

# 

Wednesday, July 27, 2022

Pakistan's Credible Daily Newspaper

Price Rs. 20

Early elections may help overcome uncertainty: President

**Detailed News On Page-01** 

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

**Tashkent wants** Afghan reserves to be unfreezed

**Detailed News On Page-06** 



**Wrestler Inam** Butt asks for nation prayers

**Detailed News On Page-06** 

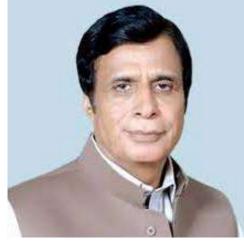


## Apex Court trashes Dy Speaker ruling

# Pervez Elahi new CM Punjab: SC

Appointments made by Hamza Shahbaz 'null and void'; court also dissolves Hamza cabinet

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT



ISLAMABAD: The Supreme Court of Pakistan on Tuesday declared Deputy Speaker Dost Muhammad Mazari's ruling in the Punjab Chief Minister's election "illegal" and ruled that PTI's candidate Pervez Elahi will be the new CM of the province. "The deputy speaker's ruling is illegal. There is no legal justification for his ruling," said the Supreme Court in an 11-page short order. The three-member bench comprising Chief Justice of Pakistan Umar Ata Bandial, Justice Ijazul Ahsan, and Justice Muneeb Akhtar

Continued on Page 06

# respected: PTI

ISLAMABAD: Following the verdict of the Supreme Court of Pakistan to instate PTI's candidate Pervez Elahi as the chief minister of Punjab, the party's senior vice chairman Shah Mahmood Qureshi said that "today, the Constitution's rule has been accepted and the Pakistani people's mandate has been respected". "On July 17, the people of Pakistan accepted Imran Khan's narrative wholeheartedly and we reject this imported government," the ex-foreign minister said in a press conference. A three-member bench of the Supreme Court today declared Deputy Speaker Dost Muhammad Mazari's ruling in the Punjab Chief Minister election "illegal" and ruled that Pervez Elahi will be the new CM of the province. Berating the deputy speaker's ruling, Qureshi said Mazari "trampled the Constitution and did not follow the principles", adding that he did not care about the law. He said that the judiciary tolerated the criticism with patience and fulfilled its responsibility. "The coalition government tried to employ delaying tactics to intimidate the judiciary." Qureshi said that the decision has proved that Pakistan's judiciary is independent. Former minister for planning and development Asad Umar said that Pakistan's politics has taken a new direction.

## People's mandate Decision to lead to anarchy: PML-N

In a press con-

ference, Infor-

mation Minis-

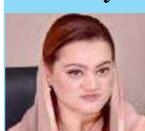
ter Marriyum

Aurangzeb said

it was "clear"

that this deci-

day earlier



sion will be announced today. "This decision is tantamount to judicial coup [...] and this will lead to further anarchy and divide the nation. More

The information minister said that the majority of political parties demanded a full court to hear the case as this bench "is considered a biased bench". Aurangzeb added that the petition filed for a full court to hear the case had already shown that it had "no confidence in the current bench" and today's decision shows that the decision to file the plea was right. In his tweet, Labour Min ister Sindh and PPP leader Saeed Ghani said he was amazed that the top court instructed either the governor or the president to ad-

## than half of the people of Pakistan do not accept this," Aurangzeb said.

minister the oath to Elahi.

## Briefs **PM** greets newly appointed Kuwait's PM

**DNA** 

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif Tuesday felic-



minister of Kuwait. In a tweet PM Sharif said he looked forward to working with the new Kuwaiti prime minister. "I look forward to working closely with him to further strengthen Pakistan-Kuwait fraternal relations, rooted deep in shared values and commonality of interests," he said. Kuwait named the emir's son as prime minister on Sunday, replacing caretaker premier Sheikh Sabah al-Khalid who faced a combative parliament amid a feud between the government and elected assembly that has hindered fiscal reform.

#### Khar to attend D-8 FMs Meeting

**DNA** 

ISLAMABAD: Minister State for Foreign Affairs, Ms. Hina Rabbani Khar will represent

Pakistan at the 20th Developing-Eight (D-8) Council of Foreign Ministers meeting hosted by Bangladesh in hybrid format on 27 July 2022. The D-8 Group was established in Istanbul on 15 June 1997. In addition to Pakistan, its founding members include Bangladesh, Egypt, Indonesia, Iran, Malaysia, Nigeria, and Türkiye.

## Imran slams Indian govt over Yasin Malik treatment

STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: PTI Chairperson and former prime minister Imran Khan Tuesday called upon human rights organisations to take action against the Indian government for torturing Kashmiri freedom fighter, Yasin Malik. Taking to Twitter, the PTI leader condemned Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's "fascist" government for forcing Malik to go on a hunger strike. "Strongly condemn fascist Modi government continuing torture of Kashmiri leader Yasin Malik in Tihar jail forcing him to go on hunger strike," he wrote.

The former prime minister said that Malik's life was in extreme danger, urging the United Nations Secretary-General (UNSG) and United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNHCHR). "His life is in extreme danger. I call on UNSG, UN-HCHR and international human rights [organisations] to take action against India and save Yasin Malik's life," wrote Khan.

Pakistan rejects Indian MEA's remarks on CPEC

ALI FURQAN

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan on Tuesday categorically rejected as "baseless and misguided" the remarks made by the official spokesperson of the Indian Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) on China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), calling it an effort to politicize the project. The Foreign Office spokesperson, in a statement, said CPEC was a transformational project and a harbinger of stability, mutual cooperation and shared

**Continued on Page 06** 

# 'Judicial coup': Maryam slams SC verdict

[Order] has made a mockery of Pakistan, says Nawaz Shairf

BUREAU REPORT

LAHORE: The coalition government Tuesday strongly responded to the Supreme Court's verdict to place Pervez Elahi as Punjab's chief minister, removing Hamza Shahbaz from the province's top office. The Supreme Court declared Deputy Speaker Dost Muhammad Mazari's ruling in the Punjab Chief Minister's election "illegal" and ruled that PTI's candidate Pervez Elahi will be the new CM of the province. The three-member bench comprising Chief Justice of Pakistan Umar Ata Bandial, Justice Ijazul Ahsan, and Justice Muneeb Akhtar – also ordered Punjab Governor Baligh ur Rehman to administer the oath to Elahi at 11:30pm, adding that if he refuses to perform his duties, President Arif Alvi will administer the oath. "Judicial coup," PML-N Vice President Maryam Nawaz said in a tweet, who had hours before the verdict asked the government to take a firm stand on the matter. She also termed the decision "the murder



of justice." In his tweet, Labour Minister Sindh and PPP leader Saeed Ghani said he was amazed that the top court instructed either the governor or the president to administer the oath to Elahi.

"If we say something, then they will hold us in contempt," Ghani said. PML-N supremo

Continued on Page 06

## EU agrees to cut Russian gas use

Brussels is urging member states to save gas and store it for winter

News Desk

BRUSSELS: European Union countries approved a weakened emergency plan to curb their gas demand on Tuesday, after striking compromise deals to limit the cuts for some countries, as they brace for further Russian reductions in supply. Europe faces an increased gas squeeze from Wednesday, when Russian's Gazprom (GAZP.MM) has said it would cut flows through the Nord Stream 1 pipeline to

Germany to a fifth of capacity. With a dozen EU countries already facing lower Russian supplies, Brussels is urging member states to save gas and store it for winter for fear Russia will completely cut off flows in retaliation for Western sanctions over its war with Ukraine. Energy ministers approved a proposal for all EU countries to voluntarily cut gas use by 15% from August to March. The cuts could be made binding in a supply emergency, provided a majority of EU countries agree to this. But countries agreed to exempt numerous countries and industries from the binding 15% cut, after some governments opposed the EU's original proposal to apply it to every country.

German Economy Minister Robert Habeck said the agreement would show Russian President Vladimir Putin that Europe remained united in the face of Moscow's latest gas cuts. "You will not split us," Habeck said. Hungary was the only country that opposed the deal, two EU officials said. Russia's Gazprom has blamed its latest reduction on needing to halt the operation of a turbine - a reason dismissed by EU energy chief Kadri Simson, who called the move "politically motivated".

## **Early elections may help overcome uncertainty: Alvi**

Dr. Arif Alvi says his relations with the sitting govt fine; clarifies that he received 74 summaries out of which he had singed 69 within no time. He did not sign four summaries that mainly pertained to the NAB laws and the Electronic Voting Machines

Ansar M Bhatti

ISLAMABAD: President Arif Alvi on Tuesday said that no party had clear mandate therefore in order to evolve a consensus the stakeholders should either sit and talk or go for early elections. That was the only way to end uncertainty and overcome economic issues. The President expressed these views during an interaction with the senior journalists, at a luncheon meeting. The President answered questions for at least two hours.

Another picture on Page 3

President Alvi further said by dissolving the National Assembly on the advice of the then Prime Minister, he in fact had acted as per the provisions of the Constitution. After getting such an advice he was bound to act. To a question about the 58 8 2 B, according to which the Presidents could dissolve the assemblies, the President said he personally was not in favour of investing so much powers in one person therefore it was good decision to do away with the 58 2 B. When the president was asked what he thinks of the suggestion that the



ISLAMABAD: President of Pakistan Dr Arif Alvi holding an interactive session with the senior journalist, at the President House, on Tuesday. - DNA

new army chief be appointed in advance due to the ongoing political crisis in the country, President Alvi said it may be done in the light of the prevalent norms and regulations.

President Alvi said that it is suggested he "play his part" after meeting the army, naval or air chiefs, which he "cannot do" because this kind of initiative should be a two-way initiative. He added, it is possible for him to call a meeting of the services chiefs or meet them individually as being the supreme commander of the armed forces of Pakistan, nevertheless he thinks this kind of interaction may not help at this particular juncture. He said that a dialogue is possible only when all the stakeholders agree. "The President House can play its role only in this case.""The neutrals need to remain neutral always," the president said.

Moving on to the current situation in the top courts, Alvi said that he regrets that such an atmosphere has been created. "I had appreciated the houbara bustard ruling by Justice Qazi Faez Isa," he said, adding: "I don't want to create controversy again and again." To yet another questions about Qazi Faez Isa reference, the President said he received the reference from the Prime Minister and simply forwarded it to the Supreme

Continued on Page 06

## **CDA** eases property transfer procedures

STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: In order to facilitate the general public, Capital Development Authority has eased property transfer and other related procedures. In this regard, unnecessary requirements have been abolished so that property related matters could be disposed swiftly.

In this regard, initially the printing of transfer letters of the sectors dealt in Estate Management-I has been centralized. According to which, from August 1, the Assistant Director Admitting One-Window Operation Directorate, after admiting the case ,shall take print of the transfer letter, sign, stamp and embossing will hand it over to the transferee on the same day.

In this regard, instructions have been issued to the Directorate of Information Technology to ensure all arrangements by 1st August. Initially, the process of issuing transfer letters of all sectors dealt with in Estate Management-I has been centralized, after which the process of issuing transfer letters of properties of sectors dealt with in Estate Affectees Section will be centralized.

**Uzbekistan's** 

**Ambassador** calls on Acting

Governor

**Balochistan** 

QUETTA: Ambassador of

Uzbekistan to Pakistan, Aybek Arif Usmanov called

on Acting Governor of Ba-

lochistan, Mir Jan Muham-

mad Jamali here on Tues-

day. During the meeting,

issues of mutual interest

including historical and cul-

tural relations and new eco-

nomic and trade prospects

of the two Islamic brother

countries Pakistan and Uz-

On this occasion, the Acting

Governor of Balochistan

Mir Jan Muhammad Jamali

said there are bright pos-

sibilities of cooperation

and increasing relations

between the two brotherly

countries in many fields

which are in dire need of

utilization. The Uzbek am-

bassador remained with

the Acting Governor f Ba-

lochistan for some time,

later they expressed their

resolve to strengthen the

relationship between Paki-

stan and Uzbekistan and ex-

changed gifts between the

bekistan were discussed.

Similarly, the condition of obtaining NOC from the Building Control Section for the process of transfer of properties to legal heirs under inheritance has also been replaced with an undertaking. In this regard, the legal heirs will now submit an undertaking to the Capital Development Authority that they will be bound to remove any illegal structure after completion of the legal heirship process.

In this regard, the prescribed processing fee of the Building Control Section has to be deposited as per practice. Under this process, Estate Management-I, State Management-II and Estate Affectees Section on receipt of application /legal documentation for legal heirship will forward the case for obataining reports from Building Control Directorate to ascertain the violation of Building Control Regulations. In case of violation of Building Control Regulation, the legal heirs shall submit an affidavit to the Capital Development Authority that they will remove the violation within 6 months, but the property transferred to the legal heirs

It should be noted that if a property is

falling under the category of non-conferring use, then the non-conferring use must be terminated before the property is transferred to the legal heirs. Similarly, the period for issuance of No Demand Certificate (NDC) issued by Estate Management-I and Estate Management-II has also been reduced to 4 days. In this regard, instructions have been issued to complete the process of issuing NDC within 4 days after submission of application. In this context, in case of any legal complication, the allottee or the applicant will be informed in time as to why the NDC is not being issued on their request. It should be noted that the present management of CDA has taken several steps for early disposal of property related issues of general public.

CDA Facilitation Center has been activated and helpline 1819 has also been established to provide efficient facilities to the citizens using modern technology. These initiatives are aimed at quick resolution of citizens' problems fective service delivery institution.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Finance Miftah Ismail held a meeting with Foreign Minister of Pakistan Bilawal Bhutto Zardari. - DNA

## could not be transferred further until and will also help in making CDA an efthe violation of Building Control Regu-Mushaal urges world's bodies to

ISLAMABAD: Mushaal Hussein Mullick Peace and Culture Organisation Chairperson urged the world's bodies to force India to release Yasin Malik who was shifted to the medical investigation room due to his fast deteriorating health condition.

Mushaal, who is wife of Yasin Malik, in a statement on Tuesday, said that JKLF Chief was on hunger strike in Tihar jail for the last six days against the fascist Indian government's biased attitude not to provide him opportunity of fair trial, said a press release here Tuesday.

She stated that Yasin Malik was being given intravenous fluids and he was battling for life. Mushaal said that Yasin Malik was kept in solitary confinement in a highrisk cell in a false and fabricated cases to defuse the intensity of Kashmir freedom movement. The Chairperson said that her husband informed the court that he had written a letter to the government seeking his transfer to a Jammu jail so that he could physically appear in the case and contest the allegations against him but his request was not entertained. Therefore, she said that went on an indefinite hunger strike inside the jail in protest against the



## CM Bizenjo for aerial operation in Aurki, Lasbela

ISLAMABAD: Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Abdul Quddus Bizenjo on Tuesday took notice of flood situation in Aurki area of Lasbela district and issued instructions for carrying out aerial operation to rescue stranded people. The CM also directed the relevant departments to take special measures for delivering food and water to the affected people by boats until the aerial operation, said a news release. Meanwhile, the Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) deployed rescue teams in the flood hit area to conduct relief and rescue operations. So far, 50 people including men, women and children have been rescued from Karwan area of Lasbela district. Abdul Quddus Bizenjo expressed satisfaction over the rescue operation and appreciated PDMA for saving precious lives. The Chief Minister has also issued directives to use all-out resources to provide relief to the people stranded in flood-hit

# Bar presidents seek action against PDM leadership

DNA

ISLAMABAD: The legal fraternity and various bar associations condemned the government for launching organized anti-judiciary campaign and boycotting judicial proceedings in the Supreme Court. The lawyers and bar associations protested all over the country against the PDM coalition parties on Tuesday.

