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Dr Nouman taken off air after on-screen spat with Shoab Akhtar

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PPP, PML-N ruined national institutions

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Amb. Mansoor Khan receives Afghan students

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Briefs

Khursheed slams govt amid protest

NEWS DESK

SUKKUR: Senior Pakistan People's Party (PPP) leader Khursheed Shah has said that the government failed to control the ongoing protest of the proscribed Tehreek-i-Labbaik Pakistan (TLP) as the "rulers do not live up to their words." Speaking to the media on Thursday, Shah said the centre and the Punjab government were helpless to take the country out of the prevailing crisis in the country. "What is happening in the country is a failure of Islamabad and the Punjab government," he claimed.

Bizenjo becomes CM Balochistan

DNA

QUETTA: The Balochistan Awami Party's (BAP) leader Mir Abdul Qados Bizenjo has been elected as the chief minister of Balochistan unopposed. The development comes a day after PTI Parliamentary Leader Sardar Yar Mohammad Rind announced that he was pulling out of the race and backing Bizenjo for the chief minister's slot, bringing an end to the political void in the province. Besides Rind, no other candidate in the provincial assembly filed nomination papers to contest against Bizenjo.

Khaqan Abbasi ridicules accountability process

SHAHEEN HANIF

ISLAMABAD: Former prime minister and senior PML-N leader Shahid Khaqan Abbasi on Thursday ridiculed the ongoing accountability process, saying he has to appear thrice in court during the current week. Talking to reporters outside an accountability court in Islamabad, Khaqan Abbasi said the new accountability law has been introduced which is beyond the comprehension of any person.

Govt writ to be established come what may

Interior Minister Sheikh Rashid asks TLP when the French ambassador is not present in the country, then why are you marching to Islamabad?



TLP march reaches Gujranwala

STAFF REPORT

GUJRANWALA: Some 4,000 TLP workers travelled on the Grand Truck Road in large trucks and buses along with their supplies, as stick-wielding activists of the group guarded the procession from all sides. The rally was expected to bypass Gujranwala city and continue its journey towards Islamabad after crossing the Qila Chand bypass. However, the procession continued on a straight path and has now reached Sheranwala Bagh in Gujranwala's Old Town. The marchers are next expected to reach General Bus Stand via City Flyover.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

ISLAMABAD: Federal Interior Minister Sheikh Rashid Ahmed on Thursday said that Pakistan is an atomic power, which is why internal powers are trying to weaken the country. Speaking during a TV show about the protests launched by the proscribed Tehreek-i-Labbaik Pakistan (TLP) and the government's strategy to deal with the situation, Rashid said: "You are our brothers,

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Pak, Germany sign debt suspension initiative

After the initiative, Pakistan economic woes are likely to be lessened albeit not at a large scale

ANSAR M BHATTI

ISLAMABAD: The Government of Germany, through KfW (the German Development Bank) and the Government of Pakistan, represented by the Ministry of Economic Affairs signed an agreement for the Debt Service Suspension Initiative (DSSI Phase-II) for Euro 26.213 million. The signing of this agreement coincides with the forthcoming



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Top military huddle reviews security environment

DNA

RAWALPINDI: To discuss Defence and Security environment, a meeting of the Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee (CJSC) and all Service Chiefs was held at Joint Staff Headquarters (JSHQ) today. General Nadeem Raza, Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee presided over the meeting, which was attended by General Qamar Javed Bajwa, Chief of Army Staff,

Admiral Muhammad Amjad Khan Niazi, Chief of Naval Staff, Air Chief Marshal Zaher Ahmad Babar Sidhu, Chief of Air Staff. The participants discussed a range of security related issues, including fast-paced developments in the realm of strategic and conventional policies, the importance of peace in Afghanistan for sustainable development in the region, the shared challenges faced, work plan of the Tri-Services and operational prepared-

ness of the Armed Forces. Services Chiefs expressed complete satisfaction and full confidence in readiness of the Defence Forces. The participants also reaffirmed the resolve of the Armed Forces to respond to the entire spectrum of threat in the most befitting manner in line with a comprehensive security strategy. They also lauded the sacrifices of security forces in the fight against terrorism.

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INDONESIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY



ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Indonesia Adam Tugio and Ambassadors and High Commissioners of the Netherlands, Vietnam, Australian, Czech Republic, Jordan and Morocco cutting cake to celebrate Indonesian independence day. – DNA

PM Imran summons NSC meeting

Top civil and military leadership to mull TLP handling

SHUJAAT HAMZA

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Information and Broadcasting Fawad Chaudhry on Thursday said that Prime Minister Imran Khan had summoned a meeting of the National Security Committee (NSC) for tomorrow (Friday) due to the continuing protests by the proscribed Tehreek-i-Labbaik Pakistan (TLP). In a tweet, the minister said that the meeting had been summoned in light of the situation arising out of the "illegal activities" by the banned group. "Other issues related to national security will also be discussed in the meeting," he said. Chaudhry's statement comes as thousands of TLP workers left Kamoke and near Gujranwala city on Thursday morning, continuing with their long march to Islamabad.

Pakistan needs to tell its narrative

STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: National Security Adviser (NSA) Moeed Yusuf on Thursday said that Pakistan needed to "unapologetically" share its narrative with the world. Speaking at a seminar in Islamabad on national

Munir Akram vows to standby Kashmiris

DNA

NEW YORK: Pakistan's Consulate in New York Wednesday organized a special event to observe Kashmir Black Day, with Ambassador Munir Akram urging a youthful audience to get involved in building public opinion in support Kashmiri people's struggle for their right to self-determination. Almost half of the gathering at the event, which marks

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'PPP, PML-N ruined national institutions'

Govt was unable to give subsidy on daily use items

KHAYAM ABBASI

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Information and Broadcasting Chaudhry Fawad Hussain on Thursday said that the PPP and PML-N, during their tenures, ruined the national institutions.



Chaudhry Fawad Hussain addressing a ceremony said that the government was unable to give subsidy on daily use items especially edibles and petroleum products due to repayment of the foreign loans taken by

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US spying operations against China

WEB DESK

NEW YORK: The US has carried out at least 2,000 spying operations against China this year, so far, a Chinese military expert has claimed. "The targets of these missions include Chinese-controlled islands and reefs in the South China Sea, as well as the coastal area of the Chinese mainland," said Cao Yanzhong, a researcher with the People's Liberation Army Academy of Military Science.

