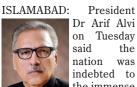
Soon From LAHORE & KARACHI A sister publication of **CENTRELINE & DNA News** Agency www.islamabadpost.com.pk **ISLAMABAD EDITION** Samahar Wednesday, July 06, 2022 **Pakistan's Credible Daily Newspaper** Price Rs. 20 Shehroze youngest Syria, FPCCI **Russia plans** agree to develop mountaineer to to continue summit Nanga Parbat its 'operation' strong ties **Detailed News On Page-07 Detailed News On Page-06 Detailed News On Page-04** 

# **Briefs Alvi pays** tribute to Kargil hero

STAFF REPORT



the immense

the

sacrifices rendered by the martyred soldiers for the sovereignty of their motherland. In a message on the 23rd martyrdom anniversary of Captain Karnal Sher Khan - the recipient of the highest gallantry award Nishan-e-Haider, the president paid tribute to his valour and bravery. President Alvi said the sacrifice of Captain Karnal Sher Khan and other martyrs would always be remembered.

## Committed to protect poorest: PM

### DNA

ISLAMABAD: Prime Min-Sheh ister Sharif baz has said protecting the poorest from the effects of difficult economic condition has been the

priority of present gov-

Committee to hold talks with the TTP

Army Chief Gen Bajwa answers questions of the parliamentarians

### SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

ISLAMABAD: Military leadership on Tuesday briefed the participants of the Parliamentary Committee on National Security (PCNS) on the ongoing talks with the banned Tehreek-e-Taliban (TTP), media reported, quoting sources. The meeting decided to constitute a steering committee for the talks with the TTP, which will include representatives

from the civil and military leadership. According to a statement issued in this regard, an important meeting of the Parliamentary Committee on National Security was held at Parliament House on Tuesday under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif which included members of the Standing Committees, Federal Ministers, Provincial Chief Ministers, Gilgit, besides the National Parliamentary and Political Leadership. The Chief Minister of Baltistan, the Prime Minister of the independent state of Jammu and Kashmir and the military leadership participated. The meeting was briefed about national security issues and recent talks with the banned TTP. The participants reiterated that Pakistan has made remarkable achievements against terrorism and extremism which have been recognized globally. The meeting paid tribute to the sacrifices made by the nation and the security forces, which ensured the functioning of the state in all parts of the country. The meeting reiterated that the use of force is the sole prerogative of the state under the Constitution of Pakistan.

Neighbouring country involved in KU attack

### NAZIR SIYAL

KARACHI: Two banned outfits - the Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA) and the Balochistan Liberation Front (BLF) - and "neighbouring country" were involved in Karachi University suicide attack that killed four people including three Chinese nationals, Sindh Information Minister Sharjeel Memon said on Tuesday. In April this year, four people - three Chinese teachers and a Pakistani man - were killed in the attack by a female suicide bomber identified as Shari Baloch outside the Chinese language centre inside the Karachi University. "With the efforts of CTD [Counter Terrorism Department] and intelligence team, the main accused has been arrested. This was done with the help of a neighbouring country, which has been supporting the terrorist groups in several ways," Memon said. He announced this while addressing a press conference along with Karachi Administrator Barrister Murtafa Wahab in Karachi. The presser was held following a meeting between the Chinese delegation and Sindh Chief Minister Murad Ali

Continued on Page 06



ISLAMABAD: Italian Ambassador Andreas Ferrarese calls on Chairman Senate, Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani at the Parliament House. - DNA

### Palestine rejects US stance on journalist killing All reports suggest that the Israeli forces intentionally kill Akleh

DNA RAMALLAH: The State of Palestine has rejected the United States' dismissal of the Israeli occupying forc-

# **Pakistan wants** strong ties with **Italy:** Sanjrani

Italian Ambassador Andreas Ferrarese appreciates Pak role in regional stability

### **MAHNOOR ANSAR**

ISLAMABAD: Italian Ambassador Andreas Ferrarese called on Chairman Senate, Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani at Parliament House on Tuesday. The overall regional situation and matters of mutual interest

were discussed during the meeting.

enhance trade and economic relations.

ble in Pakistan. The Chairman Senate said that Pakistan attaches special importance to its relations with Italy and is keen to improve relations with Italy in various fields including economic cooperation.

The Chairman Senate underlined that international cooperation was essential mitigate the of the Covid-19 Pandemic. The Chairman Senate said that cordial re-The Italian Ambassador appreciated Pakilations have been established between the stan's role in regional stability and assured two countries and there is need to further that he would play active role in further enhancing diplomatic cooperation with Pa-Sadio Sanirani was of the view that Italian kistan. The Italian Ambassador appreciated the efforts of the Pakistani government to companies should take advantage of the investment and business opportunities availadeal with Covid situation.

ernment from day one. In a tweet on Tuesday, he welcomed Punjab Chief Minister Hamza Shehbaz's announcement of providing free electricity to the households using up to one hundred units per month. He expressed the commitment to extend more facilities to the people with improvement in economic situation.

## July 5 blackest day in history

#### SAIFULLAH

**ISLAMABAD:** Foreign Ministen and Paki Peo stan ple's Party (PPP) chairman Bilawa

Bhutto Zardari Tuesday termed July 5, 1977 the blackest day in the national history, stating: "About 45 years ago, the government of the first elected prime minister of Pakistan Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto collapsed at the hands of the history's worst dictator on this day." "The dictatorial reign of General Ziaul Haq is the mother of extremism and the Kalashnikov and heroin culture in Pakistan," the PPP chairman said in a tweet.



KPRM hands over equipment to KPRA – Page 02

Quality education imperative for prosperity: President – Page 03

FPCCI, Syria agree to develop strong ties – Page 04

Economy measures - Earning by Saving - Page 05

Pakistan's embassy holds mango festival in Ankara – Page 06

NATO signs accession protocols for Sweden, Finland – Page 07

Terrorist attacks against policemen in KP increasing - Page 08 **Continued on Page 06** 

# Pak, Turkey agree to boost defence ties



Imran warns to lay bare

everything if sidelined

- Says US was unhappy with the

STAFF REPORT

RAWALPINDI: Commander Turkish Land Forces General Musa Avsever called on Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Qamar Javed Bajwa at General Headquaerts (GHQ) in Rawalpindi on Tuesday and hold delegation-level talks. According to Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), matters of mutual and professional interests with special emphasis on defence and security collaboration between the two brotherly countries

were discussed during the meeting.

The COAS said that Pakistan highly values its brotherly relations with Turkey which are deeply rooted in history and entrenched in the cultural and religious affinities. Both sides agreed to further optimize military to military ties particularly in training and counter-terrorism domains. The visiting dignitary acknowledged the professionalism of Pakistan Armed Forces and vowed to enhance cooperation in various fields. He also pledged to play his role for further improvements in diplomatic cooperation with Pakistan at all levels.

Fawad pens letter to

SC against Hamza

KHAYAM ABBASI

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf

(PTI) Senior Central Vice President

es' intentional targeting of Palestinian journalists on 11 May 2022, which resulted in the killing of Shireen Abu Akleh and injury of Ali Sammoudi, as mere "tragic circumstances" and not an intentional war crime.

The context in which the crime took place as well as forensic examination of the General Prosecutor of the State of Palestine and several independent reports concluded that the Israeli occupation soldiers intentionally targeted Shireen Abu Akleh along with other journalists.

**Continued on Page 06** ECP summons Punjab CM

ISLAMABAD: The Elec-

tion Commission of Pakistan (ECP) has served notice on Punjab Chief Minister Hamza Shehbaz to appear on Thursday to explain why he should not be proceeded against for violating the code of conduct. According to press release, the chief minister came under the scanner of the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) after he announced free electricity for households consuming up to 100 units, from July. As per details, the ECP had

Continued on Page 06

# **JULY 2022**

Pakistan's Premier News & **Diplomatic Affairs Magazine** 

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## Suspect arrested over July 4 US shooting Robert E Crimo III, 22, was detained after a brief chase, police said. The gunman climbed on to a roof, shooting randomly at spectators using a high-powered rifle

### **News Desk**

WASHINGTON: US police have arrested a suspect after six people were killed in a shooting attack on an Independence Day parade in Highland Park, Illinois.

Robert E Crimo III, 22, was detained after a brief chase, police said. The gunman climbed on to a roof, shooting randomly at spectators using a high-powered rifle.

It is the latest mass shooting to hit the US - there has been one in every week of 2022. President Joe Biden said he was "shocked" by the violence. Mr Crimo was detained after a manhunt. He was referred to as a "person of interest" in Monday's shooting, but after his arrest police said they believed he was responsible. The gunman began firing at members of the public from the rooftop of a shop at around 10:15 local time (15:15 GMT), just a few minutes after the parade began.

What should have been a day of celebration quickly turned to panic, with pushchairs, purses and lawn chairs abandoned as crowds fled from the scene. Some witnesses said they thought the sound of gunfire was fireworks or a car backfiring.

One man, who was having breakfast at a nearby Starbucks when the shooting happened, told that 30 people came running into the coffee shop looking for cover. But they all had to be evacuated because they thought the gunman was trying to get in through the back door.

Speaking at a press conference, Lake County Major Crime Task Force spokesman Chris Covelli said multiple firearms belonging to Mr Crimo were recovered all purchased in the local area.





Fawad Chaudhry wrote a letter to Suundisclosed video about the local abettors of preme Court (SC) against Chief Ministhe regime change if he is pushed to the wall. ter Punjab Hamza Shehbaz for tram-He referred to a 'secret video' regarding pling the court's orders and election which he had initially revealed after there code of conduct by announcing a mega were reports of threats to his life after his relief package ahead of by-polls in the government was toppled. According to Im- province. In a letter to the apex court, ran Khan, he has named all local abettors Fawad said that fake Punjab Chief in the video which would be released in Minister Hamza announced the packcase if something happens to him. age few days before the by-polls in 20

He was addressing the people via a live tele- constituencies in attempt to influence cast from his residence Bani Gala. PTI chair- the by-elections. Fawad said that the man said the current rulers will not refrain SC formulated a formula to save Punfrom accepting Israel if they have to protect jab from constitutional complications its interests, adding the current rulers have and crisis and to ensure clean, transnothing to do with the ideology of Pakistan parent and free by-elections in Punjab. as their only ideology was money, for which, He said that Interim Chief Minister

**Continued on Page 06** 

**Continued on Page 06** 

# $\mathbf{02}$

# NATIONAL

# **KPRM** hands over equipment to KPRA

The equipment will help KPRA to provide quick and more efficient response to taxpayers' queries and will connect the taxpayers to right officers related to their issues

### SHAMIM SHAHID

PESHAWAR: To facilitate taxpayers and support Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Revenue Authority (KPRA) in its strategy of digital transformation, the USAID-funded Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Revenue Mobilization Activity on Tuesday handed over equipment to the Authority. The Director-General KPRA Capt. (Rtd.) Shahbaz Tahir Nadeem formally received the equip-

ment including call center setup, video conferencing, e-hearing system, furniture, laptops, and ACs from the USAID-KPRM in a ceremony held at the KPRA head office Peshawar. Speaking at the occasion, Director General KPRA Capt. (Rtd.) Shahbaz Tahir Nadeem thanked the USAID-KPRM team for assisting KPRA in its steps taken for the taxpayers' facilitation and strengthening of the Authority. "The equipment will help KPRA to provide quick and more efficient response to

taxpayers' queries and will connect the taxpayers to right officers related to their issues," he said, adding that they hope that USAID-KPRM will continue its support with the KPRA for taxpayers' facilitation and tax acculturation in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

USAID's KPRM activity chief Temur Ahmad said that they will continue to provide support to KPRA for its strengthening and also discussed training arrangements for the KPRA staff in audit and other fields.

# Government of KP decides to conduct fresh environmental profiling

The meeting also approved the Rules of Procedure of Councils with necessary changes and constitution of various committees under the council

PESHAWAR: The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Environmental Protection Council has decided to conduct fresh environmental profiling of the province and to introduce Zig Zag technology in the brick-kilns in order to control environmental pollution. The decision was taken during the first meeting of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Environmental Protection Council held here on Tuesday with Chief Minister Mahmood Khan in the chair.

The meeting also approved the Rules of Procedure of Councils with necessary changes and constitution of various committees under the council. Provincial cabinet members Ishtiaq Urmar, Barrister Muhammad Ali Saif, administrative secretaries of concerned departments, non-official members of the council and other relevant officials attended the meeting.

The forum was briefed in detail about the constitution of council, its powers, responsibilities and other related matters. The forum unanimously agreed to the proposal regarding use of latest equipment for the monitoring of water and air pollution as well as to install automatic sensors to monitor the pollution of industrial units or activities. It was also agreed in the meeting to install

concerned quarters to complete homework to this end. Briefing about the actions so far taken by the department, the forum was informed that Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Climate Change Policy and Action Plan 2022 have been prepared and would soon be presented before the provincial cabinet for approval. Similarly, necessary amendments have also been proposed in the Environmental Protection Act 2014 aimed at to effectively control the Environmental Pollution whereas an additional clause has been included in the Act to impose a ban on the use of plastic bags. The chief minister has directed all the rel evant departments and institutions to have an effective coordination mechanism to eliminate the environmental pollution and said that all the departments would have to fulfill their respective responsibilities well in time for the purpose. He further directed them to ensure strict implementation of the relevant rules and regulations and to keep a vigilant eye on the industrial units causing environmental pollution adding that the power regarding cancelation of NoCs of such industrial units would be assigned to the Environmental Protection Agency.

He also directed the quarters concerned to

Sher Khan Shaheed's martyrdom anniversary observed

### DNA

ISLAMABAD: The 23rd martyrdom anniversary of Captain Colonel Sher Khan Shaheed recipient of Nishan-e-Haider was observed at his mausoleum in his native town of Swabi in a solemn ceremony. Inspector General of Frontier Corps (IG FC) Major General Adil Yameen laid a wreath at the shrine of the martyr and a smartly turned out contingent of the Pakistan Army presented a guard of honor on the occasion, said an Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR) media release. A heartfelt tribute was paid to Captain Colonel Sher Khan Shaheed at the ceremony which was attended by people from all walks of life, it said. The civil and military officials and the martyr's family also attended the ceremony, it added. President Dr Arif Alvi and Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif also paid tribute to



ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Kyrgyz Republic to Pakistan Totuiaev Ulanbek Asankulovich called on the Federal Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training Rana Tanveer Hussain in his office. - DNA

# VC KMU calls on CM Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

#### **OUR CORRESPONDENT**

PESHAWAR: Vice-chancellor Prof. Dr. Zia ul Haq called on Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Mahmood Khan. During the meeting, he thanked the Chief Minister and the provincial government for including four development schemes worth Rs. 7481.707 million for KMU in the annual development program. On the occasion, the vice-chancellor of KMU Prof. Dr. Zia ul Haq briefed the Chief Minister in detail about the performance and progress of KMU and various academic and research activities under the University.

