



Islamabad POST

Tuesday, March 01, 2022

Pakistan's First And Only Diplomatic Daily

Price Rs. 20

COAS acknowledges role of Christian brethren in progress

Detailed News On Page-08

Bilawal wants PM to dissolve assemblies

Detailed News On Page-01



Fawad slams Shahbaz over adjournment

Detailed News On Page-08



Electricity, POL prices reduced

PM announces relief package

Incentives for KJP announced; does not even mention opposition long march; says it was mistake to take part in America's war; defends PECA ordinance



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Imran Khan addressing nation on the national hook-up, on Monday. – DNA

ANSAR M BHATTI / DNA

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Imran Khan Monday announced a host of economic relief measures and stressed an independent foreign policy amid the ongoing Ukraine-Russia crisis.

Another hallmark of the speech was his total disregard of Opposition parties long march and plans of no confidence movement. The Prime Minister defended the PECA ordinance saying the government wanted to promote healthy journalism. He said even he was not

spared on social media and misreporting was carried out about him and his family. The prime minister lamented there should be some checks and balances so that cases of fake news could be checked effectively. In his address to the nation, the prime minister said the government was reducing the petrol, diesel, and electricity prices, while it would not be increased till the next budget, which will be announced in June. The prime minister said that the government had decided to reduce petrol and diesel prices by Rs10 and the electricity tariff will drop by Rs5. "The price of these commodities will not rise till the next budget."

He said the government was working on building 10 dams that would help save Pakistan from global price fluctuation as power would be generated through the hydel system in future. PM Imran Khan said the

Continued on Page 06

PM Khan provided major relief

SHUJAAT HAMZA



ISLAMABAD: Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting Farukh Habib Monday said Prime Minister Imran Khan provided a major relief to some 95 per cent electricity consumers by announcing reduction in power tariff by Rs 5 per unit. The minister, in a tweet said the cut in power tariff would lower electricity bills by up to 50 per cent. He said the prime minister also announced a reduction of Rs10 per liter in prices of Petrol and Diesel till next budget, whereas Oil and Gas Regulatory Authority had proposed an increase of Rs10 per liter for Petrol and Diesel due to rise in oil prices in international market. In his address to the nation, the prime minister said the government was reducing the petrol, diesel, and electricity prices, while it would not be increased till the next budget, which will be announced in June. The prime minister said that the government had decided to reduce petrol and diesel prices by Rs10 and the electricity tariff will drop by Rs5.



ISLAMABAD: Spanish Ambassador Manuel Duran calls on Federal Minister for Science and Technology, Senator Shibli Faraz. – DNA

Ukraine seeks ceasefire amid talks

Future 24 hours crucial for Ukraine: President Zelensky

NEWS DESK

MINSK: Talks between Russian and Ukrainian officials have begun on the Belarusian border as diplomatic isolation and economic sanctions on Russia deepen four days after invading Ukraine. Talks began on Monday with Ukraine calling for an immediate ceasefire and the withdrawal of Russian forces. Russia has been cagier, with the Kremlin declining to comment on Moscow's aim in negotiations. It was not clear whether any progress could be achieved after President Vladimir Putin on Thursday

Continued on Page 06

China calls for de-escalation

BEIJING: Beijing on Monday called for de-escalation and "restraint" over the Ukraine crisis as Russia and Ukraine prepared to meet for their first talks since Moscow's invasion of its western neighbour. Russia invaded on Thursday and quickly announced it had neutralised key Ukrainian military facilities, with Russian President Vladimir Putin on Sunday ordering his country's

Continued on Page 06



ISLAMABAD: The Archbishop of Canterbury, UK, Most Reverend & Right Honorable Justin Welby calls on Prime Minister Imran Khan. – DNAP

Indian propaganda exposed

An Indian national sent threat to Australian cricketer Agar's partner

BUREAU REPORT

LAHORE: The Australian and Pakistani cricket boards and the government security agencies Monday dismissed a threat, made out to Australian cricketer Ashton Agar, warning him not to undertake the tour to Pakistan. The threat was sent to Agar's partner, reportedly on Instagram. "There are extensive security plans in place for this type of social media activity, which, in this case, is not considered a risk. No further comment will be made at this time," a statement from Cricket Australia said. The Australian cricket team arrived in Pakistan on Sunday for a tour comprising three Tests, three ODIs and one T20. "Cricket Australia is aware of a social media post, of which the nature and content have been investigated by the PCB, CA and combined Government security processes." According to information available, a family member of the Australian cricket team received a message on Instagram; urging them not to undertake the visit, as it could have dire consequences. "This is a warning for your husband Ashton Agar if he comes to tour against Pakistan he won't come [back] alive." The message also references Agar's children, which he does not have," the message said. An account on Instagram jyot.isharma391 was used to send the "message" with a given email address: mridul.tiwari07@gmail.com. A search on the internet showed that the person has a LinkedIn account and the stated person Mirdul Tiwari claims to be working for IMC Limited as health, safety and environmental officer based at Amreli, Gujarat.

EU prepares for millions of Ukraine refugees

Estimates by the UN and refugee organizations put the number of people fleeing at 4 to 7 million

CENTRELINE REPORT

BRUSSELS: The European Union has promised that all war refugees from Ukraine will be accepted. So does that mean all of them, or just Ukrainians? The EU then had to clarify it also meant African students from Kyiv. "I don't know how many will come," EU Home Affairs Commissioner Ylva Johansson replied at the special meeting of EU interior ministers in Brussels when asked what influx of refugees from Ukraine she expects. "I think we will have to prepare for millions." By Sunday, four days after the Russian attack began, at least 200,000 people, mostly children, women and elderly men, had entered Poland, according to the Polish Border Guard. Men considered fit for military service are currently

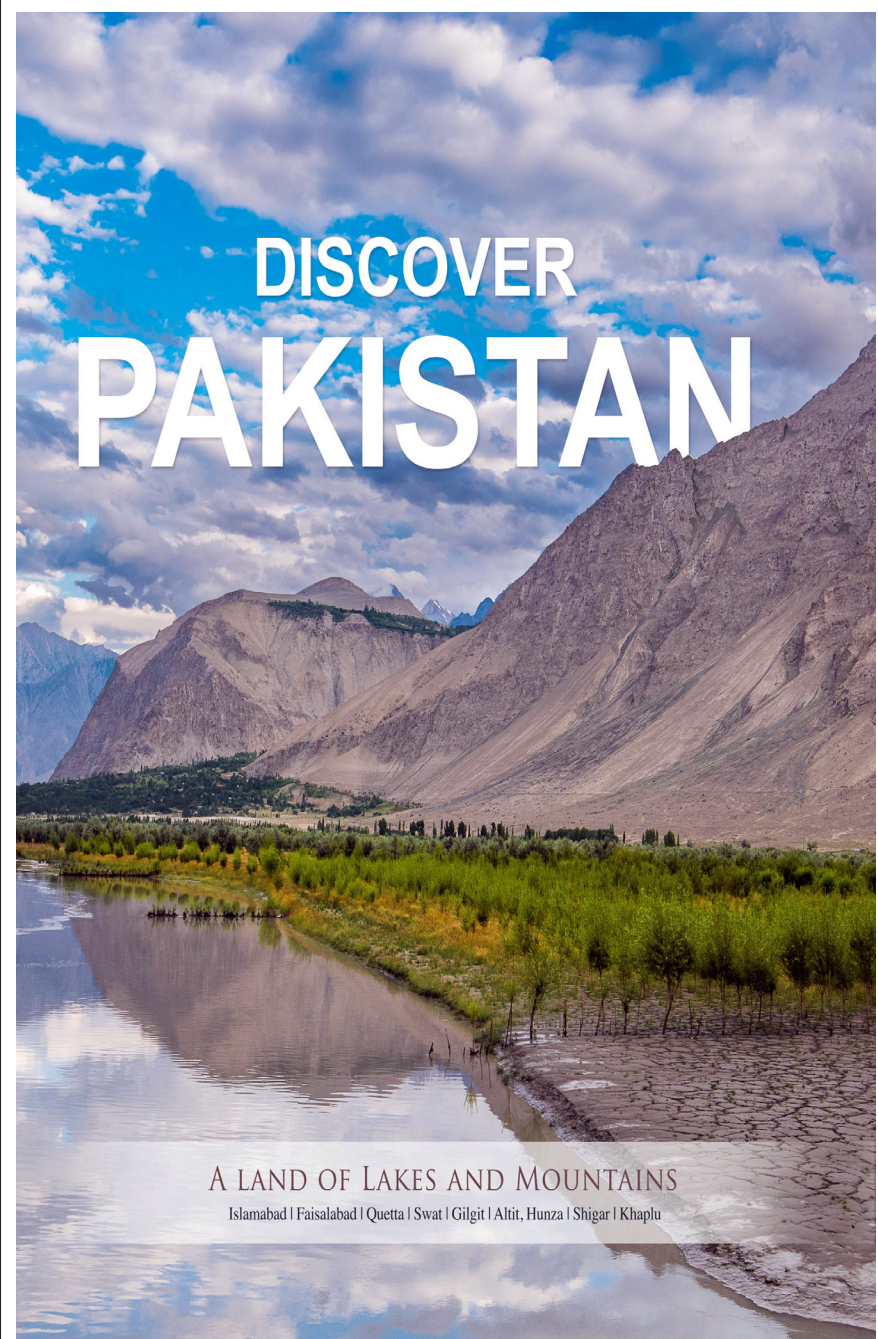
Continued on Page 06

Putin slams West as an 'Empire of Lies'

NEWS DESK

MOSCOW: Putin has denounced the West as an "Empire of Lies" while discussing Russia's economy with Prime Minister Mikhail Mishustin and other top officials following the imposition of sweeping sanctions against Moscow, according to the Kremlin. "[Mishustin] and I

Continued on Page 06



DISCOVER PAKISTAN

A LAND OF LAKES AND MOUNTAINS

Islamabad | Faisalabad | Quetta | Swat | Gilgit | Altit, Hunza | Shigar | Khaplu

SERENA HOTELS
HOTELS AND RESORTS
PALACES • PORTS

For reservations, please call 111-133-133 or email at sales@serena.com.pk

serenahotelsofficial serenahotelsofficial serena_hotels

Inside...

- Govt committed to provision of best healthcare facilities – Page 02
- EU Special Representative Eamon Gilmore visits Pak – Page 03
- Kashmir conflict affects millions of lives: Schofield – Page 04
- Muslims and Science in 21st Century – Page 05
- Playing in Pakistan an important moment for me – Page 06
- ICCI for focusing on marble industry to promote exports – Page 07
- Madam Naoko WADA hosts "celebration of Spring" – Page 08

PM Imran must dissolve assemblies, says Bilawal

NAZIR SIYAL

HYDERABAD: Chairman Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Bilawal Bhutto Zardari on Monday said that Prime Minister (PM) of Pakistan Imran Khan should announce the dissolution of assemblies. According to details, Bilawal said that the PM should announce to hold the new elections in the country. Public is ready for new elections. We will bring the no-trust motion to Islamabad. Addressing the long march, the PPP Chairman said that if PM wants to talk to the country he must hold the elections today. The PM across the country have rejected the selected PM. He should dissolve the assemblies and return back home. Bilawal Bhutto Zardari added that the sugar, flour has been stolen. Asif Zardari restored the constitution and



made 18th amendments, the province of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa was identified by Asif Zardari, Iran gas pipeline was given by Zardari and the government could not complete it, and it was Benazir who brought in income support program. The Pakistan People's Party (PPP) leader went on to say that it is the time of PM to return back home. The PM is afraid of losing his control and has sent some of his ministers to Sindh. He did injustice to all four provinces in the form of NFC award, 18th amendment and water robbery.

Opp. to seek NA session this week

STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: Opposition plans on seeking a session of National Assembly (NA) in first week of March as opposition parties finalize their plans for no-confidence motion. According to details, the opposition has finalized strategy for seeking the session of lower house of parliament. It has been decided that Speaker of NA Asad Qaiser will be asked to summon session immediately but the exact date for the requisition will be finalized by the central leadership, sources said.

Govt committed to provision of best healthcare facilities

Governor was addressing the media on the occasion of the inauguration of filtration plants and laying the foundation of welfare hospital on Monday in Jalalpur Jattan and Lala Musa

GULZAR NOSHI

LALAMUSA: Governor Punjab Ch Muhammad Sarwar has said PTI government was committed to welfare of people adding streamlining of the health department was the top priority of the government. He further said PTI the Sehat Card had revolutionized the health sector of Pakistan. The Punjab Governor was speaking on the occasion of inauguration of a dispensary in Guliana, a suburban area of Lalamusa. Dr. Ansar Hayat arranged the function and invited the Governor Punjab to visit the area and inaugurate the new projects. Sarwar further said the Sehat Card initiatives introduced by the incumbent government has paid the dividends as millions of people had benefited from this so far. He said the ambit of the Sehat Card is being expanded to the entire Pakistan. He urged people to utilize this facility to the maximum. He assured that the government would continue to serve masses even in the days to come. Talking about the opposition long march, he said unfortunately the opposition



wanted to derail the democratic process adding govt will continue to deliver despite opposition long march and rallies. Governor further said that we did not stop any march or protest of the opposition in the past and we won't do so in the future. Before Peoples Party, Moulana Fazalur Rehman has also gone on long march but the government is still intact. Regarding the economic development of the country, the visit of PM to Russia has been of great importance. At this point, the world is bifurcating into two blocks but we would not become a part of

any block. The country's interests are the priority of the government. Punjab Aab-e-Pak authority is completing 1500 projects. NGOs are also working with us on the clean drinking water project. 1.5 crore people will be provided with clean water, he added. He was addressing the media on the occasion of the inauguration of filtration plants and laying the foundation of welfare hospital on Monday in Jalalpur Jattan and Lala Musa. Governor said during his speech that for the prosperity of the citizens, the government is utilizing all resources. The purpose of the

Sehat Card and Ehsas Programme is also to provide relief to the nation. For the first time in the country, the government is working for equal development across Pakistan. Inshallah, under the leadership of PM, we will continue to strive for the strengthening and prosperity of the country. Sarwar foundation is also providing clean drinking water to 2.5 million people through filtration plants and I also want to say to philanthropists that they should step forward to serve humanity because history remembers such people who work for humanity.