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David Warner stars as Australia beat Sri Lanka – Page 06

Romania plays vital role in Azerbaijan-NATO cooperation – Page 07

Sudan ruling military sacks its six envoys – Page 08

US general confirms Chinese hypersonic weapons test

China's foreign ministry denied a weapons test. It said it had carried out a routine test in July, but added: "It was not a missile, it was a space vehicle"

WEB DESK

WASHINGTON: The top US military officer, General Mark Milley, has provided the first official US confirmation of a Chinese hypersonic weapons test that military experts say appears to show Beijing's pursuit of an Earth-orbiting system designed to evade American missile defences.

The Pentagon has been at pains to avoid direct confirmation of the Chinese test this summer, first reported by the Financial Times,

even as President Joe Biden and other officials have expressed general concerns about Chinese hypersonic weapons development. But Milley explicitly confirmed a test and said that it was "very close" to a Sputnik moment – referring Russia's 1957 launch of



the first man-made satellite, which put Moscow ahead in the Cold War-era space race. "What we saw was a very significant event of a test of a hypersonic weapon system. And it is very concerning," Milley, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, told television, in an interview aired on Wednesday. Nuclear arms experts say China's weapons test appeared to be designed to evade US defences in two ways. First, hypersonics move at speeds of more

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FAISALABAD: Deputy Commissioner Ali Shahzad chairs a meeting regarding Reach Every Door Corona Campaign. — DNA

Corona vaccination at doorstep in full swing, says DC

ISHFAQ MUGHAL

FAISALABAD: On the orders of Punjab Chief Minister Sardar Usman Buzdar, a special campaign to vaccinate the citizens against Corona is in full swing and teams of health department are in fields to achieve the targets of Reach Every Door (RED) campaign. Deputy Commissioner Ali Shahzad reviewed the performance of vaccination teams with reference to Corona Vaccine Reach Every Door (RED) campaign. Additional Deputy Commis-

sioner Headquarters Muhammad Khalid, Assistant Commissioner City Sahibzada Muhammad Yousef, District Health Officer Dr. Bilal Ahmad and other officers were also present. The Deputy Commissioner said that the Punjab Government has launched a massive Corona Vaccine Reach Every Door (RED) campaign to protect the lives of the citizens which will continue till November 12. He asked the District Health Authority officials to achieve the daily target of the campaign in this regard, all means should be used for

public awareness. He said that full monitoring of the campaign is underway in which there is no room for negligence. He also reviewed the progress of Corona Vaccine Reach Every Door (RED) campaign at tehsil level during the meeting and urged the Assistant Commissioners to ensure the success of the campaign. He said that to protect the lives of people from an epidemic like corona, vaccination is necessary so people must get vaccinated so that the dear homeland can be made free from Corona.

Capt(r) Usman inaugurates vaccination vans

DNA

LAHORE: Commissioner Lahore Capt R Usman Younas has inaugurated Mobile Vaccination vans by Oil Marketing Association of Pakistan (OMAP) here on Thursday. Chairman OMAP Tariq Wazir Ali, Senior Vice President Tariq Mahmood and other officials were present on occasion. While addressing on occasion, Commissioner Lahore Usman Younus said that government wants to vaccinate every citizen and this initiative will help government in achieving its goal. He said that OMAP paratocally took a step for corona free noble cause which is commendable. Commissioner went on to say that Lahore will be made Pakistan's first corona free city very soon. He announced that families will also be vaccinated at the petrol pumps through this initiative while health department has provided all the supporting staff and equipments. Chairman OMAP Tariq Wazir Ali said that OMAP has started this initiative of free covid vaccination van to support PM Imran's vision of corona free Pakistan.

Petroleum dealers call for raise in profit margin

They claimed that due to increase in all sorts of operation cost, it was now very difficult to run the fuel pumps

SAQIB MUSHTAQ

LODHHRAN: A number of members of the Pakistan petroleum dealers Association Lodhran, on Tuesday took to the street for acceptance increase in their margin of profit (commission). The protest rally which began from Press Club Lodhran paraded the main roads up to the Faisal Masjid Chowk. The demonstrators carried banners and placards inscribed with their demand of the increase of their commission. Speaking to the protesters, President Khawaja Sajad Ahmed & Ali Sheeraz General Sectery Petroleum Dealers Association Lodhran, said that due to high price of essential commodities, their expenditure had increased manifold due to which the running of fuel

pumps had become very difficult. They said one hundred percent increase in power Terrif, increase in the salaries of their employees and hundred percent increase in oil Expenditure power generation due to price hike in oil had made things difficult for them. They claimed that due to increase in all sorts of

operation cost, it was now very difficult to run the fuel pumps. They contended that the government according to its commitment with pump dealers during the previous years had not increased their margin of profit in accordance with the consumer price index (CPI). They said they were constrained to demonstrate

for the just demand. They demanded that the government immediately increase their rate of commission otherwise they would not be in a sound financial position to purchase bulk supply of oil to further sell it to the consumers and motorist. This may lead automatically to the closure of petrol pumps and fuel stations.



KP CM inaugurates several uplift projects

PESHAWAR: Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Mahmood Khan on Thursday inaugurated multiple development projects in district Torghar and also addressed a public gathering. The chief minister laid the foundation stone of Rescue 1122 building to be completed at a cost of Rs 60 million. He also performed groundbreaking of 9 km long Goryard to Danda Japeet road and 11 km long Shagai to Kalish road which would be completed at a cost of Rs 185 million. Similarly, he inaugurated a project to supply electricity to the Mada Khel area of district TOR Ghar. The project has been completed at a cost of Rs 120 million. The chief minister also visited the martyr's monument in Police Line Jadba and laid a wreath at the monument. During his visit, the chief minister also condoled with the bereaved families of the Jatka incident in which 12 precious lives were lost. Later, addressing the public gathering at Torghar, Mahmood Khan announced a number of development projects for the district. He announced a special developmental package worth Rs 300 million for the construction of approach roads, water supply schemes and other development projects



would be implemented at all cost. He said that no compromise would be made on the quality of development projects across the province. He added that due to misplanning of development sectors in the past, the country was facing a difficult situation and huge economic problems; however he said that PM Imran Khan was striving hard to bring the country out of this difficult situation and to give maximum relief to vulnerable segments of the society. He said that the incumbent government had launched Ehsas Program for the purpose under which multiple initiatives have been taken like Ehsas Panagah, Ehsas Lungar Khana, Ehsas Aman, Ehsas Cash Emergency and other people friendly programs. In order to provide free treatment facilities to people, the provincial government had launched the Sehat Card Plus scheme which was undoubtedly a flagship project of the provincial government. Similarly, Kissan Card had been launched to provide financial assistance to the farmers of the province under which manures, pesticides and other essential items were available on concessional rates.