Prof. Dr. Zia ul Haq informed the Chief Minister that the excellent services rendered by the KMU Public Health Reference Lab during the Corona pandemic through timely measures resulted in less loss of life and property in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa than in other provinces. He said that more than 1.8 million tests have been

conducted in PHRL so far, while KMU has opened new campuses in most of the districts of the province in the last two years with 200 institutes and 50,000 students thus becoming the largest university of the province. He apprised the Chief Minister that the university has presented a surplus budget for the last several years due to excellent financial discipline and control of additional expenses.

Prof. Dr. Zia ul Haq briefed the Chief Minister about his recent visit to Kabul and said that the Afghan government has expressed special interest in opening a campus in Kabul in collaboration with KMU and Insha-Allah, the KMU International Campus will be launched soon. He welcomed the decision of the Chief Minister to set up medical colleges in Charsadda, Buner, Timergara, Mansehra, and Karak and reiterated all possible cooperation and guidance with the Health Department in this regard.

Meanwhile, Prof. Dr. Zia ul Haq,

Shazia Import, export and trade deficit, with **Marri terms July 5 as** darkest dav

Vice-Chancellor, KMU expressed special thanks to the Chief Minister for including four developmental schemes worth Rs. 7481.707 million for the establishment of the Institute of Medical Sciences, Kohat, KMU Stroke and Rehabilitation Center, Swat, Bone Marrow Transplant Center Peshawar, and KMU Institute of Health Sciences Matta Swat. He hoped that the completion of these projects would not only help KMU to stand on its own feet but it will also help the general public to get the best medical treatment and medical research facilities at their doorstep.

Islamabad **POST** 

Wednesday, July 06, 2022

Finally, he formally invited the Chief Minister to inaugurate four new laboratories, Academic and Administration Block, Hayatabad, Peshawar, and the newly established Institute of Health Sciences at Mardan, Kohat, and Para Chinar campuses. The Chief Minister thanked him and directed his staff to make necessary arrangements for the inaugurations of the said projects after the Eid ul Azha holidavs.

make the Building Control Authority opera-Water Recycling Plants in the industrial Captain Karnal Sher Khan for his valour and bravery. zones and the Chief Minister directed the tional as soon as possible. - APP



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Finance Miftah Ismail held a meeting with Finance Minister of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Taimur Saleem Khan Jhagra. The meeting discussed budgetary and financial issues related to KP government. - DNA

## in Pakistan history

DNA

#### KARACHI: Federal Minister and Central Information Secretary of Pakistan Peoples Party Parliamentarian, Shazia Atta Marri has termed July 5, 1977 as the most shameful and darkest day in the history of Pakistan. She said that July 5, 1977 is the darkest day in the history of Pakistan whose devastating effects have caused irreparable damage to Pakistan. Shazia Marri added that on this day, the worst dictator Zia-ul-Haq ousted the first democratically elected Prime Minister of Pakistan Quaid-e-Awam Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto and he altered Pakistan's political fabric by overthrowing and arresting ruling PM but he couldn't remove the Shaheed Bhutto's thoughts and ideology from the hearts and minds of peoples.

## China discussed 'I am grateful to the PCJCCI for conducting a meeting before my visit to China'

LAHORE: Pakistan's Commercial Counselor designate to Beijing (China) Ghulam Qadir met office-bearers of the Pakistan-China Joint Chambers of Commerce and Industry (PCICCI) here on Tuesday and discussed issues of trade deficit and the means to enhance imports and exports between the two countries. The meeting was attended by PCJCCI President Wang Zihai, Senior Vice President Ehsan Chaudhry, Vice President Sarfaraz Butt, Secretary General Salahuddin Hanif and executive committee members - SM Naveed, Daud Ahmed, Khalid Raffique Chaudhry, Ashraf Rana, Zaki Aijaz, Muhammad Idrees and Jahangir Ahmed.

Ghulam Qadir said that importers and exporters both were important when it comes to trade. "We should come forward to implement a mechanism to enhance foreign direct investment (FDI) because the GDP of Pakistan is low, the inflation rate is increasing day by day, and exports have decreased. We need to diversify the main origins of FDI inflows with better economic diplomacy," he suggested He said, "I am grateful to the PCJCCI for conducting a meeting before my visit to China. I will definitely address the queries of our business community and try to resolve them."

SVP Ehsan Chaudhry suggested establishing 'Buying House' in Pakistan to increase imports and exports and provide maximum facilities to the business community. The Pakistan government should establish sourcing parks or buying houses and ensure all amenities through a single-window facility, to make the country an attractive destination for sourcing by the international buyers. "In this way we can develop a long term quality oriented trade relations with China, Middle East and other countries," he added.

Wang Zihai, President PCJCCI, also joined the meeting through video-link and called for taking steps to attract Chinese investment in various potential industrial sectors including furniture, handicrafts, textile, fertilizers, cement, glass-work, energy and pharmaceuticals. He added that the Chinese government had also allocated buying houses for Pakistan in China where they can present their products. - APP

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LALAMUSA Gulzar Ahmed Noshi 03359494788

SARA-I-ALMAGIR 0300 5428178

## 9-day training on child protection concludes ther strengthen child protection

BUREAU REPORT

abuse, neglect and exploitation.

tives of government departments,

management for six days.

system in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The system will be implemented PESHAWAR: A 9-day training in the whole province in which all on Child Protection Case Manrelevant government departments agement and Referral System in especially judiciary, education, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, jointly orhealth, social welfare and other service delivery organizations ganized by Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Child Protection and Welfare Cominvolved in service delivery, will mission (KPCPWC) and UNICEF be included in referral network. concluded in Peshawar on Tues-The instant training is first step day. According to a press release

of the said series of trainings. Sohail Ahmad Child Protection Specialist said that UNICEF has been supporting Social Welfare Department and KPCPWC since 2011 technically and financially for the welfare and protection of children in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa by establishing and strengthening of Child Protection Units in twelve districts of the province. Moreover, it has also supported the Commission in awareness raising, advocacy, lobbying and policy. Currently UNICEF is working with provincial government on devising Child Protection Policy of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and further enhancing case management system. In the end, certificates were distributed among participants. Awards were also distributed among var-



ious notable child rights activists in recognition of their efforts for ensuring child protection in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa including Imran Takkar, Sohail Ahmad, Zafar Ali Khan, Tahir Khan, Savinder Kumar and Ijaz Muhammad Khan. Imran Takkar, child Rights expert and one of the trainers in the said workshop said that capacity building and coordination among the key department/stakeholders is always significant component of a strengthen child protection system. He said it is pertinent to create awareness among the masses keeping in view to prevent children from all kind of abuse and exploitation.

He requested at the end of the training that resources to be provide by the KP government keeping in view establishing a strengthen child protection system across the province. Nasheeta Maryam Mohsin, Secretary Social Welfare told that Social Welfare Department is committed for the provision of protective environment to children in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Therefore, the department in the collaboration of KPCPWC and other stakeholders proposed a comprehensive package of amendments in current law, increasing punishments for crimes against children. The amendments have been passed by the provincial assembly and will be notified in few days.



National Days and Armed Forces Days

JULY July 01 / **Japan** Self Defence Day

July 01 / **Singapore** Armed Forces Day

July 01 / Canada National Day

July 01 / Somalia Independence Day July 04 / USA

Independence Day

July 05 / Algeria Independence Day

July 09 / Argentine Independence Day

July 09 / Mongolia Revolution Day

July 14 / France National Day

July 15 / Brunei Sultan's Birthday

July 21 / Belgium National Day

July 20 / **TRNC** Independence Day

July 23 / **Egypt** National Day

July 26 / Cuba National Day

July 26 / Liberia National Day

July 30 / Morocco National Day



### Hotels & Restaurants

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



Airlines Turkish Airlines......8494949



ISLAMABAD: British High Commissioner Dr. Christian Turner calls on PTI Chairman Imran Khan. - DNA

# **Quality education imperative** for prosperity: President Alvi

# The president said great freedom fighters Syed Ahmad Shaheed and Shah Ismail had embraced Shahadat (martyrdom) while fighting for independence of Muslims against colonial rulers and Sikhs at Balakot

DNA

SWABI: President Dr Arif Alvi Technology Top, he said the parhere Tuesday said that quality ents should also deserve appreciaeducation and character building tions for enabling their children to of students were imperative for read in the country's top educationprogress and prosperity of the al institutes. He said those parents, who visited abroad for employment country. Addressing the 26th convocation of Ghulam Ishaq Khan had a great desire to concentrate Institute of Science and Technoloon character building and personalgy, Topi Swabi, the president said ity development of their children. besides Islam, our rich culture, adding additional responsibilities history and the society had laid laid on the guardians and teachgreat emphasis on education and ers to focus on character develcharacter building of students and opment of all students whose pareducational institutions should foents were working overseas

cellor of about 40 to 42 universities having a close contact with the senate and executive board of GIK Institute and found that this premier educational institution was going in the right direction. He urged students to recite the famous Dua (prayer) of the Holy Prophet Hazrat Mosa (AS) on which He (Hazrat Mosa AS) had prayed Allah Almighty to open his chest by granting self-confidence, contentment and boldness and ease his task, and make loose knot (the defect) from his tongue so that they understand his speech.

He said everything could be

to this famous Dua of Hazrat Musa (AS). The president said cases of Islamphobia had been increased in the neighouring eastern country. He said that Pakistan was created on the basis of two-nation theory and today's the vision of fore fathers, who created an independent state for the Muslims of Subcontinent in the shape of Pakistan was proved correct after witnessing rising cases of Islamophiba and human rights violations against minorities especially Muslims in the neigbouring eastern country.

The president said great freedom fighters Sved Ahmad Shaheed

were

with

Mohtarma

Zaman Kai-

ra said.

- APP

Shahadat (martyrdom) while fighting for independence of Muslims against colonial rulers and Sikhs at Balakot. He said renaissance movement started by the great Sir Syed Ahmad Khan for education, social and political empowerment of Muslims was carried forward by poet of the east Dr Muhammad Iqbal and successfully concluded by father of the nation, Quaid e Azam Muhammad Ali Jinah in the shape of Pakistan on August 14, 1947.

es Syed Khurshid Ahmad Shah on Tuesday said July 5 was the darkest day in the country's history as on that very day sectarianism, oppression, violence, regionalism and terrorism were founded. The minister aid in a statement. He said the dictatorship had always been a tool of the colonial powers. The justice of history is that the name of Zulfigar Ali Bhutto is still alive in the hearts of the people, he added. - APP

## AIOU uploads tutors list on CMS

### DNA

ISLAMABAD: Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU) has appointed tutors for hundreds and thousands of students enrolled in all programs offered in spring 2022 semester.

Detailed information about the appointed tutors is uploaded to the students' CMS portal. Students can check the information of their tutors in my tutor tab.

Moreover, the assignments submission schedule has also been uploaded on the university website. Students registered in Associate degree, BS, B.Ed, MA, M.Sc and M.Ed (ODL) will submit their assignments online while students enrolled in matric. FA and BA(Associate degree) will send their assignments to tutors manually as per previous practice. Students are directed to upload the typed assignments in "word" or "pdf" format on

their Aagahi LMS portal. Handwritten or scanned assignments will not be accepted. Students enrolled in Urdu or Arabic degree programs are allowed to upload handwritten assignments. Assignments received after the due dates will be considered as late and will not be accepted. It is pertinent to mention here that the university has provided soft copies of these books online on the university website (www.aiou.edu.pk).

### July 5 was darkest day in history

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Water Resourc-He said Pakistan was created after a lot of sacrifices and it was responsibility of all of us including



\*

### 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 Islamabad.....9222596 Rawalpindi......9270601-20



### Enquiry

Edhi Ambulance.....115 PIAFlightInfo.....114 PIA Cargo......9280979 Railway Inquiry.....117 Railway Exchange9270831-5 WASA Rawalpindi..5555489 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

CDA9221334-43	
CDA9208301-04	
Met Office9250360-6	
RDA5555864	
TMA5770886	
Cantonment Board 9270151-3	

### Islamabad Metropolitan

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

Water Tank Islamabad.....0321-5744480 cus in this direction to make the The president said he was a chan- achieved in life by strictly adhering and Shah Ismail had embraced strengthening and prosperity.

ISLAMABAD: Federal Min-

ister for Overseas Pakistan-

is and Human Resource

Development Sajid Hussain

Turi on Tuesday vowed to

solve the problems of over-

seas Pakistanis and laborers

He was addressing a joint

meeting of senior officials

from Capital Development

Authority (CDA), Islama-

on a war footings.

a press release.

were reviewed in detail.

The Federal Minister ex-

pressed that the housing

scheme for overseas Paki-

stanis was launched by Sha-

tation and welfare schemes

for overseas Pakistanis are

in streamline and would be

Presiding over another meet-

ing with officials of Workers

Welfare Fund and Pakistan

Mines Workers Federation,

ensure the welfare of work-

ers in mines," he said. The

meeting also discussed the

welfare of mine workers,

their due representation

in the Boards of Trustees,

EOBI and WWF and the

required grants from the

Workers Welfare Fund and

EOBI for their families. The

Federal Minister said that

PPP represents the working

and labor class of the coun-

try and their welfare is at the

top of its Manifesto. – APP

announced soon.

country economically strong.

