

Sanahart

Monday, July 04, 2022

Pakistan's Credible Daily Newspapers

Price Rs. 20

China attack on Taiwan not imminent; US closely watching

Detailed News On Page-06

A sister publication of **CENTRELINE & DNA News Agency**

Germany slams UK's plan to dismantle deal

Detailed News On Page-06



Bairstow brings ton after verbal clash with Kohli

Detailed News On Page-06



Briefs

Justice Chowhan appointed Hon CG of Gambia

STAFF REPORT

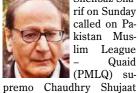
ISLAMABAD:



the Honoray Consul General of Gambia in Islamabad with consular jurisdiction over whole of Pakistan. The President of Pakistan Dr. Arif Alvi has signed the appointment letter. The Foreign Minister of Pakistan Bilawal Bhutto Zardari had already signed the letter of the appointment. The President further wrote in the letter that Jusitce Ali Nawaz Chowhan may be given all facilities available to the diplomats including all sorts of immunities. It may be mentioned here that Justice Chowhan has served as the Judge of the International Court of Justice, The Hague, and Chief Justice, Supreme Court of Gambia.

Shujaat lauds PM's policies

LAHORE: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Sunday



Hussain. During the meeting both leaders discussed the current political situation. While admiring PM Shehbaz's policies, Shujaat said he has spent more than 10 years in government and opposition but Shehbaz Sharif is the first Prime Minister who gave priority to agriculture filed in the budget, adding that before him no one has taken such significant steps. - APP

Appointment of COAS will be on time

BUREAU REPORT FAISALABAD: Federal Inte-

rior Minister Rana Sanaullah on Sunday



held on time and as per the prescribed procedure. Speaking during a ceremony in Faisalabad, the home minister said that the International Monetary Fund (IMF) had "red-marked" Pakistan after the Imran Khan-led government increased subsidies.

Inside...

Farah, husband to be brought back, govt says
- Page 02

US Mission celebrates Pak women for completing Program - Page 03

Call to promote commercial ties between USA, Pakistan

Biden's gamble on lowering oil prices - Page 05

Lukashenko says Ukraine fired missiles at Belarus posts
- Page 06

Anti-coup protesters defy security forces in Sudan

Page 07

India bars Kashmiri journalist from leaving - Page 08

PM directs to restart shut power plants

Prime Minister chaired a meeting to overcome the issues of energy crises



LAHORE: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif chairing a meeting on power load-shedding issues. - DNA

ABID RAZA/DNA

LAHORE: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Sunday directed the authorities concerned to take immediate steps for making the shut-down power plants functional and sought a report entailing clear reasons over the load-shedding. The prime minister chaired an important meeting to overcome the issues of power load-shedding and energy crises. The meeting was attended by Minister for Planning Ahsan Iqbal, Minister of State for Petroleum Mussadiq Malik whereas, Minister for Energy Engineer Khurram Dastagir, Minister for Information and Broadcasting Marriyum Aurangzeb, Shahid Khaqan Abbasi, MNA, and PM's Special Assistant on Public Policy/Strategic Communications Fahad Hussain participated the meeting via videolink. The relevant authorities also attended the meeting.

During the meeting, the steps to resolve the ongoing power crises in the country were discussed. The prime minister also directed for resolution of the issues of provinces regarding provision of drinking water and agriculture facilities on priority basis. The Indus River System Authority (IRSA) was told to take an independent decision after mutual consultation of the provinces.

Punjab, Sindh lift curbs on markets

The restriction will come into effect once again from July 11

NAZIR SIYAL

KARACHI: Following the lifting of restrictions in Punjab, the Government of Sindh Sunday decided to revert the notification issued regarding time limitations for businesses on account of Eid ul Adha. According to a notification issued by the province's home department, the restriction will come into effect once again from July 11.

Earlier in June, the Government of Sindh directed all markets across the province to close at 9pm in order to save electricity as the country was witnessing constant power outages. It was said that the measure would remain in effect till July 16, however, with Eid ul Adha just around the corner, the provincial government has decided to lift the restrictions temporarily. According to the notification, the decision to suspend the closure orders has been taken in the "interest of the people". "On the eve of Eid ul Adha, the Government of Sindh is pleased to suspend the operation of this department notifications [...] regarding imposing restrictions on closing hours of various shops, restaurants, wedding halls, etc in the territorial jurisdiction of Sindh province with immediate effect," the notification read.

COVID cases see minor drop

STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: The fresh COVID-19 case count in Pakistan slumped down to 650 a day after a sharp hike in infections across the country, the National Institute of Health, Islamabad (NIH) data showed Sunday morning. Pakistan has been witnessing a constant rise in coro-

navirus cases since mid-June. On Sunday, Pakistan reported a 3.88% COVID-19 positivity rate with 650 new infections that were detected after countrywide diagnostic testing on 16,755 samples during the last 24 hours. The fresh cases pushed the country's total number of COVID-19 cases reported since the start of the pandemic to 1,537,947. Meanwhile, the number of COVID-19 patients being treated in critical care units climbed to 138, while two more patients suffering from the virus died overnight.

Russia claims to have control of Luhansk region

Ukraine: Russian ship detained by Turkey

AGENCIES

KYIV: Turkish customs authorities have detained a Russian cargo ship carrying grain which Ukraine says is stolen, Ukraine's ambassador to Turkey said on Sunday. Ukraine had previously asked Turkey to detain the Russian-flagged Zhibek Zholy cargo ship, according to an official and documents viewed by Reuters. Reuters reporters saw the Zhibek Zholy ship anchored about 1 km from shore and outside of the Karasu port on Sunday, with no obvious signs of movement aboard or by other vessels nearby. "We have full co-operation. The ship is currently standing at the entrance to the

Continued on Page 06

News Desk

KYIV: Russia said on Sunday its forces had taken control of Ukraine's eastern Luhansk region after capturing the final Ukrainian holdout of Lysychansk in heavy fighting, though Ukraine did not confirm the claim. Control of Luhansk, a key war aim for Russia, would come after weeks slow advances, hand Moscow a limited political win and shift the battlefield focus to neighbouring Donetsk region, where Ukraine still controls substantial territory. Driven back from the Ukrainian capital Kyiv following its Feb. 24 invasion, Russia has concentrated its military campaign on the Donbas, which includes Luhansk and Donetsk. Moscow-backed separatist proxies have been fighting there since Russia's first military intervention in Ukraine in 2014. Russian Defence Minister Sergei Shoigu

informed President Vladimir Putin that Luhansk had been "liberated", the defence

Continued on Page 06

Eid ul Azha

Five-day holidays announced

The Cabinet Division is now expected to notify the holidays in a separate notification

MAHNOOR ANSAR

ISLAMABAD, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Sunday approved a fiveday holiday on account of Eidul Azha, which will be celebrated on July 10, according to a statement issued by the PM's Office. "The prime minister has seen and is pleased to approve the Eid-ul-Azha holidays from 8th July to 12th July (Friday to Tuesday)," the statement said. The Cabinet Division is now expected to notify the holidays in a separate notification.

The Central Ruet-i-Hilal Committee chairman Maulana Abdul Khabeer Azad had on June 29 announced the commencement of the month of Zilhaj from July 1, with Eid falling on July 10.Azad had stressed that a message of unity should be taken forward. The chairman then held prayers for peace and stability in the country. On June 29, Federal Health Minister Abdul Qadir Patel noted that Covid cases in Pakistan had been rising and called on the public to be cautious during the upcoming Eidul Azha holidays.

Dozens die as bus falls into a ditch in DI Khan

The bus was on its way from Pindi to Quetta when it met an accident

BUREAU REPORT

ZHOB: At least 20 passengers died and 15 other were injured on Sunday morning after a passenger bus fell into a gorge in Mughal Kot area of Drazinda tehsil in district Dera Ismail Khan. According to the DI Khan police, a Super Sada Bahar coach was on its way from Rawalpindi to Quetta when it met an accident in an area bordering Balochistan. According to the eyewitnesses, the driver lost control over the steering due to overspeeding amid rain; resultantly, the vehicle skidded into the gorge. According to the rescue sources, the bodies of the two deceased have been shifted to Zhob Hospital, whereas, the rest have been moved to Mughal Kot Hospital in Dera Ismail Khan. Television footage showed rescue workers assisting bloodied passengers, while in another scene, the wreckage could be seen. Sherani Assistant Commissioner Mehtab Shah said the incident occurred near Dana Sar area. He said that the bus plunged into the ravine while speeding, killing 19 passengers and injuring 15 others. Rescue teams rushed to the scene soon after receiving information, Mehtab Shah said, adding the bodies had been taken to Civil Hospital Mughal Kot where the

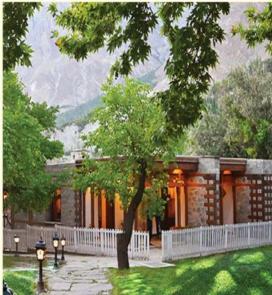
Continued on Page 06

Turkish, Palestine embassies grieved

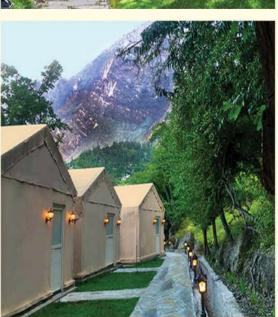
DNA

ISLAMABAD: Turkish Embassy in Islamabad has expressed sorrow over the loss of lives in bus accident in Sherani Balochistan. In a social media message the Turkish Embassy said "We are deeply saddened by the loss of lives in the unfortunate bus accident in Shirani, Balochistan. We wish Allah's mercy upon those who lost their lives and extend our condolences to the families & friends affected by this tragedy.We also wish a speedy recovery to all the injured". Meanwhile, Ambassador of Palestine Ahmad Rabei has expressed sorrow over bus incident. In a message he said, "Deeply saddened by the loss of lives in the unfortunate bus accident in the road of Balochistan". On behalf of Palestinian people we wish Allah's mercy upon those who lost their lives and extend our condolences to Pakistani brotherly people and to the families.











Farah, husband to be brought back, govt says

Atta Tarar accuses PTI chairman, his wife Bushra Bibi and Farah Gogi of looting wealth

LAHORE: Accusing Farah Gogi and her husband Ahsan Jameel Gujjar of corruption, land fraud and running a racket of diamond smuggling, Punjab Home Minister Atta Tarar on Sunday vowed to bring back the couple via Interpol in the country.

Addressing a joint press conference flanked by Punjab Minister for Law Malik Muhammad Ahmad Khan, Tarar said that the government will fulfil all the legal requirements and make all efforts to get "red warrants" (an Interpol red notice) against the couple. A red notice is an international request

sent to the International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol) seeking the arrest and extradition of an individual. He accused PTI chairman Imran Khan, his wife Bushra Bibi and Farah Gogi of looting national wealth.

He said that the chief executive officer of Faisalabad Industrial Estate Development and Management Company (FIEDMC), Rana Yousuf, and Special Economic Zone Committee Secretary Magsood Ahmed have been arrested by the anti-corruption establishment in a case relating to the illegal allotment of a precious industrial plot to Farah Gogi. He said that a 10-acre industrial plot situ-

Shehbaz govt spread chaos: Farrukh Habib

DNA

FAISALABAD: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader Farrukh Habib on Sunday said that Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has spread chaos in the country as he came into power. Farrukh Habib criticized the incumbent government saving that they made personal attacks on Imran Khan. People fully support PTI Chairman. The public wants to see Pakistan as sovereign state led by a fearless leader. The coalition government has failed miserably. Immediate elections are the only way to move the country towards stability, he added. He further said PTI will win the by-elections and will not allow the opponents to rig. Public will respond to any attempt at rigging. The PTI leader also mentioned that the supply of gas to the textile industry has been suspended. He said thieves are being relieved and people are being harmed under Shehbaz's government. - DNA

ated in the Faisalabad Special Economic Zone was allotted to Farah Gogi for only Rs83 million and its actual worth was Rs600 million. The minister said that the plot was transferred to Gogi via a fake company. A case has been registered in this regard earlier this month, he said, adding that Farah Gogi, her mother Bushra Khan and Ahsan Jameel Gujjar were nominated in the case.

He accused the former first lady of "dealing" in the Prime Minister's House, "Imran Khan introduced a new system of money laundering in small packets," he revealed. He said that Imran Khan, along with his wife and Farah Gogi, was running a racket of money laundering via diamonds.

Giving details, Tarar said that the diamonds in small packets were smuggled abroad and were sold in black markets. He maintained that Imran Khan was leading the group. Talking about a leaked audio call of Bushra Bibi in which she was reportedly directing Imran Khan's focus person to prove the opponent a traitor, he said that she is the "mastermind".

Imran Khan could be arrested for use of drugs, he said, adding that the government has no plans to took him into custody. "Who doesn't know that Imran Khan uses cannabis and how cocaine reaches Bani Gala," he added.



