

### Briefs Pakistan respects all religions

RAWALPINDI: 12 member British Sikh soldiers delegation headed by Major General Harvey

Celia

Deputy Commander Field Army UK, visited GHQ and met General Qamar Javed Bajwa COAS. COAS said that Pakistan respects all religions and also recognizes the need for promotion of religious tourism in the country. Kartarpur corridor is the practical manifestation of Pakistan's unwavering commitment towards religious freedom and harmony. The delegation visited Lahore where the dignitaries witnessed flag lowering ceremony at Wagha border. The delegation visited Lahore Fort, Allama Iqbal Mausoleum and Badshahi Mosque.

### Foreign policy moving in right direction

ISLAMABAD: Minister of State for For-



was not in isolation as its toreign policy moved in the right direction with all diplomatic missions working complicatedly on all fronts. Winding up the debate on demands for Grants of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the next fiscal year and responding to criticism by Dr Ramesh Kumar in the National Assembly, she said Pakistan was playing much bigger role on the international front than its size in term of Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

## **PM vows** to bring prosperity The Premier says Pakistan could receive \$2bn from IMF

### SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif Monday said that having steered Pakistan out of the verge of bankruptcy, the coalition government was now striving to bring prosperity through dedicated efforts and by exploiting all of its energies. "The previous government had pushed Pakistan to the verge of bankruptcy. Alhamdulillah, it has survived now thanks to Allah Almighty's blessings and consultation of the coalition partners," the prime minister said addressing a reception hosted by him for the parliamentarians of the ruling coalition.

He told the gathering that the agreement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) was about to reach containing "very tough" conditionalities. He said despite its tall claims of building a Naya Pakistan, the previous government could not tax the affluent class. However, the incumbent government put that class under direct tax to make them share burden of the poor people. Calling it a revolutionary step, he said imposing a direct tax on the rich class would bring in Rs200 billion to the national kitty.

**Continued on Page 06** 

Staff-level talks with IMF likely from June 30

#### KHAYAM ABBASI

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Miftah Ismail Tuesday revealed that talks with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) regarding the staff-level agreement will "hopefully begin on June 30. Speaking to a private news channel, Miftah said the government is hopeful that the duration of the programme will be extended by a year. "The Memorandum of Economic and Financial Policies (MEFP) was received today and the authorities concerned will need at least two days to read the document," he said. The Minister said that the Prime Minister Muhammad Shabaz Sharif's dream was to take Pakistan towards self reliance, sustainable and inclusive growth. "This goal is

**Continued on Page 06** 



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif chairs a meeting of federal cabinet. - DNA

### Govt is preparing to rig Punjab by-elections: Khan

The former PM said that Chief Minister Punjab Hamza Shahbaz will 'lose his power in Punjab soon'

ISLAMA-BAD: PTI

Chairman

Imran Khan

Wednesday

preparations

by the coali-

tion govern-

that

said

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan on Tuesday extended heartfelt condolences to Jordan over the loss of lives as a result of a tragic incident of its Aqaba Por. A poisonous gas leak in Jordan's southern port city of Aqaba on Monday had killed 13 people and injured 251. "We express deepest ympathies to the families of the deceased and pray for the speedy recovery of the injured," the Foreign Office said in a statement issued here. The Foreign Office said, "Pakistan stands in solidarity with the brotherly people and Government of Jordan in this moment of grief". At least 12 people died and 251 were injured in a chlorine gas leak from a storage tank at Jordan's Aqaba port, officials and state media reported on Monday. The leak came after a tank filled with 25 tonnes of chlorine gas being exported to Djibouti fell while being transported, officials said. A video posted on state television's Twitter page showed a storage tank falling from a winch and slamming into the

by yellow-coloured gas ris-

ran away. Health ministry

officials said they expect-

ed only a handful of peo-

ple to remain hospitalised

by Tuesday.

Pak grieved

over tragic

incident in

Jordan

At least 12

people died

and 251 were

injured in a

chlorine gas

leak from a

storage tank

### **IHC** extends interim bails of **PTI** leaders

### DNA

ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad High Court (IHC) on Tuesday extended the interim bails of leaders of Pakistan Tehreek e Insaf (PTI) till September 13 in Masjid e Nabvi incident. Former interior minister Sheikh Rasheed, ex-speaker NA Asad Qaiser, Fawad Chaudhry, Qasim Suri, Shehbaz Gill, Haleem Adil Sheikh and others had filed pre-arrest bails. Chief Justice Athar Minallah heard the interim bail petitions. The petitioners' lawyer adopted the stance that the interior ministry had not submitted report so far. He said that cases details against Asad Qaiser were also not provided yet. The deputy attorney general said no case had been registered against Asad Qaiser in matter pertaining to cause the disgrace to the religion.

### Elections to be held in October

### DNA

Emphasizing LAHORE: that he was sure that gen-



the country in October, former inte rior minis ter Sheikh Rashid on Tuesday said that elections were must if the

country was to be pulled out of crises. Addressing a press conference in Lahore, he dared the government to arrest him. He further said that when people of Lahore woke up, the entire country woke up.

### Japan provides grant for HRD Scholarship

### STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: The Government of Japan announced grant aid worth 313 million Japanese Yen (around 2.4 million USD) for the Human Resource Development Scholarship (JDS) program in the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. ISHII Kensuke, Charge d' Affaires ad interim of Japan to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and Mr. Mian Asad Hayaud Din, Secretary of Ministry of Economic Affairs, have signed the Exchange of Notes (E/N) on this program. The Grant Agreement (G/A) for the aforementioned program was also signed between Mr. Adil Akbar Khan, Joint Secretary of Ministry of Economic Affairs and Mr. KINOSHITA Yasumitsu, Chief Representative of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Pakistan Office.

JDS is designed to support social and economic development of the country by providing government officials to obtain Master's or Doctoral degree in Japan in order to strengthen the administrative capacity of officials. The participants of JDS program



who are involved in formulation and implementation of policies are expected to learn in partner universities in Japan and acquire knowledge of their specialties as well as the know-hows of how Japan became a country as it is today. As JDS in Pakistan started from 2018 and has four batches in four consecutive years, the first phase concluded this year. This occasion celebrates the signing of the very first batch of the second phase of this program. For this batch, the

**Continued on Page 06** 

ment to "rig the by-elections in Punjab" were underway. The by-elections in Punjab will take place on July 17 for 20 provincial constituencies after the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) unseated 25 PTI MPAs for voting against party lines. In a press conference, the former prime minister said that Chief Minister Punjab Hamza Shahbaz will "lose his power in Punjab soon" as he was "illegally ruling the province". "PTI is now being blamed for the present turmoil, if this was the case, then why did the 'imported government' conspire to come into power? he asked. He said that the imposed government has compounded the miseries of the masses because they did not conspire to seize the

SHUJAAT HAMZA

**Continued on Page 06** 





House # 6-A. Ismail Zabeeh Road, (Service Road Parallel to Faisal Avenue) F-8/3, Islamabad. e-mail: abrar\_associates@ yahoo.com | www.drabrarassociates.com Ph: +92 51 228 7691 / +92 51 228 7692 | Fax: +92 51 228 7693

### Inside.

elec

would

held in

KP cabinet makes teachers permanent – Page 02

Book titled 'Pakistan Sign Language launched – Page 03

Pak importing 80,000 tonnes hazardous waste per year

> Afghan quake questions US conscience - Page 05

Wimbledon: Iga Swiatek wins record 36th match in row - Page 06

National Tourism E-portal to be launched: Ehsan Mazari - Page 07

CEO Serena Hotels fetes outgoing Swiss, Iordan envoys - Page 08

### SHAMIM SHAHID PESHAWAR: The situation is likely to take another ugly turn as banned Tehrik Taliban Pakistan leaders are unhappy over recent statement of Interior Minister in which he declared

that any sort of patch will be made

in consent of parliament. In reaction, Taliban reaffirming to its stance not only refused to recognize parliament and constitution but even used derogatory remarks against armed forces of Pakistan, thus making doubtful fate of what the both sides called peace - Page 04 talks taking place in Kabul since end of previous April. The situation of banned TTP or other militants is different what it portraved in Media. The banned TTP and other Pakistani

militants are considering Afghanistan as their homeland. Similar is the position of other foreign militants, mostlv from Central Asian Republics. All these foreigners are allowed to possess arms and travel into convoys with full pledge protocol. Even some of the Pakistani hardliners, doesn't matters their association with banned TTP are shouldering responsibilities with their fellows from Tehrik Taliban Afghanistan-also called as Emirate Islami in various civil and security assignments

throughout Afghanistan.

During a brief but comprehensive visit to Kabul, connection with a daylong bilateral relations between the two neighbouring countries arranged jointly by Peshawar based Institute of Regional Studies (IRS) and Kabul's Center for Strategic and Regional Studies, the Emirate Islami Afghanistan found different from 1996-2001 last. The gun-totting Taliban guarding bazaars, occupying permanent and temporary check posts on roads, performing security duties on the gates of important installations and escorting VVIP's convoys are very decent, cordial and patient towards common people. Despite lacking of proper salaries, uniforms and other genuine needs, these Talibans have been witnessed with dry-bread in their hands as their two time meals. The evil of bribe and gratification doesn't exists any more throughout Afghanistan. But despite unprecedented shifts in Taliban policies and behavior, common Afghans are uncertain about their future. Almost of them are in a bid to flee the country but unfortunately neighboring counties especially Pakistan and Iran sealed its borders or declared hard travelling restrictions, thus forcing the Afghans to remain inside the country. Poverty, price hike, unemployment and halting almost of trade and industrial activities

In Afghanistan Emirate Islami is faced with stock of issues are becoming a huge issue before the Taliban rulers. Due to lacking of recognition of Taliban regime by rest of the global community members, almost banking system is ahead with transaction services and the accounts holders are not allowed to draw monthly over 200 US dollars. Almost traders and shopkeepers are looking for shoppers. Construction work on commercial and private buildings like apartments and

plaza's is also on halt. Though the Emirate Islami Afghanistan high ups are making tall claims about unanimity amongst their ranks but the internal situation is different. The Haqqani network claiming almost credit for the return of Emirate Islami rule whereas the Qandahari Taliban are unhappy with growing influence of Pakistan in internal and external policies of Afghanistan. Not only common Afghans but even leading figures occupying important offices in Taliban regime are also unhappy of Pakistan in the light of latter's unprecedented one-side restrictions. So far Taliban leaders succeeded in calling back some of former ministers and high ranking offices but majority of those who remained occupants if ministerial. administrative and security offices

**Continued on Page 06** 

## 02

## NATIONAL

### Islamabad **POST** Wednesday, June 29, 2022

## **KP** cabinet makes teachers permanent

### DNA

PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa cabinet in its 75th meeting held here Tuesday with Chief Minister Mahmood Khan in the chair approved the 'Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Teachers (Appointment and Regularization of Services) Bill, 2021' to regularize the services of the teachers appointed on adhoc basis in the province since 2017. This will benefit around 58 thousand teachers who have been appointed on merit against the sanctioned posts in various categories (BS-12 to BS-16) and are performing duties in various schools of the province. The meeting besides the cabinet members was also attended by the Provincial Chief Secretary, Senior Member Board of Revenue, Additional Chief Secretary and Administrative Secretaries of various Government Departments.

Special Assistant to Chief Minister for Information & Public Relations Barrister Muhammad Ali Saif while briefing media persons about the decisions of the cabinet meeting at ITLA'A Cell informed that the cabinet also approved the addition of 38 new Public Services of six departments, which have been identified, refined and finalized by the Right to Services Commission (RTS) after holding multiple sessions with Secretaries and different tiers of the

Departments. The new Public Services include the issuance of fitness certificate to vehicles, pollution control certificates, issuance of route permit to commercial vehicles, repair & maintenance of water supply lines of DWSS of TMAs, sanitation in designated area of TMAs, streetlights, NOC for the establishment of fruit markets and scholarships etc. These public services will be delivered by the departments concerned. The chief minister, he said, announced Rs.one million for the heirs of the deceased girl student who was killed in wall collapse in Dir and Rs.one lac each for those sustaining injuries in the said incident. The school was also named after the deceased student.

The cabinet, he said, also approved the transfer of state land measuring 7 Kanals& 16 Marlas to Tehsil municipal administration Domel, District Bannu for the construction of its office building, which is presently functioning in a rented building. Similarly, the cabinet also approved the 'Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Mining of Minor Minerals from River Bed Rules, 2022', which have been prepared in light of the recommendations of the Cabinet sub-committee. The rules will contribute towards regulating and protecting the natural course of rivers, allied infrastructure as well as promoting scientific mining activities in the riverbeds, where minor minerals like Bajri, Shingle, Ordi-nary Sand, Gravel and Ordinary Stones are found and fulfill the demands of the construction industry. The cabinet also approved the imposition of fines of Rs.0.5 million to Rs.1.5 million on illegal mining.

Barrister Saif further informed that the cabinet also approved a one-time grant of Rs. 16.63 million for the rehabilitation, functionalization and clearance of the PESCO liabilities of as many as 13 tube wells established by PAK-PWD in Peshawar during the year 2017-18. These tube wells, out of which only one is completed and the rest are non-operational due to various deficiencies, are being taken over from the PAK-PWD by the Water & Sanitation Services Peshawar (WSSP) as per direction of the competent authority to operationalize them in the public interest.

The SACM further said that the cabinet authorized the Secretary Forests, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa to declare/ notify Joint Check Posts & Wildlife Check Posts at appropriate places for effective conservation, protection and management of the Wildlife resources of the province. Similarly, the cabinet also approved the establishment of Kabalgram as Waterfowl Public Game Reserve in Shangla District wherein the hunting of wild animals shall not be allowed without special permit.



