



Islamabad POST

Wednesday, July 20, 2022

Pakistan's Credible Daily Newspaper

Price Rs. 20

Baku-EU energy MoU underlines Southern corridor's strategic role

Detailed News On Page-07

British Envoy warns against population rise

Detailed News On Page-08



Abdullah's ton keeps Pakistan steady in chase

Detailed News On Page-06



Briefs

Putin in Iran for talks with Iran, Turkey

TEHRAN: Vladimir Putin has arrived in Tehran on his second visit outside Russia since the start of the Ukraine war, where he will hold talks with his Turkish and Iranian counterparts on lifting the Ukrainian grain blockade, the future of Syria and the chances of reviving the Iran nuclear deal. The Russian president's talks with Iran's Ebrahim Raisi and Turkey's Recep Tayyip Erdogan will be presented by the Kremlin domestically as a sign of Putin's continuing influence in the region, after the recent visit to the Middle East by Joe Biden. The three leaders are due to meet each other bilaterally as well as together in the context of the Astana process, a dialogue set up by the three countries to resolve their differences over the future of Syria, where they each have military forces and conflicting interests. - Agencies

Zelensky fires top officials

KYIV: Only a day after two senior Ukrainian officials were dismissed over allegations that their agencies harboured "collaborators and traitors", the country's President Volodymyr Zelensky has expanded the shakeup of his security services on Monday by suspending 28 more officials. In his nightly video address, Zelensky said a "personnel audit" of the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) was underway, and the dismissal of the 28 officials was being decided. - Agencies

FO rejects 'baseless' claims

ISLAMABAD: Foreign Office Spokesperson Asim Iftikhar Ahmad has termed as entirely baseless the claim that the Cypher Communication received from the Embassy in Washington was 'hidden' from the Foreign Minister or the Prime Minister. He said this while responding to media questions on Tuesday. The Spokesperson said such a question simply does not arise. He said the Foreign Office operates on professional basis and it would be detrimental to cast aspersions on its working. - DNA

Coalition govt decides no early elections

The PDM leadership also condemned Imran Khan's criticism of the institutions

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

LAHORE: Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) and the coalition government after Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) landslide victory in the Punjab by-elections and Imran Khan's persistent demand for early elections, disposed of the rumours and decided that assemblies will complete their constitutional terms, and will not hold early general elections. An important meeting was held under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif in Lahore on Tuesday which was attended by PDM leaders and allied partners to discuss the post-Punjab by-polls situation and future strategies. Former president and Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Co-Chairman Asif Ali Zardari, Jamiat Ulama Islam-Fazi (JULF) Chief and PDM head Maulana Fazlur Rehman, Awami National Party's (ANP) Mian Iftikhar Hussain, Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) ministers and leaders including Khawaja Saad Rafique, Rana Sanaullah and Ayaz Sadiq have attended the meeting. During the meeting a consensus has been reached that present assemblies will complete their terms and the government will not announce the early general elections under any pressure from Imran Khan. They have also decided to pull out all the stops to retain the post of chief minister of Punjab in the runoff election scheduled on Friday. The PDM

PM wants ECP's verdict on PTI funding case

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday urged the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) to announce its judgment on Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf's foreign funding case, saying that Imran Khan was given a "free pass" despite his criticism on state institutions. "I urge the Election Commission of Pakistan to announce long-delayed judgment on PTI foreign funding case," he said in a tweet. The prime minister mentioned that the PTI chairman Imran Khan was given a "free pass" despite his criticism on the State institutions. "For long has Imran Niazi been given a free pass despite his repeated and shameless attacks on state institutions,"

Continued on Page 06

leadership strongly condemned Imran Khan's criticism of the institutions and decided to make efforts to save the chief ministership in Punjab, said the sources.

'CEC gets few days to resign or get ousted'

'Over five MNAs of the government are in touch with us,' claims Fawad

KHAYAM ABBASI

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader Chaudhry Fawad Hussain said on Tuesday while addressing a press conference that the chief election commissioner (CEC) got a few days to decide whether he wanted to go himself or be ousted. "Decide whether you want to go yourself or we will oust you," Fawad said, adding that there would be the PTI government in Punjab on July 22, 2022. "We can also ban the entry of Rana Sanaullah and Attaullah Tarar in Punjab on July 23," he warned. "Over five MNAs of the government are in touch with us," he claimed. "We can send the ventilator government' packing anytime we want," he added. "The current election commission must go now," he demanded. "Our purpose is not to send the government home. We want free and fair elections instead," he stated. "Hamza Shehbaz should resign now," he emphasised. He said that Asif Zardari never stood with Bhutto, so how he could support the PML-N, who was merely interested to protect his party government in Sindh. He lashed out at the government for making false cases against the PTI leadership during the events leading up to the Azadi March on May 25 and during the Punjab by-polls. The government made a false sectarian case against Zulfi Bukhari and tried to arrest him; attempted to



arrest a decent man, Shibli Faraz; also arrested Shahbaz Gill, where he was not even given water for over four hours, he said. Criticizing Chief Minister Hamza Shahbaz, Fawad demanded his resignation from the office in line with political traditions. "Hamza Shahbaz should be ashamed. His party suffered a humiliating defeat, even Maryam Nawaz and Malik Ahmad accepted it. He should have tendered his resignation immediately after it," he said. He pointed out that PTI could topple the federal government in a day if it wanted but, as five MNAs belonging to ruling coalition were in contact with his party. However, Fawad stated: "We are giving leeway to PM Shehbaz to take the

Continued on Page 06



ISLAMABAD: Per Albert Ilsaas, Ambassador of Norway to Pakistan calls on Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Mr. Miftah Ismail at Finance Division. - DNA

Norwegian Envoy calls on Minister

DNA

ISLAMABAD: H.E. Mr. Per Albert Ilsaas, Ambassador of Norway to Pakistan called on Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Mr. Miftah Ismail at Finance Division, on Tuesday. The Federal Minister welcomed the Ambassador and exchanged views on matters of mutual interest. The Federal Minister highlighted Pakistan's friendly relations with Norway and said that both countries enjoy admirable bilateral relations. The Finance Minister shared about the economic policies and priorities of the present government for sustainable and inclusive growth. H.E. Mr. Per Albert Ilsaas shared that both countries enjoy excellent relations and these need to be further promoted especially on economic fronts. The Finance Minister extended full support and cooperation of the present government to enhance the economic relations between both the countries.

Rupee falls to Rs222 against dollar

DNA

ISLAMABAD: The US dollar continued its upward march on Tuesday too as it touched the highest ever Rs221 mark with an appreciation of Rs6.80 against the Pakistani rupee during the early morning trade in the interbank market. In two days, the US dollar gained Rs11.05 against the local currency and so far it gained Rs39.98 since the coalition government assumed power. Earlier on Monday, the

Continued on Page 06

Imran wants civil war in country, says Marriyum

The minister says that PMLN got 40 percent votes in these by-elections

SHUJAAT HAMZA

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Information and Broadcasting Marriyum Aurangzeb said that PTI chairman Imran Khan wanted civil war in the country. She said that PTI must realize that they have lost five seats out of 20 seats. The minister said that PMLN got 40 percent votes in these by-elections. She said that the PML-N would be further strengthened in 16 constituencies of the Punjab Assembly. The party would continue the journey of exemplary service to the people of Punjab in the same spirit and historical tradition, she said in a tweet. Marriyum Aurangzeb said that the people of Punjab had always reposed full confidence in the Pakistan Muslim League



(Nawaz). She expressed the hope that Imran would apologize for his insulting behavior towards the Election Commission of Pakistan. The minister said that PML-N

Continued on Page 06

Inside...