KALAT: Federal Minister for Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety Shazia Marri inaugurated Benazir Nashonuma center. - DNA

BISP South Zone enrolls over 2,80,000 kids

MULTAN: Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) South Zone Punjab has enrolled over 2.80,000 children of it's beneficiaries Waseela-e-Taleem program during last quarter of the fiscal year 2021-22. Zonal Director BISP South Zone Punjab, Sheikh Muhammad Ameen, told this news

agency that the scholarship was being offered to the kids of BISP beneficiaries only under (WeT) Programme from class one to higher secondary school education who enrolled at various educational institutions. Rs 1500 per quarter scholarships were provided to primary school kids, Rs 2500 for middle and Rs 3500 for boys which studying in higher secondary schools while Rs 500 extra was being given to girls students in each catego-

ry, he added. The quarterly amount was sent to the kids parents accounts from where they could withdrawal through ATMs and retailers shops. BISP Director further said that the amount delivered into the accounts on the condition of 70 percent presence of kids in the schools concerned as monitoring teams verify it at the end of quarter. He said that they stopped the scholar ship amount of those kids who have less presence in schools from set criteria. - APP

'Killers of journalist to be brought to justice'

PESHAWAR: Special Assistant to Chief Minister on Information and Public Relation Barrister Muhammad Ali Saif on Sunday expressed condolence with the family of late Journalist Iftikhar Ahmad and assured the culprits would be brought to justice soon. Journalist Iftikhar was shot dead in Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa's Charsadda district on Saturday [July 2]. In a statement issued here, Barrist Saif said that the chief minister had taken notice of the incident and also directed police to arrest the criminals involved. He said that the KP government will not leave the family of Iftikhar alone and assured that justice would be served sooner rather than later. - APP

Session to be held as per SC directives: Speaker sembly and an impartial and

DNA

LAHORE: Speaker Punjab Assembly Chaudhry Pervaiz Elahi said Sunday that the assembly's session for chief minister's (CM) elections will be held as per the Supreme Court's (SC) directives. Speaker Punjab Assembly Pervaiz Elahi said in a video message that it is everyone's responsibility to implement the SC verdict with good intentions. Pakistan Muslim League Nawaz (PML-N), Pakistan Muslim League Nawaz Quaid (PML-Q) and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) have the responsibility to follow the top court's directives. "It will be a good and friend-

transparent election for the chief minister will be ensured. Hamza Shahbaz had also given assurance to the top court." Pervaiz Elahi said that Hamza Shahbaz assured to complete the by-election process in Punjab in a transparent way. He asked the provincial government to enforce the SC decision regarding the

transfers and postings. "As per court directives, the institutions will not be allowed to be used against the political rivals. Development schemes or funds will not be given to the constituencies where by-elections are being organised." "It is the government's duty

isters and advisers must ensure full implementation of the election code. The government machinery and political parties should refrain from interference in the administrative affairs." The PA speaker said that the assembly officers will perform duties in accordance with the regulations. The Supreme Court (SC) of Pakistan had ruled that the election for Punjab chief minister (CM) will take place on July 22. Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) leader Hamza Shehbaz and Pakistan Muslim League-Quaid (PML-Q) leader Chaudhry Pervaiz Elahi had agreed on July 22 date for Punjab Chief Minister's election.

Nawaz Sharif govt initiated 11600MW power projects: Dastgir

LAHORE: Federal Minister for Energy Engineer Khurram Dastgir Khan said on Sunday that power projects commissioned in recent past had been initiated by previous Nawaz Sharif led PML-N government, which had started work on new power pacity of 11,600 mega watts.

Addressing a press conference at GEPCO (Gujranwala Electric Power Company) office, he added that 720-megawatt Karot power plant has started generation since June 29. He said that water inflow in Tarbela Dam has increased significantly over the last three days, which resulted in an additional 600 MW of electricity. In next few days, the Tarbela Power Plant will be operating on capacity of 3400MW.

To a question about load-shedding on Eid days, he said that there will be a considerable relief in power supply to domestic consumers owing to closure of industry during

During the PTI tenure, he mentioned,

power projects of 5800MW could not gen-

erate electricity due to criminal negligence of the previous government which did not purchase fuel for these power plants, which led to power crisis and the people had to face long-hours power outages. To a query, the minister said that huge quantum of electricity could be generated through Thar coal deposits, asserting that 1214 MW Thar Coal Power Plant will be the biggest coal power plant of Pakistan. The new power generation projects being initiating by the present government will operate on domestic fuel instead of imported fuel. Khurram Dastgir said that a comprehensive strategy is being devised to switch the domestic power consumers over to solar energy, while all public buildings and infrastructures are being switched over to solar energy in phased manner and a number of steps are being taken in this regard. - APP

RWMC devises cleanliness plan for Eid ul Azha

RAWALPINDI: The Rawalpindi Waste Management Company (RWMC), under the Saaf Punjab campaign, disposed of more than 23,500 tons of garbage from Rawalpindi and its tehsils in June. According to RWMC spokesman, a comprehensive cleanliness plan had been finalized for Eiul Azha to eliminate entrails and offals of animals. He informed that 230 vehicles, including mini dumpers, compactors, arm rollers, tractors, trolleys, and dumpers

drive to remove remains of sacrificial animals from every nook and corner of the city. According to the plan, he said, Rawal Town was distributed into four sectors to make effective cleanliness arrangements for Eid while a control room would also be set up. Commercial Market, Satellite Town, Sadiqabad, New Katrian, Pindora and other areas will be included in Sector A. Similarly, in Sector B. Mukha Singh street, Millat colony, Muslim Town, Afandi Colony, Mohala Cha Sultan,

Araya Mohala, Amarpura and other areas will be included Main commercial areas of the city, including Raja Bazaar, Shah Nazar Dewan, Jamia Masjid Road, Liaquat Road, Kartarpura, Akalghar, Bunni, Kohati bazaar and adjacent areas will be included in Sector C. While Pirwadhai, Khaiban-e-Sir-Syed, Dhoke Matkal, Dhoke Hassu, Fauji Colony and surrounding areas will be included in sector D. All four sectors will work under a control

Tariq Cheema inaugurates Rescue 1122 service



BAHAWALPUR: Minister for National Food Research Security and Tariq Bashir Chaudhry Cheema inaugurated the newly constructed station of Punjab Emergency Service Rescue 1122 at Yazman here

Laptop

scheme to

resume: CM

LAHORE: Punjab Chief

that Rs 200 billion subsidy was being provided to the

people in light of current

layer of price hike, add-

ing that free medicines were also available in

THQ and DHQ hospitals. Immediate steps were be-

ing taken to provide free medicines to the cancer patients, he added. - APP

COURT NOTICE

In the Court of

Mian Riasat Ali Naib

Tehsildar Guirat

Title: Muhammad Afzal

etc. Versus Yousaf Ali etc.

Notice to: 4. Muhammad Afzaal S/O Muhammad

Ashraf Sakna presently re-

Suit for Separation of Land

with permanent injection Whereas in the above mentioned case it has been

proved to the satisfaction

of the court that the above

mentioned defendants are not served in ordinary way. It is therefore proclaimed

under order 5 rule 20 CPC

that if the said defendants

will not appear personally

or through a duly author-

ized agent or pleader in court at 8 AM on 04-07-

be decided ex party.

siding in U.S.A.

on Sunday. The construction has been completed with an estimated cost of Rs 16.8 million. MPA Ehsanul Haq Chaudhry, Chaudhry Wali Dad Cheema, Assistant Commissioner Yazman Mu-

jahid Abbas, in-charge Res-

cue 1122 Baqir Hussain, political and social leaders, and people of the area were present in large numbers

on the occasion.

Federal Minister said that the establishment of Punjab Emergency Service Rescue facility would be extended to more areas. He said that more ambulances would be provided to Rescue 1122 Yazman station and motorbike ambulances would also be provided soon. Federal Minister said that development projects were

1122 will provide excellent

emergency facilities to the

He said that the scope

of Rescue 1122 would be

further expanded and this

people of Yazman Tehsil.

heing completed in Yazman so that the people of the area could benefit from them. He said that a two-lane road has been constructed from Bahawalpur to Yazman. Similarly, construction of roads and other development schemes are being completed in Yazman Tehsil so that people of the area can get relief. - APP

Torrential rains likely in Sindh, Balochistan

Minister Hamza Shahbaz ISLAMABAD: More thunsaid on Sunday that the dershower rain with iso-CM's Laptop Scheme will lated heavy falls are exstart again under which talpected in Balochistan and ented students will receive Sindh in the coming days free laptops to help them while strong monsoon with their education. currents are also likely to In a press statement issued enter southeastern parts here on Sunday, he said that from tomorrow. public service always appre-

Under the influence of this ciated, adding that all available resources were being utilized to save the plight of the common man. "We are not afraid of difficulties and will overcome all the problems with the support of public" he added. The chief minister said

weather system, Rain-thundershower with heavy to very heavy falls is expected Tharparkar, Umerkot. Sanghar, Badin, Mirpurkhas, Thatta, Hyderabad, Tando M. Khan, Tando AlIamshoro districts during 2nd to 5th July, 2022, Radio Pakistan Reported.

Rain-thundershower with isolated heavy falls is expected in Shaheed Benazirabad, Noshero Feroz, Sukkur, Larkana, Khairpur, Shikarpur, Qambar Shahdadkot, Ghotki and Kashmore districts during the period.

Rain-thundershower with heavy to very heavy falls is expected in Khuzdar, Barkhan, Lasbella, Kohlu,

bad, Panjgur from 2nd to 5th July, 2022.

Rain-thunderstorm with few heavy falls is expected in Quetta, Zhob, Dalbandin, Nokkundi, Noshki, Qila Saifullah, Mastung, Kalat and Coastal belt (Gawadar, Pasni & Ormara) during the period. Heavy downpour may cause

urban flooding in Karachi, Hyderabad, Thatta, Badin, Khuzdar, Ormara, Pasni and Gawadar during the forecast period. - APP

JULY 2022

Pakistan's Premier News & Diplomatic Affairs Magazine

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

@Postislamabad/@Editordnanews

A sister concern of

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

following cities ISLAMABAD

Qamar News Agency 03105460372 RAWALPINDI Asim News Agency 03435802610

Islamabad POST

Available in

KARACHI Nazir Siyal 03337554016

PESHAWAR Zarbagh News Agency 03005412069

FAISALABAD Ishfaq Mughal 03007689850 GUJRAT M. Yoosuf Bhutta 03338436820

JHELUM Iqrash News Agency 03005412069

KHARIAN Ijaz News Agency 03068863870

<u>LALAMUSA</u> Gulzar Ahmed Noshi 03359494788

2022, otherwise case will SARA-I-ALMAGIR 0300 5428178 Court Reporter Gujrat



National Days and Armed Forces Days

JULY

July 01 / **Japan** Self Defence Day

July 01 / Singapore

Armed Forces Day July 01 / Canada

Natioal Day July 01 / Somalia

Independence Day (Natioal Day)

July 04 / USA

Índependence 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 20 / TRNC Independence Day

July 23 / **Egypt** National Day

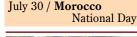
July 21 / Belgium

July 26 / Cuba

National Day

July 26/ Liberia

National Day





Hotels & Restaurants

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



Airlines

Turkish Airlines.....8494949



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



Rawalpindi......9270601-20

Enquiry

Edhi Ambulance	115
PIAFlightInfo	114
PIACargo	.9280979
Railway Inquiry	11
Railway Exchange9	270831-5
WASA Rawalpindi	.5555489
CAA	.9281099



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



Departments

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

Islamabad Metropolitan

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

Water Tank

Islamabad.....0321-5744480



ISLAMAAD: Ambassador of Republic of Korea Suh Sangpyo in a group photo with winners of the KPOP music competition, organized by the Korean embassy- DNA

US Mission celebrates Pak women for completing Program

This inaugural four-week program encourages women to consider careers in the energy sector and advances the role women play in Pakistan's

MAHNOOR ANSAR

ISLAMABAD: U.S. Agency for International Development Mission Director Reed Aeschliman presided over a graduation ceremony for 17 female Pakistani university students who successfully completed the U.S.-Pakistan Women's Council (USPWC) Future of Women in Energy Scholar's pilot program. The graduation ceremony took place at the U.S. Embassy in Islamabad. This inaugural four-week program encourages women to consider careers in the energy sector and advances the role women play in Pakistan's. All of the participants are female Pakistani undergraduate students pursuing degrees in the sciences. The program is a product of a U.S. commitment to advance women's educational and economic participation in Pakistan's energy sector at the U.S.-Pakistan Energy Dialogue held in September 2021. Mission Director Reed said during the grad-

ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi

has directed the National Highway Au-

thority (NHA) to appoint the widow of

a deceased employee under the Prime

Minister's Assistance Package without

further delay and to report compliance

to the Wafaqi Mohtasib within 30-days.

While expressing displeasure, the

president noted that the widow,

having five minor children to sup-

port, had been denied her right for

employment on the flimsy ground

that she had applied for the job after

the stipulated time of one year after

her husband's death. The president

gave these orders while rejecting a



uation ceremony: "As we celebrate 75 years of relations with Pakistan this year, today's milestone shows the scope of this amazing partnership. This program supports wom-

President reprimands NHA for

denying employment to a widow

orders of the Wafaqi Mohtasib di-

recting NHA to grant employment to

Ishrat Bibi (the complainant) whose

husband was a driver in NHA and had

died during service, President Secre-

tariat Press Wing said in a press re-

He also observed that even though

the widow had applied after a pas-

sage of more than two years and

eight months after her husband's

death, but she had produced an

Office Memorandum (O.M) of the

Establishment Division during the

aspect. The president noted that

hearing which took care of this upheld the order of Wafaqi Mohtasib

lease on Sunday.

en's empowerment, education, and job opportunities. It shows the depth and breadth of our mutual commitment and the opportunities for further cooperation.'

The program, a cooperative effort between USPWC, U.S. Mission Pakistan, the U.S. Department of State, the U.S. Department of Energy, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), Texas A&M University, and Texas A&M University at Qatar, kicked off with a two-week study program at Texas A&M University's campus in Qatar on June 3. Scholars learned about energy topics such as energy infrastructure, energy security, and the role of women in the energy sector, and developed independent projects on different facets of the energy economy. The students returned to Pakistan for a two-week career immersion program in Islamabad and Lahore, visiting public and private sector companies and agencies involved in Pakistan's energy sector. The students developed a practical understanding of the multifaceted challenges faced by Pakistan's energy sector.

Many Pakistani and international companies and public-sector employers keen to promote women's participation in the energy sector also contributed to the program. Expanding diversity and inclusion of women is essential to realize a clean and secure en-

ergy future for Pakistan. The U.S.-Pakistan Women's Council is a public-private partnership that seeks to increase women's economic participation in Pakistan by catalyzing commitments from the private sector, civil society, and government leaders in both countries to advance women's economic empowerment in Pakistan. Its members include Pepsico, Coca Cola, Citi, General Electric, Procter and Gamble, S&P Global, the Resource Group, Engro, the Hashoo Group, the American Business Council and U.S. Chamber of Commerce's U.S.-Pakistan Business Council among other leading champions of gender equity.