They termed the boycott of judicial proceedings ass highly inappropriate and against the constitution and law, demanding contempt of court action against those who criticized the judiciary by using inappropriate words.

High Court Bar Association Bahawalpur President A-R Aurangzeb and General Secretary Syed Faisal Abbas Bukhari strongly condemned the government.

Association Rahim Yar Khan Chaudhry Basharat Ali Hundal strongly condemned the threatening behavior of PDM towards the honorable judiciary. Takhtbhai Bar Association

President Nadeem Shah Advocate also strongly condemned PDM for boycotting judicial proceedings in the apex court. Lawyer leaders said in their

statements that they pay tribute to the honorable judges for rejecting the illegal demand of PDM leadership. They condemned the insulting attitude of PDM's attitude towards Supreme Court's judges and the announcement of boycott of judicial proceedings was condemnable and sheer violation of law and constitution.

Lawyer leaders were of the view that the same bench against declared the ruling

al Assembly Qasim Suri as unconstitutional and illegal. They said that when the Chief Justice sent Imran Khan home, instead of threatening the judges, he resorted to the public and recorded his protest.

The announcement of boycott of judicial proceedings would be remembered as a black spot in the history of Pakistan, they added.

They stated that a convicted woman sitting in the Prime Minister's Secretariat and threatening the courts and institutions was highly condemnable, demanding that the SC should take notice of Maryam Nawaz's threats from the PM's Secretariat. The lawyer leaders said that it was the right of every citizen to criticize the decision of the court, but bullying and threats before the decision was not acceptable.

#### distinguished guests. - APP **FESCO** chief to hold E-court on Thursday

FAISALABAD: Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Faisal abad Electric Supply Company (FESCO) Engineer Bashir Ahmad will hold an E-court (Khuli Kutchehry) on facebook on Thursday, July 28, 2022.

A spokesman said here on Tuesday that the open court would start at 10:30 a.m. and the FESCO chief would listen to electricity related complaints till 12:30 noon. The electricity consumers belonging to entire FESCO region including districts Faisalabad, Jhang, Toba Tek Singh, Chiniot, Sargodha, Mianwali, Khushab and Bhakkar could contact the FESCO chief through his facebook www.facebook.com/ FESCOOFFICIAL/ and he would issue on-the-spot orders for redressing the issues, he added. - APP

#### Atif directs completion of Food Deptt's digitization

PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) Minister for Food, Science & Information Technology, Sports and Youth Affairs, Muhammad Atif Khan directed the authorities concerned for timely completion of the digitization of the Food Department to prevent corruption and ensure transparen cy in the department.

He issued these directives while presiding over a meeting regarding various projects of the Food Department here on Tuesday. Besides, Secretary Food, Mushtaq Ahmad, Director Food Kashif Jilani and other authorities concerned also attended the meeting.

The participants of the meet ing were given detailed briefing regarding progress on the digitization project, supply of subsidized food and Insaf Food Card scheme. Speaking on the occasion, the Provincial Minister for Food, Science & Information Technology and Sports & Youth Affairs, Atif Khan said that the supply of subsidized flour is continued to all districts. - APP





ISLAMABAD: Deddy Faisal Ahmad Salleh Charge'd Affair High Commission of Malaysia called on Federal Minister for Overseas Sajid Husain Turi. - DNA

## KP CM expresses dismay over slow pace of work sport department as per

the report of monitoring

ter Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Mahmood Khan has expressed anguish over the slow pace of work on the up-gradation of Arbab Niaz Cricket Stadium and directed the quarters concerned to immediately suspend the concerned Executive Engineer and Sub Divisional Officer and ordered enquiry against them. He issued these directives while chairing a meeting held here on Tuesday to review progress on mega development projects in various sectors. Additional Chief Secretary

Shahab Ali Shah, Principal Secretary to Chief Minister Amiid Ali Khan, administrative secretaries of concerned departments and other relevant officials attended the meeting.

The chief minister also directed stern action against the concerned contractor adding that action may also be initiated against the relevant officials of the and evaluation. The chief minister also expressed dismay over the delay in the implementation of Safe City Project Peshawar and directed to hold a special meeting of relevant higher authorities to this effect. Briefing the meeting about progress made so far on developmental various projects, it was informed that an administrative approval has been accorded for the acquisition of land for 30KM long Dir Motorway Project whereas Section-IV would be imposed on the proposed land after the alignment of the pro-

Similarly, work orders for Patrak - Thall - Kumrat Road Project would also be issued within the next one and half month. Briefing about the development projects in the health sector, it was informed that establishment of Timer-

ject is finalized.

gara Medical College had been completed adding that classes would also be commenced from the new academic year. Besides, under the project revamping of non-teaching DHQ Hospitals, procurement of equipment for the hospitals had been completed partially whereas outsourcing of various non-clinical services of these hospitals had also been completed. Similarly, various healthcare facilities of merged areas have been outsourced which were now functional with emergency and OPD services. Under the project for the establishment of twenty degree colleges in the province, sites have been identified for 18 colleges. It was told that the PC-I for Timergara Water Supply Scheme had also been cleared from PDWP and submitted to the planning commission of Pakistan for final approval. - 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



## **Islamabad POST** Available in following cities

**ISLAMABAD** Qamar News Agency 03105460372

RAWALPINDI Asim News Agency 03435802610

<u>KARACHI</u> Nazir Siyal <u>03337554016</u>

PESHAWAR Zarbagh News Agency 03005412069

FAISALABAD Ishfaq Mughal 03007689850

<u>GUJRAT</u> M. Yoosuf Bhutta 03338436820

JHELUM Iqrash News Agency 03005412069

KHARIAN Ijaz News Agency 03068863870 <u>LALAMUSA</u> Gulzar Ahmed Noshi

03359494788 SARA-I-ALMAGIR 0300 5428178

#### 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

Independence Day

July 05 / Algeria Independence Day

July 09/ Argentine Independence Day

July 09/ Mongolia Revolution Day

July 14 / France

July 15 / Brunei Sultan's Birthday July 20 / TRNC

Independence Day July 21 / Belgium

National Day July 23 / **Egypt** National Day

July 26 / Cuba

National Day

July 26/ Liberia National Day

July 30 / Morocco National Day



#### **Hotels &** Restaurants

Serena Hotel.....111 133 133 Marriott......051-2826121



#### **Airlines**

Turkish Airlines.....8494949



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



## **Enquiry**

| Edhi Ambulance     | 11     |
|--------------------|--------|
| PIAFlightInfo      | 11     |
| PIACargo9          | 28097  |
| Railway Inquiry    | 11     |
| Railway Exchange92 | 70831- |
| WASA Rawalpindi5   | 555489 |
| $C\Delta\Delta$    | 28109  |



## Hospitals

| -                 |             |
|-------------------|-------------|
| 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**

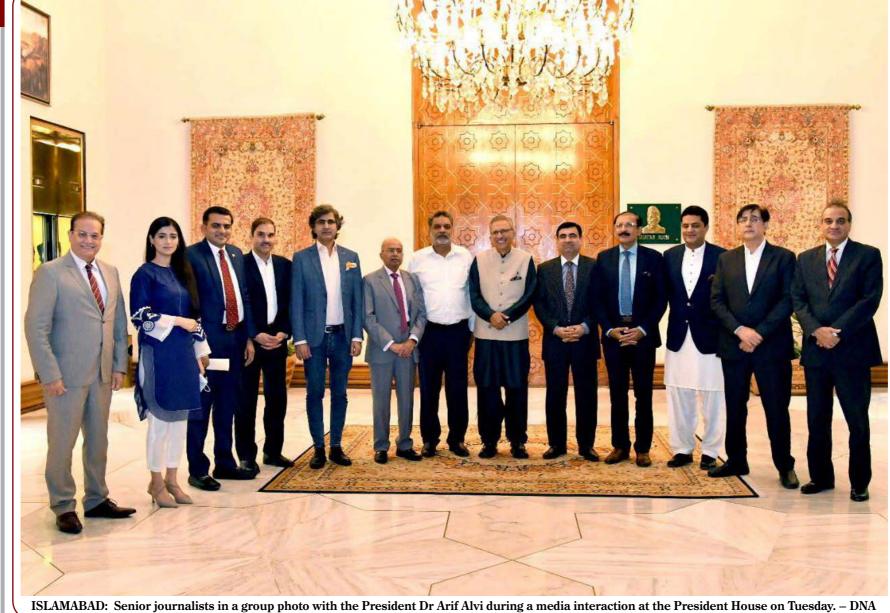
| CDA           | 9221334-43    |
|---------------|---------------|
| CDA           | 9208301-04    |
| Met Office    | 9250360-6     |
| RDA           | 5555864       |
| TMA           | 5770886       |
| Cantonment Bo | ard 9270151-3 |

#### Islamabad Metropolitan

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

## **Water Tank**

Islamabad.....0321-5744480



# Residents face water shortage in G-13 sector

Surra Dam to address water scarcity, irrigation issues

ISLAMABAD: The residents of G-13 sector were irked by water supply from the Federal Government Housing Authority (FGEHA) to the area, as they had to bear heavy expenses for getting private water tankers for their houses to fulfill the requirement. According to the residents, despite several complaints the concerned body was unable to address their issues and in particular the supply of sufficient water to the residents. "We have to bear heavy expenses upto Rs 4,000 to Rs 5,000 on getting private water tankers," they said.

They said the water was supplied once a week and sometimes not at all and people were left on the mercy of the tanker mafia. They said that water scarcity has become a worrisome issue for the residents of sector G-13 of Islamabad where demand for supplying the water facility from external sources

ISLAMABAD: Benazir Income Sup-

port Program (BISP) has so far

enrolled eight million children and

disbursed Rs. 40 billion among them

under the Benazir Taleemi Wazaif

Program which is a Conditional Cash

Transfer (CCT) initiative. While the

future target is to enroll three million

additional children by financial year

2022-23 through the allocation of Rs.

35 billion, an official source revealed.

Benazir Taleemi Wazaif, initiated in

2012, has been focusing on school

enrollment and reducing the dropout

rate of children of BISP beneficiaries

through cash incentives. The objec-

was escalating due to a sharp increase in its population and minimal availability of tankers and storage tanks in the sub-sectors. The residents also highlighted that water storage tanks were not available for all sub-sectors and measures should be taken in this regard so that residents

could have a sigh of relief. When contacted, an official of the civic agency said efforts were being made to address the concerns of the residents of sector G-13. "FGEHA had also launched a mobile application for timely redressal of grievances of complaints regarding sewerage, streetlights, garbage collection and illegal land grabbing at its housing projects in sectors G-13 and G14 of the federal capital. He said the Director General FGEHA was personally monitoring the complaints himself on FGEHA Resident Complaint Portal. "The residents living in the au-

tive behind this program was creat-

ing awareness amongst beneficiary

families on importance of education,

increasing enrollment rates and re-

ducing the dropout rate by ensuring

the retention. The program enrolls

the children of Benazir Kafalat ben-

eficiary family, aged between 04-22

years, from Primary to Grade 12 lev-

el. The program includes quarterly

disbursement of Rs. 1500 for primary,

Rs. 2500 for secondary and Rs. 3500

for higher secondary to the boy child

while the quarterly disbursement of

Rs. 2000 for primary, Rs. 3000 for

secondary and Rs. 4000 for higher

thority's housing projects should download the app and start registering their complaints in a hassle free manner.

He said because of the app, the residents won't have to stand in long queues to register their complaints about water, sewerage, sanitation or any other issue. Surra Dam to address water scarcity, irrigation issues

The first of its kind rainwater harvesting project of Surra Dam will address the water scarcity and irrigation issues of Taunsa Tehsil of District Dera Ghazi Khan as the dam has the potential to store a large quantity of water. The Surra Dam would provide water to people of Taunsa in abundant quantity. besides ensuring development of agriculture sector. "The Surra dam project will prove to be a game-changer for the area," an official of the Punjab Government told APP. The Punjab government, he said, has decided to initiate Surra Dam project near Sanghar town of Dera Ghazi Khan district to store hill-torrents water in the district which would be used for agriculture and irrigation purposes. "The torrential floods and abrupt rain spells are major concerns in the area during monsoon. The dam will be constructed to store the hill-torrents' water in Dera Ghazi Khan," he added. The Punjab government has directed that the feasibility study of the Surra dam project should be completed at the earliest. The Punjab government would start the Surra dam as a pilot project to conserve rainwater that went down the drain during the rainy season. He added it was very important to utilize this water after storing it. promote tourism in the area. - APP

## PTI criticizes govt for increasing power tariff BISP sets target to enroll 3 million during FY 2022-23

## **DNA**

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) on Monday blasted the incumbent government for further burdening the inflation-ridden masses by massive upsurge in power tariff. PTI leaders said that the miseries of the people compounded manifolds due to the cabal of crooks' callous attitude towards them, as they were more inclined and interested to protect and safeguard their power instead of easing their woes. PTI Secretary General Punjab Hammad Azhar lashed out at the corrupt government for further increasing the price of electricity.

He said that the government has increased the power tariff by Rs 3.50 per unit, adding that the power plants was running on the imported fuel, which was the sole reason the current increase in power tariff. Hammad said that these power plants were making the most expensive electricity, as the whole nation was paying the price for this mistake of the PML-N.

## The project would also generate jobs for the local people to earn their livelihood. He said the dam construction would also

#### Ministry to hold seminar on corporate governance

**Maya Ali** 

enjoys pre-birthday

celebration

Pakistani film and television actress Maya Ali shared her

surprise birthday celebra-

tions with all smiles and fun.

Though the actual birthday

of the celebrity falls on 27th

of July but due to the unavailability of the birthday

girl at her special day, her

family decided to surprise

her with a sudden pre-birth-

Delighted with immense hap-

piness the star took it to so-

cial media while sharing her beautiful moments with all the

fans as well. "I knew I won't be

with them on my birthday so

my family decided to give me a surprise and already made it

special for me. Love you Nos-

ha and Afnan to the moon and back," the actress stated via

her official Instagram post. Ex-

pressing her gratitude for the family via post, 'Mann Mayal'

star also uploaded some love-

ly clicks from the celebration

party looking all dolled-up in an elegant attire holding up the birthday balloons along with

a sweet cake. Soon after the

post, friends and colleagues from the fraternity including

Ahmed Ali Butt, Sidra Batool,

Manzar Sehbai, Zara Noor Abbas were also quick to shower

their blessings and wishes for the birthday girl. – **APP** 

Ushna

Shah, Affan

gear up for SeePrime's

'Junction'

ISLAMABAD: Lollywood

diva Ushna Shah and Pakistani heartthrob Affan Wa-

heed are all set to dazzle audience with their upcoming short film 'Junction', presented by SeePrime's

official YouTube channel,

which will hit the screen

on 29th of July. SeePrime,

Pakistan's rapidly growing

digital entertainment plat-

form never fails to impress

its viewers as it gives hits

after hits and this time they

present to us yet another

short film titled 'Junction'.