While replying to the questions of journalists Governor said that it is the democratic right of opposition to protest and to do a long march. That is why they can do protest and long march whenever and wherever they want. It is the clear policy of the government that no hindrance will be created in the peaceful protest. Allied parties have said repeatedly that they stand with the government. We have been given the mandate for 5 years by the public and the current government is taking measures to strengthen all departments including democracy.



Hanging wires taking precious lives

People of the area are very disturbed and have demanded of the higher authorities to take immediate notice

KAMRAN GUJJAR

JHELUM: Despite taking five precious lives, 11,000 kw wire could not be removed from the houses in Makhdum Abad, despite giving a number of requests to WAPDA. No responsible person has taken notice. People of the area are very disturbed and have demanded of the higher authorities to take immediate notice of the hanging wires, which are taking precious lives. People living in the area said that they had submitted a number of pleas to the concerned authorities but unfortunately no one was paying any heed. They said if an immediate action was not taken people may lose their lives.

Trees worth 9 million stolen from Sarai Alamgir

YOUSUF BHUTTA

GUJRAT: Forest Department's trees worth rupees nine million were stolen in two separate incidents from Sarai Alamgir. In first incident trees worth three million rupees, along Rajar railway Phatak were stolen by 20 persons including some railway officials. On the complaint of Punjab Forest Deptt. Police have registered a case against 20 persons. In second incident trees worth six million rupees were stolen from Mandi Bahauddin road in Sarai Alamgir. Police have registered another case against five persons. Two motorcycles, goods stolen

and other goods were stolen from Gujrat on Monday. It is reported that one motorcycle owned by Mirza Ehsan and the other owned by Shakeel were stolen from Nagrianwala and railway road Gujrat respectively. Police have registered separate cases in their respective police stations. Meanwhile some unidentified persons broke into a school in Gurrah Jattan and stole one tablet, sound system. Police are investigating. Mobile phones, watch, cash looted Two mobile phones, watch and a cash of rupees 60 thousand were robbed on gun point by two armed dacoits from two persons on GT road Sarai Alamgir. Police have registered a case.

Kazakh envoy for exchanging trade delegations



NAZIR SIYAL

KARACHI: Ambassador of Kazakhstan Yerzhan Kistafin has said that trade and business ties between the business communities of Kazakhstan and Pakistan have been improving as the trade volume, which stood at US\$45 million in 2020, rose to US\$95 million in 2021 and there was a lot of room for further improvement through exchange of trade delegations and enhancing cooperation. Exchanging views during the visit of Kazakhstani trade delegation to Karachi Chamber of Commerce & Industry (KCCI) here on Monday, Kazakhstani Ambassador informed that this delegation, after successfully completing visits to Islamabad and Lahore, was here in Karachi to explore possibilities of partnering with this city's business community and explore new avenues of trade and investment cooperation. "Presi-

dent of Kazakhstan will also be visiting Pakistan in the month of September 2022 whereas Pakistan's single country exhibition will also be organized in May 2022 in Almaty which would surely help in further strengthening the trade and investment cooperation between the two countries", he added. Head of the Delegation Galymzhan Tastanbekov, President KCCI Muhammad Idrees, Senior Vice President Abdul Rehman Naqi, Vice President Qazi Zahid Hussain, Chairman Fairs Exhibitions & Trade Delegations Subcommittee Azeem Alvi, Chairman Diplomatic Missions & Embassies Liaison Subcommittee Zia ul Arfeen, Former President Majid Aziz and KCCI Managing Committee Members were also present at the meeting. The Ambassador stressed that bilateral trade between Pakistan and Kazakhstan needs to be enhanced as both the countries have potential and resources to strengthen their economic ties.

He said that Pakistan and Kazakhstan's two-way trade is not significant, but the visit of Kazakhstani trade delegation will help increase the overall volume of trade between the two countries. Yerzhan Kistafin appreciated Karachi Chamber for arranging the meeting aimed at promoting trade relations between Kazakhstan and Pakistan by conducting B2B meetings and match making in various sectors. President KCCI, in his remarks, pointed out that despite close relations, trade between Pakistan and Kazakhstan does not commensurate with true potential and needs attention. "In 2020, Pakistan's exports to Kazakhstan amounted to \$59.1 million while goods worth \$16.1 million were imported from Kazakhstan.", he said, adding that there were numerous commodities, which the two countries have been trading with other countries but not at all with each other.

President PTI AJK lauds PM's relief measures

SHUJAAT HAMZA

ISLAMABAD: President Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf Azad Jammu and Kashmir and Most Senior Minister Sardar Tanvir Ilyas Khan on Monday lauded Prime Minister's address to the nation and said that the decisions taken by the Prime Minister will largely benefit common people. In a statement, Sardar Tanvir Ilyas Khan said that Prime Minister has won the hearts of people by announcing economic relief measures during this crucial time when the economy of the whole world is under crisis. The petroleum prices are on the rise everywhere but Prime Minister Imran Khan has made sure that the common people of Pakistan should not suffer, he said. Sardar Tanvir Ilyas Khan further said that the incentives announced for industrialists and businessmen will help in boosting nation's economy. He also said that the package announced for overseas Pakistanis and the youth of Pakistan are unprecedented and appreciable. In his address to the nation, the prime minister said the government was reducing the petrol, diesel, and electricity prices, while it would not be increased till the next budget – in June. The prime minister said that the government had decided to reduce petrol and diesel prices by Rs10 and the electricity tariff will drop by Rs5. "The price of these commodities will not rise till the next budget." PM Imran Khan said the government has also decided to increase the Ehsas programme's cash handouts from Rs12,000 to Rs14,000. He added that jobless graduates would be given internships and a stipend of Rs30,000 would be awarded to them – but did not specify the mechanism. The premier announced a complete tax exemption for the IT sector – companies and freelancers – and no foreign exchange restriction will be imposed on them. Moreover, IT startups no longer have to pay capital gains tax.



National exhibition vital for Pakistani products

BUREAU REPORT

FAISALABAD: The National Industrial Exhibition will play a major role in introducing quality Pakistani products at international level, said Mr. Tahir Raza Hamdani Director General (DG) Industries Punjab. He was addressing an awareness session about this industrial exhibition in Faisalabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry (FCCI) here today. He said that Faisalabad is one of the most important industrial centers of Punjab and he intends that its industrialists must showcase their products in this exhibition. He further said that this exhibition would be held in Fortress Stadium Lahore from March 10 to 16 on the eve of Horse & Cattle Show 2022 and a separate and dedicated enclave could be allocated for the industrial products of Faisalabad. He said that around 100 stalls of 18x8 feet would be established. However, if the number of intending participants increased, then the stall would be allotted on a "first come, first serve" basis. Responding to a question, he said that this exhibition is for the industrialists and no stall would be allotted to the traders. "I shall consider allotting stalls to those industrialists who are importing fitness equipment from other countries", he said and added that broadband service would also be provided to facilitate the stall holders. He further said that arrangements for this exhibition are being finalized and hopefully it will be completed very soon. He said that this exhibition would provide lifetime benefits to the products marketed through this event. Earlier, in his address of welcome, President FCCI Mr. Atif Munir Sheikh appreciated the revival of national exhibition and said that the most reasonable price has been fixed for the stalls for 7 days. "I shall try my best to convince at least 25 to 30 leading industrialists to participate in it", he said and added that in addition to fabric and lawn, the paint, chemical, engineering and food industry would also showcase their innovative products. He appreciated the vision of Prime Minister Imran Khan and Chief Minister Punjab Sardar Usman Buzdar and said that their strategy of smart lockdown during corona proved a boon as it not only continued the industrial wheel in progress but also stopped the expected flood of unemployment in the country.



PESHAWAR: CM KP Mehmood Khan giving plot allotment letters to senior journalist Shamim Shahid. – DNA

Biggest Buddhist Stupa discovered

ISLAMABAD: Directorate of Archeology & Museums (DOAM) Khyber Pakhtunkhwa has discovered and excavated one of the biggest Buddhist Stupa in the region. According to DOAM, KP, Baho Dheri Stupa at Swabi the discovered site is almost 1800 years old as per initial researches. An official of DOAM said, more than 400 antiquities have been recovered. It is the largest stupa in the area. Further excavations are underway. The discoveries include a 73-meter (240-feet) stupa, the largest of its kind so far found in the region and a rare life-size statue of Gautam Buddha, the founder of Buddhism. Other antiquities include seated Buddha statues, the original floor of the largest stupa dating back 1,800 years and a statue in meditation pose, he added. – APP

DC checks cleanliness situation

ISHFAQ MUGHAL

FAISALABAD: Deputy Commissioner Ali Shehzad went to various areas to check the cleanliness situation and inspected the cleaning operation on the roads and streets in the morning. CEO Faisalabad Waste Management Company Bilal Feroz Joya and other officers of the relevant departments were also present. The Deputy Commissioner visited Sidhupura, Panj Pulli, Darbar Qaim Sian road and other areas and while inspecting checked the presence of waste workers and said that the cleaning process should be completed in the city before the commencement of normal

life. He said that more durable steps should be taken to raise the standard of cleanliness so that the city looks clean and beautiful in all respects as per the expectations of the citizens. He directed to disposed off garbage in a save manner and said that the attendance of waste workers should be monitored regularly. He asked the residents of areas about the presence of Waste workers and performance of them and on some complaint he asked the CEO for early resolve. He distributed the awareness pamphlets among residents and appealed to them to cooperate with cleanliness team. CEO FWMC briefed about cleanliness plan and implementation.

OGRA to hold Public Hearing at Faisalabad

DNA

ISLAMABAD: In order to extend an opportunity to General Public with respect to the Regulatory issues pertaining to SNG-PL, Oil and Gas Regulatory Authority has decided to hold Public Hearing on March 2, 2022 at Faisalabad. In this regard, all the interested persons/parties may attend and present their complaints / grievances, preferably in writing in the hearing. The same will be held and start at 2:00 p.m. at the Board Room of Faisalabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Faisalabad.

KP govt sets up 43 CFCs for people of merged, districts

PESHAWAR: The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government has taken another step for the convenience of dwellers of merged and southern districts by establishing 43 Citizen Facilitation Centers (CFCs) in the province. Under the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Digital Initiative, the Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA), Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in collaboration with World Bank, Economic Affairs Division Islamabad and NADRA has established 43 Citizen Facilitation Centers in the province, disclosed Director General PDMA, Sharif Hussain. In a press statement issued here on Monday, the

DG PDMA said 27 Citizen Facilitation Centers are established in the merged districts and 16 are operational in the southern districts. Facilities like issuance of National Identity Cards, Child Registration Certificates, Family Registration Certificates, Child Birth Registration, NICOP, Juvenile Card, Bank Sub Branches with ATM facilities, E-Sahulat (Naya Pakistan housing registration, E.T.O vehicle verification Islamabad, ID Verification, Mobile Top-Ups), Livelihood Support Grant, Child Wellness Grant and payment of utility bills can be acquired by the general public under single roof. – APP



WAZIRABAD: Chairman Muslim Hands Sahibzada Syed Lakht Hasnain, Pir Syed Muhammad Safi Azam, Country Director Muslim Hands Sahibzada Syed Zia-ul-Noor, Anchor Sahil Waraich and others are attending the ceremony as Syed Bashir Ahmad Khurshid was awarded Tehreek-e-Pakistan Gold medal by the Government of Pakistan. – DNA

Islamabad POST Available in following cities

ISLAMABAD
Qamar News Agency
03105460372

RAWALPINDI
Asim News Agency
03435802610

KARACHI
Nazir Siyal
03337554016

PESHAWAR
Zarbagh News Agency
03005412069

FAISALABAD
Ishfaq Mughal
03007689850

GUJRAT
M. Yousuf Bhutta
03338436820

JHELUM
Iqrash News Agency
03005412069

KHARIAN
Ijaz News Agency
03068863870

LALAMUSA
Gulzar Ahmed Noshi
03359494788

SARA-I-ALMAGIR
0300 5428178

National Days and Armed Forces Days

- FEBRUARY**
 Feb 04/ Sri Lanka National Day
 Feb 06/ N. Zealand National Day
 Feb 06/ Uganda Army Day
 Feb 11/ Iran Revolution day
 Feb 16/ DPR Korea National Day
 Feb 16/ Lithuania National Day
 Feb 18/ Gambia National Day
 Feb 19/ Nepal Democracy Day
 Feb 23/ Uzbekistan National Day
 Feb 23/ Brunei National Day
 Feb 23/ Guyana National Day
 Feb 23/ Russia National Army Day
 Feb 23/ Tajikistan Armed Forces Day
 Feb 25/ Kuwait National Day



Hotels & Restaurants

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



Airlines

- Turkish Airlines.....8494949



Emergency

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



Enquiry

- Edhi Ambulance.....115
 PIA Flight Info.....114
 PIA Cargo.....9280979
 Railway Inquiry.....117
 Railway Exchange 9270831-5
 WASA Rawalpindi.....555489
 CAA.....9281092



Hospitals

- CMH.....5611111
 MH.....5611116
 Cantt Hospital.....9270907-11
 DHQ.....5556311-4
 RGH.....9290301-7
 Holy Family.....9290322-7
 PIMS.....9261170-79
 Polyclinic.....9218300-09
 Shifa International.4603666



Departments

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

Islamabad Metropolitan

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

Water Tank

- Islamabad.....0321-5744480



ISLAMABAD: Brigadier General Hamid Vahedi, Commander of the Air Force of Islamic Republic of Iran called on Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Ahmed Baber Sidhu, Chief of the Air Staff, Pakistan Air Force. – DNA

Commander Iranian Air Force calls on Air Chief

DNA
 ISLAMABAD: Brigadier General Hamid Vahedi, Commander of the Air Force of Islamic Republic of Iran called on Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Ahmed Baber Sidhu, Chief of the Air Staff, Pakistan Air Force in his office. A smartly turned out contingent of Pakistan Air Force presented him the Guard of Honour. Brigadier General Hamid Vahedi, also laid floral wreath at the Martyrs' Monument to pay homage to the PAF's Martyrs. During the meeting, both the dignitaries discussed matters of professional and mutual interest. The honourable guest commended the professionalism of PAF and acknowledged its rising indigenous capacity in aviation industry. The Air Chief said that Pakistan and Islamic Republic of Iran enjoy longstanding religious, cultural and historical bonds which are manifested through strong ties between both air forces. The Air Chief reiterated his resolve to further enhance the existing bilateral cooperation between the two brotherly countries.