No one to be allowed to collect hides without NoC

RAWALPINDI: Rawalpindi District Administration would not allow anyone to collect hides of sacrificial animals without permission and a No-objection Certificate (NoC) issued by the authorities concerned as per the directives of the Punjab Government. Deputy Commissioner (DC) Office Rawalpindi had announced that the applications for collecting hides of sacrificial animals would be received till June 30 and after the deadline, no application would be entertained. According to a district administration spokesman, the administration would not allow anyone to collect hides without permission of the authorities as the Punjab government has imposed a ban on the collection of hides without NoC on Eid ul Azha. The charity organizations wanting to collect the hides of the sacrificial animals were directed to submit applications to the office of DC Rawalpindi for permission letter by June 30. The Home Department of the Punjab Government had banned the collection of the hides without the approval of the competent authority. - APP



representation of NHA against the NHA appeared to have overlooked ance within 30 days. - APP ITP accelerates campaign against one-way violators

DNA

ISLAMABAD: The traffic police of the capital has expedited campaign against the violation of one-way rules and issued 8,511 fine tickets during the last two weeks to the violators. Following the directions of Inspector General of Police (IGP), Islamabad Dr Nasir Akbar Khan, special squads had been constituted which will be

ways of Islamabad like Expressway, Srinagar Highway, Margalla Road, IJP Road, Murree Road, 7th Avenue and

The purpose of this campaign is to ensure safety of the citizens and provide secure road environment to them. The Zonal DSPs have also been directed to intensify the action and launch special awareness drive about the risks of oneway and other traffic violations.

Special broadcasts would also be aired on ITP FM Radio 92.4 through which the public can be informed about the disadvantages of violating one-way traffic rules. It has also been decided to prosecute such violators and initiate lawful action against them. The traffic police has also appealed citizens not to violate one-way for the protection of not only their own life and property but also of others.

this important fact and termed the

stance of NHA on her employment

as ill-founded and directed it to pro-

cess her appointment. According to

the details, the widow had applied

for her appointment with support-

ing documents required by NHA,

Feeling aggrieved, she approached

the Wafaqi Mohtasib who passed the

orders for her employment. NHA.

however, instead of implementing

the decision filed a representation

with the president. The president

and directed NHA to make compli-

but she was denied employment.

Principals enjoy two salaries; Teachers struggle

In many cases, the government servants at ministries left their offices after 8 pm. We, the daily wagers, are the backbone of the institution but we are paid Rs. 17000 per month

on daily wage in the Federal Directorate of Education (FDE) are struggling hard to make their both ends meet at the time when the principals are enjoying two salaries on the pretext of evening shift. According to an official source, the principals of Islamabad Model Colleges are drawing double salaries; one for morning shift and another 75pc of their pay for evening shift; their daily wage staff working on minimum wage are struggling to make ends meet. The principals make 8-10 times the salary of a daily wage teacher at their respective colleges. On the other hand Director Model Colleg-

ISLAMABAD: The teaching staff working

es sitting at Federal Directorate (FDE) is also eligible to draw 75 pc of his pay on the pretext of administering the institutions but Area Education Officer dealing with these colleges is not eligible.

Interestingly Headmistresses of these colleges are also not eligible for this extra pay which the principals are drawing.

The staff of these colleges held FDE responsible for such types of anomalies. A daily wage teacher at Islamabad Model College for girls F-10/2 believes that payment of Principals for both the shifts has gotten out of hand and is 10 times high than a daily wager. Are they really contributing 10 times as much value? The answer is no. Principals observe similar working hours for both the shifts which an average government servant observes in any other government department. In many cases, the government servants at ministries left their offices after 8 pm. We, the daily wagers, are the backbone of the institution but we are paid Rs. 17000 per month. A Headmistress at a local college on the condition of anonymity said, "Headmistresses in the same institutions are doing the same job as Principals but we have not been given remuneration for the evening shift. Consequently many

headmistresses are not interested working in second shift. Principal's financial benefits are a major

contributor to rising inequality in income. They are getting more because of their influence at FDE to set remuneration for evening shift. What do the principals and director actually do all day which we are not doing? "Headmistresses and teachers are outraged because they just see it as primarily unfair, but there is also a very strong argument that this discriminatory policy of FDE is demoralizing rest of the staff", she said while urging to fix all types of discrimination within the department". - APP

ISLAMABAD: The 47th International Nathiagali Summer College (INSC) on Physics and Contemporary Needs concluded Sunday in Nathiagali. Member Science Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission, Dr. Masood Iqbal was the chief guest in the closing ceremony. In his closing address, he assured that the Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission (PAEC) will support all kinds of scientific linkages developed during this summer college. He praised the efforts of all seniors who put their heart into it and took personal interest to continue this college without any break for the last 47 years.

Dr. Shafqat Karim, Scientific Secretary of 47th INSC presented in detail an overview of all that is important and fascinating in today's science and technology, which were covered during the two weeks. He also praised the organizing and scientific committees for their untiring efforts for smooth holding of this college. Earlier, this two weeks scientific discourse was inaugurated by Chairman PAEC, Dr Raja Ali Raza on 20the June. In his inaugural address, the chairman PAEC emphasized the importance of sustained and dedicated work in all sectors of science and technology to help transform the country into a developed society. Addressing the inaugural session of 47th International Nathiagali Summer College, he said maximizing international cooperation and building bridges to the world scientific community will be an important element in that endeavour. - APP

Prices of sacrificial animals see sharp increase

RAWALPINDIL With just a few days left until Eid ul Azha, the prices of sacrificial animals have increased sharply as the purchasing process has gained momentum ahead of Eid. The traders as well as buyers at cattle sale points have also expressed concern over high cost of the animals as well as transportation charges. Cattle traders usually come to Rawalpindi from other parts of the district like Fateh jang, Talagang, Attock, Taxila, Gujar Khan and other cities.

People were visiting animals markets to buy or see suitable animals but most of the buyers looked disappointed upon observing high prices of animals which they said were beyond what they could afford. The authorities concerned have also failed to enforce the ban on the sale of sacrificial animals on roads, streets and markets as several roads of Rawalpindi city and Cantonment areas have been turned into cattle markets. The citizens said that the cattle markets were far away and the fare from the cattle market to the city was up to Rs 4,000 to 6,000. - **APP**

Nominations invited for 2023 Zayed Award for Human Fraternity

ISLAMABAD: The organizing committee of 'Zayed Award for Human Fraternity' in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates has invited nominations for the fourth cycle of the award till October 31. The Zayed Award for Human Fraternity is an independent global award that honours individuals and entities that make outstanding contributions towards human progress and neaceful coexistence. Judge Mohamed Abdelsalam, secretary-general and member of the Judging Committee for the 2023 prize on the occasion said, "The Committee looks forward to identifying the personalities and entities that have effectively contributed to finding pioneering solutions to contemporary challenges in the field of promoting human fraternity." - APP

AIOU invites

applications under PM

Electric

Wheelchair

Scheme

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Allama Igbal

Open University has in-

vited applications under

Prime Minister's Electric Wheelchair Scheme from its

disabled students enrolled

in the semesters autumn 2021 and spring 2022. In

a notification issued by the

Directorate of Students Affairs, Deans, DG regional

services, HODs of all aca-

demic departments as well

as regional directors have

been communicated to dis-

play application forms at

prominent places as well as

circulate widely so that not

a single disabled student

of AIOU is deprived of the

Principal officers have also

been instructed to provide

assistance and guidance

to the applicants in this re-

gard. Duly filled and signed

application form with all

necessary documents including a disability certifi-

cate must be submitted to

Director, Students Affairs,

Directorate of SA&CS, Block 25/Gateway Block,

Ground Floor, Allama Iqbal

Open University, Islamabad

CGH free

medical

camps; 1650

heart patients

provided free

treatment

RAWALPINDI: Cantonment

General Hospital (CGH),

organizing five free medical

camps for heart patients has

provided free medicines and

According to RCB spokes-

man, Administrator CGH

Brig. ® Hassan Ibraheem

and Deputy Administrator

Dr Attique ud Din. doctors

and paramedical staff were

also present at free medical

camps. Renowned Cardiologist Dr Hamdan Waqas and

his team, here the other day, checked up over 250

patients and provided free

Several medical tests of a

large number of the patients

were also conducted. He in-

formed that CGH had organ-

ized five free medical camps

in which over 1650 patients

were checked up and provid-

The residents of Canton-

ment areas have appreci-

ated the role of President

Cantonment Board Brig.

Salman Nazar, Cantonment

Executive Officer, Imran

Gulzar, doctors, staff and

administration of CGH and

RCB for organizing free

medical camps and pro-

viding free medicines and

treatment to the heart pa-

tients. - APP

ed free medicines.

treatment to over 1650.

before 18th July 2022.

electric wheelchair.

Briefs

PAP developed to combat human **Trafficking**

ISLAMABAD: Executive Director of Sustainable Social Development Organization (SSDO), Syed Kausar Abbas on Sunday said that the government has constituted committees in collaboration with public private partnership in order to combat the Human Trafficking.

Talking to APP, he said comprehensive Provincial Action Plan (PAP) was developed in consultation with all the relevant stakeholders including police, FIA, labor department, home department, social welfare, media, human rights department of Punjab.

He further added that with this Action Plan, an agreement was made on spreading public awareness on trafficking in person by developing awareness content with the help and collaboration of government departments and its effective dissemination with coordination and help from media houses. - APP

Paymob, NIFT sign agreement to securely enable digital payments

ISLAMABAD: leading omni-channel financial services platform in the MENAP region, signed an agreement with National Institutional Facilitation Technologies (NIFT) to facilitate digital transfer and payments in the country.

Under the agreement, Paymob will enable digital payments for their merchants using the NIFT ePay platform which supports account, wallet and card-based payments.

Paymob's payment infrastructure enables SMEs to accept digital payments online and in-store whilst providing them better access to financial services. As an API integrator, Paymob's gateway sits on merchants' websites to facilitate pay-

ment capture. In addition to conventional bank cards, Paymob merchants will have access to mobile wallets, QR payments, bank card installment plans, and Buy-Now Pav-Later (BNPL) options all of which serve to drive an increased volume of transactions and revenue.

Paymob plans to extend its Tap-on-Phone payment acceptance service to the Pa kistan market. The company will also launch cards to enable B2B transactions for its merchants and build tools for merchants to better manage and grow their business. NIFT was established in 1995 as a joint venture between six major Pakistani banks and entrepreneurs from the private sector. - APP

PBC pensioners gets 10% increase in pension

ISLAMABAD: Due to the intervention of Federal Ombudsman, the Radio Pakistan pensioners have got 10% increase in their pensions. According to a press release issued here on Sunday, more than 50 pensioners of Radio Pakistan had filed complaints with the Federal Ombudsman for their failure to get 10% increase in their pensions, which was allowed by the Federal Government

in April, 2022. During hearing proceedings, the representative of Radio Pakistan informed that the funds allocated by the Finance Division were insufficient to meet the pensioners demand. The Ombudsman gave verdict in favour of the complainants and directed the management of Radio Pakistan to arrange funds at earliest and increase the pension of the complainants within 30 days. Finally, with the efforts of Consultant Implementation Pervez Halim Raiput, the PBC management has endorsed the 10% increase in the pension of Radio Pakistan employees' along with arrears. The pensioners of Radio Pakistan have thanked the Federal Ombudsman for timely intervention to resolve their grievances. – APP



ISLAMABAD: Ms Naima Ansari President Islamabad Women Chamer of Commerce & Industry (IWCCI) hosted a dinner in honor of Award Winning Ladies of IWCCI. Zafar Bakhtawari Secretary General United Business Group, Raja Azhar (Businessman from London) Ch. Iftikhar (Gujrat CCI), Ms Samina Fazil (Group Leader), Ms Sadaf Asim Abbasi, Ms Mumtaz Akhtar, Ms Rizwana Asif, Ms Farida Rashid, Ms Mussarat Jabeen, Ms Rabia Raheel, Dr Johria Azhar, Ms Irum Irfan, Ms Zunaira Umer and others in a groupphoto on the occasion. - DNA

Call to promote commercial ties between USA, Pakistan

"The United States continues to encourage Pakistan to improve the business climate to make it easier for U.S. businesses to invest, operate, and create jobs. US companies can introduce new technologies and generate returns that translate into higher incomes for local workers and capital for additional investments"

DNA

ISLAMABAD" U.S. Special Representative (S/R) for Commercial and Business Affairs Dilawar Syed visited Islamabad July 1-3 as part of a multi-city trip to Pakistan. During his visit, S/R Syed underscored the U.S. government's commitment to growing U.S.-Pakistan commercial and economic ties. In his meetings with Pakistan's Ministers of Finance, Commerce, and Foreign Af-

history of economic partnership between the United States and Pakistan. "U.S.-Pakistan trade and investment

fairs, S/R Syed stressed the decades-long

cooperation is an ongoing, essential part of our bilateral relationship. In my discussions with Pakistani leaders from government, business, and civil society, we are exploring concrete ways in which we can build on that relationship to benefit both of our countries," he noted. "The United States continues to encourage Pakistan to improve the



business climate to make it easier for U.S. businesses to invest, operate, and create jobs. U.S. companies can introduce new technologies and generate returns that translate into higher incomes for local workers and capital for additional investments," he noted. "We already have a strong base. We hope Pakistan will continue implementing reforms to make it more attractive

S/R Syed also met with representatives from the Board of Investment where he noted that the United States is Pakistan's largest single-country export market and one of Pakistan's largest sources of foreign investment, adding, "We must capitalize on that potential and nurture even greater economic ties.'

As he listened to representatives of women-led businesses, incubators, and chambers of commerce, S/R Syed stressed that "the United States will broaden our bilateral trade, boost investment, and expand entrepreneurial and educational opportunities to build on 75 years of our relationship.'

Innovation key to successful entrepreneurship: Meher

al Tax Ombudsman and former Senior Vice President chamber Meher Kashif Younis on Sunday said that innovation is a key to successful entrepreneurship for promoting business and enhancing profitability besides competing local and global markets. He stated this in his keynote address at a workshop on "The importance of Innovation in Entrepreneurship" held under the aegis of United Business Group in Federation of Pakistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Lahore, according to a press release received here. He said the suc-

Relief, rehabilitation

measures for KP's

underprivileged discussed

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Bait-ul-Mal (PBM) Managing

Director Amir Fida Paracha and Faisal Karim Kundi

on Sunday discussed various possible measures for

the relief and rehabilitation of the needy and deprived

Former Deputy Speaker National Assembly, Faisal Karim

Paracha vowed taking practical steps to support the de-

prived and backward classes of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

"PBM's poor-friendly policies were glimmers of hope for

the deprived persons throughout the country.", he said

while expressing his enthusiasm for making the organiza-

tion accessible to the persons of remote and deprived areas.