### DC Faisalabad holds Quality **Control Board meeting**

### ISHFAQ MUGHAL

FAISALABAD: 28 June 2022: The meeting of District Quality Control Board

examined during the meeting and hearing of pleas of medical store owners were made in this regard. After hearing, the meeting decided to refer the

sioner also reviewed the tions of Drug Act were performance of the Drug Inspectors and directed them for accelerating the drive against sale and manufacturing of spurious drugs. He said that

million

gave clear and loud message to the functionaries of health departments that the any kind of corruption would not be tolerated. He strictly warned that no

Nisar Muhammad Khan of complaint of sale of spuri-ANP and Hafiz Esamuddin ous drugs should be report of JUIF said that the governed in the district and drive ment should give specific atagainst drug mafia should tention to merged district as be made result oriented. these were more backward Among others, the meetthan other districts of the ing was also attended by province. - APP ADCG Qaiser Abbas Rind,



KARACHI: President Dr. Arif Alvi presiding over a meeting during the visit of Federal Urdu University of Arts, Sciences and Technology. - DNA

President Alvi for

promoting market

oriented study of arts

Highlighting importance

of special education, Dr.

Arif Alvi said that visually

and physically impaired

students needed to be

enrolled in institutions of

normal students with pro-

vision of separate skilled

The purpose of special

education should not only

be providing skill and re-

quired education to the im-

paired students, but they

should also be made fit

for social participation in

society, he noted. While

referring HEC's Part-

nership-Research model,

President Alvi stressed

upon collaboration of aca-

demia with private sector

and said that the practi-

cal exposure of students

in different sectors help

them understanding mar-

ket requirements of their

respective fields of stud-

faculty for them.

### **KP Assembly** passes supplementary budget

PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Assembly Tuesday passed supplementabudget for fiscal year ry 2021-22 and also approved 54 demands for grants of Rs 234.98 billion. All the joint opposition members withdrew their cut-motions during the assembly proceedings chaired by Deputy Speaker Mahmood Jan. Ahmad Kundi of PPP said that Village Council Chairman should be empowered like in past. He said that the salaries of KP police should be made equal to Punjab police and staff of Agriculture Cooperative Society should be utilized for the welfare of people. Nighat Orakzai of PPP demanded that immediate action should be taken to prevent KP from lumpy chronic skin disease of animals.

The Deputy Speaker on the request of Naeema Kishwar of JUIF withdrew the notification to issue only one Kalashnikov permit instead of issuing four to an MPA. Salahuddin of ANP said that

there is a big problem of water in his constituency and condition of roads is unsatisfactory so the government should take it seriously and resolve it on priority basis.

KARACHI: President Dr. Arif Alvi, on Tuesday stressed the need of academic surveys and research to assess and enhance market value of different faculties, especially of arts related subjects for encouragement of students to study arts and literature as these subjects helped grooming comprehensive human personality.

He chairing a meeting with the faculty of Federal Urdu University of Arts, Sciences and Technology (FUUAST) here, said that educational institutions must be given ownership to promote ideas of welfare, peace and collectiveness through studies of arts and literature.

The FUUAST had to be the role model for promoting arts related studies with defined job opportunities, he suggested.

### **Custom Agents** Association Chief visits Peshawar

### **OUR CORRESPONDENT** PESHAWAR: Chairman All Pakistan Cus-

tom Agents Association, Qamar Islam

visited Peshawar to meet with officials of

Custom Collectorate and Members of Sar-

had Chamber of Commerce and Industry

(SCCI) for discussion over resolution of

problems being faced by importers and ex-

porters of the country. Qamar Islam was

received in Peshawar by Chairman Khyber

Pakhtunkhwa Chapter of Pakistan Custom

Agents Association and Vice President

Pak-Afghan Joint Chamber of Commerce

and Industry (PAJCCI), ZiaulHaqSarhadi.

ies. Dr. Arif Alvi said that HEC had introduced 4000 free courses for students as well as the faculty.

The concept of contractual faculty needed to be revisited and academia should focus on regularization of the faculty for ensuing continuity and consistency of teaching and learning process, he added. Dr. Alvi also advised Vice Chancellor FUUAST to regularize at least 50% faculty, especially in the field of Information Technology.

Vice Chancellor FUUAST, Dr. Athar Ata, gave briefing to the president and expressed gratitude for his continuous support of the university as the chancellor. President Dr. Arif Alvi appreciated VC and all faculty heads for their briefing and advised them to come up with future plan in the next meeting. - APP

Sarhadi demanded setting up of a laboratory in Custom Collectorate Peshawar for checking of suspected goods. He said due to lack of laboratory facility, businessmen whose goods are held for checking have to sent it to other cities for checking or to PCSIR on payment basis. Both Qamar and Zia Sarhadi also demanded provision of space for office in Peshawar Collectorate to custom clearing agents where they can sit and fulfill official documents besides holding discussion on different issues. Similar facilities should also be provided at terminal under construction by National Logistic Cell (NLC) at Torkhem, they added. Replying to the demands, Chief Collectorate Customs held out assurance of fulfilling the demands at the earliest. He said space for office will be provided to Custom Clearing Agents at Aza Khel Dry Port. He said NLC would also be approached for facilitation of custom clearing agents so that they could perform work with mental ease. The office bearers of Custom Clearing Association also met with Collector Customs Appraisement, AmjadurRehman and Director Transit, Qaiser Hameed to hold discussion on issues pertaining to dry port, Torkhem, Ghulam Khan border post etc.

was held with Deputy Commissioner Lt (R) Sohail Ashraf in the chair. The medical store inspection reports of Drug Inspectors were reviewed in the meeting. The total 40 cases against

medical stores found involved in different viola-

### UNDP, FPCCI organize stakeholders' conference

PESHAWAR: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Collaboration with Federation of Pakistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI) organized a stakeholders' conference regarding green jobs for youth including women in eco-tourism, weaving and renewable energy sectors of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. A large number of people from the business community and youth participated in the conference, said a press release issued here on Tuesday. During the conference, UNDP Consultant, Ahsan Hameed Durrani gave a detailed presentation regarding the three sectors and said that green jobs do not mean the ignoring of the traditional sector. However, its purpose is the generation of new opportunities in these three sectors. - APP

cases against 20 medical stores to the Drug Court. Moreover owner of some 4 medical store was given warning and 14 cases were adjourned till next meeting due to not appearing of medical stores owners and 2 FIRs were registered.

FAISALABAD:

4,636,398

stern action should be taken against the quacks who were playing with the health of patients. He urged upon sealing the medical stores immediately involved in sale of spurious and intoxicating medicines. The Deputy Commis-The Deputy Commissioner

Over 8.41

million people vaccinated in

Faisalabad

(8,413,499) people have so far been

citizens

vaccinated against COVID-19 in

the district. District Health

Officer Dr Ataul Mun'im

said on Tuesday that

were injected the first

dose, while 3,693,400

were administered

the second dose of

vaccine. He said that

39,861 health workers

were also given the

first dose while 43,840

received the second dose

of vaccine. He said that

sufficient stock of coronavi-

rus vaccine was available in the

district. As of now 20,874 first doses and

31,311 second doses were in the stock in

Faisalabad. He said that 37 vaccination

centres and 20 mobile vaccination camps

had been set up in Faisalabad where regis-

tered people were being vaccinated.

Over 8.41

Secretary DQCB Rubina Akhtar, members and Drug Inspectors. In order to facilitate people, these centers had been established in various areas of the city including Allied Hospital, District Head Quarters Hospital, Government General Hospital G.M Abad, Faisalabad Institute of Cardiology, Government General Hospital Samanabad, Children

Hospital, Sports Complex Samanabad. Tehsil Headquarters Hospital Jaranwala, Samundri, Tandlianwala, Chak Jhumra, Sports Complex Chak Jhumrah, Sports Complex Jaranwala, Government General Hospital Chak 224-RB, New

Building RHC Khurrianwala, New Building THQ Sammundri, New Building THQ Tandlianwala, Social Security Hospital Madina Town, Wapda Hospital, Rural Health Centers Mureed Wala, Chak 174-JB, Chak 134-JB, Chak 229-RB, Chak 65-GB, RHC Lundianwala Jaranwala, RHC Khurrianwala Jaranwala, Pindi Sheikh Musa, Kanjwani, Mamukanjan, RHC Chak 400-GB,

RHC Chak 153-RB, RHC Chak 374-GB and Chak 469-GB, he added. He said that timing of these vaccination centres was 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. except for Sports Complex Samanabad centre, which would remain open round-the-clock. - APP

OCCI, ICBC Pakistan hold webinar

exchange rate risk, said OIC-

CI release on Tuesday. Sen-

ior management anagement

from OICCI members at-

tended this important event.

Secretary General OICCI,

ated the ICBC engagement

with leading investors

on this important matter

which was going to be use-

ful for investors. - APP

Abdul Aleem

and

During visit to Model Collectorate Cus-KARACHI: ICBC Pakistan toms Peshawar, they met with Chief Collec-Overseas Investors Chamber of Commerce and Industry jointly held a webinar on the subject RMB: Development, Infrastructure and Products. The webinar was aimed at facilitating local markets understanding and utilization of RMB, and further in the light of some interest in a new circular by PBC (People's Bank of China), effective from March 1, 2022, to allow Chinese Commercial banks in China directly lend RMB to overseas entities. Renminbi (RMB, also known as Chinese Yuan) has become the most effective currency in hedging

appreci

tor Customs, Ahmad Raza Khan and shared views on problems being faced by business community specially importers and exporters in Karachi and at border posts. Speaking during the meeting, ZiaulHaq PESHAWAR: Pak-Afghan Joint Chamber of

### PAJCCI's calls for sustainable trade with Afghanistan

Commerce and Industry (PAJCCI) held a meeting of stakeholders of Pak-Afghan trade here in provincial metropolis, a city most closely connected to Afghanistan not only in culture and language but also geographically. The meeting chaired by Vice President PA-JCCI, Zia-ul-HaqSarhadi calls on long term and sustainable trade with Afghanistan as the only way to mutal prosperity and economic stability in Pakistan. The meeting was attended by Engineer Said Mahmood; Vice Chairman Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Board of Investment & Trade and Honorary Consul General for The Republic of Tajikistan, ArbabQaiser; Director Transit Trade, Amanatullah; AC Transit Trade, Muhammad Tayyab; AC Customs, Col Aziz Khattak; GM NLC BTS KP, large number of business community members from Swat, Kurram, Khyber, Sarhad& Mohmand Chamber of Commerce & Industries, senior officials from Pakistan Customs, National Logistic Cell, Transit Trade, TDAP along with local and national level Media. Zia Sarhadi informed the forum about continuous efforts of PAJCCI and its Chairman, ZubairMotiwala and Co-Chairman, Khan Jan Alokozai; both of them have not only provided insights to the government officials but have been instrumental in raising voice of business community to the level of respective premiers. Secretary General PAJCCI; Faiza, shared the quarterly updates, recent issuance of TAD SRO, written third party payment process by State Bank of Pakistan, formation of border committee at Chaman on similar lines as Torkham for quick resolution of issues, extension of E-From & EIF waiver for further 45 days from 1st July 2022. - APP

FCCI stresses need to enhance Pak-Canada ties

### BUREAU REPORT

FAISALABAD. Relations between Pakistan and Canada would be further strengthened to open new avenues of cooperation particularly in the fields of education and renewable energy, said Mr. AtifMunir Sheikh, President Faisalabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry (FCCI).

In a meeting with Canadian Commercial Counsellor Mr. Michael Lazaruk, he said that a large number of Pakistanis are settled in Canada which could be a great attraction for the Pakistani students to choose Canada for their higher studies. He said that Canada has also a well-developed renewable energy sector and Pakistan could avail its expertise to overcome electricity shortage of 6-7 thousand MW by promoting solar energy as sun-

light is available in Pakistan for more than 17 hours in a day. "Solar energy is environment friend-

ly and thus it could also play a major role in overcoming the ill impacts of climate change", he said and extended an invitation to the commercial counsellor to visit Faisalabad according to his own convenience.

They reviewed the bilateral trade relations and decided that practical steps should be taken to further enhance the volume of bilateral trade. Mr. Michael thanked Mr. AtifMunir Sheikh and said that Pakistanis are playing a major role in the socio-economic development of Canada however we must take necessary steps to promote bilateral trade between the two countries.

He also assured to visit FCCI as early as possible. The Canadian Trade Commissioner Mr. Zohaib Khan, Mr. Rashid Munir Senior Member FCCI and Executive Committee Member Mr. Muhammad Azhar Chaudhary were also present during this meeting. FCCI delegation

### visits LUMS

A delegation of FCCI (Faisalabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry) headed by Engineer Ahmad Hassan Chairman FCCI standing committee on R&D visited Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS) and had a detailed discussion with its top brass to resolve challenges faced by the business community of Faisalabad. Among the leadership of LUMS include Mr. Abdul RazakDawood Pro Vice Chancellor, RectorProfessor-Shahid Hussain and Vice Chancellor Dr. Arshad Ahmad. Engineer Ahmad Hassan said that Faisalabad is a centrally located district of Punjab with a population of 8 million.

### **JUNE 2022** Pakistan's Premier News & **Diplomatic Affairs Magazine**

Find us on: www.centreline.com.pk www.dnanews.com.pl www.islamabadpost.com.pk

🎔 @Postislamabad/ @Editordnanews



11# Block 18-A, Awan Plaza, G-8 Markez, Islamabad-Pakistan Ph: 051-2261960, 051-2266165





### National Days and Armed Forces Days

JUNE June 02 / **Itlay** National Day/

Independence Day June 04 / Finland Armed Forces Day

June 07 / Sweden Natioal Day

June 10 / Portugal Portugal Day (Natioal Day)

June 10 / Jordan Arab Revolution & Army Day

June 11 / United Kingdom Birthday of Her Majesty The Queen Elizabeth

June 12 / Philippines Independence Day

June 12 Russian Federation Day of Sovereignty of

the Russian Federation (National Day) June 13 / Zambia Armed Forces Day June 17 / Iceland

National Day June 18 / Seychells

National Day June 25 / Croatia

National Day June 25 / Mozambique National Day

June 26 / Azerbaijan Army Day



### Hotels & Restaurants

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



Airlines Turkish Airlines......8494949

### \*

## **Book titled 'Pakistan** Sign Language' launched

Federal Secretary for Human Rights lauds the spirit of the people working on the project

### DNA

ISLAMABAD: The sign language book "Pakistan Sign Language" was launched at the National Institute of Special Education, Islamabad. The Chief Guest at the event was the Federal Secretary for Human Rights. In his address, he lauded the spirit of the people working on the project.

