

Samanad

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Arshad Nadeem bags gold medal at Islamic **Solidarity Games**

Detailed News On Page-06

Trump does not oppose bid to unseal warrant

Detailed News On Page-06





Briefs

Killing of Palestinians 'disturbing'

News Desk

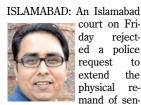


turbing and unconscionable. In a statement, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Michelle Bachelet expressed alarm at the large numbers of Palestinians, particularly children, who have been killed and injured by Israeli forces in occupied Palestinian territory. She said Israeli forces have, so far, martyred forty Palestinian children in occupied territories including nineteen

Gill sent to Adiala jail

children in last week alone.

DNA



ior PTI leader Shahbaz Gill, who was earlier presented in court after the completion of his two-day remand in a sedition case. The court, however, granted a judicial remand while announcing the verdict it had reserved earlier during the early morning hearing. Gill was earlier presented in court after the completion of two-day remand in a sedition case. During the hearing, the police requested for an extension in Gill's remand.

ICC rankings: Babar retains top spot

DNA



managed to hang on to his mantle as the No.1 ranked batter despite the Indian cricket

ers made giant strides on the latest ICC Men's Player Rankings. India cruised to a 4-1 series triumph in the recently-completed T20I series against the West Indies and a bevy of their best performers cut into Babar's lead at the top of the batter rankings. The ICC released the latest

set of rankings on Wednesday and Shreyas Iyer and Rishabh Pant were among the biggest movers as the race for the top ranking hots up ahead of the ICC T20 World Cup.

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Afghanistan still needs humanitarian

President says does not want any controversy

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Pak-UK ties deep-rooted, says COAS

Army Chief was addressing the sovereign's parade for (CC213) of the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst

News Desk/DNA

SANDHURST: Chief of Army Staff (COAS), General Qamar Javed Bajwa on Friday said no one was born with professional knowledge, it had to be acquired through constant pursuit as without it, one could not achieve professional competence, which in turn was the hallmark of successful military leadership. The Army Chief was addressing at the sovereign's parade for commissioning course 213 (CC213) of the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst (RMAS) as the first ever Pakistani chief guest to be the representative of the Queen during the sovereign's parade at the Military Academy Sandhurst. The Army Chief said, "As a leader today,

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PM hails Gen Bajwa's address

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

Mahnoor Ansar

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif said Friday that Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Qamar Javed Bajwa's address at the UK's Royal Military Academy was an "honour for Pakistan. "COAS Gen Qamar Javed Bajwa's address at Royal Military Academy Sandhurst UK as a chief guest is not just a matter of honour for the armed forces but also for Pakistan," the prime minister

Continued on Page 06

Pakistan, Turkiye ink Preferential Trade Agreement

PM Sharif termed the agreement 'a great moment and a milestone'



Shujaat Hamza

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan and Turkiye on Friday inked the Preferential Trade Agreement aimed at boosting trade in goods between the two countries. Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif witnessed the inking of the PTA at a ceremony held here at the PM Office, as the visiting Turkish Trade Minister Dr Mehmet Mus and Minister for Commerce Syed Naveed Qamar signed the accord. Commonly known as Trade in Goods Pact, the PTA includes comprehensive provisions on bilateral safeguards, balance of payment exceptions, dispute settlement, and periodic review of the agreement. Prime Minister Sharif in his remarks termed the agreement "a great moment and a mile-

stone" in the brotherly and historic relations between Pakistan and Turkiye. He recalled that following his official visit to Turkiye in May, the untiring efforts of the ministries of both sides resulted in the signing of the agreement. He said immense business opportunities existed between the two countries and expressed confidence that the accord would further explore the trade avenues in diverse sectors. The prime minister said Pakistan would continue to work with Turkiye on strengthening bilateral ties. Trade Minister Dr Mehmet Mus said the occasion marked a significant milestone which would contribute in a long way to further strengthening and expansion of trade ties. He said meeting expectations of all stakeholders was not easy, however added that

Continued on Page 06

European drought dries up rivers, shrivels crops

MONITORING DESK

PARIS: Once, a river ran through it. Now, white dust and thousands of dead fish cover the wide trench that winds amid rows of trees in France's Burgundy region in what was the Tille River in the village of Lux. From dry and cracked reservoirs in Spain to falling water levels on major arteries like the Danube, the Rhine and the Po, an unprecedented drought is afflicting nearly half of the European continent. It is damaging farm economies, forcing water restrictions, causing wildfires and threatening aquatic species. There has been no significant rainfall for almost two months in Western, Central and Southern Europe. And the dry period is expected to continue in what experts say could be the worst drought in 500 years. Climate change is exacerbating conditions as hotter temperatures speed up evaporation, thirsty plants take in more moisture and reduced snowfall in the winter limits supplies of fresh water available for irrigation in the summer. Europe isn't alone in the crisis, with drought conditions also reported in East Africa, the western United States and northern Mexico. As he walked in the 15-meter-wide

(50-foot-wide) riverbed in Lux. Jean-Philippe Couasne, chief technician at the local Federation for Fishing and Protection of the Aquatic Environment, listed the species of fish that had died in the Tille. "It's heartbreaking," he said. "On average, about 8,000 liters (about 2,100 gallons) per second are flowing. ... And now, zero liters." In some areas upstream, some of the trout and other freshwater species are able take shelter in pools via fish ladders. But such systems aren't available everywhere. Without rain, the river "will continue to empty. And yes, all fish will die. ... They are trapped upstream and downstream, there's no water coming in, so the oxygen level will keep decreasing as the (water) volume will go down," Couasne said. "These are species that will gradually disappear." Jean-Pierre Sonvico, the regional head of the federation, said diverting the fish to other rivers won't help because those waterways also are affected, which will lead to overcrowding and more deaths. "Yes, it's dramatic because what can we do? Nothing," he said. "We're waiting, hoping for storms with rain, but storms are very local so we can't count on it.'



ISLAMABAD: Italian Ambassador Andreas Ferrarese calls on Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari. - DNA

FM Bilawal wants even stronger ties with Italy

Ambassador of Italy Andreas Ferrarese calls on him

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari has stressed the need to enhance cooperation with Italy. He expressed these views during his meeting with the Italian ambassador Andreas Ferrarese who called on him on Friday.

The Foreign Minister further said people to people contacts should also be strengthened between the two countries. He praised the role of the Ambassador in promoting the bilateral relations.

Report on missing persons to be placed before Cabinet

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Law and Justice Senator Azam Nazeer Tarar on Friday reiterated his commitment that the Committee on Missing Persons would submit its recommendations to the Federal Cabinet as early as possible. The minister was chairing the fourth meeting of the committee. Federal Minister for Communications Asad Mahmood, Federal Minister for Science and Technology Agha Hassan Baloch, Senator Tahir Bizenjo, SCBA President Ahsan Bhoon, representatives of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Home Department, senior officers of the ministries of Law and Interior attended the meeting. – **APP**

Pak receives letter of intent from IMF

Executive Board nod required for loan disbursement

IRSHAD ALI

ISLAMABAD: Days after Pakistan reached a staff-level agreement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF), Islamabad received the letter of intent (LOI) – a document declaring the preliminary commitment of one party to do business with another - from the global lender. The receipt of LOI shows that Pakistan's deal with IMF to release two tranches worth \$1.17 billion under a stalled loan facility is trudging closer to the finish line. The letter is now to be jointly signed by the Finance Minister Miftah Ismail and Acting State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) governor Murtaza Syed. The IMF and Pakistan reached a staff-level agreement in the second week of July after months of deeply unpopular belt-tightening by the government, which took power in April and has effectively eliminated fuel and power subsidies.

The staff-level agreement would be reviewed by the Fund's board at a meeting due on August 29. The board would also consider adding \$1 billion to a \$6 billion programme agreed on in 2019. The new government had slashed a raft of subsidies to meet the demands of global financial institutions but risks the wrath of an electorate already struggling under the weight of double-digit inflation. An original \$6 billion bailout package was signed by former prime minister Imran Khan in 2019, but repeatedly stalled when his government reneged on subsidy agreements and failed to significantly improve tax collection.

Australia wishes Pak on 75th anniversary

DNA

ISLAMABAD: The Australian High Commissioner to Pakistan, Neil Hawkins congratulated Pakistan on the 75th anniversary of its formation. In a special message, he said: "Happy Birthday Pakistan. Just 75 years young and much to be proud of and much to celebrate: Your ethnic diversity, rich cultural heritage, fabulous food and spectacular scenery. But the most striking element for me is the warm and welcoming people - always ready with a smile and a 'salaam aleikum.' Australia was one of the first



countries to recognise Pakistan in 1947, though our people to people ties go back to

Continued on Page 06

AUGUST 2022

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First Lady for equal rights for differently abled

LAHORE: First Lady Begum Samina Arif Alvi has emphasized on giving equal rights to differently abled persons in the society and eliminating their sense of deprivation. She said this during her visit to Pakistan Society for Rehabilitation of Disabled (PSRD) on Friday in Lahore.

Samina Alvi also visited different sections of the PSRD which included its school, vocational training centre. She appreciated the work and facilities of PSRD and said it was very pleasing to visit the center.

First Lady said it was a very good approach to make various facilities

under one roof. She said that she and President Dr Arif Alvi wanted to make system inclusive where differently abled persons get facilities like other persons of the society.

She further stressed upon the need to empower differently abled persons and to ensure maximum facilities for them. She said there should be ramps at public places to ease the mobility of differently abled persons as their movement was very essential for their development.

Efforts were also being made at government level to facilitate differently abled persons in maximum way, she added. She further said that educapersons useful citizens.

Samina Alvi said that passion and commitment were required to facilitate and serve this segment of society in best possible way. She said, "The Allah Almighty has blessed differently abled persons with a lot of skills and people should understand that they are not less than anybody else in the society.'

IT training was also also very important for differently abled persons as through this they could start their earning by sitting in their homes.

She announced to give Rs 1 million to PSRD on her behalf. PSRD President Syed Shamsi and Chairperson Nighat



LAHORE: First Lady Begum Samina Arif Alvi giving the key of a rickshaw to a differently-abled person, at Governor's House, Lahore. - DNA

Khawaja for national pledge to further strengthen country

Defence Khawaja Muhammad Asif on Friday called that nation to pledge for further strengthening the country on its upcoming diamond jubilee 75th Independence Day celebrations would be marked across the country with national zeal and spirit. He was addressing the 'Pakistan Youth Convention' along with Federal Minister for Education Rana Tanveer Hussain, Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Marriyum Aurangzeb and Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Youth Affairs Shaza Fatima Khawaja. Khawaja said Pakistan's population youth bulge was

its further stability and progress. Our youth is leading different sectors like politics, military, bureaucracy, media, business etc." The minister said that the

policy makers, leaders and stakeholders should set the target to give a Pakistan free from hatred and division which had love, tolerance and harmony. "When the societies are fed

with hatred, discrimination

they just wither away. The generations that of me or my parents, the historians will judge that what we have done for this country and what has not been done," he said.

Khawia mentioned that the sense of hopelessness was permeating into our population particularly among the youth that had to be changed into opportunity

"Information Minister Marrivum told me that a great celebration would have to be held for celebrating 75 years of independence but I agreed to her with a caveat," he remarked.

He continued saying that

the biggest element in this diamond jubilee celebrations should be of accountability, adding, "This motherland-the blessing of God what we have done to it." He said the Pakistanis of 1947 had a passion, love for motherland and an enthusiasm for a bright future.

"You all should ask this question that is that spirit and commitment still prevailing after 75 years?" he added. He further queried that were we pursuing our personal agendas or national agenda? Is the center of own self or our nation and state? "This is due from us that we ask these questions to ourselves before celebrating our 75 years of independence," the minister said while sharing the caveat he set for the diamond iubilee celebrations.

During the 75th years of journey, he said the nation had lost half of the country, adding, "We also lost the culture of our norms and traditions of harmony. Our new generation-the youth is deprived of that pure and sacred norms of our ances-

tors inherited to us.' He urged the participants of the convention to vow that they all were going to create a society where the youth would live with hope and had expectations from the state.