Eulogizing the educational servic-

es of GIK Institute of Science and

solution

to address

loadshedding

DNA

RAWALPINDI: President

Rawalpindi Chamber of Com-

merce and Industry (RCCI)

Nadeem Rauf has said that

a permanent solution to

the power crisis should be

found and a long term policy

should be adopted for the

power sector. We welcomed

the government announce-

ment to shift government

In order to increase the do-

mestic production of Solar

panels, a concessional pack-

age has to be given so that the

import bill is reduced, he add-

ed. Speaking in a TV program,

RCCI President said that the

main cause of the energy cri-

sis in Pakistan is mixed fuel

transformation. Sixty percent

of Pakistan's total electricity

generation is thermal, which

requires importing diesel and

furnace oil. Thirty percent is

hydel, which requires a long-

term policy, but we have seen

that under public pressure the

governments take shortcuts.

buildings to solar.

students to work tirelessly for its

## RCCI demands Kaira terms July 5th as darkest day in country's history

ISLAMABAD: Adviser to the Prime Minister on Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan Affairs Qamar Zaman Kaira on Tuesday said July 5th was the darkest day in the history of the country as on the same day a dictator had overthrew an elected democratic government and derailed the development of the country in 1977. In his message on July 5th, he said the dictatorial regime of General Zia took fascist measures after toppling the elected government in 1977. Kaira said, "PPP leaders remain attached to Quaid-e-Awam's ideology and philos-

ophy in most difficult circumstances. Today, Chairman PPP Bilawal Bhutto Zardari is in field with the edge." He same knowladded that during the dictatorship regime of General Zia, the democracy activists kept in flicted and were invarious tortures. "The dream of improving the lives of country's poor, and middle laborers, beggars class will come true. Bilawal Bhutto is trymaterialise this dream Benazii Bhutto," Qamar

### CDNS collects Rs 1250 bln through fresh bonds

ISLAMABAD: The Central Directorate of National Savings (CDNS) on Tuesday surpassed its annual target and set a historic record of Rs 1,250 billion savings till June 30, 2022. For the first time in its history, National Savings crossed Rs 1,000 billion fresh deposits and achieved the target of Rs 1,250 billion by June 30, 2022, the senior official of CDNS told APP here.

jails

ing to

of

The CDNS has attained the target of issuing Rs1,250 billion fresh bonds in the last months of current fiscal year 2021-22, from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022. It had set an annual gross receipt target of Rs 980 billion from July 1 to June 30 of the

previous fiscal year 2020-21 to promote savings in the country. – APP ANF recovers

## 280 kg narcotics; arrests six

RAWALPINDI: Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) on Tuesday conducted three operations in Islamabad, Peshawar and Quetta and managed to recover 280 kg narcotics

besides netting six accused including a woman. According to an ANF Head-

quarters spokesman, in an operation conducted near Motorway Toll Plaza Islamabad, ANF recovered 111 kg narcotics including 64.8 kg Chars and 46.8 kg opium from a vehicle and arrested three accused namely Hamad, Qaiser and Shumaila a female.

In another raid, ANF Peshawar conducted a raid near Gora Qabristan, G.T.Road Peshawar and recovered 108 kg opium and 38.4 kg charras from a Kia Sportage vehicle. The raiding party also netted an accused namely Imran Ashraf and recovered a pistol from his possession. - APP

### and South Asia is one of the vulnerable re-In his remarks about the issue of food and impacting both urban and rural cen-

#### DNA

ISLAMABAD: The Centre for Strategic Perspectives (CSP), and India Study Centre (ISC) at the Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI) organised a Webinar titled, "Non-Traditional Security Challenges in South Asia" on July 05, 2022.

The discussants included: Mr Sanjay Vashist, Director, Climate Action Network South Asia; Professor Buddhi Marambe, University of Peradeniya Sri Lanka; Ms Puruesh Chaudhry, Founder & President AGAHI; Mr. Ali Tauqeer Planning Commission of Pakistan; and Professor Muhammad Rezaur Rahman, Bangladesh University of Engineering

need to optimally address them.

gions with regards to climate change. Global factors are also exacerbating these issues and there is a need to have extensive discussion regionally to resolve them.

While speaking on the issue of climate change and environmental degradation, Mr Sanjay Vashist stated that climate change is forcing people to migrate and it is important to provide legal protection to all such people. Moreover, to mitigate climate change, it is important that more resources are allocated for protecting the people and development of the region.

security in the region, Professor Buddhi Marambe said that food security is a national security issue and needs to be tackled accordingly. The issue is being aggravated due to the decline in crop yields in South Asia. Decisions taken by people impact climate change and food security and thus needs to have scientific-based solutions to tackle them.

Ms Puruesh Chaudhry highlighted the effects of population explosion for the region and stated that demographics are changing in South Asia due to increasing population



tres. The population increase should be seen as a scenario-based exercise. There is a need to create a long view approach so

> about what are the problem areas and how they should be dealt with. While highlighting the nexus of water security and climate change, Mr. Ali Tauqeer Sheikh said that in South Asia rivers have been divided whereas other countries have divided waters. There is a need to bring elements of climate change mitigation into the Indus Water Treaty as has been done in the Ganges Treaty. South Asia needs to protect water ecosystems and have flexible water management solutions to deal with issues of water security being caused by climate change.

that the policymakers have a potential idea

In his talk about disaster risk management in South Asia. Professor Muhammad Rezaur Rahman stated that South Asia is faced with many natural disasters and the increase in calamities has become a new normal. New kinds of disasters like heatwaves, lightning strikes, and pandemic are also increasing in the region.

The emergence of these new hazards is further aggravated by infrastructural traps. Thus, there is a need to exchange data, improve resilience and engage civic bodies for effective results of DRM in the South Asian region.

Non-traditional security challenges discussed

Sheikh, Advisor on Climate Change, and Technology. The Session was mod-

erated Dr Arshad Ali, Director of ISC. In her introductory remarks Dr Neelum Nigar, Director, CSP, welcomed the guests and said that post-Cold War Non-Traditional Security Challenges (NTSC) have become an important issue. South Asia is faced with issues related to climate change and is adversely affected by them, and there is a

During his welcome remarks Ambassador Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry, Director General, ISSI, said that NTSC are very broad-based,

He expressed that under the Federal Minister Sajid Husfarsighted guidance of Chairsain Turi said that his minman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, istry would continue to take the dream of Shaheed Moinitiatives for the welfare of htarama Benazir Bhutto shall workers and labors. "Every effort will be made to

Sajid Turi reiterates

facilitating Labors and

**Overseas** Pakistanis

heed Mohtarama Benazir

Bhutto which was not prop-

erly pursued by later govern-

ments however development

work was resumed in 2008

during PPP government un-

der the leadership of then

President Asif Ali Zardari.

bad Electric Supply Com-pany (IESCO); MD and be fulfilled with full dedica-DG OPF, members of OPF tions and tireless efforts. **Owners Valley Association** He directed directed the and officials from other concerned officials and relevant departments also departments to resolve all attended the meeting, said issues related OPF Valley Phase-5, Islamabad by end In the meeting, Developof this month. He said that ment work, power and waby complete development ter supply and release of of the housing scheme, mortgaged plots of allottees Pakistan could receive a huge amount of remittances helping the country in this

difficult time of economic

crisis. He said that more

opportunities, relief, facili-

# 04

# **TWIN CITIES**

Islamabad POST Wednesday, July 06, 2022

# Briefs

### Chairman NHA to hold 'Khuli Katchery'

ISLAMABAD:Chairman National Highways Authority Captain (R ) Muhammad Khurram Agha will hold an online open court (Khuli Katchery) on Thursday. The open court was aimed to resolve the grievances of general public. He will listen the complaints of the people and also issue order on spot to resolve their grievances. The open court would be held from 8 am to 10 am on official page of NHA. – **APP** 

### USC outlets ensuring sufficient stock

ISLAMABAD: As per the special direction from the Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, the Utility Store Corporation was working round the clock for providing five essential subsidies food items through all stores, Senior General Manager, USC Inayat Ullah Daula said on Tuesday. In an exclusive talk with PTV News, GM USC said that sufficient stock of all the subsidized items is available at utility stores across the country while there is no shortage of any item at USC outlets. He said that all the 4,000 branches of utility stores, sugar was available at Rs70 per kg, ghee at Rs300 per kg and 10 kg bag of flour at Rs. 400, adding, the prices of these items are less as compared to open market. The consumers visiting stores must bring their CNIC along. He said USC was making the subsidy system more transparent, digitalize and trough a comprehensive system by installing vigilant cameras inside and outside stores for strictly monitoring workers' dealing with customers. He said that the counters of stores were being increased in super and mini stores, adding, we have specific arrangements for the facilitation of customers

#### \_\_\_\_\_

at all stores. - APP

# FPCCI, Syria agree to develop strong ties

Dr. Mazen Obeid Ambassador of Syria to Pakistan said that there should be strong trade and economic ties with Pakistan as both countries have good potential to enhance cooperation in many fields for their mutual benefit

### STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan-Syria Joint Business Council Meeting chaired by Mr. Umar Masood ur Rehman Vice President FPCCI Held at FPCCI Capital Office Islamabad. Dr. Mazen Obeid, Ambassador of Syria to Pakistan attended the meeting as a special guest. The various methods to develop trade cooperation between both the countries has been discussed, including health, food, and service, in the interest of the businessman of both the countries. Dr. Mazen Obeid, Ambassador of Syria to Pakistan invited the participants to visit Syria and attend the exhibition in July. Mr. Ali Raza Rizvi, Chairmen Pakistan-Syria Business Council discussed the possibilities of exporting Syrian products to Pakistan, and similarly the required products of Pakistan to Syria also appreciated efforts of Pakistan for increasing the trade with Syria. Ms. Nowruz Muhammad, Third Secretary of the Syrian Embassy in Islamabad give presentation on business opportunities in Syria. The meeting was attended by the Mr. Muhammad Saeed Khan, Pakistani Ambassador in Damascus Mr. Saad Masood Ur Rehman, Chairman Pakistan-Belarus Joint Business Council & President Mardan Chamber, Muhammad Naseer Kamboh, DG-TDAP and a number of businessmen and women of Pakistan. It is also worth mentioning here that the Syrian-Pakistani Joint Business Council is a department that falls under the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry.

Speaking at the occasion, Mr. Umar Masood Ur Rehman, Vice President of FPCCI, assured that the Federation of Pakistan Chamber of Commerce & Industry



(FPCCI) will always ready to work with the Syrian Embassy to further improvement in trade and economic relations between Pakistan and Syria. Both sides have good potential to enhance cooperation in tourism, health, SMEs, and other sectors. Both countries should focus on joint ventures, investment projects, commercial deals, and organizing exhibitions for further improvement in business relationship. Mr. Ali Raza Rizvi, Chairman Pakistan-Syria Joint Business Council & Mr. Saad Masood Ur Rehman, Chairman Pakistan Belarus joint Business Council & President Mardan CCI said that the business community of Pakistan is ready to contribute to reducing the economic problems of the Syrian business people. He said that many products of Pakistan including marble and granite, pharmaceuticals, leather goods, food products, steel, cement, IT, and light engineering could find a good market in Syria and these products should be import from Pakistan. H.E. Dr. Mazen Obeid Ambassador of Syria to Pakistan said that there should be strong trade and economic ties with Pakistan as both countries have good potential to enhance cooperation in many fields for their mutual benefit. He emphasized on creating a Pak-Syria Business Council to promote business relations between the two countries. PIA has started two weekly flights to Syria and hoped that it would help improve trade between the two countries. He also urged on private sectors of both countries to participate in each other's exhibitions to explore new avenues of business collaboration. The Ambassador further stated the Syrian Arab Republic is hosting an exhibition during the month of July. He requested that Pakistani businessmen must participate in said exhibition for interaction between the business people of both countries . he also suggested that FPCCI should also make a delegation to visit Syria.

### IRSA releases 291680 cusecs water

ISLAMABAD: Indus River System Authority (IRSA) Tuesday released on 291680 cusecs water from various rim stations with an inflow of 422644 cases. According to the data released by IRSA, the water level in the Jhelum River at Mangla Dam was 1110.75 feet, which was 60.75 feet higher than its dead level of 1,050 feet whereas the inflow and outflow of water was recorded a 40864 and 15000 cusecs respectively. The release of water at Kalabagh, Taunsa and Sukkur was recorded as 132408 ,108851 and 54035 cusecs respectively. Similarly, from the Kabul River, a total of 47300 cusecs of water was released at Nowshera and 86780 cusecs released from the Chenab River at Marala. - APP

# Road users laud NHMP

ISLAMABAD: The road users highly praised National Highways and Motorway Police for giving cold water at various entry points of motorways. On social media, the initiative was highly lauded by the motorists who were provided cold water and juices on various entry points by the Motorway Police officers.

"Motorway Police have been so kind and generous, when we were travelling from Haripur to Islamabad, they approached us at the interchange gracefully and gave us cold drinks and mineral water on entry points," said a commuter Zain Haseeb. Another commuter Aziz ur Rehman said that Motorway police also served us cold water while briefing us about the traffic laws at Batagram, Hazara motorway. He said that this step was highly commendable and shows the professionalism of Motorway Police to commuters.

Another commuter Muhammad Umar said that he was travelling from Abbotabad to Islamabad and motorway police served him delicious juices and politely inquired about any problem during the travel. The motorway police on daily basis interacted and provided them cold water, besides educating them about the traffic laws. The commuters highly praised Inspector General NHMP Khalid Mahmood and Minister for Communications and Postal Services Asad Mahmood for the initiative aiming to facilitate the passengers during travel. It may be mentioned here that the federal minister has directed the NHMP to provide optimum facilities to the travelers and passengers on national highways and motorways and promptly provide them help. - APP

# KIIR denounces India to suppress press freedom

ISLAMABAD: Speakers at a webinar hosted by Kashmir Institute of International Relations (KIIR) and World Muslim Congress (WMC) strongly denounced the Modi government for using UAPA and other draconian laws to suppress press freedom and dissent in the Indian occupied Kashmir. The webinar titled "UAPA: A hanging sword on journalists and human rights defenders in IoK" was organised as sideline of the 50th session of UN human

rights council, said a press release.

rights defenders and political activists in Indian occupied Kashmir said that the occupation authorities have been using so-called anti-terror laws to as a weapon to silence the voices of dissent in Kashmir. He said that in addition to PSA, AFSPA and other draconian laws the decades old anti-terror lawthe UAPA was being used by India as a weapon of war to enable complete silence in Kashmir. He said that slapping of be it journalist, rights activist contrary to the principle of 'innocent until proven guilty' and also violates the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, 1967, which recognizes the mentioned principle as a universal human right". The speakers said that Indian occupation authorities had also invoked Section 13 of UAPA against people who were accessing social media during the longest ever internet ban imposed by the government when it scrapped Article 370 of

## CDA's grand operation against encroachments in sector G-11/2

### DNA

ISLAMABAD: On the direction of the management of Capital Development Authority, the Enforcement Department on Tuesday conducted operation in Sector G-11/2 of Islamabad with the assistance of district administration and Islamabad police. Operations were carried out to eradicate the encroachments which were established beyond the plot lines. According to the details, a massive operation was carried out on the complaints of the residents of Sector G-11/2 on the instructions of the Chairman Capital Development Authority. As a result, encroachments in front of more than 350 residential houses located in 22 streets were demolished with the help of heavy machinery. Several

### NEPRA imposes Rs 10 mln fine on QESCO

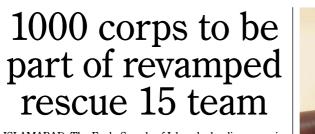
ISLAMABAD: National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (NEPRA) has imposed Rs 10 million fine on Quetta Electric Supply Company (QESCO) for negligence which resulted in fatal incidents during the period from July 2019 to June 2021. NEPRA upon receipt of reports of 15 deaths in different electrocution incidents during the aforementioned period, constituted two member Investigation Committee under Section 27A of NEPRA Act 1997 to visit the respective areas, conduct investigation, ascertain and determine the facts and possible violations of NEPRA Laws, Rules and Regulations. The Investigation Committee's report revealed that four out of the total 15 fatalities occurred due to QESCO's negligence, said a press release. - APP

#### Webinar was addressed by noted human rights activists, academicians and law experts from different Prof, Dr.Amina Mehmood of International Islamic University, Director LFK Advocate Nasir Qadri and Owais Bin Wasi acting Dean of social science Rafiha University Advovate Rehana Ali UK others. Whereas the event was moderated by the KIIR Chairman Altaf Hussain Wani. In his initial remarks the KIIR chief while referring to Modi government's systematic clampdown on civil society, journalist, human

or even a common citizen everyone was being slapped with UAPA.