Leadership, moderating policies vital for development - Page 02

Imran Ghaznavi installed as Rotary Club President - Page 03

Inept govt plunges country into quagmire of problems: Asad - Page 04

What Biden got right on his trip - Page 05

Sastaticket.pk celebrates launch of Airblue Skardu sector flights - Page 06

Türkiye, Iran need to fight against terror groups - Page 07

India should comply with border agreements: China - Page 08

Asim Iftikhar new envoy to France

Syrus Qazi likely to be the new Foreign Secretary

ANSAR BHATTI

ISLAMABAD: Muhammad Syrus Qazi, Pakistan's current ambassador to Turkey has been tipped as Pakistan's new Foreign Secretary, while the MOFA Spokesperson Asim Iftikhar Ahmed has been tipped as Pakistan's new ambassador to France. According to details, the government is considering to appoint a senior diplomat and Pakistan's ambassador in Turkey Syrus Qazi as the new boss of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as the incumbent Foreign Secretary Sohail Mahmood will retire in September. In another important development the



Syrus Qazi



Asim Iftikhar

government has finally decided to appoint an ambassador to France. This position fell vacant when Moen Ul Haq was posted from Paris to Beijing. Moin

was also in the run for the post of foreign secretary however he was not considered maybe because he is retiring from service in March next year.

Estd. 1860

MURREE BREWERY
ISO 9001, 14001, HACCP & OHSAS Certified Company

MAZEY KI DOUBLE DOSE

- Trendy drink for trendy people -

f murreebrewerycompany www.murreebrewery.com

Moderating policies vital for development

LAHORE: President Dr Arif Alvi said on Tuesday that right and timely decision-making, honest and quality leadership and continuous improvement and moderation of policies to keep them relevant to continuously changing technological and business factors were vital for the country's accelerated growth and development. The president expressed these views while addressing the inauguration ceremony of the Pakistan Chemical Expo: 2022 organized by the Pakistan Chemical Manufacturers Association (PCMA) here at Expo Center. Addressing the ceremony, the president said that exponential changes were happening in the field of science and technology, but unfortunately, the decision-makers in the government and private sector were not fully geared to align themselves with the continuous and rapid improvements and developments being introduced in business, industrial,

agriculture and services sectors. He said that all branches of science like Chemistry, Physics, Biology and others converged during research and development to produce high-tech, high-value and optimally-tuned products in almost all sectors. He added that this necessitated the transformation of entire decision-making and implementation mechanisms of a country to adopt and implement new and ultramodern Artificial intelligence and Big Data based products and services on regular basis to remain relevant to the ever-changing market and business requirements. He also called upon the universities to include members from top industries in their senates for fresh ideas and convene regular meetings to brainstorm and identify products and services which need to be invented and those existing products that need improvement to keep them relevant to the ever-changing demands of markets and

the sophisticated needs and preferences of the customers around the world. The president observed that Pakistan had made exemplary progress and development in the 60s and became a role model for many developing countries of the world. "We established Pakistan Steel Mills and Pakistan International Airlines and established many industries which ushered the country into an era of progress and prosperity but instead of building upon these achievements we not only slowed down but reversed many gains made by us which pushed the country into a backward direction", the president said. The president emphasized that: "We needed to identify the reasons for our national regression and by the lessons so learnt, we need to take corrective steps, pledge not to repeat the same mistake again and provide a strong basis required to push forward our country on the way to sustained progress and prosperity." - APP



Barrick Gold to start work on \$ 7 bln Reko Diq project in August

QUETTA: Chief Executive Officer of Barrick Gold Corporation Mark Bristow and Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Abdul Quddus Bizenjo on Tuesday unveiled that the development work on the Reko Diq mine project initially starting with \$ 7 billion will commence in August 2022. Addressing a joint news conference here at CM Secretariat CEO Barrick Gold and CM Balochistan said the Reko Diq copper-gold project, a partnership between the company, the provincial government

and Pakistan state-owned enterprises, would create substantial value for the province through multiple generations. The Reko Diq mine project will be constructed in two phases, starting with a plant that will be able to process approximately 40 million tons of ore per annum which could be doubled in five years following first production from phase one. With its unique combination of large scale, low strip and good grade, Reko Diq will be a multi-generational mine with

a life of at least 40 years. Mark Bristow, CEO Barrick gold while giving details about the project said during peak construction the project is expected to employ 7500 people and once in production it will create 4000 long-term jobs. Barrick's policy of prioritizing local employment and suppliers will have a positive impact on the local economy. In the negotiations Barrick and the government of Pakistan had worked to ensure that Balochistan will receive a substantial share of the benefits

generated by Reko Diq. "Balochistan's shareholding in Reko Diq will be fully funded by its partners and the federal government, which means that the province will reap the dividends, royalties and other benefits of its 25 percent ownership without having to contribute financially to the construction and operation of the mine. CEO Barrick Gold noted that "It is equally important that Balochistan and its people should see these benefits quickly even before construction starts." - APP

PAJCCI considers visit of Pakistan delegation instrumental for improving trade

PESHAWAR: Pak-Afghan Joint Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PAJCCI) has termed the visit of Pakistan delegation to Afghanistan as instrumental in improving trade, transit and investment at bilateral level. According to a press statement issued here on Tuesday, PAJCCI has recommended several measures to facilitate economic activity with Afghanistan including waiver of E-Form, EIF requirement for extended period till finalization of alternate mechanism, opening up of new border crossings, increase in timings

at existing border crossings, reducing multiple and manual checks, adding items to PKR trading category, barter trade mechanism implementation, exploring new items for trade, and cross-stuffing. It also suggested de-stuffing of containers, sales tax and duty draw back claims policy, setting up separate visa counters for business community at border crossings, development of infrastructure on both sides, joint tariff rationalization and effective transit trade policy and mechanism. These and several other issues were being taken up along with recommended solution at multiple forums like Afghan inter-ministerial committee, Ministry of Commerce, Pakistan Customs, FBR, FIA, NLC and State Bank of Pakistan, the statement added. Zubair Motiwala, Chairman PAJCCI, appreciated the decision of federal cabinet approving amendments in Paragraph 3(1) of the Import Policy Order 2022 to allow import of goods of Afghan origin against Pak rupee and without the requirement of Importers Electronic I-Form (EIF) forms for a period of one year. - APP

Ashrafi issues protocols to keep law, order in Muharram

It is not permissible to kill non-Muslims living peacefully in the Islamic state, but it is a sin. It is responsibility of the state to punish those who violate the Constitution and laws of land

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister's Special Representative for Interfaith Harmony and Middle East Hafiz Tahir Mehmood Ashrafi has issued protocols to keep law and order in Muharram-ul-Haram after holding a thorough consultation with the leadership of various schools of thoughts on Tuesday. Ashrafi who is also the chairman of Pakistan Ulama Council said the protocols were being issued in the light of Paigham-e-Pakistan to avert any untoward situation particularly in the holy month of Muharram. He said the PUC was in coordination with the leadership of all schools of thought and making endeavours to implement the following 'code of conduct' at every respective forum in letter and spirit. He informed that a meeting of Muttahida Ulama Board (MUB) was also being called on July 24, in Lahore adding the leaders of PUC and MUB would pay visits in important cities in that regard. According to the main points of standard operating procedures, sectarian hatred, armed sectarian

violence and practices of imposing one's ideologies on others through force and coercion is contrary to the rules of Islamic Shariah and fanning anarchy and chaos is a national crime. Religious scholars, Ulama, Mashaykh and Muftis of all sects decline negative thinking leading to extremism completely. It is dutiful to observe the sanctity of the Prophets of Allah, Companions and wives of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (Peace Be Upon Him), and Ahl al-Bayt. The person who violates and blasphemes these sacred things is condemned by all schools of thought, and the law should take immediate action against such a culprit. The usage of foul and abusive language against the faithful and adherents of different religious sects is Haraam (forbidden). The religious scholars, Ulama and Mashaykh from across the country has declared their disassociation from such elements. Using religious rites and slogans for private armed purposes and achieving armed

power is definitely not right as per Quran and Sunnah. It is the duty of Ulama and Mashaykh and religious scholars to educate people about the distinction between right and wrong



while declaring someone as an infidel (Takfir) is the jurisdiction of the state, which will be determined in accordance with the Islamic Shariah. All non-Muslim citizens have full right to worship

and are allowed to practice their religious rituals in their worship places on the occasion of their festivals. The rights given to non-Muslims by the Constitution cannot be usurped. It is not permissible to kill non-Muslims living peacefully in the Islamic state, but it is a sin. It is the responsibility of the state to punish those who violate the Con-