Penned by the lady with a

golden pen Radain Shah and

directed under the vital di-

Taking to her Instagram,

the Parizaad starlet amused

fans with first official poster

of short film along with the

caption, "Taking you back in

time with this short film".

The actor and model further

expressed her emotions re-

garding Junction, "I cried

when I read this beautiful

script and that's a first".

"Partition in 1947 destroyed many homes, families and broke many limbs and lives,"

Ushna Shah stated, hinting that the storyline was based

on partition. From the clips

that have been shared by

the duo, Junction seems

to tell a love story that has

been left unfulfilled by the

war. On the work front,

Shah has been riding high

on success for her drama

serial 'Habs' while Affan

Waheed has been lauded

for his spectacular perfor-

mance in blockbuster serial

'Dil Awaiz'. - APP

rection of Mohsin Talat.

day celebration.

ISLAMABAD:

ISLAMABAD: The finance ministry would organize a stakeholder seminar here on Wednesday to raise awareness and improve understanding of major reform initiatives of State Owned Enterprises (SOEs) taken by the Finance Division. According to press statement issued by the finance division, the seminar is also aimed to consult on major challenges to improve corporate governance and commercial performance, and share information and practical experiences on international best practices and lessons learned that could further inform the scope and design of the government's SOEs reform program. Federal ministers, country director Asian Development Bank (ADB) and other officials from ADB and the World Bank would participate and address the seminar scheduled on July 27. According to the press statement, Pakistan's economy needed comprehensive structural reforms for inclusive, smooth and sustainable growth and SOE reform was one of the key priority areas. - APP

#### 'Location of Pak beneficial for Bangladesh' tion FPCCI said that investment cooperapotential between the two countries and we countries should make it easier to boost

secondary to the girl child.

The program is providing higher

stipend for girl child, with a one-

time graduation bonus of Rs. 3000

on completion of primary educa-

tion. The cash transfer is linked

with 70 percent school attendance.

The biometric based payment

mechanism is in place while the

stipend is paid through the mother

of enrolled children. The program

is being executed through end-to-

end digital enrollment and mon-

itoring mechanism to minimize

leakage to ensure transparency in

implementation. - APP

**DNA** 

ISLAMABAD: Bangladesh High Commis-

sioner to Pakistan Ruhul Alam Siddique called on Mr. Irfan Iqbal Sheikh President of Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI), &, Mirza Abdul Rehman, Chairman Coordination Capital office in FPCCI capital office, Islamabad. Ruhul Alam Siddique said that Bangladesh has great importance to its relationship with Pakistan and there are deep historic bond between the two countries. The high commissioner said that trade opportunities between two contries can be explored in the construction material, light engineering, surgical goods, sports goods, food processing, denim cotton, yarn, tourism, and pharmaceutical sectors. He said that this is his first visit to any chamber in Pakistan. He said the current bilateral trade volume has been increased upto \$900 million and hope that it will continues to rise at a faster pace. he said, hoping that the rising trend continues in the days to come, which would be very encouraging for the business communities of both countries.

High Commissioner mentioned that the Bangladesh wishes to cooperate with Pakistan in the fields of food processing, dairy, and textile, citing that He said that Pakistan is very important to Bangladesh in terms of trade and investment and both the countries must facilitate each other, instead of becoming competitors. There is enormous trade

must exchange our skills and capabilities for the benefit of each other. Irfan Iqbal Sheikh, President of FPCCI appreciated the efforts of Bangladesh's government for improving trade and investment with Pakistan. He suggested some other measures to facilitate the rapid promotion of bilateral trade between Pakistan and Bangladesh. These include formulation and effective implementation of a joint trade promotion strategy for the rapid increase in bilateral trade for more joint ventures in tex-

export trade. This will enhance the trade of jute, tea and tobacco in Bangladesh, Pakistan will also increase the export of yarn, sugar, etc to Bangladesh. However it will make the current trade balance more favourable for Bangladesh, policy support from Pakistan is required. He further said that the Pakistan wants to move forward by developing trade relations with Bangladesh. There is vast opportunity available to enhance the trade and economic relations between the two countries.

ture, hotel industry, and real estate offering tremendous opportunities and potential for cooperation. He said that organizing joint cultural shows and frequent exchange of business delegations can bring people of both countries closer to each other that would eventually enhance the mutual coop-

tion is another area in which both countries

should collaborate for mutual benefits. In-

formation technology, pharmaceutical, tel-

ecommunication, construction, automobile

parts, food processing, fisheries, agricul-



Throwball

coaching

course

concludes

ISLAMABAD: The National Throwball Coaching

Course organised by Pakistan Throwball Federation

in collaboration with Punjab Throwball Association con-

cluded at Kalam on Tuesday.

President, Pakistan Throw-

ball Federation, Muhammad

Razzaq Gill was the chief

guest on the concluding

ceremony of the course

while Secretary General,

Maqbool Arain, Secretary

General, Pakistan Rocball

Federation, Umma Liala

Kalsum and Secretary Gen-

eral, Punjab Throwball As-

sociation, Rana Sajjad Akbar

were also present on the oc-

casion, said a press release.

A total of 40 men and wom-

en from all over the country

The technical officials of the

federation including Maq-

bool Arain, Ashia Razzag,

Fazal Abbas and Saifullah

Khan delivered the lectures

to the participants about

new rules and regulations

of the game while practice

matches were also held. At

the concluding ceremony

certificates were delivered

attended the 4-day course.

## Briefs

## **PM's timely** decision on wheat import **saved \$10.3**

ISLAMABAD: As a result of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's timely decision on the second tender of wheat import, the government has saved US\$10.3 million of the national treasury, the meeting on wheat reserves informed on Tuesday.

The review meeting chaired by PM Sharif on wheat stocks highlighted that the prime minister's instruction for the second tender of wheat import of 300,000 metric tons saved US\$34.54 per metric ton. The meeting attended by federal ministers Miftah Ismail, Syed Naveed Qamar, Tariq Bashir Cheema, and relevant senior officials was told that the current wheat production in the country was estimated at 26.389 MMT while the previous year's reserves were 1.806 MMT.

In view of the total reserves of 28.199MMT against the total national demand of 30.79MMT and to bridge the gap between demand and reserves, the government had decided to import wheat in a timely manner through the Economic Coordination Committee. On cutting the per metric ton price reduction in tender, he lauded the efforts of the Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Food Security, and other relevant ministries. PM Sharif directed the authorities concerned to ensure the availability of wheat in the country at cheaper rates. - APP

#### Railways retrieved 523 acres land

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Railways has retrieved around 523 acres precious land worth billion of rupees from illegal occupants under its anti-encroachment operation across the country.

"The encroachment operation has been launched with the assistance of railway police and district administrations," an official in the Ministry of

Railways told APP. Giving details, he said, the dedifficult situation

partment retrieved 267 acres land in Punjab, 129 acres from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, 103 acres from Sindh and 24 acres from Balochistan. The official said that out of the total land, 97 acres were commercial, 3165 acres were residential and 110 acres were the agricultural land of the Pakistan Railways.

He said the government was taking several steps to retrieve encroached land from the land grabbers including detailed survey was being carried out to identify the encroached land, occupied by the individuals and under illegal occupation of various government departments.

The official said the campaign was being monitored by the Divisional Superintendents, Headquarters office and Ministry of Railways. The Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) and joint procedure orders had been issued since for strict implementation of this policy, the official added. - APP

#### Sixth Space Summer School opens at IST

ISLAMABAD: The weeklong 6th Space Summer School (SSS) continues successfully on the second day at the Institute of Space Technology with participation of a number of students from across the country exploring space science, technology and its applications.

The Space Summer School, being arranged by the National Center of GIS and Space Applications (NCG-SA), commenced on Monday. NCGSA Chairman, Dr. Najam Abbas Naqvi was the chief guest at the inaugural ceremony of the space summer school organized by the Space Education Research Lab, the partner lab of NCGSA, which would continue till July 29.

The SSS is a specialized annual programme designed specifically to engage and consequently spark an interest in the young generation towards the rapidly growing and promising field of space science, technology and its applications. - APP

# Govt decides to increase power tariff: Khurram

The cabinet had also decided to provide smooth and uninterrupted power supply round the clock to dedicated industrial feeders to protect the livelihoods of people

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Power Engineer Khurram Dastgir on Tuesday said the Federal Cabinet had decided to increase the power tariff with special directives to the Power Ministry for protecting the poor consumers from its impact. Addressing a press conference along with Minister of State for Petroleum Musadiq Malik, he said that Rs 3.50 per unit hike in the tariff would be from July 26 while another Rs 3.50 per unit increase would be from the next month while 90 paisa from October.

He said first three months would be difficult for the consumers but the power prices would start decreasing from November after reflection of fuel surcharge in the tariff. The hike would have no such impact on the consumers as the increase had already been reflected in the monthly bills on account of fuel prices adjustment, he added. Khurram said the cabinet had also decided to provide smooth and uninterrupted power supply round the clock to the dedicated industrial feeders to protect the livelihoods of the people. Similarly, minimum load-management would be carried out on mix-industrial feeders, he added. He said it was also decided to provide both gas and electricity on priority basis to five major export sectors on reduced rates.

troops on Tuesday were assisting the

civil administration in rescue and re-

lief efforts in areas hit by recent urban

flooding in various parts of the country.

Pakistan Army Emergency Response

teams were consistently busy dewater-

ing and supplying basic food necessities

and medical care to the affected popula-

tion, an Inter Services Public Relations

(ISPR) media release said

Mr Javed added that

given the rise in the

strategic influence

of countries such

as Russia. India and

China, and also,

Iran to some

extent, Pakistan

was caught in a

**DNA** 

ISLAMABAD: While its

conceptions dated back to



An announcement to this effect would be made soon, he added. He said they would give the tariff that was close to the regional countries in order to enhance the country's exports. He said the cabinet was also informed about power shortfall in last month. However, power generation has significantly jumped owing to increase hydel generation from Tarbela and resumption of 1100 MW from nuclear power plant K-2.

Army assists civil admin in

rescue, relief efforts: ISPR

The Pakistan Army dewatering teams

were carrying out flood relief opera-

tions in District Jamshoro, Gharo Grid

station and South Karachi including

Shahra-e-Faisal and Nipa Chowrangi,

Lasbela, Turbat and Quetta. The Army

teams established Relief Camps includ-

ing Medical facilities and distributed

necessary food and ration among the

local residents. Moreover, various

standby and response teams were sta-

of the desired security reset

In that, while Pakistan

needed to accord attention

to pace up with the growing

globalisation, it more impor-

tantly needed to chalk out

clear preferences in terms

of what contemporary bloc

In doing so, a rather more

significant facet was to

establish if it actually

needed to join a bloc in

entirety or instead look

for mutually beneficial al-

Mr Javed added that given

it sought to join.

liances, he said.

framework.

Inclusive decisions on

security issues vital

He was addressing a gather-

ing at an event titled Global

Security Reset: Options for

Institute of Regional Stud-

ies (IRS) here on Tuesday.

He said that a global secu-

rity recalibration had to be

As much as conspiracy theo-

ries would suggest, external

powers could do little to re-

align the security preferenc-

He added that in the current

needed to take up mutually

Pakistan

es of sovereign countries.

initiated internally.

circumstances,

Pakistan, organised by the

eral Pakistan House.

Currently, hydel generation from Tarbela stood at 4500 MW, he added. The minister said the country's economy had gradually been strengthening and the power supply had also witnessed ups and down.

The prime minister was personally monitoring the entire situation, he added. Replying to a question, he said the incumbent government inherited Rs 2467 billion circular debt which had been brought down

and Balochistan for relief activities and

to counter any emergency situation due

to flooding. Pakistan Army troops and

mobile medical teams provided relief

goods and free medicines to hundreds

of locals in areas of Jamshoro, Gharo,

Kemari and Nipa Chowrangi. Besides,

the medical team also provided medical

aid to over 1,500 people at Quetta, Tur-

bat and Lasbella in Balochistan. - APP

ISLAMABAD:

NHA rejects

fake News

DNA

Highway Authority (NHA)

on Tuesday clarified that the

news regarding connectivity

disruption between Sindh

and Balochistan provinces

due to flooding as false and

baseless. According to a

press release issued here.

the NHA spokesman said the

Hub bridge was collapsed due

to heavy rains and flooding,

however the Hub bypass was

being used as an alternative

safe route, and added that the

length of Hub Bypass was 11

km. He said that this bypass

was starting from Mouza

Bairut (Makki Masjid) and

by Rs 214 billion in short term. Steps were also being taken to reduce line losses, he added. Coming hard on the previous PTI government, the minister said Imran's government delayed main power projects including 1320 MW Shanghai Thar Coal, 1200 MW Trimmu RLNG, 1320 MW Jamshroo and 720 MW Karot hydropower to provide benefit to their blue eyed.

To another question, the minister said entire tunnel of Neelum Jhelum was being de-watered to assess real issue while Guddu power plant was generating 460 MW.

Minister of State for Petroleum Dr Musadik Malik expressed confidence that the electricity price would start coming down from October-November due to effective policies of the government. From day one, he said, the incumbent coalition government had been saying that the fruits of its prudent policies would come to nutrition after almost 4-6 years. Based on the good performance and decision of the government, he said, "there will be a visible gradual reduction in the electricity price, hop in the coming 3-4 months." He said the previous government of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) had run the state affairs with extreme bad governance and its cost was now being paid by the common man. - APP

#### to the participants. - APP Pak cyclists to feature in World Road Cycling C'ship

ISLAMABAD: Pakistani cyclists would feature in the upcoming World Road Cvcling Championship scheduled to be held in Australia from September 17 to 25. According to Syed Azhar Ali Shah, President Pakistan Cycling Federation (PCF) Pakistani cyclists would participate in the Individual Time Trial (ITT) events of the World Road Cycling Championship. Shah said Pakistani cyclists to participate in the mega event including two male and as many female. "In this regard a two-member selection committee has been formed under the chair of Muazzam Khan, Secretary General PCF."