The UAPA, he said, has been amended multiple times to make it more effective. Referring to the most recent amendment in the law, Wani said that besides empowering the government to declare any individual as a terrorist the notorious law allows the DG of NIA seizure of property under Section 25 and the powers of officers with the rank of inspectors and above to investigate cases under UAPA Section 43. Citing the international covenants, Wani said, "The recent Amendment is the constitution to divide the state into two centrally administered UT's. In the aftermath of 5th August 2019, the panelists said that the law (UAPA) was badly misused in Kashmir to suppress the voices that have been critical to the Indian government's muscular policy towards Kashmir. They regrettably noted that dozens of rights activists including Khurram Pervaiz, Ahsan Untoo and others, who worked extensively to document human rights violations being committed by the Indian army in the region, were booked under the same law and thrown behind the bars. – **APP** 

car sheds, fences and entrances gates built on government land were demolished with the help of heavy machinery. It is pertinent to mention here that these encroachments were disrupting the movement of residents and the flow of traffic. After the operation, foothpaths and streets were opened for pedestrian movement and traffic. On this occasion, the CDA administration said that protection of government lands is our top priority and no concessions will be made to the land mafia and these measures are aimed at keeping Islamabad free from illegal constructions and encroachments. It should be noted that for the last several months, the CDA has been conducting continuous operations against encroachments and illegal constructions in the Federal Capital, which has resulted in the retrieved of billions of rupees of government land.



ISLAMABAD: The Eagle Squads of Islamabad police comprising around 1000 policemen would serve with newly revamped rescue service of the force "Pukaar-15" to provide immediate assistance to citizens in case of emergency calls. Police said that the Eagle Squads of 1,000 police personnel has been added to "Pukaar-15" which will act as a first responder in case of any emergent situation. The basic purpose of the Pukaar-15 is to facilitate the citizens at their doorsteps. Citizens when will call Pukaar-15 in any emergency and the nearest Eagle Squad will arrive as the first responder, police said.

It is worth mentioning that Islamabad police have merged all police emergency services at Safe City and introduced new helpline with the name of "Pukaar-15" for prompt action in case of any mishap and provision of police report to the complainant on the spot. Police said that Interior Ministry has directed the revamping of Safe City and reforms in the police. – **APP** 



ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Kazakhstan, Yerzhan Kistafin exchanging views with Federal Minister for Commerce, Naveed Qamer. – DNA

### Passing out of 1,601 Aero apprentices held

ISLAMABAD: As many as 1,601 Aero Apprentices on Tuesday pass out after culmination of their training during a passing out parade held here at Pakistan Air Force (PAF) Airmen Academy, Korangi Creek. Chief Project Director JF-17, Pakistan Air Force, Air Marshal Waqas Ahmed Sulehri was the chief guest at the occasion, said a PAF media release.

Earlier on his arrival, Air Officer Commanding, PAF Airmen Academy Korangi Creek (PAAK) Air Vice Marshal Zubair Hassan Khan received the chief guest. A total of 1,601 Aero Apprentices including trainees from allied countries and Pakistan Navy successfully completed their training. While addressing the ceremony, the chief guest said, "Modern warfare is an exceedingly vast and complex domain, which demands thorough knowledge and inventiveness. We are facing complex and unusual challenges

involving inventions and in-

novations offered by science

and technology. - APP

# **Govt plans to switch 1.2m tube-wells to solar energy** The minister further informed that government was also keen to announce minimum support price for wheat before the start of the sowing season in order to encourage farmers to sow more wheat

### DNA

ISLAMABAD: Minister for National Food Security and Research Tariq Bashir Cheema on Tuesday said over 1.2 million agriculture tubewells would be switched to solar energy to reduce input cost and enhance farm income, particularly that of the small land holders. Addressing a press conference, the minister said that a task force was being formed to finalize modalities and engage commercial banks to finance the facility. Under the facility, the farmers would have to repay the loans in installments up to three years. He said, the initiative has been taken on the directives of Prime Minister, Shehbaz Sharif, who has also asked for formulating short and long term policies to ensure tangible results in shortest possible time with focus on reviving agriculture sector for maintaining food safety and security as well as prosperity of farming communities.

While reaffirming the government's commitment to ensure proper rate of return to the farmers for their produces as well as enhancing the output of all major and minor crops, he said that recommendation for cotton intervention price was finalized and put on agenda of next meeting of Cabinet for approval. He said that the initiative was aiming at encouraging the farmers to bring maximum areas under cultivation of this crop of vital importance, adding that area under crop sowing during last season reduced by 37 percent, which was replaced by rice, maize and sugarcane.

The minister further informed that government was also keen to announce minimum support price for wheat before the start of the sowing season in order to encourage farmers to sow more wheat for attaining self-sufficiency in staple grains production and reduce reliance on imported wheat and edible oil that were enhancing pressure on much needed foreign exchange reserves. The minister said that government was aware of rising inflation and the problems being faced by the common man in the country, adding that steps were taken to protect them from the inflationary pressures. He said that government through its Utility Stores Corporation network was ensuring provision of essential commodities on controlled rates and provided wheat, flour and other commodities during the holey month of Ramzan. In order to avert any possible shortage on food grains by the emerging Russia-Ukrine conflict, the government had beefed up its strategic reserves and enhanced wheat procurement targets of all provincial governments and PASSCO, adding that it was also decided to import about 3 million tons of wheat to ensure smooth supply throughout the year. Highlighting the relief measures introduced by the incumbent government for agriculture sector, he said that sales tax on tractors was withdrawn, where as seed cotton and canola were exempted from sales tax, adding no tax was levied on fertilizers to facilitate the growers. He said that government was paying special focus on small scale growers as they were about 92 percent of total farming community having less then 12 acres of land, adding that measures would be introduced to

ensure their access to credit facility and saving them from the exploitation of middle man. Tariq Bashir said that despite the tough condition agreed by the last government with International Monetary Fund, the coalition partners had decided to take tough decision to save the country from default and also decided to take masses into confidence by sharing the facts with them. The minister said that government was taking other measures to benefit from the Chines experience and expertise in agriculture and livestock, adding that agreement for the buffalo breed improvement with China was finalized. He said that China was the biggest importer of beef and it was asked to establish farms in Pakistan that would help to develop the local livestock sector as well. The minister said that government was

evolving a mechanism by taking all the provinces on board to ensure uninterpreted supply of fertilizers on affordable rates, besides discouraging the hoarding and black marketing of the commodity.

### Hustle-bustle witnessing ahead of Eid

ISLAMABAD: With annual Islamic festival of Eid ul Azha imminent in few days, the traditional hustle-bustle of sacrificial animals were being witnessed elswhere in the country including capital city, where animals has become a source of entertainment for children on roads and streets. Citizens are seen to be visiting different localities for buying sacrificial animals and the traders have also started roaming in streets with their heavy weight animals to attract buyers. To attract customers, animals are decorated with colorful garlands, sterling bands, embellished belts and crowns, said a trader while talking to PTV news channel. Majority customers were seen visiting cattle markets and bargaining with sellers for affordable prices, said a customer. Children who bought their animals were seen busy in decorating their animals and painted them beautifully while others are anxiously waiting for the arrival of their animals to do the same, said a motorist.

"We are happy that the weather has turned pleasant and now I can take my animals for grazing around streets with the sacrificial animal and take some memorable pictures", said a youngster. Residents of various localities have also decided for combined sacrifices with the cooperation of various religious and social organizations including local seminaries. – **APP** 

# 05

# NATO fully in Washington's grip

IVEN the revamped Security Concept that the North Atlantic Treaty Organization leaders adopted at their summit in Madrid, Spain, last week, it is clear that the world's largest military bloc is willing to let the United States lead it by the nose. In its blueprint laying out the alliance's top priorities and goals for the next decade, Russia is identified as the "most significant and direct threat" to NATO's security. With this justification, NATO is fanning the flames of the hostilities between Russia and Ukraine, with the aim of debilitating Russia by keeping it bogged down in the quagmire of bloodshed for as long as possible. To this end, various NATO members are supplying weapons to Ukraine, including heavy howitzers and advanced rocket systems.

The alliance is also fast-tracking its expansion to isolate Russia on the continent. The Associated Press reported that the 30 NATO member states were set to sign off on the accession protocols for Sweden and Finland on Tuesday, sending their membership bids to the alliance capitals for legislative approval. Rather than looking at the bigger picture of Europe's peace and stability, and making efforts to promote an end to the Ukraine crisis, the other transatlantic leaders seem to have swallowed Washington's narrative of fear, hook, line and sinker. Gripped with a form of mass hysteria, they have done a swift about-face on the stance they adopted until the buildup of the crisis. Now they are eagerly endorsing Washington's efforts to exacerbate the rest of Europe's estrangement with Russia and the proxy war it is waging against it in Ukraine.

The US is probably the only beneficiary of what is unfolding in that country. Ukrainian civilians are the immediate victims, but people around the world, particularly the poorest, are also suffering from the spillover effects of the armed conflict. The US is profiting in many ways, but its biggest gain is the new-found transatlantic unity that has consolidated its grip on NATO. Hence, it can be anticipated that with the implementation of its new Strategic Concept, NATO will trigger more geopolitical confrontation rather than acting responsibly to abate it. NATO claims that its focus is on the core task of strengthening joint deterrence and collective defense. But it is clear from what has unfolded in Europe that with Washington pulling its strings, its role is now offensive and its core task is to create crises that serve to consolidate the US' global primacy. The costs of this blinkered vision are evident and growing in Ukraine, where both sides are suffering heavy losses and the civilian death toll continues to rise. With Ukraine now reportedly shelling Russian territory, the hostilities are in danger of intensifying further rather than abating. While that might be pleasing to Washington, it should be worrying to

those countries which have a more civil view of international relations.

### Pakistan's First And Only Diplomatic Daily

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# No end to load-shedding

HE whole country has been in the grip of load-shed-ding of electricity right since the collation government, led by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, took over nearly two and half months back. While there may be technical issues impeding an unrestricted supply of power to homes and businesses, the inability of the government to fuel up the various power plants due to a combined effect of costlier oil and depleting foreign exchange reserves is the main reason behind the country experiencing continued load-shedding. To add to the woes of the power-starved consumers, the electricity bills are rather rising. Well, costlier oil is bound to raise power generation cost.

The successive deadlines given by the government to rid the nation of the menace of load-shedding have come and gone, but to no avail. The situation is rather worsening by the day. Unfortunately, it appears that hope is the only government strategy to tackle the prolonged power failures across the country - the hope that the temperatures will cool down with the arrival of the monsoon season, bringing down the demand for power; and the hope that the international oil prices will ease some bit and the government will have some fiscal space to fuel up the power plants and run them on full capacity. In the meanwhile, all consumers - domestic, commercial and industrial - have been suffering like never before. While shortage of supply to domestic consumers can only

impact the government in terms of falling political capital, the day-to-day outages that the commercial and industrial consumers are suffering will also bring down the government revenues. Obviously, loss of working hours at small shops and big factories means smaller income, and thus smaller income tax. Time for the government to think out of the box for both short- and long-term solutions.

# **Economy measures** Earning by Saving

### Ch. Muhammad Latif

The department of the Railways has an old practice of issuing on a permanent basis to its employees free travel passes in their trains. PIA grants, in addition to bonus, internal and external free family trips to their employees. Department of coastal guards also allows purchase of confiscated items at a depreciated price to its staff

WAPDA, PIA, RAILWAY and coastal guards etc. Some of them are financially sinking ships although they had a monopoly in their domain and now those are surviving on annual subsidies and bail out packages borne by the state. The facilities were granted as an incentive for better performance but are causing havoc to our economy demanding financial aid.

The said organizations have granted concessions and perks over and above the salary and allowances allowed to civil servants. These privileges need to be reviewed in the situation of glaring losses of PIA, Railways, Steel Mills and similar other autonomous bodies. If we take extensive and exhaustive examination of the perks and privileges the financial consequences are alarming.

The department of the Railways has an old practice of issuing on a permanent basis to its employees free travel passes in their trains. PIA grants, in addition to bonus, internal and external free family trips to their employees. The department of coastal guards also allows purchase of confiscated items at a depreciated price to its staff. Even the income tax department is believed to grant a bonus on the recovery of tax to their staff as an incentive. Analysis of the department of WAPDA would reveal the gravity of financial losses caused to them by undue concessions to its employees. WAPDA has 48 thousand officers and one lac and five thousand other employees. All of them are allowed free of cost electricity which consumes 39 crores and 10 lac free electric units which cost five billion and 25 crores of rupees per annum. Although the inefficiency of WAPDA employees is evident from line losses, non-payment of electricity bills and the kunda system very common in all provinces. Even the government has to engage police forces to effect recovery from defaulters. Normally a lineman is posted in his own domestic area where he also manages non-payments of bills from his negotiators and sometimes their amount is shifted to customers who are regular in payments of bills. So the facility of free electricity units, merits to be withdrawn or at least stipulated with performance. Similar is the position of PIA. It is burdened with over-staffing and the privileges of free internal

and external trips of their staff despite continuous annual losses and demand of huge amounts of subsidies. The ex-Minister of PIA caused irreparable loss to the PIA by his unwise and unscrupulous statements and thereby damaged the only asset of goodwill of PIA within the country and abroad. So many of our outstanding pilots serving in foreign airlines and Air Force suffered heavily and they were removed from service for no fault on their part on the sole plea that the Pakistani Minister PIA had dubbed them as unqualified and fraudulent.