ISLAMABAD: Chief Minister of Balochistan Abdul Quddus Bizenjo presenting traditional shawl to Canadian High Commissioner to Pakistan Wendy Gilmour. - DNA

KP enacting legislation for children protection

PESHAWAR: Minister Labour, Shaukat Yousafzai on Tuesday informed Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Assembly that provincial government is enacting new legislation for the protection and welfare of children. Speaking at the floor of the assembly on the recent incidents of killing of minor girls in Peshawar, it was the provincial government's responsibility to improve the child protection mechanism and introduce laws, rules and regulations to protect children from violence, abuse and exploitation. He said that police was using modern technology and CCTV cameras to reach criminals involved in these heinous crimes. He informed that so far profiling of 159 suspects arrested in the murder of a girl Mahnoor was completed. He said that CCTV footages from surrounding areas Railway Colony were seen to trace clues of crime. - APP

Police, ulema, urged to work for peace in Muharram

PESHAWAR: Mayor of Provincial Metropolis, Haji Zubair Ali here Tuesday urged police authorities, elected representatives, ulema and elders of the area to work together and strive for peace in Muharram Haram 2022. He expressed these views while chairing a meeting with SSP Operation Kashif Abbasi that was also attended by SP Cantt, SP Rural, SP City and Director East were also present on the occasion. In the meeting, the measures taken to maintain a peaceful environment during Muharram were reviewed in detail. It was decided that strict action will be taken against those who spread sectarian content. Haji Zubair Ali also directed Director East (Town-II) to finalize all the arrangements including deployment of security personnel, establishment of control room besides beefing up security in and around the Imambarahs and other religious places before the start of Muharramul Haram. - APP

YAP Pakistan partners up with Faysal Bank

DNA
LAHORE: After successfully obtaining the In-Principle Approval from the State Bank of Pakistan for an Electronic Money Institution (EMI) license, YAP Pakistan has now entered into a strategic partnership with Faysal Bank to introduce digital financial services through the Fintech Express program. Faysal Bank's Fintech Express program is focused on identifying and fostering fintech startups with promising, high-potential innovative technologies from Mastercard and facilitating these companies in developing seamless digital payment journeys. YAP Pakistan's primary objective is to revolutionize the banking industry through the provision of dynamic, intelligent and easy to use digital financial products and services. This collaboration will enable both entities to accelerate in their missions of promoting financial inclusion and digitizing the banking ecosystem of Pakistan. The agreement was signed by Meharyab Niazi, CEO YAP Pakistan and Mr. Yousaf Hussain, CEO Faysal Bank Limited. Speaking at the signing ceremony, Meharyab Niazi, CEO YAP Pakistan shared that, "Obtaining the In-Principle Approval for our EMI license was a critical first step as we work towards a more digitally inclusive world; encouraging financial inclusion only paves way for us to reach our real goal that is to improve quality of life by providing access to essential financial services. YAP is committed to bringing digital financial services to underserved communities as a way of reducing inequality, promoting prosperity, and empowering individuals. We are thrilled to be partnering with Faysal Bank in Pakistan and hope to use technology and innovative products to create value for our customers."

Polish company expresses commitment towards Pakistan's energy security

ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Poland to Pakistan Maciej Pisasari, along with a delegation of Polish Oil and Gas Company (POGC), called on Minister of State for Petroleum Dr Musadik Malik here on Tuesday. The company's delegation was headed by its Vice President & Chief Operating Officer (COO) Robert Perkowski, and Vice President of Management Board Mr Artur Cieslik, a Petroleum Division news release said. During the meeting, the minister discussed with the delegation areas of mutual interest and further highlighted Pakistan's interest in benefiting from Poland's technical expertise in the oil and gas sector. Poland is among the pioneers of petroleum exploration in Europe. The ambassador termed the oil and gas partnership a jewel in the crown of the Pak-Polish relationship. He reiterated Poland's interest in investment and developing the oil and gas sector in Pakistan. Musadik Malik assured to provide all possible assistance and facilitation to the Polish company for smooth operational activities in Pakistan, which would help pour in increased foreign investment. The delegation expressed gratitude for the minister's support. "PGNIG Group's management has always recognized the Government of Pakistan as well as its officials' support for its operations in Pakistan," Robert Perkowski said. He said the PGNIG hoped that the investment climate in Pakistan would improve and it was committed to contributing to the country's energy security. - APP



Islamabad POST

Available in following cities

ISLAMABAD
Qamar News Agency
03105460372

RAWALPINDI
Asim News Agency
03435802610

KARACHI
Nazir Siyal
03337554016

PESHAWAR
Zarbagh News Agency
03005412069

FAISALABAD
Ishfaq Mughal
03007689850

GUJRAT
M. Yousuf Bhutta
03338436820

JHELUM
Iqrash News Agency
03005412069

KHARIAN
Ijaz News Agency
03068863870

LALAMUSA
Gulzar Ahmed Noshi
03359494788

SARA-I-ALMAGIR
0300 5428178

What Biden got right on his trip

Joe Biden campaigned and won as the antithesis to Donald Trump. To deliver on that promise in foreign policy, in his first year as president, he tried to offer "something for everyone," as Anne-Marie Slaughter has argued: tough talk on China for the realists; a recommitment to NATO, to the Paris Agreement on climate, and to the World Health Organization for the liberal internationalists; an end to the forever wars; and, for the idealists, a willingness to speak up for human rights. The last item on this long list, his attempt to return to a values-based foreign policy after the often incoherent and destructive "America First" presidency of Mr. Trump, has proved to be the toughest for Mr. Biden to get right. Beginning with his inauguration speech, to last year's "Summit for Democracy" and his statements in support of Ukraine, Mr. Biden has returned repeatedly to the idea of "democracy versus autocracy" as an organizing principle for American foreign policy.

In an essay in *The Washington Post* on Saturday, Mr. Biden portrayed the trip as a mission to shore up peace in the region through diplomacy. "A more secure and integrated Middle East benefits Americans in many ways," he wrote. There are a few factors he didn't mention: Inflation is soaring; gas prices are alarming; his popularity is plummeting; and midterm elections are looming. On Friday, Mr. Biden met with the de facto Saudi ruler, Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, whose kingdom Mr. Biden, as a candidate, suggested should be a "pariah" over the horrific murder of the journalist Jamal Khashoggi in 2018. Mr. Biden's administration last year released an intelligence report that laid the killing at the feet of the crown prince. Now, Mr. Biden, with this visit, is trying to reset relations with the kingdom to shore up the alliance against Russia and, more important, to pump more oil. In Saudi Arabia on Saturday, Mr. Biden is expected to meet with nine Arab leaders – those of the six countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council (Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates) plus Jordan, Egypt and Iraq, whose major ask will be more military support against Iran. This is not a pretty picture of diplomacy in action – an American president making nice with autocrats, with few opportunities to make meaningful progress on behalf of democracy. America's greatest strength in the world has always been its combination of high ideals and a readiness to engage with almost anyone when it served to advance peace and American national interests. This doesn't mean the kind of amoral pandering to dictators practiced by Mr. Trump. Rather, it means building on areas of agreement, however small, that can be used to move toward a more peaceful, free and open world. While there is a natural impulse to look for grand gestures on every presidential visit abroad, there are other places and other issues where this administration needs to advance a broader and more ambitious agenda – especially climate change, Ukraine and China. This is not the moment for bold new Middle East policies. Mr. Biden is doing the right thing by treating the region's issues as part of a bigger picture.