He highlighted the policies for the welfare and education of persons with disabilities, and assured support for the implementation of the existing policies by the government. In his speech, he emphasized the need for co-operation between parents, societies, special and general educational institutions in the education and rehabilitation of persons with disabilities, as well as in the preparation of a sign language book for the deaf. He also appreciated the efforts of the participating sign language experts from all over Pakistan. He further said that language is a mean of communication for human beings without which human beings cannot maintain economic and social cohesion in the society and he expressed the hope that this sign language would be the source of communication in the society for Hearing Impaired people. He further dilated that necessary arrangements may be made for the dissemination of copies of the book all over Pakistan to the people concerned.

He said that this book would not only make the society aware of the abilities of the Hearing Impaired people but would also help them to be included in all walks of life. The Director General of Special Educa-

tion thanked the Chief Guest for coming to the reception and outlined the aims and objectives of the book and the role of the

Directorate General of Special Education in education and rehabilitation of persons with disabilities, and briefed participants of

events about the steps taken by the Directorate for the education, rehabilitation and training of persons with disabilities.

Pakistan Sign Lang

June.

at

ecial

### 5-day rain spell likely to start from June 30

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD) Director General Mehar Sahibzada Khan said on Tuesday that a 5-day rain spell likely to start from Thursday which would continue till July 4. Moist currents from Arabian Sea and Bay of Bengal would likely to enter in upper parts of the country from 29th June (Wednesday) which may intensify and expand to southern parts of the country by the end of this week, he said while talking to a private news channel. He said rain-windstorm/thundershower is expected in Islamabad, Kashmir, Gilgit Baltistan, Swat, Mansehra, Kohistan, Abbottabad, Haripur, Peshawar, Mardan, Swabi, Nowshera, Rawalpindi, Murree, Attock, Chakwal, Jhelum, Sargodha, Hafizabad, M. B Din, Sialkot, Narowal, Lahore, Gujranwala, Gujrat, Sheikhupura, Faisalabad, Jhang, T.T Singh, Okara, Sahiwal and Bahawalnagar from 30th June till July 4. Heavy falls would generate urban flooding in Islamabad, Rawalpindi, Lahore, Gujranwala, Sialkot, Faisalabad from July 2 till 4 and in Karachi and Hyderabad from July 3 to 5. Fishermen are advised to remain careful due to rough sea conditions from July 3 to 5 ,he added. DG Met further informed that flash flooding is also expected in local nullahs of Kashmir, Khuzdar, Lasbella, Naseerabad, Awaran, Barkhan and Kohlu during the forecast period. Heavy rainfall may trigger landslides in Kashmir, Gallivat and Murree, he said. - APP

### **PIA to start** flights between Islamabad, Chengdu

### DNA

ISLAMABAD: PIA will start direct weekly passenger flights between Islamabad and Chengdu, China from July 6, Gwadar Pro reported on Tuesday quoting a statement of the national flag carrier. Chengdu, the capital city of Sichuan, China, is the third destination other than Beijing for which PIA recently got operating licences from the Civil Aviation Administration of China (CAAC).

In March, PIA said that CAAC had allowed it to operate flights for Chinese cities of Xi'an and Guangzhou from Pakistan. Previously, the state-run airline was allowed to conduct flight operations for Beijing only. CAAC has also allowed PIA to operate chartered cargo flights for Kunming and Shenzhen while approval for flights for Kashgar (Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region) is under process, the airline said.

G20 countries asked not to undermine UN credibility by gathering in IIOJK

ISLAMABAD: All Parties Hurriyat Conference leaders and organizations including Molvi Bashir Ahmad Irfani, Advocate Davinder Singh Behal, Democratic Freedom Party, Jammu and Kashmir Muslim League and Jammu and Kashmir Muslim Conference have warned the G20 countries against undermining the credibility of the United Nations by holding their meeting in the UN-designated disputed territory of Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOIK). According to Kashmir Media Service, the leaders and organizations in their statements issued in Srinagar vehemently rejected the Indian government's proposal of holding G20 meeting in IIOJK saying the move will amount to legitimize the India's illegal occupation of internationally disputed Jammu and Kashmir. - APP

## Experts warn against tobacco marketing gimmicks

ISLAMABAD: Health experts have shown concerns over the deceptively dangerous marketing tactics of tobacco industry to attract the youth. In a press release issued here on Tuesday by the Society for the Protection of the Rights of the Child (SPARC), the experts warned that tobacco was the health hazard that leads to death and a global "talent hunt" competition organized by the world's biggest tobacco company would further spread diseases caused by consumption of tobacco

ing advantage of weak tobacco control policies, Malik Imran said, these companies organize campaigns which were merely publicity stunts meant to bolster their public image, disguise their deadly profit-motive, and recruit young people to help spread death and disease. The vast proportion of damage caused by tobacco occurs in low and middle-income countries like Pakistan who were being targeted in this year's competition, he warned.

Khalil Ahmed Dogar, Program Manag-

been sensitized to not participate in tobacco industry's campaigns. If they do, they would be helping the company market tobacco products.

Khalil also urged the public health officials and policymakers to use their social media channels to highlight the harms caused by tobacco products. CEO, Chromatic Trust Shariq Mahmood Khan stressed that weaker tobacco control policies in Pakistan had allowed the companies to prey on

public's health. Tobacco companies have used deceptive tactics, he said, to interfere with public health policies and sold deadly products online and to children near educational institutions. Shariq Khan stated that government needs to tighten the tobacco control laws and invest in education and employment programmes so that the youth won't be attracted to such deceptive campaigns. - APP



### Emergency

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



### Enquiry

Edhi Ambulance.....115 PIAFlightInfo.....114 PIACargo......9280979 Railway Inquiry.....117 Railway Exchange9270831-5 WASA Rawalpindi..5555489 ..9281092 CAA



### Hospitals

СМН	5611111
MH	561116
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
ТМА	5770886
Cantonment Boa	rd 9270151-3

### Islamabad Metropolitan

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

Water Tank Islamabad.....0321-5744480

products. Malik Imran Ahmed, Country Head, Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids (CTFK) stated that tobacco companies couldn't be considered the same as other multinational corporations as their primary goal was to make profit from the deadly tobacco products. These products cause 8 million deaths around the world and 170,000 deaths in Pakistan each year, he added. Tak-

DNA

er SPARC, stated that the devastating harm to societies and families created by tobacco-related death and disease far outweighs any prize money tobacco companies could provide. Due to cheap and easy affordability, around 1,200 Pakistani children between the ages of 6-15 years start smoking every day. He shared that during "Battle for Health" campaign, young people, had

### Criminal killed in police encounter

RAWALPINDI: Rawalpindi Police in a joint intelligence based operation on Monday killed the most wanted criminal involved in hundreds of robberies and heinous crimes during a police encounter. According to Rawalpindi Police spokesperson, Bilal Sabit, the ringleader of the dacoit gang, involved in killing police officials, attacking on Additional IG Motorway and killing of his brother was killed along with his accomplice Imtiaz Ahmed.

The Rawalpindi Police, Islamabad Police and Civil Intelligence Agency had conducted the intelligence-based operation in Naseerabad area to arrest the most wanted dacoit. The senior officials of Rawalpindi Police have rushed to the crime scene for ascertaining details of the operation. - APP

### ANF recovers five kg heroin; arrests 3

RAWALPINDI: Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) Rawalpindi and ANF Intelligence on Tuesday conducted an operation and managed to recover five kilograms heroin besides netting three accused including a woman. According to an ANF headquarters spokesman, ANF conducted a raid near bus stand at Chungi No. 26 Islamabad and arrested HunainKhaliq, HusnainKhaliq and a woman

namely GulshanBibi. A case has been registered against the accused while further investigation is under process. The spokesman said that accomplices of the accused would also be sent behind the bars. - APP

### FBR exceeds FY 2021-22 tax target by Rs300 billion ISLAMABAD: The Federal Bureau of Revenue (FBR) collected a tax of Rs 6 trillion in the fiscal year 2021-22, exceeding the target of Rs5.8 trillion. According to details, a total of Rs 6 trillion in tax was collected in the fiscal year 2021-22, an FBR spokesperson said. Rs2.2 trillion was collected in income tax, while an amount of Rs2.7 trillion was FBR spokesperson told that a total of Rs1,007 billion were collected in customs duty in 2021-22. While the FBR issued an amount of Rs305 billion in refunds. Former spokesperson of the finance ministry Muzammil Aslam said that the FBR data is a 'shut up call' to all the people who were claiming that the tax collections for the fiscal year 2021-22 would not be met. The PTI leader took to Twitter and said that income tax increased by 31%, while an increase of 28% was witnessed in sales tax. If the PTI has successfully implemented the Petroleum sales tax, the figure had gone up to Rs6.5 trillion. The finance specialist said that all experts said that the target

### **Deceptive marketing has direct impact on consul**

### DNA

collected as sales tax in 2021-22.

RAWALPINDI: The Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce & Industry (RCCI) in collaboration with Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) organized an Advocacy Session on Competition Law. Chairperson CCP, Ms. Rahat Kaunain Hassan, in her address said that deceptive marketing practices have a direct impact on consumers and the com-

petitors of the businesses and therefore, while marketing their products, businesses must be truthful. She recommends businesses to, "Show what you sell and say what you mean," which can make them fully compliant and truthful to the consumers and not allow businesses to take any undue competitive advantage. Businesses are free to make profits as long as they are not violating the competition principles. Nothing bars businesses under the law from grow-

competition law enforcement. She said that the CCP is also playing its part in the policy reform by offering recommendations that would enhance economic efficiencies and create a level playing field.

The CCP's draft pilot study on the "Assessment of Supply Chain from Farm gate to Retail" recommends policy measures for enhancing economic efficiency and



of Rs5.8 trillion was unachievable but we surpassed that limit.

ing; per se dominance is not prohibited, eliminating distortions in the supply chain it is the abuse of dominance that triggers

of essential commodities, she added. Similarly, it's report on the SME Sector will offer solid recommendations for improving economic efficiencies of SMEs. Moreover, consultative sessions have commenced on the CCP's draft "E-Commerce Policy Guidelines" for deliberations with the stakeholders. She said that the Competition law does play a role in removing entry barriers, improving the market access, and creating a level playing field, but the country's ranking in the Global Competitiveness Index (GCI) is based on other factors such as institutions, infrastructure, Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) adoption, macroeconomic stability, health, skills, product market, labour market, financial system, market size, business dynamism, and in-

novation capability. Earlier, RCCI President Nadeem Rauf acknowledged the good work done by the CCP and emphasised upon the need to create more awareness of the Competition Law. He offered RCCI's platform for educating the businessmen on the Dos and don'ts of the law. He also welcomed the Chairperson's suggestion of exempting the chambers from fee for filing formal complaints with the CCP.

### However, the incumbent is making very bad decisions which ISLAMABAD: Heavy machinery is being used at the site of a flyover at Rawal Dam Chowk. - APP would nullify our effort, he added.

## 04

## **TWIN CITIES**

### Islamabad **POST** Wednesday, June 29, 2022

### **Briefs**

### Paracha assumes charge as **PBM MD**

ISLAMABAD: Amir Fida Paracha on Tuesday assumed charge of Pakistan Bait-ul-Mal (PBM) Managing Director, after the approval of Cabinet Division and Notification by Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety Division. Soon after joining PBM, he got a detailed briefing from the officers, about the organization including ongoing social welfare projects.

The Managing Director also visited the various departments of PBM and met with the staff there. Chairing a meeting with Directors, he expressed his passion to serve the vulnerable populace of the country.

"Being Managing Director PBM, I feel a colossal national, religious and social responsibility and determined to address the thorny issues linked with poverty", he stated. Previously, he was Chairman National Trust for Population Welfare and Member Provincial Assembly of Punjab as well. Amir Fida Paracha is also spokesperson of former President of Paki stan, Asif Ali Zardari. - APP

### India blocks Radio Pak twitter account

ISLAMABAD: Radio Pakistan twitter account has been blocked in India, denying access to information and restricting democratic freedom of expression.

The social media handle of Pakistan's state broadcaster has been withheld mainly for highlighting grave human rights violations in the Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir, said a press release issued here on Tuesday. Expressing concern over the blocking of the twitter account, Radio Pakistan Spokesperson Chaudhry Zameer Ashraf said Radio Pakistan always upheld objectivity in its news stories, strictly abiding by international journalistic norms. He urged Twitter to imme-

restore acc s to Ra dio Pakistan twitter account in India to ensure freedom of speech and access to information. - APP



ISLAMABAD: PTI Chairman Imran Khan chairing a high level party meeting, at Bani Gala, on Wednesday. –DNA

## Pak importing 80,000 tonnes hazardous waste per year

The Minister while expressing her serious concern over poor management said that the imported waste was not managed properly that had entered in our blood, lungs and food through contamination

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Climate Change Senator Sherry Rehman on Tuesday said the federal cabinet has approved the National Hazardous Waste Management Policy to curb the growing threats of toxic waste posed to human life and ecology.

Addressing the joint media conference, flanked by Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Marriyum Aurangzeb, Adviser to the Prime Minister on Kashmir and Gilgit Baltistan Affairs Qamar Zaman Kaira and Secretary Ministry of Religious Affairs, she told the journalists that the country was importing 80,000 tonnes of hazardous waste from abroad which was far more than the solid waste produced annually within the country. Sherry said a landmark policy was approved by the Cabinet moved by the Ministry of Climate Change (MoCC). The policy would help

hospital waste, oil, batteries, and electronic waste, she added. "The toxic waste's formulation, classification and discarding mechanisms will be devised under the policy framework to be established in the next phase," the Min-

ister underlined. She underlined that there was no second thought that hazardous waste was injurious to health due its carcinogenic nature and serious health complications. "It pollutes our ground water reserves and attains the chemical status of poisonous acid after seepage into the aquifer", Sherry said. The Minister informed that a long

consultative process with the provinces was held and the Ministry would have to proceed as per the national action plan.