Dist admin making efforts for public grievances

PESHAWAR: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Mardan, Habibullah Arif has said that district administration is making all-out efforts to address the grievances of the general public. He said that they are public servants and will resolve their problems on priority basis. He expressed these views while addressing an Open Kachehri in Tehsil Municipal Administration (TMA) office Mardan on Thursday. Besides, the Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) (Finance), Nek Mohammad, Assistant Commissioner (AC) Saman Abbas and Town Municipal Officer (TMO), Shiraz Khan, the concerned officers of other departments and a large number of the general public also attended the ceremony. On this occasion, people highlight complaints relating to illegal auto-rickshaws, traffic systems, faulty traffic signals and drinking water problems. DC termed open kachehri a highly useful platform wherein the general public present their grievances before the government authorities that take immediate steps for their redressal and restore the confidence of the people on departments. He assured that a time frame has been given for the resolution of the problems highlighted during the open kachehri, saying the concerned departments would be asked to furnish progress reports on them. — APP

FESCO serves notices on 11 defaulters

BUREAU REPORT

FAISALABAD: Faisalabad Electric Supply Company (FESCO) on Thursday served final notices on 11 default government departments for recovery of pending electricity bills worth of Rs 530 million. According to FESCO spokesperson, the departments should pay their due bills within a week or face disconnection. He said several notices were already issued to the defaulter departments but in vein. He highlighted that Water and Sanitation Agency (WASA) was the biggest defaulter with an amount of Rs 470 million and University of Agriculture on second with default amount of Rs 24.3 million. Sui Northern Gas owed Rs 10 million, Pakistan Railways Rs 1.42 million, Punjab Police Rs 5.93 million, District Health Authority 4.75 million, Revenue District Government Rs 1.05 million, TMA Lyallpur Town Rs 4.68 million, TMA Madina Town Rs 2.09 million, TMA Iqbal Town Rs 4.08 million, National Highways Authority Rs 4.06 million.

DPO Khyber suspends 15 personnel

PESHAWAR: District Police Officer (DPO), Khyber has ordered the suspension of 15 police personnel with immediate effect due to the alleged corrupt practices and extorting money from Transit Trade Vehicles. The payment of salaries to those personnel has been stopped and directed to report to police lines, said an order issued here on Thursday. The suspended personnel were performing duties at various points of Torkham, Landi Kotal, Police Station Jamrud and Highway Traffic Police. — APP

PTI govt believes in inclusive development

LAHORE: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader Mehdi Bhatti and MNA Shaikat Bhatti MNA met Punjab Chief Minister Sardar Usman Buzdar on Thursday to discuss Hafizabad development package and constituency related problems. CM said that the present government was committed to develop every area as it believed in inclusive development. He further said that most of the areas including Hafizabad, were badly ignored in the past. — APP

Habitat survey of biodiversity completed

PESHAWAR: Team of Wildlife Department D I Khan division has successfully completed first-ever wildlife and habitat survey in South Waziristan district. "The five-day survey was conducted jointly with support and cooperation of different departments including Pakistan Forest Institute (PFI), WWF-Pakistan, Zoological Survey of Pakistan (ZSP) and Pakistan Museum of Natural History (PMNH)," DFO Wildlife Khan Malook said. Talking to APP here on Thursday, Khan Malook said on the basis of survey conducted in South Waziristan, measures would be taken for protection of wild species and their habitats in biodiversity rich areas including Koh-e-Suleman, Ladha, Makeen and Shwal. The survey was planned under the flagship Ten Billion Tree Tsunami Wildlife Programme and was completed in five consecutive days, Malook told APP. All the survey team members worked with zeal and full dedication during the whole pro-

cess and completed the task according to schedule. On the first day of the survey, starting from D I Khan to Drazinda and FR-Sherani area, the survey team members witnessed a number of birds, animals, plant, reptiles and amphibians, Khan Malook added. The team also inspected various flora and fauna in Koh-e-Suleman and its adjacent areas, he said. The whole area was found very productive from biodiversity point of view and the survey will prove very fruitful, he hoped. During visit to Gomal Zam Dam site, a meeting was also held with unit in-charge of Frontier Crops, Maj Rizwan Ullah Cheema and discussed with him the protection of wildlife in general and migratory birds to site in particular. Khan Malook said that during visit to Toi Khulla, Gull Katch and Zarmilana area a number of species including See-see, Chakor, Partridges, Steppe eagles, ducks and various other birds were seen on the way. — APP

16 'criminals' held, drugs, weapons seized

FAISALABAD: Police Thursday arrested 16 alleged criminals and recovered drugs and illegal weapons from them. According to police, raiding teams nabbed five drug-pushers and recovered 2.07-kg hashish and 42 litres of liquor from them. The police also held four gamblers and recovered Rs 14,320 from them. In a crackdown on illegal weapons, police arrested seven persons and recovered five pistols, one rifle, one Kalashnikov and a number of bullets from them. — APP



LAHORE: Visitor viewing the displayed artwork during Art Painting Exhibition at Al-Hamra Art Gallery. — APP

Govt striving to promote peace in province: Augustine

LAHORE: Punjab Minister for Human Rights and Minorities Affairs Ejaz Alam Augustine Thursday said that religious harmony and societal tolerance were essential for peace while the government was striving to promote love and peace in the province. He expressed these views while addressing the interfaith harmony conference here at a local hotel. Eminent scholars and political and religious personalities attended the huddle. Provincial Minister Ejaz Alam said every person has to play its role along with the government to promote peace in society, adding that the government's nu-

merous measures and legislation, for protecting the rights of religious minorities, have achieved far-reaching results. He said that Pakistan has always conveyed the message of harmony, love and unity to the world as the beloved homeland has an ideal identity in terms of interfaith harmony. The minister emphasized that religious minorities have conveyed the message of respect for humanity and peace to the world community. Other speakers also expressed their views and appreciated steps taken by the government for promoting religious harmony at the grassroots. — APP