Amir Fida Paracha also informed that Bomb Blast vic-

tims and other disabled persons would also be provided

artificial limbs while other initiatives like women empow-

erment, medical treatment for the poor patients, educa-

tional stipends for the deserving students, education and

care of orphan and poor children were also part of the

While congratulating Managing Director PBM on assum-

ing the charge, Faisal Karim Kundi hoped that PBM

would become more vibrant and potent under the dynam-

welfare activities in the province.

ic leadership of its new chief. - APP

people of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province.

Kundi met with the MD at PBM headquarters.

crucial to a business being able to improve its process and better the products and services to market,increase its efficiency and most importantly, enhance its profitability.

He said marketplaces, whether local, national, regional or global are becoming highly competitive. Competition has increased as a result and knowledge-sharing opportunities offered by the internet. He said innovation enhances the nature, creativity and design thinking process of a brand. Meher Kashif said a new business can

attain the height of success by learn-

it can open the doors of various opportunities by helping the business to keep up with the trends as it also help grow your business manifolds with better range of products.

He said " we need to work together and use the skills within our communities to build strong, diverse and sustainable business".

Further adding, he said we also need to get better at clearly communicating how climate change will affect us if we don't reduce our carbon dioxide emissions, reduce global warming and clean up our land and the ocean. - APP

ANF foils 2 bids to smuggle heroin abroad; recovers

RAWALPINDI: Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) conducted opgle heroin abroad, recovering over five kg heroin besides netting three accused. According to an ANF Headquarters spokesman, ANF acting on a tip-off conducted an operation at entry gate of Islamabad International Airport and foiled a bid to smuggle heroin abroad. ANF managed to recover 2,600 grams heroin and netted three accused namely Jorge Masih with 2,600 grams heroin which was tactfully concealed in his trolley bag. On the pointation of the arrested accused, two other persons namely Ilyas Masih and Rizwan Masih were also sent behind the bars who confessed to smuggling heroin abroad in the past. In another operation, ANF Islamabad and ANF Intelligence conducted a raid at an office of a private courier company in Islamabad and foiled a bid to smuggle 2,770 grams heroin to the UK through courier service. – **APP**

10% turnout of women voters will be discarded. She also discussed the toll of unpaid labour on women, including domestic work, which puts undue burden. While Senator Fawzia Arshad stated that women have tre-

mendous potential to empower themselves and that women from all spheres of life have the capability to succeed. She urged women to make themselves strong enough to

raise their voice for the issues. Similarly, Farhat Ullah Babar, stated that it is the responsibility of the parliamentarians to ensure that we first a create safe environment in the parliament and the country, which will then naturally lead to safe working environments for women. He commended the hard work that women did over the past decades to promote their rights, especially high-

lighting how hard women politicians work, and that every political party has produced great woman leaders. Experts from various fields took to the stage for a panel discussion on the issues faced by women in the workplace, and demands for better working condition, as well as the role of policymaking for safe working environments for women. Myra Imran, seasoned journalist and Vice President of the National Press Club stated that she found women journalists to be more determined and hard working than male journal-

domestic violence, health and women empowerment. She also stated that the Press Club now has a dedicated room for women journalists only. Dr. Shahla Tabassum, Head of the Gender Studies Department at Fatima Jinnah Women University stressed the need of not only conducive working environments for women, but also conducive educational environments for women. - APP

ists, and often cover women issues-related beats, such as

SSDO & WWA holds District Convention

zation (SSDO) in collaboration with the Women Workers Alliance (WWA) held a District Convention to demand for administrative improvements for better labour governance at all levels. The Chief Guest was Chaudhary Salik Hussain, Federal Minister of the Board of Investment and Special Initiatives, while Senators Seemi Ezdi, Fawzia Arshad and Farhat Ullah Babar also graced the event.

It was also attended by over a hundred women workers from diverse sections of the labour force, including those working in academia, civil society, media, business, law, education, sanitation, hospitality industry, healthcare and public service. Chief guest Chaudhary Salik Hussain in his address said that the Board of Investment will now work closely with the Women Chamber of Commerce and help direct foreign funding to women led initiatives. He also said that we all have to work together to create a safer environment for the female in the country. Senator Seemi Ezdi stated that a lot of work is done by legislators to empower women. 5% of tickets for general seats are reserved for women, and during the election process, any polling station with less than

Citizens advised to adopt precautionary measures

RAWALPINDI: The citizens have been advised to adopt all possible precautionary measures to avoid Corona and Congo viruses on Eid ul Azha. According to a district administration spokesman, the district administration had set up 11 cattle markets for the sale of sacrificial animals in the Rawalpindi district. The administration on the directives of Deputy Commissioner (DC) Rawalpindi Tahir Farooq, had set up 11 cattle markets to facilitate the citizens to purchase sacrificial animals for Eid ul Azha.

In Rawalpindi, cattle mar-

kets of sacrificial animals were set up at Bhatta Chowk near Koh-e-Noor Mills Rawalpindi Cantt, Punjab Cooperative Housing Society Adiala Road on Adiala Road and Chakri Road near Al-Haram City. Cattle markets were also set up on Gulyana Road, Mangal Chowk near Kalar by-pass, Tanki road near Chan Shah Jalyar Kahuta, Chovera Bazaar near Rescue-1122, Kotli Sattian, HIT near Sunday Bazaar timber market road Taxila, Sharif Hospital Stop on G.T.Road Wah Cantt. Tehsil Road, Lower Bazaar Murree and Jhika Gali Murree, he added. - APP In order to protect the citi-

zens from the Congo and Corona viruses, the authorities concerned were directed to take solid steps besides ensuring arrangements for health and hygiene of the animals. - APP

Animal buyers returning without shopping

When contacted, President Jamiat Ul Quresh Pakistan Khursheed Ahmed Qureshi said that the primary cause of the increase in the prices of animals was the demand and supply gap

RAWALPINDI: The shoppers visiting cattle markets were returning without purchasing as the prices of sacrificial animals were skyrocketing. With only one week left for Eid-ul-Azha, fewer buyers were seen at the cattle markets set up by the Rawalpindi administration at eleven points in the district.

Residents, who arrived here at Bhatta Chowk sale point along with their children, said on Sunday that animal sellers were demanding excessive prices beyond their purchasing limit. Adil Mir, a buyer at the market, said last year he purchased a small goat of 25 kilograms for Rs 45,000, but now the same animal was being demanded at up to Rs 90,000, which showed the rate of sacrificial animals had gone up by 100 per cent. Wagas Younas, another buyer at Adiala Road market, said the rates of goats, sheep. buffalos and cows were inflated, forcing the people to go home empty-handed. He said buffalos and cows of 160 kilograms, which were available at not more than Rs 160,000 last year, were demanded up to Rs 300,000 this year. He called upon the district administration to take steps to save the public from fleecing of sellers.

When contacted, President Jamiat Ul Quresh Pakistan Khursheed Ahmed Qureshi said that the primary cause of the increase in the prices of animals was the demand and supply gap.

He said that animal production had witnessed a steep decline during previous years as the departments concerned had failed to adopt a comprehensive policy to boost the production of halal meat, resulting in mutton price at Rs 1,700 per kg and beef price per kg at Rs 1,000 in the market. Giving details about online shopping for sacrificial animals, Qureshi, a member of the Board of Directors of Livestock and Dairy Development Directorate, said that online shopping for sacrificial had reached up to 70 per cent due to the Covid-19 pandemic, adding the people preferred online platforms. He said the use of online platforms to purchase sacrificial animals could also be another reason for small crowds at the cattle markets, adding that online companies were offering a goat of 14 kg at Rs. 41,000 and 14 kilograms of share in cows or buffaloes at Rs 20,000.

Gul Khan, a calf seller from Rajanpur, said the rise in transportation charges, cost of animal breeding and bribes collected by the police officials of various departments led to increased animal prices. Meanwhile, Director Livestock Dr Sarfraz Chatta told APP that livestock teams were administering the vaccination to the animals against the LSV and Congo virus while suspected animals were also being

He said that animals found having positive allowed to enter markets at any cost.

senarated at the cattle markets

symptoms of Congo or LSV would not be The Director informed that LSD had al-

ready established seven check posts on the entry points of the district at the Toll plaza, Tarnol, Toll plaza, Mandra, Toll Plaza, Taxila, Chakri, Motorway Interchange, Barian and Kashmir check-posts, Murree, while 14 posts had also set up at the Attock, Jehlum and Chakwal district to avoid the entry of the affected animals in Rawalpindi.

Rawalpindi administration had established cattle markets of sacrificial animals at Bhatta Chowk near Koh-e-Noor Mills Rawalpindi Cantt, Punjab Cooperative Housing Society Adiala Road on Adiala Road, Chakri Road

near Al-Haram City. Gujar Khan cattle market at Gulyana Road, Mangal Chowk near Kalar by-pass, Tanki road near Chan Shah Jalyar in Kahuta, Chovera Bazaar near Rescue-1122, Kotli Sattian, HIT near Sunday Bazaar timber market road Taxila, Sharif Hospital Stop on G.T.Road Wah Cantt, Tehsil Road, Lower Bazaar Murree and Jhika Gali Murree. - APP

05

Biden's gamble on lowering oil prices

oe Biden's trip to Saudi Arabia this month highlights the paradox of American power. The US has the economic heft to punish an opponent - but not enough to alter the behaviour of a determined adversary. Sanctions will see Russia's economy contract by 9% next year. But Washington needs more nations to join its camp to halt Moscow's brutal invasion of Ukraine. Mr Biden has been forced to prioritise war objectives over ethics in meeting Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, who the CIA says ordered the barbaric murder of the prominent journalist Jamal Khashoggi. The havoc that Russia's war has caused on the world's energy markets is contributing to an economic crisis that is playing into the hands of Mr Biden's domestic opponents. This highlights the west's failure to confront the climate emergency with a less carbon-intensive economic model. The green agenda risks being derailed by sky-high hydrocarbon prices. Boycotts and bans against Russia, even as they take a toll on the global economy, will cause ordinary Russians hardship. But this has not moved Vladimir Putin. Soaring crude prices fuel Moscow's war machine. A price cap on Russia's petroleum exports might choke off the cash. But a concern is that China and India will buy Mr Putin's oil at a price that still lets the Kremlin profit. Clever technical solutions mask hard choices. Sanctions drive up energy prices for consumers unless there are alternative supplies available. Right now, to bring down oil prices means producing more planet-destroying energy.

The US is pursuing a three-pronged strategy: increasing pressure on Russia; getting more oil into markets to bring prices down; and allowing central banks to raise interest rates to levels that look as if they might cause a recession. The latter is designed to signal to oil producers that energy prices will collapse. The painful recessions of the 1970s and early 1980s played a part in bringing down oil prices after energy shocks - and contributed to the Soviet Union's disintegration. But this took 15 years. Mr Putin's Russia may not be as powerful as its forerunner. It might be more brittle than the Soviet Union. But there are few signs of imminent collapse. As the west seeks to reduce its reliance on Russian hydrocarbons, there seems to be a global "gold rush" for new fossil fuel projects defended as temporary supply measures. The risk, with the US as the largest hydrocarbon producer, is that the world becomes locked into an irreversible climate catastrophe. Europe might become as reliant on US gas as it once was on Russian gas. Yet during his time in office the sector's market value has doubled because prices have risen. Jarringly, as the climate emergency grows ever more urgent, fossil fuel appears the pivot on which the war in Ukraine will turn.

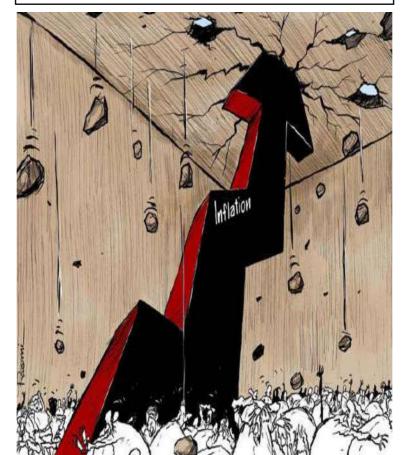
Islamabad POST

Pakistan's First And Only Diplomatic Daily

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

> Member APNS / ABC Certified Vol: 02 Issue: 352

Email: dailyisbpost@gmail.com Phone: 051-2266165 / 051-2261960 Off: Awan Plaza, Block 18-A, G-8 Markaz Islamabad



Economic decisions

MUHAMMAD OMAR IFTIKHAR

he future of Pakistan's economic fabric will not bode well if the internal crisis continues to mount. Rising inflation accompanied by petrol price hikes is a burden on the citizen's shoulders. The members of the lower-middle and lower class will find it difficult to survive in the coming days. Whether one calls it a way to please the IMF and the Western powers or an internal plan for satisfying vested interests, the country needs a plan to come out of this predicament. The economic crisis in Sri Lanka and its fallout should be taken as a case study by Pakistani economists and policymakers. Economic mismanagement is considered to be the root cause of Sri Lanka's crisis. According to the Asian Development Bank, the crisis in Sri Lanka is an example of a Twin Deficit. This refers to the state's national expenditures becoming higher than national revenue and having an insufficient production of tradable products and services.

Economic and financial parallels can be drawn between Sri Lanka and Pakistan. Inflation is rising and the currency is devaluating with each passing day. Furthermore, the current and fiscal account deficits are becoming a problem to handle and bring them back to normalcy. Familial political hierarchy and directionless policymaking have also resulted in the economic debacle that Pakistan and Sri Lanka are facing. If Pakistan wishes not to become the second Sri Lanka in South Asia, it needs to put its best policies into effect. How will the current government bypass the demands of the IMF and Western powers is yet to be seen. To make Pakistan stand back on its feet, strong internal coordination is required that is not affected and faltered by any notion presented by the West. This seems an impossible feat, but not unachievable. If trading with Russia is an option, then it must be chosen as Pakistan has witnessed and experienced in the past how its relations with the US can turn sour within hours.

