanked his Iranian counterpart for the invitation and expressed the hope that the meeting would impart further impetus to the regional approach on the situation in Afghanistan. He emphasized that close coordination was essential to help Afghanistan on path to peace, stability and development.

that the countries had during a virtual meeting held in

early September.
"The six countries will be focused on how they can help form an inclusive government in Afghanistan with the presence of all ethnic groups, and how they can help shape a future of peace and security in Afghanistan," said Khatibzadeh. Since the Taliban took control of Kabul in mid-August, there has been a debate in Iran on whether the group has changed its ways since it was in power more than 20 years ago. But Iran's official position is that it wants an inclusive government and stability in its eastern neighbouring state, something Tehran considers vital for its national security.





RAWALPINDI: Angela Aggeler, US Charge d' Affairs to Pakistan calls on General Qamar Javed Bajwa, Chief of Army Staff (COAS). - DNA

# **FAC** organises Naatia Mehfil-e-Mushaira

BUREAU REPORT

FAISALABAD: Under the Joint arrangements of District Administration and Faisalahad Arts Council Natia Mushaira was organized at Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan Auditorium in connection with the celebrations of Ashra Shaan e Rehmatul Lil Alameen(PBUH). Provincial Minister for Public Prosecution Chaudhry Zaheeruddin participated as the special guest. Additional Deputy Commissioner Headquarters Muhammad Khalid, Director Arts Council Zahid Iqbal, Incharge

DC Office Muhammad Sadiq, Muhammad Akhtar Butt were present while, Dr. Riaz Majeed, Sumira Naqvi, Dr. Ayesha Zafar, Bushra Naz, Gulfam Naqvi, Masood Chishti, Ashfaq Babar, Naseem Sehrai, Latif Sajid Chishti, Kausar Ali, Riaz Qadri, Shehzad Baig and other poets presented Naats. Provincial Minister for Public Prosecution Chaudhry Zaheer-ud-Din said that the holy month of Rabi-ul-Awal is a source of

He said that deep love for the Prophet (PBUH) is our faith and we should make

mercy for us.

of our lives so that we may prosper in this world and the hereafter.

He said that recitation of Naat is the best way to express the love with the Prophet(PBUH) strengthens the spirit of faith also.

He lauded the faith of the poets those delivered speeches in the Naatiya Mushaera and said that the celebrations of the Ashra in the glory of the Holy Prophet (PBUH) are being celebrated in a grand manner in which the devotees of the Holy Prophet (PBUH) are fully participating



FAISALABAD: Punjab Minister for Public Prosecution Ch. Zaheer-ud-Din participated in a Natia Mushira in connection with Ashra Shaan-e-Rehmatul Lil Alameen celebrations. - DNA

## Governor Sindh invites Mufti Taqi Usmani

KARACHI: Governor Sindh Imran Ismail Monday invited renowned scholar Mufti Taqi Usmani to attend the Ulema Mashaikh Conference to be held on the occasion of Rabi-ul-Awwal, on October 22 at the Sindh Governor's House.

The Governor Sindh alongwith Leader of Opposition Sindh Assembly Haleem Adil Sheikh and Principal Secretary to Governor Sindh Dr Syed Saif-ur-Rehman called on scholar Mufti Taqi Usmani at Darul Uloom Korangi here.

The Governor Sindh said that the Prime Minister would also address the Siraul-Nabi conference through video link.

Imran Ismail further said that steps were being taken on the special directive of Premiere Imran Khan to celebrate the holy month of Rabil-ul-Awal in a grand manner. Mufti Taqi Usmani accepted the invitation of Governor Sindh to attend the Ulema-e-Mashaykh Conference. - APP

## 12 youth arrested

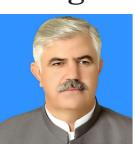
PESHAWAR: City Traffic Police (CTP) Peshawar has taken into custody 12 youth for performing over-wheeling and impounded their motorcycles inside the traffic police terminal here on Monday.

On the directives of the Traffic (CTO) Peshawar, Abbass Majeed Marwat, traffic police carried out a crackdown on those performing one-wheeling on their motorcycles on Northern Bypass and arrested 12 more youth. They will be released after signing a written sure ty by their parents.

The CTO has directed further acceleration of the crackdown on one-wheeling and has urged the youth to avoid performing one-wheeling for just attracting the people's attention to save themselves from permanent disability.

The City Traffic Police chief directed traffic police for utilization of their all capabilities for the implementation of the traffic laws and showing no leniency with anyone in this regard. - APP

# CM chairs meeting to review e-governance



PESHAWAR: Cheif Minster Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Mahmood Khan on Monday chaired a meeting to review progress on e-governance strategy, e-summary, citizen facilitation centers and paperless governance pro-

The meeting was attended by concerned provincial ministers, Additional Chief Secretary, Senior Member Board of Revenue and administrative secretaries and other senior government officials.

Chief Minister gave one month deadline for initiating e-summary system and directed to present the master in the next cabinet meeting for final approval. He also directed to setup model citizen facilitation center in the provincial metropolitan in the next three months and citizen facilitation centers at all divisional headquarters in next six months.

These citizen facilitation centers would provide multiple services to citizens

under one roof that include domicile certificate, NIC Card, birth certificate, form B, driving license, arms license, land transfer and

other key services.

The meeting was informed that these services would be provided in phases while priority services would be provided in the initial phase. While briefing the meeting on paperless governance roadmap, it was informed that it would be implemented in three phases and paperless governance system be completed by June 2023.

The meeting was told that five thousand government employees will be trained for launching paperless governance system.

Chief Minister also constituted a committee headed by the Additional Chief Secretary for better coordination among all departments for effective and early implementation of the paperless governance system.

During briefing the meeting , it was informed digital mapping of all government lands and forests was in progress which would enable effective prevention of encroachments.

Cheif Minister said that e-summary system and paperless system would enhance efficiency and transparency in government departments. - APP

## 3.458m people vaccinated in Faisalabad

FAISALABAD: Over 3.458 million [3,458,768] people have so far been vaccinated against COVID-19 in Faisalabad district.

District Health Officer Dr Ataul Mun'im said on Monday that 2,471,225 citizens had been given the first dose while 934,947 were administered the second dose of vaccine. He said that 29,785 health workers were also given the first dose while 22,811 received the second dose of vaccine. He said that sufficient stock of anti-coronavirus vaccine was available in the district. As of now 339,489 first doses and 226,326 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 also getting anti-coronavirus vaccine doses. To facilitate the people various centers have been established in different areas of the city. - APP

## KP to setup 12 drug rehabilitation centers

PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government would setup 12 drug rehabilitation and de-detoxification centers for the rehabilitation of addicts to make them useful citizen. The rehabilitation centers costing Rs. 74 million would be set up in Peshawar, Charsadda, Shangla, Buner, Abbottabad, Mansehra, Upper Dir, Haripur, Lakki Marwat, Bannu,

Hangu, and Tank. The centers would provide vocational training and education to raise drug addicts to a normal life, raise awareness about the diseases caused by drug use and guide the affected families. All concerned departments have been directed to establish rehabilitation centers on war footing providing all medical and rehabilitation facilities for fast rehabilitation of drug addicts. - APP

### meeting productive and result oriented, the officers from the labor department, social security institution and worker welfare fund would also attend this meeting. He further said that FCCI will convene a meeting of other trade and industry related organizations with a request to fulfill their labor related obligations. President FCCI said that records relating

mental nature. He said that the Punjab Government is introducing an inspector-less regime which will discourage the hiring of boiler inspectors in different units simultaneously.

mad Vice President FCCI were also present during He said that under new Mr. Atif Munir Sheikh said that Provincial Minister for labour Mr. Ansar Majeed Khan Niazi along with secretary labour Mr. Liaqat Ali Chattah will visit Faisalabad and distribute cheques among the secured industri-

He assured the delegation that he will pinpoint the problems faced by the industrial workers. He said

al workers on October 20,

2021. They are scheduled to visit FCCI and discuss

problems confronted by our

ISHFAQ MUGHAL

FAISALABAD: Industri-

al peace is directly linked

with close liaison between

employees and employers

while Faisalabad Chamber

of Commerce & Industry

(FCCI) will play a key role

in resolving the issues con-

fronted by its members in

addition to protecting the

fundamental rights of work-

ers, said Mr. Atif Munir

He was talking to a delega-

tion of the Faisalabad Labor

Federation (FLF) which

was headed by veteran labor

Mr. Imran Mahmood

Sheikh Senior Vice Presi-

dent and Rana Fayyaz Ah-

leader Mr. Aslam Wafa.

this meeting.

Sheikh President FCCI.

that in order to make this ty will be appointed for the inspection of boilers. "Government will soon nominate different companies for this purpose and a third party will issue the fitness certificate with full responsibility", he said and added that the Government fee will be deposited in the treasury while the fee of the third party would be paid through cross cheque. Regarding minimum wages Mr. Atif Munir Sheikh said to labor are being digitalthat employers are bound to ized which will solve most pay minimum wages. "Most of their problems of fundaof the industrial units are already implementing this notification while he will request remaining factory owners to increase the remuneration of their workers according to this notifi-

FCCI committed

to resolve issues

of workers

He said that the Punjab Government is introducing an

inspector-less regime which will discourage the hiring of

cation", he added. He said that due to some

boiler inspectors in different units simultaneously payment of salary is delayed but it should not be a regular feature. He assured that he will try to convince unregistered units to get their factories registered along with their full workforce. "It will ensure smooth payment of EOBI, Social Security, and other benefits to the registered workers", he said and added that some so-called labor leaders are harassing factory owners by using different tactics. He hoped that FLF along with FCCI would discourage such black sheep.

Mr. Aslam Wafa presented a list of problems faced by the industrial workers and said that employees and employers are wheel of a cart who have to join hands to ensure industrial peace and create maximum job opportunities



# KMU organizes Seerat un Nabi conference

PESHAWAR: The Khyber Medical University (KMU) Peshawar on Monday organized Seerat un Nabi conference to celebrate Ashra Rahmat-ul-Lil Alamin (SAW). On this occasion, Husan speech competitions on Seerat-un-Nabi were also held.

Special Assistant to the CM Khyber Pakhtunkhwa for Higher Education and Information Kamran Khan Bangash was the chief guest whereas the vice-chancellor KMU Prof. Dr. Zia ul Haq, Additional Secretary to the Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Saiful-Islam, Dean basic medical sciences Prof. Dr. Jawad Ahmed, Conference Coordinator and Director IHPE & R Dr. Braikhna Jamil, heads of different institutions, faculty, administrative officers and a large number of stuthe occasion.

Kamran Khan

Bangash

said that the management of KMU especially the vice-chancellor deserves congratulations for a celebration of the Secrat un Nabi conference and Ashra Rahmatullil Alamin in the light of the instructions of the Federal Government and especially the Prime Minister. He said that the purpose of celebrating Ashra Rahmatullil Alamin is to acquaint the entire nation with various aspects of Hazrat Muhammad (PBUH).

The message of Seerat un Nabi is to live in the light of the instructions of the Qur'an and Sunnah for success in this world and in the hereafter.

dents were also present at Kamran Bangash said that the strong voice raised by Prime Minister Imran Khan against the blasphemy on the UN platform which not only represent sentiments of the Pakistani nation but also the sentiments of two billion Muslims.

> He said that the purpose of celebrating Ashra Rahmatullil Alamin by the government is to create unity in the nation in the light of Islamic teachings show respect to last Prophet Muhammad(PBUH).

> Prof. Dr. Zia ul Haq said that life and teaching of the Holy Prophet (PBUH) is a beacon for all humanity.  $-\mathbf{APP}$

## of cotton yarn export ue-added textile sector has demanded an immediate

Textile sector

demands ban

FAISALABAD: The valban on cotton yarn export and total elimination of the regulatory duty on import of raw material.

Addressing a press conference, Mian Kashif Zia, zonal chairman of Pakistan Manufacturers Hosierv & Exporters Association (PHMA), said that value-added textile sector was playing a key role in creat-

ing job opportunities and therefore the government must resolve its issues on priority basis. Atif Munir Sheikh, presi-

dent Faisalabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry (FCCI), said that despite 80% extra production of cotton, we were facing a cotton shortage of 35-45% and to fulfill this gap, we would have to import cotton. He demanded that the government must clamp a ban on export of cotton yarn and lower the regulatory duty on its import to zero. He said that we would have to depend on 70% imports for our exports as we are playing at 30-70%.

He said the sector was indebted to the government that had cleared Rs 275 billion refunds of the last 11 vears. However, it was a demand of the sector that the government should ensure availability of raw material at reasonable rates. - APP

## Another person dies of coronavirus in Faisalabad

FAISALABAD: patient died of COVID-19, while seven others tested positive during the last 24 hours in Faisalabad.

A spokesperson of the health department said on Monday that 1,025 coronavirus tests were conducted in public and private sector labs during the period.

He said that total active cases in Faisalabad were 275, while 25,332 patients recovered so far from the disease. He said that 339 beds were allocated at the Allied Hospital, 133 at the DHQ Hospital and 150 at Government General Hospital Ghulam Muhammad Abad for COV-ID-19 patients.

Allied Hospital, 27 at DHQ Hospital and 9 at the General Hospital.

At the present, 69 patients

were under treatment at

He further said that 164 confirmed patients were in isolation in their homes in the district. - APP



cutting cake to celebrate Eid-e-Milad-un-Nabi (SAWW). - APP

of the Holy Prophet.