Collective efforts needed for progress of country

Ch Sarwar paid tribute to the services of the late Dr Ajmal Niazi in the field of journalism

LAHORE: Punjab Governor Chaudhry Mohammad Sarwar said on Thursday that collective efforts were required for progress and prosperity in the country. He was addressing a condolence reference, held in the memory of senior columnist Dr Ajmal Niazi at Alhamra Hall. Ch Sarwar paid tribute to the services of the late Dr Ajmal Niazi in the field of journalism. "Ajmal Niazi always wrote in the interest of the nation and highlighted the problems of common man and his services in the field

of journalism would always be remembered," he added. He said that when people from all walks of life including politics and journalism would do their job honestly, no power in the world would be able to stop Pakistan from moving forward. Later, talking to the media, the governor said that federal and provincial governments were not afraid of the opposition. He said it was not the first time that the opposition parties had announced staging protest against the government, adding that the opposi-



tion parties, including Maulana Fazl-ur-Rehman, had staged a long

march and protest in the past, but they failed to achieve their goals. To a question, he said that coalition parties were with the government. Chaudhry Mohammad Sarwar said that unfortunately the opposition parties give priority to the personal interests over national interest therefore, the opposition parties were also obstructing the electoral reforms. Electoral reforms were necessary for fair and transparent elections, and the opposition should play its role in this regard, he added.

The governor said that crimes against Indian Muslims had risen, since Narendra Modi had come to power. He said that Indian government, police and all organisations were fully supporting the terrorist organisation RSS, that was targeting Muslims, adding that the terrorism being committed by the India in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir was in front of everyone. He urged the international human rights bodies including the United Nations to take stern notice in this regard. — APP

539 new dengue cases reported in Punjab

LAHORE: Dengue claimed two lives while 539 new confirmed cases have been reported during the last 24 hours across the province. This was stated by Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department (P&SHD) Secretary Imran Sikandar Baloch here on Thursday. According to a statement issued, 423 cases of dengue fever were reported from Lahore, 32 from Rawalpindi, 9 from Faisalabad, 7 from Kasur, 6 from Gujranwala, Okara and Shiekhpura, 5 from Sargodha and Sialkot, 4 from Bahawalnagar, 3 from Hafizabad and Khushab. So far this year, 12,224 confirmed cases of dengue have been reported across the province, while 8,203 confirmed cases of dengue have been reported from Lahore, he added. A total of 2,321 patients were admitted across Punjab out of which 1,367 patients were admitted in hospitals of Lahore, while 954 patients were admitted in hospitals of other cities of Punjab. — APP

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Financial Assistance

As a source of relief on the economic front, on Wednesday it was announced that Saudi Arabia has agreed to revive its financial support to Pakistan, including about \$3 billion in safe deposits and \$1.2 billion to \$1.5 billion worth of oil supplies on deferred payments. According to reports, this agreement was reached during PM Imran Khan's visit to the Kingdom this week. This development comes at a crucial juncture where talks between the current government and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) have been facing a delay, resulting in holding up the release of the next loan tranche amounting to \$1 billion. There is no doubt that this act of generosity will ease the pressure on our trade and forex accounts due to the surge in prices of global commodities. In fact, following the announcement of this news, the currency market bounced back to gain Rs2.27 against the US dollar in intra-day trading in the inter-bank market. While it is encouraging that this development will bolster our external accounts, it is important to be wary of how we have been down this path before several times. Reaching out to external sources of help in times of crisis is not a sustainable economic policy. This is now the second financial assistance package that the kingdom has extended to Pakistan in the past three years. This trend also illustrates how we are unable to weather through such crises independently and have been unable to develop the capacity to absorb such shocks in the past three years. Another downfall of such assistance agreements is that they are extremely vulnerable to vicissitudes of bilateral relations. As relations deteriorated with Saudi Arabia in 2018, Islamabad had to return \$2 billion of the \$3 billion deposits. Lifelines will eventually run out and we cannot continue to bank on such stop-gap measures. It is time to reflect on why we have been unable to move on from this approach and must recalibrate our economic policymaking accordingly.

Negotiations With TLP

It has now been six days since the Tehreek-i-Labbaik Pakistan (TLP) disrupted the daily functioning of the country by taking to the streets. Since the first day that it announced its protest, including a long march from Lahore to Islamabad, negotiations do not seem to have come too far, and the government has not come close to a breakthrough. This is not to say that the government has not tried—Interior Minister Sheikh Rashid Ahmed has said that the government is ready to accept all demands of the TLP except the expulsion of the French ambassador from the country and the shutting of their embassy. Yet the TLP, with perhaps the experience of the government previously promising discussion of the demand of expulsion of the French ambassador, refused to budge. The government too seems to have learned from what appears to have become a yearly spectacle. Remembering all too well how previously the TLP have held the country hostage, the district administrations of Rawalpindi and Islamabad blocked the Faizabad intersection on Tuesday night while the law enforcement agencies began sealing areas and roads with containers. The steps taken by the government pre-emptively to counter the TLP are appreciated—the country cannot bear blocking the entrance to the federal capital. However, the government needs to work on a better political strategy to counter this undemocratic show of protest by the TLP. The government needs to look past short-term solutions, such as postponement of TLP's demands, or promises we know we cannot fulfil and focus on long-term ramifications of the clear touting of the law by the TLP. It should be remembered that the government tried to resolve the last TLP protest by signing an agreement with the group promising that the issue of the French ambassador will be tabled in the parliament for debate. While that may have subsided the conflict for the time, clearly this fails as a long-term strategy, evidenced by the TLP debacle again this year. This can no longer be taken lightly—these protests have led to violence and killings of police officers. The government cannot allow its negotiating powers to be weakened in such high stakes.