He said the committee would conduct trials at Lahore and Karachi on August 5 and 8, respectively. "Miss Maham will be coordinator of the Selection Commitfor Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa while Javed Khan has been notified as Coordinator of Selection Committee of Sindh and Balochistan. Other members of the Selection Committee Sindh are Javed Khan, Ishtiaq and Punjab selection committee members include Adnan Hassan Khan. Nusrat Khan and Sardar Nazakat," he said. – APP

ICT admin

conducts anti

encroachment

operation

ISLAMABAD: The Islama-

bad Capital Territory (ICT)

administration on Tuesday

removed all the encroach-

ments during an operation

at the fruit and vegetable

market (Sabzi Mandi) of

Sector I-11. The operation

led by Assistant Commis-

sioner Sania Hameed was

conducted after issuing

warnings to the stallholders

who set up stalls and sheds

at roads and footpaths, an

He said the initiative was

aimed at ensuring conveni-

ence for the visitors to the

markets. The ICT admin

team along with the Capital

Development Authority's

(CDA) officials had been

deputed at the market to

ensure cleanliness and pre-

vent re-emergence of the

He said the teams were also

in field to ensure sale of

fruits and vegetables at the

official rates. - APP

encroachment, he added.

official told APP.

## our right, says Atta ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Muslim League Nawaz (PML-N)

leader Atta Tarar on Tuesday said it was their right to boycott the apex court proceedings as coalition parties had reservations over the three-member bench.

Boycotting apex

court proceedings is

Talking to media, he claimed that comprehensive arguments had been made for the formation of full court bench to hear the case related to Punjab Chief Minister election. He said that two letters were written; one letter was considered in the same case while the other was rejected which was written by PML-Q chief Ch. Shujjat Hussain. He claimed that constitution clearly stated that the party head would give directions to the members of parliament. He said that these were very serious issues and could not possibly be resolved by the three member bench. Atta said that this was one of the important national issues, adding that full court would help resolve this important issue. He said that his party was fighting legal battle for last four months and that they were not allowed to work. He said that all political parties demanded the Supreme Court to explain Article 63-A of the constitution according to law. He said that the court through their decision had disqualified 25 members of Punjab Assembly. - APP

## Air quality healthy in Capital

ISLAMABAD: The air quality of the federal capital after rainy weather turned healthy on Tuesday as recent spell of monsoon rainfalls lashed out various parts of the country have helped reducing the pollution. The air quality was recorded healthy as suspended particles were noted below permissible limits in the atmosphere alongwith the pollutants' ratio due to consistent rainy weather and reduced vehicular traffic on roads. The air quality data has been collected by Pakistan Environmental Protection Agency (Pak-EPA) which monitors air pollutants ratio for 24 hours based on three intervals of eight hours of data collection from different locations.

The Pak-EPA data revealed that the air quality throughout the three intervals of data monitoring remained high as the pollutants were below the permissible limits of national en-

The hazardous air pollutant particulate matter of 2.5 microns (PM2.5), which was a lethal atmospheric contaminant, remained 9.66 micro grammes per cubic meter on average which is higher than the NEQS of 35 mic-programmes per

The PM2.5 is generated through combustion of an engine, industrial emissions, burning garbage or inflammable material and dust blown up by fast moving cars plying on non-cemented patches of the roads. Moreover, the frequent forest fires in the federal capital also created high suspended particles, dust and particulate matter in the atmosphere, an EPA official said. The particulate matter had exceeded the permissible limits beyond 40 microns prior to the onset of rainfall which was mainly

## IRSA releases

ISLAMABAD: Indus River System Authority (IRSA) on Tuesday released 375623 cusecs water from various rim stations with an inflow of 483519 cases. According to the data released by IRSA, the water level in the Jhelum River at Mangla Dam was 1139.60 feet, which was 89.06 feet higher than its dead level of 1,050 feet whereas the inflow and outflow of water was recorded a 35096 and 10000 cusecs respectively. The release of water at Kalabagh, Taunsa and Sukkur was recorded as 187603, 258932 and 190528 cusecs respectively. Similarly, from the Kabul River, a total of 86600 cusecs of water was released at Nowshera and 95015 released from the Chenab River at Marala. - DNA

vironmental quality standards (NEQS).

cubic meter and denotes the air quality unhealthy.

due to persistent hot and dry weather.

## 375623 cusecs water

#### the 18th century, security inclusive decisions, which the rise in the strategic injoined the national highway fluence of countries such in modern times had bekept ideology at the heart of at the customs check post. "The consultation process as Russia, India and China, come a global concern and all engagement. needed to be treated as In addition to other factors, and also, Iran to some exwas started with the experts internal economic stability tent, Pakistan was caught in such, said Rana Muhammad for the construction of the Ather Javed, Director Genwas an integral component new bridge", he added. a difficult situation.

RAWALPINDI: Daily wage labourers along with their tools sitting on the roadside waiting for clients to be hired for daily work at Bani Chowk neighbourhood. - APP

## **NESCOM** hospital to install modern incinerator

Scientific Commission (NESCOM)'s Islamabad Medical Complex on Tuesday apprised the stakeholders on the environmental impact assessment report of installation of a modern incinerator for safe management of hazardous waste. The Pakistan Environmental Protection Agency (Pak-EPA) organised a public hearing of the environmental impact assessment (EIA) report for public suggestions and queries of the masses and stakeholders on the project chaired by Director EIA Ahsan Rafi Kiani and other administrative heads of the NESCOM hospital.

The project proponent briefed the forum that some two kilograms (kg) of hospital waste was generated per bed in the hospital making it 120 to 130 kg total waste from the entire hospital including 25% infectious waste. He also informed that the hospital already possessed an incinerator but was nonfunctional and the authorities concerned wanted to replace it with a

The project site was proposed within the hospital with no access to non-technical staff and would be developed on build as propose option. "There are different methods of managing and disposing off hospital waste. It includes incineration, steam autoclaving, microwaving and deep burial. Incineration is the best method to discard hazardous hospital waste as it is a cost effective and efficient method."

During the incineration process, only two to three kg ash was being generated out of 100 kg waste burnt inside the waste burning machine, he added. The project site, he informed, would be an empty barren area with only hay and shrubs growth in the area and hence would cause less damage to ecology during construction.

The incinerator facility comprised of HT50 model with a capacity of burning 50 kg waste per day whereas the entire project cost was Rs6 million. The incinerator would be run

emissions as compared to diesel and gasoline, he said, adding, "It will have an inbuilt wet scrubber to reduce dust and pollution." The infectious ash would be disposed off in ash pit to be built along the incinerator with proper lined pit with seepage free construction, he added. Responding to various public and stakeholder queries, he said the ash pit had 3,000 cubic feet volume to cater for 10 years capacity. "After the ash pit gets filled it will be sealed with soil to avoid reuse of land and a separate pit will be prepared on the other location," he said.

He underlined that a glass shredder would also be installed at the incinerator to shred the glass vials and then burn the waste. The waste water treatment would be done properly through a septic tank built at the facility whereas proper technicians and dedicated incineration staff would look after plant operations, he told the public hearing participants. To another query, he said the maintenance

operational expenses of the hospital. The chimney length of the incinerator would be eight meter above the ground and was extendable up to 60 meters as per the

requirement, he said. Director EIA of the Pak-EPA, Ahsan Kiani said the complete EIA Report of the proiect was published on the Agency's website for public awareness. He clarified that the minutes of the public hearing were being tabulated and suggestions were noted whereas during finalisation of the approval of the project all suggestions would be incorporated in the project. Kiani also informed that the NESCOM hospital was also reporting waste management data as per Hospital Waste Management Rules 2005. The NESCOM officials thanked the EPA Director EIA Ahsan Kiani and his team for assisting the hospital authorities in managing most modern technology for the incinerator as per the national standards. - APP

## **COURT NOTICE**

In the Court of **Umar Rizwan** Civil Judge Gujrat

Title: Muhammad Zaman Versus Abdul Waqar etc.

Notice to: 12. Muhammad Zaman S/O Muhammad Siddique Resident of Udhowal Kalan Tehsil and Dis-

trict Gujrat **Suit For Specific Relief** 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 authorized agent or pleader in court at 8 AM on 28-07-2022, otherwise case will be decided ex party.

05

## Precautions necessary

ovid-19 cases have shown a slight decrease after witnessing a surge over the past couple of weeks. Pakistan has registered a sharp drop in its daily coronavirus infections as the country reported 371 cases and only one death during the last 24 hours, showed the statistics released by the National Institute of Health Pakistan on Tuesday morning. As per the NIH data, the death toll in the country now moved up to 30,470 after adding the one fatality while the number of total infections now stood at 1,551,251 after adding the fresh 371 cases. During the last 24 hours (Monday), 13,439 tests were conducted throughout Pakistan whereas the positivity ratio stood at 2.76 percent. The number of patients in critical care was recorded at 184. The maximum positivity ratio during the last 24 hours was recorded in Peshawar which was at 9.02 percent, followed by Lahore at 7.05 percent. During the last 24 hours (Monday), another 308 patients have recovered from the Covid-19 in Pakistan and the number of total recoveries now stood at 1,513,149.

As of Tuesday, the total count of active cases in the country was recorded at 7,632. As many as 590,008 coronavirus cases have so far been confirmed in Sindh, 511,958 in Punjab, 220,981 in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, 137,202 in Islamabad, 35,740 in Balochistan, 43,534 in Azad Kashmir and 11,828 in Gilgit-Baltistan. As many as 13,587 individuals have lost their lives to the pandemic in Punjab so far, 8,165 in Sindh, 6,329 in KP, 1,027 in Islamabad, 793 in Azad Kashmir, 378 in Balochistan and 191 in Gilgit Baltistan. It will be foolish for the people to fully ignore simple daily SOPs, as the threat of another wave looms over Pakistan. Without the government's restrictions, the citizens must keep following the simple SOPs like social distance, wearing of masks and washing the hands.



Pakistan's First And Only Diplomatic Daily

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

Member APNS / ABC Certified
Vol: 03 Issue: 03

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



# Pelosi's proposed visit risks heralding a storm

t seems that a bell has rung in Washington and the US administration at least recognizes the sensitivity of House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's proposed visit to Taiwan. US President Joe Biden said on Wednesday that US military officials believe it is "not a good idea" for Pelosi to visit the island at the moment. Although Biden did not explicitly say that Pelosi will not go, his remarks give her a face-saving justification for her to drop her wild plan. A visit to Taiwan by Pelosi would undoubtedly trigger a strong response from Beijing, which said on Tuesday that it would respond with "forceful measures" should Pelosi visit the island. Repeated US provocations, such as sending US warships to sail through the Taiwan Straits, continuing arms sales to Taiwan, and visits to Taipei by high-ranking US officials and prominent lawmakers, have already made the situation increasingly complicated and combustible. Under such circumstances, as Beijing has made clear, a visit by Pelosi to Taiwan would be a highly provocative, even confrontational, move.

The clouds that are gathering after the announcement of Pelosi's proposed visit would herald a storm if her visit goes ahead. Speculation had been building that the two leaders would talk directly, as there are clearly compelling issues, on both the bilateral and international fronts, that the two leaders need to discuss. Whether Biden's implicit "no-go" message to Pelosi stems from his administration's better understanding of the sensitivity of the Taiwan question or is a temporary expediency in light of the expected telephone talk between the two leaders, it is certainly wise counsel that Pelosi should heed. There appears to be a broad bipartisan consensus building in Washington that the US must support the "independence" of Taiwan with military force and not just words. This has nothing to do with the status of the island. Instead it is a symptom of their hawkish desire to use force to reassert the US' own status in the region. Such a mindset is not conducive to the US acting rationally. There are no doubt some, ensconced in the insulating comforts of material well-being and their notions of what it means to be American, who think a Ukraine-style scenario involving Taiwan, or the threat of such a scenario, would be just the ticket to put Beijing in its place. They need to get a grip on reality. Beijing will never back off from its stance over Taiwan as it is a question of sovereignty and territorial integrity, on which it has no room for compromise.

## Leadership and management

Dr. Abdus Sattar Abbasi

Management produces order and consistency through planning & budgeting, establishing agendas, setting timelines and allocating resources; while leadership produces change and movement through establishing direction, creating vision, clarifying big picture and setting strategies

he debate about the dominance of leaders and managers, as a concept, over each other continues in the literature and popular discussions alike. Management gurus refer to the established four functions of management comprising planning, organizing, leading and controlling to establish management as a comprehensive concept to provide all what is required to ensure success for any organization from a family unit to the affairs of a national government or global organizations. Leadership experts emphasize the importance of charisma, vision, eloquence and empathy demonstrated by several successful leaders in human history. I think this debate will remain to exist on expert and general forums because of several technicalities surrounding these concepts which still need deeper research and clarifications.

However, one of my recent training sessionson June 23, 2022 at WAPDA Hospital Complex Lahore titled "leadership and management in healthcare" was an interesting experience to differentiate the role of both leaders and managers in the sector to provide effective and efficient healthcare services to the community. Interestingly participants had to perform dual roles as managers and leaders both due to their unique positions in their institutions as specialist doctors and heads of their respective departments/ hospitals. This kind of hybrid organizational structure always remains demanding when an individual has to exhibit his lead-

ership and managerial activities both at functional and departmental front. This requires expertise in managerial skills and proficiency in the relevant specialisation to influence both line and staff activities. In the case of healthcare, performing as a specialist demands mastery as a surgeon, as a cardiologist, as a physician, as a gynaecologist and so on while as a head of the department or hospital the same individual needs know-how in human resource management & development, customer (patients and their relatives) relationship management, stakeholders' management, communications skills, financial management, even marketing skills in case of private sector and so on. This makes the job of healthcare professionals quite challenging and demanding. It is because of this reason that a separate discipline of healthcare/ hospital management has evolved around the globe to develop specialised human resource for the sector. In the case of subject hospital, like many other public sector hospitals in Pakistan, the management structure is still hybrid. Despite extensive development of public health programs in terms

of curriculum there remains a gap to learn about human resource management and development, financial management, accounting know-how, facilities management, dynamics of organizational behaviour, intricacies of planning & organizing, art of controlling and art & science of leadership. Therefore an interesting pattern has been observed that several medical graduates choose the management track through obtaining MBA degrees and try to bridge the gap while bringing explicit management and leadership perspectives to the healthcare sector.

In every organization it is about personal and position power which enables an individual to drive organizational members to the given objective. Position power is obvious which comes from the position one holds, it is an ability to reward or coerce. Personal power is based on the unique personal qualities that a person brings to the leadership/ management situation including expert power, a capacity to influence others because of one's knowledge and skills and referent power, a capacity to influence others because they admire the leader/ manager and want to identify positively with the leader/ manager. Charisma is the influence that is generated by a leader's style and persona which means the public image of leader's personality and the character that is presented to or perceived by others. Discipline is the product of management which

bring predictability, integration, efficiency and harmony in organizational operations. It means there is a significant difference between leaders and managers. To manage means to accomplish activities and master routines, whereas to lead means to influence others and create vision for change. Managers are people who do things right and leaders are people who do the right thing. Leadership is a multidirectional influence relationship and management is a unidirectional authority relationship. Leadership is concerned with the process of developing mutual purposes; management is directed toward coordinating activities in order to get a job done. Leaders and followers work together to create real change, whereas managers and subordinates ioin forces to achieve given objectives.

nates join forces to achieve given objectives. There is interesting overlap of leadership and management. When managers are involved in influencing a group to meet its goals, they are involved in leadership. When leaders are involved in planning, organizing, staffing, and controlling, they are involved in management. Both processes involve influencing a group ofindividuals toward goal attainment. It is important to note that the influence which inculcates integrity, courage, change, stewardship and care for others will be considered leadership. There are several instances of influence in human history including our recent times where people influenced masses to create unrest, chaos and instability in the society. Those who are advocates of anarchy, strife and volatility in the society are called pseu doleaders. Therefore it is important to distinguish real leadership from the dark side of the leadership both in terms of behaviour and outcomes.