"We will have to form a departmental framework alongwith strengthening of federal and pro-



Earlier, around 626 containers were shipped to Pakistan illegally by various countries to dump their toxic waste which hit the news bulletins as a matter of serious concern, she mentioned.

She said some 80,000 tonnes toxic waste a year was being imported by the private parties whereas the

ment said that the imported waste was not managed properly that had entered in our blood, lungs and food through contamination.

"Basil Convention, Stockholm and Minamata Conventions also deal with it and the Policy had to be established as per these convention as Pakistan is signatory to these protocols. We will develop a national framework with the provinces and a national action plan to control licensing of hazardous waste import and management." She added the policy implementa-

tion would also benefit the country's GSP plus compliance. "The MoCC hopes to prepare national action plan within three months," she said. Responding to media queries, she said there was no regulation to control the toxic waste generated and dumped in the country and the policy would help address the issue.

net had approved an amount of Rs3.1 billion to establish housing units for 8,000 Kashmiri families that migrated from the Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) after serious brutalities unleashed by the occupant forces in 1989. "Pakistan always supported the

Kashmiri brethren at every step and will continue to do so. The migrated families have been given full support by the Pakistani government who are living in various camps and shelters in Azad Jammu and Kashmir", he said.

The government of Pakistan was providing per person funds and moved a summary to increase it before the cabinet. The amount of Rs3.1 billion rupees were released for the first tranche to establish some 1300 houses out of the total 8,000 in AJK whereas 40% land was identified for the project.

### **Pak earns** \$634m by exporting transport services

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan earned US \$ 634.760 million by providing different transport services in various countries during the first ten months of fiscal year (2021-22) as compared to the corresponding period last year. This shows increase of 34.77 percent as compared to US \$ 471.010 million earned through provision of services during the corresponding period of last fiscal year (2020-21), Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS) reported.

During the period under review, the exports of sea transport services witnessed an increase of 51.81 percent, by going up from US \$ 66.050 million last year to US \$ 100.270 million during the period under review.

Among the sea transport services, the exports of freight services surge by 96.16 percent from US \$29.400 million last year to US \$ 57.670 million whereas the exports of other sea transport services also rose by 16.23 percent from US \$36.650 million to US \$42.600 million current year, the PBS data revealed.

The exports of air transport services increased by 33.37 percent by going up from US \$ 381.010 million last year to US \$508.170 million during July-April (2021-22). Among the air transport services, the exports of passengers services rose by 33.63 percent, from US \$ 249.370 million to US \$ 333.230 million, whereas the exports of freight services dipped by 1.25 percent, from US \$25.570 million to US \$ 25.250 million, in addition the export of other air transport services surge by 41.12 percent from US \$106.070 million to US \$149.690 million. - APP

Gold price decreases by Rs.350 to Rs.141,500 per tola ISLAMABAD: The price

### IHC serves notices in Noor Mukadam case

ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad High Court (IHC) Tuesday served notices to respondents on appeals in Noor Mukadam murder case. A division bench comprising Justice Aamer Farooq and Justice Arbab Muhammad Tahir heard the appeals. At the outset of hearing, the court remarked that it would hear the petitions one by one as several appeals had been filed in murder case.

The court added that it had to appoint a lawyer for the jail appeal of accused ZahirJaffar. The bench served notices to plaintiff and state counsel on ZahirJaffar's appeal, and instructed the registrar office to prepare paper-book of the case.

The court also sought arguments from the plaintiff on next hearing on his appeals seeking to increase the sentences of accused and challenging acquittal of 11 other accused by the trial court. The court adjourned further hearing of the case till the first week of the August. – APP

### PTV starts live sessions for NADRA chairman

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Information and Broadcasting Marriyum Aurangzeb on Tuesday announced start of the live question and answer sessions of National Database and National Database and Registration Authority (NAD-RA) Chairman Muhammad Tariq Malik with the public on the Pakistan Television to ensure swift redressal of their issues.

"On the directives of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, an initiative has been taken to listen and resolve the people's issues [related to NADRA] live. In this regard, the first programme has been telecast on the PTV News at 4:00 pm Tuesday," she said in a series of the tweets which also carried **#PTVNADRAHOUR. - APP** 

control the Hazardous Waste Management, its mobility, and transboundary movement of toxic material which included plastics,

**OMBUDSMAN** shows

concerns over the

situation of pensioners

ISLAMABAD: The Federal Ombudsman Ejaz Ahmad Qureshi

took notice of the alarming situation of pensioners and direct-

ed the establishment of a pension desk in all major ministries

and corporations. He has been receiving a large number of com-

plaints regarding delays in their pension and other post-retire-

ment benefits. There is total apathy by the departments / Agen-

cies while hefty bribe is demanded from the poor pensioners.

Otherwise, their cases are delayed in red tape for months and

mentation of the policy".

vincial environmental protection agencies (EPAs) and also regulatory framework to ensure imple-

country's solid waste generation was 60,000 tonnes per year. The Minister while expressing her serious concern over poor manage-

sums to facilitate pension cases. To address this serious situation, Wafaqi Mohtasib had setup a monitoring committee headed by a Senior Advisor Mr. Muhammad AyubTarin former Additional Auditor General and Additional Finance Secretary. While presiding a meeting of the monitoring committee on 28th June 2022 Wafaqi Mohtasib directed that major Ministries, Corporation / Agencies, that deals with thousands of pensioners should ensure functional pension desk, manned by trained staff and to be supervised by a Senior Officer to facilitate the processing of pension cases and save the old pensioners, widows, orphans from running pillar to post. The meeting was attended by the Secretary WMS Mr. Ejaz Ahmed Khan, Senior Advisors of WMS Mr. Muhammad AyubTarin, Mr. Ahmed Farooq & other senior officers, Mr. Jibran A. Malik, CFAO Estab. Division, Mr. Kashif Ahmed Noor, Member (Finance) Railways, Mr. Hasnat A. Qureshi, DG (Accounts) CGA, DG AGPR and other stakeholders. - APP



**RAWALPINDI:** A livestock trader on the way guiding his herd of goats while looking for customers in the city. – APP

Adviser to Prime Minister on "We will provide all type of as-Kashmir and Gilgit Baltistan sistance to AJK government for Affairs Qamar Zaman Kaira ansettlement of Kashmiri brethnounced that the federal cabiren," he said. - APP

### Prime Minister to inaugurate first CPEC hydropower project

ISLAMABAD: The 720 megawatts Karot hydropower project of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) has successfully passed the 168-hour long reliability test run and will start commercial operations from June 29, a testing engineer at Karot Power Company told Gwadar Pro on Tuesday. Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif will inaugurate the landmark CPEC project the same day, another official of Karot Power said. Karot Power is a special-purpose vehicle incorporated in Pakistan for executing the project by China Three Gorges (CTG) South Asia Investment Ltd., a subsidiary of CTG.

The test run was launched at 9:30 am on June 21 and concluded in the morning of June 28, the testing engineer said. During the period, all other necessary tests were also carried out, including the initial capacity test (ICT) meant to test all four units of the plant at a full capacity of 720MWs, he added. All the tests were successful and the first hydropower plant under CPEC will achieve commercial operations date (COD) on June 29, he said. Karot HPP has been completed at a cost of US\$1.72 billion. The project will play a vital role in Pakistan's energy security by providing clean and affordable electricity.

The run-of-river facility has already contributed Rs4 billion worth of electricity to the national grid free of cost. The government has determined a tariff of 10 US cents per unit of electricity for Karot Power. "We will start charging electricity charges from June 29," the official said. The reliability test was witnessed by independent international engineers and officials of relevant government departments, the official said. - DNA

of 24 karat per tola gold witnessed a decrease of Rs.350 per tola and was sold at Rs.141,500 on Tuesday against its sale at Rs.141,850 the previous day in the local market.

The price of 10 gram 24 karat fold also decreased by Rs.301 and was sold at Rs.121.313 against its sale at Rs. 121,614 whereas the prices of ten gram 22 karat gold also declined to Rs.111,204 against its sale at Rs 111,480, All Sindh SarafaJewellers Association reported.

The price of per tola and ten gram silver remained stagnant at Rs1550 and Rs 1,328.87 respectivelv. The price of gold in international market decreased by \$10 and was sold at \$1823 against its sale at \$1833, the association reported. - APP

### 299,911 Hajj pilgrims arrive in Madinah

ISLAMABAD: A total of 299,911 pilgrims from several nationalities have arrived in Madinah, through air and land crossings to perform this year's Hajj, Saudi Press Agency reported on Tuesday.

Statistics on arriving and departing pilgrims in Madinah, issued by the Saudi Arabia's Ministry of Hajj and Umrah, showed that 241,859 pilgrims have arrived through the Prince Mohammad Bin Abdulaziz International Airport in Madinah since receiving the first Hajj flights, while the land immigration centre received 45,824 pilgrims who arrived in Madinah through land border crossings.

The statistics also revealed the nationalities of pilgrims staying in Madinah, showing that Bangladeshi pilgrims are the top residents of Madinah with 12,901, followed by Nigerians with 10,216, Indians with 8,350, Pakistanis with 6,954 and Iranians with 6,494 pilgrims. Moreover, statistics also showed that 205,049 pilgrims left Madinah over the past few days on their way to the Holy Sites in Makkah, where the number of pilgrims staying in Madinah until vesterday totaled 94.837 pilgrims belonging to various nationalities. - APP

### Senate body directs NH&MP to table rules of department A comprehensive briefing on Chaman to Karachi (N-25) highway project was given by the officials from NH&MP. The Chairman committee said that the project had been inaugurated six times but still had not been completed

ISLAMABAD: The Senate Standing Committee on Communications on Tuesday directed National Highways and Motorway Police (NH&MP) to present copy of the laid-out rules of the department in the next meeting of the committee.

If lacunas exist in those rules they should be amended, the committee decided. The meeting was held here at Parliament House on Tuesday with Senator Prince Omar Ahmadzai in the Chair.

Senators Kamil Ali Agha, Danesh Kumar, Abida Muhammad Azeem, ShammimAfridi. Muhammad Akram, and Umer Farooq, attended the meeting. The Secretary Ministry of Communication, IG NH&MP, DIG NH&MP (west zone), Quetta and other officials from the Ministry of communication and NH&MP were also in attendance.

At the outset, the committee received a comprehensive briefing on the rules and procedures of Right of Way (ROW) under the National Highway Authority Act, 1991 and procedures and policies in this regard. "The Land acquired for construction of

a National Highway or any other road assigned to the Authority" is defined as the Right of Way, GM ROW underlined.

He stated that the Right of Way comprises the road, the shoulder and the "Kacha route" beside the shoulder of the road while 220ft on either side from the centre of the road is the building line that lies beyond the ROW. After debating the subject, the committee called for a detailed briefing on all the matters related to ROW. Senator Kamil Ali Agha, with raised eyebrows, recalled encroachment along the GT road and called for immediate action against it. He told the Authority to take notice of the matter and revert to the committee afterwards.

The Chairman Committee hinted at scores of illegal installations of Gas stations on the N-25 highway project approaching Karachi. The Chairman while calling for ensuring safety measures along the highway, underscored that these gas stations sometimes are becoming the cause of certain damages and quoted the examples of Commissioner Turbat and Parliamentarian

Zehri. He said that pulling them out is not the way forward but varied safety and security measures need to be taken. After discussing the issue the Chairman com-

mittee decided to call Chief Secretary Balochistan along with the concerned Deputv Commissioner in the next meeting. The officials from NH&MP also briefed the committee on Criteria/policy for seniority and promotion of officers in NHA; indicating cases pending along with the reasons for a delay in each case. The officials informed that different selection committees were in place and were categorised for deciding the promotion of officers and other staff members. Later, the Chairman called for providing a brief list of those officers fulfilling the criteria and had not been promoted yet.

A comprehensive briefing on Chaman to Karachi (N-25) highway project was given by the officials from NH&MP. The Chairman committee said that the project had been inaugurated six times but still had not been completed. To the question, asked by the Chairman Committee the officials said that

Rs. 6 billion had been allocated for the project given the fact that the estimated cost of the project stands at Rs. 222 billion.

committee feared that due to a hike in construction-related materials the estimated cost might would surpass the current amount. As committed by the Prime Minister, would this project be completed in 1.5 yrs?, asked Senator Danesh Kumar. The Chairman NHA while expressing his commitment remarked that his team would try its best to accomplish the said project in due time, adding that the contractors were on the ground and have committed the same. While sharing details of the N-25 project, the officials informed,"the committee that the project has 5 packages and will be completed in phases. The total length is 790km having sections (i) (Karachi-Uthal-Kararo and wadh-khuzdar 273km, (ii)Khuzdar-Kuchlak (330km) for which clearance is needed having alignment issue, and (iii)Kararo-Wadh and Kuchlak-Chaman 187km amounting a total cost of Rs. 222.282 billion." - APP

## 05

# Afghan quake questions US conscience

ess than a week after a magnitude 5.9 earthquake rocked southeastern Afghanistan on June 22, killing more than 1,000 people and injuring nearly 2,000, the first batch of earthquake relief supplies donated by China arrived in Kabul on Monday night and was handed over to the Afghan side. The supplies, including tents, folding beds and blankets, are part of the emergency humanitarian assistance worth 50 million yuan (\$7.5 million) that China pledged to provide Afghanistan immediately after the earthquake, with other relief supplies set to be delivered as soon as possible. A friend in need is a friend indeed. The timely support China has given to Afghanistan reflects the traditional friendship between the two countries, and it will to some extent ease the pains the Afghan people are suffering. It also underscores the responsible role that China plays in the international arena.