Imran's talks with the Pakistan Taliban won't bring peace

Ahsan I Butt



Khan was the avatar for a deeply sympathetic position towards the Taliban. Not for nothing did he earn the moniker "Taliban Khan"

In an interview with Turkish media aired on October 1, Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan revealed that his government is in talks with the Pakistan Taliban (Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan or TTP). Following a period of relative dormancy, the TTP has been significantly more active this year. Khan admitted that Islamabad is offering the group a number of rewards – from political amnesty to prisoner releases – in return for laying down arms. Such a deal does not serve Pakistan's national interests and it will not work because the TTP, like before, is unlikely to abide by its terms. Aside from their implications for war and peace, the prime minister's comments were deeply uncomfortable for those who have not forgotten his role in the bad old days of 2007-2014, when the

Taliban brought the state to its knees. 'Taliban Khan': The historical context. In politics, memories can be short. Today, it is worth remembering what role Khan played during the peak of the Taliban insurgency in Pakistan. If all he had done was maintain a rigorous silence during the conflict, Pakistan would have been substantially better off. Khan was the avatar for a deeply sympathetic position towards the Taliban. Not for nothing did he earn the moniker "Taliban Khan". By what in hindsight can only be termed an accident of history, the national government between 2008 and 2013 was led by three parties all more or less ideologically opposed to the TTP – the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP), Muttahida Qaumi Movement (MQM), and the Awami National Party (ANP). Perhaps not coincidentally, all three today are shadows of their former selves. From the perspective of pursuing a war against violent extremists, this government make-up was relatively fortuitous. It meant that at the political level at least, if not the public writ large, the country correctly identified the Taliban as a deadly enemy, one that could only be defeated by force. But Khan stymied any thrust towards aggressive action against the Taliban. Rather than playing a constructive role and preparing the public for a difficult and costly war, Khan did the opposite: he railed against the government and defended the insurgent group. His rhetoric was not without cost. Given his background as a popular cricketer and a well-known philanthropist, alongside his blunt and uncompromising rhetoric against the ruling elite of Pakistan, Khan was perhaps the most popular figure in Pakistan at the time. He was also remarkably free of responsibility. His party, the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), had boycotted the 2008 elections, which meant that it had no presence in parliament. Khan's cosy relationship with the military, meanwhile, would only come five years later. In a sense, then, the war was someone else's problem. Khan had as much formal power as an internet troll – and often played the part. The ratings-hungry media eagerly granted the country's most telegraphic personality hours of coverage, and his diatribes did not disappoint. More than anyone else, he shaped the contours

of the Taliban debate in Pakistan, which revolved around three questions. First, why was the TTP attacking Pakistanis? Second, was the state's national interest served by negotiating or fighting the TTP? Third, was the US alliance a help or hindrance in defeating the TTP? Only the last of these was genuinely difficult to answer, but as it happened, each assumed a controversial and polarising colour. While the elected government and even the military favoured a more assertive approach, realising the mortal threat the TTP posed to Pakistan, Khan hemmed and hawed. He made excuses for the Taliban; they were only incensed by foreign occupation, he claimed and had no ideological agenda. The real problem, he thundered, was not the Taliban but the government itself. He accused it and its predecessors of fighting "America's war" and claimed military operations against the group were only motivated by an avaricious thirst for dollars. In so doing, he ensured that espousing such a position was political poison, even if it was the correct one. All the while, every week brought news of another Taliban attack. The TTP's murder of Pakistanis was merciless and unrelenting. They bombed and shot them. They struck mosques and markets. They were daring enough to take on hard targets, such as army bases and airports, and shameless enough to take on soft ones, such as schools and shrines. They killed important people as well as the pitifully anonymous. They decapitated Pakistani police officers and soldiers and then uploaded videos of them to social media for the world to see. Over a decade, the Taliban saw fit to end the lives of more than 50,000 Pakistanis. Eventually, the weight and sheer brutality of this sustained assault became too much to bear. By the middle of the 2010s, the state began to conduct a series of security operations against the group – no thanks to Khan, of course. Between a more aggressive military posture, improved efficacy of US drones, and the "fortunate" happenstance of an internationalised civil war in Syria, which pulled the centre of gravity for jihadists to west Asia, away from central and south Asia, Pakistan managed to turn the tide on Taliban terrorism.

– Courtesy: Al-Jazeera

Countering FATF's 'Lawfare': Lessons from Pakistan

Hassan Aslam Shad



Turkish policymakers also need to understand the evolution of FATF and the factors that have transformed it into a potent international institution with intrusive powers

GEOPOLITICS has overshadowed the Financial Action Task Force's purpose of fighting money laundering. But Ankara must still use the language of the law to fight it out. The October 22 decision by the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) to place Turkey on its so-called "grey list" would have come as a surprise to many in Turkey. But those with a keen eye for geopolitical developments knew that Turkey ending up on the FATF hot seat was a foregone conclusion. As the inevitable has happened, Turkey needs to prepare for the consequences of being placed on the FATF grey list. Turkish policymakers also need to understand the evolution of FATF and the factors that have transformed it into a potent international institution with intrusive powers. FATF, a seemingly innocuous international institution, has been transformed into an effective international weapon that is being used to bludgeon "non-compliant" states into submission. Everything is done under the rubric of "law" and by the sanction of the international community to lend a veneer of credibility to FATF. But behind the facade of law lies the real FATF: an institution that has taken seed at the intersection of law and politics and whose underpinning legal framework has been corroded by geopolitics. FATF was set up in 1989 as an initiative of the G7 group of advanced economies that include the US, UK and France to combat money laundering. FATF currently has 39 members (37 countries and two regional organisations). Over the years, the FATF's mandate and powers expanded through two United Nations Security Council (UNSC) resolutions: 1267 (1999) and 1373 (2001). These resolutions – especially UNSC Resolution 1373 (2001) passed in the aftermath of the 9/11 attacks – gave teeth to the organisation. The combined effect of these two UNSC resolutions was to bring terrorism and terrorist financing within FATF's purview. Unfortunately, however, the international community's noble goal of fighting terrorism and terrorist financing is now being used to selectively target some countries. For example, while FATF has been used to target countries like Iran, Pakistan and now Turkey, FATF has conveniently turned a blind eye towards money laundering safe havens like the BVI, Cayman Islands and prominent global financial hubs where the corrupt are known to have parked their ill-gotten wealth worth billions of dollars. Pakistan's experience with FATF confirms