# **Uswa-e-Rasool (SAW) a role model for Muslims**

"The Holy Prophet (PBUH) is a source of blessing for the entire humanity and his teachings convey the message of love, tolerance and compassion"

ISLAMABAD: Speaker National Assembly Asad Qaiser and Deputy Speaker Qasim Khan Suri have said, the Holy Prophet's (PBUH) Uswa-e-Hasna is a beacon of light for whole universe and mankind, by following which we can achieve Worldly success and in the life

They said that Holy prophet (PBUH) is mercy for all mankind, who elevated the status of humanity by leading them out of the darkness of ignorance and bestowing them on the highest level. They expressed these views in their separate messages on the auspicious occasion of Eid Milad-Un-Nabi (PBUH which is being celebrated on Tuesday across the world. While congratulating Muslim Ummah on the occasion of Eid-Milad-

Un-Nabi (PBUH,) the Speaker said that the life of the Holy prophet is the role model for all mankind. He said that by following the Sunnah of the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) we can find a solution to all our problems. "The Holy Prophet (PBUH) is a source of blessing for the entire humanity and his teachings convev the message of love, tolerance

and compassion," he added.

The Speaker said that the whole life of the Holy Prophet (PBUH) is the beacon of guidance and he is , certainly, a living representation of the Holy Quran and Islam. "We must pledge that we would act upon the real teachings of Islam, consider ourselves as followers of the Holy Prophet (PBUH) and a matter of pride to perform our



duties honestly and diligently," he

The Speaker said that the establishment of Rehmat-Ul-Alameen authority by the Prime Minister Imran Khan is the positive initiative to promote the true message

He said that this authority will monitor the curriculum being taught at schools and organise research in universities regarding the true message of Islam in light of the teachings of the Holy Prophet (PBUH).

He said that the only way to put Pakistan on the way to progress is to follow the sunnah of the Holy Prophet (PBUH) in letter and spirit. "It is my belief that the country cannot progress without following the true teachings of Islam because certain things have crept into the Pakistani society to stop it from advancing," he added.

Deputy Speaker Qasim Suri, in his message to the Nation on Eid Milad-un-Nabi (PBUH), said,

"Our personal and collective lives should reflect the great teachings of the Holy Prophet (PBUH)". He prayed to Almighty Allah to guide all to follow the teachings of Holy Prophet (PBUH). He stressed the need for following the uswa-e-Rasool for bringing the Ummah out of present challenges.

While appreciating the establishment of Rehmat-Ul-Alameen authority by the Prime Minister Imran Khan, the Deputy Speaker said that this authority shall help to impart the true message of Islam to the younger generation by teaching the life of Holv Prophet (Saw.) He said that Ashra Rehmat-Ul-Alameen must be celebrated in letter and spirit to to impart the teachings of Holy Prophet (Saw.) - APP



### **Namaz Timings**

гајі	04.52 alli
Zohr	11:53 am
Asr	03:51 pm
Maghrib	05:31 pm
Isha	06:53 pm



### **Hotels &** Restaurants

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



### **Airlines**

Turkish Airlines......8494949



### **Emergency**

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

Edhi Ambulance	115
PIAFlightInfo	114
PIACargo	9280979
Railway Inquiry	117
Railway Exchange	270831-5
WASA Rawalpindi.	.5555489
CAA	9281092



# Hospitals

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



# Denartments

Departments		
CDA	9221334-43	
CDA	9208301-04	
Met Office	9250360-6	
RDA	5555864	
TMA	5770886	
Cantonment B	oard 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, .....9266316 Wapda Islamabad....9217579 Wapda Rawalpindi 111-309-309

## Islamabad Metropolitan

Corporation	9209224
Potohar Town	9209224
RawalTown	5773343

# **Wasa Water Tank**

Rawalpindi.....0331-5022125

# Inflation is int'l issue, Pak no exception: Asad Úmar

The situation might remain same till March 2022, however as per projection of the international experts the prices of the commodities might start receding to normal level from March to June next year

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives, Asad Umar Monday said the world was passing through a critical and extraordinary period of extremely high commodity prices and Pakistan was no exception, hoping that the prices might start receding from March next year. "The situation might remain same till March 2022, however as per projection of the international experts the prices of the commodities might start receding to normal level from March to June next year", he said while addressing a press conference here. He said the prices of petroleum products and other commodities were still low in

Pakistan compared to other region-

al countries mainly due to smart

lock down policy during COVID-19.

Rejecting the perception that

per-capita income in other countries especially in India and Bangladesh was higher therefore their purchasing power is also good, Asad Umar pointed out that poverty rate in Pakistan was far lower compared to India and Bangladesh which meant that the purchasing power in Pakistan was comparatively better. He said the COVID pandemic had

badly affected the big economies including US, China, UK and other developed countries where the economic growth went down by over 10%. Now as the sectors are being opened up in across the world, the demand of commodities had surge that created shortage in the market leading to price hike in across the world, he added. The minister informed that in or-

der to protect lower segment of the society from shocks of inflation, Prime Minister Imran Khan would announce details of targeted subsidy programme in few days and the



people would start getting relief through the programme from next month. He said the government was also reducing the Sales Tax on cooking oil from 17% to 8.5%, customs duty from Rs 1000 per tonne to Rs 5000 per ton besides completely withdrawing the 2% additional customs duty that would help easing the cooking oil price in Pakistan by around Rs 50 per kilo. The minister said according to the

World Bank, crude oil witnessed 81% increase in one year while in Pakistan petrol price was increased by only 17%. Similarly price of Liquified Natural Gas (LNG) surged by 135% during the period while it increased by 64% in Pakistan. He explained that in Pakistan, only 25% consumed LNG whereas price for domestic gas consumers did not increase during the year. Similarly, he said price of cooking oil rose by 48% in international market and 38% in Pakistan, that of sugar surged by 53% internationally and 15% in Pakistan, Urea fertilizer price surged y 67% in international market and 28% in Pakistan.

Although the prices of the commodities are comparatively low but still a significant hike has been witnessed in Pakistan too thus badly impacting the purchasing power of common men, he admitted. With respect to taxes on petroleum products, Asad Umar explained that earlier the GST on petrol was 17% and Petroleum Development Levy (PDL) was Rs 30 per liter, however now in order not to pass on impact of international price hike in brent crude oil, the government had reduced GST to 6.8% and the PDL to Rs 5.6 per liter only.

The minister added that GST on High Speed Diesel had also brought down from 17% to 10% while the customs duty per liter was Rs 9.27 on petrol and Rs 8.81 on Diesel. Recalling the tax rates on petroleum products during previous government led by PML-N, Asad Umar said, then government had charged tax worth as high as Rs 101 per liter and average of Rs 52 per liter during the whole tenure, but now it was less than half of the average tax of previous government, adding that at some stages, the present government had to charge zero PDL to pass on maximum relief to the people.

### practice and charges could be framed on the allegation leveled by the police. The petitioner prayed the court to turn down the decision of lower court for indicting accused in the murder case.

'Dengue

situation

moves IHC against

indictment

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Accused Zakir Jaffar on Monday filed a

petition to Islamabad High Court (IHC) challenging the

indictment of accused in Noor Mukadam murder case. Accused Zakir Jaffar's father

stated that the trial court had

indicted 12 accused in mur-

He said the trial court had

given the impression that

the indictment was made in

accordance of the wishes of

The lower court had given

the impression that the in-

dictment process was just a

der case on October 14.

prosecution.

under control' RAWALPINDI: Health Officer Dr Ehsan Ghani on Monday said that 60 to 70 dengue cases were reported daily in the district, while the number of daily positive cases were 160 to 170 in 2019. He said though the prevailing situation of dengue spread was worrying but not out of control.

Dr Ehsan informed that most cases were surfaced in the district from those parts located near the Federal Capital, adding the areas considered high risk of dengue spread, including Dhoke Hassu, Hazara Colony, Dhoke Najju witnessed no case from there.

The health officer said that "We are expecting that temperature would decrease after last day rain but it still at 27 to 28 centigrade and when it does not come to 11 degrees C, the elimination of dengue breeding not take place", he added.

He expressed the hope that dengue fever patients would witness a decline as the weather gets colder in the coming days. - APP



rise in dengue cases as another 141 people have been diagnosed with the mosquito-borne viral infection in Islamabad and 112 in Rawalpindi, of whom the condition of 44 patients is serious. Islamabad district health officer on Monday informed that during past 24 hours, 141 dengue cases were reported in Islamabad and the total number of cases was 2,089. According to the break-up, 1,310 people in rural areas have contracted dengue virus and 779 have been diagnosed with dengue fever in urban areas of the city.

The virus has already taken lives of 6 people in Islamabad so far. In Rawalpindi, 112 contracted dengue virus during past 48 hours and the condition of 44 patients is stated to be precarious. As many as 274 dengue patients are being treated in the Allied Hospital, Rawalpindi.

Giving an update on the dengue situation in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, the provincial health department disclosed that 107 cases were reported during last 24 hours. As many as 4,045 people have been infected by the dengue virus while 5 patients lost their lives in the province. Overall, 237 patients are being treated in hospitals of the province. According to the KP health department, during past 24 hours, 75 people have contracted the viral infection in Peshawar; 10 in Mansehra; 7 in Abbottabad and 4 in Nowshera. - DNA

# **Mehfil-e-Milad arranged at DC Office**

RAWALPINDI: A Mehfil-e-Milad was arranged at Deputy Commissioner Office, Jhelum in connection with Ashra Shan-e-Rehmatul-Lil-Alameen. Advisor to Chief Minister Punjab Asif Mehmood was chief guest at the program. On the occasion, Deputy Commissioner Jhelum, Numan Hafee, District Police Officer Shakir Hussain and others were present. The Advisor said that the programs were being arranged with great religious zeal and fervor across the province in connection with Ashra Shan-e-Rehmatul-Lil-Alameen. Mehfil-e-Naat were being arranged in schools and colleges while district administrations were also organizing Mahafil-e-Milad in different government departments. He appreciated the arrangements finalized by the district administration to celebrate Eid Milad-un-Nabi (PBUH). He directed the authorities concerned to ensure participation of members of peace Committees and community members in Mahafil-e-Milad. All available resources should be utilized to facili-



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For further information please contact the following.

Maj (r) Sabih Ur Rehman Mobile: 0300 8553342

## Bhatti, Assistant Commissioner Industrial Area during his visit to ICCI. - DNA NA sitting adjourned amid lack of quorum

DNA

ISLAMABAD: The National Assembly was adjourned on Monday due to lack of quorum pointed out by an opposition lawmaker. The House did not consider legislative agenda including three ordinances and one government bill, two resolutions seeking extension of as many ordinances and eight reports of the standing committees. None of the question was taken up during the question hour while fifteen motions for consideration of as many bills in the joint sitting

### for all these programs are available online on the university website (www.aiou.edu.pk) and fresh and continuing students can apply online till October 28 without any late fee charges. After applying online, the students are required to print out bank challan form and deposit admission fee in any branch of ABL, FWB, MCB and UBL by the due date. - DNA Rasheed, DC Islamabad start AAA

ISLAMABAD: Muhammad Shakeel Munir, President ICCI presenting a shield to Awaid Irshad

ISLAMABAD: The Allama Iqbal Open Uni versity (AIOU) has extended admission

deadline for the educational programs of

fered in the second phase of autumn 2021

semester till October 28 without late fee

charges. AIOU VC Prof Dr Zia Ul -Qayyum

took this decision on the basis of a number

of applications received from hundreds of

fresh and continuing students throughout

the county. Director Admissions Syed Zia

Ul Hasnain informed that these programs

include BA General (Associate Degree in

Arts), B.Com (Associate Degree in Com-

merce), BBA, 2 - Year Associate Degree in

Education, BS (ODL Mode) programs in ten

AIOU extends admission

deadline till October 28

disciplines, 1 -Year Post Graduate Diploma Programs as well as 1.5/ 2.5/ 4- Year B Ed

programs are also included. All the designated bank branches have been instructed to

facilitate the students in this regard. The prospectuses and admission application forms

### Associates Rabi-ul-Awal Plantation kul, Country Head Turkish **DNA** Cooperation & Coordination

ISLAMABAD: AAA Associates, in its efforts to combat global warming, commenced its Rabi-Ul-Awal Plantation Drive at F-9 Park, Islamabad. The initiative is in line with Prime Minister Imran Khan's vision of Green &

Clean Pakistan. Interior Minister Sheikh Rasheed Ahmed spearheaded the occasion. Senator PTI Fauzia Arshad, Madam Ambassador of Turkey Zlatomira Yurda-

Agency (TiKA) Mr Gokhan Umut, Education Counsellor Embassy of Turkey Dr Ilhami Ayranci, Country Head Turkish Red Crescent Mr Ibrahim Carlos were among the other dignitaries, who graced the event with their presence. Interior Minister Sheikh Rasheed Ahmed, Deputy Commissioner Islamabad Hamza Shafqaat honoured the event. MD AAA Associates Col(r) Shahzad Ali Ki-

ani was also present on the

Sheikh Rasheed Ahmed planted a sapling along with other honorees to promote plantation drive for the sake of preserving the natural environment. Later, Interior Minister Sheikh Rasheed Ahmed addressed the media and lauded AAA Associates' Green Initiative. He accentuated the importance of planting trees in Islam and regarded it as a charitable act. Senator PTI Fauzia Habib and other notables also partook in the activity.