SECP registers 1,691 new companies in July 2022 istan, China, Dominican tered online, while 144 for-**DNA** Republic, Egypt, Germany, eign users were registered

ISLAMABAD: The Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) registered 1,691 new companies in the first month of Fiscal Year 2022. After July's incorporations, the total number of registered companies with SECP now stands at 173,897. Total capitalization (paid-up-capital) with regard to newly incorporated companies for July 2022 stood at Rs2.5 billion. Foreign investment has been reported in 44 new companies, from Afghan-

5,000 to

perform

security

duties on

Aug 13, 14

LAHORE: Capital City Po-

lice Officer (CCPO) Ghulam

Mahmood Dogar on Friday

said more than 5.000 police-

men, including divisional

SPs, SDPO, SHOs, addition-

al contingents of Dolphin

Squads, Police Response

Unit, Elite Force and Anti

Riot Force would perform

duty on night of August

13th and on the Independ-

As many as six SPs, 34

DSPs, 83 SHOs, more than

400 upper subordinates

with lady police officers

would perform duties to

provide protection to all rallies and flag hoisting

ceremonies on the Inde-

Ghulam Mehmood Dogar

said police would estab-

lish special check posts

at different points of the

city to check citizens and

On night of August 13 and

on the Independence Day,

no one would be allowed to

involve in any kind of anti

social activities or hooli-

ganism, including aerial

firing, one wheelie and use

of fireworks to ensure law

and order in the metropo-

lis, he maintained. - APP

pendence Day.

vehicles.

ence Day.

Kazakhstan Madagascar, the Netherlands, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Tanzania, Thailand, Turkey, the UK and the US.

About 59 percent companies were registered as private limited companies, while 38 percent were registered as single member companies. Three percent were registered as public unlisted companies, not for profit associations, foreign companies and limited liability partnership (LLP). About 99.8 percent of companies were regisfrom overseas.

The real estate development & construction sector took the lead with incorporation of 312, information technology with 245, trading with 208, services with 170, ecommerce with 66, education with 65, tourism with 60, food & beverages with 57, textile with 48, engineering with 43, marketing & advertisement with 41, corporate agricultural farming with 38, power generation with 37, auto & allied with 31, pharmaceutical with 30, healthcare,

with 26 each, chemical with 25, transport with 20, logging with 16, broadcasting & telecasting, and paper & board with 13 each, cables & electric goods, and fuel & energy with 12 each and 77 companies were registered in other sectors

As a result of integration of SECP with FBR and various provincial departments, 1,625 companies were registered with FBR for generation of NTN, 45 companies with EOBI, 47 companies with PESSI/SESSI and 36 companies with excise and taxation department.

First-ever youth employment policy on cards: SAPM

ISLAMABAD: Special Assistant to the Prime Minister (SAPM) on Youth Affairs Shiza Fatima on Friday announced that the government would launch the first-ever national youth employment polito address the biggest challenge of unemployment in the country. "Unemployment is

biggest challenge facing by the country for which a comprehensive policy has been formulated and will be launched soon," she said while addressing the Pakistan Youth Convention.

ISLAMABAD: Federal Min-

ister for Planning Develop-

ment & Special Initiatives

Professor Ahsan Iqbal has

underlined the need to

spread the true image of

Islam through good govern-

ance, protection of human

rights and ensuring equality

The Minister made these

remarks while meeting with

and development for all.

Highlighting the vision of prime minister for youth empowerment, she said 100,000 skill scholarships were being awarded to the youth to boost skilled workforce, which would dustry by bridging demand-supply gap of human

100,000 laptops were also being distributed among universities and college students with allocation of 50 per cent quota for women and special persons, she said, adding empowering the youngsters, especially

Minister for promotion of true image of Islam

Prof Dr. Ali Erbas, Presi-

dent of Türkiye's Presiden-

cy of Religious in Ankara,

according to a statement

received here on Friday.

He also sought a closer co-

operation between Pakistan

and Türkiye's in experience

sharing and mutual learning

on administration of reli-

It is noted that the Feder-

al Minister for Planning

Development & Special

Initiatives is on an official

gious affairs.

ment's foremost priority. The SAPM said the national Olympic would be organized to promote games in the country and bring out new talent for representeventually uplift the in- ing Pakistan at international level.

She said all-out resources were being used to empower the youth who could play a crucial role in the socio-economic development of Pakistan. Soft loans were being distributed among the youth to promote the entrepreneurial culture in the

visit to Turkey where he

held meetings with several officials of Türkiye's.

During the meeting, both

have agreed to partner and

strengthen the capacities

of religious institutions to

fight exploitation of reli-

gion to destabilize the soci-

eties. "There is a dire need

of hour to work together

to spread the true picture

of Islam and to counter the

hatred from the societies,

said Professor Ahsan Ibqal.

ANF recovers 530 grams heroin; arrests one

around 65% of its total pop-

ulation which was an asset.

"It is actually our future.

We have spent our lives and

seen Pakistan progressing

RAWALPINDI: Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) in two operations conducted on Friday managed recover 530 grams heroin and Ice absorbed

According to an ANF Headquarters spokesman, in a raid conducted at an office of a private company, ANF ered 530 grams heroin concealed in 'Peshawari chappal', booked for United Kingdom.

The parcel was booked by a female namely Shaheen Akhtar, resident of Nowshera.

In another raid, conducted at Islamabad International Airport, ANF foiled a bid to smuggle Ice to Dubai.

The Ice drug 'absorbed' in clothes was recovered from the possession of a passenger namely Muhammad Yousaf, resident of Swabi, going to Dubai. A case has been registered against the accused while further investigation is un-

PMD forecasts rain shower in isolated places of country

ISLAMABAD: Rain-wind/thundershower is expected in most parts of Sindh, Balochistan, while at isolated places in south Punjab, upper Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan on Saturday. According to Pakistan Metrological Department (PMD) an isolated heavy falls are also likely in Sindh and Balochistan during the period. PMD warned, that heavy rains may generate urban flooding in Karachi, Thatta, Badin, Hyderabad, Dadu, Jamshoro, Sukkur, Larkana, Shaheed Benazirabad and Mirpurkhas during the forecast period. Flash flooding is expected in Qilla Saifullah, Loralai, Barkhan, Kohlu, Musa Khel, Sherani, Sibbi, Bolan, Kalat, Khuzdar, Lasbella, Awaran, Turbat, Panjgur, Pasni, Jiwani and hill torrents of Dera Ghazi Khan during the forecast period. Rain-wind/thundershower is expected in most districts of the Sindh province. Heavy falls are likely in Tharparkar, Umerkot, Mirpur Khas, Shaheed Benazirabad, Badin, Sajawal, Thatta, Dadu, Hyderabad and Karachi. Partly cloudy weather with rain-wind/ thundershower is expected in most districts of the Balochistan. However, heavy falls are likely at scattered places in Barkhan, Sibbi, Jhal Magsi, Naseerabad, Kohlu, Loralai, Khuzdar, Kalat, Lasbella, Awaran, Panjgur, Kech and Makran during the period. Hot and humid weather is expected in Islamabad during day time, while few chances of rain-wind/thundershower during night. While, hot and humid weather is expected in most districts of the Punjab province. However, rain-wind/thundershower is expect-

Over 8.85 million people vaccinated in Faisalabad

ed in Bhakkar, Layyah, Bahawalpur, Dera Ghazi Khan, Multan and Rahim Yar Khan.

Heavy falls are likely in D.G.Khan and surroundings during the period. - APP

FAISALABAD: Over 8.85 million (8,857,706) people have so far been vaccinated against COVID-19 in the district. District Health Officer Dr Ataul Mun'im said on Friday that 4,753,447 citizens were injected the first dose, while 4,019,034 were administered the second dose of vaccine.

He said that 39.877 health workers were also given the first dose, while 45,348 received the second dose of vaccine. He said that sufficient stock of coronavirus vaccine was available in the district.

As of now 60,541 first doses and 40,360 second doses are in the stock in Faisalabad. He said that 37 vaccibile vaccination camps are operational in Faisalabad where registered people are being vaccinated.

He said that timing of these vaccination centres was 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. except for Sports Complex Samanabad centre, which would remain open roundthe-clock. - APP

Rickshaw campaign: **Human Trafficking** in Pakistan ISLAMABAD: The Sustainable Social Development Organization (SSDO) has launched a rickshaw campaign in Rawal-

der process.

easily accessible even to the remotest of the areas and also the doors provide privacy to the passengers therefore majority of the times such activities go unnoticed. Furthermore, the banner highlighted the helpline "0333-1110566" launched by SSDO to serve as a main point of contact for the victims of human trafficking and bonded labor. This is a step further into combating the issue at country level, as well as a source of information for all stakeholders, including the general public. The helpline is to provide a platform to the potential victims especially the communities with high ratio of trafficking in person that contains both human trafficking for sex and bonded labor, i.e., brick kiln and agri-farms in Pakistan. The campaign was also linked with the International Youth Day and involved participation from the youth in the shape of university students who volunteered to take part in the activity and promote the awareness campaign. This will further strengthen the essence of the campaign in spreading message among the young people who are most vulnerable to the crime of human trafficking as they are lured into this menace with offers of a great career earning them money for a better future. On this occasion the ED of SSDO, Syed Kausar Abbas said, "With this Rickshaw Campaign, our aim is to spread awareness among the masses at a larger scale. - DNA

pindi to spread the message about curbing the issue of human trafficking and to raise awareness about the Prevention of Trafficking in Person Law 2018. The designed banners were placed at the back of the rickshaws so messages can be reached to the maximum number of people. The Rickshaw Campaign in Rawalpindi kicked off with briefing sessions with rickshaw drivers, where they were given information about the issue of human trafficking and potential victims to the menace. They were also oriented in being aware around their surroundings of noticing any unusual or suspicious activity or any passenger taking a ride with them who may appear to be suspicious or forcefully taking someone along with them to an unusual destination. Since rickshaws are



LAHORE: Mall road decorated with huge posters of diamond jubilee on 75th Independent Days of Pakistan. – APP

National Days and Armed **Forces Days**

AUGUST

Aug 01/ CHINA Armed Forces Day

Aug 01/ SWITZERLAND

Aug 01/ LEBANON Armed Forces Day

National Day

National Day

Independence Day

Independence Day

Aug 01/ SYRIA Armed Forces Day

Aug 4/ BUKINO FASO

National Day Aug 09/ SINGAPORE

Aug 15/ DPR KOREA

Aug 15/ INDIA

Aug 15/ POLAND Armed Forces Day

Aug 17/ INDONESIA

Independence Day Aug 24/ UKRAINE

Independence Day Aug 25/ URUGUAY

Independence Day Aug 30/ TURKEY

Armed Forces Day

Aug 31/ KYRGYZ Independence Day

Aug 31/ MALAYSIA National Day

Hotels & Restaurants

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



Airlines

Turkish Airlines.....8494949



Bomb Disposal.....15 Fire Services Rawalpindi/ Islamabad......1122 & 16 Emergency Ambulance..1122 & Rescue Services.4451122 Motorway Police....9266044 Motorway Police..9270601-20 Women Police Stations9222596 Islamabad..... Rawalpindi......9270601-20



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WASA Rawalpindi.	.5555489
$C\Lambda\Lambda$	028100



Hospitals

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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

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

Islamabad Metropolitan

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

Water Tank

Islamabad.....0321-5744480

RCCI organizes training session on exhibition

The purpose of the session was to give an awareness about executing exhibitions, utilization of human resources, financing, risk management and other stages of event management were discussed

DNA

RAWALPINDI: The Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI) in collaboration with Small and Medium Enterprises Development Authority (SMEDA) organised a one-day training programme on "Exhibition and Event Management Skills for SME's" at chamber house.

The session was organized to extend non-financial advisory services to small and medium businesses. The training programme was aimed at providing information about general orientation, scope and nature of event management, developing the concept, physical and human resources, project logistics and marketing an event.

The workshop also provides information of financial and risk management, staging the event and general sales leads. The session was attended by President RCCI Ch. Nadeem A Rauf, Senior Vice President Asim Malik, Vice President Tallat Mehmood Awan, Executive members, Regional Manager SMEDA M Asghar, among others, business owners and RCCI members and staff, emerging and existing entrepreneurs, and all those desirous of improving their knowledge on the subject. In his welcome address, RCCI president



Nadeem Rauf appreciated the role of SM-EDA in brining awareness and providing guidance for business community. He pointed out that event management

is one of the main driving key to run exhibitions and urged to equip with latest trends and tools for marketing the events. The purpose of the session was to give an

awareness about executing exhibitions, utilization of human resources, financing, risk management and other stages of event management were discussed.