Management produces order and consistency through planning & budgeting, establishing agendas, setting timelines and allocating resources; while leadership produces change and movement through establishing direction, creating vision, clarifying big picture and setting strategies. Managers organize resources, ensure appropriate placements of people and establish rules and procedures; whereas leaders align people, communicate goals, seek commitments and build teams & coalitions. Controlling and problem solving, extending incentives to motivate people, generating creative solutions and taking corrective actions to avoid deficiencies are the domain of a manger; motivating, inspiring, energizing, empowering and satisfy-

ing unmet needs are in the sphere of a leader. It was our consensus at the end of the training session that a society like Pakistan needs both the outstanding managers and exceptional leaders to solve pressing problems at institutional levels without any exception from politics to public health and education to the economy. The writer is Associate Professor Management Sciences, COMSATS University (CUI) Lahore Campus drabdussattar@cuilahore.edu.pk

# Biden should count on diplomacy to save his presidency

Dalia Al-Aqidi

"Seventy-eight percent of Democrats are prepared to see higher energy costs, compared to 44 percent of Republicans, and 72 percent of Democrats are prepared to accept higher inflation, compared to only 39 percent of Republicans," the poll stated

t has been nearly six months since Russia invaded Ukraine. And doubts are now beginning to surface about America's ability to continue providing military, financial and diplomatic support to Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky and his country. Ukraine's First Lady Olena Zelenska traveled to Washington last week, at the invitation of US First Lady Jill Biden, for a series of high-level meetings to mobilize military support for her homeland and to convey the suffering of her people directly to an American audience. The highlight of her visit was her emotional 15-minute address to bipartisan lawmakers at the US Capitol on July 20. Zelenska urged them to provide the Ukrainian government with more weapons to repel Russia's full-scale invasion, something she said she would "never want to ask." "I am asking for weapons," she said. "Weapons that will not be used to wage war on somebody else's land, but to protect one's home and the right to wake up alive in that home." Earlier in the day, US Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin confirmed that the next tranche of weapons would include more high mobility artillery rocket system launchers. US Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Charles Brown said last week that America and its allies are considering providing Ukraine with non-Russian fighter jets, according to USA Today. Washington has provided about \$8 billion in military aid alone since the war began in late February, including about \$2.2 billion in the past month.

Given that inflation is at a four-decade high, and that energy and food bills are rapidly increasing globally, many commentators feel that the American people may soon begin to question the wisdom of the government placing such a heavy obligation on taxpayers for a war in which America is not directly involved. Already, the latest developments in Ukraine no longer headline US news bulletins and photos of Zelensky and the Ukrainian flag are disappearing from Americans' social media accounts. The American public is increasingly focused on domestic issues, including crime; the upcoming midterm elections; new abortion legislation; the Jan. 6 congressional hearing; and a new wave of COVID-19 infections. At the same time, it seems that high-profile politicians from both parties want to avoid discussing this issue for fear of a backlash that could make it more difficult for their party to connect with its base. The gap is widening between Democratic and Republican voters regarding the extent to which they are willing to accept the consequences of America's role in Ukraine, according to a recent opinion poll published by the University of Maryland.

"Seventy-eight percent of Democrats are prepared to see higher energy costs, compared to 44 percent of Republicans, and 72 percent of Democrats are prepared to accept higher inflation, compared to only 39 percent of Republicans," the poll stated. It added that Democrats and Republicans see Ukraine as faring better than Russia in the conflict so far. The White House faces a dilemma. President Joe Biden's approval rating is dropping, and he needs to convince his party and its base that his administration has made the right decisions. There is no doubt that Washington needs to open a diplomatic channel with Moscow to create a middle ground and find a reasonable settlement for all parties involved. Otherwise, there will be no option for the White House other than to keep providing aid to Ukraine until it is able to defeat the Russian invasion, regardless of how long that might take. That would be a costly and challenging path that could cost Biden his presidency in 2024. Courtesy: Arab News

## How climate crisis is driving heatwaves, wildfires

Ashok Swain

High temperature also makes the drought situation worse for a country. Droughts have a severe impact on agriculture. Besides reduced agricultural output, droughts lead to a higher number of plant diseases and, in some cases, total crop failure. That can ultimately lead to famine. Extreme temperature threatens crops as well as cattle. This year's heatwave in India has reportedly led to the decline of crop yields to nearly 10-35% in parts of the country

his year, heatwaves have broken their earlier record in many continents. Last week, an extreme heatwave created havoc in most of the Western parts of Europe. Several countries declared a state of emergency; intense heat caused deadly wildfires, melted roads, and runways, and triggered widespread power outages. Nearly 800 heat-related deaths have taken place in Spain and Portugal. Several people drowned in the UK by jumping into water bodies to escape the summer heat. The heatwave continues to engulf more than half of China, and all but two of its provinces have issued high-temperature warnings. This year, the heatwave started much earlier

than usual, even before the Summer Solstice. By mid-June, one-third of the US was under some form of heat advisory. South Asia began to heat up in March and April unusually. The unprecedented heatwaves have become a common feature in different parts of the world in recent years.

It is no more a rare event. There is enough evidence to conclude that heatwaves are becoming longer, deadlier, and more frequent due to global climate change. Europe is suffering mainly due to Arctic warming.

If climate change is not controlled, heatwaves will soon become ordinary summer days. The IPCC has already warned that even with 1.5 degrees C of global warming, the planet is bound to experience more heatwaves, longer summer, and shorter winter days. If global warming reaches 2 degrees C, the extreme heat condition will have far-reaching effects on food security and human health. The WHO counts that more than 166,000 died worldwide from heatwaves between 1998 and 2017. Extreme heat has already become one of the biggest weather-related killers in the US. Many people, particularly the elderly and homeless face medical emergencies due to extreme heat. High humidity and increased night-time temperature make the impact of heatwaves on human health much worse. Hot and humid conditions deteriorate air quality and complicate heart-related diseases and respiratory illnesses.

High temperature also makes the drought situation worse for a country. Droughts have a severe impact on agriculture. Besides reduced agricultural output, droughts lead to a higher number of plant diseases and, in some cases, total crop failure. That can ultimately lead to famine. Extreme temperature threatens crops as well as cattle. This year's heatwave in India has reportedly led to the decline of crop yields to nearly 10-35% in parts of the country.

Farm workers and farm animals are succumbing to extreme heat in larger numbers worldwide. In June this year, at least 2,000 cows died in Kansas due to a spike in temperature. Besides exacerbating drought conditions, extreme heat can result in drying out the ground and plants, and with

it, the greater chances of causing forest fires. Once the fire starts, warm and dry weather makes it easier for the fire to spread and difficult to contain. In the last two decades, 15 forest fires in the US have resulted in at least \$1 billion loss each. Not only trees and wildlife, but the high cost due to massive forest fires also includes homes, infrastructure, and the cost of firefighting.

Heatwaves are also causing massive infrastructure damage, particularly in northern Europe, where roads, railways, buildings, and factories are not built to withstand soaring temperatures. In a country like the UK, at least 20 per cent of its infrastructure is highly vulnerable to overheating.

Power generation and supply systems and water distribution networks in this part of the world are facing severe strain under extreme heat. In several countries, critical infrastructures have started failing during heatwave conditions. Soaring temperature no doubt affects the health and well-being of people. Moreover, its cascading effects on food production, energy generation, and infrastructural capacity lead to enormous economic loss. In European Environment Agency's estimation, the continent's countries have incurred a loss of about \$71 billion between 1980 and 2000 due to hot weather.

As climate change has made the heatwave conditions more severe, the World Economic Forum calculates that by 2030, the heatwaves will result in the loss of 80 million full-time jobs worldwide, and the countries will bear a total cost of \$2.4 trillion. As global warming continues, intense heatwaves have become more common. There is no doubt that extreme heat events impact people and the economy across the globe. Still, developing countries are more vulnerable due to widespread poverty and lack of resources and technologies. They are far from adapting to this new situation emerging out of climate change. A recent study claims that climate change has made the occurrence of heatwaves 30 times more likely in a vulnerable region like South Asia. In these countries, poor people suffer more in extreme heat conditions as they have no option but to work outside to survive. Heatwaves are becoming more frequent and intense in a warming climate. It will be suicidal for countries to not seriously commit themselves to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees C. Even if they become successful in achieving that target, there is also the need for the rich and industrialised countries to support the developing world with resources and technologies that individuals, communities, and governments can use to manage the already developing extreme

heat conditions.

Courtesy: Gulf News

**Early** 

elections...

From Page 01

Judicial Council for further

investigation. "As a President I do not have authori-

ty of means to investigate

such matters by myself', he

added. When asked to com-

ment on his working rela-

tionship with the incumbent

government and especially

the Prime Minister, the

President said he had no

problems whatsoever while

working with the govern-

ment. He dispelled the im-

pression as if he were trying

to deliberately delay sum-

maries forwarded to him by

He said so far had received

74 summaries out of which

he had singed 69 within no

time. He did not sign four

summaries that mainly

pertained to the NAB laws

and the Electronic Voting

Machines. He returned

those summaries with his

comments and regrets that

his conscience did not allow

him to sign those summa-

the government.

## Briefs

## Pervez Elahi...

From Page 01

also ordered Punjab Governor Baligh ur Rehman to administer the oath to Elahi at 11:30pm, adding that if he refuses to perform his duties, President Arif Alvi will administer the oath.

The top court also declared appointments made by Hamza Shahbaz and the oath administered to the Punjab cabinet "null and void". "Hamza Shahbaz and his cabinet members should leave their posts immediately," ruled the apex court. The court further said that its order should be implemented at once, and directed authorities concerned that copies of the verdict should be sent to the Punjab governor, the chief secretary, and the deputy speaker. Earlier, CJP Bandial had said that the judgment would be issued at 5:45pm and later it was scheduled to be announced at 7:30pm. However, the verdict was announced after a three-hour delay via short order. The proceedings went on for three days, Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday - as lawyers from all the parties presented their arguments. Elahi - who had been defeated by Hamza Shahbaz on July 22 during the Punjab CM's election after 10 PML-Q votes were rejected by Deputy Speaker Mazari - had challenged the ruling in the SC. The SC formed a three-member bench - headed by Chief Justice Umar Ata Bandial and including Justice Munib Akhtar and Justice Ijazul Ahsan - to hear the case, but the coalition government objected to it and demanded a full court take up the matter as they did not want "bench-fixing".

However, after hearing arguments from all sides for nearly eight hours on Monday, the SC decided not to form a full court bench, saying that the same bench would hear the case. As the SC decided not to form a full bench, the ruling coalition and the Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) decided to boycott the apex court's hearing. Irfan Qadir, lawyer for the deputy speaker, told the bench that his client had told him to not be a part of the proceedings as a country-wide boycott of the judiciary is being observed. Qadir told the SC that he would challenge the apex court's decision relating to the full court - wherein the top court decided to not form a full bench to hear the case. Following Qadir, PPP lawyer Farooq H Naek came to the rostrum and informed the CJP that he would not be part of the proceedings. At this, the CJP told him that he "is

not a party in the case". The CJP said that "no legal" grounds were presented before the court; arguments were presented only regarding the party head's directions; the court arrived at the conclusion that in the current case, there was no need for a full bench. "I will change my opinion only when concrete reasons are given." CJP Bandial said the real question was who could give directions to party lawmakers. The constitution clearly states that the parliamentary party will give directions to MPs, he said. "There is no need for further arguments in this case. We will give priority to wrapping up this case as soon as possible," he said. CJP Bandial said that forming a full court was tantamount to unnecessary delay. "The formation of a full court and then hearing of the case could have been delayed till September as leaves are be-

ing taken in the court." Meanwhile, the top court sought assistance on the matter relating to directions by the party head or a parliamentary party. "Assist the court over the legal questions or we will set ourselves aside from the bench," CJP Bandial told Barrister Ali Zafar, the counsel of Elahi. "People sitting on my right side have unanimously decided to boycott the proceedings of the court," he said, adding that thankfully, they have enough grace to sit in court to hear the proceedings.

Giving his arguments in the case, Zafar said that the petitions against the 21st Amendment were dismissed by a ratio of 13:4 in a full court. However, many judges gave different reasons for dismissing the petitions, he added. Zafar told the court that the constitution mentions that the parliamentary party will give directions to the lawmakers about voting.

# Time for Afghanistan to change into Asia crossroad



News Desk

TASHKENT: Foreign Minister Amir Khan Muttaqi on Tuesday said their government had f irm determination to transform Afghanistan into the center of peace, stability and economic cooperation "We seek stability for both us and the world. Stability in Afghanistan not only guarantees stability in the entire region, but Afghan stability is a key cog for regional economic prosperity and development," Muttaqi said, while addressing participants of an international conference in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

He said economic centralism was a fundamental pillar of the caretaker government's new foreign policy. "The time has come for Afghanistan to practically transform into the crossroad of Asia. Reliable security, serious political will and transparent administrative structure are elements conducive for achieving this end," he said. He said Afghanistan was the closest and cheapest trade route between Central and South Asia. "We

have made a commitment with the international community in the Doha Agreement that no group or individual will be allowed to use the soil of Afghanistan against another country." He said the Taliban viewed regional and world security interconnected with the security of Afghanistan.

He said they expected the United States to fulfill their part of the commitments made in the first part of the Doha Agreement. "Our defense and security forces have made good progress against Daesh. Following failed efforts to disrupt security on Uzbekistan border in recent months, our security forces launched operations against the perpetrators - killing some and detaining others. We will not allow Daesh or any other group to use the territory of Afghanistan against another country." Muttaqi also urged the United States to unconditionally release all reserves of the Afghan central bank and lift all economic sanctions on Afghanistan. "This is a fundamental step towards normalization of relations, and this action will have a positive impact on the mindset of Afghans vis-a-vis America. We also call on other world countries to begin official engagement with the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan to secure long-term legitimate bilateral interests.