occasion. Interior Minister

MD AAA Associates Col(r) Shahzad Ali Kiani thanked the auspicious guests for gracing the event with their presence. He put great emphasis on the need to protect and conserve the environment. MD AAA Associates Shahazad Ali Kiani said, "AAA Associates is committed to sustainable development. The government's green initiative is a great step in tackling the effects of global warming and climate change. We will continue our efforts for a greater and greener Pakistan.

lad-un-Nabi processions and

DNA

ISLAMABAD: In connec-

tion with the Ashra Rehmat-ul-Alamin (PBUH), CDA in collaboration with Pakistan Television organized a Mehfil.e.Sama at Lake View Park.Renowned artists of the country, Sher Miandad, Sanam Marvi and Mulazam Hussain among others and the singers presented Naatiya and Sufiana kalam. A large number of citizens participated in this Mehfil.e Sama. In addition, in connection with Eid Milad-un-Nabi, several other programs are being organized in he city. Similarly, a grand Mehfil.e. Naat was organized on 17th October at F-9 Park Amphi-

theater in which Naat khawans from all over the country presented Naats. Another Mehfil.e.Sama was held in which famous Qawwal Asif Ali Santo and other eminent Qawwals offered flowers of devotion on the occasion of Eid.milad. un.nabi. Apart from this, open

air Qawwali programs are also being organized in different parts of the city. While the city's various highways, buildings and important places have also been illuminated with colourful lights. Furthermore, in addition to

rallies, pruning of trees and other works have been completed. In line with directions of CDA administration, Staff has been deputed till the end of processions and rallies for cleaning and other arrange-



ISLAMABAD: Mehfil-e-Sama held at Lake View Park on the occasion of Eid Milad-un-Nabi in Islamabad, organized by CDA. – DNA

Fawad

grieved over demise of

Ajmal Niazi

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Information and Broadcasting Chaudhry Fawad Hus-

sain on Monday expressed

deep grief and sorrow over

the death of eminent poet,

journalist and columnist Dr

In a statement the minis-

ter said that Ajmal Niazi

not only served in the field

of education, but also re-

mained associated with a

Dr Ajmal Niazi spent 45

years in the service of Urdu

and Punjabi poetry as well

as literature, the minister

said. The minister said that

his column "Be Niaziyan"

was very popular among the

Fawad said the vacuum

created in the field of jour-

nalism, education and liter-

ature with the demise of Aj-

mal Niazi could not be filled.

He prayed to Allah Almighty

to rest the departed soul

in eternal peace and grant

courage to the bereaved

family to bear this loss with

great field like journalism.

Ajmal Niazi.

readers.

# Briefs

# CTP issues traffic plan for Eid Milad

RAWALPINDI: In order to ensure the security of the faithful, City Traffic Police (CTP) Rawalpindi on Monday issued traffic plan for Eid Milad-un-Nabi (PBUH) under which parking of vehicles or handcarts on the route of the Milad processions would be prohibited. According to Duty Officer CTP Headquarters, CTP on the directives of Chief Traffic Officer (CTO), Rawalpindi, Rai Mazhar Iqbal had finalized all the arrangements while there would be nearly 17 diversion points in the city to ensure traffic flow.

No tractor trolley, trucks or any public service vehicle would be allowed near Milad processions, he said and urged the citizens to use alternate routes including Airport Road, Rialto Chowk, Tipu Road, Rawal Road and Murree Road ahead of Chandi Chowk to reach Islamabad.

Ambulances, Fire Brigade and other emergency service vehicles would be checked properly besides special directives had also been issued to keep a vigilant eve on suspicious or tinted glass vehicles, he added. As many as 490 traffic officials including Deputy Superintendents of Police, Inspectors, Traffic Wardens and Traffic Assistants would be deployed to control traffic movement in the city. -APP

## Lok Virsa, Iran Cultural Consulate to organize Mehfil-e-Naat

stitute of Folk and Traditional Heritage-Lok Virsa would organize a 'Qirat Mehfil e Naat' in collaboration with Cultural Consulate Embassy of Iran on October 20. The mehfil would be followed by exhibition of Islamic Calligraphy and

Relics. Executive Director

Lok Virsa Talha Ali told

ISLAMABAD: National In-

APP on Monday. The exhibition would be held at Lok Virsa Gallery. Lok Virsa is being organized Mehfil-e-Naat in regards to the month of Rabi-ul- Awal to pay tributes to the Holy Prophet (Peace

Be upon Him). This year the Rabi-ul-Awal is being celebrated with unique arrangements to highlight the different aspects of the life of Holy Prophet Hazrat Muhammad

(PBUH). - APP

## Phase-III of wheelchair scheme announced

ISLAMABAD: The Higher Education Commission (HEC) on Monday announced the Phase-III of Prime Minister's Electric Wheelchair scheme for disabled students of university. Official Sources told APP, HEC has invited applications from the students having ambulatory disability and are enrolled/being enrolled with the Public Sector Universities and Affiliated Colleges during

More than 350 wheelchairs have been distributed in first two Phases.

year 2021-22

Sharing details of eligibility criteria for the scheme, they said that the electric wheelchairs will be distributed among students who have physical and permanent ambulatory disability and they are unable to move from place to place without the aid of a wheelchair.

The students who are not able to cross curbs because of paralysis or loss of function of legs, are also eligible for the scheme. Similarly, those who have one or both legs missing can apply for the opportunity.

The Sources further informed that the students who are registered/being registered for academic session 2021-22 in HEC Recognized Public Sector Universities and Affiliated Colleges of all Provinces, AJ&K and Gilgit Baltistan in Undergraduate, Postgraduate, MS/ MPhil and PhD programmes, are

also deserving to apply. They should have valid certificate of special person/ambulatory disability from the relevant Competent Authority/ Government Institutions. It is pertinent to mention here that thay should have not received Electric Wheelchairs in Phase 1&2. – APP

# PAF fully capable to meet any challenge: Air Chief

A total of 125 Aviation Cadets including five Royal Saudi Air Force Cadets graduated at the Ceremony. The Chief Guest awarded branch insignias to the graduating cadets and Trophies to the Distinction Holders

### **DNA**

ISLAMABAD: Chief of the Air Staff, Pakistan Air Force (PAF) Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Ahmed Baber Sidhu Monday said the brave PAF Warriors have always displayed great courage during testing times and upheld Quaid's vision of PAF being Second to None.

The Air Chief was addressing as chief guest at the Graduation Ceremony of 145th GD (P), 91st ENGG and 101st AD Courses being held at PAF Academy Asghar Khan, Risalpur, said a PAF media release here received.

On arrival at the Academy, the Chief Guest was received by Air Officer Commanding, PAF Academy Asghar Khan Air Vice Marshal Muhammad Qaiser Janjua.

While addressing the audience, the Chief Guest said, "I am proud that Armed Forces of Pakistan are professionally competent and well-trained to cope with all internal and external challenges. I assure you that PAF is very well poised to preserve our freedom at all costs".

The Air Chief also emphasised that "Pakistan is a peace-loving Nation and desires to maintain friendly ties with all countries. However, our desire for peace must not be misunderstood as weakness. Let me make it clear,



that there can be no peace without a just settlement of the Kashmir issue. We condemn the grave human rights violations in IIOJK. I urge the international community to play their role in ending human rights violations and atrocities in Occupied Jammu and Kashmir". Addressing the graduating cadets, he said, "Remember, today is the beginning of your journey in

PAF as an officer. You have been

trained well at this leading Air

Force Academy and must contin-

ue to work hard in order to keep

abreast of latest developments in

technology, modern concepts and current trends related to role of Air Power in modern warfare. You should also seek inspiration from the legacy of our forefathers who, despite tough challenges, kept PAF's flag high".

A total of 125 Aviation Cadets including five Royal Saudi Air Force Cadets graduated at the Ceremony. The Chief Guest awarded branch insignias to the graduating cadets and Trophies to the Distinction Holders. Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee Trophy for the best performance in General Service

Training was awarded to Aviation Cadet Squadron Under Officer Nayyer Ashfaq whereas Chief of the Air Staff Trophies for best performance in Air Defence and best performance in Engineering discipline were won by Aviation Cadet Sargent Hanzallah Moin Khan and Aviation Cadet Sargent Muhammad Aqib respectively.

Chief of the Air Staff Best Pilot Trophy for outstanding performance in Flying Training was awarded to Aviation Cadet Sargent Abdul Rehman. Sword of Honour for overall best performance in College of Aeronautical Engineering was won by Aviation Cadet Wing Under Officer Sufiyan Sidique whereas Sword of Honour for overall best performance in College of Flying Training was awarded to Aviation Cadet Squadron Under Officer Anas Mustafa.

The Ceremony was followed by a thrilling aerial display by PAF Academy Aerobatics team "Sherdils". The Graduation Parade was witnessed by military and civilian dignitaries as well as parents of the graduating cadets.

The meeting was part of the

efforts to promote collabo-

rations and capacity build-

ing in the field of Artificial

Intelligence and IT in OIC

COMSTECH was represent-

ed by Dr. S. K. Hasanain, Ad-

viser COMSTECH and Mr.

Haris Akram, Programme

COMSTECH offered Inha

University, as a flagship AI

to become a member of the

Manager COMSTECH.

member states.

COMSTECH, INHA Varsity to

collaborate in AI

Holy Prophet's

ISLAMABAD: COMSTECH Dialalov and his team.

and INHA University, Tash-

kent, Uzbekistan Monday

agreed to sign a Memo-

randum of Understanding

(MoU) for establishing OIC

collaborations in Informa-

tion Technology and Artifi-

This was conveyed during

an online meeting between

The meeting was arranged

by COMSTECH (OIC Stand-

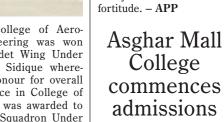
and Technological Coopera-

tion) with the Rector of Inha

University Dr Muzaffar

cial Intelligence (AI).

the two departments.



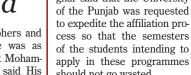
RAWALPINDI: The Government Graduate College Asghar Mall, Rawalpindi has initiated admissions in 15 Bachelor of Studies (BS 4-year) programmes in one of the oldest alma mater of

the garrison city. Talking to APP, Senior Professor and Head of Geography Department and In Charge Co Curricular Activities Associate Professor Saiid Mahmood Farooqi said after the Higher Education Commission (HEC) policy guidelines for implementing BS programme across the country; the College being a post graduate institution has started the admissions. Prof Sajid informed that the College had received the affiliation and No Objection Certificates (NOCs) for 10 BS programmes namely Economics, English, Chemistry, Botany, Zoology, Statistics, Geography, Physics, Mathematics and Urdu from the University of the Punjab. However, the university affiliations for BS Pro-

History, Education, Islamic Studies and Biology were awaited, he added. Principal, Govt Graduate College Asghar Mall Rawalpindi Prof Malik Muhammad Asghar said that the University of the Punjab was requested to expedite the affiliation process so that the semesters

grammes of Psychology,

should not go wasted. To a question, he said the



admissions were going to commence from October 20, 2021, where all eligible and interested were requested to apply in the BS programmes. - APP

# (SAW) life, role model for entire mankind

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Furniture Council (PFC) Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Mian Kashif Ashfaq Monday said the life of the Holy Prophet (PBUH) is an unprecedented exemplary role model for entire mankind. Speaking as chief guest at Milad un Nabi conference organized here at PFC head office, he said this source of light and guidance (the Prophet SAW) could lead us completely in every sphere of life, said a press release.

of scholars, philosophers and preachers but none was as great as the Prophet Mohammad (SAW). Kashif said His Shariah was regarded as the last message of Allah and His guidance was declared perfect for all till the end of this world. He said Hazrat Mohammad (SAW), the last prophet is an embodiment of mercy for all mankind. All the previous prophets guided the humans but Mohammad (PBUH) brought a revolution in the



ward Benazir Bhutto Hospital. - APP

# Chinese martial arts can bring tribal youth into the mainstream

ISLAMABAD: Former Pakistan ambassador to USA Dr. Maleeha Lodhi meeting with

Ambassador of Italy, in his office. - DNA

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Chinese martial arts can bring disadvantaged tribal youth into the mainstream, says a report published by Gwadar Pro on

The report says that sports are an important way to bring the people of the two brotherly countries even closer, especially since youth globally are naturally inclined towards sports and games and need no convincing to be active. Games are also an easy way to understand each other's cultures, in addition to im-

physical activity. Studies from all over the world show that bored youth without attractive alternatives often turn to anti-social and criminal activity.

proved health via training and

Engaging with Wushu, a Chinese term for "martial arts and spreading it in other

ISLAMABAD: The Mar-

communities can thus be of great service to the youth, especially of less-developed tribal areas.

"I was inspired by Jackie Chan's martial arts film 'Rumble in the Bronx' to become a martial artist," says Irfan Mehsood, one of Pakistan's leading Wushu/Kung Fu athletes with 43 Guinness World Records.

Wushu" has now become an international sport, with official events in many international and regional games. Mehsood, from Ladha South Waziristan, was so impressed with Jackie Chan's performance that he began to pursue a career in martial arts in 2005. "I started learning the basics of Wushu from local athletes," Irfan Mehsood told Gwadar Pro. Mehsood's family was settled in Ladha in South Waziristan, while during the harsh winter they would move to the nearby "I spent the first four years of my career in Tank and focused on learning the basics of Wushu," he said. There were no qualified athletes in the area, however, he would learn from anyone with some knowledge of Wushu.