Eight criminals held; cash and weapons recovered

ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad capital territory police have arrested eight criminals including two members of a robber gang and recovered cash and weapons with ammunition from their possession, a Police Public Relation Officer said. He said that Islamabad capital police had categorically started a crackdown against criminal elements in order to save the precious life and property of citizens.

According to the details, during the snap checking Eagle squad police team in the juridiction of Khanna police station signaled a bike riding by two suspicious suspects to stop. After seeing the police team, suspects started indiscriminate firing on police team.

mad Iqbal and Asif . Police team recovered two 30 bore pistols with ammunition, motorbike used in crime, dacoit tools and cash from their possession. Case has been registered against there.

Similarly, Shalimar police arrested two accused namely Muhammad Adil and Adnan and recovered two 30 bore pistols along with ammunition from their possession. Likewise, Karachi company police team arrested a drug peddler namely Asif and recovered 1055 gram hashish and 55 gram heroin from him. Moreover, Koral police arrested accused Waqas and re-

covered one 30 bore pistol along with ammunition from him. Sabzi Mandi police arrested two accused Abdul Qadir and Imran and recovered two pistols with ammunition from their possession. Cases have been registered against the nabbed accused and further investigation is underway. DIG (Operations) Sohail Zafar Chatha directed all zonal officers to intensify the crackdown against the criminal elements. "Safety and security of the citizens is our foremost priority and no laxity will be tolerated in this regard" he added. - APP

CII chairman lauds Ulema, security agencies

ISLAMABAD: of Islamic Ideology (CII) Chairman Dr Qibla Ayaz on Friday lauded the leading role of Ulema of all schools of thought and national security agencies to keep law and order during the first ten days of Muharram-ul-Haram across the country. He, in a statement ap-

preciating the determination expressed by the national security institutions, administration and Ulema before the advent of the holy month, said they rightly deserved a token of appreciation for ensuring peace and tranquility particularly on the Ashura.

Dr Qibla said Ulema and Mashaykh had expressed the determination in a meeting held in the CII before the arrival of Muharram-ul-Haram that during the holy days in particular and rest of the days in general, the religious scholars would emphasize on peace, religious harmony and national unity in the mosques and Imam Bargahs. They would not provide a stage to those who could make hate speeches and spread communalism at all respective forums, he added. - APP

Police arrest 7 for possessing illegal weapons

RAWALPINDI: Rawalpindi district police on the directives of City Police Officer, Rawalpindi conducted raids in different areas and netted seven accused for possessing illegal weapons and drugs. According to a police spokesman, Rawat, Kalar Syedan and Patriata police held four accused namely Rizwan, Nasir, Bilal and Azmat for possessing illegal weapons and recovered four 30 bore pistols and ammunition from their possession.

In other raids, Sadiqabad and R.A.Bazar police netted Adil Ishtiaq, Hassan Shehzad and Naeem for having 550 grams charras. Separate cases had been registered against all the accused while further investigations were under process, he added. Senior Superintendent of

Police, Operations Rawalpindi Waseem Riaz Khan said that strict action in accordance with the law was being taken against lawbreakers. - APP

AIOU's Academic Council approves programs, courses

Academic Council and Academic Planning and Development/ Research and Educational Technology Committee (APD/RET) of Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU) unanimously approved the new programs/ courses of BS, MS/MPhil, and PhD. The decision was taken during a joint meeting of the council. Vice

Chancellor, AIOU, Prof. Dr.

10,000 square

feet human flag

created at F-9 Park

ISLAMABAD: A 10,000 square feet human flag was creat-

ed at the Fatima Jinnah Park (F-9 Park) on Friday with the

help of more than 5,000 students who gathered at the site

early in the morning to take part in the festivities of the diamond jubilee of Pakistan. Talking to APP, the jubilant

students, who used green and white cards in the formation

of a large human flag, described the initiative as a "display

of unity", expressing the resolve to break the world's re-

"We have decided to start preparations after the Independ-

ence Day for breaking the world record set by the students

from Lahore a couple of years ago," said Akash Haider, a student from a private school which had sent many of its

cord on the independence day of next year.

meeting which was participated by Heads of department, principal officers, and external members.

Zia Ul-Qayyum chaired the

The meeting also approved the introduction of different English medium courses for international students to increase the number of international students.

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Dr. Zia Ul-Qayyum directed the Faculty Deans to keep in mind the policy of the Higher Education Commission in designing the courses and preparing the teaching materials. He also directed that job-ori-

ented courses should be introduced through which our students can get jobs across bright all over the world.

the globe, which will make the name of the university He added that we are planning joint degree programs

world, we have to include advanced courses in higher education programs. - APP kids for participating in the event. He said they would also

with Turkey, Malaysia, In-

donesia and other Islamic

He said that the admission

procedure for all MPhil and

Ph.D. programs will be ac-

cording to the university's

policy and rules. Dr. Zia

Ul-Qayyum said that in or-

der to present a better im-

age of the university to the

countries

plan for creating the largest human national flag. Rimsha, another student from a public sector school, said they gathered to express solidarity with the country ahead of the Independence Day falling on Sunday. "We take part in creating the human flag to show our patriotism by action," she added. The initiative to create the human flag was carried out under the supervision of Director Sports, Culture and Tourism Aamir Shehzad . Various competitions including, painting, tableau, sketching, speeches, and quiz competition were also organized on the occasion.

reach out the students of other schools to materialize their

According to Metropolitan Corporation Islamabad focal person Dr Abdullah Tabassum, the event was aimed at enlightening the coming generation about the sacrifices rendered by our forefather for creation of Pakistan. "It will also help them realize that it is a 'great blessing' to live in a free country," he added. It was reported in 2014 that Pakistan broke the Guinness World Record for the largest human national flag made by 29,040 students at the National Hockey Stadium in Lahore. - APP

Saleem Baig reappointed as PEMRA chief

DNA

ISLAMABAD: President of Pakistan Dr Arif Alvi on Friday reappointed Muhammad Saleem Baig as Chairman Pakistan Electronic Media Regulatory Authority (PEMRA). He has been appointed Chairman PEMRA under MP-1 till he attains the age of 65, i e September 30, 2025, said a notification issued by the Cabinet Secretariat, Establishment Division.

Pakistani, Afghan centers sign MOU

ISLAMABAD: The Centre for Afghanistan, Middle East and Africa (CAMEA) at the Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI) represented by its Director, Ms Amina Khan and Avicenna University, Kabul represented by its Head of Board of Founders Dr Zakir Hussain Ershad signed an MOU. Dr Mohammad Zaher Halimi, Vice Chancellor of Avicenna University was also present on the occasion. Ambassador Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry, DG ISSI briefed him on the working of the Institute and extended his commendation to both sides and hoped that this association would produce quality research and dialogue for mutual benefit. – \mathbf{DNA}



Briefs

Over 32,000 tourists visit various destinations in one-day

ISLAMABAD: The tourist influx at scenic spots of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) was on rise as around 32,905 people from across the country visited various destinations in one day to enjoy the pleasant weather. According to statistics issued daily by KP Integrated Tourism Development Project (KITE) revealed that Galiyat attracted tourists, Kaghan, Naran, 11,430, Malam Jabba, 7,350, Chitral Lower 1,520, Chitral Upper105, Dir Upper 1,500 and Galiyat fascinated 11,000 tourists. Under the KITE Project, 4 integrated tourism zones were established in the province including Tandiani, Mankyal, Ghanol and Madakalasht, said Programme Director KITE Tauseef Khalid. He said that the master planning of integrated tourism zones will promote sustainable tourism via effective management, adding that hotel industry was doing a good business due to rise in summer tourism. - APP

CTP announce traffic plan for Aug 14

RAWALPINDI: The City Traffic Police (CTP) on Friday issued a traffic plan to facilitate the commuters and general public on August 14, Pakistan Independence Day to be celebrated on Sunday. According to Duty Officer, CTP Headquarters, special pickets would be erected in the city and on entry points of Murree to thwart one-wheeling particularly on August 14 and one-wheelers would be sent behind the bars.

The traffic plan was made and announced by Chief Officer (CTO) Traffic Naveed Irshad, he added. He said, extra force of traffic wardens would be deployed on all the roads of Rawalpindi city and in Murree to handle traffic load on August 14. Over 600 CTP personnel would be on special duty on Aug 13 night and on August 14 to regulate traffic on city roads, he added. He said CTO had constituted seven special squads comprising wardens and officers to curb one-wheeling and car stunts by the youngsters. 34 checking pickets would also be set up, he added.

He said that the traffic wardens had been directed to keep a vigil over vehicles and motorcycles with tainted glasses and displaying unauthorized number plates in the city and to take strict action against the rules violators. The CTO had also directed the DSPs, inspectors and other beat in charges to perform duty with dedication and committed on August 14 to facilitate the citizens. He said no negligence or inefficiency would be tolerated in this regard. - APP

Women Workers Alliance for labour reforms

ISLAMABAD: Women workers from across country convened on Friday to celebrate the registration of Pakistan's first-ever all-women trade union 'Women Workers Unity' and reiterated their demands for improving participation of women in economic life including establishing federal guidelines for minimum labour standards in order to ensure uniform protection of constitutional and legal rights of women workers across the provinces.

The Women Workers Convention, organized by the Women Workers Alliance (WWA) with the support of the Trust for Democratic Education and Accountability (TDEA), urged the federal government to establish guidelines on labour standards to be followed by provinces in order to meet the state's commitments to workers especially women under the Constitution, International Labour Organization's (ILO) conventions and the Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). - APP

Sanjrani for strengthening bilateral ties with Brazil

tho Viera on Friday called on Senate Chairman Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani and discussed ways for enhancing bilateral ties. He said Pakistan and Brazil enjoyed amiable and cordial relations, especially strong trade ties and excellent cooperation at multilateral forums. "We want to further strengthen bilateral ties with Brazil in all fields including political, economic and defence", he added. He underlined the vitality of Parliamentary Friendship Groups which served as an avenue of continued dialogue and as a means of deepening people-to-people contacts between the two countries.

Discussing the trade potential of the two countries, the chairman said Brazil was the main trading partner of Pakistan in South America having bilateral trade of apps US\$ 1.3 billion. "There is a vast potential for Brazilian investments in dairy, beef and poultry, halal sector, pharmaceutical, agriculture and IT in Pakistan. Pakistan would like to benefit from Brazil's expertise in agriculture and techni-



cal fields," Sanjrani underscored. He said Pakistan's friendly trade regime and a large consumer market offered economic opportunities for Brazilian businesses and they should benefit from such prospects, adding that Pakistan produced high-quality textile, sports goods and surgical instruments which could find a good market in Brazil. The meeting called for fostering high-level visits between the two countries. Both sides considered enriching high-level exchanges and visits which would pave the way for further deepening The two sides agreed on increasing people-to-people contact and stimulating the exchange of delegations to enhance under-

standing of the culture and learn from the experiences of respective countries. The Senate chairman also expressed his condolences on the sad demise of ambassador's wife. - APP

Hania Aamir & Mere Humsafar trend on twitter

ISLAMABAD: Latest episode of popular Pakistani drama serial Mere Humsafar, took viewers on to a nonstop roller coaster of emotions as fans stormed twitter praising the lead star Hania Aamir for her stunning performance. Mere Humsafar is an on-going drama serial filled with combination of love, jealousy & hate, showcasing the twisted side of relationships in which 'Jannan' actress is playing lead role as the character named Hala.