Marshall plan for the Middle East

Ronald S. Lauder

A fixed sum of money could be given to young entrepreneurs to create new businesses, which would be closely monitored. If they prove to be viable but need a financial boost after a year, another small infusion could be given. In other words, provide Palestinians with all the things that made Israel and other countries financially viable, which would help create a new and successful Palestine

S President Joe Biden is about to embark on what might be the most important trip of his presidency so far. He will visit the oil-rich Middle East, in particular Saudi Arabia, to convey to the Kingdom the fact that it remains a strong ally and that the entire region is still vital to US strategic interests. I believe this visit presents an even greater opportunity that the President should consider, which could solve one of the longest-running historical conflicts —

venting stronger partnerships and long-term peace in the region. I am referring to the Israeli-Palestinian struggle. A growing number of Arab leaders are saying in private that they would very much like to take the same steps toward reconciliation with Israel that we witnessed with the Abraham Accords in 2020, but that they cannot do so until a solution is reached with the official I met went so far as to say he would be happy if he at least "saw a

one that is pre-

greater effort on the Israeli side." We have also heard public statements of a kind never voiced in the past. In a stunning interview with Al Arabiya in 2020, veteran Saudi diplomat Prince Bandar bin Sultan, a former ambassador to the US, spoke candidly about the mistakes made by Palestinian leaders over the years in failing to accept Israel's peace proposals. A recent secret military summit that took place in Egypt between the

US Central Command and Israeli and Arab military officials is another indication of the changing attitudes due to the unifying threat from Iran.

It might seem counterintuitive, given the decades of failed peace efforts, but I believe this is exactly the right time to offer the Palestinians a new initiative – one that they cannot turn down. What I am suggesting is a "Marshall Plan" that would offer the next generation of Palestinians a future of wealth, success and self-reliance, rather than the dismal prospects of the past. The original Marshall Plan, named after US Secretary of State George C. Marshall, formed the basis for rebuilding a shattered Europe after the Second World War and has been used ever since as a model for healing other conflicts. This is because it might have been the most successful foreign policy initiative in history. It accomplished many things at once. It rebuilt and modernized European industry destroyed during the war and it restored the confidence of an entire, demoralized continent. But its most important benefit was that it helped pacify Europe, which in the space of less than 40 years had endured two world wars that killed more than 100 million human beings.

If peace between the Israelis and Palestinians seems intractable, we should bear in mind that the strong, stable Europe we have known for the past seven decades was never a forgone conclusion after the Second World War. Just as the Marshall Plan put Europe on a sound financial footing, the Palestinian plan

should focus on the creation of small businesses, home building, hotels, restaurants and job creation that would offer a positive future to the next generation. A fixed sum of money could be given to young entrepreneurs to create new businesses, which would be closely monitored. If they prove to be viable but need a financial boost after a year, another small infusion could be given. In other words, provide Palestinians with all the things that made Israel and other countries financially viable, which would help create a new and successful Palestine. Within three-to-five years, I believe per capita wealth would double annually. The wealthier a future Palestinian nation becomes, the more likely it is that it could be the viable, successful country it should be - and every country in the region would benefit from this change. The funding could be shared by the US, Europe, Saudi Arabia and other countries in the Middle East, including Israel which, along with the Palestinians, would be the chief beneficiary. Israel is one of the leading high-tech incubators in the world. Younger Palestinians know this and are very interested in being involved in this sector. Palestinian parents would have to decide whether their hatred of Israel is so strong that they would prefer their children to grow up in poverty and die as "martyrs" – or share in a better economic future with their Jewish neighbors and

In the past there has not always been adequate accountability in terms of the aid money given to Palestinians. The new plan would have to be closely monitored by an organization that is trusted by all sides, which would keep an eye on where the money goes and how it is used. Many of the details still have to be worked out, as problems are sure to arise. But issues cropped up with the original Marshall Plan and had to be ironed out as it progressed. Nothing ever runs completely smoothly, especially when dealing with long-standing and visceral hatreds; there was enough animosity between Britain, France and Germany immediately after 1945 to fill volumes. If those countries were able to focus on a brighter, shared future then that is the model we can use today. The Marshall Plan focused on bridge builders. I know there are bridge builders in the Middle East right now. I have met them. I know they want to move forward. In the end, the Marshall Plan did not help Europe alone, it helped the entire world. In the same way, a new future for Palestinians and Israelis would have benefits that extend far beyond the immediate region. President Biden and his team have, with their upcoming visit to the Middle East, a moment in which to create the same kind of opportunity for peace in a troubled region that the Marshall Plan represented 75 years ago. It is a moment that could change the world for the better.

Courtesy: Arab News

Qatar WC offers lessons for human rights struggles labour contracts. eties. It would likely be socially rejected, & Legacy, the Qatari organizer of the an-Palestinian Supreme Committee

James M. Dorsey

The fact is that lagging enforcement of policies and legal changes is a problem across the broad spectrum of Qatari policies and reform efforts, including the Gulf state's high-profile, fast-paced, mediation-driven foreign policy

t's a good time, almost 12 years after the world soccer body, FIFA, awarded Qatar the 2022 World Cup hosting rights and five months before the tournament, to evaluate the campaign to reform the country's erstwhile onerous labor system and accommodate fans whose lifestyles violate restrictive laws and/or go against deeply rooted cultural attitudes. Ultimately the balance sheet shows a mixed bag even if one takes into account that Qatari autocracy has proven to be more responsive and flexible in responding to pressure by human rights and labour groups than its Gulf brothers in the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia. On the plus side, the initial wave of condemnation of the country's repressive kafala labour system that put employees at the mercy of their employers persuaded Qatar to become the first Gulf state, if not the first Arab state, to engage with its critics. Engagement meant giving human rights groups and trade unions access to the country, allowing them to operate and hold news conferences in Qatar, and involving them in drafting reforms and World Cup-related model

labour contracts.
 This was unprecedented in a region where local activists are behind bars or worse and foreign critics don't even make it onto an inbound flight.

The reforms were imperfect and not far-reaching enough, even if Qatar introduced significant improve-

ments in the conditions for unskilled and semi-skilled workers. Furthermore, on the plus side, the hosting rights sparked limited but nonetheless taboo-breaking discussions that touched on sensitive subjects such as LGBT rights and the granting of citizenship to non-nationals. Qataris openly questioned the granting of citizenship to foreign athletes so they could be included in the Qatar national team for the 2016 Olympics rather than medical personnel and other professionals who had contributed to national welfare and development. Hosting the World Cup has further forced Qatar, albeit in a limited fashion, to come to grips with issues like LGBT rights that do not simply violate the country's laws but go against its social grain to produce an inclusive tournament.

In some ways, that may have been more difficult than reforming the labour regime if one considers the difference between standing up for democratic freedoms that may have broad public support and the recognition of LGBT rights. In contrast to democratic rights, opposition to LGBT rights is deeply engrained in Qatar and other Muslim soci-

even if they were enshrined in law. The difference means that the defense of LGBT and other socially controversial rights forces activists and human and LGBT rights groups to rethink their strategies and adopt alternative, more long-term approaches. It also means that they will have to embrace less Western-centric attitudes frequently prevalent in the campaign to reform Qatar's labour system. Those attitudes were evident in debates that were also often skewed by bias, prejudice, bigotry, and sour grapes. Moreover, the criticism often failed to consider the context. As a result, achieving results and pushing for reform was, to a degree, undermined by what appeared to be a ganging up on Qatar and a singling out of the Gulf state. Labour is an example. Human rights groups and trade unions treated onerous labour conditions in Qatar, even if the World Cup turned it into a prime target, as uniquely Qatari rather than a global problem that manifests itself in other parts of the world such as Southeast Asia and even Western democracies like Britain. Recent reporting by The Guardian showed that expatriate medical and caregiver personnel face similar curtailing of rights and abuse in Britain. By the same token, Qatar was taken to task for being slow in implementing its reforms and ensuring that they were applied not only to World Cup projects but nationwide. The fact is that lagging enforcement of policies and legal changes is a problem across the broad spectrum of Qatari policies and reform efforts, including the Gulf state's high-profile, fastpaced, mediation-driven foreign policy. Qatar's handling of illegal recruitment fees paid by workers is a case in point. The Supreme Committee for Delivery

& Legacy, the Qatari organizer of the World Cup, has obliged companies it contracts to repay the fees without workers having to provide proof of payment. Companies have so far pledged to repay roughly USD\$28.5 million to some 49,000 workers, \$22 million of which have already been paid out. It is a step the government could apply nationally with relative ease to demonstrate sincerity and, more fundamentally, counter the criticism. Similarly, in response to complaints raised by human rights groups and others, the government could also offer to compensate families of workers who die on construction sites. Again, none of these measures would dent Qatari budgets but would earn the Gulf state immeasurable goodwill. The consequence of singling out Qatar without putting it in a broader context was that initial Qatari willingness to work with its critics weakened as attitudes hardened. Increasingly self-confident, Qatar engaged less with its critics and responded to criticism more aggressively.

have fuller lives and happier families.

That was evident at the FIFA Congress in Doha in March when Supreme Committee secretary-general Hassan al Thawadi responded to critical remarks by Lise Klaveness, the head of the Norwegian Football Association, by saying: "We're not seeking validation. Legacy is being delivered as we speak. We've showcased to the world what tournament hosting can do.". Furthermore, Qatar has done itself no favours in its dealings with the media regarding its mediocre responses to inquiries and efforts to inhibit independent reporting and suppress what Qatari officials would consider negative stories. Take Qatar's handling of the case of Abdullah Ibhais, a Jordani-

communications executive, who opposed putting a spin on a strike by migrant workers, including some assigned to World Cup-related projects. The workers were on strike because their salaries had not been paid. Mr. Ibhais was subsequently accused of leaking state secrets and awarding a social media tender to a Turkish bidder in return for Turkish citizenship. He asserts that he was forced to sign a confession and was initially refused access to a lawyer. Mr, Ibhais was sentenced to five years in prison based on evidence that, according to Human Rights Watch, was "vague, circumstantial, and in some cases contradictory." However, an appeals court subsequently reduced his sentence to three years in jail. Qatar's cost-benefit analysis is often skewed as its repressive and defensive actions cause greater reputational damage than the incidents it tries to suppress. It remains an open question whether Qatar is driven by bad faith, ill will, and lack of political will or ineptitude that gets it stuck in a rout. The bottom line of all of this is not whether criticism of Qatar is justified. It largely is. The question for human rights groups and other activists is what is, given the nature of the issues and the fact that the window on leverage over Qatar is closing, what lessons can be learned from the experience of the last decade and what is the best strategy and approach going forward. There may be no immediate answers, but what is evident is that strategies and approaches aim to encourage further reforms, and post-World Cup reform

will have to be updated and adapted.

Monday, July 04, 2022

Jordan port

workers strike as

officials

sacked

FOREIGN DESK

AMMAN: Hundreds of port workers staged a strike in

Jordan on Sunday as the

prime minister announced

the sacking of several of-

ficials accused of "negli-

gence" over a deadly gas leak. A tank of chlorine gas

fell as it was being loaded

by crane onto a ship in Jor-

dan's Red Sea port of Aqaba

last Monday, releasing the

toxic substance. At least

13 people, including five

Vietnamese nationals, were

killed and more than 260

others injured, according to

the latest official toll. "The

port workers are striking

in protest over the weak

safety measures at the port

which led to the death and

injury of several of their col-

leagues," union representa-

About "95 percent of the

2,300" Aqaba port workers

participated in the strike,

he told AFP. Prime Minister

Bisher al-Khasawneh said

Sunday that an investigation

showed "great deficiency

and negligence in safety

measures for dealing with

hazardous materials in the

Aqaba port". The director and other officials from the

state port operator as well

as the head of the maritime

authority were sacked, the

premier said during a cab-

inet meeting. The gas can-

ister's weight far exceeded

the maximum load of the

crane cable bearing it, said

Interior Minister Mazen al-

Faraya, who headed the in-

tive Ahmed Amayreh said.

Briefs

Russia claims to have control of Luhansk region

From Page 01

ministry said, after Russia earlier said its forces had captured villages around Lysychansk and encircled the city. The minister said Russian forces and their allies in the area had "gained full control over the city of Lysychansk". Yuriy Sak, an advisor to Ukraine's defence minister, said over the phone that he "cannot confirm that Lysychansk is under full Russian control". Ukraine's defence ministry press service did not reply to a request for comment. Ukrainian officials, who say references to "liberating" Ukrainian territory are Russian war propaganda, had reported intense artillery barrages on residential areas. "Ukrainian forces likely conducted a deliberate with drawal from Lysychansk, resulting in the Russian seizure of the city on July 2," analysts at the Institute for the Study of War, a Washington-based think tank, wrote in a briefing note.

Ukraine: Russian ship detained by Turkey

From Page 01

port, it has been detained by the customs authorities of Turkey," Ambassador Vasyl Bodnar said on Ukrainian national television. Bodnar said the ship's fate would be decided by a meeting of investigators on Monday and that Ukraine was hoping for the confiscation of the grain. Ukraine has accused Russia of stealing grain from the territories that Russian forces have seized since Moscow's invasion began in late February. The Kremlin has previously denied that Russia has stolen any Ukrainian grain. A Ukrainian foreign ministry official, citing information from Ukraine's maritime administration, told a news agency on Friday the 7,146 dwt Zhibek Zholy had loaded the first cargo of some 4,500 tonnes of Ukrainian grain from Berdyansk, a Russian-occupied port in south Ukraine.

Dozens die as bus falls in to a ditch in DI Khan

From Page 01

process to identify them was underway. Medical superintendent of Civil Hospital Zhob, Dr Noorul Haq, said that the injured being brought to the facility were in critical condition. He also said that the death toll was expected to rise. The apparent reason of the mishap was rain and over speed as the bus had gone out of control and fell into a ravine, killing 20 passengers.

A total of 33 people were on-board the bus out of which 13 received severe Four bodies were taken to DHQ Zhob while 15 were shifted to Mughal Kot hospital. AC Drazinda, Rescue 1122 and levies force headed by AC Sherani district reached to the spot for rescue activities. The condition of some injured were stated critical.