Pakistan's First And Only Diplomatic Daily

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

Member APNS / ABC Certified

Vol: 02 Issue: 362

Email: dailyisbpost@gmail.com

Phone: 051-2266165 / 051-2261960

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



Political shifts

The danger posed by heatwaves in Europe should be taken more seriously. On the continent, the headlines are about forest fires. In the UK, the story is about the country grinding to a standstill. Both views mask a deadly truth. High levels of heat are a killer, one seen retrospectively in the data on excess deaths and hospital admissions. It was only in 2008 that statisticians concluded that as many as 70,000 people died as a result of a heatwave in Europe in 2003. By foolishly telling people to "enjoy the sunshine" Dominic Raab, the UK's deputy prime minister, proved that there is no challenge he would not rise to. Any leading politician who thinks this trade-off is right – especially during what could be record-breaking heat in Britain – is not fit to be prime minister. However, this may not be the biggest problem the world faces. Joe Biden had a plan to put the United States onto a path that was an improvement on Donald Trump's antagonism, but it was not good enough. The United Nations warns that limiting global heating to 1.5C is necessary to avoid the worst of the climate crisis's impacts. But Mr Biden put the US on track to 2C. However, even this modest target was opposed by Republicans and centrist Democratic politicians. Last week, Senator Joe Manchin of West Virginia, who took more campaign cash from the oil and gas industry than any other senator, sunk Mr Biden's climate agenda. The US accounts for less than 5% of the current global population but is responsible for a fifth of greenhouse gases. That the world can burn itself to the ground because West Virginia's economy runs on fossil fuels is yet more proof of how anachronistic US democracy is becoming. Pursuing net zero policies will not stall economic growth or fuel inflation. But it will lead to political realignments. That ought to be a warning for voters in Britain. Mr Biden's plan was for investment in green technologies. However, in states such as West Virginia, voters seem suspicious about economic transformations after industrial jobs disappeared and never came back. They cling to what they know: oil, coal and gas. In Britain, Boris Johnson won in 2019 with an electoral coalition that included former Labour heartlands seized in part by the idea that they could be levelled up by potentially switching from carbon intensive industries – at a greater risk from cutting emissions to net zero by 2050 – through decarbonisation. Some of Mr Johnson's potential successors unscrupulously signalled that this might mean taxing rich southerners – who are disproportionately represented in the Tory membership that decides the leadership – to pay for the north's transformation. Hence the hints that net zero targets could be dropped or delayed. It is the mark of an unprincipled rogue to say anything to get ahead. Britain does not need a leader who will fail to rise to the existential challenge of the climate emergency.

Geopolitical, strategic competition of major powers

Dr. Muhammad Akram Zaheer



Indo-Pacific countries, such as Saudi Arabia, have also not backed coalition efforts against Russia. Such neutrality and indifference is a growing problem in international affairs and undermines counter-terrorism efforts. There is a growing sense in the West that a new Cold War is going to be start but most of the world does not see things that way

Geopolitical is defined as a struggle for the control of geographical entities with an international and global dimension, and the use of such geographical entities for political advantages. It may include territorial acknowledgements, border, trade agreements, war treaties, climate agreements and more. Debates on modern strategic competition consider states as key actors in the international context where competition takes place. The competition between states is ideological and mainly through state capabilities. Strategic competition has many levels and operational dimensions, but when we talk about global competition, two issues are very important, military power and economic power. It also suggests that states balance each other by using their economic strength. Hard power has also not dropped its significance

nonetheless, soft power options has also become more available and less expensive for states to gain a clear competitive power advantage. However, as the strategic competition has become more pronounced, states have been looking for opportunities to use their geographical potential for their interests. Russian invasion in Ukraine is the most devastating event for the post-Afghan War world. The world is going through a new era of geopolitics. The world needs a new strategic approach to ensure unity to prevent future aggression. History has shown that aggression is like a contagious disease that is

difficult to control, especially when it starts to spread. Vladimir Putin is not alone in seeking to destroy the world order that was imposed to maintain peace in the world, but also the General Secretary of the Communist Party Xi Jinping has outlined and predicted his vision. Supporting Putin's aggression could advance China's geopolitical and political interests. The president is convinced that Putin will succeed, but the unanticipated resistance of the Ukrainian people, the courageous leadership of Vladimir Zelensky and the Western response are also astonishing. Zelensky is satisfied that key European countries oppose President Xi's aggressive deterrent design. China is also trying to transform the US coalition system into a "partnership" network. However, to create a new world order, The United States have to

tear down the old world order. China and Russia believe the United States is playing the role of an arrogant player. This thinking has emerged in many parts of the world, including China. The People's Republic of China places all responsibility for the violence and destruction in Europe on Washington. Russia supports Chinese principle and affirms that Taiwan is a part of China and opposes any form of Taiwan's independence. Russia's aggression against Ukraine has shown that the world should take seriously what Xi and Putin are saying, especially when they speak in their own language. Both countries are determined to destroy the US alliance by force whenever it would be possible. Xi and Putin means that the US alliance has been formed over their opposition and they will oppose it. Statements by top Chinese diplomats should not be dismissed as mere propaganda. This is a clear warning to Washington to abandon its strategy in the Indo-Pacific, and Beijing reserves the option of resistance. From this point of view, Russia's invasion of Ukraine sets an example. Beijing has also warned small countries such as Ukraine to stay away from US plots. According to Beijing, sympathy for Ukraine is good but it is not good to be used as a pawn in Washington's efforts to maintain geopolitical dominance. These messages are also being heard in those countries that remain neutral in international politics. Russia and China continue to oppose any attempt by foreign powers to undermine security and stability in their respective territories. That why China and Russia also oppose further NATO expansion and have called on the North Atlantic Treaty Organization to abandon Cold War ideological methods. China and Russia also oppose the formation of a bloc in the Asia-Pacific region and remain wary of the negative effects of the US Indo-Pacific strategy on peace and stability in the region. The two countries also express deep concern over the trilateral security partnership between Australia, the United States and the United Kingdom, which provides deep cooperation between its members in the areas of strategic stability, especially in the nuclear field. Both

Beijing and Moscow believe that such measures contradict the security and sustainable development goals of the Asia-Pacific region and it will increase the risk of an arms race in the region, which also poses a serious threat to nuclear non-proliferation. Opposition to President Xi and Putin's Biden administration's new Australia-British-US (AUKUS) initiative has led to violations of non-proliferation treaties. This opposition is also echoing in the West. On the other hand, Australia, Korea, Singapore and Taiwan are committed to supporting Ukraine. Most Southeast Asian nations have supported NATO, Ukraine and the United States. The Philippines and Indonesia also voted in favor of condemning Russia but India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Vietnam did not. Indo-Pacific countries, such as Saudi Arabia, have also not backed coalition efforts against Russia. Such neutrality and indifference is a growing problem in international affairs and undermines counter-terrorism efforts. There is a growing sense in the West that a new Cold War is going to be start but most of the world does not see things that way. China is a bigger threat to Asian countries than Russia, but in the absence of a comprehensive US-led diplomatic campaign, Washington cannot support Taiwan in the Taiwan crisis. Many analysts believe that if China invades the Democratic Republic of Taiwan, many countries will remain on the coast. Such a campaign by Beijing to tarnish Taiwan's international image could be dangerous as if a dispute erupts, it may signal Taiwan's diplomatic isolation that Taiwan is the only province China will bring back. China also has strong economic ties with every country. The United States will need to defend Taiwan, and it often uses its diplomatic and other tactics to keep it at bay. Many countries and US allies do not necessarily agree with all Chinese statements about Taiwan and justify their neutrality. US diplomacy should highlight that China is backtracking on its commitment to peace and endangering the stability of law and order in the region while it is committed to maintaining peace under the Taiwan Relations Act. Washington needs to make sure that it does not distance itself from countries or regions that oppose China and Russia. However, the United States