"The strategic location, vast natural resources, and availability of diligent and affordable manpower in Afghanistan under the shade of reliable security and sincere political determination is an excellent investment opportunity." He said their government managed to establish security, revive the security sector, maintain government infrastructure and personnel, continue providing basic services to citizens. "For the first time ever declare a national budget purely reliant on state revenues, uproot corruption and

# Tashkent wants Afghan reserves unfrozen

News Desk

TASHKENT: The foreign minister of Uzbekistan on Tuesday called for the release of Afghanistan's frozen foreign reserves. Unblocking the assets would spur the economic recovery process in Afghanistan, Vladimir Norov told an international conference in Tashkent. An independent Russian news agency quoted him as saying that freeing up the reserves would also help address acute social issues the Afghans were currently facing. According to Interfax, Norov evinced Uzbekistan's interest in Afghanistan's emergence as a peaceful, independent and prosperous state. The minister stressed: "Afghanistan should no longer pose a threat to the region's countries and to the international community as a whole." Norov urged the Taliban administration to meet persistent global calls for the formation of an inclusive government and respecting the rights of women and minorities. The execution of joint Afghan-Uzbek in-

assure objective inclusivity". Muttaqi said their supreme leader laid the foundation for a culture of tolerance and acceptance and ended the disastrous four-decade tradition of revenge. "Not only was a general amnesty enforced, but workers from the previous administration continue work in mid-level all the way up to director and deputy min-



frastructure projects, including the construction of a railroad linking Termez, Mazar-i-Sharif, Kabul and Peshawar and a Surkhan-Puli-Khumri power line, was important, he believed. The two-day event on Afghanistan is being attended by delegations from more than 20 countries, including an Afghan team, led by Foreign Minister Amir Khan Muttaqi.

ister positions." The Islamic Emirate has created a contact group for return of former political figures at Prime Minister's Political Deputy level where majority members are state Ministers. He said the Islamic Emirate believed that Afghanistan was the shared home of Afghans and all had a right to a dignified life in their homeland.

# ries. To a yet another question whether he will ask the Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to take a vote of confidence under the prevailing political scenario, the President said he had no such plans. He said we need to have good relations with the international community including the United States of America, Europe and other countries. The Presi-

of America, Europe and other countries. The President called upon the media fraternity to play its role in defusing the tense situation Pakistani was in these days. He said the objective criticism is always welcomed and as a matter of fact it really helps in many ways.

# Pakistan rejects...

From Page 01

development for the region.

"As a flagship of the Belt and Road Initiative and hallmark of the Pakistan-China All-Weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership, CPEC provides a vehicle for the people of the region to break from zero-sum approaches," he remarked. He said China's investment in CPEC had helped Pakistan overcome the energy and infrastructural bottlenecks that once constrained growth and development.

"Attempts to cast aspersions over CPEC show India's insecurity as well as the pursuit of a hegemonic agenda that has held back socio-economic development in South Asia for decades," he commented. While rejecting India's fallacious assertion that CPEC impinges on its "sovereignty and territorial integrity", the spokesperson pointed out that it was in fact India that was illegally occupying the state of Jammu and Kashmir for over seven decades while perpetrating gross and widespread human rights violations and effectuating blatant territorial and demographic changes in the occupied territory in complete contravention of international law and relevant UNSC resolutions.

He said India's attempts to mislead the international community about the status of Jammu and Kashmir and to hide its atrocities against the Kashmiri people would never succeed. India was cautioned to desist from falsehoods and baseless claims over a territory that it continued to illegally occupy through brute force. he added. The spokesperson said the Jammu and Kashmir dispute remained an internationally recognized dispute on the United Nations agenda and "its solution lies in exercise of the right of self-determination in accordance with the relevant UN Security Council resolutions and the wishes of the Kashmiri people".

## 'Judicial...

From Page 01

and former prime minister Nawaz Sharif took to his Twitter to "salute the three judges", who heard the case. "[Order] has made a mockery of Pakistan," he wrote. Former chief minister Punjab and PML-N leader Hamza Shahbaz expressed sorrow over the SC's verdict, saying that the government elected by people's votes was sent home through a "controversial decision". "Has the status of the assembly become a rubber stamp?" he questioned, adding that over the last four months, the biggest province of the country has become a "laughing stock". In a press conference, Information Minister Marriyum Aurangzeb said it was "clear" a day earlier that this decision will be announced today.

# Charged Lanka strengthen lead despite quick wickets

SPORTS DESK

GALLE: Skipper Dimuth Karunaratne and Dhananjaya de Silva scored 59 runs together in last session to finish day 3 of the second Test against Pakistan on a high note. Karunaratne (27\*) and Silva (30\*) looked comfortable as they frustrated Pakistani bowlers after they picked up five wickets to get some hopes around saving this Test. Sri Lanka scored 176-5 to gain a lead of 323 runs to put Pakistan in a hunt of wickets on the fourth day. Naseem Shah bagged two wickets whereas Yasir Shah, Mohammad Nawaz and Agha Salman shared a wicket apiece. Coming back from tea, Naseem Shah bagged in-form Dinesh Chadimal to give a sigh of relief to Pakistani camp. Chandimal misread the outside offstump delivery to give a simple catch behind the stumps. Thereafter, Karunaratne and Silva shattered the hopes of Pakistani bowlers to take wicket to end day 3 with some high hopes. Pakistani bowlers remained in search of wickets but Sri Lanka steadily strengthened their lead to 256 runs at tea. Angelo Mathews, who is playing his 100th Test, showed his potential after Sri Lanka lost three wickets for 59 runs. The right-handed veteran cricketer partnered with Chandimal to score handy 41 runs of fourth wicket partnership.

He was batting at 35 runs when Agha Salman took a confident review to get rid



of him. A little spike on the bat, which umpire didn't hear, helped Salman get his maiden Test wicket. A confident review turned in favour of Pakistan as they reduced Sri Lanka to 109-4 just before tea on day 3. Just after few overs being bowled in the second session, Naseem provided a breakthrough to the visitors as he removed Niroshan Dickwella behind the stumps. Yasir and Nawaz followed in Naseem's footsteps to bag Oshada Fernando (19) and Kusal Mendis (15) in quick successions.

Earlier, tailenders Yasir and Hassan Ali tried to resist against in-form Sri Lankan bowling line but couldn't managed to stay longer at the crease as Pakistan were bowled out for 231 in first innings of second Test. Resuming at an overnight score of 191-7 on day 3, Yasir and Hassan only managed to

score 31 runs together before Hassan fell to Prabath Jayasuriya. Hassan's brief knock of 21 runs included a maximum. Yasir was there in the middle for rescue but ninth wicket of Nauman Ali put him under pressure. The right-handed batter, who had scored his only Test century in Australia, couldn't handle pressure and Ramesh Mendis removed him to complete his third five-fer in Test cricket. Mendis picked up some crucial wickets to finish with 5-47 in first innings. Jayasuriya bagged three wickets while Asitha Fernando and Dhananjaya de Silva took a wicket each. With a lead of 147 runs, Sri Lankan openers provided a stead start to their team in-front of Shaheen Afridi-less bowling attack of Pakistan. They scored 22 for none at Lunch on day 3.

## US mulls more events after worlds success

Foreign Desk

EUGENE: As a metaphor for a sport with lofty ambitions, Armand Duplantis soaring to a pole vault world record was the perfectly scripted final act that a thrilling World Athletics Championships deserved. The Swedish star brought the curtain down on the 10-day track and field extravaganza in Eugene on Sunday with a jaw-dropping leap of 6.21m, sailing over the bar with ease to electrify Hayward Field. Duplantis – routinely referred to as a "rock star" by World

Athletics Chief Sebastian Coe – is part of a golden generation of athletes who lit up the 10-day championships in Oregon. A slew of other athletes also grabbed the spotlight during the championships, with 400m hurdler Sydney McLaughlin delivering a dazzling world record run and the charismatic Noah Lyles racing to gold in the 200m.

Those kind of compelling performances delighted both Coe and United States Track and Field (USATF), who are desperate to boost the profile of the sport in the country after years where it has languished out of the spotlight. In pursuit of that goal, more major track and field events in the United States are a certainty. In 2023, Eugene will host the finale of the Diamond League season – the first time in history that the meeting has been held outside of Europe.

Others have even wondered whether Los Angeles could be a contender to host the World Championships in 2027, a year ahead of the Olympics in 2028 in the city. Asked about that possibility on Sunday, USATF chief executive Max Siegel did not rule it out. "As far as hosting other events we'd love to continue to host events," Siegel told reporters when asked about 2027. "The more that we can support and give visibility to the sport is great for all of us. The timetable is something that we would have to work through.

"But we look forward to working with World Athletics and hosting more events here." Coe meanwhile said the championships had drawn an additional 400,000 new followers to World Athletics social media platforms with seven million engagements. Videos posted by World Athletics drew 41 million views.

## **PSG end Japan tour in style**

AGENCIES

LONDON: Paris Saint-Germain's new coach Christophe Galtier said his side conceded "two goals too many" despite Lionel Messi and Neymar combining to deadly effect in a 6-2 thrashing of Gamba Osaka on Monday. Neymar scored a brace and Messi bagged one in Osaka as a rampant PSG rounded off their pre-season trip to Japan with a third win in as many games. The French champions will now head to Israel to play Nantes in the French Super Cup in Tel Aviv on July 31. Galtier, taking charge of the full squad for the first time since joining PSG from Nice this summer, said playing J-League teams in the middle of their domestic season had "forced us to raise our physical level".

"We trained a lot, we played a lot with little recovery time," he said, after PSG's third game in the space of six days. "But overall I'm satisfied both with this match and more generally with the three matches we've had here in Japan." Star forwards Neymar and Messi both played the opening 70 minutes against Gamba, and Neymar scored a first-half penalty before setting up a goal for his Argentine team-mate. Messi then returned the favour in the second half, releasing Neymar for the Brazilian to notch his second goal of the game. Kylian Mbappe got his name on the scoresheet with a late penalty after coming on for the final 30 minutes. Pablo Sarabia and Nuno Mendes also scored for PSG, but Galtier was concerned by the way his team conceded two at the other end to Gamba, who lie 16th in the 18-team J-League table.

## Pakistani wrestler Inam Butt asks for prayers

STAFF REPORT

KARACHI: Pakistani wrestler Inam Butt asked his fans to pray for him as he left the country to participate in Commonwealth Games (CWG) 2022, scheduled from July 28 to August 8 in Birmingham. Taking to Twitter, Butt shared a picture from airport and asked for prayers. "Travelling to United Kingdom for Commonwealth Games 2022. Remember in your prayers," he wrote.

Two-time CWG gold medalist, Butt will compete in 86kg Men's Freestyle Wrestling category on August 5 when the preliminary rounds all the way to the final are scheduled. Last year, Butt was failed to qualify for Tokyo Olympics 2020 due to training setbacks and a loss in the Asian qualifiers in Kazakhstan.



## Indonesia, China agree to renew maritime co-op

Signing of the IA document between the ministries has launched a new chapter of maritime cooperation between the two countries after an earlier agreement expired in 2016

JAKARTA: The Indonesian Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries and the Chinese Ministry of Natural Resources have agreed to renew cooperation in the maritime sector to strengthen the economies of the two countries. "Hopefully, this cooperation will drive the development of Indonesia's maritime and fisheries sector, where community welfare is improving and ecology is well-maintained," Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Minister Sakti Wahyu Trenggono said here on Tuesday. The cooperation is also aimed at maintaining the sustainability of marine ecosystems based on blue econ-

omy principles. The maritime cooperation is contained in the Implementing Arrangement (IA) document signed circularly on July 26, 2022, by Minister Trenggono in Jakarta and China's Minister of Natural Resources Wang Guanghua in Beijing.

The cooperation covers joint technical cooperation in relevant areas in the maritime sector, integrated coastal management, mitigation, and adaptation in coasts and small islands, blue economy development, as well as human resources capacity. It also covers sharing information and knowledge on the maritime sector, such as through

formal and vocational education, joint symposia, seminars, workshops, training, and exchanges of experts. The signing of the IA document between the ministries has launched a new chapter of maritime cooperation between the two countries after an earlier agreement expired in 2016.

Based on data, the trade balance of Indonesian fishery products exchange with China recorded a surplus in 2018–2022. In the first half of 2022, the export value of Indonesian fishery products reached US\$485 million, while the import value reached US\$56 million. Earlier, an MoU on strengthening

maritime cooperation between the governments of Indonesia and China was signed on June 5, 2021, by the Coordinating Minister for Maritime Affairs and Investment Luhut Binsar Pandjaitan, and Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi. The MoU covered economic, trade, political, security, and defense cooperation, including the eradication of IUU (illegal, unreported, and unregulated) fishing, aquaculture (fisheries cultivation) cooperation, fisheries products processing, cold storage, and marketing, as well as cooperation in technology and

knowledge transfer. - ANTARA

# Business / World



## Briefs

## Hungary breaks 128-year temperature record

DNA

BUDAPEST: Hungary has reported the highest night temperature in 128 years at 25.4C (77.72F) amid the ongoing heatwave in Europe, the country's meteorological department said Monday.

"The (previous) highest night temperature level was recorded in the city of Szeged on July 24, 1894 at 24.6C (76.28 F) and the (latest) temperature was measured at 25.4C (77.72F) in the capital Budapest yesterday," the Hungarian General Directorate of Meteorology said in a statement.

Temperatures will decrease as of Tuesday and rain is expected in some regions, but temperatures will keep increasing again in the coming days, it added.

Europe is struggling with extreme temperatures as the heatwave in Spain and Portugal killed more than 330 people last week, while the UK recorded its hottest temperature ever last Tuesday. Meanwhile, in southwestern France, wildfires have devoured thousands of hectares of land.

# UAE names 2nd astronaut to go to space

DUBAI: President of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan announced on Tuesday the selection of Sultan Al Neyadi as the second Emirati astronaut to go to space. The president tweeted "this historic milestone builds on the strong foundations of the UAE's burgeoning space program." Al Neyadi will go to the International Space Station (ISS) for a six-month mission that will commence by spring next year. He previously served as the backup astronaut for Hazza Al Mansouri, the first Emirati astronaut who was sent to the ISS in 2019

According to UAE's Mohammed bin Rashid Space Centre (MBRSC), "Al Neyadi will spend six months aboard the ISS, where he will conduct in-depth and advanced scientific experiments as part of the UAE Astronaut Programme, which aims to train and prepare a team of Emirati astronauts and send them to space to carry out various scientific missions."

Al Neyadi earlier learned the systems of Russia's Soyuz spacecraft. He further honed his knowledge and skills in space travel at NASA and passed all the required training in the astronaut corps by the U.S. Space Agency. He has been trained for spacewalks, handling on board systems, flying T-38 and T-6 iets, as well as various extravehicular activities (EVA) like capturing cargo vehicles and handling payloads using a robotic manipulator arm.