EU Special Representative Eamon Gilmore visits Pak
 In Lahore Mr Gilmore also discussed labour rights and human rights related issues with the business representatives and civil society organisations

DNA
 ISLAMABAD: The EU Special Representative for Human Rights Eamon Gilmore concluded his three-day Pakistan. During the tour, Mr Gilmore held wide-ranging meeting with the Pakistan government officials, civil society representatives, human rights activists, religious minority representatives and media workers in Islamabad and Lahore. This year marks the 60th anniversary of diplomatic relations between the European Union and Pakistan. Mr Gilmore called upon the Honourable President of Pakistan Dr Arif Alvi, Foreign Minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi, Minister for Human Rights Dr Shireen Mazari, Advisor to PM on Commerce Abdul Razak Dawood, and Minister of Law and Justice Dr Farogh Naseem as well as the Chairperson National Commission for the Status of Women Nilofar Bakhtiar and the Member Punjab Nadeem Ashraf at the National Commission For Human Rights Pakistan in Islamabad. Mr Eamon Gilmore held a public talk at the Islamabad Institute of Strategic Studies to highlighting the centrality of human rights in EU foreign policy and underlining that EU engages globally on the bases of partnership and respect for human rights values "Human Rights don't belong to any state but to people everywhere in every country" he said. In Lahore Mr Gilmore also discussed labour rights and human rights related issues with the business representatives and civil society organisations. He recognised the progress made with the introduction of new laws including the Anti-Rape Law, Anti-torture law, Anti-Harassment at workplace law, Journalist Protection Bill, significant reform on the death penalty and no execution for the last two years and inheritance provisions for women, but urged the Pakistan government to continue the implementation of laws to make real progress for everyone in society. **The EU Special Representative raised three areas for focus:**
 1. Labour rights: Women earn less than minimum wage in the textiles industry, a sector that heavily benefits from the GSP+ programme. Child labour and bonded labour, which possibly increased owing to the pandemic, must be addressed immediately.
 2. Education: Large numbers of children are out of school and are being placed in a cycle of disadvantage while the society misses the untapped potential of skilled and engaged citizens.
 3. Meeting the criteria for compliance with GSP+ conventions that span across human rights, labour rights, environment and good governance. He concluded his final day with a visit to the Badshahi Mosque recognising the importance on interfaith harmony as EU and Pakistan celebrate 60 years of diplomatic ties.

Word 'Fake' is the brand of Sharif family: Gill

DNA
 ISLAMABAD: Special Assistant to Prime Minister on Political Communication Shahbaz Gill believes the word 'Fake' is the brand of Sharif family saying whether it be fake letters, receipts, videos or fonts it has all come from them. While responding to the statement of PML-N leader Maryam Aurangzeb, Gill said the corrupt spokesperson of the fugitives has lost her temper. "The word fake is the brand of the Sharif family. Fake letters, receipts, fonts, videos, accounts or fake companies have come from them," he said in a statement issued here. He said whether it comes to fake mandate or being fake sick, they ran to London. "Prime Minister Imran Khan is on the nerves of thieves and looters. The corrupt are feeling uneasy by the government's performance," he said.

Alvi for paradigm shift towards online education

DNA
 ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi on Monday urged the universities to broaden the scope of their education systems by promoting virtual dissemination of knowledge in order to increase the number of graduates in the country. "Besides the conventional brick-and-mortar system, our higher education system needs a paradigm shift to focus on online education as well to match the growing needs of the contemporary world," the president said, in his address here at the 14th Convocation of Sarhad University of Science and Information Technology Peshawar. President Alvi said by the year 2030, the world would be needing 800 million graduates in the field of information technology. In this regard, he said, Pakistan must produce graduates capable of exploiting global opportunities. "For Pakistan, making education common for all is the key to development. Virtual education is the only rapid way to achieve this goal," he said. He mentioned his already launched Presidential Initiative of Artificial Intelligence and Computing as an important step in reshaping and revolutionizing the country's education, research, and business systems through the adoption of cutting-edge technologies. Terming Pakistan's youth bulge as a valuable resource for the country, he asked the graduates to explore the world by acquiring quality knowledge and the latest skills. The president said the world was reaching out to Pakistan in view of its human resource and emphasized the need to tap the opportunities as per the growing demand of the international market. Recalling Prime Minister Imran Khan's recent visit to China as a win-win situation in terms of growth and development, he said the areas of agriculture, pharmaceutical, automotive, textile, and information technology offered vast scope for Pakistani students and professionals. – DNA

CGSS, Info Ministry host 'Myth of Indian Secular Democracy'

STAFF REPORTER
 ISLAMABAD: On 28th February 2022, a Conference on "Myth of Indian Secular Democracy: Human Rights Violations and Rise of Safran Tide under BJP" was jointly organised by Press Information Department (PID), Federal Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of Pakistan & Center for Global & Strategic Studies (CGSS) Islamabad at Information Service Academy, Islamabad. The conference commenced with speech by Mr. Ashfaq Ahmed Gondal, Former Federal Secretary Information and Broadcasting & Vice President (Federal Region), Center for Global & Strategic Studies (CGSS), Islamabad. He stated that it was impossible for other communities to live safely and comfortably in India. He added that the atrocities were continued in India and it claim to be the largest democratic and secular state of the world. Ambassador Afrasiab Mehdi Hashmi Qureshi, Former Ambassador of Pakistan to Bangladesh and New Zealand presented speech on "Minority Crisis in India and False Façade of Secularism: Questioning the Status Quo". He stated that Hindu fundamentalism was not a temporary ideology but not a permanent phenomenon. Dr Zafar Nawaz Jaspal, Professor, School of Politics and International Relations (SPIR), Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad presented speech on "BJP-RAW nexus: Detrimental to Peace and Stability in South Asia and Beyond". He said that the ideology of RAW and BJP was aggressive which after convergence is the reason for instability in the region. Sahibzada Sultan Ahmad Ali, Dewan of Junagadh State and Chairman MUSLIM Institute presented speech on "Indian occupation of Junagadh & Manavadar—Acts of Blatant Aggression by India". He discussed Indian illegal actions in Junagadh, including human rights violations, riots and hindering food supply chain. He stated that there was a need to build correct narrative by understanding actual historical events and facts. Advocate Jamal Aziz, Advocate High Court and Executive Director, Research Society of International Law presented speech on "Stark violation of human and minority rights in India: Assessing obligations under International Law". He discussed complex legal aspects related to Kashmir under Indian atrocities.



Chairman NAB lauds performance of regional bureaus

Honorable Mr. Justice Javed Iqbal, Chairman NAB while appreciating the excellent performance of all regional bureaus of NAB said that the performance of NAB is being reviewed on a regular basis on the basis of the state of art monitoring and evaluation system (MES)

DNA
 ISLAMABAD: The Honorable Mr. Justice Javed Iqbal, Chairman NAB chaired a meeting to review overall performance of NAB at NAB Headquarters. The meeting was attended by Zahir Shah, Deputy Chairman NAB, Syed Asghar Haider, Prosecutor General Accountability (PGA), Masood Alam Khan, DG Operations and other senior officers of NAB. During the meeting, it was informed that the Learned Accountability Court Balochistan passed judgment in reference No 03/2014 whereby the accused Muhammad Anwar Qambrani was convicted / sentenced for 11 months of rigorous imprisonment along with fine of Rs 8.95 million. During the meeting, it was informed that respected Accountability Court Karachi passed judgment in reference No 40/2005 whereby the accused Habib Ahmed Khan was convicted / sentenced for 04 years of rigorous imprisonment along with fine of Rs 10.0 million. During the meeting, it was further informed that respected Accountability Court Lahore passed judgment in reference No 04/2017 whereby the accused Abdul Rehman was convicted / sentenced for 05 year of rigorous imprisonment along with fine of Rs 88.457 million. During the meeting, it was informed that respected Accountability Court Quetta passed judgment in reference No 03/2014 whereby the accused Ameer Bakhsh khoso was convicted/sentenced for 05 years of rigorous imprisonment with fine amount of Rs. 105.23 million. During the meeting, it was further informed that respected Accountability Court Multan dismissed the petition for Pre Arrest Bail of accused person namely Muhammad Iqbal and Saeed Raza in reference No 8-M/2019. Subsequently accused persons were taken into custody by NAB team as per law. During the meeting, it was further informed that the Honorable Supreme Court of Pakistan dismissed the petition of Pre Arrest Bail of the accused person namely Qasim Ali Mandharo in reference No 20/2019. Subsequently the accused person was taken into custody by NAB team as per law. During the meeting, it was informed that the respected Accountability Court passed judgment whereby the accused persons Habib ur Rehman, Arif Parveiz & Mahmood ul Hassan were convicted / sentenced for 07 year of rigorous imprisonment along with fine of Rs 5 million, Rs 2.2 million and Rs 4 million respectively. During the meeting, it was further informed that respected Accountability Court Lahore passed judgment in reference No 07/2017 whereby the accused Toufeeq Ahmed was convicted / sentenced for 05 year of rigorous imprisonment along with fine of Rs 12 million. Honorable Mr. Justice Javed Iqbal, Chairman NAB while appreciating the excellent performance of all regional bureaus of NAB said that the performance of NAB is being reviewed on a regular basis on the basis of the state of art monitoring and evaluation system (MES). He said that NAB strongly believes in 100% development and Zero corruption.



Afridi directs to resolve issues of Overseas Pakistanis

ISLAMABAD: Advisor to the Prime Minister on Overseas Pakistanis Ayub Afridi visited Overseas Pakistanis Foundation (OPF) Housing Schemes in Lahore on Monday and gave out directives to resolve issues being faced by Overseas Pakistanis regarding their investments therein. The Advisor visited various projects by OPF in Lahore to evaluate the progress of development being carried out there, said a press release. Deputy Managing Director OPF Rai Muhammad Hayat and Director General Housing Sheryar Butt briefed the Advisor over various development schemes and facilities being provided therein. The Advisor directed the officers and staff of the OPF to take effective measures for provision of amenities to Overseas Pakistanis according to PM Imran Khan's vision.

UNDP extends support for Ehsas, KPP

DNA
 ISLAMABAD: The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Resident Representative, Knut Ostby, here on Monday reaffirmed commitment to continue support for the implementation of Ehsas, Kamyab Pakistan Program (KPP), and explore further areas to support Pakistan in its efforts for sustainable development. During a meeting with Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue, Shaukat Tarin Knut Ostby appreciated and supported the efforts of the government for bringing improvement in social and economic sectors.

Briefs

AIOU
announces
admissions
in 2nd phase

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Allama Iqbal Open University has announced the schedule of admissions for the spring semester 2022. Admission for the second phase will start from March 1 (today). Programs offered in this phase includes BA (Associate Degree), BBA, MA, M.Sc, Postgraduate diploma, BS programs, Teacher Training Programs (MA, M.Ed and B.Ed), certificate courses and Associate degree programs. It is pertinent to mention here that, all the admissions will take place online. Admission forms and prospectuses are available on the university's website www.aiou.edu.pk. Moreover, final exams of Matric, I.Com and FA programs offered in semester Autumn 2021 will begin across the country from March 1 (Tuesday) and will continue till April 12. According to the Controller Examination, Dr. Muhammad Ajmal Choudhury, roll number slips are being dispatched to all the students at their postal addresses and also uploaded on students' CMS accounts. As per the instructions of the Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Zia Ul-Qayyum, exam centers have been set up at the nearest places of the students' residences or workplaces. All possible efforts have been made to ensure transparency in the entire exams' process.