At that time, South Waziristan was under the virtual influence of the Taliban. In 2009, Pakistani security forces launched a massive military operation against the Taliban, forcing hundreds of tribesmen to leave their villages and settle outside of South Waziristan. Irfan Mehsood's family settled in the city of Dera Ismail Khan, KP.

"I had more opportunities in Dera Ismail Khan. Besides my studies, I retained my passion for martial arts and leant different techniques," he said, adding that he learned a lot by watching videos of different martial artists, especially those from Southeast Asia.

## DEMP organises Mehfil-e-Milad

ISLAMABAD: Directorate of Electronic Media and Publications, an attached department of Ministry of Information and Broadcasting on Monday organised a Mehfil-e-Milad as part of celebrations of Eid Milad-un-Nabi (PBUH). Secretary Information and Broadcasting Shahera Shahid was the chief guest of the function. - APP

# RAWALPINDI: A view of dengue patients getting treatment in dengue

# Trekkers increasing risk of human-wildlife conflict

galla Hills National Park has successfully emerged as a glaring model of ecosystem restoration and wildlife habitat conservation after thriving population of Common Asian Leopards reported in the Park where irresponsible trekkers venturing into the Leopards' habitat at Trail-6 are increasing human-wildlife conflict risk. In February 2021, around five common leopards including a female leopard "Shezadi" was spotted in the camera trap visuals of Islamabad Wildlife Management Board (IWMB) installed in Trail 4 and 6

which first indicated the

healthy presence of the top

predator of the National

Special Assistant to the Prime Minister (SAPM) on Climate Change Malik Amin Aslam has told the media that the Prime Minister gave go-ahead for establishing Common Asian Leopards reserve in the National Park which would restrict public intervention through limited and guided safari tours in the future.

However, Chairperson IWMB Rina Saeed Khan underscored a recent risk of increased human-wildlife conflict due to repeated violations made by area residents particularly students venturing into the restricted areas. The IWMB has placed clear markings and

signs denoting "Ecological Sensitive Area" with a clear warning that anyone found violating the restriction would be handed over to the Police under section 21 of the Islamabad Wildlife (Conservation, Preservation, and Protection) Ordinance 1979.

In a recent tweet, the IWMB chair shared pictures of the violators trying to enter the Ecological Sensitive Area. She wrote, "If you see these signs on MHNP trails PLZ DO NOT ENTER NO GO AREA! We are fed up of trekkers illegally entering into closed off areas."



She was referring to the warning signs clearly stating "Ecological Sensitive Area" and a detailed note barring masses to avoid stepping into the area.

She further wrote that students of the Kuwait Hostel living near Trail 6 that was closed as reserve to be inaugurated by the Prime Minister were mostly entering the area. "Especially students of Kuwait Hostel near closed Trail 6. Soon we will impose Section 144. Respect the law & respect wildlife!" the IWMB Chairperson said.

She also hinted towards implementation of Section 144 in the area that would completely ban entry or gathering of any individual in the

Pakistan Wildlife Foundation Vice President Safwan Ahmed told APP that Leopards were nocturnal animals that used to hunt at dawn and dusk mostly after sunset and before sunrise. "Leopards are very shy in nature and a solitary animal that desist from having encounter with humans," he

proximity of Trail 6.

However, the timings after Asr prayer most likely after 3:30 pm in winters and 5:00pm in summers were the leopards awaking timings during which people should leave the Margalla Hills National Park as in case of any adventure could cause a human-wildlife conflict, he cautioned. – **APP** 

# NTC organizes Seerah Zoom Conference

ISLAMABAD: The National Telecommunication Corporation (NTC) on Monday organized a "Seerah of Prophet Muhammad (SAW) Zoom Conference" and Ustad Tafseer Prof. Dr. Shaykh Muhammad Yaqoob Al-Dahlawi. Teacher of Masjid Nabwi, Madina Munawara delivered a special lecture live through Madina Manawra, on 'Seerah of Prophet Muhammad

The NTC management, under the supervision of Managing Director (MD NTC) Miraj Gul, organized a Zoom conference at NTC Headquarter, said a news release. Participants from different cities had also participated in the conference through Zoom. This is a special month of blessings and happiness when Allah Almighty sent Hazrat Muhammad Sallallah-o-Alaihe wa Aalehi Wa Sallam Khatam-un-Nabiyyeen on the earth. The special ceremony was or-

ganized in the light of special instructions of Prime Minister Imran Khan.

On the auspicious occasion of Eid Milad-Un-Nabi (SAW), the Prime Minister Imran Khan had been pleased to desire that Eid Milad-Un- Nabi (SAW) shall be celebrated throughout Pakistan in a befitting manner.

Prime Minister Imran Khan the other day asked the entire nation including the media and minorities to fully participate in Eid Miladun Nabi (SAW) celebrations. – APP

# Opposition rallies

HE Pakistan Democratic Movement held another rally after a months-long hiatus on Saturday. The power show in Faisalabad featured leaders of the alliance without PPP, as it has been since the major split took place in April. The gathering in Faisalabad and the PDM's resurgence are an indicator of the alliance seeing an opportunity to put pressure on the government. Right now, the opposition potentially has weapons to use, as indicated by the speeches on Saturday. The price hike, the Pandora Papers and subsequent dent in the government's accountability credentials are all ammunition against the ruling party's regime.

With PPP hosting its own power show in Karachi on Sunday, it is clear that political parties are sensing that the pressure can be put on the government in the coming days. But the opposition should have learnt from its mistakes. For the government to feel the heat, the attack must be sustained and consistent. This means that one rally or two will not make a difference, the street mobilisation will have to continue. However, a glaring oversight by the opposition is its lack of focus on the parliament. Sessions should be regularly attended and laws vociferously argued against, all while carrying out constructive debates on how best to resolve the many issues being faced by the citizens.

Though it is facing a few setbacks, the government is not really facing a crisis. There is still a long time to go before the next elections but this does not mean that political parties will not begin their campaign season as early as possible. In this, the advantage always lies with the sitting government, as it can provide tangible positives to the people to strengthen its case for a return. The asks from the government remain the same. Deliver on promises made, reduce prices and make the economic situation perceivably better. Public opinion is fickle and actual progress in terms of growth can even sometimes take a backseat compared to more immediate issues such as inflation. If the PTI can work on resolving these issues effectively, the rallies might not translate into any real pressure. Otherwise, the ruling party might have a fight on its hands in the latter half of its tenure.

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# Violence in IIOJK

HE situation in IIOJK continues to deteriorate as clashes between resistance fighters and occupying forces as well as street killings claimed six lives on Saturday. The wave of violence is surging as 28 people, including nine civilians, have been gunned down in the past two weeks. Given the heavy handed tactics employed by the occupying forces, the unrest is expected to intensify. Reports reveal that more than 1,000 people have been detained in a crackdown as part of the investigation. These tactics are not new and New Delhi is well aware that such measures will only exacerbate an already untenable situation. IIOJK is now back to being an active conflict zone and it is imperative that the UN and other international actors recognise the situation for what it is. The All Parties Hurriyat Conference (APHC) Chairman, Mirwaiz Umer Farooq has rightly pointed out that systematic oppression over the years has pushed a large number of Kashmiri youths into the underground.

Meanwhile, New Delhi continues to deflect responsibility for what is unraveling at the moment. Blaming Pakistan is an old ploy, however now India is also claiming that the situation in Afghanistan is influencing events on the ground in IIOJK. What the BJP government will never concede is the fact that what is taking place is an organic reaction to the oppression being carried out in the disputed region.

Protests are virtually impossible in occupied Kashmir because of restrictions imposed by Delhi since the region's semi-autonomous status was revoked in 2019. When all avenues for expressing legit grievances are blocked off, the anger of innocent and helpless Kashmiris is bound to explode. Pakistan has been warning the international community about this for a while and it is crucial that this issue is highlighted on every available forum. We must ensure that pressure is applied on the BJP government from regional and international partners that are sympathetic to the suffering of Kashmiris. The status quo cannot be allowed to continue any longer.

# Europe at a turning point

**Andrew Hammond** 

Macron aside, Merkel has long been the most important political leader in continental Europe, having been in office since 2005. Now into overtime at the end of her fourth term, in length of tenure she sits behind only Otto von Bismarck, who served for almost two decades from 1871–90 during a period when he was a dominant force in European affairs after driving the unification of Germany

HILE much on the agenda this week in Brussels for the summit of Europe's 27 government leaders will be familiar, there is a historic power shift underway that could bring about significant change in 2022.

The summit will probably be the last for outgoing German Chancellor Angela Merkel. Her close collaborator, French President Emmanuel Macron, faces a spring election that could remove him from power. While the Franco-German alliance has long been the motor of European integration, their cooperation ebbs and flows depending on the office holders in Berlin and Paris. Merkel

and Macron have not seen eye to eye on every issue, but over the past half decade they have been a formidable duo plotting the future of the EU.

Key achievements include persuading squabbling fellow members last year to agree to give the bloc, for the first time in its history, debt-raising powers to finance a 750 billion coronavirus recovery plan. They were also crucial to getting the post-Brexit UK-EU trade deal over the line last December.

Despite the striking differences between them, both are extraordinary politicians with an eye on their legacies. Since his remarkable rise to power, Macron has emerged as one the most authoritative defenders of the liberal international order. His victory in 2017 against far-right National Front candidate Marine Le Pen was so striking as he held the political center ground and defied the march of populism after the Brexit vote and Trump's election. Macron aside, Merkel has long been the most important political leader in continental Europe, having been in office since 2005. Now into overtime at the end of her fourth term, in length of tenure she sits behind only Otto von Bismarck, who served for almost two decades from 1871-90 during a period when he was a dominant force in European affairs after driving the unification of Germany.

Both Merkel and Macron believe that Europe, a century and a half after Bismarck's time, is now at another critical period in its history. Despite progress, key challenges remain, including growing backlash to Brussels across the continent, including Poland.

In this context, there still remain a multitude of views on the future of the EU. This week's summit will be another opportunity to shape that debate. Scenarios range from the EU retreating, after Brexit, to no more than the current economic single market with freedom of movement of goods, capital, services and people. At the other end of the spectrum, is a quite different future

in which the 27 member states do much more together, reigniting the European integration favored by Macron if he can win a second term.

Probably the most likely scenario is a broad continuation of the status quo. The EU would muddle through from where it is today and seek to deliver on the Bratislava Declaration agreed just weeks after the Brexit referendum, better tackling migration and border security, and beefing up external security and defense.

However, further setbacks - which are likely in the next few years - could signal a retreat, with the scale of EU functions rolled back and limited resources focused on a smaller number of policy areas, including the single market. One of the triggers for this could be further tension between Brussels and key Eastern European states, especially Poland and Hungary. Only last week, Poland's constitutional tribunal ruled that key articles of one of the EU's primary treaties were incompatible with Polish law, in effect rejecting the principle that EU law has primacy over national legislation in certain areas, and France and Germany perceive Polexit may now be a real risk.

But if Macron were to win big next year, and form a strong relationship with Merkel's successor, the EU could still follow a pathway of deepening cooperation with states sharing more power and resources, and decisions agreed faster and enforced more quickly. A re-elected Macron would, for instance, push hard for the creation of a European Defense Union, which has assumed new importance for him since last month's of the US-UK-Australia security deal.

While the direction of the EU is still uncertain, what is clear is that the new leaders in Berlin and possibly Paris will have a huge bearing on events. The next few months could therefore have an outsized impact in defining the economic and political character of the bloc not just well into the 2020s, but well beyond.

- Courtesy: Arab News

# The effects of too much gaming on minors

Ali Al Ahmad

The Chinese government has also called on families, schools and other sectors of society to create an ideal environment for the healthy growth of minors, which is a shared responsibility of all parties that have guardianship over this age group. Pertinently, the size of the video game market in the world reached \$160 billion towards the end of 2020, which is greater than the film and music industries combined. The growth of

video game sales is expected to reach a whopping \$270 billion by 2025

HINA recently announced a strict law on the number of hours allowed for playing online video games for those under the age of 18. According to the new law, the maximum limit is 3 hours per week - during weekends only and from 8-9 pm. Why all this protection? And what are its justifications?

Let's start with China's population, which is about 1.5 billion, and 18% of them are under the age of 16. That roughly acounts for 270 mil-

lion people. Two years ago, online video games were banned from 10pm to 8am and limited to a maximum of 3 hours per day in China. Then the number of hours were reduced to 1.5 hours per day and 3 hours on weekends. Now the new law prohibits playing during weekdays. A total of 3 hours are allowed during the weekend. After the issuance of the law, all video companies operating in the Chinese market are required to use real names of the subscribers and verify their ages after the subscribers register according to their official identities. The Chinese government has also

called on families, schools and other sectors of society to create an ideal environment for the healthy growth of minors, which is a shared responsibility of all parties that have guardianship over this age group.

Pertinently, the size of the video game market in the world reached \$160 billion towards the end of 2020, which is greater than the film and music industries combined. The growth of video game sales is expected to reach a whopping \$270 billion by 2025. Today, nearly 40% of total sales are concentrat-

ed in the East and Southeast Asia and India, including China, where the online video game market has reached \$40 billion.

Addiction to video games is not only a Chinese problem, but a global one. The World Health Organisation has described this addiction as a "health and psychological condition and a major issue that threatens public health." Today, we find specialised clinics to treat those diagnosed as "video game addicts." In the United States of America, the Harvard Medical School website indicates that half of Americans play video games and 20% of gamers are under the age of 18. In addition, the American Psychological Association confirms that addiction to these games causes insomnia, anxiety, depression, introversion and aggressive behaviour.