Yatra restrictions hit Kashmir tourism

sector: TAAK

ISLAMABAD: In Indian

illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK), the Travel Agents Association of Kashmir (TAAK) has

taken a strong note of the harassment and problems being faced by the locals and tourists in view of the security arrangements for the Amarnath Yatra. According to Kashmir Media Service, the TAAK President, Farooq Ahmed Kuthoo in a statement issued in Srinagar said many tourists were stuck on highways due to severe restrictions on the movement of non-vatri tourists. - APP

Lukashenko says Ukraine fired missiles at Belarus posts

Belarusian president accuses Kyiv of provoking his country, saying his forces have intercepted missiles fired from Ukraine

News Desk

MINSK: Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko says his military has shot down missiles fired at his country from Ukraine and promised to respond "instantly" to any enemy attacks. "We are being provoked," Lukashenko was quoted as saying by state news agency Belta on Saturday. "I must tell you that around three days ago, maybe more, they tried to strike

SPORTS DESK

LONDON: Novak Djokovic admits he

is a convert to Wimbledon's new mid-

dle Sunday play rule as the three-time

defending champion aims at reaching

the quarter-finals for the 13th time.

Top seed Djokovic, seeking to move

level with Pete Sampras as a sev-

en-time champion at the All England

Club, faces Dutch wild card Tim van

His last-16 tie will be the highlight of

a landmark day which sees play sched-

uled at the tournament for the first

It has traditionally been a rest day with

the exception of 1991, 1997, 2004 and

2016 when rain in the opening week

Federer. The eight-time champion sat

out the championship to recover from

knee surgery. "All the other Grand

Slams are playing on mid Sunday. I'm

glad that Wimbledon has introduced

that. I'm in favour of the rule change,'

forced a quick planning reset. One

of the special guests on Centre

Court, which marks its 100th an-

niversary this year, will be Roger

Rijthoven, the world number 104.

time on the middle Sunday.

"Thank God, our Pantsir anti-air systems intercepted all the missiles fired by the Ukrainian forces." The claim, which Lukashenko did not provide evidence for, came one week after Ukraine said missiles struck a border region from Belarus, a long-term Russian ally. But the Belarusian president denied any involvement in the conflict between Russia and Ukraine, reiterating that there were no troops from his country fighting in what Moscow calls

Djokovic happy to

put on Sunday best after

Kyrgios fireworks

opening win over Kwon Soon-woo but

has since coasted, losing just 14 games

in the next two rounds. Van Rijthoven

was ranked outside the top 200 just a

month ago. Having won his first ATP

Nikoloz Basilashvili to make the fourth

round. Plagued by physical problems

since he was 18, Van Rijthoven has en-

dured groin and wrist injuries as well

as back spasms in his career. "Before

the tournament started, it was a dream

for me to play Djokovic," said Van Rij-

on grass at 's-Hertogen-

bosch, the Dutch-

man is making the

most of his Wim-

He has dropped

serve just three

times and has

defeated seeded

players

Opelka

bledon wild card.

"As I said more than a year ago, we do not intend to fight in Ukraine," he said. "We will only fight in one case. If you... enter our land, if you kill our people, then we will respond," he added, threatening retaliation against "the decision-making centres" of Western capitals in the event of an attack on Belarus. "Don't touch us and we won't touch you." he warned. Belarus has supported Russia's military operation in Ukraine since it began on February 24 by acting as a rear base for Moscow's

thoven. Victory for Djokovic will set-up

a mouthwatering quarter-final against

Carlos Alcaraz if the 19-year-old Span-

iard sees off Italy's Jannik Sinner. The

swashbuckling Alcaraz is bidding to

reach his third Slam quarter-final but

first at Wimbledon. Sinner is also

seeking a first quarter-final at the tour-

nament having fallen in the first round

Frances Tiafoe and Tommy Paul will

set-up an all-American quarter-final if

they overcome Belgium's David Gof-

fin and British ninth seed Cameron

Norrie respectively. Rafael Nadal re-

mains Djokovic's biggest barrier to a

fourth successive title after making

the last 16 on Saturday. But mercuri-

al Australian Nick Kyrgios cannot be

ruled out after he defeated Stefanos

Tsitsipas in a bad-tempered clash.

Tsitsipas branded Kyrgios "a bul-

ly" with an "evil side" after a fiery

third round duel which saw both

"It's constant bullying, that's what he

"He bullies opponents. He was prob-

ably a bully at school himself. I don't like bullies." Kyrgios branded the

men warned for their behaviour.

does," the Greek fourth seed said.

on his main draw debut last year.

forces. Russian troops crossed the Belarusian border into Ukraine as they tried and failed to take the capital Kyiv. Lukashenko is heavily dependent on Russia militarily and economically and relied on his neighbour's support to stabilise his position when widespread protests broke out in 2020 after an election the Belarusian opposition say he stole. Russian President Vladimir Putin announced last week that Moscow would deliver Iskander-M missiles capable of carrying nuclear weapons to Belarus "in the coming months".

WASHINGTON: A Chinese attack on Taiwan is not imminent, the top US general says, but the US is watching "very closely". China is clearly developing the capability to attack

protect the island militarily if it was attacked. Beijing retorted by accusing the US of "violating its promise on Taiwan" and "interfering" in China's affairs, adding the country "would not hesitate to fight" to prevent Taiwan from formally declaring independence. Asked whether he thought China would attack Taiwan, Gen Milley, chairman of the US joint chiefs of staff, told the BBC: "Could, should, would, those are key words there. "In terms of capability I think China clearly is developing a capability. President Xi [Jinping] has mentioned that in public forums, he's mentioned it in speeches, that he has challenged the PLA [China's People's Liberation Army] to develop the capability to attack Taiwan at some point in time. "And whether they would or not, it's a political choice, it's a policy choice, that will be based off of how the Chinese view the cost risk benefit at the time.

US watching Taiwan closely: Gen Milley

Monitoring Desk

at some point, but deciding to do so would be a political choice, Gen Mark Milley told BBC. China says Taiwan is a breakaway province that must be re-unified with the mainland, by force if necessary. It has accused the US of supporting Taiwan's independence, and vowed to "resolutely crush" any such attempt. There has been a marked escalation recently between China and the US - Taiwan's most powerful ally. China has been sending scores of warplanes into Taiwan's air defence zone, while the US has sent naval ships through Taiwan's waters. In May, US President Joe Biden said China was "flirting with danger" by flying its warplanes close to Taiwan. He vowed to

Sainz claims maiden F1 win in British **Grand Prix**

News Desk

SILVERSTONE: Carlos Sainz claimed his maiden Formula One win on his 150th start in a thrilling British Grand Prix at Silverstone on Sunday. Ferrari driver kept his cool to beat Red Bull's Sergio Perez and Lewis Hamilton for Mercedes. World champion Max Verstappen finished seventh but retained the series lead in a race marred by a multi-car pile up at the opening corner. "I don't know what to say, it's amazing. First race win 150 races later with Ferrari in Silverstone, it's a very special day," said Sainz, who won from pole. Behind Sainz there was an epic battle closing laps battle between Perez, Hamilton and Charles Leclerc. For Hamilton this was his 11th race without victory, the seven-time champion's longest losing sequence. Hamilton, who paid tribute to the 130,000 fans, said: "I was in amongst that battle but the upgrade we brought here made us closer to them." This 10th round of the 22-race season began with carnage at the first corner after a horror crash with Zhou Guanyu's

Sikhs vote in Khalistan referendum in Rome

ISLAMABAD: Thousands of

Alfa Romeo flipped upside

down and hurtling over the

circuit's safety barrier.

Sikhs gathered in Rome, the capital of Italy on Sunday to vote in the referendum for achieving their separate homeland Khalistan. Men and women arrived at the polling stations to cast their vote in the referendum organized by Sikhs for Justice (SFJ). The voters were carrying posters in support of the freedom of Khalistan and shouting slogans against the Indian government and the Indian army. They were demanding that India should give freedom to Khalistan and the international community should take notice of the oppression against the Sikhs. About 200,000 Sikhs live in different cities of Italy. Sikh voters while expressing their opinions said referendum was a constitutional and legal path adopted by them and India should end its occupation of Puniab so that Khalistan could be created. On this occasion, Sikhs also released the new map of their homeland Khalistan which not only included the state of Puniah but also Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan and many districts of Uttar Pradesh. - APP

Ton-up Bairstow leads England rally against India

All-rounder Stokes, nought not out overnight, batted in frantic fashion for 25

AGENCIES

BIRMINGHAM: Jonny Bairstow completed his third hundred in successive Tests before falling for 106 at Edgbaston on Sunday to leave England's series-decider against India intriguingly poised. Bairstow, 91 not out when rain forced an early lunch on the third day of the Covid-delayed fifth Test, went to three figures when a push off seamer Shardul Thakur was misfielded on the cover rope to give the Yorkshireman his 14th four in 119 balls. He also hit two sixes. His exit left England 227-6 and they were eventually dismissed for 284 in reply to India'a first-innings 416,

a deficit of 132 runs. But that represented a major recovery after England had resumed on 84-5 in a match they have to win to end this five-match series level at 2-2. The 32-year-old Bairstow's latest century followed scores of 136 at Trent Bridge and 162 at his Headingley home ground, where he also made an unbeaten 71 in the second innings, in England's recent 3-0 whitewash of Test world champions New Zealand.

In England's first series under their new leadership duo of Stokes and red-ball coach Brendon McCullum, the team had several times hit its way out of trouble. But for all the talk of the new 'Bazball' approach, a reference to former New Zealand captain McCullum's nickname, Bairstow did still play himself in against India's impressive pace attack in a match England have to win to square this five-match series at 2-2. Bairstow was 16 not out off 65 balls before, playing orthodox but powerfully hit strokes, he accelerated in scoring his next 84 runs off just 54 balls as the 32-year-old went to his fifth Test century of 2022. But he fell to the first ball of Shami's new spell when an edged drive flew to former India captain Virat Kohli at first slip. Kohli, who earlier Sunday had been spoken to by the umpires following a verbal altercation with Bairstow, blew a kiss to the crowd.

Matthew Potts added a rapid 19 before he was last man out, caught in the slips by Shreyas Iyer off Mohammed Siraj, althought it needed a lengthy review by third umpire Marais Erasmus to confirm the dismissal and the paceman's figures of 4-66 in 11.3 overs All-rounder Stokes, nought not out overnight, batted in frantic fashion for 25.

Germany slams UK's plan to dismantle post-Brexit deal

MUNICH: German Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock condemned London's plan to tear up the Northern Ireland Protocol, agreed as part of the post-Brexit trade deal, in an opinion piece published in the British newspaper The Observer on Sunday. "There is no legal or political justification for unilaterally breaking an international agreement entered into only two years ago," Baerbock said in the piece co-written with her Irish counterpart

has signaled that it wants to repeal parts of the agreement that require the checking of goods going between Northern Ireland and the British mainland in order to keep a soft border with the Republic of Ireland, an EU member state.

Baerbock and Coveney argued that the current protocol has been good for Northern Ireland which has seen faster post-pandemic recovery than other parts of the UK. "Unfortunately, the British government chose not to engage in good faith with these

partnership and dialogue, it has chosen unilateralism," the two top ministers wrote. The government in London has said it wants to implement a two-lane system for goods going from the UK mainland to Northern Ireland and for those that will be taken across the border into the Republic of Ireland. Northern Ireland's border with the EU was one of the trickiest sticking points for Brexit negotiations due to the EU's insistence on avoiding a hard border on the island of Ireland



DHAKA: High Commissioner for Pakistan to Bangladesh, Imran Ahmad Siddiqui presenting an Islamic calligraphy artwork to Amanul Haq, Chief of Protocol, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Bangladesh during meeting at CP's Office. - DNA

Shandur Polo Festival successfully concludes

Kings', the annual internationally famed Shandur Polo Festival - a unique historical sports played in the world's highest polo ground between Chitral and Gilgit Baltistan teams since 1937 - was successfully concluded here on Sunday. Chitral A polo team clinched Shandur polo trophy by scoring 10 goals against 9 goals by the Gilgit Baltistan A team during an exciting free style polo final in the world highest polo ground at Shandur.

The players of both teams performed excellent sportsmen spirit, skills and scored goals against each other. Earlier, Larsupor team of Chitral scored 15 goals against four goals by Ghazir team of Gilgit Baltistan. Later, wining trophy was given to Chitral A team. Played on an altitude of some 12,000 feet of above sea level at Shandur pass at Upper Chitral during July 1-3, 2022, the festival was witnessed by a large number of tourists, adventurers and polo lovers from across the country that applauded both the

thrilling free-style polo matches amid great sportsmen spirit, fun and excitement. Successfully organized since 1937, this year's impressive festival was inaugurated by Secretary Sports, Tourism and Youth Af-

fairs Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Muhammad Ta-

(KPCTA) in collaboration with Headquarters XI Corps Peshawar, Frontier Corps North, District Administration Chitral Upper and Lower after a break of two years due COVID-19 pandemic. Secretary Tourism, Muhammad Tahir

Laspur team of Chitral has comfortably won the match by scoring 16 goals against four by Ghizer team,

hir Orakzai, and Director General Cultural and Tourism Authority KP Abid Wazir. Excited matches, paragliding, adventure and cultural events were held in the beautiful valley of Shandur surrounded by the snow-clad mountains and lush green forests amid birds chanting valleys, hide and seek between sun and clouds and cool breeze that doubled joys of sports enthusiasts. The event was organized by the Khyber PaOrakzai told media that It was due to the efforts of government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa that we are able to witness the successful Shandur polo festival after a gap of two years. "The rugged polo is our traditional game that plays an important role in promotion of adventure tourism. The mountain range of Malakand division is perfect for adventure tourism and the provincial government, tourism department and tourism

also formed at the regional level to promote tourism in the province. Laspur team of the Chitral and Ghizer team of Gilgit-Baltistan battled against each other in the opening match. Laspur team of Chitral has comfortably won the match by scoring 16 goals against four by Ghizer team. The spectators applauded the paragliders of Pakistan Army Physical Training School, Abbottabad and SSG Commandos of Pakistan Army, who exhibited a spectacular show of para trooping

and culture authority are working together

to develop and promote this region as a

The secretary said some authorities were

tourism destination." he added.

and performed various daring tricks in the sky making the the event to remember. Children from Gilgit-Baltistan performed on national songs, whereas traditional dances were exhibited by young boys of Kalash Valley. The audience enjoyed the concert that included traditional music of Gilgit Baltistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa besides the

Shandur song of Zek Afridi. - APP

Business / World



Briefs

Ceremony pays tribute to famous critic, scholar

DNA

KARACHI: Arts Council of Pakistan Karachi held a function to pay homage to Indian critic Dr. Gopi Chand Narang at Hasina Moin Hall which was presided over by renowned scholar, writer, and poet Iftikhar Arif. Prof. Shafi Qadwai (India), Nasir Abbas Nair (Lahore), Satya Pal Anand, , and Asghar Nadeem Syed spoke online, while Dr. Ambareen Haseeb Amber performed the duties of moderator.