Govt notifies
transfer,
posting
of officers

ISLAMABAD: The federal government on Monday notified the transfer and posting of high-rank officers. According to a notification issued by Establishment Division, MehrKhalique Dad Lak, a BS-22 Officer of Police Service of Pakistan, presently serving as National Coordinator, National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA), is transferred and directed to report to Establishment Division with immediate effect and until further orders. Muhammad Tahir Rai, a BS-21 Officer of Police Service of Pakistan, presently serving as Provincial Police Officer (PPO), Government of Balochistan, is transferred and posted as National Coordinator, National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA), under Section 10 of the Civil Servants Act, 1973 with immediate effect and until further orders. - APP

Ashrafi
terms Welby
'ambassador
of peace'

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister's Special Representative on Interfaith Harmony and Pakistan Ulema Council (PUC) Chairman Hafiz Tahir Mahmood Ashrafi termed Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby an 'ambassador of peace'. He was addressing a banquet, given in the honor of Archbishop Justin Welby here at a local hotel on Sunday. Ashrafi said, "Apparently this is a small in size but in fact a big gathering as a towering figure is among us who is the ambassador of peace. To me, he is a teacher and he has a leading role in global perspective for promoting peace and interfaith harmony. "This is a blessing, you are here in Pakistan, that is your own country," he added. He said Archbishop Justin always supported the people encouraging peace and interfaith harmony worldwide. He said when it was quite difficult to speak on international interfaith harmony and dialogue, the PUC raised its voice for them. He said he was one and only who spoke bluntly either it was Rimsha Masih case or Lahore Joseph Colony issue or suicide attack on the church because there was an undue fear among the people. But today, the situation was a little bit different, he added. Ashrafi said he had resolved 137 cases of unacceptable behaviors. He said there were some complaints of forced marriages and religious conversions but he had resolved them too with his pragmatic approach. - APP



ISLAMABAD: Lord Mayor of Birmingham Ingham, Councilor M Afzal, called on President Arif Alvi, at Aiwan-e-Sadr. - DNA

Kashmir conflict affects
millions of lives: Schofield

The Kashmiri youth partaking in a session also voiced their opinion, stating that the ongoing human rights violations in Kashmir were just the symptoms emerging from the disease of illegal occupation

KHAYAM ABBASI

ISLAMABAD: The Kashmir conflict is ingrained with numerous constraints and complexities, and it only continues to get more and more compounded as time passes. The conflict demands the international community's attention and arbitration to be resolved for the sake of the millions of lives of the region's inhabitants, and the peace the people of Pakistan and India deserve to progress for the future. These views were expressed by Victoria Schofield, an eminent British historian, author, scholar and biographer with a particular interest in South Asia and Kashmir conflict, during an exclusive talk held at the Institute of Policy Studies (IPS) on the topic of 'Kashmir: The Way Forward'. Schofield, who has visited both sides of the disputed territory many times and



had opportunities to interview locals from both sides to ascertain their opinion regarding the whole situation, lamented that the people in the Indian occupied territory were still living traumatic lives, there were a number of civilian deaths and arrests every day, and armed soldiers roam the streets. The speaker termed the whole situation a grave humanitarian crisis that needs the urgent attention of the world community, pressing that these human rights violations in IOJK need to be documented and reach the right places on a consistent basis. Schofield also reminded that the Simla Agreement does not bind Pakistan and India to resolve the Kashmir conflict only through "bilateral means". She said, the Agreement states that both the countries will try to resolve the issue bilaterally or through any other mutually agreed

means. She stressed that this latter clause in the agreement needs to be highlighted to seek international mediation over the issue, which is critical as India's hubris has continued to obstruct an amicable and bilateral resolution to the pain and suffering of the people Kashmir. She further opined that the resolution of this over 75-year-old issue needs to involve multiple stakeholders, including China because of

its claim to Aksai Chin and Trans Karakoram Tract. She was of the view that the people of Azad Jammu & Kashmir and the Gilgit-Baltistan region, the Indian-occupied Jammu, Kashmir Valley and Ladakh region may not necessarily have a similar opinion over the matter. The session presided over by the IPS' Vice Chairman Ambassador (r) Syed Abrar Hussain, was also joined by Ambassador (r) Ishtiaq Hussain Andrabi, Brigadier (r) Said

Nazir Mohmand, Farzana Yaqoob, former AJK minister and secretary, IPS-Working Group on Kashmir, Syed Abu Ahmad Akif, former federal secretary, and Advocate Nasir Qadri, founder, Legal Forum for the Oppressed Voices of Kashmir (LFOVK), among others. Several young activists hailing from the Indian-occupied territory of Jammu & Kashmir, including Dr Mujahid Gilani, and Ahmed bin Qasim, the son of long detained Kashmiri leaders Qasim Fakto and Asiya Andrabi, also participated in the discussion after the talk. The Kashmiri youth partaking in a session also voiced their opinion, stating that the ongoing human rights violations in Kashmir were just the symptoms emerging from the disease of illegal occupation. Its status quo was being protected by the Indian government, bureaucracy, military, and legal institutions together.

MCCP
commits to
achieving
gender
equality

ISLAMABAD: Members of Male Champions of Change Pakistan (MCCCP) have expressed their commitment to achieving gender equality and to creating a fair, diverse inclusive world, shaped by empowered women in every industry. Comprising 15 active Members who lead approximately 55,000 employees across the nation, the Male Champions of Change Pakistan includes representatives from sectors including hospitality, consumer goods, telecommunications, retail, textile, financial services, information technology, microfinance, logistics, and media. Members from companies including Swift Logistics and Interloop committed to increasing women's employment rate up to 30% by 2025, and to play a bigger role in countering the challenges faced by women within and outside the workplace, said a news release. Telenor Pakistan's Irfan Wahab Khan spoke of his company's leadership through delivering programs designed specifically for women to get back into the workforce after long breaks, increased representation in all job groups, and a fair, desirable working environment. The Members endorsed their Action Groups for 2022-23. In addition to continuing specific efforts on flexible work, gender-balanced recruitment and a gender-balanced public image, the leaders committed to new priorities. Convener of the Male Champions of Change Pakistan Group, FizaFarhan commented on the occasion, "The Male Champions of Change Pakistan is a testament to the leadership and commitment of male leaders in the country to support women and create progressive workforces through positive change".

11,160 bikers
fined during
last 2 month

ISLAMABAD: Islamabad Traffic Police (ITP) has issued 11,160 tickets to motorcyclists who ride bikes without helmets. A police spokesman said that ITP is endeavoring to maintain exemplary traffic system in the city and check those involved in negligence on roads. SSP (Traffic) Rai Mazhar Iqbal has appreciated this performance and said that vigorous campaign of ITP had been launched as per directions of IGP Islamabad Muhammad Ahsan Younis to create awareness among citizens about traffic rules. As per directions of IGP Islamabad Muhammad Ahsan Younis, he said that ITP personnel has been directed to ensure implementation on traffic rules and regulation irrespective of status and rank and demonstrate patience and politeness while issuing traffic violation tickets to the road users. He said that ITP is utilizing all available resources to facilitate the general public. The personnel of the force issue traffic violation tickets not as a punitive measure but the purpose is to ensure safe road environment in the Capital and secure the lives of the people, the SSP (Traffic) maintained. - APP

Ten new
Covid cases
in RWP

RAWALPINDI: Ten more patients were tested positive for the fatal coronavirus during the last 24 hours in the district, with four belonging to Potohar town and Rawal town each and two from Rawalpindi Cantonment. According to the daily situation report issued by the District Corona Management centre on Monday, 20 confirmed patients were admitted to four health facilities, including 15 in the Institute of Urology, two in the Fauji Foundation and Benazir Bhutto Hospital while one patient was admitted in the Bilal Hospital. The report updated that one patient was on a ventilator in critical condition, four stable and 15 on double oxygen support. Around 5,561,033 people, including 44,640 health workers, had so far been vaccinated against the fatal disease since the start of the vaccination drive from March 10," it informed. District Health Authority updated that during the last 24 hours, 620 samples were collected, out of which 610 were declared negative, while the positivity rate was recorded at 1.61 per cent. - APP



ISLAMABAD: Australian's Special Representative on Afghanistan, Daniel Sloper and Australian Deputy High Commissioner, Joanne Frederiksen meet Federal Minister For States & Frontier Regions, Sahibzada Mehboob Sultan. - DNA

COMSTECH organizes public lecture
on microbial biofilm formation

ISLAMABAD: COMSTECH organized a public Lecture on "Microbial Biofilm Formation and its Importance as a Drug Target" delivered by Prof. Dr. Ute Römling, Professor of Medical Microbial Physiology, Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm, Sweden on Monday. Dr. Romling thanked the President of Pakistan and the Coordinator General COMSTECH for inviting her to Pakistan and said that I am very pleased to be here. She presented the work of her team on the biofilm formation and its importance as a drug target. She said that biofilms are matrix-enclosed bacterial populations adherent to each other and/or to surfaces or interfaces. She said that 60 to 80 percent of human bacterial infections are caused by biofilm forming bacteria. Dr. Romling mentioned that biofilms are tolerant against antibiotics and immune response. She talked in detail on the topic in her one-hour long lecture. The Coordinator General COMSTECH, Prof. Dr. M. Iqbal Choudhary introduced the speaker to the audience and said that I am extremely pleased to introduce Prof. Dr. Ute Römling. I am very fascinated from the talent and the spirit of Prof. Dr. Ute Römling. She is a renowned scientist, COMSTECH distinguished scholar and also chairs a faculty at international center of chemical and biological sciences. Prof. Ute is very well known in the field of biomedical sciences particularly in the field of infectious diseases. - DNA

Cooperation in
energy sector vital for
Pakistan and Iran

STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: Energy Cooperation between Pakistan and Iran was imperative to strengthen the ties between the two countries given the former's quest for diversification and latter's search for energy, said Mr. Abdul Basit, Research Fellow at the International Centre for Political Violence and Terrorism Research, Singapore. He was addressing a webinar titled "Prospects of Broadening Pak-Iran Relations amid Evolving Regional Scenarios" arranged by the Institute of Regional Studies (IRS), Islamabad, here on Monday. He added that Pak-Iran relations had remained stagnant because of Pakistan's balancing policy which needed to be reviewed. Afghanistan, he said, was a common point of convergence for Pakistan and Iran considering that the US was a common challenge to both the states. Commenting on the challenges to cordial relations between the two neighbours, MrBasit stated that instead of pulling apart, both countries could cooperate towards a positive trajectory to deal with the border militancy. He added that Gwadar and Chahbahar were equally important in terms of their long-term benefits and that the two projects in fact complemented each other instead of opposing each other. Dr. Ali Omid, Associate Professor at the University of Isfahan, Iran, was also of the opinion that the energy sector had to be optimally tapped in to reap the best possible level of bilateral relations between Iran and Pakistan. He said that in addition to gas pipeline, the two countries were actually in need of binding agreements that could cater to their respective deficiencies and other issues. Policies and initiatives often suffered the undue pressure from bigger allies, he added. He was referring to the lack of cooperation from Pakistan in the materialisation of gas pipeline, due to the alleged pressure from the US and Saudi Arabia. He said that it was time that Pakistan and Iran took their relations seriously and explored avenues for further advancement.

February the month of women

PROF. DR. NUSRAT ARA MAJEED

WORLD HEART DAY IS THE WORLD Heart federation's biggest platform for raising awareness about cardiovascular diseases. These are the leading cause of death globally [31 percent of global deaths] By 2030 more than 23.6 million will die of cardiovascular diseases. Fortunately we can change that because 80 percent of cardiac disease and stroke may be prevented with education and action. WORLD HEART DAY is celebrated all over the world every year in last week of September. By now there has been enough awareness about risk factors and how to combat them by life style modifications, which includes exercise, healthy food, avoiding stress, no to smoking and of course maintaining weight, blood pressure and blood sugar levels? But one very important segment of society, the women, have been ignored because of certain myths, that is a disease of men and older women. Younger women with these symptoms were ignored, often being dismissed as cases of BROKEN AND BEREAVED HEART. But it is now proven that this bereaved heart was in fact a diseased Heart unfortunately the simple fact of being a woman increases the risk of Heart disease and stroke. Heart disease claims the lives of 1 in 3 women, that is one third of all mothers, sisters' and friends. It continues to be a women's greatest health challenge. In 2004 the American



Heart Association faced a challenge, Heart disease claimed the lives of 500,000 women each year. Yet both women and their physicians were not paying attention. Gender inequality, poverty, illiteracy and lack of access to health services influence women health in general and cardiovascular problems in particular. An appropriate action was to be needed to dispel the myths and raise awareness of Heart disease and stroke as no. 1 killer of women. American Heart Association created GO RED FOR WOMEN, a passionate, emotional and social initiative designed to empower women to take charge of their Heart health. It makes them aware of their personal risks of developing heart disease and gives

them the tools they need to lead a heart healthy life. GO RED FOR WOMEN inspires them to make life style changes mobilize communities and shape policies to save the precious lives of women. The more a woman knows about Heart disease, the better chances she has of beating it. The American Heart association's signature initiative GO RED FOR WOMEN is a comprehensive platform designed to create awareness and serve as a catalyst for change to improve the lives of women globally. To achieve this goal, we need to understand the meaning on Go red i.e. blood pressure, cholesterol and blood sugar. O-own your life style-say no to smoking, exercise regularly, eat heart healthy diet. It is up to you .no one can do it for you, R-realize your risk. We think it will not happen to us, but remember Heart disease kills one out of three women, E-educate your family, D-don't be silent. Tell every woman you that heart disease is no.1 killer It is important to understand that Heart disease in women can be, and is different from their male counterparts. Symptoms tend to be vague because in women it is the microvasculature that gets diseased. Early recognition of the following symptoms is important 1-dry cough-it could be persistent or episodic. Gets worse on lying down, 2-upper abdominal discomfort, indigestion and feeling of heaviness and nausea, 3-shortness of breath especially on exertion, 4-easy fatigability, pain legs, 5 unexplained severe headaches, 6-disturbed sleep, excessive sweating [cold sweats].