has also given China and Russia the opportunity to wield considerable influence in key regions such as the Persian Gulf. The lack of a US trade vision for Southeast Asia and the lack of a security system are obstacles to form a bloc. But Washington only sees how quickly military aid can be delivered and how quickly the right weapons system can get into the right hands in a crisis. Washington does not need to provoke China, but the two states must make promises and work for peace. There are lessons to be learned from Ukraine's failed deterrence efforts. It should be noted that the prevention of war in Ukraine has failed. The United States has no military ties with Ukraine, so it could not help Ukraine directly except through rhetoric. Although the United States has armed Ukraine with disproportionate weapons that could destroy Russia's major weapons system but it has not been able to stop Putin from going to war. On the other hand, Taiwan is also under threat from China and a similar approach will not work to stop China because the United States is not militarily engaged with the island. The United States must build Taiwan's military so that it can work together as an ally to counter the various threats of repression. But that requires careful coalition management, as Washington has been practicing with other potential coalition partners. China relies on global markets for everything from technology and energy to food and agriculture, major metals, minerals and capital. In fact, China's dependency on the global economy did not stop it from trading with Russia. Washington will have to maintain strong ties with all major suppliers in China. In short, President Xi is using the war in Russia and Ukraine to forge a "new era" that will either destroy or weaken the US alliance. Putin has taught the world that the aggressive statements and threats can wreak havoc. Washington must also review its strategy and highlight the growing threats posed by Beijing to peace and security in Asia in order to protect thousands innocent people from the effects of war. It will take time for these two countries to come down from the mountain of arrogance to stand side by side. Though it is difficult to do so but they have to do to protect Asia from war and its consequences.

Information warfare in big data

Nadir Ali



Similarly, Algorithm development is all about the picture that someone have in their head and how someone intend to put it into action. If state have the appropriate policies in place and a clear goals, then these improvements will lead to success

Information warfare is defined as actions taken to achieve information superiority by affect-

ing adversary information, information-based processes. Therefore, the term information warfare is widely used in the contemporary discourse, but it is often misunderstood. The goal of information warfare is to destroy the enemy's war-fighting capability without firing a single bullet. Information warfare does not use tanks, fighter planes, missiles, or nukes to wage war. The weapons in information warfare are computer viruses, malware, Trojan horses, and else. Information warfare does not result in

mass casualties, but the damage it can do to one's critical infrastructure, such as nuclear power plants in case of a country or critical data or in case of others, is a matter of concern. Similarly, Big Data can be used to destroy the information also it could be used for illegal activities such as, suicide bombing – that how terrorist can use big data. Thus, these technologies are very comprehensive and friendly if the usage of these technologies in a proper way then big data plays a vital role to make changes in the society. However, by the help of big data, it is very easy to analyze someone behaviour but very hard to extract what is truth in this post-truth era, and one can easily build a narrative to manipulate the people and disseminate fake information among the targeted audience. Because there is no counter check to ensure that either that given data or information is reliable with exact facts and figures or not and where does this information comes from. Simultaneously, big data is a vast amount of information accom-

panied with a vast philosophy and a wide range of kinds. Instead of merely having enough information, it's a comprehensive echo system. Big Data may be used to destroy information as well as for unlawful activities like suicide bombing, Trojan horses, phishing. While on the other hand, these technologies are extremely comprehensive and user-friendly – when properly implemented – big data may play a significant part in societal transformation. The primary difficulty is big data – which has become a popular subject in 2017. It also needs to upgrade the whole infrastructure such as, personal computers, laptops, and other devices where data is accessed via various sites such as social media and the internet are not new – but big data infrastructure is. Similarly, Algorithm development is all about the picture that someone have in their head and how someone intend to put it into action. If state have the appropriate policies in place and a clear goals, then these improvements will lead to success. It all

comes down to the object someone is processing when it comes to algorithm design and failure. More significantly, states needs to have well-defined goals and policies as well. Thus, a normative framework is supplied at the national level within the policy on a certain subject or area because Pakistan do not yet have a big data policy, it is impossible to identify what specific Norms the Pakistani government is attempting to attain in this field. Therefore, Transparency, accountability, and inclusivity are all qualities that exist in Pakistan. However, in terms of the legal framework, there is no single legislative instrument or act that addresses the big data issue and the Data Protection Privacy Act (DPP). The personal data protection law is one proposal or measure that is presently in the works that is extremely controversial, and different drops are being debated.

The writer is associated with the Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad. He can be reached at hafiznadirali7@gmail.com

Briefs

PM wants ECP's verdict on PTI funding case

FROM PAGE 01

he said. He stressed that the impunity given to Imran Khan had "hurt the country". The Election Commission of Pakistan had reserved its judgment on June 21. PML-N Vice President Maryam Nawaz on Monday had linked Imran Khan's criticism of the Election Commission of Pakistan with his "fear of being exposed" in the foreign funding case. Maryam's remarks came after Imran Khan demanded Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Sikander Sultan Raja's resignation over his alleged favouring of the PML-N in polls, including the by-elections in Punjab on Sunday.

'CEC gets few days to resign or get ousted'

FROM PAGE 01

right decision on general elections." "We can boldly ask President Arif Alvi to initiate a vote of no-confidence against the current government but we are giving it a chance," he said. Brushing off the notion that the interim setup would need more than three months to deal with the deteriorating economy, he added that economy was not the responsibility of the caretaker government. He said PTI wanted an interim government for three months, as the elected government would deal with the economy. Stressing that the ECP was biased against PTI, he added that it changed voter lists to ensure that PTI loses the Punjab by-elections. Talking about the increase in the value of the dollar, he said that the dollar was stable three months ago, large scale manufacturing had increased. He said that now, despite the IMF agreement, confidence in the market and currency was not restored, as the dollar has become expensive by Rs. 10.

Rupee falls to Rs222 against dollar

FROM PAGE 01

US dollar had gained a whopping Rs4.30 increase against the Pakistani rupee to reach Rs215.25 in interbank trading. The greenback had closed at Rs215.20 on Monday with an increase of Rs4.25 in interbank trading. It also merits mention here that the US dollar has appreciated Rs11.05 against the Pakistani rupee in the interbank market during the last two days. The economic experts said that the Pakistani rupee was under pressure due to the current political situation in the country. After reaching a peak of Rs211.93 on June 22, the dollar started declining for a brief period and fell to a low of Rs204.56 on July 4.

Metis Global Director Saad Bin Naseer said the rupee was seeing a decline due to "panic buying [of the dollar] from banks in the interbank market". He said that "panic is setting in the financial markets following fears of change in [the] government in Punjab and Centre" after the by-polls on the province's 20 seats. The by-elections saw the PTI register a thumping victory against the PML-N, which leads the ruling coalition. He went on to say that the downgrading of Pakistan's outlook from stable to negative by the Fitch rating agency further increased panic in the market.

Imran wants civil war in country, says Marriyum

FROM PAGE 01

strongly believed in fair, transparent, and impartial elections and following democratic norms, and yesterday's election was its practical demonstration. She said that Imran Khan blackmailed the NAB chairman to grill his opponents in his era. The minister said that Imran Khan wants ECP CEC Sultan Sikandar Raja to act like former Chairman NAB Javed Iqbal, who acted on his illegal orders.

Sastaticket.pk celebrates launch of Airblue Skardu sector flights

SHUJAAT HAMZA

ISLAMABAD: Sastaticket.pk is ecstatic to congratulate Airblue management for adding Skardu to its network. The airline embarked on its first flight on the 7th of July, 2022. This is another achievement not only for the airline but also for Pakistan, as it will help in the socio-economic growth of the nation. This initiative taken by Airblue was very crucial for the development of the economy of Pakistan as it will also help in attracting tourists to the beautiful valley of Skardu. Airblue is considerate of the current condition of the world and, due to the outbreak of the pandemic, has vigilant planning and is following all the protocols and SOPs necessary. And Sastaticket.pk plans to be with the management of Airblue airline with every step moving forward and supporting the airline.