Iftikhar Arif said that Urdu is the national language of Pakistan. Its greatest critic was Gopi Chand Narang Urdu became very poor without him. The passing away of Shams-ur-Rehman, Shamim Hanafi, and Gopi Chand Narang is a loss for us. Narang loved me very much. This is also my loss. Narang was a very good friend, father, and husband. I have never seen Gopi Chand Narang as a hardworking person in his life. His prose is so excellent that man was compelled to read it himself.

"We are very bigoted people. We did not give Gopi Chand Narang the place he deserved. In India, he was punished for working on Urdu. He wrote critical articles and confronted him. Academic institutions and here People ignored him because he was a Hindu.

Toshakhana reference against Imran sent to NA speaker

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Economic Affairs Minister Sardar Ayaz Sadiq has said that the Tos hakhana reference against former prime minister Imran Khan has been sent to the Na tional Assembly speaker. Addressing a press conference on Sunday alongside Railways and Aviation Minister Khawaja Saad Rafique, Sadiq confirmed that NA Speaker Raja Pervaiz Ashraf will announce a decision on the reference in 30 days. "It will then be sent to the Election Commission of Pakistan." He termed Imran's lust

for the PM's chair as the reason for the delay in the no-confidence vote. Taking a jibe at the ex-pre-

mier, the former NA speaker added that it was only because of the lust for power that Imran stooped low and began criticizing the sitting army chief. The PML-N leader highlighted that the country was suffering due to the consequences of the PTI government's failure. "Imran is the same person who said that if Modi comes to power then circumstances will improve but we all witnessed what went down in the Indian Occupied Kashmir."

Plastic export witnesses 42.30pc increase

ISLAMABAD: Plastic material exports during the first eleven months of fiscal year of 2021-22 grew up by 42.30 percent as compared to the exports of the commodity during the corresponding period of last year.

During the period from July-May 2021-22, Plastic material worth US \$385,643 were exported as compared to the exports of US \$ 271,014 during the same period of last year.

According to the data released by the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, the exports of Chemicals and Pharm, products increased by 35.53 percent, worth US \$ 1,368,760 as compared to exports of \$1,009,935 during the same period of last year. Meanwhile, Pharmaceutical exports also increased by 1.64 percent as the exports during current fiscal year recorded worth US \$244,721 as compared to the exports during the same period of last year which recorded US \$240.783.During period under review, others Chemicals increased by 48.23 percent, worth US\$ 738.396 in current fiscal year, as compared to the exports of valuing US\$ 498,138 of the same period of last year. - APP



ISLAMABAD: Council meeting of ICCI was held at residence of Khalid Iqbal Malik Chairman Founder Group. Seen in this photo are Former President ICCI Zubair Ahmad Malik, Abdul Rauf Alam, Khalid Javaid, Mian Akram Farid, Zafar Bakhtawari, Ch Waheed Ud Din, Mian Shaukat Masud, Ijaz Abbasi, Shakeel Munir President ICCI, Jamshed Akhtar SVP, Faheem Khan and Aamir Waheed. - DNA

Anti-coup protesters defy security forces in Sudan

The UN, African Union and regional bloc IGAD have tried to facilitate talks between the generals and civilians, which the main civilian factions have boycotted

of Sudanese protesters demanding an end to military rule took to the streets of the capital Khartoum and its suburbs for a fourth straight day Sunday, witnesses said. A violent crackdown by the security forces during mass rallies on Thursday killed nine people, the deadliest day for several months in the long running protests against a military takeover last October led by army chief Abdel Fattah al-Burhan.

Recent protests have seen

RABAT: Migration governance in Mo-

rocco is centered around the National

Strategy for Migration and Asylum

(SNIA), initiated in 2013, and has con-

secrated solidarity and inclusive ap-

proach inscribed in the continuity of

the eminently African vocation of Mo-

rocco.The SNIA is an unprecedented

initiative at the regional level. It has

won both the African and the inter-

national recognition. In doing so, the

Kingdom of Morocco has streamlined

its migration legal framework with its

international commitments on migra-

tion, asylum and respect of human

rights. This bold step has recently

favored Morocco to be designated a

The SNIA has given impetus to two

strong actions which have consoli-

dated the continental dimension of

migration, namely the African Migra-

tion Observatory, with headquarters

in Morocco, and the African Migra-

tion Agenda. Within the framework of

"leader of migration in Africa".

crowds burn tyres and barricade roads with bricks, with security forces using live bullets, firing barrages of tear gas canisters and using powerful water cannons, according to medics and the United Nations, Demonstrators demand a restoration of the transition to civilian rule that was launched after the 2019 ouster of longtime autocrat Omar al-Bashir, which the coup derailed. "We will continue this sit-in until the coup is overturned, and we have a fully civilian

The migration policy of

the Kingdom of Morocco

June 24 resulted in the death of

23 migrants and 76 injured

the SNIA, more than 50,000 nation-

countries have regularized their sit-

situation improved. Thanks to the

flexible eligibility criteria, Morocco

has favored vulnerable people and fa-

cilitated labor mobility, professional

integration and family reunification.

A policy that was highly welcomed by

Thousands of sub-Saharans live in

Morocco. More than 12,000 students

have elected Moroccan Universities

for their studies via the cooperation

channel, 90% of whom are scholarship

holders from the Kingdom of Moroc-

co. All of them are fully integrated.

Documented persons have also bene-

fited from a national integration plan

that allows them full access to social.

educational, medical and economic

services. The integration policy has

allowed regularly established African

nationals to be real incubators of a

potential that enriches the vitality and

the diversity of Moroccan society. The

humanist dimension of migration man-

the African countries.

government," demonstrator Muayyad Mohamed told AFP in central Khartoum. The death toll from protest-related violence has reached 114 since last year's coup, with the latest fatality recorded Saturday when a demonstrator died from wounds sustained at a June 16 rally, according to pro-democracy medics. "We will not compromise

until the goals of our revolution are realised," said Soha, 25, another protestname. "We are here in the street demanding freedom, peace, justice, a civil state and the return of the military to the barracks.'

The coup plunged Sudan further into political and economic turmoil which has seen rising consumer prices and life-threatening food shortages. On Sunday, witnesses reported a heavy deployment of security forces on the streets of Khartoum, including both army vehicles as well as those of the Rapid Support Forces

agement in Morocco is also reflected

in the voluntary returns that the country makes available to migrants who

wish to return to their countries of or-

igin in full respect of their rights and

dignity. Since 2018, more than 8,100

African nationals have benefited from

these voluntary returns organized

and financed by the Ministry of the

The tragic migration event

of the 24th July 2022

curred in Mellilia, on Friday, June

24, 2022, has surprised more than

one for the extreme violence the

migrants used. During this attack.

planned in a quasi-military manner,

the assailants were armed with ma-

chetes, stones, knives and iron-bars

The assault has resulted in the death

of 23 migrants and 76 injured, 18 of

whom are still hospitalized, the others

having received the appropriate care

and left the hospital. Similarly, 147 law

enforcement officers were injured, 1

This violent operation was organ-

ized and carried out by international

mafia networks which are engaged

in smuggling and human trafficking

by bringing in migrants from outside

Morocco.It is worth mentioning that

more than 145 assaults have been

repelled around the two enclaves of

Sebta and Mellilia since 2016 and

more than 1300 networks disman-

to attack security forces.

of whom is still hospitalized.

Interior of Morocco.

als of brotherly and friendly African The migration incident that oc-

(RSF), a feared paramilitary unit commanded by Burhan's deputy Mohamed Hamdan Daglo. The RSF incorporated members of the Janjaweed militia, which was accused by rights groups of atrocities during the conflict that erupted in 2003 in the western region of Darfur. More recently, the RSF has been accused of taking part in crack downs on protesters marching against the army. The international community has condemned the recent

bloodshed, with the United

France-based British

theatre legend Peter

Brook dies

"Peter Brook gave us the most

beautiful silences in the theatre,

but this last silence is infinitely

sad," said French Culture Minister

Rima Abdul Malak on Twitter

PARIS: The France-based British theatre director Peter

Brook, who revolutionised the stage with radical interpreta-

tions of the classics before returning drama to its simplest

Brook, born in the UK but resident in France for dec-

ades, died on Saturday, a source close to the director,

He also won renown for his iconic 1963 film version of the

novel "Lord of the Flies" about schoolboys who are ma-

Brook rose to fame in the UK as a young director who put

a radical, and sometimes bloody, spin on classics including

the works of Shakespeare, working with actors who would

But his methods underwent a gradual transformation after

moving to France in the early 1970s, reducing theatre to

pure simplicity and often influenced by eastern traditions.

"Peter Brook gave us the most beautiful silences in the the-

atre, but this last silence is infinitely sad," said French Cul-

"With him, the stage was stripped back to its most alive in-

tensity. He bequeathed so much to us," she added, saying

he would remain "forever the soul" of the Bouffes du Nord

theatre in northern Paris where his work was based. - APP

roots, has died aged 97, a source said Sunday.

rooned on an island and descend into savagery.

ture Minister Rima Abdul Malak on Twitter.

who asked not to be named, told media.

later become themselves legends.

Nations' rights chief urging an independent probe into Thursday's violence. The UN, African Union and regional bloc IGAD have tried to facilitate talks between the generals and civilians, which the main civilian factions have boycotted. On Friday, the three bodies

jointly condemned the violence and "the use of excessive force by security forces and lack of accountability for such actions, despite repeated commitments by au-

Inflation result of PTI govt's faulty policies: Asif

SIALKOT: Federal Minister for Defence Khwaja Muhammad Asif said on Sunday that people were suffering from inflation and load-shedding due to faulty policies of the previous Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) government. "We have inherited inflation, which is the result of wrong policies of the previous government," he said while talking to the media during his visit to newly-constructed Shahabpura flyover here.

The federal minister said: "We are fully aware of inflation and the fact that oil, gas and coal prices are at all-time high, but we are determined that we will be able to overcome the crises." He said that election would be held in 2023 for which the PML-N would go to people and then the people would decide who should rule the country.

The federal minister said that national institutions supported Imran Khan's government for four years in the hope that he would start delivering and serving masses, but he failed badly. He said the PML-N had also respected the law and Constitution of the country.

Kh Asif said that the national institutions wanted to stay within their constitutional limits, but regrettably Imran Khan wanted to divide them. He said that even the Election Commission of Pakistan's decisions, given in accordance with the Constitution, were not acceptable to him [Imran Khan]. He wanted to weaken the nuclear power Pakistan and its institutions. He said all doors of power were closing on Imran Khan one after the other. - APP

Women **Business** center

MIRPPURKHAS: A Social

He said that due to unavailability of employment opportunities for women at rural level in the first phase about 300 skilled women have been included in the programme. SSP Mirpurkhas Captain (Retd) Asad Ali Chaudhry in his speech said that the business women center was a best source of income for women and District Police would provide protection to women working in the business center. It is pertinent to mention that a NG) CSSP has established a particular market to provide trade access to the women desirous to make themselves self-sufficient in

inaugurated

welfare organization CSSP inaugurated a women business center here on Sunday. According to a press re-lease, SSP Mirpurkhas Captain (Retd) Asad Ali Chaudhry, Noor Bajeer, Shaukar Rahmoon, Kashif Bajeer, Mumtaz Jarwar, Satram Das and other social representatives of women organizations attended the opening ceremony.

Addressing the ceremony CSSP representative Noor Baieer said that the main objective of establishing a women business center was to create business opportunities for women.

relevant fields. - APP

3 dead after

'strong

explosions'

in Russia's

CMEC to commission first unit of 1263MW PTPL plant on July 6 (third unit of the plant) ty test run of the first unit of CMEC is engineering, pro-

Greens Lions Club ISLAMABAD: The first elections for Islamabad Greens Lions Club were held. Muhammad Shakeel Munir has been elected as President, Chaudhry Mohammad Ali and Neelam Khalid as Vice Presidents, Engineer Azharul Islam Secretary General, Gul Sher Sajjad Finance Secretary, Sheikh Jamshed Club Administrator, Chaudhry Javed Iqbal Club Director, Adnan Mukhtar Chairman Club Membership, Saima Huma Chairperson Club Marketing and Raja Ambassador as Club Coordinator. The new Office Bearers will serve for the year 2022-2023 Multiple Council Lions Chairman Iqbal Javed, Sheikh Amir Waheed, Muhammad Naveed Malik, Chaudhry Masood, Tahir Abbasi, Ashfaq Chatha and others congratulated the newly elected Office Bearers of Islamabad Greens Lions Club. Speaking on the occasion, the newly elected President, Islamabad Greens Lions Club Muhammad Shakeel Munir expressed his determination that he would try to play a positive role for the betterment of the society through this platform. - DNA

Shakeel Munir elected

President Islamabad

The 400 MWs Gas Turbine 1 (GT1) will start commercial operations on July 6 after some heat and cooling-related tests on stopped machines, an official told Gwadar Pro

DNA

ISLAMABAD: China Machinery Engineering Corp. (CMEC) successfully concluded a 7-day long reliabili-

the 1,263-megawatt thermal power plant in the Jhang district of Punjab province.

The 400 MWs Gas Turbine 1 (GT1) will start commercial operations on July 6 after some heat and cooling-related tests on stopped machines, an official told Gwadar Pro.

The plant also successfully went through the initial capacity test and achieved 403 MWs capacity against a guarantee of 400 MWs, the official said. The unit has already been connected to the national grid, he said.

curement and construction (EPC) contractor of the combined-cycle power plant owned by Punjab Thermal Power Ltd. (PTPL).