Pakistan's First And Only Diplomatic Daily

Editor-in-Chief: Ansar Mahmood Bhatti

Deputy Editor: Abid Raza

Member APNS / ABC Certified

Vol: 02 Issue: 251

Email: dailyisbpost@gmail.com

Phone: 051-2266165 / 051-2261960

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

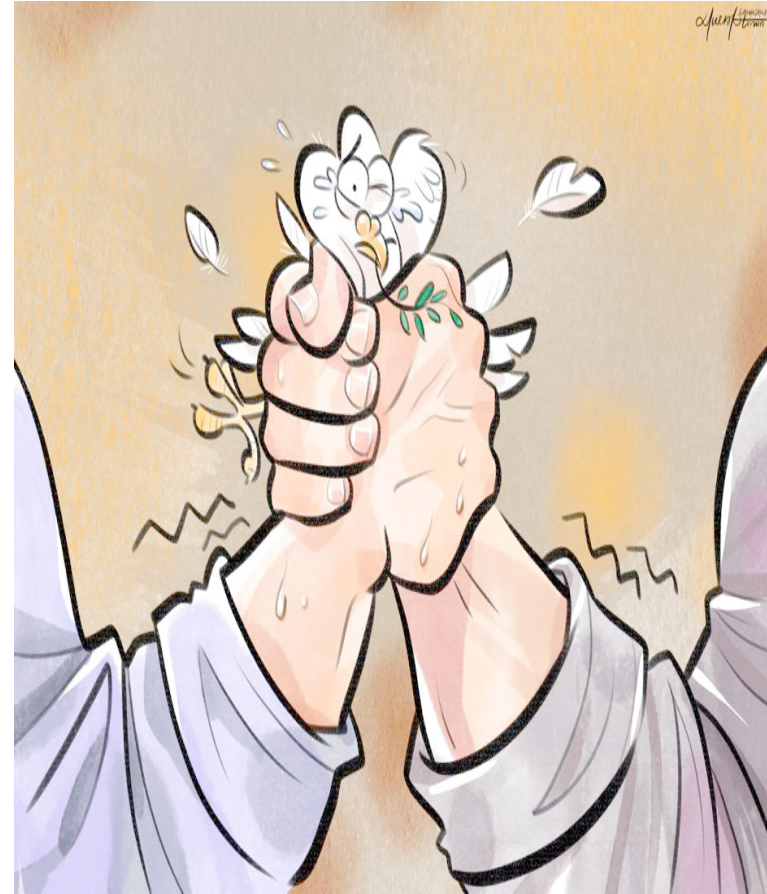
Putin's Ukraine war

JUST a few weeks after its 30th anniversary, the Russian Federation has gone to war with Ukraine, a country proud of its history, but which began 700 years largely under foreign rule. The initial Russian offensive began on three fronts on Thursday to the sound of a missile barrage. The Russian president, Vladimir Putin, sent tanks to pound Ukraine's cities. His warships attacked from the sea. Innocent civilians are being killed, their homes reduced to rubble. With Russian forces closing on Ukraine's capital, Kyiv, and the government asking its three million people to take up arms, Mr Putin's war "to stop genocide" may promote one.

Mr Putin is acting like a thug. He is threatening the international system by taking what he wants, irrespective of the human cost. A humanitarian crisis looms as tens of thousands of refugees cross into eastern Europe. The images beamed from the streets of Ukraine have rekindled memories of the wars of the 20th century – of a kind that once seemed unimaginable in 2022. This explains why Ukrainian president Volodymyr Zelenskiy's pleas for help from the west have gone unanswered. Mr Zelenskiy may get more weapons. There is also diplomatic condemnation against Russian aggression. But Ukraine will not receive any military assistance – such as a Nato-enforced no-fly zone – that would shift the odds decisively in Ukraine's favour. Mr Putin's threat to those who try to intervene with nuclear retaliation is dangerous and reckless. Only someone prepared for a war of extinction would utter such a warning.

Russia's determination to impose a military solution to the political problem of Ukraine is a criminal mistake resting on a might-is-right argument. Russian officials claim to be open to talks, but Mr Putin's description of the Ukrainian government as "a band of drug addicts and neo-Nazis" shows Moscow is not serious. The world is sliding into a protracted international struggle for spheres of influence between great powers.

Even if Mr Putin achieves quick success, parts of the Ukrainian military that are not defeated are likely to continue fighting – raising the prospect of grinding guerrilla warfare against Russian occupation or a puppet government. Mr Putin's primary goal is for Ukraine never to join Nato. His other demand would limit Ukrainian sovereignty so that the country would be firmly in Moscow's grip. Without compromise, the Russian president will isolate himself and his country from the European continent. Ukraine's people should be able to choose their governments and these ought to be able to face both east and west without hostility. Mr Putin's war is putting paid to this, which is a tragedy of immense proportions. But history does not end when victory is declared. Wars are never won forever.



Vaccines for every child

WHILE Pakistan has done well in carrying out a more effective polio vaccine campaign during the previous year, with only eight cases of polio reported in 2021, compared to a far higher number in 2019 and previous years, the executive director of Unicef says that there are still far too many children in the country who do not receive the vaccines that should be delivered to them during their primary years. The executive director noted that there were 1.3 million children in the country who had not received their full doses of vaccine against childhood diseases, and 350,000 who had not received any vaccine at all. This is a dangerous situation, given that Pakistan has the highest infant and child mortality death rate in South Asia and one which is amongst the highest in the world. One of the reasons for this is our failure to eliminate common childhood diseases, which can be fatal.

This situation needs to be checked – immediately and effectively. Awareness has to be created about the necessity of getting children vaccinated against all childhood diseases as per the expanded programme on immunisation launched in the country many years ago. Even this programme needs to be expanded further to cover diseases which are currently not on the list, but for which vaccines are now commonplace. No child should have to suffer a disease when its vaccine exists.

We hope that Unicef's warning will be taken seriously. Pakistan has a duty to protect all its children and by protecting them build a healthier, stronger population. This after all is the primary foundation on which a country is based. The controversies over vaccines that have occurred over the years have damaged children in Pakistan and in every province of the country. This needs to be stopped. We need to understand why there have been lapses in delivering vaccines and consider if more effective mechanisms can be found such as vaccinating children in schools. The only problem is that we still have a large number of – about 20 million – children out of school. The number has grown since then. Pakistan has many challenges to overcome if it is to ensure vaccines are delivered to every child, every time, no matter where he or she lives. It is also important that the entire regimen of vaccination be completed and all doses received by children so that they are protected from diseases which still kill far too many young children in our country.

Muslims and Science in 21st Century

Dr. Abdus Sattar Abbasi

In the last four centuries Western scientists and scholars built a spectacular empire of knowledge on seminal work of Muslim scientist during golden age of Islamic civilization; from moon-centric concepts to James Webb, from theory of blood circulation of Ibn an-Nafis to organ transplants, from sulfide to polythene and from syrups & juleps to metered dose inhalers

IT seems nostalgic when there is discussion about the contributions of Muslim scientists to the development of science and expansion of knowledge. However, the research in the past few decades suggests strong influences of Muslim scientists, during golden era of Muslim civilization between seventh and fifteenth centuries, on scientists of modern West e.g. there is remarkable similarity in the schematic diagrams of Ibn al-Shatir (1304-1375) for theory of lunar motion and sun-centered planetary model

of Copernicus (1473-1543). Achievements of Descartes, in geometric analysis, and Newton, in the calculus, were based on al-Haytham's contributions. Galileo's spectacular work in astronomy can be attributed to the thirteenth century Muslim astronomer al-Tusi. Celestial globes, astrolabes, quadrants, and sundials all evolved in observatories established by Muslim scientists in Maragah, Samarkand, the Indo-Pak Subcontinent and the Turkey, thus, initial development in the modern science occurred in the Islamic world centuries ago, not in Italy. Theory of numbers, invention of zero the *sifr* (0) and algebra are all contributed by Muslim mathematicians such as al-Khawarizmi, Muhammad Bin Ahmed and Umar Khayyam. It is all known to us today because of preserved original Arabic work of some of Muslim scientists in Western libraries.

In the last four centuries Western scientists and scholars built a spectacular empire of knowledge on seminal work of Muslim scientist during golden age of Islamic civilization: from moon-centric concepts to James Webb, from theory of blood circulation of Ibn an-Nafis to organ transplants, from sulfide to polythene and from syrups & juleps to metered dose inhalers. During this time we cannot find any significant contribution by Muslim societies in general.

A few latest contributions by Muslims, although groomed in non-Muslim societies, can serve as a ray of hope for the return of Muslim intellect to science and technology. Some of these recent success stories are our today's topic.

Norway's announcement to become world's first country to end sale of fossil fuel powered cars by 2025, followed by Britain's "green revolution" announcement to ban the sale of new petrol and diesel vehicles from 2030 created strong vibes around the world towards "race to zero" initiative by the United Nation;

which suggests "race to zero is a global campaign to rally leadership and support from businesses, cities, regions, investors for a healthy, resilient, zero carbon recovery that prevents future threats, creates decent jobs, unlocks inclusive, sustainable growth committed to achieving net zero carbon emissions by 2050 at the latest." On the other hand these changes posed a real challenge for relevant stakeholders to develop reliable batteries to travel long distances without the hassle of frequent breaks during the journey for recharging batteries. The founder and CEO of a technology company ONE (Our Next Energy) MujeebJaz, a Pakistani-American, made this dream come true in December last year when he demonstrated a battery retrofitted into a 'Tesla Model S' car which travelled more than 1200 kilometers in a single charge with an average speed to 88 km/h. He said in a statement, "Gemini, the battery, will enable long distance trips on a single charge while improving cost and safety using sustainable materials".

A generation which used red colored letter boxes, which were commonly visible in almost every urban colony, is now in their fifties while those letter boxes have vanished from streets and visible in only post offices if someone visits out of any compulsion otherwise all those needs are now addressed through smartphones. It was early 1990s when World Wide Web (WWW) revolution transformed global communication landscape. Until recently masses in Pakistan were not aware of the convenience of shopping online except a small percentage.

But Covid-19 taught us all to utilize online platforms conveniently for purchases from grocery to carpets, payments of bills & school fees and selling products without dedicated ecommerce platform utilizing just WhatsApp. However, one

of the initial major ecommerce marketplaces is eBay, which was founded by an Iranian-American ParvizMoradOmidyar known as Pierre Omidyar. eBay is considered as the second most successful online ecommerce platform after Amazon. Now eBay facilitates online customer-to-customer and business-to-customer sales, while it was fundamentally founded as an online auction facilitator. Interestingly the first auction which eBay facilitated was a sale of a broken laser pointer while currently there are 183million buyers at eBay and Perviz-MoradOmidyar is ranked as the 24th richest individual in the US.

YouTube brought revolution for social media platforms and information communication technology (ICT). One of the founders and the person who uploaded first video onto the YouTube is a Bengali-American Jawed Karim a software engineer. YouTube is now the second most visited website with billions of users watching more than a billion hours of videos everyday.

Transplant is considered a bold procedure but continuous success stories have enabled medical professionals to continue with the improvements in this domain. There are currently more than 106,000 patients on the national transplant waiting list out of which 10 patients die every day in America.

According to the NHS website, "The average time a person spends on the waiting list for a kidney transplant is 2 and a half to 3 years". SIUT's website suggests, "The exact figure for Pakistan is not available but according to a conservative estimate more than 50,000 people die each year due to end stage organ failure. This figure includes 15,000 people with kidney failure, 10,000 with liver failure and 6500 with heart failure. Majority of these patients can be saved if

organs are available for transplantation". You can find a Pakistani-American, Dr. Mohammad Mohiuddin, among a team of surgeons from University of Maryland which for the first time in history successfully transplanted a genetically modified pig heart into a human and the patient has survived so far. The team leader Dr. Griffith said, "This was a breakthrough surgery and brings us one step closer to solving the organ shortage crisis".

On this planet cancer is another daunting challenge for the human being. According to International Agency for Research on Cancer, "it is among the leading causes of death worldwide. In 2018, there were 18.1 million new cases and 9.5 million cancer-related deaths worldwide. By 2040, the number of new cancer cases per year is expected to rise to 29.5 million and the number of cancer-related deaths to 16.4 million." Dr. NedaMirzadeh an Iranian-Australian is a co-leader of a team of researcher in RMIT University Melbourne which "engineered gold-based molecules that target cancer cells and leave healthy cells unharmed, in a critical step towards precision cancer drugs with fewer toxic side effects. Pre-clinical studies have shown the molecules were up to 24 times more effective at killing cancer cells than the widely used anti-cancer drug and were also better at inhibiting tumor growth" says the website of the University.