Yet given the scale of damage done by the earthquake, as well as funding and access constraints, much more relief assistance is still needed from the international community, without which the Afghan people "will continue to endure unnecessary and unimaginable hardship", according to UN Deputy Special Representative Ramiz Alakbarov, who toured the hard-hit Paktika province on Saturday to assess the damage and distribute food, medicine and tents. The dire situation Afghanistan finds itself in has prompted the Taliban-led government to call for foreign assistance and appeal to Washington to release the billions of dollars of Afghanistan's currency reserves. The US froze about \$7 billion in assets held in US financial institutions by the Afghan central bank after the Taliban takeover in August last year, and US President Joe Biden signed an executive order in February to direct \$3.5 billion to be used for families of victims of the Sept 11 terror attacks. The rest is to be used to provide relief inside Afghanistan. The US decision has dealt a heavy blow to the Afghan economy, which was already "on the brink" even before the Taliban takeover, devastated by high poverty rates and widespread damage to crop yields from a two-year drought and the lack of basic infrastructure construction during the past 20 years of occupation by US-led forces. The United Nations predicted in a December report that Afghanistan's economy could contract by 20 percent within a year. The earthquake has only made life harder for many Afghan people. The US always claims it is the defender of the rules-based international order and that it stands ready to uphold the rights of all people. Yet what it has done in relation to Afghanistan proves otherwise. Its sanctions and the asset freezes show its callous attitude toward the Afghan people.

## Islamahada

### Pakistan's First And Only Diplomatic Daily

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

Member APNS / ABC Certified Vol: 02 Issue: 348 Email: dailyisbpost@gmail.com Phone: 051-2266165 / 051-2261960 Off: Awan Plaza, Block 18-A, G-8 Markaz Islamabad



## G7 must seek a political settlement in Ukraine

ussia targeted the Ukrainian capital of Kyiv late Sunday with a D series of missiles for the first time in weeks, most probably a message to the leaders of the G7, who will expectedly conclude their annual summit in Germany on June 28 with more sanctions on Moscow. According to Ukrainian military officials, Russian "strategic bombers' were used in the air raid on the capital, a significant development as the prized bombers have rarely been used in the conflict that began on February 24. Meanwhile, the Ukrainian key city of Severodonetsk is now "completely under Russian occupation," Kyiv confirmed as Russian forces move closer to securing control over neighbouring Lysychansk city. The Russian advance takes place despite unprecedented sanctions imposed by the United States and its western allies on Moscow in response to the Ukrainian offensive. The sanctions have not worked so far. Nevertheless, leaders of the G7 moved closer on Monday to slap even more sanctions on Russia. US President Joe Biden and British Prime Minister Boris Johnson formally announced that the G7 countries would ban the import of Russian gold, its largest export after energy. Biden and Johnson believe that sanctions and a multi-billion military aid to Ukraine are the only way to end the war. The G7 nations have already imposed the most stringent sanctions in history on Russia, targeting its biggest banks, most state-owned enterprises, and the oil and gas sector, in addition to the country's business community.

What is oddly absent in this tragic discourse is the willingness of the G7 to resort to negotiations to end the war. The group has members who can mediate, such as France and Germany, and both have good access to the Russian leadership. China too can play that role. However, belligerence dominates the conversation. Last month, former US Secretary of State Henry Kissinger at Davos called for a political settlement. His suggestion was immediately dismissed by Ukraine and its western supporters. Yet, nobody has offered an alternative. On the contrary, there seems to be an implicit desire among the Western alliance for a prolonged war. That probably explains the subdued media coverage in the west lately of the humanitarian cost of the war. Kissinger said he feared the Ukraine war would soon become another world war. Actions from both sides suggest they might be dragging the world on that catastrophic path.

## From a strong state to a vibrant nation with a shared destiny

**Benedict de Cerjat** 



Followiing the guidance and the excellent precepts of the founding father Mohammad Ali Jinnah, Pakistan can take the bull by the horns and become one day the self-confident and vibrant nation that the world expects. The younger generation of Pakistan - the 2017 census recorded that 60%of the country's population was under the age of 25 - deservesa positive agenda they can support and be part of

This is by no means a lecture by a foreigner - of which this country has had its fair share – but rather a well-meaning piece of advice, or rather an observation. I am still puzzled

by the enormous gap between the rich past and incredible cultural diversity of the Land of the Pure and the lack of common ground within the Nation about the vision for the future. How is it possible that the country with the

nating country. Of course, this may also be said about Iraq and Egypt. But in the case of Pakistan, the elites - including the political, economic and religious leaders - often appear stuck in the management of the short term without providing for the political space to work for a long-term vision together with all parts of the society.

I would argue that a strong State, narrowly focused on its security as it has existed in Pakistan for many decades, is not enough to find the right answers for the future and stimulate the younger generation to get involved. It is true of course that good organisation and the respect of strict control – as we have seen in the past on the occasion of natural disasters and more recently in the middle of the Covid-19 pandemic, during which Pakistan did quite well in comparison with other large countries in the region - have effectively prevented mismanagement and possible chaos. Over the years, Pakistan has developed its hard power, which gives the country some assurances to counter potential destabilisation risks from inside and outside. Your State is strong. The separation of powers does not compare to the West but it works in its own ways and there is an understanding that this has to be nurtured. Civil liberties are certainly challenged but not fundamentally questioned. But is this enough?

A better knowledge, acceptance, dissemination and promotion of the rich history and culture along the Five Rivers, before the partition, which will obviously lead to a broader understanding of the value of diversity in the society, will allow every citizen of the country to participate and flourish in the society. This softer kind of power does not detract from Pakistan's real challenges. And a shared identity is so much more than a mere intellectual concept – it is the very essence that keeps us anchored and guided in the years to come.

Switzerland owes its economic success to its openness and diversity. Lacking resources, we have built our economy from a poor agrarian country to one which thrives on innovation and is backed by strong institutions and hard work. And although our example cannot be a blueprint for Pakistan, it shows that Pakistan too can be an "Asian Tiger" with the right kind of mental framework. This certainly will take time but it can be done. Improving the quality of governance and increasing economic freedom will provide confidence in the country's future and will result in increasing its soft power. As a Swiss citizen who belongs to a linguistic minority (the French speakers) in my country, I feel entirely part of our Nation because we are not only valued and encouraged to actively engage for the nation's

destiny but often given a larger role in than we would numerically deserve. Interestingly, the Swiss national identity has not been defined along any linguistic or religious lines. Rather we have succeeded in creating our own identity based on our history but equally important, on myths which have shaped our perception of national unity. This has served us through the two world wars and has inspired our youth to identify and work for my country.

Followiing the guidance and the excellent precepts of the founding father Mohammad Ali Jinnah, Pakistan can take the bull by the horns and become one day the self-confident and vibrant nation that the world expects. The younger generation of Pakistan - the 2017 census recorded that 60% of the country's population was under the age of 25 - deserves a positive agenda they can support and be part of. A positive agenda, based on Pakistan's immense soft power potential, would also help the country and the Nation to be regarded as what it is: the ancient and beautiful place where History began! And let us hope that Pakistan will no longer be an internationally relatively isolated and disengaged country. I wish Pakistan a great and bright future!

fter completing two wonderful years in Pakistan, while about to retire from the Swiss Foreign Service, I feel inclined to share some of my observations and thoughts on your fasci5th largest population in the world, which is home to three of the world's

accommodation

or

ex-

oldest and most advanced civilisations of their time (9,000 years old Mehrgarh Civilisation; 5,500-7,000 years old Indus Valley Civilisation; and 2,600 years old Gandhara Civilisation), is not playing a more important role in world affairs?

The writer is the Ambassador of Switzerland.

### Talent management portant papers

Dr. Abdus Sattar Abbasi

Our connectedness with the motherland coupled with talent management beyond academic abilities can enable our dynamic human capital in engaging for impact, utilising their intellect to solve for the right problem, getting along with the people and making it possible to overcome every obstacle to achieve what is required for prosperous national progress

akistan surprises the global סו community quite often with deep-rooted astonishing dynamics of the society. Recent survey by Gallup & Gilani Pakistan suggested thata huge majority of 70% of Pakistanis feel connected to the country and prefers to stay in Pakistan even if given the good opportunity to leave Pakistan. However, there is a reasonable percentage of young educated but unemployed Pakistanis who opted to quit the Country. In the month of April this year, respondents were asked the question, "If someone gives you im-

and employment in a developed country, would you consider going/ or would reject the offer and prefer to stay in Pakistan?" response to In this question, 26% said move abroad, 70% said stay in Pakistan and 4% didn't know gave no response. Despite several challenges, tensive inflation, restricted access basic amenito ties, long hours of load-shedding, rising unemployment, encounters of extremism and

volatile political environment, still Pakistanis feel connected to the Country and prefer to stay in Pakistan. They not only preferred to stay in the Country but also feel secure in their homeland even with all vulnerabilities. This disproves widespread allegations of disloyalties from one faction of the society to another. Now, I think, we all should learn to respect lovalties of every Pakistani to the motherland. Interestingly, almost double of the global average of Pakistanis feel secure about their future, while 68% of Italians and 41% Finns feel insecure. It is indeed attention-grabbing to notice that countries ranking high in global prosperity index failed to inculcate sense of security among their population while a country ranked 140 in the global prosperity index has showed connectedness among masses and confidence about their secure future. It certainly suggests strength of the social structure of the Pakistani society.

There is always a hue and cry about the brain drain from Pakistanand data also supports these concerns. A report suggests, "During 2018-19 in the two years alone, some 884,000 young Pakistanis have left the country, according to the official registrations at the bureau of emigration. The record indicates more than 300,000 Pakistanis left the country in 2018. The figure soared to 500,000 in the following year." Analysis such as these usually misguide masses, on one hand portraying bleak picture of the society while on the other celebrating remittances from foreign destinations as a strong contributor to the GDP of the Country. Technically brain drain is the emigration of highly trained or qualified people from a particular country. In case of Pakistan, the same report indicates that only around 46,000 highly educated/trained Pakistanis decided to leave Pakistan in the same period which is indeed a great loss to the nation but our reports never report those who comeback to Pakistan from foreign destinations to serve their motherland. This inflow and outflow of highly educated/ trained human capital is the indication of vibrant society but we usually look at the weak side of the pattern. Recent findings of subject survey clearly eliminates the perception that majority of the population prefers to leave Pakistan. It also emphasises the need of talent management in the Country to strengthen both public and private sectors of the society.

James Intagliata and his colleagues suggest, "When you don't know what the future will bring, how do you figure out who has – or can acquire – the right strengths to meet those challenges? Pastperformance doesn't tell you who can do things they haven't done before. It also doesn't help identify high potentials earlier in their career.Leadershippotential is not grounded in achievements but in observable and measurable behaviours. Drawing on a database of more than 23,000 candidate assessments for roles at public and private companies, and in-depth analyses of 1,500 individuals, from entry-level professionals to senior leadersthree psychological markers have been isolated that can reliably predict individuals' ability to grow and handle increased complexity in new roles including cognitive quotient (CQ): how they leverage their intellect, drive quotient (DQ): what motivates them and how they apply their energy, and emotional quotient (EQ): how they interact with those around them.'

I think it is equally important to look at academic transcripts and professional credentials along with field specific tests to determine intellectual abilities for particular positions. However, considering drive and emotional quotients can certainly help organizations to attract people who can give their heart and soul to the task and the objective. If we are losing people despite such a high connectedness with the homeland it means there is a flaw in the overall design of our job market. Drive quotient enables and individuals not just to maximize their own performance but to develop and leverage the capabilities of others. Drive is linked with passion for progress, for achievement, for excellence and most importantly a triumph for the self and for the group. Once we are able to channelize DQ of people towards appropriate directionthey can convert every challenge into a thriving opportunity for the success of their own and those around them. James Intagliata and his colleagues further suggest, "People with high DQ push past their comfort zones and attack new challenges with relish. They are also resilient: When they experience a setback, they reset and reframe and try again. Most importantly, they continually strive to improve not just as individuals, but to amplify results at the organizational level." Our connectedness with the motherland

coupled with talent management beyond academic abilities can enable our dynamic human capital in engaging for impact, utilising their intellect to solve for the right problem, getting along with the people and making it possible to overcome every obstacle to achieve what is required for prosperous national progress.

The author is Associate Professor Management Sciences Head, Center of Islamic Finance COMSATS University (CUI) Lahore Campus

drabdussattar@cuilahore.edu.pk

## WORLD / SPORTS

### Briefs

**PM vows** to bring...

FROM PAGE 01

"This is Quaid-e-Azam's Pa-

kistan who wanted to see

it as a welfare state. This is

a direct tax, not on sugar,

iron or textile which could

be passed on (to consum-

ers). This is on the owners

of the businesses and their

income," he explained. He

said considering inflation,

the government provided

relief to the poor people

through Benazir Income

Support Program. He also

hinted at launching a pro-

gram to promote solar ener-

gy in the country. Similarly,

he said the government also

averted the crisis of edible

oil by timely importing the

commodity from Indonesia.

He told the parliamentar

ians that despite a price

hike in oil and gas, the

government was striving to

tackle the situation to meet

country's energy needs.

He said in order to ensure

low-cost power generation,

the government would im-

port high-quality coal from

Afghanistan which would

save \$2 billion in foreign ex-

change. Through a series of

meetings, the government

had formulated a mecha-

nism for transportation of

coal from Afghanistan to the

power plants through trucks

and trains, he added. The

prime minister said the gov-

ernment was also strategiz

ing to enhance indigenous

production of edible oil to

save \$4 billion. Similarly, the

enhancement of cotton and

wheat production was also

on our agenda to support

and stabilize the national

economy, he added. He said

in order to achieve the said

goals, Pakistan would seek

technical support from the

friendly countries, instead

"Begging should come to an

end. This will come to an

end. A new era will usher in.

In 14 months of our term,

we will change fate of the

country," he resolved. Sep-

arately, Prime Minister She-

hbaz Sharif on Tuesday said

the current economic sce-

nario of Pakistan required

tactical solutions to address

economic problems and

stressed rising above poli-

tics to sort out the financial

issues confronting the coun-

of seeking aid from them.

06

# Wimbledon: Iga Swiatek wins record 36th match in row

### **Govt** is preparing to rig Punjab...

Islamabad **POST** 

Wednesday, June 29, 2022

#### FROM PAGE 01

power to provide relief to

the people but to exoner-

ate themselves of billions of

corruption cases, which was

evident from pardoning of a

whooping Rs. 1,100 billion

of their corruption cases

by getting NRO-2 through

amending NAB laws. Imran

Khan said that inflation was

touching sky-high in Paki-

stan during the tenure of

the coalition government.