Spellbound by the acting of Aamir, fans flooded the social media platform with bundle of messages and snippets of drama, making #Hania Aamir & #Mere Humsafar a top trend. "Hania Aamir is a gem; nobody could have dience root for a character who could have easily gone down the long list of sorry characters, that nobody cares about. She made Hala reasonate with all," tweeted a fan. "I loved the fact how Hala was finally able to express her feelings. Felt content after watching the episode," praised another fan. Naming Hania Aamir as one of the most defining actresses, viewers were also quick to take a note of the most heartbreaking scene which stole the whole episode where Hala confront her family with an outburst. "This scene was impactful and nicely delivered too. She finally made her father know about the trauma he gave her

all her life. Her performance, the dialogues, the emotions, everything was so on point," applauded a fan. "Hania literally stole the episode her acting in this scene was out of the world," shared another fan while praising her for the accurate depiction of pain and suffering. The mind-blowing turn of the story-line was so captivating that just in few minutes of streaming over the YouTube, it reached to millions of live views along with surpassing over 6 million views in just 13 hours. As the events have started to get unfold in a surprising way, fans are now eagerly waiting for the next episode with a hope to see the evils getting punished for their wrongdoings. - APP

CG COMSTECH calls on High Commissioner of Pak in Malaysia

ISLAMABAD: Coordinator General COMSTECH, Prof. Dr. M. Iqbal Choudhary, had a meeting with the High Commissioner of Pakistan in Malaysia, H.E. Ms. Amna Baloch. The meeting was held at the Pakistan High Commission in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Coordinator General COMSTECH proposed the establishment of an alliance of the Islamic universities whose founding meeting to be held in Islamabad. The High Commissioner liked the proposal and assured her support. The High Commission of Pakistan in Kuala Lumpur is the member of board of governors of the International Islamic University, Malaysia, and is also a focal point of ASIAN region. Coordinator General also briefed the High Commissioner about the MiGHT and TUBITAK joining of COMSTECH Consortium of Excellence. - DNA

Nation excited to celebrate 75th I-Day

ISLAMABAD: The nation is excited to celebrate the 75th Independence Day of Pakistan with renewed zeal and fervor to rejoice the feeling of living in a free country. The faithful offered special prayers for the development and prosperity of the country on the occasion of Friday prayer. For the purpose, roadside stalls selling flags, badges, stickers, and clothes for adults and children alike, have been set up in almost all cities of the country.

The Pakistani flag has been hoisted on the roofs of different public buildings across the country. Various public and private buildings have also been decorated with colourful lights. The Independence Day celebrations would be organised by governmental and non-governmental organisations including schools, colleges and private sector. "Children are busy purchasing small badges and flags to decorate their homes, while adults are buying large flags to decorate their cars and motorbikes," said a vendor on the road side at Islamabad. - APP

RDA inflows rise to \$4.7b in June

Roshan Digital Account (RDA) was launched by State Bank of Pakistan in collaboration with commercial banks operating in the country

ISLAMABAD: Inflow of remittances under Roshan Digital Account (RDA) rose to US \$4.794 billion by the end of July 2022 as compared to US \$4.606 billion till end of June, according to a latest data released by the State Bank of Pakistan. The data showed that the inflows of remittances during the month of July were recorded at \$188 million as compared to \$250 million in June and \$189 million in May, 2022, showing a decrease of 24% against June. Roshan Digital Account (RDA) was launched by State Bank of Pakistan in collaboration with commercial banks operating in the country. These accounts provide innovative banking solutions to millions of Non-Resident Pakistanis (NRPs), including Non-Resident Pakistan Origin Card (POC) holders, seeking to undertake banking, payment and investment activities in Pakistan. As per data, expatriate Pakistanis from 175 countries had deposited the funds to 441,344 accounts opened through RDA. The number of accounts has also been increased from 429,364 in June to 441,344 in July 2022, which means some 11,980 new accounts were opened in July. The scheme that started in September 2020 received lukewarm response from the overseas Pakistanis who deposited only \$7 million in the opening month, however with the passage of time the interest kept on increasing as the inflow reached to \$40 million in October 2020 and \$110 million in the subsequent month. - APP



ISLAMABAD: Foreign Minister of Republic of Togo, Robert Dussey calls on Minister for Defense, Khawaja Asif. - DNA

PAL finalizes preparations for I-Day

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Academy of Letters (PAL) organized a meeting in connection with the diamond jubilee of Independence Day (August14) celebrations and finalized its preparations plan. The meeting was presided over by the Chairman PAL, meritorious Professor Dr. Yousuf Khushk. In his address the PAL chairman highlighted that "August 14 is the day of renewal of pledge of allegiance to Pakistan for us. This day reminds us that our elders got this homeland after countless sacrifices", said a press release issued here on Friday.

He said that during independence, many families were separated from each other but there was a feeling that they would live their lives in a free country. He emphasized that we all have to realize the sacrifices of our elders and work with the same spirit for the development of the country.= He said this is a 'thanks giving day' and we should celebrate the sacrifices made by our elders for the sake of the country in the past and should pay tribute to their tireless efforts and achievements in every field, and also we should announce the plan of action for the future with the identification of

flag hoisting ceremony in the Academy on August 14 to mark golden jubilee of the Independence Day.

He said the academy will inaugurate its new 'Audio video Studio" recently built in PAL at about 10:30 a.m. which will on air audio and video interviews of well-known writers/intellectuals of the country. He added that at 11:00 a.m. in connection with the diamond jubilee celebrations, a "Jashan-e- Azadi Mushaira" will be held in which well-known local poets of Pakistani languages will offer devotion to the fatherland. All officers and staff of the PAL participated in the meeting.

FBISE to organise 3-day career festival for GB students

shortcomings, he added. The Chair-

ISLAMABAD: Federal Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education (FBISE) Islamabad has completed the preparations for joining the three-day career festival from August 15 to 18 for students studying in Gilgit-Baltistan. A pavilion/stall will be set up by the Federal Board in the festival where a team of senior officers of the Federal Board will be present to guide the students, said a press release on Friday.

newly offered technical courses, improvement system, bi-annual examinations and subject selection.

According to Chairman Federal Board Qaiser Alam, as part of social responsibility, the Federal Board is providing opportunities for students of backward areas across the country, including Gilgit-Baltistan, All children of matriculation and intermediate registered from Gilgit-Baltistan can participate in this effective activity and make it possible to choose their better future paths. He further informed that 8 matric and 8 intermediate special scholarships registered by the Federal Board will be given to the students of Gilgit-Baltistan. Federal Minister for Education and Training Rana Tanveer Hussain will also participate in the last session of the festival. - APP

Minister unveils 75th I-Day postage stamp

Pakistan Post is playing a crucial role in the progress and prosperity of the country and also reiterated its commitment that it will continue its efforts to serve the country with dedication

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Communications and Postal Services Maulana Asad Mahmood on Friday unveiled a commemorative postage stamp in connection with diamond jubilee of Independence Day of Pakistan. Addressing the ceremonv. he said that Pakistan Post is playing a crucial role in the progress and prosperity of the country and also reiterated its commitment that it will continue its efforts to serve the country with dedication.

He said that it was honour for us to serve the country and being part of today's important ceremony held in this connection. He said our efforts were underway to bring advance technology and reforms in the postal sector, as unfortunately Pakistan Postal Services remained ignored in the past. The minister said that Postal Services would provide an advanced services to its customers keeping in view the needs of the people. He said that Pakistan Post would also increase its revenue and keep serving the people.

He assured that the Department would be transformed into a profitable and self-sufficient institution whereas its

employees would also be given pensions. He said that we are working on short and long term policies to bring improvement in the services of postal services. He said that Postal Services would give permanent policy to serve people with more efficiency. Asad Mahmood asked the officers to fulfill their responsibilities on time to achieve the set goals. He said that Pakistan Post would provide its support to the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) in the flood relief

operations in various parts of the country.

He said that Pakistan is an ideological country which was based on Islam. He said that anti state forces do not like to see Pakistan to strengthen economically, politically and democratically. He said, "We defeated conspirators and we assure people that government stand by masses. We should unite our nation for Pakistan and Islam and humanity". He said that we all should stand united against all inimical forces intending to divide Pakistan. He said that Pakistan is an atomic country and will give bright future to its coming generations. - APP

kicks off cleanliness drive for I-Day

RAWALPINDI: Rawalpindi

Waste Management Company (RWMC) on Friday kicked off its special cleanliness campaign for the 75th Independence Day celebrations. According to the RWMC spokesman, banners marked with the National flag had been displayed across the city while the RWMC head office had been illuminated aesthetically. He said a flag hoisting ceremony would be held at RWMC office on Sunday to mark the day. He informed that all the Independence Day celebrations venues and their vicinity were being cleaned while the RWMC staff cleared all the city parks. In case of any complaint, citizens were asked to register their complaints on helpline number 1139, which would be rectified immediately, he added. RWMC has appealed to the citizens not to throw garbage and plastic bags in nullahs and drains, which cause obstruction, adding that RWMC would utilise all its resources to keep the city

Children **Parliament** vows creating equal opportunities

environment-friendly. - APP

ISLAMABAD: The Children's Parliament in a unanimously adopted resolution on Friday committed to create equal opportunities for all to acquire quality and cost effective education in true letter and spirit as enshrined in Article 25-A of the Constitution of Pakistan. The convention was organized by National Assembly Secretariat here at National Assembly Hall, in connection with Diamond Jubilee celebrations of first Constituent Assembly, committed to take all meaningful measures to minimize the number of out of school children at the earliest so that no child is left behind. The representatives of the Children's Parliament of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan pledged to provide more opportunities for children's civic engagement and political participation which are pivotal to the future of democracy. Reaffirmed their commitment to prioritize children's' issues in all agenda including planning and budgeting. The resolution reiterated its commitment to attain all Sustainable Development Goals pertaining particularly to children. And expressed its resolve to make new laws and amend existing ones to create a child friendly society which places children at the center of development, recognizes their individuality, respects and values their voices, observes their best interest in every sphere of life and protects them from violence, abuse and exploitation. The Children's Parliament in its resolution acknowledged that every child born, a message of hope for a bright future, was the future leader of the nation and has a pivotal role in the development of peaceful, progressive and prosperous Pakistan. It reassured to safeguard rights of all children as enshrined in the Constitution of Pakistan. - APP

Antibiotics in young kids can cause permanent asthma

ISLAMABAD: Early exposure to antibiotics kills healthy bacteria in the digestive tract and can cause asthma and allergies, claims a new study conducted on mice. The study, published in 'Mucosal Immunology', has provided the strongest evidence, so far, that the long-observed connection between antibiotic exposure in early childhood and later development of asthma and allergies is causal.

"The practical implication is simple: Avoid antibiotic use in young children whenever you can because it may elevate the risk of significant, long-term problems with allergy or asthma," said Martin Blaser, director of the Center for Advanced Biotechnology and Medicine at Rutgers University in the US. In the study, the researchers from Rutgers. New York University and the University of Zurich, noted that antibiotics, "among the most used medications in children, affect gut microbiome communities and metabolic functions. - APP

Diplomacy in Africa

HE only way was up. When Donald Trump wasn't denigrating 'shithole countries", his administration showed little interest in Africa. In the second visit to the continent by the secretary of state, Antony Blinken, which wrapped up in Rwanda on Thursday, he sought to continue rebuilding US relationships, moving past not only Mr Trump's contempt but also the earlier tendency to lecture other governments on their real needs and best options. No one should dictate African choices, Blinken insisted. Washington would not treat democracy as "an area where Africa has problems and the United States has solutions", but would recognise common challenges to be tackled as equals. Such humility is welcome and necessary. The question is what such rhetoric means in practice. And while Mr Blinken said that the commitment to a stronger partnership was "not about trying to outdo anyone else", it is plainly rooted in Washington's concerns about China's growing clout and, more recently, Russia's attempt to woo and reinforce support, with last month's four-nation tour by its foreign minister, Sergei Lavrov. Many African countries are refusing to take a side in the Ukraine war.

There is no lack of scepticism on the continent about Russian and, especially, Chinese involvement. But that does not equate to sharing US perceptions or priorities. Most Africans still view China's role favourably. It has rapidly built a good deal of useful infrastructure. US aid, though substantial and at times very effective, has hardly proved beyond reproach. When Covid-19 hit, the west hoarded vaccines and left Africa hanging. As Mr Blinken observed, polls show that Africans want democracy. America's soft power reserves are dwindling yet persistent. In a speech at Pretoria University, the secretary of state sought to reach past the political elites courted by China and towards their peoples, over half of whom will be 25 or younger within a couple of years. They may not remember Soviet and Chinese support for liberation movements, and US support for rightwing authoritarianism, as their elders do. But they, too, can see the inconsistencies. US concern for democratic standards has not precluded support for Paul Kagame, though Mr Blinken said that he raised human rights concerns in his meeting with the Rwandan president. Washington does not place the same stress on democracy when visiting the UAE or Saudi Arabia as it does in addressing Africa. Mr Blinken's pitch this time was both canny and appropriate. But Africans across the continent and at all levels of society will be looking to the US for deeds as well as words.