Success stories such as these strengthen our belief that 21st Century will certainly witness considerable contributions from Muslim researchers and scholars.

—The writer is the Associate Professor Management Sciences Head, Center of Islamic Finance COMSATS University (CUI) Lahore Campus drabdussattar@cuilahore.edu.pk

Ukraine: Lessons not being learned

James Dorsey

The last 14 years of Putin's rule are a case in point. Putin began the recreation of his Russian world in 2008 when he recognized the two Georgian breakaway republics of Abkhazia and North Ossetia. The recognition constituted the first step in Putin's defining of Russia's borders in civilisational rather than international legal terms. Putin has made no bones about the fact that he sees territories populated by Russian speakers and adherents of Russian culture as the determinants of Russia's borders, not international law

RUSSIAN President Vladimir Putin's invasion of Ukraine and the international condemnation it generated contains key lessons for policymakers. They are lessons that should have been

learned in past global crises but weren't. However, the Ukraine crisis offers an opportunity to correct that mistake.

A first lesson is that failure to firmly stand up to violations of international law as they occur convinces trespassers that they can get away with them. It emboldens violators to commit ever more flagrant infringements.

Kicking the can down the road by failing to immediately and firmly respond to violations amounts to allowing an open wound to fester. The longer the wound festers, the more difficult, costly, and risky it is to cure it.

The last 14 years of Mr. Putin's rule are a case in point. Mr. Putin began the recreation of his Russian world in 2008 when he recognized the two Georgian breakaway republics of Abkhazia and North Ossetia. The recognition constituted the first step in Mr. Putin's defining of Russia's borders in civilisational rather than international legal terms.

Mr. Putin has made no bones about the fact that he sees territories populated by Russian speakers and adherents of Russian culture as the determinants of Russia's borders, not international law.

The Russian leader demonstrated in 2008, and since, his willingness to enforce his definition of Russia's border with military might.

In 2008, the international community effectively looked the other way. The failure then to stand up to Mr. Putin emboldened him six years later to annex Crimea, which legally is part of Ukraine, and foster insurgencies in the Ukrainian republics of Donetsk and Luhansk.

The United States and Europe responded by slapping Mr. Putin's wrists. The sanctions imposed at the time did little to stop Mr. Putin from increasing his war chest

or making the cost of continued pursuit of his strongman tactics too costly and risky. This month's Russian invasion of Ukraine resulted from the international community's failure to draw a line in the sand back in 2008 or at the latest in 2014. "The Russian aggression is the result of years of appeasement of Russia by many countries," said Ukrainian Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba.

Russia is the most dramatic, most recent example of the cost of not responding firmly and unequivocally to infringements of international law as they occur.

Other examples are numerous. They include the ethnic cleansing of Rohingya and the subsequent military coup in Myanmar, the 2013 toppling of Egypt's first and only democratically elected president in a takeover by the armed forces, the meek response to the brutal repression of Turkic Muslims in China, the increasingly blatant discrimination and disenfranchisement of Muslims in India and missed opportunities to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, to name a few.

All of these examples, like Ukraine, contain lessons the international community asserted that it had learned from World War Two.

They all contain a lesson that should have been learned long before Ukraine but is undeniably evident in the East European crisis: abetting violations of human rights encourages and emboldens violators of sovereign, national, ethnic, religious, cultural, and gender rights.

Back in 1989, Genocide Watch director Greg Stanton warned then Rwandan President Juvenal Habyarimana that "if you don't do something to prevent genocide in your country, there is going to be a genocide within five years." Five years later, there was a genocide in Rwanda.

It is a word of warning that echoes in pre-

dictions by Indian journalist Rana Ayyub that Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Hindu nationalist policies could lead to large-scale violence against the country's 200 million Muslims, the world's largest Muslim minority.

It is a warning that reverberates in the contrast between the reception, and welcome that European states are justifiably according to refugees from Ukraine compared to the rejection of earlier waves of refugees from the Middle East, Africa, and Asia.

A Moroccan journalist posted a video on Twitter of students from the Arab world and Africa watching buses on the Ukrainian-Polish border pickup Ukrainians every 15 minutes but transporting people from countries beyond Europe only every four hours. The journalist, Anas Daif, reported some students have been stranded for four days on the border trying to escape the war.

In a similar vein, prominent BBC journalist Lyse Doucet, reporting from Kyiv, highlighted the fact that humans in distress are humans in distress irrespective of their ethnicity or religion.

In a video message, Ms. Doucet explained that her reporting on the current crisis in Ukraine prevented her from personally accepting in the Iraqi Kurdish capital of Irbil the 2022 Shifa Gardi Award named after a journalist killed in 2017 in Iraq by a roadside bomb.

"If anyone knows about the pain and hardship of living with war, it's the people of Iraq, of Kurdistan. And if anyone knows what it's like to live in a war that never seems to end, of living with powerful neighbours, and the importance of independent journalism, it is the Kurdish people," Ms. Doucet said. Ms. Doucet's message brought it all to-

gether: the linkages between failing to stand up early and firmly to flagrant violations of international law, abuse of human rights, and suppression of freedom of expression. Kurds formed the bulk of thousands of desperate refugees in Belarus who were trying to cross the border into Poland just four months ago. In contrast to Ukrainians being welcomed with blankets, cots, clothing, and hot meals, the Kurds were brutally beaten back as they sought to storm the borders.

Iraq, Syria, and Turkey may have been different places if Kurdish national and/or cultural rights, which Kurds have asserted for more than a century, had been honoured. Instead, the international community abetted repressive policies of both autocratic and democratic governments. Similarly, Ukraine would have been a different place if the international community had stood up to Mr. Putin from day one. It would also be a different place if Europeans had less of a sense of superiority. Many have expressed shock that "this could happen in 21st century Europe."

Europeans would be better served to recognise that their continent is as prone to conflict as are other parts of the world. Ukraine is not the first such incident in Europe. It was preceded by the brutal wars in Chechnya, Georgia, and the wars of former Yugoslavia in the 1990s that three decades later could erupt again.

That realisation may be seeping in. "War is no longer something visited upon impoverished and remote populations. It can happen to anyone," wrote Telegraph journalist Peter Hannan.

It's never too late to learn lessons. The world is finally standing up to Mr. Putin. Yet, there is little indication that the broader lessons Ukraine offers are finally being learned.

Briefs

Nine-member Indian delegation arrives in Lahore

ISLAMABAD: A nine-member delegation, headed by Indian Commissioner for Indus Waters... PM announces... FROM PAGE 01 government has also decided to increase the Ehsaas programme's cash handouts from Rs12,000 to Rs14,000... DPM announces... FROM PAGE 01 government has also decided to increase the Ehsaas programme's cash handouts from Rs12,000 to Rs14,000 and added that jobless graduates would be awarded internships and a stipend of Rs30,000 - but did not specify the mechanism.

Ukraine seeks...

FROM PAGE 01 launched the assault and put Russia's nuclear deterrent on high alert on Sunday. Russian forces seized two small cities in south-eastern Ukraine and the area around a nuclear power plant, the Interfax news agency said on Monday. The talks are being held on the border with strong Russian ally Belarus, where a referendum on Sunday approved a new constitution ditching the country's non-nuclear status at a time when the former Soviet republic has become a launch pad for Russian troops invading Ukraine.

EU prepares for millions...

FROM PAGE 01 not allowed to leave Ukraine. Estimates by the United Nations and refugee organizations put the number of people fleeing the Russian invasion at 4 to 7 million. How many will then actually want to cross Ukraine's borders depends entirely on how the military situation in this war develops. Yet how long they want or need to stay depends on who wins or ends this war.

Playing in Pakistan an important moment for me

The 35-year-old Usman Khawaja who was born in Islamabad is part of the Australia team on their first tour of Pakistan in 24 years

AFZAL JAVED

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan-born Australian cricketer, Usman Khawaja said that he has always wanted to play in Pakistan, being born in Pakistan and now playing a historic Test here is an important moment. Khawaja, who was speaking in virtual press conference which was supervised by Australian Cricket Team media manager Brian Murgatroyd, said that Rawalpindi is his home ground, there are many pictures and memories of childhood standing in Rawalpindi stadium, but now the difference is that I will play for Australia in his home ground, but Pakistani cricket fans always praise good cricket.



The Australian batter opened up about his childhood memories in Pakistan, team preparation for the series, and the conditions in the sub-continent. While speaking about the first match at Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium scheduled on March 4, the left-handed batter said that Rawalpindi is a home ground for him but he will be playing for Australia.

While he expects to receive a warm welcome in Rawalpindi, Karachi and Lahore, Khawaja also thought Pakistan fans would show their appreciation for the quality cricket of the visitors. "I've got a lot of support here in Pakistan. I think they'll support me, they'll hope I get runs, but they'll be hoping Australia get smashed at the same time," he said with a smile.

Smith excited to play in Pakistan for the first time

SPORTS DESK

ISLAMABAD: Australia's Test vice-captain Steve Smith has opened up on playing in Pakistan for the first time. The Aussies arrived in Pakistan's capital Islamabad on Sunday morning and will start training from tomorrow at the Pindi Cricket Stadium. While posting a story on Instagram, the 32-year-old shared how he feels about touring Pakistan for the very first time. Smith has performed well in Asian countries but never got a chance to play in Pakistan. This would also be the first away tour for Australia since the 2019 Ashes series in England.



ISLAMABAD: Wprkers of Majlis Quaid-e-Azam Pakistan hold a rally to show solidarity with Pakistan forces in front of NPC. - DNA

Svitolina to donate for Ukraine's military

WARSAW: Elina Svitolina said she will donate her prize money from WTA tournaments to Ukraine's military and to help with humanitarian efforts following Russia's invasion of her country last week. The world number 15 told Eurosport her family and friends in Ukraine were defending the country and that she wanted to help.

Ruiz fires Napoli top of Serie A

SPORTS DESK

MILAN: Fabian Ruiz shot Napoli top of Serie A on Sunday with a stunning, last-gasp winner in a thrilling 2-1 victory at Lazio. Spain international Fabian crashed home a first-time strike in the 94th minute at the Stadio Olimpico in Rome to snatch first place from AC Milan on goal difference.

Russia facing exile after 'unacceptable' FIFA plan

NEWS DESK

PARIS: Russia's future in the World Cup teetered on a knife-edge Monday after FIFA plans to allow them to play on neutral territory were dismissed as "unacceptable" by rivals, plunging the qualifying process for football's showpiece event into chaos.



Team will NOT play with Russia, no matter what the name of the team is. Poland are due to play in Moscow on March 24 with the winners to host either the Czech Republic or Sweden five days later.

notice," said Swedish FA president Karl-Erik Nilsson. He added he was "displeased" with FIFA's decision. The Czech FA added: "There will be no change in the Czech national team's standpoint."

IPCC warns of impacts of global warming

"So this is really a key moment. Our report points out very clearly, this is the decade of action, if we are going to turn things around."

WEB DESK

LONDON: Many of the impacts of global warming are now simply "irreversible" according to the UN's latest assessment. But the authors of a new report say that there is still a brief window of time to avoid the very worst.

"Our report clearly indicates that places where people live and work may cease to exist, that ecosystems and species that we've all grown up with and that are central to our cultures and inform our languages may disappear," said Prof Debra Roberts, co-chair of the IPCC.

While everyone is affected, some are being hit much harder. This outcome very much depends on where you live. Between 2010 and 2020, 15 times more people died from floods, droughts and storms in very vulnerable regions including parts of Africa, South Asia and Central and South America, than in other parts of the world.

Under all emissions scenarios, the IPCC expects a billion more people to be at risk from coastal specific climate hazards in the next few decades.

China does not support the use of sanctions, Wang added, saying Beijing is "even more opposed to unilateral sanctions that have no basis in international law."

PM announces...

FROM PAGE 01 government has also decided to increase the Ehsaas programme's cash handouts from Rs12,000 to Rs14,000 and added that jobless graduates would be awarded internships and a stipend of Rs30,000 - but did not specify the mechanism.

Moreover, 26,000 scholarships - costing Rs38 billion - will be given to students, he said. At the outset of his speech, PM Imran Khan said since he began politics, he wanted a sovereign policy for Pakistan, which was not dependent on any other state and was solely for the country's benefit.

China calls for...

FROM PAGE 01 nuclear forces onto high alert. China has trod a cautious diplomatic tightrope on the crisis as it tries to balance its core foreign policy line - that a country's sovereignty is sacrosanct and others should not interfere - with its support for close ally Moscow.

Putin slams...

FROM PAGE 01 discussed this topic, naturally bearing in mind the sanctions that the so-called Western community - as I called it in my speech, the 'empire of lies' - is now trying to implement against our country," a transcript of the meeting quoted Putin as saying.

Briefs

LSE elects
Zahid Latif
Khan as
Chairman

DNA

LAHORE: Zahid Latif Khan, former President RCCI and Chairman LSE RMC, has been unanimously elected as the Chairman of LSE Financial Services Limited (the successor of Lahore Stock Exchange). RCCI President Nadeem Rauf in a statement while felicitating Zahid Latif Khan on his appointment said that it's a great honor for the Rawalpindi Chamber that the brokerage and the business community of LSE has also reposed their confidence in the leadership of Mr. Zahid. The members in Lahore voted for him due to their belief that the Chairman shall be able to act as a bridge builder between the new investors and the shareholders.