He recalled that IMF was

demanding to increase fuel

and electricity prices, but

his government did not

bow down to the demands

of the funds and continued

negotiations. Even IMF said

Pakistan's economy was on

the right path, he added and

asked what went wrong in

the last 2 months that every

sector is going down? He

asked the ruling coalition:

'You put so many efforts

### **SPORTS DESK**

LONDON: The 2022 Roland Garros finalists took different paths into the second round of Wimbledon on Tuesday. Reigning Roland Garros champion Iga Swiatek of Poland collected her 36th consecutive matchwin on Tuesday as she moved past Croatian qualifier Jana Fett 6-0, 6-3 in the first round of Wimbledon. Coco Gauff of the United States, the runner-up to Swiatek earlier this month in Paris, needed two-and-a-half grueling hours to overcome Elena-Gabriela Ruse of Romania 2-6, 6-3, 7-5.

Opening Centre Court play on Tuesday, World No.1 Swiatek needed 1 hour and 14 minutes to best World No.252 Fett, who was contesting just her third Grand Slam main draw. In her first match since winning Roland Garros, Swiatek was dominant in the first set, but she was heavily tested by Fett in the second set. Fett increasingly drew errors from the top seed as the match progressed, and the qualifier held five break points to take a commanding 4-1 lead in the second set. But Swiatek's powerful groundstrokes kept her in good stead overall, and she squeaked her way out of that peril before grabbing the last five games of the match. Swiatek converted six of her 10 break points on the day.

Fett is now 0-3 against Top 10 players in her

against Caroline Wozniacki in the second round of the 2018 Australian Open - an event Wozniacki would go on to win. Swiatek has now matched Monica Seles's 36-match winning streak from 1990. A se ond-round win for Swiatek would tie Martina Hingis's season-opening 37-match winning streak in 1997. Swiatek will next face Dutch lucky loser Lesley Pattinama Kerkhove, who beat British wildcard Sonay Kartal 6-4, 3-6, 6-1 to reach the second round of Wimbledon for the second time. Pattinama Kerkhove replaced Danka Kovinic in the draw due to a lower back injury. No.11 seed Gauff was pushed all the way by World No.54 Ruse in their first meeting, but the 18-year-old American, the youngest player in the draw, prevailed on Court 2. Gauff is into the Wimbledon second round for the third time in her

career. Fett famously held two match points Ruse saved 21 of the 25 break points she

70-minute 0

faced in total. However, Gauff was still able to eke out the win, firing the same amount of winners as Ruse while also hitting 30 fewer unforced errors than the Romanian. Risky, aggressive play by Ruse gave her the first set handily, but Gauff fought back to clinch the second set. In a gripping

third

set,

cord return n e r gave Gauff an early break before Ruse leveled affair

win-

again at 3-3. An enthralling 5-5 game proved decisive, where Ruse saved five break points before Gauff earned a sixth chance in that game with a stunning backhand winner down the line. A double fault by Ruse finally ceded that game to Gauff, and the American subsequently served out the match at love. Gauff will take on another Romanian in the second round: former World No.20 Mihaela Buzarnescu, who defeated last year's Junior Wimbledon finalist Nastasja Schunk 6-4, 6-2. A two-day upset was completed on Tuesday when Wang Qiang of China knocked out No.14 seed Belinda Bencic of Switzerland 6-4, 5-7, 6-2. On Monday night, Bencic incredibly came back from 5-1 down in the second set to win six straight games and level the match, forcing the remainder of the match into Tuesday.

But former World No.12 Wang would not make the same mistake twice and she eased through the decider on Tuesday. The victory marks Wang's second Top 20 win of the year, both coming at majors she upset Gauff in the first round of this year's Australian Open. Meanwhile, No.13 seed Barbora Krejcikova moved safely into Round 2, defeating Maryna Zanevska of Belgium 7-6(4), 6-3 in 1 hour and 40 minutes. Krejcikova, the 2021 Roland Garros champion from the Czech Republic, won 78 percent of her first-service points to advance

### British army to mobilize to 'prevent war' in **Europe: CGS**

new threat we face" after Russia used force to seize territory from Ukraine and "to prevent war" in Europe, the army chief said on Tuesday. Speaking at the Royal United Services Institute (RUSI), British Chief of General Staff Gen. Patrick Sanders said the country's armed forces must be prepared to prevent the spread of the land war in Europe. Sanders said

the scale of the war in Ukraine is "unprecedented," claiming that the Russian army has had 33,000 dead, wounded, missing or captured and the casualty rate for Ukrainian defenders is 200 per day. The general also pointed out that due to Russia's "deliberate targeting", 4,700 civilians were killed and 8 million refugees are on the move. "The visceral nature of a European land war

in the conspiracy against PTI but what did you give to people?" Imran Khan flayed the government for using the police against the people taking to past World No.68 Zanevska. the roads against load-shedding asking "where has the electricity gone? He said that in a democratic society, staging protest was a way to convev their grievances to the government, adding that the democracy did not function using force but morals. PTI Chairman said that the country can generate electricity as per requirement but the gov-

**News Desk** 

LONDON: The British army will mobilize "to meet the



maximum number of the slots for JDS participants in Pakistan is 17 seats for the Master's degree and one seat for the Doctoral degree. Mr. KINOSHITA

## Sweden, Finland must first address Turkey's concerns

appearances.

three

### FOREIGN DESK

ANKARA: If Sweden and Finland will be NATO members, they need to first take Turkey's concerns into consideration, President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said Tuesday. Addressing reporters in the capital Ankara ahead of his trip to the critical NATO Madrid summit where he will meet the leaders of the Nordic nations and NATO, Erdogan said that Turkey does not want empty words, but rather concrete results from these countries. "NATO membership comes with responsibilities. If Sweden and Finland are to become members of NATO, they have to take into account the security concerns of Turkey, a member of the alliance for 70 years," he said. "We will hold a quadripartite meeting (on Sweden and Finland's membership bids) and see what point they have reached. We do not want dry words, we want results. We are sick of passing the ball around in the mid-field. As of now, they are producing words," Erdogan said.

He added that Ankara expects Stockholm and Helsinki to prevent the terrorist PKK and all other offshoots from operating freely in their countries. Erdogan also stated that he spoke to United States President Joe Biden earlier in the day and added that Biden wants to meet with him on the sidelines of the NATO summit in Madrid. "We spoke with Mr.

Biden this morning and he expressed his desire to get together tonight or tomorrow. We said it was possible," he told reporters. Later in the day, the White House confirmed the planned meeting and added that leaders at the Madrid summit will also take "historic decisions to strengthen the alliance's collective defense and security." Erdogan reiterated Ankara's criticism of NATO allies, particularly the U.S., for their support of the PKK terrorist group's Syrian branch YPG. "We expect from our allies not to discriminate between NATO members. and that threat against one should be interpreted as a threat against all," the president said adding that he would explain Turkey's position to allies at the summit and in bilateral meetings.

The PKK is a designated terrorist organization in the U.S., Turkey and the European Union, and Washington's support for its Syrian affiliate has been a major strain on bilateral relations with Ankara. The U.S. primarily partnered with the YPG in northeastern Syria in its fight against the Daesh terrorist group. On the other hand, Turkey strongly opposed the YPG's pres-

of military support to the YPG, despite its NATO ally's security concerns. Underlining that one cannot support one terrorist group to defeat another, Turkey conducted its own counterterrorism operations, over the course of which it has managed to remove a significant number of terrorists from the region. Erdogan signaled over the weekend that no progress had been made in Sweden's bid to join NATO, urging Stockholm to take "concrete actions" to meet Ankara's concerns. He also said Monday after the Cabinet meeting that Turkey "will provide documents and images demonstrating our interlocutors' hypocrisy" toward groups Ankara views as terrorists. Erdogan also said he will do "whatever is necessary for our country's rights and interests" at the NATO summit in Spain. "We will tell them clearly that it is not possible to expect a different attitude from Turkey unless this picture changes," he added. Breaking with decades of a policy of neutrality, Sweden, along with Finland, formally applied to join NATO last month, a decision spurred by Russia's war on

ment, doesn't have the mon-



### provides...

ernment, due to mismanage-

ey to pay the power plants.

Commenting on Turn Around

Conference (TAC) being or-

ganized by the government to

try. Addressing the 'Turn Around Conference', he said economic self-reliance was the key to achieving the goals of development and prosperity. The event organized by Ministry of Planning Development and Special Initiatives gathered stakeholders from all walks of life with an objective to finding solutions to the country's current socio-economic issues. The prime minister said Pakistan was facing many external and internal challenges which were compounded by the existing commodity super- cycle and geo-political situation.

He said as the economic growth did not offer enough opportunities for national progress, short-term measures could act as a catalyst for speeding up the growth. He said financial self-reliance was the top most priority of the coalition government.He said focusing on the areas of agriculture, agro-based industry and exports was vital to strengthen the national economy. He stressed the need for judicious utilization of the \$2 billion tranche from the International |Monetary Fund (IMF) and pledged that every single penny would be spent prudently.

Staff-level talks with...

#### FROM PAGE 01

not difficult. The government has examples of China, Japan and South Korea, which have grown by 10% annually. He said: "We intend to provide relief to 6 million people, of which 4 million are already registered. The Prime Minister has provided a scheme for cheap petrol and food which will benefit 6 million people," he said adding that the government had made difficult decisions to strengthen Pakistan's economy.

"When we left the government, country's debt servicing stood at Rs 1,500 billion per year, which currently stands at Rs 4,000 billion and now our debt has doubled. Now Pakistan can't afford any more deficits," he said while explaining anomalies involving tax to GDP ratio which is one of the lowest in the world. He said that the government made petrol more expensive and the poor people understood the situation and sided with us.

ence in northern Svria. Ankara has long objected to the U.S.' support for the YPG, a group that poses a threat to Turkey and that terrorizes local people, destroying their homes and forcing them to flee. Under the pretext of fighting Daesh, the U.S. has provided military training and given truckloads

Ukraine that began on Feb. 24. But Turkey, a longstanding member of the alliance, has voiced objections to the membership bids, criticizing the countries for tolerating and even supporting certain terrorist groups such as the PKK, the YPG and the Gülenist Terrorist Group (FETÖ).

isn't just some manifestation of distant storm clouds on the horizon. We can see it now," Sanders added. He said: "In all my years in uniform, I haven't known such a clear threat to the principles of sovereignty and democracy and the freedom to live without fear of violence as the brutal aggression of President (Vladimir) Putin and his expansionist ambitions.



tri-series in Christchurch. New Zealand, from 7-14 October with Bangladesh as the third side. Number-three ranked Pakistan will take on number-eight ranked Bangladesh on 7 October and number-six ranked New Zealand on the following day. In the second round of matches, Pakistan will play New Zealand and Bangladesh on 11 and 13 October, respectively with the final scheduled for Friday, 14 October. In the T20 World Cup, Pakistan will open their campaign against India in Melbourne on 23 October. They will then play the two qualifiers on 27 and 30 October in Perth, before taking on South Africa on 3 November in Sydney and Bangladesh on 6 November in Adelaide. Pakistan captain Babar Azam: "I am pleased that we will be featuring in the tri-series in New Zealand as it will help us to arrive arly and not only acclimatise for the T20 World Cup in Australia but also give final touches to our preparations.

"I missed the last series in New Zealand due to a thumb injury and look forward to playing cricket in Christchurch against two good oppositions." Pakistan will depart for Christchurch on 4 October after completing their seven-match T20I series against England on 2 October. Prior to the England series, Pakistan will take part in the ACC T20 Asia Cup, which is schedule in Colombo, Sri Lanka, from 27 August to 11 September.

MINSK: Pakistani ambassador to Belarus Sajjad Haider attends the event dedicated to the Independence Day of Belarus with the participation of Foreign Minister of Belarus, Vladimir Makei. - DNA

### Syrian war killed 1.5% of its population: UN casualties in the last 10 years represents a

#### AGENCIES

GENEVA: Nearly 307,000 civilians were killed between March 1, 2011, and March 31, 2021, the highest estimate of conflict-related civilian deaths in Syria, the UN Human Rights Office said Tuesday in a new report. The Human Rights Office said its report followed rigorous assessment and statistical analysis of available data on civilian casualties and estimated that 306,887 civilians were killed in the 10-year period. "The conflict-related casualty figures in this report are not simply a set of body\_abstract numbers, but represent individual human beings," UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Michelle Bachelet said. "The impact of the killing of each of these 306,887 civilians would have had a profound, reverberating impact on the familv and community to which they belonged.' The analysis from the report will also give a clearer sense of the severity and scale of the conflict, said the UN rights chief, and does not include deaths of combatants.