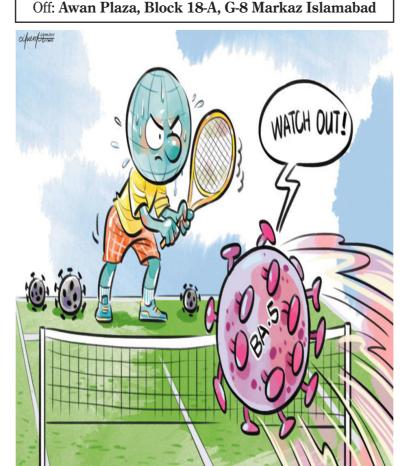


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Triumph in Commonwealth

AKISTAN has managed to secure a decent 18th position in the recently-concluded Commonwealth Games 2022 after bagging a total of eight medals, including two precious golds. Unfortunately, we are still long way from the top of the table where the Kiwis sit comfortably with 178 medals to their name, including 67 golds. Our sporting rivals, India, managed to fare much better by securing fourth place with 61 medals and 22 golds - all credit goes to them and their developments in their sports industry.

For Pakistan, however, the stars of the show were javelin thrower Arshad Nadeem with his record-breaking throw of 90.18 meters – creating history by becoming the first ever South Asian to cross the 90-meter barrier – and weightlifter Nooh Dastagir Butt who managed to lift a record 405kg to win the gold. The people of Pakistan are extremely proud of all the Commonwealth champions and it was pleasing to see Pakistan's flag be hoisted high on multiple occasions. These star athletes and competitors have yet again indicated that our country is not short on talent, skill and perseverance. But, like previous years, their woes remain the same. Many have had to overcome odds just to participate; many are raw talent without proper training or resources; and many have had to travel through personal expenses.

Sports federations and government institutions in Pakistan have failed to support, manage and sustain these world-class athletes who have been constantly performing at the top-most level for the country. They must be taught, trained and transformed into professional athletes. But mismanagement prevails as the Pakistan Boxing Federation recently reported the disappearance of two national Boxers from Birmingham a few days after the conclusion of the games. An investigation may be underway but it doesn't take much to ascertain the possibilities of why this came about. Whatever the case, officials must have been more vigilant considering that many athletes haven't ever had international exposure before.

CPEC: The metamorphosis of a Northern Middle-age

Kiran Naz

One day, Mr. Li, the in-charge of the office, suddenly called him into his office and said that he found him very responsible and intelligent in his work.

Most importantly, he found him very talented at learning Chinese culture and language. So Li decided to send him to a professional school for studying Chinese language and the company would bear his tuition

AM no more what I was. My Chinese colleagues helped complete my metamorphosis, he said with deep appreciation.

Oshikhandass, a small beautiful mountain village, is situated near Gilgit in northern Pakistan. Because of the remote location, many people are engaging in agriculture and handicraft industry and living a relatively traditional and simple life. As there are not many local employment opportunities, most of the young and middle-aged in the village choose to work in big cities to support their families. Manzoor Alam, 35, is one of many middle-aged men who have traveled from the north to

the big cities to pursue their dreams. He can still recall that when he first came to Karachi alone in 2004 he could hardly find any better job rather than a driver due to lack of adequate education and skills. He earned 16,000 rupees per month at that time, which could barely cover his basic living expenses. Since then, he had changed jobs several times, but none of them were very satisfactory.

He could only engage in livelihoods such as driver, purchasing officer, salesman and other positions that do not require much skills. In 2010, he decided to quit his job and started his own business by opening a pharmacy and a grocery store in a small town near his village. The business was good in the beginning and he had pretty good surplus after deducting the costs and employee salaries. However, the good times did not last long. Since 2014, the business has become more and more miserable, and he even couldn't support the rent and staff salaries.

Just when he was at his wit's end, he was forced to leave his nometown again in 2015 on the recommendation of a friend who later introduced him to an interview at the Islamabad office of a Chinese company. According to its profile, the company entered Pakistan in 2013 and has participated in a series of CPEC or non-CPEC projects, especially Chinese-aided projects. It's been seven years but Manzoor can still remember the warm reception he received from his two Chinese colleagues when he first entered the office. At that moment, he felt, for the first time, the corporate culture of the Chinese company and the warmest friendship between the Chinese and Pakistani people. The company offered him a monthly salary of Rs 25,000 as a driver, his most familiar position. To be honest, he could have made it elsewhere, but something mysterious in his mind made him decide to stay.

One day, Mr. Li, the in-charge of the office, suddenly called him into his office and said that he found him very responsible and intelligent in his work. Most importantly, he found him very talentbear his tuition. Manzoor was so encouraged that he readily accepted Li's offer. So he spent three months at a Chinese language training school in blue area, and another six months at Chinese department NUML. Since then, he has mastered basic everyday Chinese and performed better in his work. His colleagues were all surprised by his changes and promotions.

Two years after his joining, he was promoted to house manager, responsible for daily management and reception of delegations. And his income was more than thrice as much as when he joined the company. With the help of the company and his Chinese colleagues, Manzoor has greatly improved his various abilities and his dedication to the work has brought him unanimous praise. In 2021, he was awarded the Excellent Employee. According to him, his life changed dramatically

after joining the Chinese company. In 2017, he used his savings of the past few years to build a small but warm house in his village, which enable the family to no longer suffer snow and cold in winter. With the improvement of his financial status, he fathered a third child and all of them are now enjoying better education. He attaches great importance to education and hopes that one day his kids will be able to leave the mountains and avoid the similar fate as his. With his help, a total of 15 relatives and friends got jobs in different Chinese companies, and many of them were lifted out of poverty. Since 2018, in particular, he has quietly funded two poor students in Islamabad and two families in need in his village by providing them tuition and food.

"I am no more what I was. My Chinese colleagues helped complete my metamorphosis." Chinese companies have been working to help Pakistan improve its infrastructure, actively participate in the fields of agriculture, industrial cooperation and social livelihood, which has greatly improved the employment, local people's livelihood and brought various opportunities to the social and economic development of Pakistan, he said with deep appreciation.

- The author is a freelance contributor.

ed at learning Chinese culture and language. So Li decided to send him to a professional school for studying Chinese language and the company would Pressing the reset button on Saudi-US relations

Dr. Turki Faisal Al-Rasheed

Saudi-US relations also

affirm the importance of food and energy security and climate cooperation. They underscore the importance of strategic economic cooperation and investment, particularly in light of the current crisis in Ukraine and its consequences, and reaffirm

HE relationship between Saudi Arabia and the US has been shaken by ongoing crises, such as the rising crude oil prices; the Russian-Ukrainian war, which has exacerbated the food security concerns of many countries; and upheaval in Yemen, Syria, Lebanon, Iraq, Iran and other countries. These issues have prompted the US administration to strengthen its ties with Saudi Arabia following a visit by President Joe Biden to the Kingdom to address economic, social and environmental issues to foster

the countries' commitment to

a stable global energy market

sustainable development. Diplomatic relations between Saudi Arabia and the US date back to 1933 and it has been almost 80 years since the founder of Saudi Arabia, King Abdulaziz, met with President Franklin D. Roosevelt to lay the foundations for a post-Second World War Middle East. The oil-for-security myth is a thing of the past. We need to focus on sustainability and deliver peace and prosperity for Saudi Arabia and the US, for our peoples and for the wider world.

As Saudi Arabia develops, Saudi-US relations can provide a partnership around food security, energy, stability and regional growth to deliver this peace and prosperity. We must redefine the contours of the next eight decades of this critical alliance.

The Jeddah Communique on Saudi-US relations emphasized the pivotal role the historic partnership has played in promoting regional stability and prosperity. The Saudi-US partnership has been a cornerstone of regional security for decades and it has affirmed that the two countries share a vision of a more secure, stable and prosperous region, interconnected with the wider world.

Saudi-US relations also affirm the importance of food and energy security and climate cooperation. They underscore the importance of strategic economic cooperation and investment, particularly in light of the current crisis in Ukraine and its consequences, and reaffirm the countries' commitment to a stable global energy market. The US has welcomed Saudi Arabia's commitment to supporting global oil market balancing for sustained economic growth.

Less positively, for many years, Saudi Arabia was singled out by the US as bearing much of the blame for climate change. Nor should we forget the Justice Against Sponsors of Terrorism Act or the No Oil Producing and Exporting Cartels Act. The American administration has realized that the road to power must lead back to the Middle East

In my book "Ma Katb," published in 2010 during the US occupation of Iraq, I wrote that the US would flee in defeat from Iraq and go through years of economic recession. Within a short period, it would understand the consequences of occupying Iraq and it would seek to regain its self-control. In politics, as well as in nature, there is no vacuum and other powerful countries would seek to fill the vacuum.

Now, the American administration has realized that the road to power must lead back to the Middle East. Saudi Arabia plays a pivotal role in the game of power. The US' gradual withdrawal from the region has led to China becoming the largest trading partner of the Gulf countries, while Russia has become an important player in Syria and Libya. Currently, Iran has extensive influence in Iraq, Lebanon, Syria and northern Yemen. Today, Saudi Arabia in particular and the Gulf in general are more independent, with Arab states willing and able to act without regard for a superpower patron. Furthermore, the Middle East is internally characterized by several regional powers, with Arab power shifting from the traditional heartlands of the Levant and Egypt to the Gulf, with non-Arab states such as Turkey, Israel and Iran also having increasing involvement. The Arab world believes that the US simply does not have the resources or the political capabilities to play the role of a dominant power in the Middle East. Arab regional powers no longer believe that the US can or will act militarily to defend them.

This is reminiscent of the University of Arizona's special panel discussion, "Pressing the Reset Button for US-Saudi Arabia Relations: Establishing Cooperation Beyond Oil and the Military into Agriculture, Food, Education and Society." This session was held on Nov. 9, 2016 – the day Donald Trump was announced as the winner of that year's US presidential election. The panel discussion emphasized the importance of resetting Saudi-US relations beyond oil and military purchases by focusing on sustainability for the common good. Further collaboration between the US and Saudi Arabia in particular, and the Arab world in general, is vital to achieving the UN's 17 Sustainable

Development Goals. It bears repeating that the oil-for-security myth is a thing of the past. The way forward after pressing the reset button on Saudi-US relations is to focus on food security, energy security and environmental, economic and social issues, for the common good. Saudi-US relations have survived many serious difficulties and the two countries' relationship is crucial for global stability. It is a relationship that should not be taken for granted: It must be constantly nurtured or otherwise it will drift away.

Israel: normalising terror, one dawn at a time

Belén Fernández

The Western corporate media have also done their fair share to ensure the propagation of a pro-Israel narrative in lieu of fact - and rarely is...

SRAEL'S latest military assault on the Gaza Strip - codenamed Operation Breaking Dawn – spanned three days in early August and killed at least 44 Palestinians, including 16 children. According to the Israeli government, the attack was a "preemptive" operation against the Palestinian Islamic Jihad group - which is as creative an excuse as any for spontaneously bombing people for no ap-

parent reason A total of zero Israelis were killed over the course of Israel's sanguinary dawn-breaking in Gaza, an acute discrepancy in casualties that is par for the course in the Zionist state's dealings with the besieged Palestinian coastal enclave. While lethal and nonlethal forms of Israeli military torment have continued to be fixtures of daily existence in Gaza even after Israel's so-called "withdrawal" from the territory in 2005. Breaking Dawn was the bloodiest episode since the 11-day Israeli attack in May 2021 - nobly dubbed Operation Guardian of the Walls - which killed more than 260 Palestinians, including 67 children.

A bit farther back on the timeline, you'll find Operation Protective Edge - when the Israeli military slaughtered no fewer than 2,251 people in Gaza, among them 551 children. For its part, Operation Cast Lead, a 22-day affair that began in December of 2008, eliminated some 1,400 Palestinians, 300 of them children and the vast majority of them civilians. Three Israeli civilians were killed during Cast Lead.