Azerbaijan,
Egypt
boost trade

BAKU: The trade turnover between Azerbaijan and Egypt has increased by over fivefold in 2021. The remarks were made during the bilateral meeting between the co-chairs of the joint intergovernmental commission between the two countries, Azerbaijan's Digital Development and Transport Minister Rashad Nabiyeu and Egypt's International Cooperation Minister Rania Al-Mashat. During the meeting, the parties underlined that there is a real potential to further increase trade turnover. They noted that businessmen have a special role in increasing trade and mutual investments, and from this point of view, the importance of organizing an Azerbaijan-Egypt Business Forum within the framework of the commission's meeting was noted. Noting that the meeting of the joint commission coincided with the 30th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations, the sides underlined that economic and cultural relations between the two countries are at a high level. Additionally, the parties discussed the issues of promoting trade, industry and mutual investment, possibilities for cooperation in the areas of education, culture and tourism. During the meeting with Azerbaijan's Economy Minister Mikayil Jabbarov, the parties noted that trade and investment cooperation is one of the main directions of relations between the two countries. - APP

500,000+
refugees
flee Ukraine
since war

BEREGSURANY: The mass exodus of refugees from Ukraine to the eastern edge of the European Union showed no signs of stopping Monday as they flee Russia's burgeoning war, with the U.N. estimating that more than 500,000 people have already escaped. Long lines of cars and buses were backed up at checkpoints at the borders of Poland, Hungary, Slovakia, Romania and non-EU member Moldova. Others crossed the borders on foot, dragging their possessions away from the war and into the security of the EU. Several hundred refugees were gathered at a temporary reception center in the Hungarian border village of Beregsurany, where they awaited transportation to transit hubs that could take them further into Hungary and beyond. Maria Pavlushko, 24, an information technology project manager from Zhytomyr, a city around 100 kilometers (60 miles) west of the Ukrainian capital Kyiv, said she had been on a skiing holiday in the Carpathian mountains when she got word from home last week that Russia's assault against the pro-Western country went into its fifth day. "We appeal to the European Union for the immediate accession of Ukraine via a new special procedure," the 44-year-old leader said in a new video address. "Our goal is to be together with all Europeans and, most importantly, to be on an equal footing. I'm sure it's fair. I'm sure it's possible."

ICCI for focusing on marble industry to promote exports

Muhammad Shakeel Munir said that many countries including China, Italy, Turkey, Spain and Brazil have exploited their marble reserves effectively for economic development, but in Pakistan this sector has not been given due attention despite its tremendous potential to promote exports and improve the economy

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Muhammad Shakeel Munir, President, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry has called upon the government to focus on marble industry for its better growth as this sector has the potential to transform Pakistan into a fast growing economy. He said that Pakistan has huge reserves of marble and granite in all regions of the country and the government should cooperate in introducing mechanized mining in this sector by reducing duties on import of marble machinery and technology. He said this while talking to Amir Noorani and Nasir Ahmed, Dubai-based prominent businessmen of the marble sector during their visit to ICCI. Saleem Mughal, former Chairman, All Pakistan Marble Industry Association was also present at the occasion. Muhammad Shakeel Munir said that many countries including China, Italy, Turkey, Spain and Brazil have exploited their marble reserves effectively for economic development, but in Pakistan this sector has not been given due attention despite its tremendous potential to promote exports and improve the economy.



He said that outdated technology was still in use in the quarrying and processing of marble products due to which the ratio of wastage was quite high. He urged that the government should cooperate in introducing the latest machinery in the marble sector for promoting mechanized mining in order to produce value-added marble & granite products and increase exports. He stressed that the government should address

all key issues of the marble sector to unleash its real potential for economic development of the country. He assured the delegation that ICCI would fully cooperate with them for enhancing import of marble and granite products from Pakistan for the UAE. Speaking at the occasion, Amir Noorani and Nasir Ahmed, Dubai-based prominent businessmen of the marble sector said that a lot of construction projects were going on in Dubai and UAE, so Pakistan has great potential to increase its exports of marble products by their value addition. Saleem Mughal, former Chairman, All Pakistan Marble Industry Association, said that the government's support was needed for infrastructure development, technological upgradation, access to finance, human resource development and marketing to facilitate the better growth of the marble sector. He said that the government should ensure low cost financing schemes for the marble industry for its better development. He said that lack of access roads to mines, connecting roads network, utilities and industrial zones were the key factors behind low investment and poor growth of this sector and stressed that the government should address these issues on priority basis.

West begins
arm supplies
to Ukraine

PARIS: NATO and Western countries have agreed to send military aid to Ukraine as its faces the fifth day of Russian attacks. NATO countries will send thousands of anti-tank and hundreds of air defense missiles to Ukraine, as well as ammunition. Also, EU countries approved for Ukraine arm supplies worth 450 million (\$503 million) and protective equipment worth 50 million (\$55 million). Another important decision of the EU is to support the Ukrainian army with fighter jets and fuel. US: The US will provide Ukraine with \$350 million in arm supplies, including anti-tank weapons. Secretary of State Antony Blinken approved the move. With this, the US support to Ukraine in the last year has exceeded \$1 billion. UK: The UK, which delivered anti-tank missiles to Ukraine in January, decided to provide an additional military support package covering lethal and non-lethal category defense weapons. Sweden: In addition to small arms, the Swedish government will provide Ukraine with 5,000 AT4 anti-tank weapons, 5,000 steel vests, 5,000 military helmets and food for 135,000 soldiers. Germany: Germany demonstrated its military aid support to Ukraine by providing 5,000 anti-tank and 500 Stinger missiles, as well as 5,000 helmets. France: France will provide fuel aid to Ukraine as well as military equipment support. As part of NATO, France will send 500 soldiers and armored vehicles to Ukraine's neighbor Romania, and four Mirage 2000 model warplanes to Estonia. France will also send 200-250 soldiers to Estonia. Putin ordered the military intervention on Thursday, days after recognizing two separatist-held enclaves in eastern Ukraine. At least 368,000 Ukrainians have fled to Poland, Hungary, Romania, Moldova and other countries since then, according to the UN Refugee Agency. - Agencies

Russian media sites hit
by mass cyber attack

MOSCOW: An international hacking organisation has launched an all-out 'cyberwar' on Vladimir Putin's media, social media sites and Kremlin-backed broadcaster RT. Putin makes us lie and puts us in danger. 'We were isolated from the whole world, they stopped buying oil and gas. In a few years we will live like in North Korea.' 'What is it for us? To put Putin in the text-books? This is not our war, let's stop it!' 'This message will be deleted, and some of us will be fired or even jailed. But we can't take it anymore. 'Indifferent journalists of Russia.' It bore the mark of Anonymous, the activist collective known for cyber attacks against some governments and corporations. Likewise, when MailOnline attempted to access daily newspaper Kommersant's website on Monday morning, a message appeared saying 'the site can't be reached'. A similar message appeared on news agency TASS's website, which said 'an error occurred'. It added: 'Sorry the page you are looking for is currently unavailable. Please try again later.' Some Russian news websites have been criticised for being part of a media offensive from the Kremlin in which Ukraine's fighters are painted as Nazis and Russia is viewed as a liberating force. Some Russian reporters have also insisted the Russian military is not targeting civilians, despite images of bloodied Ukrainians and bombed-out tower blocks. Describing Ukrainian fighters as 'Nazis', Russian state TV talk show host Olga Skabeyeva said: 'You know, as they retreat, the Ukrainian Nazis continue to destroy Donbas. Today Zhelobok was shelled with Grad multiple rocket launchers. - Agencies

It reads: 'Dear citizens. We urge you to stop this madness, do not send your sons and husbands to certain death. Putin makes us lie and puts us in danger. 'We were isolated from the whole world, they stopped buying oil and gas. In a few years we will live like in North Korea.' 'What is it for us? To put Putin in the text-books? This is not our war, let's stop it!' 'This message will be deleted, and some of us will be fired or even jailed. But we can't take it anymore. 'Indifferent journalists of Russia.' It bore the mark of Anonymous, the activist collective known for cyber attacks against some governments and corporations. Likewise, when MailOnline attempted to access daily newspaper Kommersant's website on Monday morning, a message appeared saying 'the site can't be reached'. A similar message appeared on news agency TASS's website, which said 'an error occurred'. It added: 'Sorry the page you are looking for is currently unavailable. Please try again later.' Some Russian news websites have been criticised for being part of a media offensive from the Kremlin in which Ukraine's fighters are painted as Nazis and Russia is viewed as a liberating force. Some Russian reporters have also insisted the Russian military is not targeting civilians, despite images of bloodied Ukrainians and bombed-out tower blocks. Describing Ukrainian fighters as 'Nazis', Russian state TV talk show host Olga Skabeyeva said: 'You know, as they retreat, the Ukrainian Nazis continue to destroy Donbas. Today Zhelobok was shelled with Grad multiple rocket launchers. - Agencies

Rouble
plunges
30% after
SWIFT ban

DNA

MOSCOW: The Russian currency dropped nearly 26 percent to 105.27 per dollar, down from about 84 per dollar late on Friday. Russia's rouble has plunged nearly 30 percent against the dollar after world powers imposed fresh, harsher sanctions on Moscow over its invasion of Ukraine. The rouble was indicated to be down 27 percent at 114.33 per dollar in offshore trading on Monday, according to Bloomberg News. The United States and European Union said they would exclude some Russian banks from the international bank payments system SWIFT. They also personally targeted Russian President Vladimir Putin and Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, as well as banning all transactions with Russia's central bank. Meanwhile, the G7 nations - Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Britain and the United States - warned they would "take further steps" to add to the sanctions already announced if Russia did not cease its operation. Russia's Central Bank later on Monday sharply raised its key rate from 9.5 percent to 20 percent in an attempt to shore up the plummeting rouble and prevent the run of banks. Restrictions on the Russian central bank target its access to more than \$600 billion in reserves the Kremlin has at its disposal, hindering its ability to support the rouble after it fell last week to its lowest level ever. The decline of the rouble would likely send inflation soaring, hurting all Russians and not just the Russian elites who were the targets of earlier sanctions. The resulting economic disruption, if Saturday's measures are as harsh as described, could leave Putin facing political unrest at home. Analysts predicted intensifying runs on banks by Russians, and falling government reserves as Russians scrambled to sell their targeted currency for safer assets.

Türkiye's
economy
grew 11%

ANKARA: Services sector remained the biggest contributor in the economy with a 21.1 percent rise in 2021, compared to last year. Türkiye says its economy has expanded 11 percent year-on-year in 2021 in line with market expectations. "Gross domestic product at current prices increased by 42.8 percent and reached 7.2 trillion Turkish liras (\$802.7 billion) in 2021 compared with the previous year," the Turkish Statistical Institute (TurkStat) said in its latest report on Monday. The gross domestic product per capita was 85,672 Turkish liras (\$9,539) at current prices last year. Service activities made the biggest contribution to the country's economy with a 21.1 percent rise, followed by 20.3 percent in other service activities and 20.2 percent in the information and communication activities. - Agencies

Fashion Week
returns to pre
pandemic form

PARIS: Two years on from France's first pandemic lockdown, Paris Fashion Week is almost back in full stride, with the vast majority of houses returning to live shows. The women's autumn-winter week kicks off on Monday with all eyes on Off-White, presenting the final collection by its founder Virgil Abloh, who died from cancer in November at 41. Abloh, a former Kanye West collaborator, turned Off-White into one of fashion's fastest-growing brands and was recruited to head menswear for Louis Vuitton before his career was tragically cut short. Louis Vuitton, which has a majority stake in Off-White, believes the brand can continue to grow in Abloh's absence. "Off-White is in the position that Dior was in 1957 (when its founder died)," Louis Vuitton CEO Michael Burke told Business of Fashion. "The question is: what has the founding father left? If the legacy is rich, authentic and steeped in values that go beyond fashion, the odds of turning a passing into something eternal are spectacular." - APP



PESHAWAR: SCCI President Hussain Khursheed presenting shield to Malaysian High Commissioner in Pakistan Deddy Faisal Ahmed Salleh during his visit to SCCI. - DNA

IAEA DG urges to
ensure safety of nuclear
sites in Ukraine

AGENCIES

GENEVA: Ukraine today informed the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) that the country's nuclear power plants remained stable and in normal operation, Director General Rafael Mariano Grossi said, reiterating the necessity to avoid any action that could risk their safety or security. Trend reports citing IAEA. In a new update to the IAEA, the State Nuclear Regulatory Inspectorate of Ukraine (SNRIU) also said its staff maintained regular contacts with the plants. Ukraine has four nuclear power sites with a total of 15 reactors, providing roughly half of its electricity. DG Grossi said he continued to be gravely

concerned about the situation in Ukraine and he called on all parties to refrain from any measures or actions that could jeopardize the security of nuclear material, and the safe operation of all nuclear facilities, as any such incident could have severe consequences for human health and the environment. "The safety and security of nuclear sites and material in Ukraine must under no circumstances be endangered. For now, the plants are operating as normal and their nuclear material remains under control. It is of paramount importance that this continues to be the case and that plant staff remain able to carry out their vital work without any undue pressure or stress," Director General Grossi said.