In addition to the mental illnesses mentioned, there are physical and intellectual problems that make the issue more dangerous. The high rate of obesity among children, due to the lack of movement while playing in front of screens, has serious consequences if left untreated.

As for the intellectual effects, they come from the fact that some games promote extremist ideas. The makers of these games deliberately use symbols and historical events, and carry in their essence an idea that encourages the rejection of the other because of their different beliefs.

Not only that, but some video games call for the necessity of fighting the different other under dangerous pretexts, and in this environment some are lured after reprogramming their brain. In this struggle from the virtual world to the real world, innocent minds suffer and some get swayed by extremist instincts.

Thankfully the world agrees on the dangers of this new addiction, but the policies of countries to confront it differ. While China's policies visa-vis online gaming has hardened, its neighbour South Korea had a different vision. Its government recently cancelled a law limiting the number of hours of video games for minors, and left the matter to the parents, who are the ones who determine the number of hours that their children spend in front of video game screens.

Entertainment is part of education, and in the present world it comes across as natural for kids because their lives in the virtual world are a reality that cannot be completely ignored. The problem is moderating the online time-spent.

Wasting hours playing video games can have psychological, physical and intellectual effects that may negatively affect behaviour and health of children and young adults. This also makes them less competitive when it comes to entering and succeeding in the future labour market. As adults we have a duty to factor these things in and convince our kids about the pros and cons of video games. The future generation needs to understand that life is a healthy combination of work and play.

- Courtesy Gulf News

# Multilateralism for a progressive world

Huma Arshad

Today's world economy is more complex than ever and there are multiple global challenges, such as climate change, pandemics, and refugees. These are putting increasing demands on the multilateral system

ULTILATERALISM is when at least three governments participate in a particular issue or try to solve a problem. Multilateralism is an example of cooperation among world governments and is used in contrast with unilateralism. On the other hand, unilateralism is when a state acts without regard to the support or interests of other states. For example, the 2003 American-led invasion of Iraq is often given as an example of unilateralism in international relations because it was opposed by many of America's traditional allies like France and Germany. Rather than being a principle of cooperation for the sake of cooperation, multilateralism is believed to be a way to achieve a nation's interest while promoting stability in the world. The global economy has been hugely successful over the past 50 years is unquestionable. A major foundation of that success has been the open multilateral system, which has enabled the emergence of a truly international financial system, reciprocal reduction of trade barriers, and the emergence of many previously poor countries into the status of 'emerging markets or

even 'developed'. The open multilateral system,

however, is increasingly under-appreciated and taken for granted. Multilateral trade agreements strengthen the global economy by making developing countries competitive. They standardize import and export procedures, giving economic benefits to all member nations. Their complexity helps those that can take advantage of globalization, while those who cannot often face hardships. Openness and partnership between countries played a critical part in this success. The United Nations, the World Trade Organization, have been the underpinnings of the multilateral economic system. They became the forums that shaped the "rules of the game" for a global system in which countries have thrived.

Today's world economy is more complex than ever and there are multiple global challenges. such as climate change, pandemics, and refugees. These are putting increasing demands on the multilateral system. Much as we need more international cooperation, multilateralism has come under stress. Protectionist rhetoric and actions are on the rise. Some blame the global financial crisis on excesses caused by globalization. And, although the gains from globalization have been huge, not everyone has benefited, and some are left behind. In response, some countries are turning away from the multilateral solutions of the past.

According to President Xi Jinping of China, the global market system is the ocean we all swim in and cannot escape from. "Any attempt to... channel the waters in the ocean back into isolated lakes and creeks is simply not possible," he added. It is up to us to make sure that everybody can swim in that ocean. This means we need a stronger, more inclusive, and more innovative multilateralism. First, we need stronger and better multilateral institutions. Secondly, we need an economic governance system and institutions which can more equitably reflect the weight of its members. Emerging and developing economies have more than 80 percent of the world's population, and represent more than 35 percent of the world economy up from barely 15 only 25 years ago. And they contribute more than half of global growth. China, a developing economy, is now the largest economy in the world if measured in purchasing power parity, and second largest in

With the Belt and Road Initiative, China has introduced a new way of multilateral cooperation to the world. This promising initiative aims to deepen economic integration by improving trade. infrastructure, investment, and people-to-people connectivity not just across borders, but also on a trans-continental scale

Third, we need new instruments to enable the international system to better manage major global threats and risks. The Green Climate Fund promises to provide the much-needed finance to support the historic Paris climate agreement, but the Clean Development Mechanism and multilateral development banks have already mobilized tens of billions of dollars to fight climate change. The World Bank, together with bilateral partners, has also created a pandemic facility, which can immediately disburse the resources needed to quell any outbreak in its early stages before it becomes a regional or global problem. And we have set up a Global Crisis Facility, which addresses the refugee crisis that has swept the Middle East, and now threatens parts of Asia.

Multilateralism has been tested in the past and will continue to be tested in the future. But it remains a powerful force that is uniquely suited to determine many of the world's most pressing problems. It is the responsibility of all of us as an international community to create a better, and more inclusive multilateralism that can effectively support countries in their domestic agendas for growth and inclusion.

From pandemics and climate change to disruptive technologies and other emerging risks, it is a truism that most of today's global threats cannot be addressed effectively without collective action. The failure of international responses to COVID-19 is only the most recent and dramatic example of the inability of long-standing cooperative mechanisms and institutions to withstand the pressures of nationalism, protectionism, and broader structural and systemic deficiencies. As the nature of security in the 21st century continues to evolve, there is a need to reimagine existing multilateral approaches to critical transnational challenges. Multilateral trade liberalization will be extremely conducive to poverty reduction in developing countries.

# Briefs

# **COAS** briefed on security at ISI HQ visit

From Page 01 Lt Gen Faiz, as per the ISPR, was being posted as the Peshawar corps commander. A day later, the country was gripped by speculations that the prime minister had not signed the summary as he was not consulted before the new ISI chief's appointment.

## Pakistan keen to broaden...

From Page 01 He stressed that the international community must remain positively engaged with the new Afghan Administration, provide urgently needed humanitarian assistance, and take steps to prevent economic collapse including through release of Afghanistan's frozen assets. He also underlined the importance of national reconciliation and an inclusive political structure.

The Japanese Ambassador thanked the Prime Minister for his strong leadership in further solidifying Pakistan's relations with Japan and in support of peace and stability in the region and beyond. The Ambassador also conveyed profound thanks to the Government of Pakistan for facilitation of evacuation of Japanese nationals and others from Afghanistan. Ambassador Matsuda also highlighted the MoU signed between the two sides on export of manpower from Pakistan to Japan under Technical Intern Training Programme and Specified Skilled Workers (SSW) Programme. It was emphasized to re-double efforts to realize the benefits of the MoU. The year 2022 will mark the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties between Pakistan and Japan. The two sides envisage celebration of this mile stone in a befitting manner

## Pakistan needs to work hard on fielding

ISLAMABAD: all-rounder and bowling coach AzharMahmood believes Pakistan side looks very strong on paper for the Twenty20 World Cup but said the Green-shirts needs to control and work hard on fielding. "The batting line-up with some big names and the experience of Mohammad Hafeez and Shoaib Malik on their side along with the bowling firepower provided by Shaheen Shah Afridi and Hassan Ali, this Pakistan side looks very strong on paper. "However, could bring their downfall is their fielding. A catch dropped at a crucial point, or a run out missed when needed most could be the downfall of Pakistan not just against India but any other side. But that's not the only weakness which we should worry about.

"We will also need to con trol extras and it's issues like this, especially in Twenty20 games where the margins are so tight, that could easily mean the difference between a win or a loss. Being lax in the field and giving away unnecessary runs are two areas that Pakistan will need to control and work hard upon. - APP

# Tottenham spoil Newcastle's Saudi party

LONDON: Newcastle's new dawn under the owner ship of the Saudi sovereign wealth fund got off to a disappointing start as Tottenham silenced St James' Park with a 3-2 win on Sunday. The defeat leaves Newcastle

still in the relegation zone without a Premier League win this season.

Expectations on Tyneside are high for a huge injection of funding by the Saudi Public Investment Fund (PIF) to transform Newcastle's fortunes on the field.

PIF governor Yassir Al-Rumayyan was given a hero's welcome by the 55,000 crowd when he was present-

ed before kick-off. A jubilant atmosphere was matched by the perfect start for the home side when Callum Wilson headed home Javier Manquillo's cross inside two minutes. - APP

# Pakistan defeat West Indies in T20-WC warm-up game

Pakistan bowlers maintained a tight line and length in the first 10 overs, which restricted the batting side to 44/2. However, West Indies made a comeback in the second half of the innings, scoring 86 runs



SPORTS DESK

DUBAI: Pakistan defeated West Indies by seven wickets in the T20 World Cup warm-up game in Dubai. The Men in Green chased down 131-run target in 15.3 overs, courtesy impressive knocks by skipper Babar Azam and Fakhar Zaman. Babar scored 50 off 41 balls,

DNA

LAHORE: Chairman, Paki-

stan Cricket Board (PCB)

Ramiz Raja said on Monday

that the 2023 ACC Cup to

be staged in Pakistan would

"The ACC has agreed and

approved that the 2023

event in Pakistan will be a

50-over competition and will

be held in September. This

aligns very nicely with the

ICC Men's Cricket World

Cup 2023, which will be

held in October and Novem-

ber, he said here on fol-

lowing his return from Du-

bai, where he also met the

Board of Control for Cricket

"We are looking forward to

hosting this tournament in

in India (BCCI) officials.

be a 50-over competition.

while Fakhar remained unbeaten on 46 runs off 24 balls. Malik remained not out on 14 runs off 11 balls, while Mohammad Rizwan scored 13 runs off 17 balls. Earlier, batting first after winning the toss, West Indies posted 130/7 in their allotted 20 overs.

Pakistan bowlers maintained a tight line and length in the first 10 overs. which restricted the batting side to 44/2. However, West Indies made a comeback in the second half of the innings, scoring 86 runs.

Middle-order batter ShimronHetmyer was the top run-scorer with 28 runs off 24 balls. Skipper Kieron Pollard smacked pacer HarisRauf for five con-

Pakistan and I am confident

it will be a well-organised

event because this is what

the fans want. "The ACC has

also confirmed next year's

tournament in Sri Lanka

will be played on a 20-

over format and will

be a prelude to

the ICC Men's

T20 World Cup

2022 to be

held in Aus-

tralia from 16

October to 13

November." On

the ACC, Ramiz

"The

Raja said:

ACC was set-

secutive fours in the last over to help West Indies post a fighting total. The hard-hitting all-rounder's fiery cameo yielded 23 runs in 10 balls.

For Pakistan, the spinners dominated the show with Mohammad Hafeez, Imad-Wasim and Shadab Khan conceding only 3.25 runs per over in their eight overs. However, Imad was the only spinner to claim a wicket. ShaheenAfridi bagged two wickets but was expensive after giving away 41 runs in his four overs.

Hasan Ali was impressive after registering figures of 2/21 in his four overs. Haris also bagged two wickets while conceding 32 runs in his four overs.

up to create a unified ap-

proach and collective stance

so that we had one voice and

if there was a situation, all

stood together. I would like

to see our relationship with

other boards and

the ACC to be

strong so that

if there is an

issue, like we

had with the

withdrawal

of a couple

of sides, a

strong and joint

statement could

the ACC plat-

come out from

Need to create a cricketing

bond with BCCI: Ramiz Raja

# Clinical Ireland down Netherlands

### SPORTS DESK

ABU DHABI: Ireland have registered their first victory in the T20 World Cup 2021 against the Netherlands by seven wickets in the Group A opener at Abu Dhabi.

After winning the toss, Netherlands opted to bat but their party was ruined after Curtis Campher came up with a player of the match performance with the bowl. The pacer took four wickets in four balls to put his side in the driving seat. Campher was supported well from the other bowling end with fellow quick Mark Adair managing impressive figures of 3-9, becoming Ireland's most economical bowler in the T20 World Cup.

form. "My message at the

ACC was that we should not

forget this philosophy and I

am optimistic there will be

On his meeting with the

BCCI officials, Ramiz Raja

said: "I met with BCCI Pres-

ident SouravGanguly and

secretary Jay Shah on the

sidelines of the ACC meet-

ings. We need to create a

cricketing bond, while I have

also believed that politics

should stay away from sport

as much as possible and this

has always been our stance.

"A lot of work needs to be

done to revitalise Pakistan-In-

dia cricket but there needs

to be some comfortable level

between the two boards and

then we can see how far we

can go. So overall, we had a

good discussion."

better outcomes in future."

Netherlands got off to a disastrous start after opener Ben Cooper was run out in the first over. Max O'Dowd took charge and ended with 51-runs on the board and was the top scorer for the team

Campher sent back Colin Ackermann (11), Ryan ten Doeschate (0) and Scott Edwards (0) for a hat-trick and then bowled Roelof van der Merwe (0) in a sensational over. He becomes only the third bowler in T20 International history to achieve the feat after Afghanistan's Rashid Khan and LasithMalinga of Sri Lanka in 2019.