It would be appropriate, therefore, to refer the matter of unusual perks and privileges allowed by aforementioned organisations to the pay and pension commission of the Federal Government to exercise vigilance on payment of unusual salaries. In some departments purchase of expensive vehicles for their officers has also increased the financial liabilities. 800 Assistant Commissioners were provided new vehicles costing 6 billion rupees, in addition to fuel expenses. In the prevailing circumstances such expenses should be curtailed. Another aspect to be modified for the sake of frugality effort is the concept of protocol. The government could reduce the colossal expenditures incurred on protocol and body guard system which engages bulk to police force and resultantly the person and property of the public at large is jeopardized and compromised. That is why street crimes are rampant in the country. The number of flags may be reviewed as each national flag needs 24 hourly police guards. Now the timings of the government and business markets are being dictated by princely employees of the Government and wealthy elite class owners of the big plazas and markets. Lawful force should be used against the rich who are indifferent to the painful financial situation of the country and not against the poor population when they become violent due to mismanagement of fiscal policies. Economic measures should be adopted in all fields of our society. - The writer of the article is Retired Additional Chief Secretary of AJK and Advocate Supreme Court of AJK.

# Aid to Ukraine must not be at Africa's expense

**Chris Heitzig & Richard Newfarmer** 

Today's Russia-Ukraine war is far more damaging than the conflict in 2014. Consequently, financial assistance has poured into Ukraine

USSIA'S invasion of Ukraine has generated enor-D) mous costs. Most have been borne by brave Ukrainian citizens and the unfortunate Russian soldiers ordered to fight. But the whole world has experienced significant collateral damage: Further spikes in energy costs and food prices, and a possible global recession. Nowhere has that indirect damage been greater than for those already on the brink of poverty, particularly in Africa. The food price index produced by the UN Food and Agriculture Organization hit a record high in March and fertilizer prices have also surged. Efforts by national policymakers to improve domestic food security, such as India's recent ban on wheat exports, have made matters worse. The war's ripple effects threaten to damage not only near-term production but also future harvests after the fighting in Ukraine ceases. Millions more Africans could thus soon face poverty, hunger or both. But one potential negative consequence of the conflict can and must be contained: The temptation for rich-country policymakers to redirect development assistance from Africa to Ukraine. This happened in 2014, when Russia's annexation of Crimea diverted resources away from Africa - even though the region was on the verge of a commodity price-driven recession.

HERE is no denying the fact that there are some genuine economic difficulties faced by our beloved country, Pakistan. But it is also a fact that ours is a great nation with 22 crores of population equipped with atomic capabilities. Even a petty sacrifice by every citizen could produce a big contribution which could ensure stability. Nothing is insurmountable. Serious thinking and all round effective frugality measures could certainly bring down the state expenditure and enhance exports. The measures so far taken are neither systematic nor persistent. Some efforts made in this respect seem just a leap in the dark and most often altered.

This article simply aims at dealing with one aspect of our economy which we need to review: the matter of undue and extraordinary concessions granted by some large organisations like

That year, aid from OECD Development Assistance Committee members to Ukraine increased by 145 percent, while aid to sub-Saharan Africa dipped by more than 5 percent (the largest decrease in a decade), despite the economic slump in much of the region. Between 2013 and 2015, 21 of the 29 Development Assistance Committee countries reduced official development assistance to sub-Saharan Africa, even though the overall aid provided by these countries increased by 8 percent in real terms during this period.

Denmark, for example, increased its aid to Ukraine nearly fourfold from 2013 to 2015, but cut aid to sub-Saharan Africa by roughly 40 percent. Japan, fearing that Russia's annexation of Crimea might embolden China to assert its territorial claims in the East China Sea more forcefully, pledged more than \$1.8 billion in assistance to Ukraine in 2014 and 2015, while reducing aid to sub-Saharan Africa by nearly 16 percent. The aid money diverted from Africa came primarily from initiatives to support the environment, urbanization, disaster risk management and government budgets, rather than from economic infrastructure projects like railways and mobile telephone lines, whose cancellation would be directly detrimental to donor economies.

Today's Russia-Ukraine war is far more damaging than the conflict in 2014. Consequently, financial assistance has poured into Ukraine. The US has so far committed more than \$54 billion to support Ukraine in the war. Neighboring Poland has provided more than \$1.6 billion of military support. Money has also come from nongovernmental sources. A special account that the National Bank of Ukraine opened to the public to raise funds for the country's armed forces raised \$525 million within two months. People from around the world have sent millions of dollars to Ukrainian landlords by renting Airbnb accommodation they have no intention of using. Such generosity is of course to be welcomed. But it would be unfortunate if increased international assistance to Ukraine came at the cost of defunding important initiatives in sub-Saharan Africa. The region is entering a precarious period - and not only because of galloping food prices, rising energy costs and slower growth in its major export markets. African countries are confronting this dire outlook with high debt levels and almost no fiscal headroom owing to the pandemic-induced recession of 2020-21, which urgently necessitated support programs for poor households and small businesses. To be sure, Africa has an interest in the success of Ukrainian and Western efforts. To the extent that authoritarianism is gaining ground globally, beating back Russian President Vladimir Putin's effort to redraw boundaries in Europe may well discourage would-be autocrats from doing the same in Africa.

"At independence, had we chosen to pursue states on the basis of ethnic, racial or religious homogeneity, we would still be waging bloody wars these many decades later," Kimani said. Today, defeating Russia may also strike a blow in favor of democratic values in Africa. That said, the international community's interest in containing the Ukraine war's collateral damage in Africa is no less compelling. So, as governments and other donors accelerate much-needed assistance to Ukraine, they should not delay initiatives such as the Global Alliance for Food Security, the G20 Common Framework for Debt Treatments and the COVID-19 Vaccine Global Access facility. Scaling back development assistance programs for Africa will only increase poverty, exacerbate food shortages that risk pushing some communities toward starvation and undermine democracy.

# Why Israel's 15-year siege on Gaza has failed

### **Ramzy Baroud**

Still, Israel has failed miserably in achieving any of its objectives. Tel Aviv hoped that the disengagement would compel the international community to redefine the legal status of its occupation of Gaza. Despite Washington's pressure, however, that never happened

IFTEEN years have passed since Israel imposed a total siege on the Gaza Strip subject million Palestinians to one of the longest and cruelest politically motivated blockades in history. The Israeli government at the time justified its siege as the only way to protect Israel from Palestinian "terrorism and rocket attacks." This remains the official line. However, few Israelis - certainly not in government, the media or even ordinary people – would argue that the country is safer today than it was prior to June 2007. It is widely understood that Israel imposed the siege as a response to Hamas' takeover of the Strip following a brief and violent confrontation with its main Palestinian political rival Fatah, which still dominates the Palestinian Authority in the West Bank.

However, the isolation of Gaza was planned years before the Hamas-Fatah clash or even Hamas' legislative election victory of January 2006. Late Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon had long been determined to redeploy Israeli forces out of Gaza. What finally culminated in the Israeli disengagement from Gaza in August-September 2005 was proposed by Sharon in 2003, approved by his government in 2004 and finally adopted by the Knesset in February 2005. This "disengagement" was an Israeli tactic that aimed to move a few thousand illegal Jewish settlers out of Gaza to other illegal settlements in the West Bank, while redeploying the Israeli army from crowded Gazan population centers to the border areas. This was the actual start of the Gaza siege. The above assertion was even clear to James Wolfensohn, who was in 2005 appointed special envoy for Gaza disengagement by the Quartet on the Middle East. In 2010, he concluded: "Gaza had been effectively sealed off from the outside world since the Israeli disengagement... and the humanitarian and economic consequences for the Palestinian population were profound." The ultimate motive for the disengagement was not Israel's security or even a desire to starve Gazans as a form of collective punishment. The latter was just one natural outcome of a much more sinister political plot, as communicated by Sharon's own senior adviser at the time, Dov Weisglass. In an interview with Haaretz in October 2004, he put it plainly: "The significance of the disengagement plan is the freezing of the peace process. And when you freeze that process, you prevent the establishment of a Palestinian state and you prevent a discussion on the refugees, the borders and Jerusalem." Not only was this Israel's reasoning behind the disengagement and subsequent siege on Gaza but, according to the seasoned Israeli politician, it was all done "with a (US) presidential blessing and the ratification of both houses of Congress." The president in question was George W. Bush. All of this took place before Palestine's legislative elections, Hamas' victory and the Hamas-Fatah clash. The last of these merely served as a convenient justification for what had already been discussed, ratified and implemented For Israel, the siege was a political ploy that acquired ad-

ditional meaning and value as time passed. In response to the accusation that Israel was starving Palestinians in Gaza, Weisglass said in 2006: "The idea is to put the Palestinians on a diet, but not to make them die of hunger.

What was then understood as a facetious, albeit thoughtless, statement turned out to be actual Israeli policy, as indicated in a 2008 report that was made available in 2012. Thanks to the Israeli human rights organization Gisha, the "red lines (for) food consumption in the Gaza Strip," composed by the Israeli Coordinator of Government Activities

in the Territories, was made public. It emerged that Israel was calculating the minimum number of calories necessary to keep Gaza's population alive – a number that is "adjusted to culture and experience" in the Strip. The rest is history. Gaza's suffering is absolute. Some 98 percent of the Strip's water is undrinkable. Hospitals lack essential supplies and lifesaving medications. Movement in and out of the Strip is practically prohibited, with minor exceptions.

Still. Israel has failed miserably in achieving any of its objectives. Tel Aviv hoped that the disengagement would compel the international community to redefine the legal status of its occupation of Gaza. Despite Washington's pressure, however, that never happened. Gaza remains part of the Occupied Palestinian Territories as defined in international law. Even the September 2007 Israeli designation of Gaza as an "enemy entity" and a "hostile territory" changed little, except that it allowed the Israeli government to declare several devastating wars on the Strip, starting in 2008.

None of these wars have successfully served a long-term Israeli strategy. Instead, Gaza is fighting back on a much larger scale than ever before, frustrating the calculations of Israeli leaders, as has become clear in their befuddled, disturbing language. During one of the deadliest Israeli wars on Gaza in July 2014, right-wing Knesset member Ayelet Shaked wrote on Facebook that the war was "not a war against terror, and not a war against extremists, and not even a war against the Palestinian Authority." Instead, according to Shaked, who a year later became Israel's minister of justice, "it is a war between two people. Who is the enemy? The Palestinian people." In the final analysis, the governments of Sharon, Ehud Olmert, Benjamin Netanyahu and Naftali Bennett all failed to isolate Gaza from the greater Palestinian body, break the will of the Strip or ensure Israeli security at the expense of Palestinians.

Moreover, Israel has fallen victim to its own hubris. While prolonging the siege will achieve no short or long-term strategic value, lifting it, from Israel's viewpoint, would be tantamount to an admission of defeat and could empower Palestinians in the West Bank to emulate the Gaza model. This lack of certainty further accentuates the political crisis and lack of strategic vision that has defined all Israeli governments for nearly two decades. Inevitably, Israel's political experiment in Gaza has backfired. The only way out is for the siege to be completely lifted - for good.

– Courtesy: Arab News

# 06

# WORLD / SPORTS



## Briefs Committee

## Committee to hold talks with the TTP

### FROM PAGE 01

Recognizing the sacrifices of the victims of terrorism and the action taken against them, he made it clear that Pakistan was, is and will be the guardian of the sacrifices of its martyrs and the families of the victims.

The meeting also paid tribute to the brave tribal people and acknowledged that their sacrifice and major support led to peace and stability after great hardships and hardships.The National Security Committee stated that the final decision on TTP would be made with the consent and concurrence of Parliament. The meeting was informed that effective and practical operations of the security forces are part of the strategy of clearing, holding, building and transferring powers to the civil administration. With the support of the Afghan government and led by civil and military authorities, the Pakistani government is negotiating with the TTP banned within the framework of the Constitution of Pakistan to strengthen regional and internal peace. The meeting said that the final results would be implemented after the completion of the process within the limits of the Constitution of Pakistan and the approval of the Government of Pakistan. The Parliamentary Committee on National Security formally approved the process of negotiations and approved the creation of a 'Parliamentary Oversight Committee which would be responsible

within constitutional limits. Neighbouring country involved...

for monitoring the process

FROM PAGE 01 Shah on Monday where Karachi police chief informed the meeting that the main commander of the banned outfit involved in the attack has been arrested. "A team of intelligence agencies and CTD after collecting the cellular comdata through geo-fencing and conducting DNA with other relevant information arrested BLA commander Dad Bux aka Shoaib from Hawke's Bay, Maripur area on Monday," he said, adding that the suspect who was in-charge of the sleeper cell of the outlawed BLA has disclosed important information about the incident. "He on the directives of Khalil Baloch aka Mosa who happens to be BLA commander used to conduct the surveillance of different places including Karachi University and other government installations before targeting them."

# Pakistan's embassy holds mango festival in Ankara

The event was attended by a large number of Turkish dignitaries, members of the diplomatic corps, the Pakistani community and members of the press, serving to further strengthen the close cultural and bilateral ties between Turkey and Pakistan



### DNA

ANKARA: The Pakistani Embassy in the Turkish capital Ankara on Monday held a Mango Festival, during which guests had the chance to taste Pakistan's world-famous mangoes as well as several local dishes. The Mango Festival is part

of a series of activities and events the being organized to commemorate in 75 years of Pakistan's independence – Pakistan's Diamond Jubilee. Welcoming the guests, Pakistan's ambassador to Turkey, SyrusSajjadQazi, stated that the mango – known as the "king of fruits" – is an integral part of Pakistan's history and rich cul-

ture, as it is being cultivated on its lands since ancient times. The ambassador reiterated that Pakistan is the sixth-largest producer and the fourth-largest exporter of mangoes in the world. There are over 200 varieties of high-quality mangoes – including the Sindhri, Anwar Ratol, Langra, Maldah, Dusehri, Fairi and others.

At the festival, freshly cut Chaunsa, the most popular mango variety, and a wide range of mango delicacies such as ice cream, milkshakes, lassi, salads, pickles and desserts made of mangoes that arrived fresh from Pakistan were served to the guests. The sweetness of the mango delicacies was complemented by savory dishes, including biry-

ani made of high-quality Pakistani basmati rice and select Pakistani cuisine. The event was attended by a large number of Turkish dignitaries, members of the diplomatic corps, the Pakistani community and members of the press, serving to further strengthen the close cultural and bilateral ties between Turkey and Pakistan.

# Freedom of belief is a fundamental right

Giving various examples of persecutions by various terrorist groups around the world, Truss said: "Persecution ranges from exclusion and discrimination to forced conversion, destroying places of places of worship and targeted killings."