Ukraine demands 'immediate' EU membership

The Ukrainian leader also said authorities would release convicts with combat experience so that they could help defend the country. "We have taken a decision which is not easy from moral point of view, but which is useful from point of view of our defences," he said

WEB DESK

KYIV: Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky on Monday urged the European Union to grant his country "immediate" membership, as Russia's assault against the pro-Western country went into its fifth day. "We appeal to the European Union for the immediate accession of Ukraine via a new special procedure," the 44-year-old leader said in a new video address. "Our goal is to be together with all Europeans and, most importantly, to be on an equal footing. I'm sure it's fair. I'm sure it's possible."

He said 16 children had died during the first four days of Moscow's assault and another 45 were wounded as he hailed "Ukrainian heroes." The UN's human rights chief Michelle Bachelet said Monday that at least 102 civilians, including seven children, had been killed but warned the real numbers were probably far higher. "Ukrainians have shown the world who we are. And Russia has shown what it has become," Zelensky said. The Ukrainian leader - a former comedian who came to power in 2019 - released his latest video statement as Russian and Ukrainian negotiators pre-

Russia has lost nearly
5,300 soldiers

KYIV: The Ukrainian Defense Ministry claimed on Monday that nearly 5,300 Russian troops have been killed since the start of Russia's large-scale military intervention in Ukraine, which is now in its fifth day. Ukraine's Deputy Defense Minister Hanna Maliar shared information about the estimated losses of the Russian army from Feb. 24 to Feb. 28. Maliar claimed that the Ukrainian army killed around 5,300 Russian troops, destroyed 29 warplanes, 29 helicopters, 191 tanks, 816 armored combat vehicles, 74 guns, and two ships/motorboats. She added that Russian forces also lost a Buk anti-aircraft missile system, 21 Grad multiple launch rocket systems, 291 vehicles, 60 cisterns, 5 AAD assets, and three unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs). On Sunday, Russian President Vladimir Putin directed the country's Defense Ministry to place deterrent forces on high alert. Putin ordered the military intervention on Thursday, days after recognizing two separatist-held enclaves in eastern Ukraine. - APP

pared to sit down for their first face-to-face talks since Russian leader Vladimir Putin ordered troops to invade last Thursday. Zelensky urged Russian soldiers to lay down their weapons. "Abandon your equipment. Get out of here. Don't believe your commanders. Don't believe your propagandists. Just save your lives," Zelensky said. He claimed that more than 4,500 Russian soldiers had already lost their lives during the Kremlin's assault. Russia has admitted to deaths and casualties but given no toll. The Ukrainian leader also said authorities would release convicts with com-

bat experience so that they could help defend the country. "We have taken a decision which is not easy from the moral point of view, but which is useful from the point of view of our defences," he said. He once again thanked the West for its support. "Support of our anti-war coalition is unconditional and unprecedented," he said. "Each of us is a warrior," he said. "And I am sure that each of us will win." Russia's invasion of Ukraine has sent shockwaves around the world. Ukrainian forces, backed by Western arms, have managed to slow the advance of the Russian army.

Briefs

Fawad slams Shehbaz for getting adjournment

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Information and Broadcasting Chaudhry Fawad Hussain Monday came hard on Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) leader Shehbaz Sharif for causing undue delay in his money-laundering and corruption case by constantly seeking adjournments from the court.

"Another date... Why Shehbaz Sharif is running away from the court if his case is so weak. Why there is opposition of daily hearing of the case and its live coverage?" the minister asked on his Twitter handle.

Fawad said both the Sharif and Zardari families knew very well that their safety and well-being remained in 'escape' from the courts.

Pakistan-Afghan transit trade increase, says M. Sadiq

DNA

ISLAMABAD: The transit trade and pedestrian traffic across Pakistan-Afghanistan at Turkham border has witnessed an increase the previous day, Special Representative of Pakistan to Afghanistan, Muhammad Sadiq Khan said Monday.

Khan tweeted that more than 22,000 citizens and 1,585 trucks crossed across the border yesterday.

He said, 12,132 people entered Afghanistan from Pakistan while 10,553 people came to Pakistan from Afghanistan side the previous day.

He said that a total of 1585 trucks crossed the border during the day, out of which 708 with goods crossed into Afghanistan whereas 568 trucks carrying goods entered Pakistan.

In addition, 61 transit trucks also went to Afghanistan whereas 2 transit trucks and 246 empty trucks entered Pakistan. He said, after getting treatment in different hospitals of Pakistan, as many as 15 Afghan patients were sent back to their home country through Turkham Crossing Point whereas 138 patients were allowed to come to Pakistan for treatment. In addition, 590 people were vaccinated against corona at the crossing points.

As Russia's isolation grows, China hints at limits of friendship

MONITORING DESK

BEIJING: As Russia's economy gets hammered by sanctions, China has emerged as the key player with the potential to lessen its partner's economic pain. But amid Moscow's deepening international isolation, there are growing signs that Beijing's willingness to throw its strategic partner an economic lifeline may only go so far. Even as Beijing has refused to term Russian President Vladimir Putin's assault on Ukraine an "invasion" and condemned Western-led sanctions, Chinese state-owned financial institutions have been quietly distancing themselves from Russia's beleaguered economy.

The moves suggest a careful balancing act by Beijing as it seeks to buttress ties with Moscow without openly violating sanctions, which could jeopardise its access to key Western export markets and the US dollar-centric international financial system. Bank of China's Singapore operations recently ceased financing deals involving Russian oil and firms, the Reuters news agency reported on Monday, citing a source familiar with the situation.

The report followed a Bloomberg article on Saturday that said the Bank of China and Industrial & Commercial Bank of China had restricted financing for purchases of Russian commodities. Alicia Garcia Herro, chief Asia Pacific economist at Natixis in Hong Kong, said she expected Beijing to comply with US sanctions while continuing to support the Russian economy through the Chinese financial system.

"As far as banks are concerned, they can lend in RMB and basically there is a number of things you cannot do, but there is a huge number of things you can still do," Garcia Herro told Al Jazeera. "Even European banks can still finance energy imports, so why would Chinese banks not do it if European banks are going to do it, at least so far?" "So in other words, they will comply with the letter of the law, but in my opinion, not the spirit of the law," Garcia Herro added, describing Chinese banks' recent actions as a "reflection of existing sanctions" but not a development that "means more".

Madam Naoko WADA hosts "celebration of Spring"

"Hina Matsuri" is celebrated on the 3rd of March. Japanese families with young girls celebrate this festival by displaying dolls

STAFF REPORT / DNA

ISLAMABAD: Madam Naoko WADA, spouse of Ambassador of Japan celebrated the changing of seasons with ladies of diplomatic missions on the occasion of "Hina Matsuri(dolls festival)" and "Hanami(cherry blossom viewing)" at the Ambassador's residence.

"Hina Matsuri" is celebrated on the 3rd of March. Japanese families with young girls celebrate this festival by displaying dolls, wishing for their sound growth, health and happiness. "Hanami" is the Japanese traditional custom to enjoy the ephemeral beauty of flowers, especially cherry blossom in spring. These traditions began more than one thousand years ago in Japan. The event started with an informative lecture regarding the Japanese culture relating to "Hina Matsuri" and "Hanami" which was followed by lunch under the cherry blossoms specially cooked for this occasion by the Japanese professional chef. They also celebrated the Emperor's birthday which is on the 23rd of February.



Pak-Uzbek increased engagement stressed

STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: The 2nd Round of Bilateral Political Consultations (BPC) between Pakistan and Uzbekistan was held in the Foreign Office. Additional Secretary (Afghanistan & West Asia) Aamer Aftab Qureshi and Furqat Sidikov, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Uzbekistan Co-chaired the meeting with Pakistan and Uzbekistan sides respectively. They reviewed the entire spectrum of bilateral relations in the domain of political, trade and investment, connectivity, security and defence and people-to-people contacts as well as cooperation in international and regional foras.

Recognizing their respective geo-strategic location in Central and South Asia, the two sides expressed satisfaction on the state of existing ties spanning over three decades of cooperation. They underscored the importance of holding regular political dialogue and high-level interaction to deepen mutual understanding and follow-up on it. They agreed to continue enhancing trade and economic cooperation. Both the sides also committed to enhance collaboration in culture and education sectors.

Over 100 civilians killed in Ukraine war: UN

GENEVA: The UN human rights chief said Monday that at least 102 civilians, including seven children, had been killed in Ukraine since Russia launched its invasion five days ago, warning the true numbers were likely far higher.

"Most of these civilians were killed by explosive weapons with a wide impact area, including shelling from heavy artillery and multi-launch rocket systems, and airstrikes," Michelle Bachelet told the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva, warning that "the real figures are, I fear, considerably higher." - APP

Pak aims to facilitate foreign investors

NAZIR SIYAL



KARACHI: A 3-member Foreign Investor Delegation from Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic headed by Kanat Kopbayev called on Governor Sindh Imran Ismail at Governor's House on Monday.

The purpose of the visit is to establish bilateral business relations, as well as to study the trade and investment opportunities. The Kyrgyz side provided detailed information on the economic activities of the Kyrgyz Republic, opportunities for establishing bilateral trade, investment in garment, textile, energy, agricultural, agro-food processing and tourism industries/sectors. Governor Sindh urged the Kyrgyz businessmen and investors to take advantage of the ample investment opportunities in various sectors across Pakistan, which include construction, energy, healthcare etc. Imran Ismail observed that Pakistan is an emerging market and business companies from around the world are showing interest in investment in Pakistan due to prudent economic policies of the government. "Pakistan's improved rating in terms of ease of doing business at international level depicts full confidence of the international community in the policies of the present government," he maintained. During the meeting, Governor Sindh noted that this type of events will help find common ground for building mutually beneficial trade and economic cooperation and determining an effective format for interaction between business circles of the Kyrgyz Republic and Pakistan. The delegation appreciated the economic policies of the Pakistan government aimed at encouraging investment; and to take steps to facilitate foreign investors. The delegates also expressed keen interest in enhancing the trade and investment between the two countries.

Over 6.3 m kids to be inoculated against polio

BUREAU REPORT

PESHAWAR: More than 6.3 million children will be vaccinated against polio as March round of anti-polio drive has been kicked off in the province.

In a press statement issued on Monday, Additional Secretary Health (Polio) and Coordinator Emergency Operations Center Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Abdul Basit informed that the March round of anti-polio drive was planned in the whole province with the first round concluded in Bannu and D.I.Khan divisions while the second phase will be carried out in the rest of 29 districts.

He said that total target of the campaign was 6362104 for which 30822 total teams have been established out of which 27610 were mobile teams, 1909 fixed teams, 1155 transit teams and 148 roaming teams.

To ensure quality of the campaign 7446 area incharges have been deployed, he said adding that more than 43000 police personnel have been deployed to provide foolproof security to teams, he added.

Abdul Basit said that every campaign is an opportunity to vaccinate children and reaching out to the vulnerable communities at their doorsteps.

He said that the province has made a good progress in the battle against polio despite multiple challenges as no wild polio virus case has been reported in the province since July 2020.

However, he went on to add that Peshawar and South KP particularly Bannu and D.I.Khan divisions still present highest risk in the Province with active virus circulation and needs maximum focus and peak performance. Coordinator EOC hoped that with the current level of ownership by the government, motivation and hard work of the frontline workers and support of cross segments of society remaining challenges in polio eradication will be overcome and the last endemic region will be purged of the virus soon.

He held an appeal to the parents to turn deaf ear to the propaganda against polio and fulfill their responsibility by vaccinating their children in every campaign.

Archbishop of Canterbury calls on PM, COAS

ISLAMABAD: The Prime Minister highlighted the importance of interfaith harmony, religious tolerance and affinity amongst the peoples of different faiths. He reiterated his government's resolve to protect the rights of minorities as enshrined in the Constitution of Pakistan. The Prime Minister conveyed that Pakistan was a culturally diverse country and is home to various religious minorities including Hindus and Christians and all of them are living peacefully and contributing to the development of Pakistan. He lamented that minorities in India, including Muslims were being subjected to worst kind of religious discrimination and intolerance. The Prime Minister shared that his government has established Rehmatul lil Alameen Authority to promote true message of Islam which is inter faith harmony and peaceful co-existence of mankind.

The Archbishop of Canterbury said that religious tolerance and peaceful coexistence of mankind is need of the hour. Earlier the Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby participated at the Sunday mass at Peshawar's All Saints Church and delivered a message of peace and religious harmony.

Separately, Honorary Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury (ABC), Head of the Church of England and Doctor Christian Turner, British High Commissioner also called on General Qamar Javed Bajwa, Chief of Army Staff (COAS) at GHQ.

During the meeting matters of mutual interest, religious and inter-faith harmony were discussed. COAS acknowledged the role of Christian brethren not only towards creation of Pakistan but also for their contributions towards its progress. He appreciated role of various institutions in the fields of education, health and public welfare being managed by Christian community across Pakistan. He especially acknowledged their contributions in defence of motherland as part of Pakistan Armed Forces. Honorary Archbishop acknowledged Pakistan Army's efforts in combatting terrorism and providing secure environment to the minorities in the country. He also pledged that the Christian community shall contribute whole heartedly towards public welfare. - DNA



RAWAPINDI: Honorary Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury (ABC), Head of the Church of England and Doctor Christian Turner, British High Commissioner also called on General Qamar Javed Bajwa, Chief of Army Staff (COAS). - DNA

Asian WOK
by Monal
OPEN FOR ALL

MONAL SQUARE PESHAWAR
For reservations:
091 7242224-5
0301 1189124-5
@asianwokpeshawar

Monal Square, adjacent Peshawar Services Club, Sahibzad Gul Road, Peshawar