Rewind a bit further to the romantic charm of Operation Summer Rains, which commenced in June 2006 and gave way to the similarly poetic Operation Autumn Clouds. In their book Gaza in Crisis, US scholar Noam Chomsky and Israeli scholar Ilan Pappé posit that Summer Rains constituted the "most brutal attack on Gaza since 1967" - with the "systematic slaughter" gradually assuming the air of "inertia killing, when the continued employment of massive power is done as daily routine and not as the implementation of a policy". And indeed, this has pretty much been the name of Israel's game since it violently founded itself on Palestinian land in 1948 - an action that entailed massacring more than 10,000 Palestinians, expelling three-quarters of a

million more, and destroying some 500 Palestinian villages. Since then, politically-motivated violent action and

the threat thereof have remained the order of the day - or of the breaking dawn, if you will. Thanks to a USbacked Israeli monopoly on the regional discourse and an all-out assault on logic, however, Israel's Palestinian victims are instead the ones vilified as "terrorists" In response to this month's bloodbath in Gaza, US President Joe Biden reaffirmed his "support for Israel's security... including its right to defend itself against attack" - which is neither a surprising pronouncement from the man who recently enthusiastically self-defined as a "Zionist" nor a departure from the tired rhetoric of the US establishment, which holds that Israel is permanently and indubitably acting in self-defence. Never mind that the whole "self-defence" line doesn't really fly when you're "defending" yourself against the people whose land you brutally appropriated and whom you continue to periodically slay in large numbers. It's like saying Mount Vesuvius was defending itself against the people of Pompeii - or that the fish in the proverbial barrel were threatening the security of the person shooting them. Sure enough, both CNN and Reuters went with "clashes" in their write ups of the truce that went into effect on the night of August 7 – as though this were a remotely suitable descriptor for a situation in which 44 people had died on one side and none had died on the other. Was five-year-old Alaa Qaddoum "clashing" when she was obliterated by Israeli airstrike? Were the other 15 dead children also "clashing"? The Washington Post saw Operation Breaking

death toll reaches 24". And yet the most obvious takeaway from Israel's manoeuvres in the Gaza Strip is the one that cannot be said: that Israel is engaging in straight-up terrorism - at least according to, you know, the Cambridge Dictionary definition.

Dawn as an example of "in-

tense cross-border violence'

– a similar line was taken by

the Associated Press - while

the New York Times' cover-

age included nefariously am-

biguous reports like: "Israel

and militants trade fire as

In the end, terrorism is terrorism, whether it occurs under the name Operation Summer Rains or Whipping Wind or Scampering Goat. And as Israel continues to routinise "systematic slaughter" and normalise terror, it should also be normal to call the country out.

- Courtesy: Al Jazeera

Pakistan.

Turkiye ink Preferential

Trade

Agreement

From Page 01

dedication and step-by-step

measures led to conclusion

of the accord. He thanked

PM Shehbaz Sharif for his

leadership to seal the agree-

ment for the betterment of

the two countries and en-

hancing linkages between

their business communities.

Sved Naveed Qamar hoped

the PTA between Pakistan

and Turkiye would open up

new opportunities to boost

bilateral trade across vari-

ous sectors. He said Paki-

stan also looked forward to

working towards material-

izing a Free Trade Agree-

ment (FTA) with Turkiye.

He stressed the need for

increasing business-to-busi-

interaction

strengthening trade and in-

vestment relations between

The key highlights of the

trade concessions offered

by both sides under the

agreement are as follows:

(i) Turkiye had offered con-

cessions to Pakistan on 261

Tariff Lines, which include

key items of Pakistan's

export interest to Turkive

from both agriculture and

the industrial sectors.

the brotherly countries.

Briefs

Pak-UK ties deep-rooted, says COAS

From Page 01

you need to have courage and ability to take difficult decisions and then accept full responsibility. Correct decision-making requires competence and confidence, which can only be acquired through high class military education, rigorous training and continuous study of military history." He further said, "In the words of Sir Basil Liddle Hart and I quote 'An officer who has not studied military history as science, is of little use beyond the rank of a captain.' You must also understand that persona of a just and impartial commander, who exhibits merit in dispensation of reward and punishment, is the one who will earn unconditional lovalty and obedience of their under command."

The COAS said Sandhurst, for over 200 years had groomed young boys and girls from United Kingdom, Common Wealth Countries and Royalty from across the globe, adding, "Your alma mater is without a doubt, one of the finest military institutions in the world which has produced some of the greatest military leaders that this world has seen." "Graduating from Sand-

hurst is of course a matter of great honor and pride. Today, I see that pride on your beaming faces, just as I see it reflected on the faces of your loved ones sitting across the square. You all deserve this moment of fulfillment - you, for the remarkable hard work and dedication, and your families, for all the patience and support that was lent to you by them. Two Pakistani cadets would also be graduating with you today. Let me say that I am as proud of you all, as I am proud of them." He underlined that his presence at this occasion bore testimony to the deep-rooted relationship that existed between Pakistan and the United Kingdom, based on mutual respect and shared values which were carefully nurtured by both nations over many decades. "Our United Kingdom displays the strength of our historic relationship. I am sure that this relationship will scale greater heights in times to come. Similarly, the bondage between the two armed forces is uniquely special as well, forged on the battlefields of Great Wars and kept alive over the years through exclusive regimental affiliations and close professional contact in training and a myriad of other mili-

Addressing the Officer Ca dets, he said, "The journey that awaits you is challenging as well as exciting. The demands of professional military service will be much high as you grow in service. You need to equip yourselves with lofty attributes of leadership, with clear sense of purpose, to gain respect and trust of your subordinates." He added that it was only through development of unwavering trust and confidence that vou could instill Esprit-de-Corps (the common spirit existing in the members of a group and inspiring enthusiasm, devotion, and strong regard for the honor of the group) in your under command, which would hold you together in times of crisis. He underlined that as a direct consequence of the onset of fourth industrial revolution, dual use technologies and niche capabilities led by artificial intelligence were fundamentally altering the character of future war. The battlefield of tomorrow would be characterized by extreme precision, lethality and transparency which would be particularly challenging for military leaders, especially young officers in the battle, both mentally and physically, he added.

tary activities.

"This future is inevitable, and each one of you would have to adapt to new realities in the technological domain to ensure successful outcome in the battle. While it is important to understand this change in the character of war, let me tell you about some realities in battlefield that are immune to the ebb and flow of technological advancements and WOULD NEVER CHANGE, let me enumerate a few. First! The value of keeping up a brave face in front of your troops, when you are as shattered and frightened inside as all of them.

Pakistani Mountaineer Naila Kiani summits Gasherbrum 1

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's mountaineer Naila Kiani has successfully summited the world's 11th highest mountain, Gasherbrum 1 (G1) today. She became the first local woman to summit three 8000+ metre mountain peaks - G1, Gasherbrum 2 (G2) and K2 - in her first attempt. Naila was part of an expedition consisting of people who started their ascent towards G1's peak. Symbolizing empowered, strong, and resilient female athletes, Naila is a banker by profession and a mountaineering enthusiast. G1 was her second challenge of the year having previously submitted K2 on 22nd July. Through her successful expeditions, the female mountaineer has inspired women across the

the sports community.

"This was one of the most difficult tasks I have undertaken in my life and it has only been my passion for adventure sports and mountaineering that drove me to achieve this," exclaimed Naila after her successful summit. "I'm humbled by the constant faith my nation and especially the mountain climbing community has shown in my efforts. The BARD Foundation has served as my guiding light through this time. Their unconditional support of my endeavors is a testament to their noble vision of enabling Pakistani sports enthusiasts." Congratulating Naila on making the record books yet again, Razak Dawood, Chairman BARD Foundation, stated, "Naila embodies the spirit of Pakistan's greats, the work eth-

heart, and the love of victory. With each successful climb, she etches her name in history, inspires countless other young girls, and makes our country great.

Naila's monumental feat to summit the Gasherbrum I right after K2 summit inspires the Foundation to continue supporting young talent, with opportunities to excel in athletics and sports. Naila's success is proof of the tenacity women possess to achieve anything they set their minds to."= A Dubai-based banker by profession, and a mother of two, Naila is also a trained boxer, a mountaineer, and an adventure enthusiast. In 2021, she set a record by becoming the first Pakistani woman to climb Gasherbrum-II (8,035 meters), the world's thirteenth highest mountain. Naila also was one of the only two Pakistani female mountaineers to stand atop the world's second highest peak, the mighty K2, and the first Pakistani woman to achieve this feat in the first attempt. She was presented with an award in December 2021 by the President of Pakistan in acknowledgement of her achievements and contributions to mountaineering. BARD Foundation is a human-development initiative, founded by the renowned industrialist & technocrat Abdul Razak Dawood and his philanthropist wife Mrs. Bilquis Dawood. The foundation carries a deep vision to promote and facilitate local athletes and sportspersons in order to highlight their talent and true potential across the world. BARD resonates with Naila's dream to influence the women of Pakistan to run after their dreams, to realise their potential and achieve their goals.

Tyson Fury says he will stay retired and 'walk away' from boxing

SPORTS DESK

LONDON: Tyson Fury has "finally decided to walk away" from boxing after confirming he is staying retired. The undefeated WBC heavyweight champion, 34, said he was retiring after beating Dillian Whyte in April. But on Tuesday he urged fellow Briton Derek Chisora to accept his offer of a trilogy bout, while in July he said he would fight Anthony Joshua if certain conditions were met. "On my 34th birthday I say bon voyage," Fury tweeted on Friday. "Massive thanks to everyone who had an input in my career over the years and, after long hard conversations, I've finally decided to walk away." In another tweet he added: "See you all on the other side you big dossers 2008-2022." Since Fury beat Whyte in April, there has been a host of suggestions about what the champion could do next.

Another stint in WWE, an exhibition match against UFC heavyweight champion Francis Ngannou, and a fight against the winner of Joshua's rematch against Oleksandr Usyk have all been mentioned. Joshua is looking to regain his WBA, WBO, IBF and IBO world titles when he fights Ukraine's Usyk in Saudi Arabia on 20 August. Also on Tuesday, Fury claimed he had hired a new trainer, his long-time friend and fellow fighter Isaac Lowe. American SugarHill Steward has trained him since 2019, helping Fury overcome Wilder in their trilogy.

Australia wishes Pak on 75th anniversary

From Page 01

the 1800s. Camel traders from Balochistan were critical in transporting goods across our deserts. Today almost 100,000 Pakistanis call Australia home and make a critical contribution to our multicultural society. 'We are also proud to host thousands of Pakistani students enjoying our great cities and world class universities. " Looking ahead, Pakistan and Australia both face challenges that require us and all nations to cooperate, particularly that of climate change. Australian expertise in science and technology, especially water management and agricultural research will play a key

And who can overlook our common passion for cricket where we look forward to hosting the T20 later this year and Pakistan's women's XI early 2023. We were heartened by the typically warm reception given to our cricket team during its Pakistan tour earlier this year. Finally, we sincerely wish all our Pakistani brothers and sisters increased prosperity and harmony in order to fulfil the vision of the Quaid-i-Azam. In his words: "My message to you all is of hope, courage and confidence.'

PM hails Gen Bajwa's address

From Page 01

said in a tweet. The prime minister noted that the army chief's participation was a recognition of the Pakistan-UK strategic partnership andthe success of the Pakistani armed forces in the war on terror. The army chief attended the passing out parade at the Royal Military Academy as the first Pakistani chief guest - where he spoke about wide-ranging issues. It should be noted that COAS has become the first Pakistani ever to be the representative of the Queen during the sovereign's parade at the Military Academy Sandhurst.

US announces \$1m grant to address natural disasters

ISLAMABAD: The United States government on Friday has announced a new \$1 million grant in support of Pakistan's ability to address natural disasters, such as the ongoing flooding. Funded by the U.S. Agency

for International Development (USAID), this humanitarian assistance will build the resilience of agricultural communities and would support Pakistan's disaster management authorities in Sindh, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, and Gilgit-Baltistan provinces to better respond to future disasters, said a news release. - APP

Qatar World Cup will be most luxurious vet, says hospitality firm boss

AGENCIES

DOHA:A company that sells exclusive FIFA packages to the well-heeled is predicting record sales for the World Cup in Qatar, but its owner insists the tournament will be "good value" for all fans. Jaime Byrom, who has sold millions of hotel rooms over 10 World Cups, said wealthy supporters will be flocking to the tiny Gulf state from around the globe on private planes and yachts. Byrom's Match Hospitality has contracted 450,000 of the three million tickets for the tournament that starts November 20.

Packages range from \$700 for a top ticket with a slap-up meal, to bills of a million dollars-plus for big groups staying in top hotels and watching several matches. Byrom refused to give the highest prices for his Pearl Lounge at the Lusail Stadium, where the December 18 final will be held.



At the lounge's 116 seats overlooking the halfway line, guests get special gifts, the food is prepared by Michelin-starred British chef Jason Atherton and the champagne flows.