### FOREIGN DESK

LONDON: The freedom of belief is a fundamental human freedom "since the dawn of the time" but there is evidence of "appalling persecution" today, British Foreign Secretary Liz Truss said on Tuesday. Speaking at the Freedom

"Societies that allow their people to choose what they believe are better, stronger and ultimately more successful." She said: "Yet throughout history, we have seen oppressors crackdown on freedom of religion or belief in order to exert control. "Whether it the appalling persecution of the Jewish community

dawn of time," she said.

es of places of worship and targeted killings." The British foreign secretary underlined that Ukraine is "on the frontline of this struggle." "Vladimir Putin and his enablers claim that Russia is waging a holy war, but in truth, they believe nothing is sacred," she said, adding that there is "growing evidence of heinous war mitted by Rus sian troops." She said: "Innocent civilians are having to shelter from Russia's indiscriminate bombardment in places of worship. "Churches, synagogues, and mosques have been reduced to rubble. Religion is proving to be collateral damage from Putin's aggression. Truss added that "the UK

will not rest until you prevail and until your people are free to live, believe and thrive." "We all want a world where people are free to believe," she said.

Truss said since she has become the foreign secretary, she has taken a stance against anti-Semitism and continued to stand with "shocking persecution of Uiahur Muslims in Vinijana' am at the forefront of standing up for all those suffering in Ukraine including Orthodox Christians," she said. Truss underlined that authoritarians and oppressors feel "threatened by the freedom of religion or belief, fearing it will encourage people to think freely and question their authority.'

by the variable of the press, serving to further strengthen the close cultural and bilateral ties between Turkey and Pakistan.

women players KARACHI: Men and women players will now be paid equally under a five-year agreement reached by New Zealand Cricket (NZC) and the players' organisation. According to the agreement, all players would receive equal match money both at the international and domestic levels. Because they participate in more games and formats and put in more training, male players will receive larger retainers. "This is the most important agreement in our sport," NZC chief David White said. In accordance with the agreement, there are now 72 domestic contracts for women instead of the previous 54. "It's great for the international and domestic women players to be recognised in the same agreement, alongside the men. "It's a massive step forward and will be a huge drawcard for young women and girls," New Zealand women captain Sophie Devine said. - DNA

**Pakistan mountaineer Makes another record** KARACHI: Shehroze Kashif, the youngest member of Pakistan's climbing community, broke another record by becoming the youngest mountaineer to summit Nanga Parbat. Nanga Parbat, one of the 14 8-thousanders, is 8,126-meter-high and the ninth-highest peak in the world. Kashif has scaled Everest, K2, Kangchenjunga, Lhotse, Makalu, Manaslu, and the Broad Peak, and the Nanga Parbat was his eighth summit of an 8-thousander. The 20-year-old mountaineer wants to hold the record for being the youngest person to summit all 14 of the world's highest peaks. By the end of the year, Kashif plans to summit five more of the highest peaks, but his mission may be in jeopardy due to a lack of funding and support. – **DNA** 

### Imran warns to lay bare everything if sidelined

FROM PAGE 01 he added, they would accept Israel, and even compromise on the blood of Kashmiri people. Imran Khan claimed the US was unhappy with the independent foreign policy of Pakistan, which was the primary reason behind the ouster of his government.

He condemned the attacks, FIRs and threats to journalists and social media activists who were speaking against the 'imported regime'. He said, "This is the era of social media where every person has a voice [through a mobile device]." PTI chairman said journalists and social media activists speaking against the incumbent government are being threatened through 'unknown numbers'. He said that journalists like Ayaz Amir, Arshad Sharif, Imran Riaz Khan, and others could not be 'bought' as they listen to the voice of their conscience.

He said Sabir Shakir, who has been in journalism for two decades, left the country, adding that the imported regime is also after Jameel Farooqui, Moeed Pirzada and Sami Ibrahim. He asked the judiciary if the fundamental rights have been suspended in Pakistan or the martial law had been imposed.

FIRs are being lodged against the people who are speaking the truth, he said while adding that these tactics were useless in the current time. He claimed that PTI has no history of causing chaos, and they have always remained peaceful during their protests.

"If it is [Pakistan] Palestine or occupied Kashmir where the women and children were assaulted," Imran Khan said and reiterated that rubber bullets and teargas shells were used on the peaceful protesters.

Imran Khan said he would be compelled to reveal details of the US-backed regime change operation in Pakistan if they are sidelined or suppressed. Imran Khan claimed that he was aware how the conspiracy was plotted and executed, and he had therefore filmed a video regarding it.

"I just want to say it before my nation that I am silent

### Palestine rejects US stance on...

FROM PAGE 01 No amount of vagueness or politicization can exonerate the killers, whitewash the crime, or hide the truth. This whitewashing will only further institutionalize Israel's entrenched impunity, continue to deny the Palestinian people any justice, and threaten the safety and lives of journalists in Palestine. It will also have a negative impact on the safety of journalists worldwide.

The State of Palestine, in its pursuit of justice for Shireen Abu Akleh and all Palestinian victims, will continue undeterred with its efforts at the international level, including the International Criminal Court, to hold those who ordered and provide cover for this established trend of criminality accountable for their crimes.

## ECP summons Punjab CM

FROM PAGE 01 announced the election schedule in 20 constituencies of Punjab on May 25, 2022. While Punjab Chief Minister announced free electricity under Roshan Gharana Scheme on July 4, 2022. According to the code of conduct issued by the Election Commission, no government official, elected representative or government official can announce any development scheme in these constituencies after the announcement of the election schedule.

the of Religion or Belief conference held in London, in-Truss said "religion is proving to be collateral damage from (Russian President Vladimir) Putin's aggression." "The freedom to believe, to pray and commit acts of worship, or indeed not to believe is a fundamental human freedom and has been one since the

ondon, ing to stamp out religion in s provamage there is further evidence of this around the world." Giving various examples to beof persecutions by various terrorist groups around the world, Truss said: "Persecu-

Active resistance

key to victory

against imperialism

TEHRAN: Iranian President Ebrahim Raeisi says enhanced

ties between Iran and Venezuela and active resistance

against the imperialist countries will definitely lead to victo-

ry. In a message to Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro on Tuesday, Raeisi said he was confident that victory would

be achieved by expanding bilateral relations and making use of the model of active resistance in the face of the excessive

demands of imperialist countries. He extended his congratu-

lations to the Venezuelan president and people on the anni-

versary of the country's independence, which is reminiscent

of efforts by Simon Bolivar, the late South America's 19th

century independence hero and political leader, toward the

"This historic day is a symbol of efforts by the freedom-seek-

The Iranian chief executive expressed hope that Tehran

and Caracas would further improve "friendly and strategic"

relations and implement the agreements previously reached

between them. During a visit by the Venezuelan president to

Iran last month, Tehran and Caracas signed a 20-year partner-

ship agreement aimed at bolstering cooperation in various

sectors, particularly in science, technology, agriculture, oil

and gas, petrochemicals, tourism as well as culture. - DNA

ing countries to abolish colonial dominance," Raeisi said.

freedom of Venezuela and other Latin American states.

terrorist groups around the world, Truss said: "Persecution ranges from exclusion and discrimination to forced conversion, destroying plac-

ituries or Stalin tr



MINSK: Ambassador of Austria to Belarus Dr. Ronald Helmut Sturm visits Pakistan embassy and meets Amb. Sajjad Haider. - DNA

# **England complete incredible win over India**

### SPORTS DESK

EDGBASTON: England nonchalantly completed a record chase of 378 to beat India in rapid time on the final morning of the fifth Test at Edgbaston. Centuries from Joe Root and Jonny Bairstow took England to their highest successful pursuit in Test cricket and the ninth-largest in the history of the game.

Needing another 119 from their overnight 259-3, Root and Bairstow coasted with incredible ease, taking England to a memorable seven-wicket win, one of their all-time greatest victories. Bairstow's 114 not out was his second century of the match, while Root ended unbeaten on 142 in an unbroken partnership of 269. They carried England to a new height in what is turning into a spectacular summer under new captain Ben

Stokes and coach Brendon to India's first-innings 416, McCullum. The win enthen on Monday India were sures a series that was post-322 ahead with five second-innings wickets in hand. poned last summer is drawn 2-2 but, more importantly, it And yet, England's insistis the greatest validation to ence that they could chase date of England's ultra-posiany target was proved tive approach to Test crickcorrect, thanks largely to et. Their next series is with the cavalier progress they South Africa in August, made on a scintillating while an entirely different fourth afternoon. Strangely, given the magnisquad under new white-ball captain Jos Buttler plays the

South Africa in August, while an entirely different squad under new white-ball captain Jos Buttler plays the first of three T20s against India on Thursday. Just five weeks ago, England's Test cricket was in the doldrums, with McCullum and Stokes given the task of reviving a team that had won only once in 17 attempts. While the manner of the 3-0 series win over New Zealand was thrilling, it felt like a different prospect to play 'Bazball' against

the powerful Indians. The home side were under huge pressure at different times during this match. They were 83-5 in response 416, morning was almost anticlimactic. Edgbaston was far from full despite all of the available free tickets being taken, while Root and Bairster stow removed what little jeopardy remained in the chase. That takes nothing away from what England have accomplished - to overhaul 378 for the loss of only three wickets is truly remarkable.



Superlatives for England's pair of Yorkshire batting maestros have long been exhausted. This was Bairstow's fourth hundred in five innings and sixth this year, Root has made 11 since the beginning of 2021. Their rebuild from 109-3 on Monday ran India ragged. When Root resumed on 76 and Bairstow 72 on Tuesday morning, India still had fielders scattered, allowing runs to flow.

Root played dreamy drives and clips off the pads. After he had run Mohammed Siraj to third man for his 28th Test ton, he unfurled the trick shots. Shardul Thakur was belted back over his head for four, then reverse-scooped for six.

Bairstow was more circumspect, but still pummelled anything short. He only showed nerves on 99, going to three figures with a pinched single off Ravindra-Jadeja and celebrating with

an emotional embrace from Root. By the end, their partnership was the fourth-highest by any pair in the fourth innings of a Test, while the run chase surpassed the previous England record of 359, set when Stokes stunned Australia at Head-

ingley in 2019. Victory, a formality for most of the morning, was completed almost half an hour before lunch. This is a crushing defeat for India. Last summer they were by far the superior team, but they called off the fifth Test after a Covid outbreak in their backroom staff and have now missed out on a first series win in England since 2007. Not only that, but this is the largest target they have failed to defend in Test cricket. They were subsequently fined 40% of their match fee and penalised two ICC World Test Championship points for a slow over-rate.

until now and I know who has done what .. this is for my nation as I do not want to inflict harm to my country ... but I know how the [regime change] conspiracy was carried out but if we are pushed to the wall ... I will reveal everything I have recorded in the [undisclosed] video that is in a safe . . I will be compelled to speak before the nation," he warned. He questioned why the case regarding the legitimacy of Hamza Shahbaz as the chief minister of Punjab was adjudicated for two months. "In our time, the courts opened at night," he went on to say.

## Fawad pens letter to SC against Hamza

FROM PAGE 01 Hamza Sharif was only allowed to use regulatory powers till July 22 and Hamza himself assured the court that he did not intend to rig the elections. Fawad said that the PTI had serious reservations over Hamza Shahbaz Sharif's individual as well as official role as CM Punjab, who was not trampling the apex court's orders but also violating election code of conduct.

He said that Hamza announced the package at a press conference for the people of the province, which was broadcast live on national media including state TV. He said that details of this package have also been published by national newspapers.

Fawad said that this was a fake package as it could not be materialized due to the fast dwindling economic situation of the country; however, Hamza's sole purpose was to use the relief obtained from the court for its own political advantage and to influence the voters. He said that Maryam Nawaz, a convicted by SC and accountability court, was campaigning for by-elections across the province, who announced the package in an election meeting a day before Hamza announced it formally. Fawad stated that police crackdown against PTI workers continued on direct orders of Hamza Shahbaz, as the workers were being implicated in fake criminal cases.

# **Π7**

# **BUSINESS / WORLD**

# **Briefs**

## Italy declares emergency amid worst drought

# NATO signs accession protocols for Sweden, Finland

NATO chief thanked Ankara, Helsinki, and Stockholm for their 'constructive approach.' 'Trilateral agreement they signed at Madrid summit made today possible,' he continued

### **News Desk**

ROME: Italy declared a state of emergency Monday in five northern regions that are most affected by drought. The Cabinet, convened under Prime Minister Mario Draghi, decided to issue emergency decrees for Emilia-Romagna, Friuli-Venezia Giulia, Lombardy, Piedmont and Veneto, reflecting droughts in the Po River and eastern Alpine basins.

The government also allocated 36.5 million euros (\$38 million) to overcome the crisis. The largest share of the funds (10.9 million euros or \$11.3 million) will be given to the Emilia-Romagna region. Italy is suffering its worst drought in 70 years. The amount of precipitation in the country's northern regions has decreased by half since the beginning of this year com-

pared to previous years. Some municipalities in the north had to resort to restrictive measures in the use of drinking water and agricultural irrigation due to the extreme heat experienced in recent weeks. Experts have warned that the drought crisis throughout the country threatens 30% of its agricultural production and has so far caused nearly 3 billion euros (\$3.12 billion) worth of losses in the agriculture sector.

### Home to Europe rally underway in Georgia

### FOREIGN DESK

TBILISI: The rally called "Home to Europe" is being held in front of the Parliament building on Rustaveli Avenue in Tbilisi. The rally is organized by a new civic movement Home to Europe, Trend reports citing 1tv.ge. The representatives of various opposition par-

#### FOREIGN DESK BRUSSELS: Representatives from NA-TO's 30 member states on Tuesday signed accession protocols for Finland NATO OTAN NATO and Sweden, after their invitations OTAN to the military alliance at the historic summit in Madrid last week. The NATO secretary general and the foreign ministers of Finland and Sweden held a press conference in Brussels following the signing of protocols, where they answered journalists' questions about the trilateral memorandum with Türkiye, in OTAN which they pledged to address Ankara's concerns about their stance on the PKK

the speed ratification" of the accession according to their national procedures. Finland's Foreign Minister Pekka Haavisto, for his part, said the Madrid summit made a "historic decision" to invite Finland and Sweden to become members of the alliance. "I am pleased to see the signing of accession protocol by all NATO allies," he said. "Look forward to participating in work of alliance as invitee member from now on." Swedish Foreign Minister Ann Linde said her country will contribute to the "security of all allies." She believes that joining NATO is the best way for Sweden to "ensure our national security and keep Swedish people safe." On the historic memorandum signed

by Ankara, Helsinki, and Stockholm at the summit, the top Swedish diplomat said: "We made a memorandum of understanding between Finland, Sweden, and Türkiye to address the concern of Türkiye when it comes to security and terrorism.