The report was mandated by the UN Human Rights Council and referred to 143.350 civilian deaths that various sources with

detailed information have individually documented. These include at least their full name, date, and location of death using statistical estimation techniques of imputation and multiple systems estimation to connect the dots where there were missing information elements. Using new techniques, a further 163,537 civilian deaths were estimated to have occurred, bringing the total estimated civilian death toll to 306.887, said the UN report. "This does not include the many, many more civilians who died due to the loss of access to healthcare, to food,

### **66** To produce the report, the office used eight sources of information relating to different periods across the 10 years covered<sup>,,</sup>

to clean water, and other essential human rights, which remain to be assessed," said Bachelet The estimate of 306,887 means that, on average, every day, for the past 10 years, 83 civilians suffered violent deaths due to the conflict, said the report. The report notes that "the extent of civilian

grew more dangerous. In 2019, the Human Rights Office resumed information gathering and analysis on casualties in Syria in its global reporting on the UN Sustainable Development Goals indicator on conflict-related deaths. "Where civil society actors

undertake casualty recording, efforts...can

staggering 1.5% of the total population" of

It raises "serious concerns as to the failure

of the parties to the conflict to respect in-

ternational humanitarian law norms on the

protection of civilians," said the report. This

statistical work builds on previous efforts

to assess direct conflict-related deaths. In

2013 and 2014, the UN Human Rights Of-

fice commissioned three statistical analyses

of documented killings in Syria, but it was

discontinued as the situation in the country

Syria at the beginning of the conflict.

put the recorders themselves at risk. They also face multiple challenges in their documentation efforts, including the collapse of their usual networks of information," said the report. This is because people are on the move, displaced, or in areas where there is a general information shut-down; the limited, or lack of, access to mobile data, internet, and electricity to collect and transmit information: limitations on their movements; and surveillance, said the report. To produce the report, the office used eight sources of information relating to different periods across the 10 years covered. These include the Damascus Center for Human Rights Studies, the Center for Statistics and Research-Syria, the Syrian Network for Human Rights, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, the Violations Documentation Center, Svria Shuhada records, government records, and records of the UN Human Rights Office itself. "Unless and until the conflict ends, there is a continued risk of civilian deaths," says the report. "It is therefore critical that all states, the United Nations, and civil society use all

available means to end the conflict and sup-

port a transition to peace.'

while speaking at the event said "It is worth stating that Japan and Pakistan are celebrating 70 years of anniversary this year. We hope that IDS fellows as well as those 7,000 JICA training participants supported under Technical Cooperation Program will build broader human networks that will benefit both Pakistan and Japan in the long run. " Mr. ISHII highlighted that "JDS scholarship is expected to contribute to strengthening the administrative capacities of government of Pakistan by providing the talented government officials with the opportunity to obtain the Master and Doctor of Philosophy degree, so that they can effectively lead the social and economic development of Pakistan. I hope this project would further contribute to strengthening the friendship.

### In Afghanistan Emirate...

#### FROM PAGE 01

from November 2001 till August 2021 are carefully watching the developments. Besides others former President Hamid Karzai, Dr. Abdullah and Engineer Gulbadin Hekmatyar are amongst the leading figures, present in Kabul and exchanging views with their aides and friends on daily basis but all of them lacking trust in each others. Compare to others. Hamid Karzai is considered mot busy one amongst the leaders who on daily basis receiving diplomats, foreign visitors and delegates from all over Afghanistan.

He is considered very cordial and polite towards Taliban, always requesting the visitors to be peaceful and tolerant as Afghanistan couldn't afford more hostilities and confrontation. Despite Taliban's claims of advancement and crushing resistance in certain parts and pockets, the situation is still unfriendly in almost northern provinces of Afghanistan. However, the fate of this opposition and resistance is depending on outcomes of Rashid Dostam lead parlays taking place in Turkey. After Pakistan and Iran, Turkey becoming another major stakeholder in affairs of Afghanistan in the wake of assembling of a large number of anti-Taliban leaders.

## **N7**

## **BUSINESS / WORLD**



### **Russian** missile strike kills at least 18

### AGENCIES

KYIV: A Russian missile strike on a shopping mall in Ukraine's Kremenchuk city has killed at least 18 people and injured many others, Ukrainian officials said on Tuesday. The Monday attack on Amstor shopping mall caused a huge fire and sent dark smoke billowing into the sky, footage shared on social media showed. Ukrainian President Volody-

myrZelenskyy had said that more than 1,000 civilians were inside the mall at the time of the attack. "Unfortunately, as of now, 18 people have been killed in the Russian strike," Dmvtro-Lunin, governor of the cen-

tral Poltava region, said on Telegram, adding that 36 people are missing as rescuers continue searching through the rubble. "More than a thousand people worked all night on the ruins - rescuers, police, medics, and volunteers," he said. Meanwhile, VitaliMaletsky, the city's mayor, announced a 3-day mourning in the city. While the West has condemned the attack, Zelenskyy called it "one of the most daring terrorist attacks in European history" and that Russia has become the "largest terrorist organi-

zation in the world." Earlier, Ukraine's air force said the mall was hit by two long-range X-22 missiles fired from Tu-22M3 bombers from Shaykovka airfield in Russia's Kaluga region.

### 46 migrants found dead in Texas

### AGENCIES

TEXAS: Forty-six people were found dead in a sweltering tractor-trailer that was abandoned on a remote back road in San Antonio in what marked the latest tragedy to claim the lives of migrants smuggled across the border from Mexico to the U.S. Sixteen people were hospitalized, including four children. A city worker heard a cry for help from the truck shortly before 6 p.m. Monday and discovered the gruesome scene, Police Chief William McManus said. Hours later, body bags lay spread on the ground near the trailer as a grim symbol of the calamity. San Antonio Mayor Ron Nirenberg said the 46 who died had "families who were likely trying to find a better life." "This is nothing short of a horrific human tragedy," Nirenberg said. It's among the deadliest tragedies to have claimed thousands of lives of people attempting to cross the U.S. border from Mexico in recent decades. Ten migrants died in 2017 after being trapped inside a truck that was parked at a Walmart in San Antonio. In 2003, 19 migrants were found in a sweltering truck southeast of San Antonio. The home countries of the immigrants and how long they were abandoned on the side of the road was not immediately known.

## **Briefs** National Tourism E-portal to be launched: Ehsan Mazari

Addressing to the 11th session of Islamic Conference of Tourism Ministers in Baku, Azerbaijan, the minister said it should be a matter for collective pride that increasing number of ministers were participating in the Intra-OIC cooperation for Tourism

### DNA

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Inter-Provincial Coordination (IPC) Ehsan-ur-Rehman Mazari on Tuesday said a National Tourism E-portal was going to be launched to provide information and facilitation to foreign and domestic tourists on one click. Addressing to the 11th session of Islamic Conference of Tourism Ministers (ICTM- June 27-29) in Baku, Azerbaijan, the minister said it should be a matter for collective pride that increasing number of ministers were participating in the Intra-OIC cooperation for Tourism, said a press release issued here.

He said tourism was a mainstay of our economies and most important source of generating valuable foreign exchange, economic growth and employment in OIC Member States.

The theme of the session was Role of local communities in tourism development. He said unfortunately, there were several challenges impeding growth and development of this vital sector ranging from lack of peace and stability, weak infrastructural base, weak/nonexistent regulations and standards. The Minister said the outbreak



led to significant losses in Tourism sector in the OIC Member States including Pakistan viza-viz tourism receipts, employment in tourism sector. In post COVID scenario, owing to

immense challenges faced by nascent tourism sector of OIC Countries, there is a need to facilitate knowledge and technology transfers and offer technical assistance for capacity building in member States to increase preparedness for future shocks that could hamper course of development in Tourism due to natural calamities or armed conflicts.

of COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 The global Tourism market was

all set to be more competitive in post Covid-19 Scenario, owing to new technological advances, new health and safety regulations, hence it is imperative that OIC Member States take necessary steps that promote Tourism including "Islamic Tourism, its allied products, Services, as well as provide visa facilitations to potential travelers as enshrined in relevant resolutions of ICTM.

He said that efforts are underway to increase the Tourist Arrivals in Pakistan after the recovery from the pandemic of Covid-19 as it is an important constituent of our economy, and a key priority of our Government. The promotion of tourism among member states of OIC is very close to the heart of the Prime Minister of Pakistan, he said. Mazari while focusing on the theme of 11th session of ICTM said that, in order to strengthen the local communities to benefit from tourism industry, the subject of Tourism has been devolved to provinces through a constitutional amendment.

Today, each of the four Provinces has its own independent Tourism department. At the Federal level, Pakistan Tourism Development Corporation (PTDC) is the agency which provides strategic

vision to develop tourism sector as a national priority in a sustainable manner and in line with regional and international trends. The Minister also enlightened the participants that GoP has taken number of steps to strengthen the tourism industry in Pakistan including; Establishing a high-level National Coordination Committee on Tourism (NCCT) under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister of Pakistan to oversee the development of Tourism with a special focus on the development of required

infrastructure and framework for

Erdogan, Joe Biden discuss bilateral ties

Islamabad **POST** 

Wednesday, June 29, 2022

### FOREIGN DESK

ANKARA: Türkiye's President RecepTayyip Erdogan and his US counterpart Joe Biden held a phone conversation on Tuesday, discussing several issues, including the NATO summit in Madrid. "The call addressed regional matters and the issues concerning the Türkiye-US relations, according to a statement by Türkiye's Communications Directorate.

The two leaders also exchanged views on the NATO summit agenda, it added.

Speaking in the capital Ankara before leaving for the high-level meeting, Erdogan said: "We had a talk with Mr. (US President Joe) Biden this morning. He stated his desire to meet again this evening or tomorrow. We answered him that 'it is possible to meet again'."

Later in the day, the Turkish president will attend a four-way meeting alongside Finnish President SauliNiinisto, Swedish premier Magdalena Andersson and NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg on Nordic bids to join the 30-member military alliance.

Sweden, along with Finland, formally applied to join NATO last month, a decision spurred by Russia's war on Ukraine, which be-gan on Feb. 24. But Türkiye, a longstanding member of the alliance, has voiced objections to the membership bids, criticizing the countries for tolerating and even supporting terrorist groups. According to a White House statement, Biden "looks forward to seeing President Erdogan at the NATO Summit in Madrid where leaders will discuss the consequences of Russia's invasion of Ukraine for Transatlantic security and other threats to the Alliance such as terrorism, as well as take historic decisions to strengthen the Alliance's collective defense and security."

### 284 million used drugs worldwide in 2020



officials, diplomats, local people and members of the Pakistani community from all over Australia.

The festival showcased different varieties of Pakistani mangoes, mango products, Pakistani herbs and spices, leather products, sports goods and traditional Pakistani arts and crafts were also displayed. The visitors were served fresh Pakistani mangoes, mango shakes and juices, tea, coffee, and traditional Pakistani street food. A cake-cutting ceremony was also held which was attended by senior officials from the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), diplomats and other guests. In his remarks, High Commissioner Zahid Hafeez Chaudhri said the festival would help promote Pakistani mangoes in the Australian market. He said the High Commission was working with the local authorities to make the Pakistan Mango Festival a regular feature of Canberra's cultural scene. He also spoke about different varieties of Pakistani mangoes and the more than 4,000 years old history of growing mangoes in areas that today form Pakistan. The visitors greatly appreciated the Pakistani mangoes for their unique aroma. taste, and sweetness.

## in Europe

### **News Desk**

BRUSSELS: NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg on Tuesday urged leaders of the alliance heading to a summit in the Spanish capital Madrid to keep up their backing for Ukraine as it faces an onslaught from Russia.

"It is extremely important that we are ready to continue to provide support because Ukraine now faces a brutality which we haven't seen in Europe since the Second World War," NATO chief said ahead of the gathering in Spain. NATO allies have funneled billions of dollars of arms to Kyiv

- including increasingly heavy and longer-range weapons as it battles to hold back the Kremlin's forces.

The alliance is set to agree on an additional joint package at the summit in Madrid that will include secure communications equipment, anti-drone systems and training to help Ukraine switch to more modern Western weapons in the longer term. Ukraine's President VolodymyrZelenskyy, who is set to address NATO leaders, tweeted that he had spoken to Stoltenberg in the run-up to stress "the importance of a powerful missile defense system for Ukraine to prevent Russian terrorist attacks."

tourist facilitation. Ukraine facing brutality unseen

### Ex Nazi guard given five years in jail

BERLIN: A German court on Tuesday handed a five-year jail sentence to a 101-yearold former Nazi concentration camp guard, the oldest person so far to go on trial for complicity in war crimes during the Holocaust. Josef Schuetz was found guilty of being an accessory to murder in at least 3,500 cases while working as a prison guard at the Sachsenhausen camp in Oranienburg, north of Berlin, between 1942 and 1945.

He is highly unlikely to be put behind bars given his age. The pensioner, who now lives in Brandenburg state, had pleaded innocent, saying he did "absolutely nothing" and had not even worked at the camp.

"I don't know why I am here," he said at the close of his trial on Monday.

But presiding judge Udo Lechtermann said he was convinced Schuetz had worked at Sachsenhausen and had "supported" the atrocities committed there. "For three years, you watched prisoners being tortured and killed before your eyes," Lechtermann said. - APP



### DNA

CANBERRA: Pakistan High Commission in Canberra or-

Russia bans Biden's

wife, daughter

FOREIGN DESK

MOSCOW: Russia on Tuesday blacklisted 25 more US citi-

zens, including Jill and Ashley Biden, the wife and daughter

of US President Joe Biden. The restrictive measures are

imposed in response to constantly expanding US sanctions

against Russian political and public figures, the Foreign

Ministry said in a statement. The rest of the banned people

take part in the work of the so-called Yermak-McFaul group

- an international group headed by AndriyYermak, chief of

Ukraine's presidential office, and Michael McFaul, former

US ambassador to Russia, which develops recommendations

on anti-Russian restrictions. Currently, the list of US citizens

banned from entering Russia permanently includes 1,048

names. In a separate statement, the ministry said it sum-

moned Swedish Charge d'Affaires Johannes Danielsson and

told him that the activities of the Swedish Institute and Swed-

ish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) in

Russia are "undesirable" and must be immediately stopped.

ganized the first-ever Pakistan Mango Festival as part of the celebrations marking 75 years of independence of Pakistan and also the es-

tablishment of diplomatic relations between Pakistan and Australia. The festival was attended by over 5,000 people including Australian

### Chlorine gas leak kills 13 in Jordan port

AQABA: Thirteen people were killed, including at least four Asian migrants, when toxic chlorine gas escaped on the dockside in the Jordanian Red Sea port of Aqaba, officials said. More than 250 people were injured in the accident on Monday, of whom about 100 remained in hospital, according to the latest updates.

Most were being treated for the effects of breathing chlorine gas, a common cleaning agent that also has a range of other industrial uses and can be employed as a chemical weapons agent. "All of the injured are suffering from similar symptoms, shortness of breath, a heavy cough and vertigo." said DrRoubaAaamawi of the Islamic Hospital in Aqaba which was treating 70 people, some on respirators. Assadallah al-Jazi, a 25-year-old fertiliser company employee, was among those hurt. - APP

### WEB DESK

NEW YORK: An estimated 284 million people between the age of 15 and 24 used drugs worldwide in 2020, a 26% increase over the previous decade, said a UN report released on Monday. The UN Office on Drugs and Crime's (UNODC) report, titled World Drug Report 2022, pointed out that "young people are using more drugs, with use levels today in many countries higher than with the previous generation."