#### Indonesia logs 6,483 Covid cases

ANTARA

JAKARTA: The COVID-19 Handling Task Force reported that the number of COVID-19 cases in Indonesia swelled by 6,483 on Tuesday, with Jakarta being the province recording the highest number of new cases, at 2,974. According to the task force report accessed here on Tuesday, with the additional 6,483 cases, the total number of COVID-19 cases in Indonesia since the first case was confirmed in the country in March 2020 had, so far, touched 6,178,873 cases.

touched 6,178,873 cases. After Jakarta, the provinces that recorded the most number of new infections on Tuesday were West Java, at 1,334; Banten, 952; East Java, 412; and Bali, 228. Currently, 43,422 COVID-19 patients are still undergoing isolation, the task force reported. Moreover, the number of patients, who recovered from COVID-19, increased by 3,511 on Tuesday, taking the total recovery count to 5,978,522.

The provinces that recorded the most recoveries on Tuesday were Jakarta, with 1,513 recoveries, followed by 656 in West Java, 634 in Banten, 299 in East Java, and 137 in Bali.

# Kashmiris' struggle great example of courage: Syrus

UNSC has adopted several resolutions to resolve the Kashmir dispute peacefully



STRATEJÍK DÜŞÜNCE ENSTÍTÜSÜ SDE THINKING

DNA

ANKARA: The freedom struggle of 9 million Kashmiris against occupiers is a great example of perseverance and unyielding courage, Pakistan's ambassador to Türkiye said Monday. Speaking at a panel in the Turkish capital Ankara, Pakistan's Ambassador to Türkiye, Mohammad Syrus Sajjad Qazi, said "the Kashmiri freedom struggle is a classic example of unprecedented oppression by the world's second largest state on one side and unvielding courage, resolve, determination and perseverance by over 9 million innocent people on the other." The Ankara-based think-tank the Institute of Strategic Thinking (SDE) organized a panel titled "Kashmir with its legal dimension from past to present." "Kashmir

remains one of the longest lasting situations of foreign occupation, like Palestine, and the longest unresolved issue on the agenda of the United Nations Security Council," he said. Touching on the roots of the conflict, which has lasted more than seven decades, Qazi said the dispute has its origins in "the partition of British India in 1947 into Pakistan and present-day India." The British Raj, which ruled the Indian sub-continent from 1858 to 1947, came up with the idea of a partition based on faith and territory.

"As per the partition formula, geographically contiguous Muslim majority areas were to form an independent country, Pakistan, and Hindu majority areas to remain with India," he said. Qazi further said that despite the fact that Kashmir was "overwhelmingly Muslim and shared a much longer

boundary with Pakistan than India, the unelected absolute ruler of Kashmir decided to accede to India by concluding an 'instrument of accession' of patent illegality and dubious provenance." The then-ruler's decision to ac-

The then-ruler's decision to accede to India, which was "against the wishes of people," led to violent protests across Jamu and Kashmir, he said. UN resolutions on long-lasting conflict

The UN Security Council has adopted several resolutions to resolve the Kashmir dispute peacefully. While with the first resolution, which was adopted on Jan. 17, 1948, the United Nations Commission for India and Pakistan (UN-CIP) was established, the second Security Council resolution offered a UN supervised plebiscite in Jammu and Kashmir to let the people determine their fate.

On the matter, Qazi said "sham elec-

tions were conducted in Jammu and Kashmir and the Constituent Assembly was established in 1951 to create a constitution for Kashmir." Referring to UN Resolution 122 adopted on Jan. 24, 1957, Qazi said the UN passed it "to counter further Indian tricks to give legal cover to the illegal accession of

Jammu and Kashmir to India."

"Despite repeated attempts, no meaningful progress was made by the international community towards the implementation of these resolutions, leading India to exploit this collective failure and resort to state terrorism to suppress the legitimate aspirations of the Kashmiri people," he added. '640 Kashmiris martyred' in three years Another defining moment for the Kashmiri struggle was on Aug. 5, 2019, when India's parliament passed a resolution to revoke the autonomous status

with special rights and privileges of India-administered Jammu and Kashmir. Commenting on India's decision to revoke Articles 35A and 370, Qazi said "the move was not only in contravention to the Indian Constitution but also reflected a renunciation of the democratic, federalist and secular ideals that India has projected itself with for so long."

lar ideals that India has projected itself with for so long."
He said since India's move in August 2019, "640 Kashmiris have been martyred by Indian occupation forces in fake encounters and extra-judicial operations." Pointing out that India seeks a "strategy of military occupation and demographic change of the region by land confiscation," Qazi further noted that "so far, India has issued more than 4.2 million illegal domicile certificates to non-Kashmiri settlers to obliterate the Kashmiri identity."

**Thousands in Bosnia** 

protest possible changes

BELGRADE: Thousands of people gathered in Bosnia and

Herzegovina's capital Sarajevo on Monday to protest possi-

ble amendments to the nation's election law and constitu-

tion by the Office of the High Representative (OHR), an in-

ternational institution that is responsible for implementing

the country's peace agreement. Several thousand people

gathered in front of the OHR's office to convey the message

that solutions based on ethnic discrimination and which are

contrary to all democratic and legal standards are complete-

ly unacceptable. Dervo Sejdic, a Bosnian Roma who had in

the past appealed to the European Court of Human Rights

in Strasbourg, France after he was blocked from running in

elections because he was not Bosniak, Croat or Serb, called

Many political parties joined the call, including the Social

Democratic Party of Bosnia and Herzegovina (SDP), the

Democratic Front (DF), the Democratic Action Movement

(PDA), Our Party, the Democratic Action Party (SDA) and

the People and Justice (NiP) party. The protestors carried

the national flag of Bosnia and Herzegovina. No incidents

were recorded and the gathering was secured by a large

number of police officers. Earlier in the day, SDA leader

Bakir Izetbegovic said Bosnia needs the authority of a

high representative who would protect the constitution

Izetbegovic's remarks came at a press conference following

an extraordinary meeting held at the SDA's headquarters

ahead of the protest in front of the OHR. According to local

media, by Aug. 1, Christian Schmidt, a German politician

and the High Representative for Bosnia and Herzegovina,

will impose measures for the re-functioning of Bosnia's Fed-

eration (FBiH) entity. "The high representative in Bosnia

Herzegovina is to protect the Constitution and the Dayton

Peace Agreement and by no means to impose solutions

that we failed to reach through a series of negotiations that

and the 1995 Dayton Peace Agreement.

stretched throughout the last year. - APP

for protests over the planned changes to the election law.

## Lufthansa cancels hundreds of flights

DNA

BERLIN: Lufthansa has announced it will cancel hundreds of flights on Wednesday due to a planned strike by the company's ground personnel. The German flag carrier said it would be scrapping 646 flights from Frankfurt Airport and 330 from Munich and told passengers the strike action could also cause further flight cancellations or delays later this week.

"Passengers affected by cancellations will be informed immediately today and rebooked on alternative flights if possible. However, the capacities available for this are very limited," the company said in a statement. Around 20,000 Lufthansa employees are expected to stage a one-day strike on Wednesday over

an ongoing pay dispute. The ver.di trade union asked employees to stop work from 3.45 a.m. local time (0145GMT) on Wednesday to 6 a.m. (0400GMT) on Thursday at airports across the country. The union is demanding a 9.5% pay rise to help employees deal with inflation, which in June hit an annual rate of 7.6%. Another round of wage negotiations is expected to take place in Frankfurt next week.

#### IMF revises global growth forecasts downward

DNA

NEW YORK: The International Monetary Fund on Tuesday cut its global economic growth forecast for both 2022 and 2023 amid high inflation, a slowdown in China, and the continued Russian war on Ukraine. According to the IMF's lat-

est World Economic Out-

look, the global economy is projected to grow 3.2% this year, revised 0.4 percentage points downwards from the previous forecast in April. Growth is expected to moderate in 2023 to 2.9%, down 0.7 from April's projection. Downgrades tor world's two largest economies, China and the US, as well as for India, are driving the downward revisions to global growth during the two-year period. The US economy is expected to grow 2.3% in 2022 and 1\(\bar{y}\) in 2023, revised down by 1.4 percentage

This was due to disappointing growth in the first two quarters with weak private consumption and the erosion of household purchasing power and the expected impact of a steeper tightening in monetary policy.

points and 1.3 percentage

points, respectively.

The IMF lowered its growth projections for China by 1.1 percentage points and 0.5 percentage points respectively in 2022 and 2023, driven by extended lockdowns and the deepening real estate crisis. China's GDP is now foreseen to rise by 3.3% this year and 4.6% next year. Growth in the euro area is also revised 0.2 percentage points downward to 2.6% this year and by 1.1 percentage points to 1.2% next year, reflecting the fallout from the war in Ukraine as well as the assumption of tighter financial conditions.

The outlook for India has been revised downward 0.8 percentage points, to 7.4% in 2022, led by less favorable external conditions and more rapid policy tightening.

# Indonesia export steel products for 1st time to New Zealand



Antara

JAKARTA: Indonesian Trade Minister Zulkifli Hasan inaugurated on Tuesday the first export of Indonesia-produced structure and plate steel to New Zealand. The 3,800 metric tons of steel products worth 4 million U.S. dollars were produced by PT Gunung Raja Pak-

Erdogan to visit Russia on Aug. 5

dency had no further details on visit. The visit comes just days

after Türkiye, the UN, Russia, and Ukraine signed a landmark

deal to resume grain exports through three Ukrainian ports af-

ter months of blockage due to the Russia-Ukraine war, now in its

sixth month. The exports are due to resume soon, coordinated

by a center in Turkish metropolis Istanbul. Last Wednesday, Er-

dogan and Putin met during a trilateral gathering with their Ira-

nian counterpart Ebrahim Raisi in Iran's capital Tehran. – DNA

si (GGRP), a member of Gunung Steel Group, one of Indonesia's largest private steel companies with a production capacity of 2.2 million tons per year. Hasan said that the exported steel would be used to establish a hospital in New Zealand. "I really appreciate the GGRP for its hard work to improve Indonesia's steel production.

ANKARA: Turkish President

Recep Tayyip Erdogan will visit

the Russian coastal city of So-

chi on Aug. 5 to meet with his

Russian counterpart Vladimir

Putin, the Turkish presidency

announced Tuesday. The presi-

even amid the pandemic. We have to be grateful that we can still push our exports," Hasan said in a written statement after the inauguration. He said that steel was one of the commodities with the largest export values in Indonesia. In 2021, the value of Indonesia's iron and steel exports reached 21.4 billion dollars, up by 90.2 percent

from 11.2 billion dollars in 2020, according to data from the trade ministry. The export values of iron and steel have reached 12.5 billion dollars during the January-May period. "The significant growth that we have made has proved the success of the government's policy to

focus on the downstream in-

dustry," Hasan said.

## Tunisia president hails vote set to bolster rule

TUNIS: President Kais Saied said Tunisia had "entered a new phase" on Tuesday with a new constitution almost certain to pass in a referendum, concentrating almost all powers in his office. Monday's referendum came a year to the day after Saied sacked the government and suspended parliament in a dramatic blow to the only democracy to have emerged from the 2011 Arab Spring uprisings.

There had been little doubt the "Yes" campaign would win, and an exit poll suggested that votes cast – just a quarter of the 9.3 million electorate – were overwhelmingly in favour. Most of Saied's rivals called for a boycott, and while turnout was low, it was higher than the single figures many observers had expected – at least 27.5 percent according to the electoral board, controlled by Saied. "Tunisia has entered a new phase," Saied declared

as he addressed celebrating supporters in downtown Tunis hours after polling stations closed. "What the Tunisian people did... is a lesson to the world, and a lesson to history on a scale that the lessons of history are measured on," he said. The National Salvation Front, a coalition of Saied's main opponents, said the draft constitution would enshrine in a "coup d'etat" and that "75 percent of Tunisians have refused to approve a putschist project".

Saied, a 64-year-old law professor, dissolved parliament and seized control of the judiciary and the electoral commission on July 25 last year. His opponents say the moves aimed to install an autocracy over a decade after the fall of dictator Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, while his supporters say they were necessary after years of corruption and political turmoil. A poll of "Yes" voters by state television suggested "reforming the country and improving the situation" along with "support for Kais Saied/his project" were their main motivations for backing the constitution. Thirteen percent cited being "convinced by the new constitution". – APP

## REPowerEU: Great dichotomy between policies, persuasions

The IEA estimates that Africa as a whole could replace as much as one-fifth of Russian gas exports to Europe by 2030 and an additional 30 billion cubic metres (bcm) of African gas a year could flow to Europe by then

DR MAHMOOD UL HASSAN

ISLAMABAD: REPowerEU: A Great dichotomy between policies and persuasions: This was stated by Dr. Mehmood Ul Hassan Khan, Director of Center for South Asia & International Studies (CSAIS) Islamabad and Regional Expert on China, CPEC & BRI in his article published by Gwadar Pro on Tuesday Most recently, the European Commission (EC) has published its latest REPOWEREU plan which covers

four main areas, i.e. energy efficiency and savings; energy supply diversification; clean-energy transition acceleration; investment and reform.

tion; investment and reform. According to the plan, it would end Europe's heavy reliance on Russian energy supplies by 2027. Moreover, it would accelerate its green transformation which would be economically beneficial for Europe. However, it requires an additional investment of 210 billion between now and 2027. Apparently, it seems like a tough task for the EU because of weak economic conditions of the region and the world alike.

The current policies of the European Union (EU) and the US are dangerously contradicting with their earlier noble commitments of achieving carbon neutrality and mitigating climate change. The global coal-fired electricity genera-

tors, mainly in the EU and US, are producing more power than ever before in response to the booming electricity demand and the surging price of gas. Earlier this month, federal lawmakers, including members of the Green Par-

Earlier this month, federal lawmakers, including members of the Green Party of Germany, the largest economy of the EU, approved a plan to allow

mothballed coal-fired power plants to resume operations, if and when needed. Netherland, the "land of tulips", and many other EU countries are also abruptly switching energy production towards coal, widening the gap between energy policies and principal stances on climate change. Flaws and fallacies of the REPowerEU plan and its implementation vividly reflect chronic double standards of the advanced countries and self-acclaimed champions of climate change.

Moreover, the European continent is currently confronting with scorching heat wave which has badly disturbed its social fabrics and economic growth patterns. Roads are melting and railways are de-shaped. Green has become brown and plants are dying throughout the EU countries. With the increase in coal production, it will be even severer.

Europe's thirst for oil and gas to replace sanctioned Russian supply is reviving the interest in African energy projects that were shunned due to costs and climate change concerns.

and climate change concerns. According to Reuters, energy firms are considering projects with a total worth of \$100 billion on the African continent. African countries that currently have little or no oil and gas output, including Namibia, South Africa, Uganda, Kenya, Mozambique and Tanzania, could see billions in energy invest-

ments in the coming years.

Thus, despite the bitter realities of the past colonization of the EU, the African continent has once again become the darling of the EU for the sake of its own benefit.

Namibia alone could provide around half a million barrels per day in new oil production, following promising exploratory wells in recent months. The International Energy Agency (IEA) estimates that Africa as a whole could replace as much as one-fifth of Russian gas exports to Europe by 2030 and an additional 30 billion cubic metres (bcm) of African gas a year could flow to Europe by then.