The luxury at this year's World Cup "will exceed anything that we have delivered before", Byrom said. "There will be people who spare no expense to be here," he said. "They will bring their yachts they will fly

tainly make good use of their wealth. But that's only a minority of people." "There are just some people who are fortunate to have more money than others and they will have an experience that is beyond the reach of most of us and that is the way it is." Rolling Stones singer Mick Jagger, Chinese tycoon Jack Ma, royals and supermodels have been regulars at recent World Cups. And hospitality fees are a key earner for FIFA - \$184 million for the 2014 World Cup in Brazil, according to the world body's accounts. Byrom told AFP that Match will beat the record revenues and 230,000 packages sold in Brazil. Wealthy football fans - especially from Gulf nations - will be flocking to the first World Cup in an Arab nation. The company said that revenues are already 29 percent higher than they were 100 days before the Brazil tournament started.

Arshad Nadeem bags gold medal at Islamic **Solidarity Games**

DNA

KARACHI: Arshad Nadeem Friday bagged a gold medal for Pakistan at the 2022 Islamic Solidarity Games in Konya, Turkey with a games record throw of 88.55m - his second gold medal in less than a week. Arshad was in a commanding position since the start of his event on Friday. In his first attempt, Nadeem was able to throw the javelin at a distance of 79.40 metres, followed by 88.55 metres, 75.50 metres, 82.40 metres, and 83.33 metres.

The 88.55m throw was his best and also a new record for the Islamic Solidarity Games. Following his win, Nadeem went to the stands where he was greeted by Pakistani fans. Officials of the Pakistan Olympic Association (POA), Pakistan Sports Board (PSB), and Athletics Federation of Pakistan (AFP) were also there to cheer for the champion athlete. Last week, the athlete made the nation proud as he bagged a gold medal during the javelin throw competition at the Commonwealth Games in Birmingham. In his fifth and final attempt, the Olympian set a new CWG record of a 90.18m throw and became the first Pakistani to hold the record.

FIH delegation to visit India next week

ISLAMABAD: International Hockey Federation (FIH) delegation would visit India next week to discuss the current situation of Hockey India and the progress made in terms of drafting a new constitution of the body. As agreed with the Committee of Administrators (CoA) of Hockey India, a FIH delegation comprising of FIH Acting President Seif Ahmed, FIH Executive Board Member and Asian Hockey Federation CEO Tayyab Ikram and FIH CEO Thierry Weil would be in India next week to discuss the current situation of Hockey India, said a press release. In particular, FIH delegation would check the progress made in terms of the drafting of the new Constitution of India's hockey governing body and renew FIH's request to have elections held as soon as possible, in order not to jeopardize the upcoming FIH Hockey Men's World Cup scheduled in Bhubaneswar and Rourkela in January 2023. The FIH delegation would meet the CoA on August 17 and 18. Furthermore, the CoA has planned to organise a meeting with the Odisha State Government Commissioner-cum-Secretary and - potentially - a meeting with India's Sports Minister Anurag Thakur on August 16. - APP



LAHORE: President Dr. Arif Alvi being briefed about Fatima Jinnah Institute of Dental Sciences. - DNA

Crimea blasts significantly hit Russian navy: UK

FOREIGN DESK

LONDON: Blasts at a Russian-operated airfield in Crimea this week have "significantly degraded" its navy's Black Sea fleet, the UK Ministry of Defence (MoD) says. The Saky base in the west of Russian-ruled Crimea was rocked by a string of blasts on Tuesday, killing one person. The blasts led to the loss of eight Russian combat jets, the MoD said in its daily intelligence update. Ukraine has not claimed responsibility, but satellite images suggest the possibility of a targeted attack. The cause of the blasts is unclear, but at least five fighter-bombers and three multi-role jets were "almost certainly destroyed or seriously damaged", the statement says. The loss of

eight combat jets will make only a minor dent in Moscow's overall fleet of aircraft, but will be a significant setback to the Russian Navy's Black Sea fleet, it says. "The fleet's naval aviation capability is now significantly degraded," the ministry adds. The Saky fleet is used to engage Ukrainian fighters in southern Ukraine and probably carries out assessment work further east. Some of the bombers travelled from the base to Mariupol, the port city largely destroyed by Russian shelling, before it fell into Moscow's hands in May.

Russia denied that any of its aircraft were damaged in the blasts, but satellite images suggest otherwise. This is the second major blow to Russia's Black Sea fleet. In April, its flagship missile cruiser, the Moskva, sank after being "seri-

investigation was a Hoax, and much more.

the vessel with its Neptune missiles, while Moscow claimed ammunition on board exploded in an unexplained fire. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky has told officials to stop talking to reporters about Kyiv's military tactics in the wake of the Crimea blasts.

The New York Times and Washington Post have cited unidentified officials as saying Ukrainian forces were responsible, but its defence minister has suggested that careless Russian soldiers could be to blame. "War is definitely not the time for vanity and loud statements. The fewer details you divulge about our defence plans, the better it will be for the implementation of those defence plans," Mr Zelensky said in an

Trump does not oppose bid to unseal warrant

News Desk

NEW YORK: Former US President Donald Trump has said he will not oppose the release of the warrant that let FBI agents search his Mar-a-Lago home earlier this week. In a statement, Mr Trump said he was encouraging its "immediate release" but repeated his claim the search was unnecessary and politically motivated. The US Department of Justice has made a rare request to a Florida court to unseal the warrant. If granted, it would mean the documents are made available to the public. And it could confirm the reason for Mon-

day's search of Mr Trump's Florida home something that the justice department has not yet revealed. The FBI search is believed to be connected to an investigation into whether the former president removed classified records and sensitive material from the White House, According to the Washington Post, citing anonymous sources, documents relating to nuclear weapons were

among the items FBI agents were looking
Impeachments were a Hoax, the Mueller for at Mar-a-Lago. The sources did not tell the newspaper whether the information involved US weapons or some other nation's.

CBS, BBC's partner network in the US, cites sources saying that the search warrant is a "bare bones" document that doesn't include an explanation about why it was issued or what the FBI sought. Mr Trump

has reacted angrily on his social media Truth site, Social. "Nuweapons issue is a Hoax, just like Rus-Russia, sia. Russia

Same sleazy people involved. "Why wouldn't the FBI allow the inspection of areas at Mar-a-Lago with our lawyer's, or others, present. Made them wait outside in the neat, wouldn't let them get even close.' Mr Trump had a deadline of EST (19:00 GMT) Friday afternoon object to the unsealing but it is not

his statement now means for when the documents could be published. He already has the warrant and a partially redacted property receipt listing items seized during the search so could release them himself. Earlier, Attorney General Merrick Garland revealed he personally approved the warrant for the search. Until now, the justice department has followed its normal practice of remaining silent during an active investigation - and documents such as search warrants traditionally remain sealed during a pending investigation.

But Mr Garland said he was asking a court to make documents connected to the search warrant publicly available, in the public interest. He said his decision was also influenced by Mr Trump publicly announcing the search had taken place. "The public's clear and powerful interest in understanding what occurred under these circumstances weighs heavily in favour of unsealing, justice department lawyers said in a motion filed in federal court on Thursday.



Briefs

Türkiye's 8th Canakkale **Biennial** starts Oct. 1

AGENCIES

ANKARA: The 8th Canakkale Biennial will be held in Türkiye from Oct. 1 to Nov. 5, with a "focus on experiences of community, endeavor, and togetherness," the organizers announced on Friday. Exhibitions and events will be held at different venues in Canakkale city center and the Troy Museum. This year's event, titled "How Do We Work Together?," will feature artists and art initiatives from Türkiye and across the globe. Their works will "explore the connections/nodal points of the complex relationships between all living and non-living structures," read a Canakkale Biennial Initiative (CABININ) statement. The biennial "will suggest looking at different forms and methods, as well as paradoxes, impossibilities, singular chances, and probabilities of dreaming together, living alone in crowds, meeting around a table, and acting as a part of nature," the statement said. The displays and events will focus on "concepts such as hospitality, friendship, cooperation, labor, responsibility, justice, forgiveness, memory, mourning, joy," it added.

Minister denounces campaign against US envoy's visit

PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) Minister for Higher Education Kamran Bangash on Friday said that certain elements were trying to propagate negativity from the recent visit of US ambassador to KP. Addressing a press conference here he said that US ambassador was treated like a diplomatic guest, adding that KP government believes in cordial diplomatic relations with all countries but not at the cost of the country's sovereignty and autonomy. He asserted that peace and law and order situation im proved in KP during PTI's government in the federation but the recent wave of target killing especially life attempt on PTI's MPA Malik Liaquat raised several questions. He said that KP police was interrogating the assassination attempt on Malik Liaquat in a professional way and soon the culprits would be brought to justice, adding that KP government would not allow the unrest situation prevailed before the year 2013 in the province. Bangash said that the federal government should have to take KP government into confidence with regard to any decision related to peace and stability. He hinted at attending the All Parties Conference of the opposition parties, saving that PTI was always ready to sit with all the stakeholders for sovereignty and autono-

my of the country. - APP PSX turns around, gains 614 points

ISLAMABAD: The KSE 100-index of the Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) turned around on Friday to witness bullish trend, gaining 614.24 points, a positive change of 1.45 percent, closing at 42,857.57 points against 42,243.33 points on the last working day.

A total of 373,855,747 shares were traded during the day compared to the trade of 281,734,872 shares the previous day, whereas the price of shares stood at Rs.10.613 billion against Rs. 7.795 billion on last trading day. As many as 357 companies transacted shares in the stock market,261 of them recorded gain and 81 sustained losses, whereas the share price of 15 companies remained unchanged. The three top trading companies were Cnergyico Pk with a volume of 49,760,147 shares and price per share of Rs.5.69, WorldCall Telecom with volume of 28,358,500 and price per share of Rs.1.34 and Pak Refinery with volume of 27,001,244 and price per share of Rs.19.46. Sapphire Fiber witnessed a maximum increase of Rs.74.80 per share, closing at Rs.1,127.80 whereas the runner up was Sapphire Tex, the share prices of which climbed up by Rs.74.16 to Rs.1,062.94.

Afghanistan still needs humanitarian aid: UN

dented scale-up in assistance in Afghanistan over the past year, immense needs still exist and the future looks bleak, the UN humanitarian affairs office, OCHA, said on Thursday. Following the Taliban takeover last August, UN agencies and their partners remained in Afghanistan, providing aid to nearly 23 million people, or nearly 94 per cent of all those who require support, said OCHA, which is based in Geneva. Humanitarians expanded their operations to reach communities across all 34 provinces, and their work has saved lives and even successfully averted a famine last winter. Allocations from two UN humanitarian funds also played a pivotal role in preventing a collapse of the health and education sectors by ensuring essen-

However, even with this massive response, the scale of needs far outstrips the capacity of aid partners to meet them, the UN's Humanitarian Coordinator for Afghanistan, Dr. Ramiz Alakbarov, said on Thursday. He stressed that this "tragic reality" will continue unless a functioning economy and banking system is restored, girls are officially able to return to school, and women and girls can meaningfully and safely participate in all aspects of social, political and economic life, including humanitarian work. "History has shown us time and time again, that we ignore the red flags of today at tomorrow's peril," Alakbarov said in a statement.