Skipper Pieter Seelaar scored 21 to take Netherlands past the 100-run mark. Netherlands posted a low total of 106 after be-

# ing bowled out in the 20th over.

LONDON:Sadio Mane fired an ominous warning to Liver pool's rivals as he insisted the Reds can still improve after warming up for Tuesday's Champions League clash with Atlet ico Madrid by thrashing Watford. JurgenKlopp's side powered to a 5-0 victory at Vicarage Road on Saturday to keep their Premier League title challenge on track. With Liverpool just one point behind leaders Chelsea, they can turn their attention to the most demanding of their Champions League Group B fixtures. Having moved to the top of the group with victories over AC Milan and Porto, the six-time European Cup winners head to Madrid to face the Spanish champions.

Emerging from the Wanda Metropolitano stadium with three

But in last term's tame surrender of the crown, both Mane and Firmino were well below their best. Getting all three firing in unison was an essential task for Liver pool boss Klopp this year and the demolition of Watford suggests he has achieved that goal. It was a memorable day for Liverpool's holy trinity. Senegal forward Mane became only the third African to score 100 Premier League goals with a clinical finish from Salah's pass.

# More to come from Liverpool: Mane

### WEB DESK

points will be a tricky task, but Liverpool can call on an attacking trio that once again looks the envy of the rest of Europe. Mane, Mohamed Salah and Roberto Firmino were unstoppable when Liverpool marched to their first Premier League title in 30 years during the 2019-20 season.

# Barcelona to victory

BARCELONA: Ansu Fati came to the rescue again on Sunday by scoring a sensational goal and earning a penalty in a 3-1 victory over Valencia as Barcelona got a big week off to a winning start. Memphis Depay slammed in the spot-kick and Philippe Coutinho, who came on for Fati on the hour, added a late third to give a comfortable complexion to a game that Valencia had led after just five minutes. Ansu went off with Valencia still chasing an equaliser, an indication of how important Ronald Koeman considers his involvement in Wednesday's Champions League game against Dynamo Kiev, with the season's first Clasico against Real Madrid coming four days later. "We have a week with three big games at home and the first one was the most important," said Koeman. "When you start the game with an early goal conceded there is a mental thing but we overcame it.'

After losing their first two games to Bayern Munich and Benfica, Barca sit bottom of the group, meaning a victory over Kiev is all-but essential. Madrid, meanwhile, are only two points clear of Barcelona in seventh but they have a game in hand and another significant loss on the back of the limp defeat by Atletico Madrid before the international break could have implications for Koeman's future as coach. Yet with Ansu, they have hope, the 18-year-old, who wears the number 10 shirt previously belonging to Lionel Messi, now the symbol of what the club are promoting as the 'Dream Teen', and optimism for an exciting future. This was the teenager's fourth game since returning from 11 months out with a knee injury. "We try to get Ansu to his maximum as soon as possible," said Koeman. "One hour was what we discussed with the doctors, above all not to overload him in this important week." There were some short-term boosts too, with Sergio Aguero coming on as a substitute in the final minutes once the result was secure to make his Barcelona debut, four months after joining from Manchester City. A calf injury has meant a slow start at Camp Nou for Aguero but the 33-year-old will be a valuable option for Koeman if he can regain form and fitness in the next few weeks. For the third time in six games, Barcawere behind inside the first five minutes. Jordi Alba was well-placed to clear the corner at the near post but instead skewed to the edge of the penalty area, where Gavi was shielded from intercepting and Jose Gaya arrived, ripping a superb shot into the bottom corner. - APP

# Ansu inspires | Norrie beats Basilashvili to claim Indian Wells title

DNA

CALIFORNIA: Cameron Norrie's breakthrough season reached a high point in the California desert on Sunday with a 3-6, 6-4, 6-1 win over Nikoloz Basilashvili to become the first Briton to win the ATP Indian Wells title. Norrie rallied from a set down to earn his career best 47th win of the season and is the first player from Great Britain to lift the trophy, achieving what former finalists Andy Murray, Tim Henman and Greg Rusedski failed to do. This is Norrie's second title in his sixth ATP final of the season after winning his maiden crown earlier this year in Los Cabos.

The victory will also propel him into the top 20 in the world for the first time in his career, and move him past Daniel Evans to become the new British No 1. "I am so happy, this is my biggest title," said Norrie, who clinched

the crown when Basilashvili belted a forehand long on the first match point. Norrie hit just one ace, had two double faults but won 77% of his first serve points and played better in the crucial moments than Basilashvili. "It has been an incredible week. I was expecting it to be a longer match and he made a couple of errors at the end," said Norrie. Murray was the most recent British finalist in 2009 when he lost to Spaniard Rafael Nadal, Henman made the final twice, in 2002 and 2004 when he lost in straight sets to Roger Federer 6-3, 6-3. Canadian-born Brit Rusedski was runner-up in 1998.

Norrie was born in Johannesburg. South Africa, grew up in New Zealand before becoming the top collegiate player in the United States at Texas Christian University. He has represented Great Britain for the past eight years. The 29-year-old Basilashvili was going for his third title of the season.



DNA CALIFORNIA: Paula champion Victoria Azarenka.

> a set since her first match of the tournament, needed three hours and four minutes to out-muscle Azarenka 7-6 (7/5), 2-6, 7-6 (7/2).

"Every morning I wake up and my dream is to win a tournament like this," Badosa said. "I have to keep working hard and always believe. The key is to en-

Badosa won her only previous

# Badosa beats Azarenka

demonstrated her mental toughness to become the WTA Indian Wells champion in her desert debut on Sunday with a hard-fought, three-set victory over two-time The Spaniard, who had not lost

joy the journey.'

WTA final earlier this season in Belgrade but she did it via a retirement over Ana Konjuh. This one was sweeter because Badosa got to close out the championship point on the court, hammering a forehand winner to the open side that Azarenka could only watch sail in. Badosa celebrated the biggest win of her career by falling face first to the court, both hands covering her face while the crowd cheered. "This is a dream come true," said Badosa during the postmatch festivities on the court.

# Azerbaijan marks 30th anniversary of independence

Foreign Minister Jeyhun Bayramov earlier congratulated Azerbaijanis on the Restoration of Independence Day. "30 years ago, on October 18, Azerbaijan restored its independence

BAKU: Azerbaijani President IlhamAliyev has said that "it is far more difficult to preserve independence than to gain it". He made the remarks in an address to the nation on the 30th anniversary of the restoration of the country's independence on October 18. Foreign Minister JeyhunBayramov earlier congratulated Azerbaijanis on the Restoration of Independence Day. "30 years ago, on October 18, Azerbaijan restored its independence. I cordially congratulate all compatriots on the Day of Restoration of Independence, which fell on the anniversary of the 44-day victory chronicle. Long live independent Azerbai-

jan!" Bayramov said on his Twit-

ter account on October 18.

On October 15, 2021, the Azerbaijani parliament adopted a bill renaming the Republic Day of Azerbaijan, which was celebrated on May 28 as Independence Day and October 18 as the Restoration of Independence Day. The bill was approved by Azerbaijani President IlhamAliyev. Azerbaijan has a centuries-long history of statehood and established the first ever-democratic Republic in the East in 1918. Azerbaijan lost its state independence in 1920 only to restore it in 1991 in the wake of the dissolution of the Soviet Union. The people of Azerbai-

jan benefiting from the opportunity to foster democratic greater values have chosen the path of building a modern democratic state

based on its national statehood traditions, historical and cultural heritage. In the early years of its independence, the young Republic faced the military aggression of Armenia, internal instability, hardships of a transition period and other serious challenges. However, under national leader HeydarAliyev's leadership, Azerbaijan overcame all the difficulties and, having succeeded

in identifying and following a consistent approach to strategic development, is now transforming into an economically and politically dynamic modern state and consolidating its global and regional position. Thirty years is not a relatively

long history, but Azerbaijan has proved to the world that we are the nation dedicated ourselves to living independently and successfully. Despite the challenges and victims, we gained our independence at the beginning of the 20th

century and regained it at the end of the same century. Azerbaijan recognizes the value of living in an independent and sovereign

country and continues to follow this path. With its glorious victory in the 44-day war with Armenia in 2020, under President IlhamAliyev's leadership, the country has set as the ultimate goal of its overall strategy to ensure the prosperity, sustainable development, and well-being of Azerbaijan and to contribute to maintaining security and stability in the whole region.

The victory which was gained under Commander-in-CheifAliyev in last year's war can be considered the milestone of these successes. On September 27, 2020, Azerbaijani villages and military positions came under Armenia's artillery fire, causing casualties among civilians and servicemen, making the Azerbaijani army respond to those provocations militarily. As a result, Alivey ordered the army to end the longstanding occupation and liberate the occupied territories.

# Shahbaz lashes out at govt...

From Page 01 He further criticised the PTI-led government's economic policies and said that there is no comparison between PTI's governance and Riyasat e Madinah. "[As against present-day Pakistan under PTI's rule, no one ever slept hungry in Riyasat e Madinah, exemplary justice prevailed there, and everyone was given their due rights," said Shahbaz. "It startles us when the government compares itself with Ri-yasat e Madinah," he said while criticising the government's economic policies. Lashing out at the government for inflation, he said the electricity rate had been hiked up Rs1.5 per unit, while the price of petroleum products had also increased.

Shahbaz said the price of ghee had been increased by Rs49 and cooking oil Rs110, as he lamented that "what could be crueller than depriving the poor of food". The Opposition leader asked the government that how could a person who

earns Rs20,000 a month afford electricity bills worth Rs10,000, as he claimed that such a situation had not arisen since Pakistan's inception. "To fulfil the IMF's (International Monetary Fund) conditions they took every measure [...] but despite that, I have heard reports that IMF is still not satisfied and is trying to impose further conditions."

Opposition leader asked whether there would be a stop to this "destruction or not", as he said that the incumbent government wants to leave the country "on the path to destruction". Shahbaz reminded Prime Minister Imran Khan that he had, before coming into power, said that if the rupee's value falls against the dollar, then the prime minister is a thief.

"If the price of medicines has risen by 100%, then what should we call this government [...] If the US dollar gains 40% against rupee then what should we call this government?" he asked. "Imported inflation is leading to starvation and suicide [...] The country's crops might be affected due to bad weather conditions, but Pakistan usually has wheat and other commodities in abundance," he said.

# Opp. holding protests...

From Page 01 "The Sindh government

has released wheat into the open market today," the minister said, adding that the entire world is grappling with inflation and Pakistan is no exception. "We don't live on another planet. If there is a worldwide increase in the prices of oil, then we will also witness a hike in the prices," he said. "There are no proponents of democracy in the Opposition as they are always looking to strike political deals," he said, as he continued criticising the Opposition.

The information minister asked the Opposition to come up with an alternative solution to curb the rising inflation in the country.

'The Opposition has no organisational or economic policy in place," he said, adding that anti-government parties should, first of all, take a look at their previous tenures and recreate a policy to steer the country out of problems before resorting to criticism. "Merely lashing out at the premier will not get these parties anywhere. Fawad said as he berated the chief of Pakistan Democratic Movement, Maulana Fazlur Rehman.

# Army soldier martyred

From Page 01 a statement, said intense firing took place after the terrorists had fired on a security forces' checkpoint. Following the terrorists' move, the troops had initiated a prompt response and effectively engaged the terrorists' location, the military's media wing said. The martyred soldier was

identified as Sepoy Saifullah, 25, resident of Karak, according to the ISPR. The security forces are carrying out an area clearance to eliminate any terrorists found in the area.

# Business / World



# Briefs

# **Local POL** production increase 2.35%

ISLAMABAD: Overall production of petroleum commodities has witnessed an increase of 2.35 percent during the first two months of current financial year 2021-22 as compared to corresponding period of fiscal year 2020-21.

The Petroleum, Oil and Lubricants (POL) products that showed positive growth include Jet Fuel Oil the production of which increased by 14.40 percent during the period under review, Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS) reported.

Similarly, the production of Motor Spirits, Lubricating Oil, Solvant Naptha, Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) and other petroleum products witnessing increase of 7.48 percent, 168.36 percent, 15.66 percent, 7.26 percent and 21.26 percent

respectively. However, the production of Kerosene Oil has decreased by 1.06 percent, High Speed Diesel 1.25 percent, Diesel Oil NOS 16.25 percent, Furnace Oil 7.84 percent and Jute Batching oil 41.61 percent during the period under review.

On year-on-year basis, the production of POL products has witnessed an increase of 8.83 percent during August 2021 as compared to the output of August 2020.

# Air strikes hit capital of Ethiopia's Tigray

ADDIS ABABA: Ethiopian forces hit the northern city of Mekele with air strikes on Monday, humanitarian officials and diplomats told AFP, the first reported bombing raids over the Tigrayan capital since the early stages of the year-long war.

Air raids were reported inside and outside Mekele, the regional capital held by the Tigray People's Liberation Front since it was recaptured from government forces in June.

"Air strike now in Mekele," one humanitarian official in the city said via SMS to AFP on condition of anonymity, describing attacks also confirmed by a second humanitarian source, two diplomats

The first raid occurred in the morning on the outskirts of Mekele near a cement factory, the sources said.

and a rebel spokesman.

The second took place around midday in the city centre near the Planet Hotel, often used by top officials from the TPLF, the region's former ruling party and the target of a government military operation since November 2020.

The air strikes are the first on Mekele since the early days of the conflict, and come as the government of Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed appeared to be pressing a new offensive in the war. – **APP** 

## Polio drive in Afghanistan to start next month: UN

KABUL: Afghanistan will kick off its first countrywide polio immunisation campaign in years next month to protect millions of unvaccinated children, the UN said Monday. The United Nations' health

and children's agencies said the campaign to vaccinate against the crippling and potentially fatal disease would begin on November 8, with full support from the Taliban leadership.