The report noted that the number of people suffering from various ailments due to drug use has increased to 38.6 million in the last 10 years. According to the research, cannabis is the most widely used drug in the world, with 209 million people using it in 2020. Cannabis consumption has surged by 23% in the last decade, the report said.

"Cannabis legalization in parts of the world appears to have accelerated daily use and related health impacts," it added. As around 61 million people are addicted to synthetic drugs called approximately "opioids." 34 million people used amphetamine-type substances and about 20 million people used ecstasy and 21 million used cocaine in 2020.

While over 11 million people worldwide were injecting drugs, "around half of this number was living with hepatitis C, 1.4 million were living with HIV, and 1.2 million were living with both,' according to the report.

People who inject or use drugs are 35 times more likely to contract HIV than the general population, the report said. There was a noticeable increase in the number of people who lost their lives due to drug use in 2020, and the rate of those who died as a result of substance abuse increased by 17.5% between 2009 and 2019, it added.

In 2019, 494,000 people lost their lives due to drugs, with the number of people dving as a result of synthetic drug use reaching the highest levels, particularly in the US and Canada. Opioids and similar substances cost the lives of 93,000 people in the US between 2019 and 2020. The report said that Afghanistan, Myanmar, and Mexico produce 95% of the world's opium.

## Moody's says Russia defaulted on debt

Moody's warned that more defaults "are likely". Moody's released an "issuer comment" instead of a formal default declaration, as sanctions bar credit ratings agencies from covering Russia's sovereign debt

PARIS: Moody's ratings agency has confirmed that Russia defaulted on its foreign debt for the first time in a century, after bond holders did not receive \$100 million in interest payments. The historic default follows a series of unprecedented Western sanctions that have increasingly isolated Russia from the global financial system following its invasion of Ukraine.

Russia lost the last avenue to service its foreign-currency loans after the United States removed an exemption last month that allowed US investors to receive

Moscow's payments. "On 27 June, holders of Russia's sovereign debt had not received coupon payments on two eurobonds worth \$100 million by the time the 30-calendar-day grace period expired, which we consider an event of default under our definition," Moody's said. Moscow said on Monday there

were "no grounds to call this situation a default", as the payments had not reached creditors due to the "the actions of third parties". The Russian authorities insist they have the funds to honour the country's debt, calling the predicament a "farce" and accusing the West of pushing an "artificial" default. Moody's warned that more defaults "are likely". Moody's released an "issuer comment" instead of a formal default declaration, as sanctions bar credit ratings agencies from covering Russia's sovereign debt.

The sanctions have included freezing the Russian government's stockpile of \$300 billion in foreign currency reserves held abroad, making it more complicated for Moscow to settle its foreign debts. After the United States closed the last payment

loophole last month, Russia said it would pay debt in rubles that could be converted into foreign currency, using a Russian financial institution as a paying agent. But Moody's said it "would likely treat payments in rubles as a default for bonds that do not allow for such redenomination in the contractual terms".

Noting that Moody's no longer covers Russia, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said: "Does this mean that Moody's restarted the ratings process? The agency must surely explain itself." The country last defaulted on its

foreign debt in 1918, when Bolshevik revolution leader Vladimir Ilich Lenin refused to recognise the massive debts of the deposed tsar's regime. Russia defaulted on domestic debt in 1998 when, due to a drop in commodity prices, it faced a financial squeeze that prevented it from propping up the ruble and paying off debts that accumulated during the first war in Chechnya. The International Monetary Fund's number two official, Gita Gopinath, said in March that a Russian default would have "limited" impact on the global financial system. – APP



ISLAMABAD: FS, Sohail Mahmood received Turkiye Ambassador-designate Mehmet Pacaci. - DNA



## samahar POST WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29, 2022 | WWW.ISLAMABADPOST.COM.PK



### **Briefs** 299,911 Hajj pilgrims arrive in Madinah

### DNA

ISLAMABAD: A total of 299,911 pilgrims from several nationalities have ar rived in Madinah, through air and land crossings to perform this year's Hajj, Saudi Press Agency report ed on Tuesday.

Statistics on arriving and departing pilgrims in Madinah, issued by the Saudi Arabia's Ministry of Hajj and Umrah, showed that 241,859 pilgrims have arrived through the Prince Mohammad Bin Abdulaziz International Airport in Madinah since receiving the first Hajj flights, while the land immigration centre received 45,824 pilgrims who arrived in Madinah through land border crossings.

The statistics also revealed the nationalities of pilgrims staying in Madinah, showing that Bangladeshi pilgrims are the top residents of Madinah with 12,901, followed by Nigerians with 10,216, Indians with 8,350, Pakistanis with 6,954 and Iranians with 6,494 pilgrims. Moreover, statistics also showed that 205,049 pilgrims left Madinah over the past few days on their way to the Holy Sites in Makkah, where the number of pilgrims staying in Madinah until yesterday totaled 94,837 pilgrims belonging to various nationalities.

### Ch Shujaat rebuffs PML-N's claim

### DNA

LAHORE: Pakistan Muslim League - Quaid (PML-Q) chief Chaudhry Shujaat Hussain Tuesday rejected Pakistan Muslim League-

## **CEO Serena Hotels fetes** outgoing Swiss, Jordan envoys

Boolani admired Ambassador Benedict's love for Pakistan and people of Pakistan. He especially praised the way the ambassador had project the positive image of Pakistan, through his writings and the social media tools



ISLAMABAD: CEO Serena Hotels Aziz Boolani presents a gift to the outgoing Ambassador of Switzerland Benedict Cerjat while Mrs. Boolani looks on. - DNA

### SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

ISLAMABAD: CEO Serena Hotels South and East Asia Aziz Boolani hosted a reception for the outgoing Ambassador of Switzerland Benedict Cerjat and Deputy Head of Mission Jordan Dr. Maen.



### DNA

WASHINGTON: The conservative-majority U.S. Supreme Court has chipped away at the wall separating church and state in a series of new rulings, eroding American legal traditions intended to prevent government officials from promoting any particular faith. In three decisions in the past eight weeks, the court has ruled against government officials whose policies and actions were taken to avoid violating the U.S. Constitution's First Amendment prohibition on governmental endorsement of religion - known as the "establishment clause.

While talking about the Ambassador of Switzerland Aziz Boolani said that the outgoing diplomat had contributed greatly towards promotion of bilateral relations between Pakistan and Switzerland. Boolani admired Ambassador Benedict's love for Pakistan and people of Pakistan. He especially praised the way the ambassador had project the positive im-

### The court's conservative justices, who hold a 6-3 majority, in particular have taken a broad view of religious rights

The court on Monday backed a Washington state public high school football coach who was suspended by a local school district for refusing to stop leading Christian prayers with players on the field after games. On June 21, it endorsed taxpayer money paying for students to attend religious schools under a Maine tuition assistance program in rural areas lacking nearby public high schools. On May 2, it ruled in favor of a Christian group that sought to fly a flag emblazoned with a cross at Boston city hall under a program aimed at promoting diversity and tolerance among the city's different communities.

The court's conservative justices, who hold a 6-3 majority, in

ISLAMABAD: Mrs. Viqar Boolani presents bouquet to the outgoing DHM Jordan Embassy Dr Maen while Aziz Boolani looks on. - DNA

age of Pakistan, through his writings and the social media tools. Ambassador Benedict in his speech thanked Aziz Boolani for hosting him and providing him with a chance of meeting with his friends. He said back home he was considered as the Ambassador of Pakistan. "One day when I was visiting my headquarters, I came across my boss who abruptly

asked me, are you Pakistan's ambassador or Switzerland ambassador". Dr. Maen, the outgoing DHM of Jordan, also thanked the hosts for arranging the luncheon. He said it was a great experience while working in Pakistan adding he had found Pakistani people cordial and loving. The host later presented souvenirs to the outgoing envoys.

### **IRGC chief stresses Iran and Pakistan** integrated security

TEHRAN: Chief Commander of IRGC Brigadier General Hossein Salami in a meeting with Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee of Pakistan General Nadeem Raza on Tuesday emphasized the integrated security of Iran and Pakistan. Major General Salami met and held talks with General Raza in Tehran on Tuesday. Emphasizing the integrated security of Iran and Pakistan, Major General Salami stressed the need for closer cooperation between Tehran and Islamabad in all fields, especially in protecting the security of the common border and fighting against terrorism. He slammed the Zionist regime as the enemy of the Islamic world and humanity. The IRGC commander warned regional rulers of the bitter consequences of normalization of ties with the "child-killing Zionists", saying the US, the main supporter of the Israeli regime, is basically the foe of Islam. The question is that while the Zionist regime cannot even defend itself and is a regime completely without any policy, how would certain Islamic countries rely on it to provide their security or safeguard their economy? There is no logic behind it, Major General Salami underscored. He further noted that the awful consequences of the presence of US forces in the Islamic world, including the great seditions, long civil wars, destruction of houses, displacement of people, insecurity, poverty, and underdevelopment. - DNA

### Rupee gains Rs 1.07 against dollar

ISLAMABAD: Exchange rate of the Pakistan rupee appreciated by Rs 1.07 against the US dollar in the interbank trading on Tuesday and closed at Rs 206.87 against the previous day's closing of Rs 207.94. According to the Forex Association of Pakistan (FAP), the buving and selling rates of dollars in the open market were recorded at Rs 206.5 and Rs

Nawaz's (PML-N) claim to support Hamza Shehbaz as Punjab Chief Minister.

Chaudhry Shujaat went on to say that Chaudhry Pervaiz Elahi is his party's candidate for Punjab Chief Minister. PML-Q supremo said that the party members will vote for Chaudhry Pervaiz Elahi, adding that no attempt should be made to mislead any of the party's MPAs by spreading false rumors. Chaudhry Shujaat said

that PML-Q members of Punjab Assembly have always adhered to party discipline, adding that they will support Chaudhry Pervaiz Elahi. PML-Q chief said: "I have never mis represented, I have always taught clarity".

India blocks Radio Pakistan's twitter account

### DNA

ISLAMABAD: Radio Pakistan twitter account has been blocked in India, denying access to information and restricting democratic freedom of expression. The social media handle of Pakistan's state broadcaster has been withheld mainly for highlighting grave human rights violations in the Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir.

Expressing concern over the blocking of the twitter account, Radio Pakistan Spokesperson Chaudhry Zameer Ashraf said Radio Pakistan always upholds objectivity in its news stories, strictly abiding by international journalistic norms.

He urged Twitter to immediately restore access to Radio Pakistan twitter account in India to ensure freedom of speech and access to information. Earlier, Foreign Office Spokesperson Asim Iftikhar expressed serious concern over India's blocking of official accounts of Pakistan embassies in the United Nations, Turkey, Iran. Egypt and others.

In a statement, he said diminishing space for plurality of voices and access to information in India is extremely alarming. He said social media platforms must abide by applicable international norms.

particular have taken a broad view of religious rights. They also delivered a decision on Friday that was hailed by religious conservatives - overturning the 1973 Roe v. Wade ruling that legalized abortion nationwide - though that case did not involve the establishment clause. Cornell Law School professor Michael Dorf said the court's majority appears skeptical of government decision-making premised on secularism.



**ISLAMABAD:** The Ambassador designate of Turkiye Mehmet Pacaci presented his copies of credentials to Ali Haider Altaf Director General of Protocol, Ministry of Foreign Affairs. - DNA

### **Qatar welcomes hosting US-Iran nuclear talks**

The Qatar-hosted discussions came days following a visit by EU Foreign Policy Chief Josep Borrell to Tehran and his talks with Iranian officials

#### WEB DESK

DOHA: Qatar on Tuesday welcomed hosting EU-mediated indirect talks between the US and Iran amid efforts to revive the 2015 nuclear deal.

In a statement, the Qatari Foreign Ministry affirmed "full readiness to provide an atmosphere that would help all parties make the talks a success," voicing hope that the talks will conclude with positive results. Earlier on Tuesday, US Special Envoy to Iran Robert Malley met with Qatari Foreign Minister Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al-Thani in Doha. The meeting focused on "the strong partnership and our joint diplomatic efforts to address issues with Iran," the US Embassy in

the Qatari capital said on Twitter. Also, Iran's chief nuclear negotiator Ali Bagheri arrived in Doha for the indirect talks with the US, in an effort to break a three-month deadlock in the Vienna nuclear talks.

The Qatar-hosted discussions came days following a visit by EU Foreign Policy Chief Josep Borrell to Tehran and his talks with Iranian officials. Last month, Qatari Emir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani visited Tehran and held wide-ranging talks with Iran's President Ebrahim Raisi.

The visit fueled speculation about the Qatari ruler's mediation efforts to break the stalemate in the Vienna talks and unfreeze Iran's frozen assets abroad. The key disagreements between the US and Iran that have led to the stalemate include the de-listing of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC)-linked organizations and guarantees that the future US administration will not walk out of the deal again. Former US President Donald Trump pulled his country out of the landmark deal in May 2018, which was followed by the reinstatement of sanctions on Iran under the "maximum pressure" campaign.

208.75 respectively. Similarly, the price of the euro was depreciated by Rs 1.02 and closed at Rs 219.03 against the previous day's closing of Rs 220.05. The Japanese Yen lost two paisas to close at Rs1.52, whereas a decrease of Rs 2.13 was witnessed in the exchange rate of the British Pound, which was traded at Rs 253.99 as compared to its last closing of Rs 256.12. The exchange rates of Emirates Dirham and Saudi Riyal decreased by 29 paisas to close at Rs 56.32 and Rs 55.11 respectively. - DNA

DINOVALLEY 10 minutes Drive from The Monal Islamaba

### Pakistan's First Ever **Dinosaur Themed Park**



Published by Ansar Mahmood Bhatti, Printed at Rohani Art Press, Islamabad Ph: 051-2266165, Email: newsroomisbpost@gmail.com