this. Over the years, with the US and India's backing, a constellation of subjective requirements has been foisted upon Pakistan by FATF and APG (an associate member of the FATF), the cumulative effect of which has been to require Pakistan to single-handedly discharge the onus of showing its 'clean hands.' For instance, not only is Pakistan required to enact relevant legislation to investigate and prosecute terrorist financing and undertake capacity building of prosecutors and regulators, it is also required to provide evidence (deemed satisfactory to the FATF) that it has actively sought to enhance the impact of sanctions beyond its jurisdiction. As FATF plays judge, jury and the executioner, Pakistan finds itself caught in a sinister web of never ending requirements. Why Pakistan remains entangled in the FATF net cannot be viewed in isolation to Islamabad's foreign policy. In recent months, Prime Minister Imran Khan refused to allow US airstrikes in Pakistan to carry out military strikes in neighbouring Afghanistan. The fall of the US-backed Afghan government has been unfairly blamed on Pakistan. And India and the US are forging ties to counter China, which is Pakistan's most important ally. The game is being played with a sleight of hand: every time Pakistan's progress is up for review at FATF, a new wish list is handed over to the Pakistani delegation. The idea being to defang Pakistan, present it with a shifting goal post each time and, in the process, leave it in a maze to befuddle its strategic direction. Not surprisingly, the biggest casualty of the FATF lawfare against Pakistan has been its economy. There are glaring parallels between Turkey and Pakistan. Turkey has been pursuing an independent foreign policy in line with its strategic goals. It shouldn't therefore come as a surprise that a "price" is being exacted from Turkey. Lately, Turkey's relations with the US have soured. Turkey has also been in the European Union's crosshairs, which Ankara says has been interfering in its domestic affairs. President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's recent call to declare ambassadors of ten countries as "persona non grata" for domestic interference in Turkey's affairs has irked the US and EU. The ultimate objective of the 'grey list' designation, as has been the case with Pakistan, is to coerce Turkey into accepting the West's diktat. If Pakistan's experience with FATF is an indication about what Turkey can expect, then Turkey should also avoid making some of the mistakes that Pakistan made when it was first placed on the grey list. In all fairness, Pakistan was caught napping by FATF when it was first placed on the grey list in 2018 – a result of years of mismanagement and neglect by successive governments. Back then, Pakistan did not have in place adequate domestic legislation to counter money laundering and terrorism financing and policymakers had minimal knowledge of the FATF. As a result, the FATF came all guns blazing at Pakistan and the government had to make a last ditch scramble to get off the hook. Another area where Pakistan faltered was in its failure to establish a central authority to oversee implementation of FATF requirements. Turkey could consider establishing a designated group of external eminent financial, technical, and legal experts tasked with FATF matters specifically to work alongside MASAK, which has overarching authority to coordinate between public and private sector entities. This would streamline FATF compliance more efficiently and effectively and give Turkey a "headstart" and enable its policymakers to understand the nuances and technicalities of FATF requirements. Since the decision to place and remove countries from the grey list is taken by FATF member states through voting in FATF plenaries, Turkey's Ministry of Foreign Affairs should get down to mapping out the positions taken by countries at FATF regarding Turkey. Turkey should reach out to individual members to explain its position and allay their concerns, if any – all with a view to securing a pledge from them to support Ankara's quest to secure an exit from the grey list.

– Courtesy: TRT World

Israeli human rights violations likely to worsen

Ray Hanania



The Gantz directive allows Israel to close the offices of all six organizations, seize their assets and arrest their staff, imprisoning them without trial or formal public proceedings

THE only time any government declares a human rights organization to be a terrorist group is when that organization is shining a bright light on its human rights violations.

Last week, Israel's apartheid government didn't just declare one human rights organization to be a terrorist group, it identified six of them as being allegedly affiliated with terrorist organizations. This tells us that Israel must be very concerned about how its policies are being presented to the world. The six organizations have a history of defending the human rights of Palestinians not only in the Occupied Territories, but inside Israel too. Israel's vicious political attack, which was announced by Defense Minister Benny Gantz on Friday, strikes at the essence of human rights – a clear deflection from Israel's policies, which violate the human rights of non-Jews. Among the organizations targeted is Al-Haq, an independent human rights organization that was founded in 1979. Its mandate is to defend the rule of law in the Occupied Territories governed militarily by Israel. Another target is Addameer (Arabic for "conscience"), which focuses mainly on the rights of civilians who are arrested, detained and imprisoned for political reasons. Israel currently holds 4,650 Palestinians in its prisons, many of whom have been imprisoned without trial or formal charges. Israel still uses the old British Mandate system of administrative detention, which skirts the rule of law. Both Al-Haq and Addameer have not only documented Israeli government abuses, but also abuses by the Palestinian Authority, which often coordinates on "security" raids and detentions by Israel's Shin Bet secret police. The Gantz directive allows Israel to close the offices of all six organizations, seize their assets and arrest their staff, imprisoning them without trial or formal public proceedings. Leading global human rights organizations Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch have condemned the declaration. Israel has also attacked both of those organizations in the past. In fact, Israel has attacked every organization

that has condemned its human rights violations. Spokesperson Ned Price told reporters the US State Department was unaware of Israel's decision until it was announced. He also declined to directly criticize the move, instead saying: "We believe respect for human rights, fundamental freedoms and a strong civil society are critically important to responsible and responsive governance." What Price and the State Department did not do was condemn Israel's declaration. President Joe Biden also made no comment about the policy, which equates human rights with terrorism. The issue at hand is not human rights, of course, because Israel has never addressed its human rights abuses and has used PR spin to deflect the public's attention, instead accusing its critics of anti-Semitism. The elevation to the charge of terrorism takes the battle between Israel's government and those who condemn its human rights abuses to a new level. Clearly, Israel believes it is in a strong position to snuff out the Palestinian cause and has stepped up its activism to silence the critics who showcase its apartheid policies. The declaration by Gantz is more alarming because it suggests a new strategy to silence Palestinians who are demanding that they be treated equally, not just inside Israel but also in the West Bank, where Israel continues to confiscate Palestinian-owned land and build illegal Jewish-only settlements. The strategy may be to do so much at the same time that the world, already hesitant to confront Israel, will be overwhelmed by the number of controversies. The mainstream news media barely covers Israel's everyday abuses of Palestinians and stepping up the violations might actually make it easier to minimize the criticism. Ultimately, the declaration means that worse things are yet to come from Israel, especially as it sees there are no real consequences for its actions.