"WHO and UNICEF welcome the decision by the Taliban leadership supporting the resumption of house-to-house polio vaccination across Afghanistan," they said in a statement. Since the Taliban swept

back into power two months ago, the UN had been talking with the group's leadership to address the towering health challenges in the country, the statement said. "The Taliban leadership has expressed their commitment for the inclusion of female frontline workers," it said.

Afghanistan's new rulers had also committed to "providing security and assuring the safety of all health workers across the country, which is an essential prerequisite for the implementation of polio vaccination campaigns," the agencies said. - APP

# Pakistan-Belarus educational co-op high on bilateral ties

The two sides discussed the opportunities of mutual cooperation between Pakistani Universities and Scientific organizations and BSTU

### **DNA**

MINSK: Ambassador of Pakistan to Belarus Sajjad Haider Khan accompanied by the Deputy Head of Mission Abdullah Amin and Mr. Shahmir Amir (Cyber Security Expert from Pakistan) visited Belarusian State Sergey Shetko, Head of Research Unit Dr. Mikhail Dyadenko, Head of International Cooperation Department Ms. Olga Rogova and Dean of the Faculty of Information Technology Mr. Dmitry Shiman attended the interaction. The Deputy Rector gave a detailed presentation on the structure and programs of the University.

The two sides discussed the opportunities of mutual cooperation between Pakistani Universities and Scientific organizations



assured to assist the University delegation in arranging their meetings with the relevant Pa-

kistani institutions during their exhibition "International Trade visit to Pakistan in November 2021 for participation in the

and Industry Fair" in Karachi. The top Pakistan Cyber Security

expert Shahmir Amir offered to cooperate in education particularly through organizing courses on Cyber Security for the students of BSTU through a mix of online and physical participation.

The University management expressed its readiness to consider the proposal and the two sides agreed work for strengthening the educational ties between the two countries.

Established in 1930, BSTU is one of the oldest and the largest State owned scientific Centre of the Republic of Belarus developing fundamental and applied research in priority areas. The University cooperates with more than 50 universities of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) countries and more than 210 research and educational organizations from 40 countries of the world.

The event was attended

by a large number of Paki-

stani-Americans including

professionals from the fi-

nancial sector, IBA Kara-

chi's Alumni, investors and

members from various pro-

On the occasion, Paki-

sionals thanked the gov-

ernment for the landmark

initiatives for the diaspora

and underscored their re-

solve to continue to work

fessional backgrounds.

stani-American

other community

profes-

# French PM meets Pope as abuse scandal rages

VATICAN CITY: French Prime Minister Jean Castex met Pope Francis at the Vatican Monday as the French Catholic Church battles a storm over clerical child sex abuse and the sanctity of confession.

The long-planned trip to Rome, which includes talks with Italian Prime Minister Mario Draghi, follows the publication of a devastating report estimating that French Catholic clergy had abused 216,000 children since 1950. Pope Francis, who has made battling the global scourge of clerical abuse a priority of his papacy, expressed "my shame, our shame" at the findings, echoing a similar sentiment from French church leaders.

But a row broke out when Archbishop Eric de Moulins-Beaufort, the head of the Bishops' Conference of France, said priests were not obliged to report sexual abuse if they heard about it during the Catholic ritual of confession, used to admit to sins. His words were in line with Vatican guidelines updated last year, which call on clerics to report claims of abuse. They say confession is subject to "the strictest bond of the sacramental seal", while saying the confessor should try and convince the penitent to tell someone else.

In France, victims' advocates pointed out that French law recognizes professional confidentiality for priests, but it does not apply in potentially criminal cases involving violence or sexual assault against minors. - APP

# Myanmar to free 5,000 anti-coup protesters

YANGON: Myanmar will release more than 5,000 people jailed for protesting against a February coup which ousted the civilian government, the country's junta chief said Monday.

A total of 5,636 prisoners will be freed to mark the Thadingyut festival later in October, Min Aung Hlaing said, days after he was excluded from a regional summit over his government's commitment to defusing the bloody crisis.

chaos since the coup, with more than 1,100 civilians killed in a bloody crackdown on dissent and more than 8,000 arrested according to a local monitoring group. More than 7,300 are cur-

Myanmar has been mired in

rently behind bars across the country, according to the Assistance Association for Political Prisoners. The junta chief gave no

details on who would be included in the list and prison authorities did not respond to AFP requests for comment. Myanmar authorities released more than 2,000 anti-coup protesters from prisons across the country in July, including journalists critical of the military government. -APP

## Facebook eyes 10,000 EU jobs

PARIS: Facebook on Monday announced plans to hire 10,000 people in the European Union to build the "metaverse", a virtual reality version of the internet that the tech giant sees as the future.

Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg has been a leading voice in Silicon Valley hype around the idea of the metaverse, which would blur the lines between the physical world and the digital one.

The technology might, for example, allow someone to don virtual reality glasses that make it feel as if they're face-to-face with a friend when in fact they are thousands of miles apart and connected via the internet. 'The metaverse has the potential to help unlock access

to new creative, social, and

economic opportunities. And Europeans will be shaping it right from the start," Facebook said in a blog post. The European Union hires, spread over the next five years, will include "highly specialised engineers", but the company otherwise gave few details of its plans for the new metaverse team. "The EU has a number of advantages that make it a great place for tech companies to invest - a large consumer market, first class universities and, crucially, top quality talent," the blog post said. - APP

# HC Chaudhri urges to counter Islamophobia ISLAMABAD: Adviser to

High Commissioner to Australia on Monday stressed the need for clearing misconceptions about Islam, the religion which promotes peace and harmony for mankind. In his keynote address at

the Seerat-un-Nabi Peace Conference organized by Pehchan Media Network, the High Commissioner called for collective efforts to fight the emerging threat of Islamophobia.

Zahid Hafeez urged a global dialogue to counter the rise of Islamophobia by promoting the message of interfaith harmony, according to the tweet of the High

**DNA** 

BAKU: Deputy Prime Min-

ister and Minister of Foreign

Affairs HE Sheikh Moham-

med bin Abdulrahman Al-

Thani met Monday in Baku

with Minister of Foreign Af-

fairs of the Republic of Azer-

baijan HE Jeyhun Bayramov.

regional and international

Commissioner. He said the life of Holy Prophet Hazrat Muhammad (Peace Be Upon Him) was a beacon of guidance, who taught about love and brotherhood. He condemned the trend of

associating Islam with terrorism and emphasized an effective response around the world to shun such an approach.

The conference held via video-link was attended by intellectuals and scholars including Maulana Syed Shoaib Naqvi, Fahad Hanif, Sana Alam, Naweed Syed, Moninder Singh, Khizar Niazi, Ejaz Khan, and Muhammad Ashraf. - APP



# Tarin urges overseas to open RDAs for financial services

Prime Minister on Finance and Revenue, Shaukat Tarin on Monday reaffirmed the government's resolve to provide seamless financial services to the Pakistan Diaspora spread throughout the globe.

delivering a He was speech on 'Roshan Digital Accounts: Benefits for Non-Resident Pakistanis' at an event hosted by Consulate General of Pakistan in New York, according to press statement issued by the Finance Ministry here. The advisor, encouraged Pakistani-Americans to utilize the facilities presented by Roshan Digital

Accounts (RDAs) and also explained various reforms that the government was undertaking to ensure sustainable and inclusive development of country' He said that diaspora was

the backbone of Pakistan's economy, urging the overseas Pakistanis to open Roshan Digital Accounts, which Azerbaijan, Qatar agree on

Xarici işlər Nazirliy

Adviser Finance commended the valuable contribution of Pakistani Americans and affirmed full support and facilitation on the occasion.

Speaking on the occasion. Governor State Bank of Pakistan (SBP), Dr. Baqir briefed about the Roshan Digital Account initiative by the government and encouraged expats to take advantage of the scheme. He assured the members of

the diaspora that innovation in the banking sector to

facilitate the overseas Pakistanis, was a foremost institutional priority for SBP. Speaking on the occasion, Executive Director, Institute of Business Administration (IBA), Karachi, Dr. S. Akbar Zaidi said that the economy of Pakistan had been reinvigorated with multiple industries including the Information Technology (IT) sector witnessing a boom.

He further highlighted the recent developments in the higher education sector.

# for Pakistan. - APP **Kerb currency market**

many

KARACHI: Following were the Closing Rates of foreign currencies in kerb market issued by the Forex Association of Pakistan (FAP), here on Monday. - APP



F.C.	LOW RATE	HIGH RATE
U.S \$ (Inter Bank)	172.85	172.95
U.S \$ (Cash Free Market)	172.80	173.30
SAUDIA RIYAL	45.70	46.20
UAE DIRHAM		
EURO	199.00	201.00
UK POUND	235.50	237.50
JAPANI YEN	1.48506	1.50506
CHF	184.33	185.33
DKK	26.47	26.57
NOK	20.20	20.30
SEK	19.68	19.78
AUD \$	126.00	127.20
CAD \$	137.80	139.00
INDIAN RUPEE (New Edit		
CHINESE YUAN	26.00	26.60
AFGHANI RUPEE		

### An agreement was signed during the meeting, on mutual exemption from entry visa requirements for ordinary passport holders between the government of the State of Qatar and the government of the Republic of Azerbaijan. During the meeting, they reviewed bilateral cooperation relations between the two countries and a number of

mutual visa exemption

# China-Pakistan Center inaugurated in Qingdao

The project covers an area of 1.93 hectare, with a construction area of nearly 100,000 square meters, total investment of about RMB 1.3 billion and a construction period of three years BEIJING: The commencement nate the establishment of Pakistan a shared future for mankind."

ceremony of the China Pakistan Center project located in Shanghai Cooperation Organization Demonstration Area (SCODA) was held at Jiaozhou, Qingdao in China.

After the completion of the project, it will give full play to the advantages of SCODA, promote industrial cooperation between Pakistan and China, expand the trade quota, facilitate two-way investment, and strengthen non-governmental exchanges between the two countries in culture, education, sports, tourism, etc.

The China Pakistan Center project is led by Pakistan China Center, Qingdao Tourism Group and contracted to be built by SCO (Qingdao) International Business, Travel and Culture Exchange Center Co., Ltd. The project covers an area of 1.93 hectare, with a construction area of nearly 100,000 square meters, total investment of about RMB 1.3 billion and a construction period of three years. The project will cover Pakistan Visa Service Center, China-Paki-

stan Talent Training Center, Chi-

na-Pakistan Enterprise Headquar-

ters Base, International Sister

City Commercial Plaza, High-end

Pakistani Ethnic Customs Hotel

and so on, which will also coordi-

Talent Center, Product Exhibition and Exchange Center, Two-way Cultural Tourism Education and Exchange Center, China-Pakistan Cross-border E-commerce Exchange Center, Financial Center, Investment Center, Business Associations, Enterprise headquarters, etc, China Economic Net (CEN) reported.

The launching ceremony was chaired by Meng Qingsheng, Deputy Director of the Management Committee of SCODA. On the occasion, Liu Jianjun, Party Secretary of Jiaozhou, congratulated China Pakistan Center project on its official commencement and highlighted that, "China Pakistan Center is the model project of this year's series of cooperation."

With the launch of the project, we sincerely invite Pakistani guests and business friends to Qingdao to negotiate settlement in the SCODA, and to participate in the construction and operation of the China Pakistan Center project and the Pakistan International Communication Hub.

"We will work together to create a new platform for "Belt and Road Initiative" international cooperation and make positive contributions to building a community with In his speech, Moin ul Haque. Pakistan Ambassador to China, thanked the Qingdao Municipal Government and the SCODA for their efforts and contributions to the project.

He also expressed his hope that the project can be completed at an early date and play a greater role in developing economic and trade exchanges between the two countries and strengthening the friendship between the two people. Wang Zihai, Director of Pakistan

China Center, Pakistan's Honorable Investment Counsellor introduced the main functions and significance



of the China Pakistan Center project, as well as the project launch, establishment, land replacement, formalities, start-up and other specific preparatory work. Furthermore, a tripartite coopera-

tion agreement was signed by the representatives of Pakistan China Center, Habib Bank of Pakistan, Beijing Branch, Qingdao Xinquan Plastic Machinery Co., Ltd, Qingdao Lulu Agricultural Machinery Equipment Co., Ltd, Qingdao Shanghe Jiuyuan recycled Fiber Co., Ltd.

The three parties agreed to jointly promote the development of twoway investment and trade between China and Pakistan. With the strong support of Pakistan China Center, Pakistan Habib Bank and Qingdao Shanghe Jiuyuan Recycled Fiber, Qingdao Xinquan Plastic Machinery, Qingdao Lulu Agricultural Machinery Equipment will have joined forces to promote the relevant industrial cooperation between Pakistan and China. Taking SCODA as the center, the three parties will cooperate to promote the landing of the industrial project to invest in Pakistan by Qingdao Shanghe Jiuyuan Recycled Fiber, Qingdao Xinquan Plastic Machinery, and Qingdao Lulu Agricultural Machinery. – APP



Briefs

Russia

suspends NATO mission

after staff

expelled

AGENCIES

MOSCOW: Russia will sus-

are set to plunge relations

between Moscow and the

transatlantic security body

to new depths when they

take effect at the start of

"Following certain meas-

ures taken by NATO, the

basic conditions for com-

mon work no longer exist,'

Lavrov told reporters in

"In response to NATO's

activities, we suspend the

work of our permanent mis-

sion to NATO, including the

work of the chief military

from November 1, or maybe it will take a couple more

Lavrov also announced that

NATO's military liaison and

information offices in Mos-

cow would be closed, say-

ing accreditations would be

recalled at the beginning of

CTD kills 3

terrorists in

Pakpattan

**DNA** 

PAKPATTAN: Punjab Coun-

ter-Terrorism Department

(CTD) killed three terror-

ists in Pakpattan and arrest-

ed four Tehreek-e-Taliban

Pakistan (TTP) terrorists

in 22 intelligence-based op-

erations (IBOs) operations

The CTD conducted an IBO in Pakpattan and killed

three terrorists. One of the

dead was named as Manzo-

or Ahmed while two others

were yet to be identified.