PTPL has also signed a 12year operations and maintenance contract with China's Harbin Electric Int'l for running the facility.

The official said that the second gas turbine (GT2) is also undergoing various tests and is expected to achieve commercial operations date (COD) in a month.

Also, the steam turbine

has been installed and is expected to start commercial operations in five to six months after going through different complicated tests and chemical cleaning procedures. The project is in the commissioning phase as a whole, he said.

The plant has two gas and one steam turbines as well as two heat recovery steam generators (HRSGs) for enhanced efficiency. The plant will use Re-liquified Natural Gas (R-LNG) as primary fuel while High Speed Diesel as backup fuel.

FPCCI for raising forest cover up to 25%

Mian Kashif informed the FPCCI Chief Pakistan needs mass tree plantation at plain, hilly and other barren areas with the active participation of private sector and government to meet the demands of the growing furniture industry

ISLAMABAD: President Federation of Pakistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Irfan Iqbal Sheikh Sunday urged the government and private sector to join hands for raising Pakistan's forest cover from 5% to 25% to meet the ever growing needs of furniture industry in the country. Talking to Mian Kashif Ashfaq,

CEO Pakistan Furniture Council (PFC) in Lahore, Irfan Igbal Sheikh said currently, furniture and local industries were experiencing serious supply shocks which were not only impeding their further growth but also adversely affecting their

international competitiveness. As the global economy is expected to be more challenging this year in wake of Covid 19, he urged the furniture industry to remain resilient by innovating, adopting technology as well as diversifying export markets in order to sustain demand in the long run. "We have to overcome challenges to strengthen our market share; we must continue to produce innovative and market-oriented products to meet challenging

Irfan Iqbal Sheikh said in the absence of enough supplies of wood, cheaper furniture made of fancy and laminated sheets of chipboard had flooded the local market. He said wooden furniture like that of shishum wood, was quite expensive that is why Shishum's furniture was made for selected buyers only.

Mian Kashif informed the FPCCI Chief Pakistan needs mass tree plantation at plain, hilly and other barren areas with the active participation of private sector and government to meet the demands of the growing furniture industry. He said about 500,000 workers were engaged in forestry sector, and its related business such as logging, carpentry, and timber products manufacturing, and tourism and the forests contribute only 0.3 per cent to GNP due to low area. Kashif said the Pakistan furniture industry had the potential to be a substantial one at multiple levels as it could contribute significantly to the GDP and employ numerous people with varying skills in specially designed furniture. He lauded the Pakistani furniture

designers, craftsmen and suggested that these experts should play their part in enhancing furniture exports. "The country has excellent craftsmen and designers, who can virtually give life to a piece of wood." the CEO PFC said, adding that Pakistani craftsmen should work in this particular area to earn much-needed foreign exchange". Kashif Ashfaq said PFC planned to hold 13th Interiors Pakistan's mega exhibition soon, which is aimed at exploring new opportunities for enhancing volume of mutual trade in furniture sector. – **APP**

Belgorod MOSCOW: At least three people were killed and four injured in a series of "strong explosions" that rocked the city of Belgorod early on Sunday, according to the governor of the region, which borders Ukraine.

"We are currently trying to establish the circumstances of the incident. The anti-aircraft defences were in operation," Belgorod governor Vvacheslav Gladkov said on Telegram. Eleven residential buildings

and 39 houses were damaged in the explosions which occurred in the early hours, he said, but stopped short of accusing Ukrainian forces of being behind the strikes. Gladkov said he visited the site very soon after the explosions, which hit five streets to the north of the city centre. Two of the injured - a man and a child - were hospital-

ised, while the other two were treated at the scene, he said. Since Moscow launched its military operation in Ukraine on February 24, Russia has repeatedly accused Kyiv of conducting strikes on Russian soil, particularly in the Belgorod region. - APP



Islamahar POST



MONDAY, JULY 04, 2022 | WWW.ISLAMABADPOST.COM.PK

Briefs

Govt to pay back Rs1,50,000 to Hajjis

DNA

ISLAMABAD: The federal government has decided to pay back a subsidy of Rs1,50,000 to Hajj pilgrims on their return to Pakistan. The federal cabinet has approved the subsidy for the Hajj pilgrims. As per the cabinet decision, a subsidy of Rs1,50,000 will be given to all Hajj pilgrims on their return to the country.

A private television channel report said that the federal government has also transferred the total amount of the subsidy to the Ministry of Religious Affairs to pay back the Hajjis.

North Korea says US seeks 'military supremacy' in Asia

DNA

PYONGYANG: North Korea accused the United States and its allies, Japan and South Korea, of targeting Pyongyang to gain "military supremacy" in the Indo-Pacific, the Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) reported on Sunday.

The KCNA said that the North Korean Foreign Ministry spokesperson said the "reality clearly shows that the real purpose of the US spreading the rumor about 'threat from North Korea' is to provide an excuse for attaining military supremacy over the Asia-Pacific region." "The prevailing situation more urgently calls for building up the country's defenses to actively cope with the rapid aggravation of the security environment," the spokesperson added.

The spokesperson's comments came after the leaders of the US, South Korea and Japan agreed to strengthen "deterrence capabilities" to counter North Korea on the sidelines of a three-day summit of NATO leaders earlier this week.

The North accused the US and its allies of a plan to create a military alliance like NATO in the region, hours before Biden was set to meet Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida and South Korean President Yoon Suk-yeol at the final day of the summit in Madrid. The meeting of the leaders of the three countries - US, South Korea, and Japan - on June 30, the final day of the summit, gained prominence because the US has sought to repair fractured ties between its two major allies, South Korea and Japan.

The White House released a statement after the meeting of the leaders, saying they discussed "enhancing trilateral cooperation throughout the Indo-Pacific," adding, "particularly in regard to addressing the evolving threat posed by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea's unlawful weapons of mass destruction and ballistic missile programs."

Palestinian teen shot by Israeli forces dies

AGENCIES

JERUSALEM: A Palestinian teenager died on Sunday after being shot by Israeli forces in the occupied West Bank a day earlier, Palestini an medical sources said.

The 17-year-old was identified as Kamel Alawnah by the Palestinian health ministry, which said he "succumbed to wounds from live fire by the occupation (Israeli army) in the abdomen and hand in Jenin".

A Palestinian medical source told AFP that Alawnah was wounded in Jaba, a village in the Jenin governorate of the northern West Bank.

The Israeli military did not immediately respond to a request to comment on the incident.Forty-nine Palestinians have been killed since late March across Israel and the Palestinian territories; civilians, attack ers and suspected freedom fighters among them.





ISLAMABAD: Mian Mehmood Hon. Consul General of Republic of Moldova and his wife hosted a dinner reception for the outgoing DHM of Jordan Dr. Maen Khareasat. Those who attended the reception included Federal Minister for SAFRON Senator Talah Mahmood, federal secretaries, Ambassador of Indonesia Adam Tugio, Ambassador of Jordan Ibrahim Almadani, CEO Serena Hotels South and East Asia Aziz Boolani, DHM Norwegian embassy Dr. Noor Khan, Editor Daily Islamabad POST/CENTRELINE Ansar M Bhatti and others. (DETAILED COVERAGE IN THE AUGUST ISSUE OF CENTRELINE MAGAZINE) – DNA

India bars Kashmiri journalist from leaving

WEB DESK

NEW DELHI: Pulitzer Prize-winning photojournalist from Indian-occupied Kashmir, Sana Irshad Mattoo, was barred by immigration officials at the New Delhi airport from travelling to France on Saturday "without any reasons", the Indian Express reported. In a tweet, Mattoo said she was scheduled to travel from Delhi to Paris [on Saturday] for a book launch and photography exhibition as one of 10 award winners of the Serendipity Arles grant 2020.

"I was not given any reason but told I would not be able to travel internationally," the journalist added. Mattoo said that she was stopped despite procuring a French visa.

"This is insane, there is nothing against me. One of the officials told me I should check the reason from India facing 'possible collapse', says Nobel laureate

NEW DELHI: The biggest crisis that India is facing today is the "possible collapse of the nation", Nobel laureate and renowned economist Amartya Sen said. Speaking at the inauguration of Amartya Research Centre in Kolkata's Salt Lake area, Sen said that people should work towards maintaining unity and added that divisions should not be made along religious lines. "I think if someone asks me if I'm scared of something, I would say yes. There is a reason to be afraid now. The current situation in the country has become a cause for fear," Hindustan Times quoted him as saying. - DNA

Kashmir from where directions had come. I don't understand why I was stopped," Al Jazeera quoted her as saying. Mattoo told the outlet that she was "disheartened" by the move since she was looking forward to the opportunity for a long time.

A resident of Srinagar, the 28-year-old works as a photojournalist for the international wire agency Reuters. Mattoo won the 2022 Pulitzer Prize in feature photography along with three other Reuters photographers for their coverage of Covid-19's second wave in India. The move against Mattoo comes in the wake of recent clampdowns on Indian journalists who have been critics of the Modi-led government. In January, Indian authorities arrested Saiad Gul, an independent journalist and media student in IoK, which was followed by the arrest of the editor of Kashmir Walla news portal, Fahad Shah, in February.

Taliban still illegitimate rulers, say women activists

KABUL: The Taliban remain illegitimate rulers despite a declaration by thousands of male clerics endorsing their hardline government, Afghan women activists said on Sunday. The clerics pledged allegiance to the Taliban and its reclusive leader Saturday following a three-day meeting that failed to address thorny issues such as the right of teenage girls to go to school.

The Taliban - who seized power last August – have since tried to present the meeting as a vote of confidence in their vision of a pure Islamic state totally subservient to sharia law. They insisted last week that women would be represented at the meet-

SIALKOT: The Deputy Head of the Mis-

sion of the French Embassy Yves Manville

visited Sialkot as part of his official assign-

ment. Yves Manville during his visit also

visited the house of great Pakistani poet

ing - attended by over 3,500 men - but only by their sons and husbands. "Statements released or pledging allegiance to the Taliban in any gathering or event without the presence of half of the

nation's population, the women, are not acceptable," Hoda Khamosh, a rights activist currently in exile in Norway, told AFP. "This summit... does not have legitimacy, validity, or the approval of the people."

Since returning to power in August, the Taliban's harsh interpretation of Sharia law has imposed severe restrictions on Afghans - particularly women.

Secondary school girls have been barred from education and women prevented from working in government jobs, forbidden from travelling alone, and ordered to dress in clothing that covers everything but their faces. The Taliban have also outlawed playing non-religious music, ordered TV channels to stop showing movies and soaps featuring uncovered women, and told men they should dress in traditional garb and grow their beards. - **DNA**

PM, mily leadership to decide on next COAS

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and the military leadership will mutually decide on the next Chief of Army Staff (COAS) but for now, the extension of the COAS Qamar Javed Bajwa or the appointment of new army chief is not on the table, Federal Minister for Planning and Development Ahsan Iqbal has said.

In an exclusive interview with a private television channel Sunday, the minister also criticized the Imran Khan government for destroying China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) projects especially the Gwadar deep-sea port, which he revealed could no longer dock larger ships after falling to neglect under the PTI government.

Ahsan Iqbal said the Imran Khan government did not spend a single dollar on Gwadar although China allocated \$123 million for the cleaning of the silt. For four years, the maritime affairs authorities kept requesting for funds to carry out

maintenance dredging but in vain, he said. The depth of Gwadar port had dropped from 14 meters to 11 meters, he said. He added that the current government has now tasked the Pakistan Navy with dredging the port, but until the operation is completed no big ship could dock at Gwadar port. Talking about the appointment of new COAS due in November, he said Imran Khan was making institutions controversial to save his politics. For now, the extension of the COAS Qamar Javed Bajwa or an appointment of new army chief is not under consideration, he said. "This is something that the prime minister decides by working together with the military leadership in the interest of the country. - DNA

people violating the closure policy after July 10, 2022, the notification added. Earlier on July 2, Punjab chief minister (CM) Hamza

Shehbaz lifted timing restrictions in the province on businesses ahead of Eidul Adha. In a statement, Punjab CM Hamza Shahbaz Sharif said markets across the province can now remain open even after 9 pm. There would be no time restriction on the businesses until Chand Raat. He said that decision has been taken to facilitate the masses and business community ahead of Eidul Adha.

Govt

suspends

markets

closure until

Eid-Ul-Azha

DNA

ISLAMABAD: The federal

government has announced

the suspension of the mar-

ket closure policy keeping

the upcoming Eid-ul-Azha in

mind. According to details,

the market closure policy

has been suspended in the

capital territory until July 10,

2022. The decision has been

made keeping Eid shopping

According to a notification

issued by the federal gov-

ernment, the market clo-

sure policy to shut at 10 pm

will be restored from July

10, 2022. The decision has

been made keeping public

Action will be taken against

benefit in mind, it added.

and festivities in mind.

'PTI deal with IMF created problems'

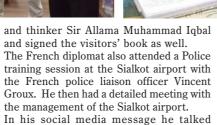
FAISALABAD, Jul 03 (AP-P):Federal Interior Minister Rana Sana Ullah said on Sunday that agreements inked by the PTI government had become a major problem for the government as it had to honor these agreements to revive the IMF program and save Pakistan from default. He was addressing the ceremony of distribution cheques of welfare grant, talent scholarship and marriage grant among workers in the auditorium of Faisalabad Medical University. Rana Sana Ullah put the onus of inflation on the bad governance of previous government and said that it failed to take appropriate measures to facilitate the masses. However, he was optimistic that present government was committed to control the inflation and people would witness a visible positive change in their life just within next six months. - APP

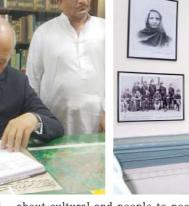
French diplomat visits Allama Iqbal's house

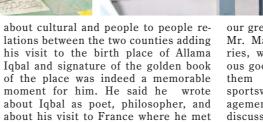
Head of Mission of the French Embassy Yves Manville signs golden book; writes about Iqbal's visit to France











our great philosopher Henri Bergson. Mr. Manville also visited a few factories, which have been exporting various goods to France. Prominent among them were the factories producing sportswear. He interacted with the management of the respective factories and discussed future business prospects.