– Courtesy: Arab News

Briefs

Rise in prices of POL products challenged

NAZIR SIYAL

KARACHI: Pasban Democratic Party (PDP) Chairman Altaf Shakoor has challenged recent rise in the prices of petroleum products in Sindh High Court and prayed to declare the hike null and void. As per details, Altaf Shakoor through his lawyer Irfan Aziz filed a constitutional petition 107/2020 in the SHC making Federation of Pakistan through secretary ministry of law justice and parliamentary affairs, federal secretary ministry of finance, federal secretary ministry of petroleum, and chairman Oil and Gas Regulatory Authority (OGRA) respondents, invited the attention of the honorable court towards steep hike in oil prices.

The petitioner in this regard filed a statement, submitting that the international rate of the Petrol is about Rs.64/- per liter. Explaining further the statement said that one barrel is equal to 159 liters. The cost of per barrel is \$41. Digging charges are \$2.16 per barrel. LC charges \$ 4.1 per barrel. Insurance charges \$2.01 per barrel. Wharf-age charge \$1.25 per barrel. Oil Company margin \$1.10 per barrel. Refining charges \$1.2 per barrel. Total cost thus is \$48.82 per barrel. The statement further said 159 liter ÷ \$48.82 = \$0.30 per liter. One US dollar is equal to Rs.167, thus \$.30 cost per liter x Rs.167 = Rs.50.10. Sales Tax 17%. Excise Tax 3.15%. Addl. Tax 6% = Total Tax 26.15%. Rs.50.10 ÷ Rs.100.00 X 26.15 Tax = Rs.13.10 Tax charged by the government. Rs.50.10 + Rs. 13.10 Tax = Rs.63.20 per liter, which is the actual price of the Petrol to be charged from the consumer, but the respondents are charging exorbitant amount from the consumers per liter.

France seizes British trawler

WEB DESK

PARIS: France has seized one British trawler for operating in its territorial waters without a licence and fined another as a bitter dispute with the United Kingdom over post-Brexit access to fishing grounds escalates. The French maritime ministry said the ships were cautioned during checks by maritime police on fishing vessels off the northern port of Le Havre overnight on Wednesday, hours after Paris warned it needed to "speak the language of strength" with London amid the smouldering row and warned of impending sanctions. The seized trawler, now under the control of French judicial authorities, did not have proof it was allowed to fish in French waters, the maritime ministry said.

It was subsequently rerouted to Le Havre and was tied up at the port's quayside. The boat's captain could now face criminal charges and its catch may be confiscated. The other boat was fined for initially resisting a check by the maritime police.

China submits new climate plan

PARIS: China, the world's largest polluter, on Thursday renewed its emissions cutting plan with a promise to peak its carbon pollution before 2030, according to a submission published on the UN's climate change website. Beijing's new submission to the United Nations, just days before the COP26 climate summit, also confirmed its goal to achieve carbon neutrality before 2060 and slash its emissions intensity by more than 65 percent. China, which is responsible for more than a quarter of all man-made emissions, announced last year that it would reach net zero emissions by around 2060. Under the 2015 Paris Agreement, nations are required to submit renewed emissions cutting pledges - known as Nationally Determined Contributions, or NDCs - every five years. China had been a major hold-out in renewing its plans to curb emissions, and its submission could help build momentum ahead of the COP26 summit in Glasgow, which begins on Sunday. - APP

Romania plays vital role in Azerbaijan-NATO cooperation

Aliyev made remarks while receiving the credentials of newly-appointed Romanian envoy

DNA

BAKU: President Ilham Aliyev has said that Romania plays important role in the Azerbaijan-NATO cooperation plan. He made the remarks while receiving the credentials of newly-appointed Romanian ambassador Vasile Soare on October 28.

"Of course, Romania plays a very important role in the Azerbaijan-NATO cooperation plan. For many years, Romania has played one of the most active roles in the strengthening of this cooperation," he said.

Noting that Azerbaijan-Romania relations cover both the bilateral format and the format of cooperation within international organizations, Aliyev under-



lined that there are ample opportunities for cooperation in the economic, trade, energy, and transport fields.

He emphasized that Azerbaijan is making great efforts to turn the country

into a transport and logistical center of Eurasia. "And great work has been done in this direction. But a lot depends on bilateral relations. Therefore, the existing and planned infrastructure will create alternative opportunities for shippers," the president said.

The president also expressed his hopes that the prospects for cooperation will be as good both in bilateral relations and within the framework of Azerbaijan-EU cooperation. "Therefore, the existing and planned infrastructure will create alternative opportunities for shippers. Thus, we have always been open to cooperation with your country in all other areas. I think we will continue to do so on the basis of mutual interest," Aliyev added.

FM meets OIC Youth Forum president

BAKU: Azerbaijani Foreign Minister Jeyhun Bayramov has received a delegation led by OIC Youth Forum President Taha Ayhan, Report informs, quoting the Azerbaijani Foreign Ministry.

Minister Jeyhun Bayramov congratulated the OIC Youth Forum on the successful holding of the Azerbaijan Investment and Culture Summit in Baku, organized by the Small and Medium Business Development Agency (SMBDD) under the Ministry of Economy with the support of the Ministries of Economy and Culture. The minister stressed the importance of bringing to the forefront of the event, which was attended by many foreign participants, investment and cultural issues, which are two important topics, in addition to the ongoing restoration and construction work carried out by Azerbaijan in the liberated territories.

The minister underlined the importance of the visit of the participants in the event to the liberated lands, including Shusha, to get acquainted with the illegal activities and destruction committed by Armenia for decades, as well as the construction work carried out by Azerbaijan. The minister also congratulated the OIC Youth Forum on the recent meeting of the General Assembly and the adoption of a new Charter. It was noted that Azerbaijan will continue to fully support the activities of the OIC Youth Forum. - DNA

SA gears up for local elections

FOREIGN DESK

JOHANNESBURG: Voters in South Africa will head to the polls on Monday to elect local representatives, with the ruling African National Congress (ANC) facing its stiffest test since the end of apartheid.

South Africa's constitutional court in September ordered the municipal government election to be held this year, rejecting a request by the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) which sought a postponement fearing that the COVID-19 pandemic would make it difficult to organise a free and fair election.