During the press, ShazilMehkri, CEO of Sastaticket.pk, gave his heartfelt gratitude to the management of Air blue, commenting, "We, at Sastaticket, would like to congratulate the Airblue management for successfully adding Skardu to its growing network. This addition will continue the strong momentum in domestic tour-



Babar Azam supports Abdullah as Pakistan need 120 runs to win

DNA

GALLE: 22-years-old Abdullah Shafique scored his second Test century as Pakistan marched towards 342 runs target against Sri Lanka in the opening Test. Abdullah alongside skipper Babar Azam scored 101 runs off 238 balls as Pakistan scored 222-3 at stumps on day 4. The Green Caps now need 120 runs to register a record chase here at the Galle Stadium. Abdullah (112*) and Mohammad Rizwan (7*) will resume batting on the last

day. Abdullah completed his century off 238 balls as Pakistan needed 148 more runs to win before the fourth day ended. Meanwhile, Babar scored his 22nd fifty, also completing his 3000 runs in Test cricket. He was removed by Prabhath Jayasuriya after scoring 55 runs. Abdullah was in charge after Pakistan lost two crucial wickets in second session and closed their score on 147-2 at Tea on day 4. Set to chase 342 runs by hosts Sri Lanka, Pakistan had to suffer two major blows as opener Imam-ul-Haq and experienced Azhar Ali fell prey to Sri Lankan spin-

ners. Imam got stumped off Ramesh Mendis while Azhar was deceived off Jayasuriya and gave simple catch in slips. Skipper Babar gave a helping hand to well-set Abdullah who was not out for 77 off 173 balls. Babar played some early strokes to score a quick 26 off 46 deliveries. Abdullah and Imam provided solid momentum to Pakistan after they were set to chase 342 runs to win opening Test. The two openers scored 87 runs together before Mendis removed Imam to provide first breakthrough to the hosts who made a strong grip on the match thanks to Dinesh Chandimal's last wicket contribution. Resuming at an overnight score of 329-9, Sri Lanka managed to add just eight runs as Naseem Shah was quick enough to pick up the last wicket of Prabhath Jayasuriya. Inform Chandimal remained not-out for 94 off 139 balls. With a lead of 341 runs, Sri Lanka set Pakistan to chase 342 runs on last two days of the match. Imam and Abdullah started off well for Pakistan, tackling spinners strongly from both ends. Sri Lankan spinners, who destroyed Pakistan's batting in first innings, found it difficult this time as Imam and Abdullah looked up with some solid planning. Abdullah read the pitch so well as he completed his fifth Test fifty to stabilize himself on the spin-friendly track. However, Imam looked a bit shaky and provided a chance to Jayasuriya who picked him up in 29th over.



France sizzles with extremely high temperatures

PARIS: France endured sweltering temperatures for the second time in the last month as a heatwave broke records in several cities Monday, according to the official weather service Météo France. Extreme peak heat was recorded on the western side of the country. By evening, temperatures rose to an absolute maximum of 42.6C (108.7F) in the town of Biscarrosse in Nouvelle-Aquitaine and 42.4C (108.3F) in Cazaux, Occitanie. Both towns are located in southwestern France, which has been battling enormous fires since last Tuesday.

Exceptionally, in western France's Brittany region, the city of Nantes witnessed a high of 42C (107.6F) and the town of Saintes in Charente-Maritime 41.1C (106F) for the first time since 1949. Several other locations beat the previous heat record, according to Météo France, including La Roche-sur-Yon, Cholet, Niort, Saint-Nazaire, Angers, Lanmeur, Saint-Brieuc, Brest and Chassiron. Fifteen departments on the Atlantic coast, including Charente, Charente-Maritime, Cotes-d'Armor, Dordogne, Finistère, Gers, Gironde, Ille-et-Vilaine, Landes, Loire-Atlantique, Lot-et-Garonne, Maine-et-Loire, Morbihan, Deux-Sevres and Vendée have been placed on red alert and citizens asked to be vigilant due to the maximum temperatures. Additionally, 69 departments are listed on the orange list. The heatwave is likely to abate on Tuesday and Wednesday in most parts of the country, said Météo France. In June, France experienced the early onset of a heatwave for four days, with absolute temperature records set at 43C (109.4F). - Agencies

16-year-old Eisha is eyeing to scale the Broad Peak

DNA

KARACHI: Eyeing to reach new heights, Pakistani female climbers are moving forward towards their goals on different peaks of over 8-thousand meters. Naila Kiani and Samina Baig are currently on K2 and aiming to become first Pakistani woman to scale the 2nd highest peak of the world at 8611m while 16-year-old Eisha Sajid is eyeing to scale the Broad Peak to become the youngest climber to scale an 8-thousander inside Pakistan. Naila, a Dubai-based Pakistani, confirmed to Geo News via satellite communication that she has reached the camp 2 on K2 and will move towards Camp 3 on Wednesday. She also confirmed that Samina Baig is ahead of her and has already reached the Camp 3. "We are staying just above Camp 2 and little below the lower C3 and will move further tomorrow," she said. Naila hoped for her summit by 22nd or 23rd July. She added that whoever reaches



on top - either her or Samina - it will be an honor for Pakistan that first time a Pakistani woman has managed to scale K2. Karrar Haider, secretary of Alpine Club of Pakistan, added that Naila is accompanied by Sirbaz Ali and Wajid Nagri. Meanwhile, a young and first-timer, 16-year-old Eisha Sajid has also started her expedition on The Broad Peak. The young mountaineer, who is on

her first ever attempt, is currently on camp 1 after completing C2 rotation. "We are currently at camp 1 and will leave for camp 2 tomorrow Inshaallah," she posted on her Instagram account. If Eisha manages to successfully scale the Broad Peak, she will surpass Shehroze Kashif as youngest climber to summit an 8 thousander in Pakistan. Shehroze was 17 when he submitted the same mountain in 2019.

Indonesia, Timor-Leste to boost trade ties

JAKARTA: Indonesia and Timor-Leste have agreed to continue to raise the value of bilateral trade between the countries. Indonesian President Joko Widodo (Jokowi) stated after attending a bilateral meeting with President of Timor-Leste José Ramos-Horta. "Considering the current trend of trade affairs (between the two countries) that continues to show positive development, I believe that it can continue to be improved," Jokowi stated during a joint press conference along with Ramos-Horta at the Bogor Presidential Palace, West Java Province, on Tuesday. The Indonesian president remarked that at the meeting, discussions focused on bilateral economic cooperation. Furthermore, he highlighted the commitment of Indonesian state-owned enterprises (SOEs) and private companies to become involved in the development activities in Timor-Leste, especially in the infrastructure sector. He also encouraged the two countries to immediately conclude their bilateral investment treaty. Jokowi stated that the value of Indonesia's investment in

Timor Leste had reached US\$818 million (Rp12.3 trillion) in the banking, oil and gas, as well as telecommunications sectors. "We also spoke about the completion of



border negotiations, and I emphasized the importance of resolving the two remaining segments of the two countries' land border soon," he stated. Moreover, at the bilateral meeting, the delegations of both nations inked four memoranda of understanding on agriculture, cross-border transportation, standardization and metrology, as well as trade cooperation. President Ramos-Horta is scheduled to stay in Indonesia for eight days. He arrived at the Bogor Presidential Palace at 9:54 a.m. Western Indonesian Standard Time (WIB, UTC+7) and was greeted with a series of official welcoming ceremonies. Before conducting the bilateral meeting, the two state leaders planted an agarwood tree (Aquilaria sp.) in the backyard of the palace and engaged in brief talk on the palace veranda. It was Ramos-Horta's first visit to Indonesia after being inaugurated as the 7th president of Timor-Leste on May 20, 2022. Earlier, President Jokowi assigned Coordinating Minister of Political, Legal, and Security Affairs Mahfud MD to attend the inauguration ceremony of the president of Timor-Leste. ANTARA