The CTD team also recov-

ered two hand grenades, a

Kalashnikov, 1,100gm ex-

plosives material and other

arms from the terrorists'

Counter-terrorism depart

ment teams also conducted

operations and arrested

terrorists Ghafar from Sahi-

wal and Abdul Raheem Maki

from Chiniot and Rahim Ak-

bar from Rawalpindi, Has-

san Raza from Tehreek-e-Jaf-

faria Pakistan from Multan.

The CTD officials said that

Rahim Akbar and Hassan

Raza were trying to spread

The CTD teams also recov-

ered hateful sectarian lit-

erature from their proces-

sion. Punjab CTD lodged

FIRs against all the arrest-

sectarian divisions

across Punjab.

representative,

days," he said.

next month.

Moscow.

# Islamahar POST



TUESDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2021 | WWW.ISLAMABADPOST.COM.PK

# More Chinese agricultural technologies to help Pakistan

"China-Pakistan cooperation in cultivating rice, corn, soybean, sugarcane and other crops has yielded fruitful results and play the important role in promoting development of our bilateral relations and deepening friendship between our people"

pend the activities of its diplomatic mission to NATO BEIJING: Chinese Foreign Minand close the alliance's ofistry Spokesperson, Zhao Lijifices in Moscow in response an on Monday said that as the to its expulsion of eight Rus-China-Pakistan Economic Corrisians in a row over spying. dor (CPEC) entered the second The moves, announced on phase, there will be more Chi-Monday by Russian Foreign nese agricultural technologies Minister Sergey Lavrov, flowing into Pakistan.

> "China-Pakistan cooperation in cultivating rice, corn, soybean, sugarcane and other crops has yielded fruitful results and play the important role in promoting development of our bilateral relations and deepening friendship between our people," he said. Addressing the launching cere-

mony of "Kisan (farmer) Portal" for the farmers under Pakistan Citizen's Portal in Islamabad, Prime Minister Imran Khan said that Pakistani farmers have to learn new techniques to boost productivity like China. Prime Minister Imran Khan stated that CPEC has included the agriculture sector in its umbrella and there is also a training programme. CPEC will boost the agriculture sector. Agriculture is part of CPEC (second phase). In response to PM Imran Khan remarks, Zhao Lijian said, "As the CPEC enters the second



Terming China and Pakistan as all weather strategic cooperative partners, he remarked that the agricultural cooperation is an integral part of CPEC an important pilot project of Belt and Road Initiative.

"We will continue to uphold the Silk Road spirit of peace and cooperation, openness, inclusiveness, mutual learning and the mutual benefit," he said.

China would remain in close communication with Pakistan in the work to form efficient practical cooperation mechanism to promote socio economic development and improve people's well being to build an even closer China-Pakistan community

era, he said.

It may be mentioned here that Minister for National Food Security and Research Syed Fakhar Imam has also stated that Pakistan has to adopt Chinese technology for abundant agriculture-food. "Pakistan can be successful like China by adopting their technology and discipline," he remarked while speaking as chief guest at an event in connection with World Food Day (WFD) jointly organized by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and Ministry of National Food Security and Research (MNFS&R) in

Quaid-e-Azam, he said that

if Shehbaz Sharif was clear

of money laundering charg-

es from a London court, he

should present the evidenc-

es which became the base

of his alleged clearance in

money laundering allega-

tions by London court, in

his today's appearance in an

He said that Shehbaz Sharif

and his accomplices tried

to distort the facts and fig-

ures to befool the masses by

projecting a narrative that

London court had acquitted

Shehbaz Sharif from money

laundering charges, adding

that Shehbaz Sharif was us-

ing delaying tactics to flee

accountability court.

Shehbaz trying

to escape

accountability

ABID RAZA

LAHORE: Adviser to Prime

Minister on Accountability

and Interior Shahzad Akbar

on Monday said that Paki-

stan Muslim League-Nawaz

president Shehbaz Sharif

had tried to escape from the

accountability process as he

today during his appearance

in an accountability court

pertaining to Telegraphic Transfers (T.T), assets

beyond known source of

income and money launder-

ing case pleaded for next

hearing date for attending

National Assembly session.

Addressing a press confer-

ence here at 90 Shahrah-e-

Sheikh slams PML-N leaders

# martyred in blast QUETTA: One police offi-

Police official

cial was martyred and 13 were left injured after a blast took place near Balochistan University at Quetta's Saryab Road, the counter-terrorism department (CTD) said Monday.

Three pedestrians were also injured in the blast, which took place near a police mobile, CTD officials said. The bomb was planted on a motorcycle, according to the CCTV footage of the incident. Rescue officials have shifted the injured people to the Civil Hospital Quetta and Bolan Medical Complex Hospital to provide them with the necessary treatment.

Meanwhile, Minister for Interior Sheikh Rasheed summoned a report on the blast, as he expressed his condolences to the family of the martyred police officer. "We will not allow terrorists to disrupt the peace in Balochistan [...] the federal government will provide all necessary resources to the provincial government," he added. – APP

## SC grants bail to Zahir Jaffer's mother

ISLAMABAD: The Supreme Court on Monday accepted the bail plea of Asamt Adamjee, mother of Zahir Jaffer, the prime accused in murder of Noor Mukadam, against surety bonds of Rs 1 million. The court also disposed of the bail of Zahir Jaffer's father Zakir Jaffer over with-

drawal of bail application. The court turned down the request of Zahir's parents to strike down the Islamabad High Court's (IHC) order in which it had rejected the bail pleas of Zahir's parents. A three-member SC bench comprising Justice Umar Ata Bandial, Justice Syed Mansoor Ali Shah and Justice Qazi Muhammad Amin Ahmed heard the case. The father and mother of the accused had filed two separate pleas in the top court

through their counsel. ings, the bench observed that the role of Zahir's mother in the case was secondary.

Justice Bandial observed that prima facie, there was apparently no serious evidence available against the accused's mother in the crime. - APP

# Covid tally continues decline

ISLAMABAD: The national tally of Covid-19 pandemic on Monday reported the lowest positive cases during past 24 hours amid decline in national positivity ratio, disease trend and death rate.

The National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) in a tweet on it's official handle shared the latest disease statistics. The nerve centre of the country in its fight against the pandemic wrote that some 39,902 tests were conducted across the country with 663 more people tested positive for the contagious disease. - APP

# phase, there will be more Chinese agricultural technologies means huge potential in our agflowing into Pakistan which

GUJRANWALA: Lieutenant General Syed Asim Munir hands over command of Gujranwala Corps to Lieutenant General Muhammad Aamer, Corps Commander Gujranwala during a Corps Change of Command Ceremony. - DNA

# Pakistan condemns extrajudicial IIOJK killings

"Equally condemnable is the RSS-BJP combine's ploy to demonize Kashmiri Muslims, by stirring up communal tensions"

ISLAMABAD: international community.

ed terrorists and launched further investigation into PM Imran, and just struggle of the peo-COAS visit

SAIFULLAH

**NCOC** 

ISLAMABAD: PM Imran Khan and General Qamar Javed Bajwa Chief of Army Staff (COAS) visited NCOC on Monday

DG NCOC Major General Asif Mahmood Goraya apprised the forum on latest Covid-19 situation, measures in place to contain the spread of disease, vaccine administration including future Covid-19 management strategy. PM appreciated efforts of NCOC and all federating units for synergised response during pandemic for ensuring the safety & amp; wellbeing of the people of Pakistan. PM directed all stakeholders to maximise efforts for mandatory vaccination drive and enforcement of requisite NPIs. Later PM presented NCOC memento to Lieutenant General Hamood Uz Zaman Khan, on his retirement, for outstanding services rendered as National Coordinator at NCOC playing an instrumental role in the nation's fight against Covid 19 through flawless management of resources and seamless coordination among all stakeholders.

SHUJAAT HAMZA

Pakistan Monday strongly condemned the continuing extrajudicial killings in staged encounters and fake cordonand-search operations, as well as arbitrary detentions and crimes against humanity by Indian occupation forces in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir. In a statement, the Foreign Office spokesperson said, the deteriorating security and human rights situation in the occupied territory was a matter of grave concern for the "We also strongly condemn

India's ongoing propaganda to malign the indigenous ple of IIOJK for their right to self-determination by raising the bogey of terrorism," he said.

He said Pakistan had also been alerting the international community about India's track record of orchestrating false-flag operations to undermine the Kashmir freedom movement. "Equally condemnable is the RSS-BJP combine's ploy to demonize Kashmiri Muslims, by stirring up communal tensions." He said Pakistan called on India to halt its state-sponsored terrorism, refrain from propaganda against Kashmiris, lift its suffocating military siege and let the people of IIOJK exercise their right to self-determination as promised in various UN Security Council

### on Monday warned Pakistan Muslim League (PML-N) central leadership to stop slandering the country's institutions publically, terming it a dangerous game to get petty

political gains.

# over attacking state institutions political grave". KHAYAM ABBASI

ISLAMABAD: Minister for In-

terior, Sheikh Rashid Ahmed

"Defeat was their fate and

they would face same in fu-

ture as well, as they were

doing all this for the desire

of getting power," Sheik

Rashid said addressing a

press conference. He said

that unfortunately Paki-

stan Muslim League-Nawaz

(PML-N) was trying to ma-

lign state institutions for

petty political gains but it

would fail to do so, he said.

He advised the leadership

of PML-N to stop defaming

the country's respectable

institutions in public or us-

ing inappropriate language.

"By discussing the country's

institutions at public places.

PML-N Vice President Mar-

yam Nawaz was "digging her

He said that the present opposition had no vision to understand the prevailing regional situation and they had selected the wrong time for holding rallies and protests. He said that the present government would complete its five-year term. He also expressed his confidence that the PTI government would also return

for the next tenure. He said that the present government had secured Pakistan from default and sanctions due to the effective policies of Prime Minister Imran Khan. He said that opposition parties were in a state of disappointment and stress as against their wishes, the present government was successfully running the state affairs.

Sheikh Rashid said, "The opposition has been saying since December last year that PTI is going to lose power, but it should clear any misunderstanding about the government. Prime Minister Imran Khan is so lucky to have got such incompetent



and ineffective opposition." He said that the issue of inflation was connected with the changing international economic situation as no one in the government wants inflation in the country. He said that the government was taking sincere steps to control inflation and making a change in the life of the common man. He said that on-arrival visas

for Afghanistan had been stopped as an online visa service had been started for Afghanistan to address all related issues and making this process more transparent and smooth. He said the government had decided to order to ensure foolproof security and controlling crime rate, 1,000 additional personnel were being inducted in Islamabad Police while the government was going to launch its new air patrolling unit form next Friday. He said that the government had started International

The minister said that in

waive off the visa fee.

Border Management System (IBMS) at the Torkham and Chaman border which was for the first time in the history of Pakistan while further points will be added also. He said with this the govern-

ment will use modern technology to get exact data and for maintaining complete records of all entry and exit movements at the Pak-Afghan border.

He said that the borders of Torkham and Chaman had been placed on the biometric system now while the remaining borders will also be added to the system. He said that Prime Minister is likely to inaugurate a new 150-bed hospital in the federal capital.

# **US 'very concerned'** over China's hypersonic test

GENEVA: The United States is "very concerned" about China's hypersonic missile tests, US disarmament ambassador Robert Wood said Monday, after reports that Beijing launched one with a nuclear capacity in August. On Saturday, the Financial Times reported that China had launched a hypersonic missile that completed a circuit of the planet before landing, missing its target.

"We are very concerned by what China has been doing on the hypersonic front," said Wood, who next week steps down from his post in Geneva after seven years. Hypersonic missiles, like tra-

ditional ballistic missiles, can fly more than five times the speed of sound (Mach 5). But they are more manoeuvrable than their ballistic counterparts and only need a low trajectory in the atmosphere. making them harder to defend against

China on Monday insisted on Monday that the test was a routine one for a spacecraft rather than a missile.

But Wood said Monday that Russia also had hypersonic technology and while Washington had held back from developing a military capacity in this field, they now had no choice but to respond in kind. The United States is already working on adding hypersonic missiles to its arsenal. Darpa, the US army's scien-

tific wing, recently announced successful tests of what it called a HAWC missile (Hypersonic Air-breathing Weapon Concept). The missiles uses oxygen in the atmosphere as part of its fuel.

It is also developing a hypersonic glider, known as ARRW (pronounced "arrow"), but its first major test in April ended in failure.

China unveiled a hypersonic medium-range missile, the DF-17, in 2019, which can travel around 2,000 kilometres and can carry nuclear

# **OCTOBER 2021**

Pakistan's Premier News & Diplomatic Affairs Magazine

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