"The ballot will go ahead as per the court judgement notwithstanding the challenges we face in delivering this election," Glen Mashinini, chairperson of the IEC, told Al Jazeera.

The shortened campaign period of eight weeks has left political parties scrambling to convince a sceptical electorate to back them in an election that will decide who will be tasked with the delivery of basic services such as water and electricity. The ANC, which has won every general election since the end of white minority rule in 1994 but is mired in corruption scandals and political infighting, has promised to reform itself and renew its offering to the populace.

Urdu is a language of poetry

BEIJING: Urdu is a language of poetry, says Chinese students, according to Gwadar Pro.

"The artistic talent of the Pakistani people goes hand in hand with the wonderful Urdu language. Many excellent Pakistani films and music have brought Urdu to the world cultural stage. Since learning Urdu, we all recognize it as a language of poetry," said Yang Yue (Musarrat), a Urdu major student of Beijing Foreign Studies University (BFSU) who won the prize of Chinese & Urdu Essay Writing Competitions.

Introduced by Muhammad Suleman Mahsud, Education Attache of the Pakistani embassy in China, The competitions were organized by the Embassy of Pakistan and sponsored by Silk Road Cities Alliance to mark the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties between China and Pakistan. The award ceremony to honour the winners was held this Monday (Oct 25th).

The Urdu essay competition was among Chinese students majoring in Urdu in various universities of China while the Chinese essay competition was among Pakistani students studying in Chinese universities.

Ahmed Farooq, Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of Pakistan, presented the certificates and monetary awards to the winners and participants to all participants. - APP

US GDP growth slows sharply in Q3

AGENCIES

WASHINGTON: The United States economy grew at a slower pace in the three months ending September, as a wave of COVID-19 cases, supply chain bottlenecks, surging inflation and ebbing federal financial lifelines downshifted the pace of the nation's economic recovery.

US gross domestic product (GDP) which measures the value of goods and services produced by the economy, grew 2 percent in the third quarter from the same period a year ago, the US Bureau of Economic Analysis said on Thursday.

That initial reading marked a sharp slowdown from the second quarter when GDP adjusted for inflation grew 6.7 percent. The third-quarter headline number also fell short of many analysts already curbed expectations. "A resurgence of COVID-19 cases resulted in new restrictions and delays in the reopening of establishments in some parts of the country," said the BEA in its press release on Thursday. "Government assistance payments in the form of forgivable loans to businesses, grants to state and local governments, and social benefits to households all decreased."



TEHRAN: Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi visits Pakistan School in Theran during his recent visit to Iran. - DNA

Seminar on Kashmir Black Day in Belarus

Indian ongoing repressions against the Kashmiris, rising threat of RSS, Hindutva ideology & their impact on the #SAARC region in general and IIOJK in particular

DNA



EU inches towards big tech clampdown

BRUSSELS: The European push to curb the power of big tech and radically transform the way Facebook, Apple or Google do business is gaining traction though efforts could still be derailed.

The European Union is currently negotiating landmark laws that once agreed could set a new standard worldwide on how US tech giants can operate.

The effort has picked up momentum after the revelations of Facebook whistleblower Frances Haugen, who will visit Brussels next month, of the company's systemic failure to fix the harmful effects of its products, driven instead by boosting traffic and profit.

The tech giants are spending millions of euros on lobbying to influence lawmakers

in the European Parliament and across the 27 member states, eager to protect their powerful profit centres such as targeted ads or big fees on app stores. The EU has split its regulatory revolution into two laws, the Digital Markets Act (DMA) and the Digital Services Act.

Slovenia, which currently holds the EU's rotating presidency, is working hard for the bloc's 27 member states to clinch a common position on both laws at a meeting on November 25, a spokesperson said on Thursday.

"Things are on a good way, but there are still some open questions," another diplomat said of the DMA, which could potentially give the EU the power to split up big tech companies. - APP

E-certificate to facilitate Pak-China free trade

BEIJING: The Certificate of Origin of China-Pakistan Free Trade Agreement (FTA) will be applied for online via branches of China Council for Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT) from 10 November, 2021, according to China Economic Net (CEN).

"The EDI on-line application system of CCPIT is open to enterprises for free. Applicants can register their exports and apply for the issuance of CO within just one working day, the same of which took them at least three days before," said Zou Ruirui, director of the legal department of CCPIT Nanjing.

CO of FTA, known as the "economic passport", is also an important document for a Pakistani importer to be granted zero-tariff treatment or tariff concession when importing goods from China.

Zou said, "The information exchange mechanism designed in China-Pakistan FTA will also facilitate the customs clearance and reduce any possible fraud which may otherwise occur due to the inefficiency of information sharing between two parties." - APP

Uzbekistan, Russia to launch Agro express project

DNA

TASHKENT: Uzbekistan and Russia expect to launch the Agroexpress project on an ongoing basis from December. The project can allow to increase the supply of 1 million tons of products by 2030. This was stated by the Minister of Economic Development of the Russian Federation Maxim Reshetnikov at a meeting of the Intergovernmental Commission on Economic Cooperation.

Maxim Reshetnikov noted that the trade turnover between Uzbekistan and Russia is growing steadily. According to him, in 2020, trade increased by more than 15.6%, despite the pandemic.

At the same time, following the results of 8 months of this year, the growth of mutual trade amounted to 6.6%, said the head of the Ministry of Economic Development.

Reshetnikov noted that the Agroexpress project for the accelerated delivery of agricultural products from Moscow to Tashkent and back in a refrigerator train

European states urge Israel to stop expansion

BERLIN: Germany, along with other 11 European countries, urged Israel on Thursday to reverse its decision to advance plans to construct around 3,000 settlement units in the West Bank.

In a joint statement by the foreign ministries of Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Spain and Sweden, the countries said they opposed settlement expansion across the occupied Palestinian Territories.

"We call on both parties to build on steps taken in recent months to improve cooperation and reduce tensions," the countries said. Israel moved forward on Wednesday with plans to build some 3,000 homes for Jewish settlers in the occupied West Bank, defying the strongest criticism to date of such projects from the administration of U.S. President Joe Biden. - Agencies



ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Switzerland Bénédicte de Cerjat in a photo with Naveed Chaudhary of Sika Pakistan. The ambassador lauded his contribution as President of SBC during the period 2020. - DNA