"We will honor that memorandum. We will also have a joint mechanism." She expressed her hopes for a quick ratification process. In response to questions about the memorandum, Stoltenberg said: "I think that the unity that NATO allies have demonstrated by inviting Finland (and) Sweden to join and also the unity we demonstrated at the Madrid summit shows how NATO is able to deliver when we need to stand

together." Finland's foreign minister, for his part, said his country has always had a "very good and long-term relationship" with Türkiye. "When Türkiye applied for EU membership, we were one of those countries that advocated (for) that process," he reminded. So this constant communication, of course, will continue now also during this ratification process, he vowed. "In this document, and in this memorandum, we have actually addressed all those concerns that also Türkiye raised, including the terrorists, the PKK," he added. Stoltenberg also added that the memorandum is "very important" because it is a "strong document" that provides a good platform for Finland, Sweden, and Türkiye to work together in fighting terrorism, which, he defines as a "great concern" for all the allies. The two countries shunned neutrality and applied to join NATO in May, a decision spurred on by Russia's war on Ukraine. But Türkiye, a longstanding member of the alliance, voiced objections to their membership bids, criticizing the countries for tolerating and even supporting terrorist groups. Ahead of the summit, Ankara and the two Scandinavian countries signed the memorandum after four-way talks including NATO in Madrid. The agreement allows the two Nordic countries to become NATO members but conditioned them to take steps on Türkiye's terrorism concerns and lift an arms embargo on Ankara. Following the trilateral deal, NATO formally invited Sweden and Finland to join the 30-member military alliance.

# **Floods**, landslides hit Maluku, Indonesia

Islamabad **POST** 

Wednesday, July 06, 2022

AMBON: Floods and landslides have been reported in several parts of Ambon, Maluku province, following incessant and heavy rainfall since Monday, according to the Ambon City Regional Disaster Mitigation Office (BPBD). "Quite high rainfall since Tuesday morning at 8 a.m.-12.30 p.m. WIT (Eastern Indonesian Standard Time) resulted in a number of locations being affected by floods and landslides in three sub-districts in Ambon city," Ambon BPBD head Demy Paays informed on Tuesday. The office recorded flooding in eight different areas and landslides in five areas.

Floods submerged at least 25 homes, affecting 31 families comprising 135 people. Landslides damaged several homes and affected 11 families consisting of 45 people. The local authorities collected data on the damaged buildings and provided assistance in the form of carts, shovels, tarpaulins, and sacks to families to clean their homes.

Ambon city residents have been urged to remain vigilant as disasters can occur anvtime or anywhere owing to the rainfall intensity, which is estimated to continue to increase. BPBD has asked people living on mountain slopes and riverbanks to always be alert and pay attention to appeals or information issued by the government through mass and social media. The community has also been asked to immediately report disasters to the BPBD through local neighborhood coordinators. – ANTARA

### Turkish-Ukrainian mily officials discuss food corridor

### WEB DESK

ANKARA: Turkish and Ukrainian military officials had a meeting in Ankara on July 4 to discuss the shipment of grain exports from Ukraine, the daily Hürriyet reported. The officials exhanged views on bilateral and regional defense and security issues at the meeting held at the Defense Ministry. The opening of a "grain corridor" in the Black Sea, the evacuation of two A-400 M type heavy transport aircraft of the Turkish Air Force waiting in Kiev, and claims that Russia attempts to transport the grain allegedly usurped from Ukraine to the world markets via Türkiye were on the agenda, the daily reported. Turkish and Russian military delegations met in Moscow last month as part of the efforts carried out for the exit of grain-laden ships from Ukraine. Türkiye, Russia, Ukraine and the U.N. have been in talks about making a food corridor from Ukraine to the world markets. Following the Turkish-Russian talks, a Turkish commercial vessel departed from the Mariupol port of Ukraine, which is now under Russian occupation. Elaborating on the allegations regarding stolen grains from Ukraine, Foreign Minister Mevlüt Çavuşo lu earlier said Türkiye investigated these claims and found out that all mentioned products that allegedly arrived in Türkiye were products labeled by Russia. Türkiye's two military cargo aircraft were stranded in Kiev on the day the war erupted between Russia and Ukraine. Ankara has been discussing the safe return of the aircraft with both Russian and Ukrainian officials.

# MOSCOW: The Russian military opera-

while, the number of foreign mercenaries in Ukraine has been decreasing, some of them lost their lives in battles, and others left the country, said. "Only in the

last 10 days complete liberation of the territory of 170 mercenaries were killed, 99 refused to participate in hostilities and left the

manitarian activities, providing support to the civilians "of the liberated cities," and ensuring peaceful life in the territories controlled by Russian troops, he said. Besides, they sustain the safety of navigation in the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov, he added.

"We have created two humanitarian corridors for the movement of civilian ships in the Black (Sea) and the Sea of Azov. The mine danger in the water area of the port of Mariupol (in Ukraine) has been completely eliminated," Shoygu said. Also, large-scale activities are being carried out in Ukraine's Luhansk and Donetsk regions to clear the mines. So far, over 3,700 hectares of land have been checked for mines. while more than 46,300 explosive devices found and defused, he said. Nearly 4,900 civilians have been killed in Ukraine since the war with Russia started on Feb. 24.

## Uzbekistan, Afghanistan discuss trade cooperation

### **News Desk**

TASHKENT: Deputy Prime Minister - Minister of Investments and Foreign Trade of the Republic of Uzbekistan Sardor Umurzakov received a delegation of Afghanistan headed by Acting Minister of Industry and Trade Nuriddin Azizi. During the meeting, the sides exchanged views on the agenda of Uzbek-Afghan cooperation in the field of investments. trade, transport and logistics. Further steps were agreed to implement joint initiatives in each of the above areas. An agreement was reached on the joint preparation of proposals to increase bilateral trade and expand the volume of cargo transportation through the territories of the two countries. The prospects of joint work on establishing direct ties between Uzbek and Afghan business circles in order to explore the existing potential for mutually beneficial partnership were also noted. In the context of the dialogue, the participants of the meeting considered measures for the implementation of the trans-Afghan railway construction project "Termez - Mazar-i-Sharif - Kabul - Peshawar". The practical aspects of organizing field research along the route of the rail ay in the second half of July this year were

# berg said the next step now is to "ensure Russia plans to continue its 'operation' in Ukraine

### AGENCIES

and FETO terror groups.

Reminding that the NATO allies had agreed

to invite the two Scandinavian countries to

join the alliance, Stoltenberg said NATO

ambassadors had just signed the accession

protocols for Finland and Sweden. "This is

a historic day for Finland, for Sweden, for

NATO and for Euro-Atlantic security," he

said, adding: "Today, we have shown once

again that NATO's door is open." The

NATO chief also thanked Ankara, Helsinki,

and Stockholm for their "constructive ap-

proach." "Trilateral agreement they signed

at Madrid summit made today possible,"

he continued. "I know all three parties are

working hard on the implementation and ro-

bust follow-through, especially in the fight

against terrorism," he remarked. Stolten-

tion in Ukraine will continue until the tasks set by President Vladimir Putin are fully completed, Defense Minister Sergey Shoygu said on Tuesday. The priorities are the preservation of the lives and health of the Russian military and the exclusion of threats to civilians, Shoygu said at a meeting with military chiefs in Moscow. "The Rusmilitary sian is not going to

## stop after the

The West continues arms deliveries to Ukraine, which, according to Shoygu's assessment, is made "in order to protract the conflict." The minister also noted that over 28 tons of military shipments have been delivered to

the country since the war erupted on Feb. 24, while part of them went to the black market and was resold to the Middle East. Mean-

ties, also citizens from the regions joined the rally on

Rustaveli Avenue. "Article 78 of the Constitution, which states that the Georgian government must do everything to ensure Georgia's European integration, is violated. Here comes the question of legitimacy. When the government is no longer legitimate, non-violent resistance begins," said Shota Digmelashvili, one of the leaders of the movement Home to Europe. The decision to hold the rally on July 3 was announced on June 24, when the organizers demanded the resignation of Prime Minister Irakli Gharibashvili and the formation of a government of national consent, for which protesters gave a one-week deadline.

### Greece installs Israeli devices against Turkish drones

#### AGENCIES

ATHENS: Greek forces have started to install military devices that can allegedly cloud the vision of Turkish drones, according to daily Kathimerini. An article published on July 1 in the newspaper read that Greece is "in the final step" of forming an "umbrella" against Turkish drones.

According to the article, this so-called umbrella is being installed in great secrecy and consists of Israeli-made "Drone Dome" system. The Greek article states that the Drone Dome system is made in a way that suits the specific needs of Greece and the geography of the islands and

other bordering areas. "These military devices have the capability of disorienting the flight plans of TB-2 'Bayraktar' and ANKA-S when they are on missions," it said. "They can blind unmanned aircraft (UAVs) and drones, it added. In the past, there was news in the Greek media that negotiations were held with the Israeli manufacturer Rafael for the purchase of "Drone Domes.

It was stated that these military devices were able to detect early, due to their 360-degree radar, and they could interrupt the communications of UAVs with their central stations with the interference they spread

the Luhansk People's Republic. The special military operation will continue until the tasks set by the supreme commander are fully completed," he said.

Ukrainian territory," he noted. The Russian military, apart from conducting military operations, takes part in hu-

Over 15 million people have been forced to flee their homes, including more than 8.4 million that have fled to other countries, according to UN figures.

discussed. The Uzbek side expressed readiness to continue providing humanitarian assistance to the Afghan people and to develop cooperation with Afghanistan in priority areas.

# Scandinavia's biggest airline files for bankruptcy

#### WEB DESK

OSLO: The Scandinavian airline, SAS, announced that it has gone bankrupt a day after 1,000 pilots walked out on strike. On Tuesday, the airline voluntarily filed for 'Chapter 11 bankruptcy proceedings' in the United States as part of a restructuring plan. The move will allow the carrier to continue operating, despite facing financial problems. In the US, Chapter 11 is a mechanism allowing a company to restructure its debts under court supervision. SAS said its "operations and flight schedule are unaffected by the Chapter 11 filing, and SAS will continue to serve its customers as normal." However, it acknowledged that the strike launched on Monday by Scandina-

vian pilot unions would continue to impact operations. "The ongoing strike has made an already challenging situation even tougher. The Chapter 11 process gives us legal tools to accelerate our transformation, while being able to continue to operate the business as usual," chief executive Anko van der Werff said in a statement. Pilots walked out on Monday after negotiations between the unions and the company broke down. The pilots are protesting against salary cuts demanded by management as part of a restructuring plan aimed at ensuring the survival of the company, which has suffered a string of losses since the start of the coronavirus pandemic in early 2020. On Monday, SAS said that the strike "is estimated to lead to the cancellation of approximately 50 per cent of all scheduled SAS flights," impacting around 30,000 passengers a day.

SAS management announced a savings plan in February, dubbed "SAS Forward", which was supplemented in June by a plan to increase capital by nearly 1 billion. Denmark and Sweden are the biggest shareholders with 21.8 per cent each. Denmark has said it is ready to increase its stake to 30 per cent. Sweden has refused to provide fresh funds, but is willing to turn debt into capital. Norway, which left SAS in 2018, stated that it is ready to return to the airline, but only by converting debt into equity. The strike at SAS comes as the summer is shaping up to be difficult for European airlines and airports, faced with staff shortages and causing queues, disruption and delays.

# Baku, Tokyo discuss regional security issues

#### DNA

BAKU: Azerbaijani Deputy Foreign Minister Elnur Mammadov and Japanese Deputy Assistant Minister, the special representative for Central Asia, the Caucasus, and GUAM, Ambassador Tokuda Shuichi have discussed multifarious cooperation and regional security issues, Azernews reports. The discussions took place as a part of the next, 12th meeting of political consultations between the Foreign Ministries of the two

countries on July 4. The sides discussed the current level of relations between the two countries, and the prospects for expanding and developing cooperation in political, economic, humanitarian, and other fields during the meeting. The parties also exchanged views on cooperation between Azerbaijan and Japan in energy, alternative energy, economy, humanitarian and other sectors. The diplomats congratulated each other on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the establishment of

diplomatic relations between Azerbaijan and Japan. Mammadov provided extensive information to the opposing party regarding the region's present post-conflict state, the mine clearance procedure in the territories liberated from occupation, and the restoration and building activities carried out by Azerbaijan in the regions. The sides also discussed collaboration within international organizations, regional challenges, especially the situation in Ukraine, and subjects of mutual interest during the meeting.



ISLAMABAD: British High Commission's delegation in a meeting with Federal Minister for Law and Justice Senator Azam Nazeer Tarar at Ministry of Law. - DNA

## **Indonesian Police improving to realize modern institution** The 76th Police's Bhayangkara Day commemoration ceremony was centred at the Police Academy campus in Semarang, Central Java, with President Joko Widodo serving as the ceremony inspector

JAKARTA: The Indonesian Police is consistently working towards improving itself to achieve a modern institution, as the police commemorate the 76th Bhayangkara Day this year, Police Chief General Listyo Sigit Prabowo stated. "The police continues to improve itself to achieve a modern and not anti-critic institution through cultural reform by taking into account the residents' aspirations," Prabowo noted in his remarks at the 76th Bhayangkara Day commemoration ceremony at the Police Academy, Semarang, Central Java, as observed by online means on Tuesday. He affirmed that as the police still has much room for improvement, it will continue to better itself to be an institution that is

adored by the people. "We promise to continue to improve (ourselves), be sensitive, and be heedful of criticisms and suggestions. Despite it not being pleasant, we will evaluate (criticism) to realise the police's transformation." the police chief noted.

On the occasion of the 76th Bhayangkara Day, the police continues to commit to the residents' mandates and expectations by performing its duties to the people and the nation, he stated. "We hope that the 76th Bhayangkara Day can bolster our spirit to devote our best to maintain the diversity and unity of the Indonesian nation as well as support government policies to realise the Indonesia nation's noble goals," Prabowo

remarked. The police chief then highlighted a recent survey published by newspaper Kompas, which concluded that some 83.8 percent of the residents have a positive impression of the police's performance, thereby reaffirming the police's commitment to providing the best services to the public.

He also stated that the police institution is currently optimising the use of information technology to expand the police service coverage nationwide and reduce physical contact between officers and residents, which increases the potential of non-tax state revenues and reduces corrupt behaviours. "The police is also exerting efforts to realise its single data system to achieve an integrated

system through the utilisation of big data and artificial intelligence and realise technology-based police services and predictive policing," Prabowo expounded.