The EU had previously been committed to its net-zero emission goals for 2050. Whereas many EU countries are now scrambling for new coal sources, no European country has yet reversed its commitment to phase out coal by 2030. Germany, Austria, France, and the Neth-

erlands recently announced plans to enable increased coal power generation. According to Bloomberg, Europe has imported more than 1 million barrels per day via the SuMed pipeline in the first three weeks of July, nearly double from

a year ago. The volumes in the pipeline,

which transits through Egypt, are mostly Saudi oil but also include Iraqi crude. Energy geopolitics has forced Italian Prime Minister Mario Draghi to travel to Algeria to draw up an agreement to boost gas imports by 20 percent, even amid a political crisis at home threaten-

ing to bring down his government. Likewise, EU Commission President Ursula von der Leyen visited Azerbaijan to sign a deal to increase gas flow through a network of pipelines from

the Caspian Sea to Europe. Europe has lost its so-called "high moral status" in combating climate change. The US, another vanguard and custodian of clean energy, has also increased coal

The US, another vanguard and custodian of clean energy, has also increased coal production in its country. The Energy Information Administration (EIA) stated that the country's coal production in the first quarter this year is up 6 percent from the same period last year.







#### WEDNESDAY, JULY 27, 2022 | WWW.ISLAMABADPOST.COM.PK

## Briefs

## Miftah, Bilawal discuss economic situation

Miftah Ismail warmly received Bilawal Bhutto on his arrival at the Finance **Division** 

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Finance and Revenue Miftah Ismail on Tuesday held a meeting with Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari here, during which current political and economic situation of the country was discussed.

Various financial issues related to Pakistan's missions abroad and Ministry of Foreign Affairs also came under discussion during the meeting, a Finance Ministry press release said.

Minister of State for Finance and Revenue Dr Aisha Ghous Pasha, Coordinator to the Prime Minister on Commerce and Industry Rana Ihsan Afzal, foreign secretary, Federal Bureau of Revenue chairman, and senior officers of the Finance Division and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs were present in the meeting.

Miftah Ismail warmly received Bilawal Bhutto on his arrival at the Finance Division. He acknowledged the importance and contribution of foreign missions abroad and assured the foreign minister to address their financial issues through appropriate procedures and directed the relevant authorities to expedite the process in that regard. – APP

#### PKR continues to sink against US dollar

The rupee has been one of the world's worst-performing currencies, slumping more than 30% since the start of year (2022)

## DNA

KARACHI: The Pakistani rupee continued to lose ground against the US dollar on Tuesday, hitting a new low in the interbank market as the financial markets remained jit tery amid an ongoing political crisis. The local unit closed at Rs232.93 in the interbank market, up from Rs229.88 a day earlier, as it shed Rs3.05 or 1.31% against the dollar, data from the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) showed.

The rupee has been one of the world's worst-performing currencies, slumping more than 30% since the start of the year (2022), The News reported. Tahir Abbas, the head of research at Arif Habib Limited, said: "Shortage of dollars, political and economic uncertainty tagged with ambiguity regarding commitment from friendly countries, which is needed for disbursement of IMF tranche were the reasons behind rupee's persistent slide.'

# US, Taliban make progress on Afghanistan's reserves

While the Taliban do not reject the concept of a trust fund, they oppose a US proposal for third-party control of the fund

**DNA** 

KABUL/WASHINGTON: US and Taliban officials have exchanged proposals for the release of billions of dollars from Afghan central bank reserves held abroad into a trust fund, three sources familiar with the talks said, giving a hint of progress in efforts to ease Afghanistan's economic crisis

Significant differences between the sides remain, however, according to two of the sources, including the Taliban's refusal to replace the bank's top political appointees, one of whom is under US sanctions as are several of the movement's leaders.

Some experts said such a move would help restore confidence in the institution by insulating it from interference by the group that seized power a year ago but which foreign governments do not recognise. While the Taliban do not reject the concept of a trust fund, they oppose a US proposal for third-party control of the fund that would hold and disburse returned reserves, said a Taliban government source who spoke on condition of anonymity.

The United States has been in talks with Switzerland and other parties on the creation of a mechanism that would include the trust fund, disbursements from which would be decided with the help of an international board, according to a US source who also declined to be named in order to discuss the matter.

A possible model could be the Afghanistan Reconstruction Trust Fund, a World Bank-administered fund created to get donations of foreign development assistance to Kabul, the US source added.

"No agreement has been reached yet," said Shah Mehrabi, an Afghan-American economics professor who is on the Afghan central bank's supreme council. The US State Department and Switzerland's Federal Department of Foreign Affairs declined to comment; the Afghan central bank did not respond to requests for comment.

Some \$9 billion in reserves have been held outside Afghanistan, including \$7 billion in the United States, since the Taliban overran Kabul last August as US-led forces withdrew after 20 years of fighting the group.

Foreign governments and rights groups have accused the Taliban of human rights abuses including extrajudicial killings during and after the insurgency, and the movement has curtailed women's freedoms since regaining power. The international community wants the group to improve its

record on women's and other rights before officially recognising it. The Taliban have promised to investigate alleged killings and say they are working to secure Afghans' rights to education and free speech within the parameters of Islamic law. 'Positive move

At talks in Doha last month, the Taliban submitted to US officials their response to the US proposal for a mechanism to free up Afghan assets, said Mehrabi, the Taliban official and a senior diplomat. Experts cautioned that releasing funds would bring only temporary relief and new revenue streams were needed to replace direct foreign aid that financed 70 percent of the government budget before it was halted after the Taliban takeover. But the exchange of proposals was seen by some as a glimmer of hope that a system can be created that allows for the release of Afghan central bank funds while ensuring they are not accessed by the Taliban.

Negotiations on the assets and other issues faltered after Washington cancelled meetings in Doha in March when the Taliban reneged on their promise to open girls' high schools. "It is a positive move overall," that the Taliban did not reject the US proposal, said Mehrabi, who added that he had not seen the Taliban counter-offer.

The Taliban official said the group was open to allowing a State Department-appointed contractor to monitor Afghanistan's central bank compliance with anti-money laundering standards, and that monitoring experts would be able to go to Afghanistan.

But the Taliban were concerned the US idea could create a parallel central banking structure, the official added, and were not prepared to remove top political appointees including deputy governor Noor Ahmad Agha, who is under US terrorism sanctions. The US source denied the proposed trust fund would amount to a parallel central bank. Initial tranche

Negotiations have focused on an initial release of \$3.5 billion that US President Joe Biden ordered set aside "for the benefit of the Afghan people" out of \$7 billion in Afghan reserves held by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. The other \$3.5 billion is being contested in lawsuits against the Taliban stemming from the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks on the United States, but courts could decide to release those funds too. US Special Representative for Afghanistan Tom West in February said funds set aside by Biden potentially could be used to recapitalise a reformed central bank and the paralysed banking system.

#### **US** accuses China of **S.China Sea** *'provocations'*

China claims nearly all of the South China Sea and Pak called the claims "expansive and unlawful"

#### DNA

WASHINGTON: The United States on Tuesday accused China of increased "provocations" against rival claimants to territory in the South China Sea and other states operating there.

'There is a clear and upward trend of PRC provocations against South China Sea claimants and other states lawfully operating in the region," Jung Pak, deputy assistant secretary for East Asia at the State Department, told a U.S. think tank event, referring to the People's Republic of China.

Pak told the Center for Strategic and International Studies that Chinese aircraft had increasingly engaged in unsafe intercepts of Australian aircraft in international airspace above the South China Sea and in three separate incidents in the last few months had challenged marine research and energy exploration activities within the exclusive economic zone of the Philippines.

Pak made the comment ahead of an anticipated call between President Joe Biden and Chinese President Xi Jinping this week, which is expected to focus on ways to prevent the growing U.S.-China strategic rivalry veering into conflict, particularly over the self-ruled Chinese-claimed island of Taiwan. Her remarks also came ahead of meetings of Southeast Asian foreign ministers and partners, including the United States, next week in Cambodia.

China claims nearly all of the South China Sea and Pak called the claims "expansive and unlawful."

## National meet to ponder upon challenges

ISLAMABAD: Parliamentary Task Force on Sustainable Development Goals is organizing a National Meet in Islamabad from 27th to 28th July 2022.

This National Meet would deliberate in depth on challenges faced by Pakistan like Environment degradation, rising poverty, food scarcity, energy crisis, poor management in tackling flooding with special context to post covid-19 situation. In order to address these challenges, the Parliament adopted a localized approach and arranged this National Meet so that the issues at

grass-root level can be prioritized. Speaker NA Raja Pervaiz Ashraf will inaugurate the event whereas Federal Ministers, Members of the Federal, Provincial and legislative assemblies will participate. The senior government officials, representatives from public/private and Civil Society Organisations, Academia, Media and Members of the diplomatic corps would participate in conference. All stakeholders from around Pakistan participating in the National meet would ponder to workout a practical and implementable National Strategy for the Sustainable Development of Pakistan.

This Event would also look into ways to achieve SDGs as only eight years were left to achieve SDGs. In the context of Pakistan and the multitude of problems, It was felt that the SDGs are prioritised with a national lens. This event would provide a platform for redesigning of the global goals in an inclusive, resilient and sustainable manner.

## ECP wants assets' statements till Aug 29

DNA

ISLAMABAD: The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) has asked the political parties to submit their consolidated statement of accounts for the financial year 2021-22 before August 29. According to the ECP spokesman, political parties were required in terms of Section 210 of the Elections Act, 2017 read with Section 204 of the Act ibid and rule 159 and 160 of the Election Rules,

2017, thereof, that they were required to file with ECP their statement of accounts for the financial year, ended on June 30. It may be recalled that Section 210 of the Elections Act, 2017 provides that a political party shall, in such a manner as may be prescribed, submit to the Commission, within sixty days from the close of a financial year, a consolidated statement of its accounts audited by a chartered accountant on Form-D containing annual income and expenses, sources

# Total 32 brigadiers promoted to Rank of Major General

quarters today. Chief of Army Staff (COAS), General Qamar Javed Bajwa presided. Those promoted include Brigadier Omer Naseem, Brigadier Syed Abbas Ali, Brigadier Muhammad Abbas, Brigadier Muhammad Shahid Abro, Brigadier Luqman Hafeez, Brigadier Mohammad Yasir Elahi, Brigadier Adeel Haider Minhas, Brigadier Syed Ali Raza, Brigadier Shahid Pervaiz, Brigadier Ahsan Waqas Kayani, Brigadier Azhar Yasin, Brigadier Qaisar Suleman, Brigadier Haroon Ishaq Raja, Brigadier Aamer Amin, Brigadier Haroon Hameed Chaudhary, Brigadier Waseem Iftikhar Cheema, Brigadier Muhammad Hussain, Brigadier Shoaib Bin Akram, Brigadier Kashif Khalil, Brigadier Kashif Abdullah, Brigadier Amjad Hanif, Brigadier Faisal Naseer, Brigadier Ahmad Kamal and Brigadier Saeed Ur Rehman Sarwar. Those approved from Army Medical Corps include Brigadier Tufail Ahmad, Brigadier Rizwan Sadiq, Brigadier Ijaz Ahmad, Brigadier Nadeem Fazal, Brigadier Shoaib Ahmed, Brigadier Tahir Masood Ahmad, Brigadier Waseem Ahmad Khan and Brigadier Sohail Sabir. - DNA

# **Korea lauds Pakistan efforts to** combat climate change effects

ISLAMABAD: Suh Sangpyo, Ambassador of Korea to Pakistan, on Tuesday said that the Korean government appreciated the Pakistani government's efforts to prevent and respond to climate change induced natural disasters. Addressing a seminar on climate change policy of Korea and Pakistan, he said, "our two countries have contributed a lot to the global efforts to address climate change induced challenges and also have worked together in multi-lateral forums including UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). He said that Pakistan was one of the most vulnerable countries to climate change. Recently, a report published by the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) estimated Pakistan's annual losses caused by climate change at 26 billion US dollars under the worst scenario. That cost is equal to 9% of Pakistan's GDP.

This year Pakistan had experienced huge losses and damages all over the country due to the abnormal heavy



rainfalls. "In this monsoon season, this kind of natural disaster still haunts us here in Pakistan," he said.

Pakistan is a member country of the Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI), which was established by the Korean Initiative to support and promote sustainable economic growth in developing countries. Korea and Pakistan continue to collaborate closely on all the climate related issues that our planet faces. Ambassador told that in

Korean Development Agency (KOI-CA) had established a Solar Panel testing laboratory in Islamabad and also worked on a project to enhance the water quality monitoring system by providing equipment and supporting capacity building. Moreover, with the Public and Private Partnership (PPP) model, Korean hydropower companies are constructing hydropower plants in northern areas, KP and AJK, he added. Korea Land and House Cooperation in partnership with UN-HABITAT was also working on a project to reduce greenhouse gasses. Korean Embassy also financially supported tree plantation in Pakistan in 2019 and 2021. Korea and Pakistan also collaborate in achieving UN Sustainable Development Goals. Ambassador, while explaining bilateral cooperation, told the participants that last year in January Korea and Pakistan held a DG-level consultation meeting on climate change, science, and technology. Since then, some of the meeting results were successfully followed up, so one of the outcomes was Pakistan's joining GGGI.

## US reiterates desire to boost cooperation with Pakistan

ISLAMABAD: US Ambassador Donald Blome says his country has keen interest in investing and cooperating in the energy, digital services and agriculture sector of Pakistan. He said this while talking to Minister for Energy Khurram Dastgir Khan in Islamabad on Tuesday, Minister welcomed the Ambassador and said the appointment of US Ambassador is a step in the right direction for Pak-US relations. He further reaffirmed the joint goals for enhancing US-Pakistan bilateral partnerships. Khurram Dastgir invited the American Companies to take part in Solar energy plans of current government. The solar policy will be launched next month in line with government's committment of reducing reliance on imported fuels. Ambassador expressed high hopes for the future of Pak-US relation and affirmed to strengthen the relations on broader terms. Je said the private sector in Pakistan has enormous potential. US has keen interest in investing and cooperating in the energy, digital services and agriculture sector. He lauded Pakistan's ambitious renewable energy plan and commended Prime Minister and the Government for handling tough economic situation. - DNA



## We Only Offer

45001 Certified Company



A Reasonable Price



A Genuine Pakistani Brand

A PUBLIC SERVICE MESSAGE BY MURREE SPARKLETTS

## LET THE CUSTOMER DECIDE!

Others call it "Marketing Support", "Trade Promotion", "Exclusivity Rights", "Shelf placement"- we call it UNFAIR TRADE PRACTICES. Millions of rupees are exchanging hands above and below the table in the garb of product promotion. Trade institutions i.e Resturants, Marts & other outlets are being bribed & forced to keep/sell only specific products. We at Murree Sparkletts (a division of Murree Brewery Company) believe all such practices are unethical. We say LET THE CUSTOMER DECIDE which product to consume. By dishing out millions of rupees, beverage companies are depriving the public at large their right of choice.