Turkey threatens to 'freeze' Finland, Sweden NATO bids

NEWS DESK

TEHRAN: Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said on Monday that he would freeze the bids from Finland and Sweden to join the NATO alliance if they do not keep the promises they made to secure Turkey's support last month. The bids from Sweden and Finland - who decided to join NATO after decades of neutrality following the Russian invasion of Ukraine - were initially blocked by alliance member Turkey over claims that the Scandinavian countries were supporting "terrorism." The three countries signed an agreement at a NATO summit in Madrid in July, which saw Ankara lift its veto in exchange for pledges from Stockholm and Helsinki on counterterrorism and arms exports. Erdogan, however, has renewed his threat of vetoing their accession if he believes the two bidding countries are not implementing their agreements. He added that Sweden is currently "not showing a good image." Public support for joining NATO shot up in both Sweden and Finland after Russia invaded Ukraine. Their announced bids were initially warmly welcomed by NATO and most of its members, but Turkey threw up a roadblock to what many had considered would be a speedy process. Ankara has accused both countries of supporting Kurdish militants and providing a safe haven for those who have fled Turkey. It has requested the return of individuals which Ankara has called "terrorists." Erdogan has previously said that part of the agreement was for Sweden to extradite 73 people to Turkey to face trial. Sweden has denied agreeing to any such measures. The Scandinavian country has taken in people fleeing from persecution in Turkey. Many of Erdogan's opponents - including lawmakers, human rights activists and journalists - have ended up in prison often on what are generally considered trumped-up charges.

'Give me 20 minutes with Kohli, I will help him out'

SPORTS DESK

DEHLI: India's legendary cricketer Sunil Gavaskar asked for 20 minutes with Virat Kohli to help the former Indian captain gain his form back. Speaking to Indian media, Gavaskar highlighted difficulties faced by Kohli while playing on an off-stump line. "Give me 20 minutes with him [Virat Kohli], I would be able to tell him the things he might have to do. It might help him, I am not saying it will help him but it could, particularly with regards to that off-stump line," said Gavaskar. "Having been an opening batter, having been troubled by that line, there are certain things that you try and do. If I get 20 minutes with him, I might be able to tell him," he maintained. Gavaskar feels that Kohli needs some time to gain back his form. "I think we just have to wait and see when he comes back, whether it helps or not helps. As I said, he is allowed a few failures, look at his record for India, 70 international hundreds. I mean, he has got runs in all formats of the game, in all conditions," Gavaskar added.

Shahzad Qureshi wins gold in Asian Bodybuilding

MONITORING DESK

ISLAMABAD: Shahzad Qureshi (C) posing with his Gold medal and trophy with Fazal Ilahi (R). In the 54th Asian Bodybuilding Championship, Pakistani bodybuilder Shahzad Qureshi grabbed the gold medal by beating his Indian counterpart Nareish in the master-class 80kg+ category. In a video message, Shahzad said that he is very happy and cannot explain the moment when he was receiving the gold medal and Pakistan's national anthem was playing. On the other hand, Umar Shahzad of Pakistan bagged Silver medal in Junior 70kg+ category. In this category, India's Suresh Bala Kumar bagged Gold whereas his compatriot Chingkingganba Athokpam won Bronze.

Briefs

Indian rupee
breaches 80
per dollar,
hits new
record low

MUMBAI: The Indian rupee fell to more than 80 per US dollar for the first time on record Tuesday, as the greenback extended its rally and foreign capital outflows intensified.

The rupee 80.0600 against the greenback soon after trading started, Bloomberg data showed. High inflation and rising interest rates in the United States coupled with fears of an impending recession in the world's biggest economy have fuelled a broad dollar rally in recent weeks as investors turn increasingly risk-averse. Tighter US monetary policy has exacerbated outflows from emerging markets such as India, where foreign investors have withdrawn a net \$30.8 billion in debt and equity this year. Data released last week showed US consumer price inflation hit a fresh four-decade high in June, exceeding market forecasts and stoking expectations of another large Federal Reserve rate hike next week. — APP

Kazakhstan
reports 1,450
Covid cases

DNA

NUR-SULTAN: 1,450 new coronavirus cases have been reported across Kazakhstan in the past 24 hours, which raises the country's COVID-19 tally to 1,319,494. Kazinform has learned from the interdepartmental commission for the prevention of COVID-19 spread. Of them, 502 are in Nur-Sultan, 589 — in Almaty, 31 — in Shymkent, 24 — in Akmola region, 4 — in Aktoobe region, 69 — in Almaty region, 43 — in Zhetysay region, 32 — in Atyrau region, 6 — in East Kazakhstan region, 2 — in Abai region, 51 — in Zhambyl region, 5 — in East Kazakhstan region, 40 — in Karaganda region, 13 — in Ulytau region, 2 — in Kostanay region, 13 — in Kyzylorda region, 6 — in Mangistau region, 11 — in Pavlodar region, 2 — in North Kazakhstan region, and 5 — in Turkistan region.

13 inmates
killed in
fresh fight in
Ecuador prison

QUITO: Thirteen inmates were killed and two others injured on Monday in yet another bloody fight in a notorious Ecuadorian prison, law enforcement officials said. "Unfortunately, central command reports 13 (inmates) dead and two injured," the South American country's prison authority SNAI said on Twitter. The incident took place at the same Bellavista prison in the town of Santo Domingo de los Colorados, about 80 kilometers (50 miles) from Quito, where 44 inmates were killed in a bloody brawl in May. Prison officials, aided by the military and the police, were able to regain control of the facility, SNAI said. — APP

Pak urges 'effective' response to
Food, Fuel & Finance challenges

"We are facing an existential economic emergency in the global South," Ambassador Akram said

NEW YORK: Pakistan has called for building a "coherent and effective" response to the immediate challenges of food, fuel and finance that have adversely impacted the poorest countries and people, extending inequality among and within nations. Participating in a discussion on the objective of preserving multilateralism, Ambassador Munir Akram said that the COVID-19 pandemic, climate change and conflicts were the "greatest challenges" the world was confronted with.

"It is time to utilize the international mechanisms of the UN system to build a coherent and effective response to the immediate challenges of Food, Fuel and Finance and revive the hopes for the realization of the SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals)," the Pakistan envoy told a high-level segment of the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) on Monday. Elaborating on the impact of those challenges on poor countries, he said poverty

Turkiye, Iran need to fight
against terror groups

The Astana process was launched in 2017 to restore peace in Syria, which has been ravaged by a civil war since early 2011 when the Bashar al-Assad regime cracked down on pro-democracy protesters with unexpected ferocity

DNA

TEHRAN: Turkiye and Iran need to continue to fight terrorist groups in solidarity, as they stir up trouble for both countries, the Turkish president said in an Iranian capital Tehran on Tuesday. "The PJAK, PKK, PYD, YPG, and FETO terrorist organizations are troublemakers for both Turkiye and Iran. We need to continue the fight against them in solidarity," Recep Tayyip Erdogan told a press conference alongside his Iranian counterpart Ebrahim Raisi, citing a list of offshoots or allies of the PKK, a terror group that has taken some 40,000 lives, and the Fetullah Terrorist Organization (FETO), the group behind the defeated coup in 2016. "As you know, we have now included them in NATO records," he added, referring to a recent memorandum on Sweden and Finland's membership bids. "They are troublemakers that disturb the peace in whatever country they are in. Therefore, we need to continue our struggle against them in solidarity." Earlier co-chairing the



7th meeting of the Turkiye-Iran High-Level Cooperation Council to enhance bilateral cooperation, the two leaders signed eight agreements in the areas of trade, social security, and sports. Erdogan said he believed that the countries will boost their bilateral trade volume to \$30 billion.