The 76th Police's Bhayangkara Day commemoration ceremony was centred at the Police Academy campus in Semarang, Central Java, with President Joko Widodo serving as the ceremony inspector. Former president Megawati Soekarnoputri; former vice presidents Try Sutrisno, Hamzah Haz, and Jusuf Kalla; as well as government ministers, heads of national institutions, and the military and police top brass, were present during the commemoration ceremony. - ANTARA

### Chinese city of 13m shuts down again

#### AGENCIES

BEIJING: Businesses, schools and restaurants in Xi'an will close for one week, officials said Tuesday, after the Chinese city logged a handful of Covid-19 cases as outbreaks nationwide strain Beijing's zero-tolerance virus approach. China is the last major economy wedded to a zero-Covid strategy, deploying snap lockdowns, guarantines and travel curbs in a bid to weed out new infections.

Xi'an - a historic city of 13 million that endured a month-long lockdown at the end of last year - has reported 18 cases since Saturday in a cluster driven by the fast-spreading Omicron variant, according to official notices.







# Briefs **British** Airways cancels more flights

# **Terrorist attacks against** policemen in KP increasing

# Powerful policy makers in capital are in favour of patch up with banned TTP

#### **News Desk**

LONDON: British Airways is cancelling more flights scheduled for the summer holiday season, it said on Tuesday, at a time of widespread disruption at airports caused by staff shortages and a surge in travel demand. The airline said it would now reduce its April-October schedule by 11%, having said in May the cuts would amount to 10%. "As the entire aviation industry continues to face into the most challenging period in its history, regrettably it has become necessary to make some further reductions," a British Airways (BA) spokesperson said via email. "We're in touch with customers to apologise and offer to rebook them or issue a full refund."

## SHAMIM SHAHID

PESHAWAR: Since deadlock in talks between government of Pakistan and banned Tehrik Taliban Pakistan, violent/ terror acts, especially attacks against the police force in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa are on rise. The Inspector General of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa said that 54 policemen have been killed during current calendar year but different data's confirm killing of more than 60 policemen and injuries to around 56 others during this period.

In last two days, so far four policemen two each in Tank and Dera Ismael Khan were shot dead by unknown persons. In Dera Ismael Khan two policemen also got injured in the violent attack, whereas the alleged terrorists/attackers succeeded in escape. On the other hand, the armed forces claimed killing of at least 64 alleged ter-

rorists during actions in last two months. Only 41 alleged terrorists killed in June

2022 which included 20 only in North Waziristan. None of these alleged terrorists, claimed killed in security forces operations is owned by banned TTP. However, officials are claiming that in North Waziristan all alleged terrorists were killed in acts and actions are associated with banned Shura Mujahideen North Waziristan headed by Hafiz Gul Bahadar. Armed forces had launched military operation Zarb-i-Azab against Hafiz Gul Bahadar on June 15th 2014 and since then Gul Bahadar along with accomplices is sheltering in Afghanistan. Gul Bahadar was considered an ally of banned TTP when its establishment was formally announced in December 2007.

The banned TTP in its talks for a permanent reconciliation with government, commenced in end of April 2022 last demanded restoration of Federally Administrative Tribal Areas (FATA) status for the tribal districts merged in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and complete evacuation of armed from the area. In fact, Taliban have already placed

also "declaring some free zones along with Pak Afghan border," whereas the traditional Khasadar (tribal police) will be responsible for maintaining law and order situation.

The analysts believe that the increasing violent/terror attacks against police meant to force the government, especially political leadership to surrender before the banned TTP demands. Some of the political leaders within the coalition government, especially Pakistan Peoples Party and Awami National Party have shown reservations over talks and reluctant to endorse banned TTP demands. Soon after return of Tehrik Taliban Afghanistan (TTA) into power on August 15th 2021 last, the high ups of armed forces through its intelligence squads (dealing ups and downs in Afghanistan since last 70's) initiated dialogues through Haqqani network for a patch up. The banned TTP in its first round of dialogues declared ceasefire from November 1st 2021 for one month. However, during this period, civil society organizations arranged protests thus compelling

Taliban for terminating dialogues. Since December 2021 till April 2022, wide ranging violent acts occurred throughout the country, thus enabling the Pakistan's spy masters for resuming talks in end of April through a traditional jirga of elders from South Waziristan.

No doubt to mention that spy masters are in links with banned TTP through Haqqani network of Emirate Islami governing Afghanistan, since long. As a result of such links, Pakistan achieved a lot like fencing of controversial Durand Line isolating the Afghan government, came into being in according to UN formula inked at Bonn Germany and even forcing the US led allies for following its (Pakistan) lines on Afghan issue. Now powerful military establishment intends to go ahead with its future strategic targets, which is possible with a "fragile peace" both internally and in neighboring Afghanistan. And for the purpose, powerful policy makers in capital are in favour of patch up with banned TTP.

Customs

Seizes

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DNA

## China announces Afghan trade and investment plans

#### **News Desk**

KABUL: China's ambassador announced trade and investment plans for Afghanistan on Tuesday, a public endorsement for doing business in the Taliban-controlled country after an earthquake drew attention to the humanitarian consequences of Western sanctions. At a rare press conference alongside the Taliban administration's acting minister for disaster management, Ambassador Wang Yu announced \$8 million in aid for relief from the June 22 earthquake that killed more than 1,000 people.

"Besides emergency humanitarian aid, after the political changes last year and after the earthquake, we also have long-term economic reconstruction plans," he said. "The priority would be trade, followed by investment, as well as agriculture." No country has formally recognised the Taliban, who seized power last year after the United States and its allies abruptly withdrew troops following 20 years of war.

### NCOC issues fresh guidelines for Eid ul Adha

### DNA

ISLAMABAD: The National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) on Tuesday issued fresh guidelines for Eid ul Adha, urging people to follow the issued SOPs as coronavirus cases climb across the country.

COVID cases witnessed a spike in the mid of June, with officials fearing that the infections would spread further due to shopping and the celebrations leading up to Eid ul Adha. Eid ul Adha

### Israel says Iran military build up in Red Sea a threat

### WEB DESK

OCCUPIED WEST BANK: Israel's defence minister said on Tuesday that Iran has been entrenching itself militarily in the Red Sea, calling it a threat to regional stability and trade. "Today, we can confirm that Iran is methodically basing itself in the Red Sea, with warships patrolling the southern region," Defence Minister Benny Gantz said at an event in Athens

"In the last months, we have identified the most significant Iranian military presence in the area, in the past decade," he said. Gantz's office said he presented satellite images of four Iranian warships patrolling the Red Sea. Iran has been building up its naval presence in the Red Sea over more than a decade in a move which it says is needed to protect Iranian oil tankers against the threat of piracy.



### Eleven killed. 20 injured in Quetta rain incidents

### **DNA**

QUETTA: At least 11 people including a child lost their lives and 20 others were injured in roof collapse and electrocution incidents in Quetta's Saryab Road area and near the eastern bypass due to heavy rain. During the first spell of monsoon rains in Balochistan, heavy and light rains are continuing in different cities. According to deputy commissioner Machh, more than 40 families have been affected by unfortunate rain-related incidents. Five coal miners were swept away by flash floods. Two of them were rescued. A rescue operation to find the other three was underway till the filing of this story. At least 95 feeders tripped in Quetta city and telephone lines were damaged. In Khuzdar district's Tehsil Nall, one voungster lost his live in a flash flood as well.

DNA

SLAMABAD: Several areas in the twin cities were flooded - with at least one child dead - as monsoon rains lashed Islamabad and Rawalpindi on Tuesday, with television footage showing vehicles submerged in rainwater in some places. The child's death occurred due

to drowning, in the Leh Nullah in Rawalpindi's Hazara Colony area, a spokesperson for Rescue 1122 told. The spokesperson said two friends had dared each other to jump in the Nullah, following which one of them drowned. A search operation was ongoing to recover the child's body, he added.

fallen into the capital's Korang Nullah while playing were rescued safely, Deputy Commissioner Islamabad Irfan Nawaz Memon said. He appealed to people to stay away from drains during the rainy season. Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD) data showed 39mm of rain had fallen around the Leh Nullah in Pindi, 55mm in Saidpur village, 54mm in Golra, 36mm in Chaklala and 11mm in Shamsabad till the filing of this report. Meanwhile, the managing director of

Water and Sanitation Agency (Wasa), Tanveer Ahmed, said 60mm of rainfall was recorded in the twin cities, adding that water levels had risen to 12 feet in the area around Leh Nul-

in Gawalmandi. The capital's low-lying sector H-13 as well as homes in Pindi's Sadiqabad, Shamsabad, Dhok Kala Khan and Awan Colony were flooded, while rainwater also accumulated on the garrison city's Jamia Masjid Road and Murree Road. As much as five feet of rainwater had accumulated in Sadiqabad. Residents in another area, New Lalazar, climbed to their rooftops as rainwater started entering homes and vehicles were submerged.

Meanwhile, Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD) has forecast more monsoon rains in the country during this week that may trigger landslides and flash flooding in vulnerable areas. The monsoon

may continue during the next 24-48 hours. The monsoon currents are likely to further strengthen from the weekend. Rain-wind/thundershower is expected in Islamabad, Kashmir, Swat, Mansehra, Kohistan, Abbottabad, Haripur, Peshawar, Mardan, Swabi, Nowshera, Rawalpindi, Murree, Attock, Chakwal, Jhelum, Sargodha, Hafizabad, Mandi Bahauddin, Sialkot, Narowal, Mianwali, Bhakkar, Lahore, Gujranwala, Gujrat, Sheikhupura, Faisalabad, Jhang, Toba Tek Singh, Okara from July 05-07 (night). Heavy falls are also expected in Kashmir, Peshawar, Mardan, Kurram, Dir, Mansehra, Abbottabad, Islamabad, Potohar region, Gujranwala, Sialkot,

arrested an accused," he said. "The consignment of the urea will be observed on July has a market value of 4.68 mil-

lion rupees," he added. It is to be mentioned here that the farmers across the country had recently protested against non-availability and price hike of fertilizer a key input for their crops. Smuggling and hoarding were pointed out two major factors of fertilizer shortage in the country, in a report of the federal interior ministry. The law enforcement authorities initiated a crackdown against smuggling of urea fer-

tilizer to Afghanistan.

**NOW IN PAKISTAN** 

10 and on this festival, animals are sacrificed, which increases human contact, thereby increasing the chance of the event being a super spreader. In light of this, the NCOC has issued fresh guidelines for

the public to follow. Meanwhile, the National Institute of Health (NIH) data showed that the COVID-19 positive ratio in the country had declined to 3.45%. A day earlier. a 4.61% COVID-19 positive ratio was recorded in the country with 675 cases.

# NHA to link CPEC M-14 with Pak-Afghan Border The project will be financed by the Federal Govt of Pakistan

through PSDP 2022-23 through Separate Head/allocation

### **DNA**

ISLAMABAD: The Government of Pakistan has decided to connect Ghulam Khan, North Waziristan with Motorway 14 (M-14) a project of the western alignment route of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) via a 184KM long Motorway. According to Gwadar Pro on Tuesday, the National Highway Authority (NHA) on Monday issued a request for proposal (RFP) of consultancv services for the Feasibility Study and Detailed Design for the Construction of the Motorway from Ghulam Khan to Esa Khel Interchange.

The project will be financed by the Federal Government of Pakistan through PSDP 2022-23 through Separate Head/ allocation. Pre-Proposal Conference will be held on July 19, 2022, at NHA headquarters in Islamabad while procurement will be carried out by adopting the "Single Stage Two Envelops" procedure. The proposals complete in all respects in accordance with the instructions provided in the RFP document in sealed envelopes, which should reach on or before August 10, 2022.

Esa Khel Interchange is located over M-14 in Mianwali district of Punjab,

which is in proximity to the Lakki Marwat district of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP). Between Mianwali and Ghulam Khan falls Bannu district of KP. After Torkham and Chaman, Ghulam Khan is the third most important crossing between Pakistan and Afghanistan. Afghanistan has already started benefiting from Gwadar Port and the country received the first consignment of bulk cargo from the United Arab Emirates in July 2020. Ghulam Khan crossing, at the Pak-Afghan border point, is the shortest route connecting CPEC's western route with Afghanistan, Central Asian States and beyond.

# YouTube in India bans short film highlighting HR abuses in IIOJK

A letter from YouTube Legal Support Team sent to Sandeep Ravindranath said they have received a notice from the Indian government seeking blocking of the video

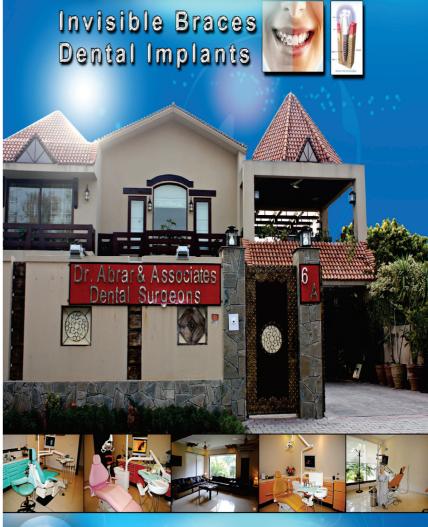
ISLAMABAD: Keeping up its practice of gagging freedom of expression, the Indian government has persuaded YouTube to ban a nine-plus minute short film "Anthem for Kashmir" in India which highlighted the enforced disappearances and fake encounters in India Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIO-JK). A product of award-winning documentary filmmaker Anand Patwardhan and Sandeep Ravindranath, and Carnatic singer T.M. Krishna, the short film was

released on May 12. It coincided with the 1,000 days of the abrogation of Article 370 on May 1, which revoked the special status of the occupied territory.

However, following the legal complaint by the Government of India, the video streaming platform has geo-blocked the short film for the viewers in India. A letter from You-Tube Legal Support Team sent to Sandeep Ravindranath said they have received a notice from the Indian government seeking blocking of the video. Expressing their inability to share the communication from the Indian government, the YouTube letter said this was since the notice itself is confidential.

Talking to the Indian media. Sandeep said that he found it ironical that a "nuclear-armed state is ruffed by a few minutes of video clips and the power of the pen... There is a pattern in the recent government crackdown on media persons, intellectuals and social activists. The underlying objective is to silence voices that question its unilateral discourses on key

issues pertaining to politics, policy-making, governance and essentially the structure and ethics of the state." He said the clampdown in Kashmir in the aftermath of August 5, 2019 had motivated him to chronicle the human rights violations in the valley. Sandeep Ravindranath said the aim, and the motivation were to also try and portray the truth of today's Kashmir. The Federation of Film Societies of India (FFSI), Kerala Region has condemned the ban on short film. - APP





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