"Unfortunately, we faced a serious setback due to the COVID-19 outbreak. As of now, we have reached \$7.5 billion. I believe that the two countries will reach \$30 billion again. "It is possible to accelerate this process with the steps that we will take in the defense industry. This can be accelerated with

steps to be taken in both oil and natural gas," he added. Later in the day, Erdogan, Raisi, and Russian President Vladimir Putin will meet for the 7th Trilateral Summit Meeting in the Astana format to discuss the latest developments in Syria, and the fight against terror groups, particularly the PKK and

its Syrian offshoot the YPG/PKK and Daesh/ISIS. On the trilateral meeting in Tehran, Erdogan said the meeting will be a reevaluation of the 2017 Astana process. The Astana process was launched in 2017 to restore peace in Syria, which has been ravaged by a civil war since early 2011 when the Bashar al-Assad regime cracked down on pro-democracy protesters with unexpected ferocity. On the signing of the eight agreements, Erdogan later said on Twitter: "I believe that our visit will give a new impetus to our relations." "As President Mr. Raisi has stated, our fight against terrorism is of great importance," he added. "I hope that our in-depth discussions in political, military, economic, commercial, cultural and all other fields will be beneficial for Turkiye and Iran," he added. Iran and Turkiye on Tuesday agreed to extend their gas supply contract for another 25 years and set an ambitious trade target of \$30 billion. The agreements came during a meeting between Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi and his Turkish counterpart Recep Tayyip Erdogan in Tehran.

Women play
crucial role
in tourism

ANTARA

JAKARTA: Minister of Tourism and Creative Economy Sandiaga Salahuddin Uno accentuated the notable role of women in the tourism and creative economy sectors at the W20 Summit. At the opening of the W20 Summit at Lake Toba, North Sumatra, Tuesday, Uno affirmed that women had a role as the backbone of the tourism and creative economy sectors. "Women are the backbone of the tourism and creative economy sectors. They are the great supporters of community welfare as well as the guardians of cultural heritage," Uno remarked. The W20 is one of the engagement groups within Indonesia's G20 Presidency that forms the women's empowerment network to encourage the adoption of G20's commitment in women's issues. He later highlighted that globally, women constituted 54 percent of the workers in the tourism and creative economy sectors. In Indonesia, the number of female workers in this sector reached 55 percent. Uno also highlighted the significant role of women by citing the example of Renny Manurung, a business owner of Dame Ulos from North Sumatra. According to Uno, since 2014, Manurung had been acting as a bridge between the Ulos cloth industry and buyers from outside the island and also to various parts of the world. "Manurung also does it to respect her ancestors. Ulos is part of the Batak tradition, and it cannot be separated. She is only one of the examples of the role of women in the tourism sector and the creative economy," Uno stated.

3-way fight
for Sri Lanka
presidency:
parliament

COLOMBO: Three candidates were nominated Tuesday to replace former Sri Lankan president Gotabaya Rajapaksa, who fled the country and resigned last week over the island's worsening economic crisis.

The winner will take charge of a bankrupt country that is in talks with the IMF for a bailout as its 22 million people endure severe shortages of food, fuel and medicines. The parliament announced that acting President Ranil Wickremesinghe will face former education minister Dulas Alahapperuma, who has the backing of the main opposition, and leftist leader Anura Dissanayake in a secret ballot on Wednesday. The three were formally nominated by legislators in a session that lasted under 10 minutes at the tightly guarded parliament building. Moments earlier, opposition leader Sajith Premadasa announced on Twitter that he was withdrawing from the race in favour of the 63-year-old Alahapperuma, a dissident member of Rajapaksa's SLPP party. "For the greater good of my country that I love and people I cherish, I hereby withdraw my candidacy for the position of President," Premadasa said. Political sources said the two had struck a deal overnight for one to be president and the other PM and to work to form a unity government to navigate the country's worsening economic crisis. — APP



TEHRAN: Russian President Vladimir Putin meets with Sayyid Ali Khamenei, Supreme Leader of Iran. — DNA

EU starts accession
talks with Albania,
North Macedonia

BRUSSELS: The European Union kicked off accession negotiations with North Macedonia and Albania on Tuesday. EU Commission head Ursula von der Leyen hailed the "historic moment" at a joint news conference with Czech Prime Minister Petr Fiala, Albanian Premier Edi Rama and North Macedonia's PM Dimitar Kovacevski. Von der Leyen praised the rule of law and anti-corruption reforms undertaken and resilience demonstrated by the two countries, terming it a "success" of their leaders and people. The govts of North Macedonia and Albania did not implement the reforms just for EU accession, but because they are "good for your countries and are already delivering a better quality of life for your people," she said. Representing the turning presidency of the Council of the European Union, Fiala congratulated the two countries for "this milestone." "We all be stronger by your (European) career, your choice," he noted, saying the two countries' European commitment has been tested over the past months due to Russia's war on Ukraine that started on Feb. 24. Albanian PM Edi Rama expressed gratitude to Germany's former Chancellor Angela Merkel and French President Emmanuel Macron for their diplomatic efforts, as well as to "the Albanian people who never gave up to dream, to pursue the European path." — DNA

Potential for
recession real in
many countries

ANTARA

JAKARTA: The potential for a recession due to rising benchmark interest rates, tightening liquidity, and rising food and energy prices, which have triggered a crisis of their own, is very real for many countries. Finance Minister Sri Mulyani Indrawati made the remarks at the online launch of the ISDB Group's Member Country Partnership Strategy (MCPS) for Indonesia for the period 2022-2025 in Jakarta on Tuesday. "I hope that in this case, Indonesia will be able to continue navigating other additional challenges for our economy and now in the global economy," she said. Indonesia has prepared strategies to address many structural problems, including the quality of human resources, infrastructure, productivity, and competitiveness, she noted. Handling human resource issues through education, research, and innovation, as well as in terms of health is not an easy task and will take some time, she said. This would require consistency in the medium to long term. The second strategy the nation is focusing on is reforming the health system as the pandemic has opened up other aspects that need to be addressed in the health system, Indrawati disclosed. "Indonesia is one of the few countries in the world that has successfully managed the pandemic, if you measure it across all indicators. However, we still need to improve our health management," she pointed out.

Baku-EU energy
MoU underlines
Southern gas
Corridor's
strategic role

NEWS DESK

BAKU: European Commissioner for Energy Kadri Simson has said that the new memorandum of understanding on strategic partnership in the energy field signed between Azerbaijan and the EU underlines the strategic role of the Southern Gas Corridor in Europe's diversification efforts, Azernews reports. She noted that Azerbaijan has already increased the natural gas deliveries to the EU, adding that this trend will continue, with up to 4 billion cubic meters of additional gas this year, and volumes expected to more than double by 2027. "But our cooperation goes beyond that, accelerating the deployment of renewables and addressing methane emis-



sions; these steps will both increase security of supply and help achieve our climate goals," she said. The signed memorandum includes a commitment to double the capacity of the Southern Gas Corridor to deliver at least 20 billion cubic meters to the EU annually by 2027. This will contribute to the diversification objectives in the REPowerEU Plan and help Europe to end its dependency on Russian gas. Based on the strengthened energy cooperation, Azerbaijan is now already increasing deliveries of natural gas to the EU, from 8.1 billion cubic meters in 2021 to an expected 12 bcm in 2022. "As stated in the MoU, the EU and Azerbaijan share the ambition to accelerate the development and deployment of renewable energy generation and transmission capacity to fully reap the synergies between the EU's clean energy transition and Azerbaijan's strong untapped renewable energy potential, in particular in the offshore energy sector," European Commission's statement reads. The two parties also acknowledge the importance of the Global Methane Pledge and recognize that making the natural gas supply chain as efficient, environmentally and climate-friendly as possible is a collective responsibility. "The MoU supports the creation of schemes to collect natural gas that would otherwise be vented, flared, or released into the atmosphere. Our cooperation will also be crucial to support Azerbaijan's accession to the Pledge," the statement reads. On July 19, Azerbaijan and the European Commission signed a memorandum of understanding on strategic cooperation in the energy field. The document was signed by Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev and European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen.

JULY 2022

Pakistan's Premier News &
Diplomatic Affairs Magazine

Find us on:

www.centrelines.com.pk

www.dnanews.com.pl

www.islamabadpost.com.pk

@PostIslamabad / @Editordnanews

A sister concern of

Islamabad POST

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