"And in Afghanistan today, the red flags are both multiple and diverse - from

economy which hangs in the balance, and growing restrictions on women and girls which exclude them from society". Humanitarian action has been essential in keeping the Afghan people alive, maintaining basic services, and shoring up the economy at a time when no alternatives have been available. Some 7.7 million citizens, including three million women and girls, have received healthcare support this year, which has contributed to reduced excess maternal, neonatal and child deaths. Additional humanitarian assistance has been provided in the form of emergency cash to cover needs such as food, shelter, protection and health, and also cash for work and livelihoods support, thus injecting much-needed liquidity

However, OCHA warned that the future looks increasingly bleak in the absence of concerted efforts to address structural drivers of need and vulnerability. Today, roughly 25 million Afghans are now living in poverty. Furthermore, as many as 900,000 jobs may be lost this year as businesses struggle to stay afloat, and women and girls remain shut out of secondary school and the formal economy. Alakbarov called for greater commitment to meeting the life-saving needs and supporting vulnerable communities. "People in Afghanistan have long experienced financial poverty, but are now increasingly condemned to a life filled with poverty of hope and aspiration. We cannot let this happen," he said. - APP

Ethiopia says completes third filling mega-dam

AGENCIES

ADDIS ABABA: Ethiopia

announced Friday it has

completed the third filling of its mega-dam on the Blue Nile, a new milestone that could raise further tensions with downstream neighbours Egypt and Sudan. The development comes a day after Ethiopia said it had launched electricity production from the second turbine at the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD) in the northwest of the country. "Today as you see behind me, the third filling is complete," Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed said from the dam site in images broadcast on state television. "The Nile is a gift of God given to us for Ethiopians to make use of it." The massive \$4.2 billion dam, set to be the largest hydro-electric scheme in Africa, has been at the centre of a regional dispute ever since Ethiopia broke ground

on the project in 2011. There is still no agreement between Ethiopia and its neighbours downstream Egypt and Sudan about the GERD's operations despite talks held under the auspices of the African Union. Cairo and Khartoum view it as a threat because of their dependence on Nile waters. But Ethiopia deems it essential for the electrification and development of Africa's second most populous nation. It was one of Africa's fastest growing economies in recent years until war

broke out in northern Ethiopia in November 2020 between federal government forces and Tigrayan rebels. Spain, Portugal hail Berlin call for Europe gas

AGENCIES

link

MADRID: Spain and Portugal backed Germany's call for a gas pipeline linking the Iberian peninsula to central Europe on Friday, and Madrid said its part of the project could be operational within months. The proposal came as Europe struggles to find ways to rapidly reduce its energy dependence on Russia following the invasion of Ukraine, which has upended the power market and sent prices soaring and nations scrambling for supplies. On Thursday, German Chancellor Olaf Scholz said a pipeline running through Portugal, Spain and France to central Europe was "conspicuously absent". If it existed, it could make "a massive contribution" to easing the supply crisis, he argued. Spain currently has six liquefied natural gas (LNG) terminals for processing gas that arrives by sea which could help the EU boost imports. But it only has two low-capacity links to France's gas network, which has connections to the rest of Europe.

Ghana declared free of Ebola-like Marburg virus

ACCRA: Ghana on Friday announced that there are no active cases of the Ebola-like Marburg virus following the recovery of the last infected person. The announcement by the Ghana Health Service follows the World Health Organization guidelines, which say that if there are no new cases 42 days after the last negative test, a country should be declared free of the outbreak. According to the health authority, Ghana confirmed the first case of Marburg virus disease on July 4. Three cases have since been reported with two fatalities recorded.

In total, 198 contacts were identified in four districts and 118 people completed the mandatory 21-day follow-up and were discharged. "The remaining contacts are still being followed up and none has any symptoms," the statement added. The Marburg virus disease causes severe viral hemorrhagic fever with a mortality rate of 50% for humans on average, according to the WHO. - Agencies



ISLAMABAD: Federal minister for Commerce, Syed Naveed Qamar chairs a meeting along with Turkish trade minister Dr. Mehmet MUS. - APP

210 education majors selected to introduce in Pakistan

The first China-Pakistan dual degree program officially approved by HEC will be launched at Karakoram International University to train talent in mining engineering

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Among over 700 vocational education majors in China, Tang International Education Group(TIEG) has selected 210 most needed ones to be introduced to Pakistan under "CCTE" model, according to a report published by China Economic Net (CEN). "CCTE", short for "China-Pakistan Dual Diploma/Degree & China-Pakistan Cooperation, Chinese Language Courses & Chinese Commercial Cultural Courses, Technical Education Subjects & Technology in Education and Further Education & Employment", is a model developed by the education group.

 $Students \ participating \ in \ CCTE$ programs will learn in Pakistan for the first two years and in China for the third year before obtaining degrees from both sides.

Since officially launched in Pakistan in May 2021, Tang International Education Group has been facilitating Pakistan-China vocational education cooperation at a fast pace. In Sindh, Government Monotechnic

Institute (GMI), Mehrabpur became the first in the province in June this

year to jointly provide training on electric engineering in collaboration with Yantai Vocational College. Earlier in May, Government Polytechnic Institute Dadu partnered with Hebei Professional College of Politics Science and Law to train computer information technology talents. In KP, Pak-Austria Fachhochschule Institute of Applied Sciences and Technology has signed an MoU with Chengdu University, China. Last December, Polytechnic Institutes in Allama Igbal and Taxila. and the University of Faisalabad inaugurated China-Pakistan International College respectively with Shenzhen Institute of Information Technology (SZIIT), Guangdong Construction Polvtechnic and Bailie Vocational College. Mr. Que Haitao, Vice Director of Overseas Operation Center, Tang International Education Group told China Economic Net (CEN) that in a most recent development, the program between the University of Faisalabad and Bailie Vocational College has started recruiting students.

"The Higher Education Commission (HEC) is formulating and improving the policy for dual degree programs in Pakistan. I look forward to the first China-Pakistan dual degree program officially approved by HEC which will be launched at Karakoram International University", said Dr. Mukhtar Ahmed, Chairman of Pakistan's HEC in a meeting with a delegation from Tang International Education Group led by Director & Executive President Max Ma. According to the Chairman, there are 57 universities and colleges in Pakistan that are committed to vocational education. In the future, more will be transformed into vocational institutes. It is expected that the first China-Pakistan dual degree program officially approved by HEC will be launched at Karakoram International University to train talent in mining engineering, which will become a model for other Pakistani universities in providing more practical knowledge and experience in cooperation with Chinese universities.

HEC Chairman said in the meeting that the Commission highly values the role of vocational education in training and developing skillful technical talents in Pakistan to meet future needs. He expects that more Chinese disciplines will continue to be introduced to Pakistan through the program to enhance the local vocational and technical education capacity.

Pakistan cannot survive with \$90 billion imports

ISLAMABAD: Chairman of National Business Group Pakistan, President Pakistan Businessmen and Intellectuals Forum, and All Karachi Industrial Alliance, and former provincial minister Mian Zahid Hussain on Friday said the economy of a country that spends equal to a quarter of its GDP on imports can never be stable. There is a need to widen the tax net and further reduce imports, otherwise, the country will not be able to run without borrowing. Mian Zahid Hussain said that Pakistan's imports of goods and services in 2021-22 were ninety billion dollars which is almost equal to twenty-five percent of the GDP which is unsustainable and will result in a default sooner or later.

Talking to the business community, the veteran business leader said that Pakistan's exports and remittances and direct investment are not equal to the imports which leads to a crisis after every two or three years. It is impossible to break the begging bowl until the current account deficit is turned into a surplus on a permanent basis, he said. The business leader said that the debt burden of the country can be reduced if the current account is surplus. Mian Zahid Hussain said that 5280 megawatts of electricity can be generated from coal in Pakistan, of which seventy-five percent is generated from imported coal, while billions of tons of coal reserves in the country are not being put to use. Similarly, the enormous hydropower potential is being ignored along with other renewable sources of electricity. Railways are an important means of providing relief to the public in terms of fares, reducing business costs and reducing the environmental pollution.

Many countries of the world are now building railway networks, while Pakistan had an excellent railway network before independence, but it was destroyed to force the public and business community to use road transport. Road transport benefited some elements, but the oil import bill increased therefore the government should try to restore the railways so that things can improve. Mian Zahid Hussain further said that district-level gas companies may reduce the losses of billions of rupees.

Xinjiang cotton comparative advantage for Pakistan: Dr. Khan

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Xinjiang cotton has comparative advantage and befitting lessons for Pakistan, says a report published by Gwadar Pro on Friday. Furthermore, adopting Chinese techniques of intercropping and double cropping is the way forward for Pakistani cotton farmers. Quoting Dr. Mehmood Ul Hassan Khan, Director of the Center for South Asia & International Studies (CSAIS), the report stated, mechanical harvesting in Xinjiang saved 50 percent consumption of water and 30 percent of fertilizer. It also reduced the labour cost by 30 percent while enhanced the yield by the same percentage. Thus close Pak-China mechanical harvesting cooperation will further strengthen cotton yields in the country.

Development of new types of cotton seeds, and getting assistance from the Chinese molecular biology to introduce such new seeds that adapt to climate in the country should be encouraged. Luckily, the Punjab government has provided two agro-based industrial zones in Vehari and Bhalwal that offer several incentives to Chinese firms including tax waivers which should be used for forming a corridor of knowledge between two countries. Cotton is one of the largest crops in Pakistan but its unit vield is far behind that in Xinjiang. Pakistan and Xinjiang are adjacent to each other and have

for many Xinjiang companies to breed high-yield and high-quality cotton seeds suitable for planting in Pakistan. Natural gold fiber cotton may have push-over economic stimulation under CPEC in the country. Moreover, ioint efforts and close cooperation in cotton production would further accelerate the prospects of joint ventures in garments projects in the days to come. Thus Xinjiang and Pakistan cotton production cooperation is the way forward which should be executed as soon as possible. With constant "structural reforms" especially in the economy, agriculture, agro-machinery, investments, and infrastructure development, Xiniiang region has become a "hub" of global cotton production. Now it has specific "comparative advantage" in the world cotton production.

Xinjiang is the largest cotton growing region in China, ranking first nationally in total output, per unit production and planting area for the last two decades. In 2020, the total cotton planting area in Xinjiang reached 2.51 million hectares, nearly the same as in 2019. Xinjiang is expected to see another bumper harvest this year which is good omen for the national economy and exports of the country. Moreover, the China Cotton Association (CCA) statistical data upholds that more than half of farmers in Xingjiang usually grow cotton, with the majority being ethnic minorities. Cotton farming is the major source of local agricultural income in south Xinjiang. It is true that cotton fields bring handsome income to growers, but also pro-

vides substantial employment opportunities to many migrant workers. In this regard, nearly 4,000 people in the Aral township in Aksu Prefecture joined the migrant cotton-picking community year, earning an average of nearly RMB 6,000 (about \$895) per capita in two months, with the champion cotton picker pocketing RMB 23,000. Over 90 percent of north Xinjiang cotton fields are now harvested using machinery. The practice is also becoming popular in south Xinjiang. Xinjiang's cotton output accounts for about a fifth of the world total, while China's textile and apparel exports make up about one third of the global value. Moreover, to propel the industry's growth, Xinjiang has shared its cotton growing expertise with other areas such as some central Asian countries. The cotton growers of Pakistan should learn valuable lessons from it. China has certain comparative advantage in cotton research and industrialization with advanced biological breeding technology for cotton, high-quality cotton seed production technology and high-yield and high-efficiency cultivation and management technique for cotton, which should be shared with the Pakistani cotton growers under CPEC in the country. It would be new value-addition for the streamlining, systemizing and further strengthening of cotton cooperation between Pakistan and China.

CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Directorate of Parks (East), Environment Wing TENDER NOTICE

Sealed tenders are hereby invited on percentage basis from contractor having valid license by PEC in relevant category for the under mentioned works on the date and time mentioned below:-

S. No.	Name of Work	NIT Cost (Rs.)	Earnest	Date &	Date &
			Money (Rs.)	Time of	Time of
				Receiving	Opening
				Tender	Tender
1	Camera networking / surveillance	Rs:-	Rs:-	30.08.2022	30.08.2022
	solution at F-9 Parks Islamabad	49,191,077/-	1,475,732/-	11.30 A.M	12.00 Noon

Detail of Tender Notice can be seen on CDA website www.cda.gov.pk and PPRA website www.ppra.org.pl Tender application should accompany with earnest money in shape of deposit at call in favor of Dy. Director

Landscape Division, CDA issued from any scheduled local bank against firm's account. Name of firm should be clearly mentioned on instrument (Deposit at call). Tender documents shall not be issued without earnest money. In case of total bid amount is less than 10 % below the NIT amount, the bidder shall submit additional call deposit as performance security equal to the difference between NIT amount and total quoted amount less 10 %of NIT amount. The additional performance guarantee (Call Deposit) shall be submitted along with bid. Bids having rates below 10 % of NIT without additional call deposit will be rejected. The performance security of the successful bidder shall be released after completion of project

Tender documents can be obtained from the office of Dy. Director Landscape Division, Environment Wing CDA located at Mehran Gate No.01, Fatima Jinnah Park, Directorate of Parks (East), CDA, Islamabad on cash payment of Rs. 5,000 /- (Rupees Five Thousand) Per Each Set -(Non-Refundable) during working hours on any working day before date of opening against written request which should be on letter head pad having Name, Address, Telephone (Land line) Numbers and signature of the contractor along with attested copies of NTN Certificate, valid Professional Tax Certificate, Sole proprietorship/partnership deed, Valid PEC license in relevant category, Moreover General/Special Power of attorney may be attested through respective court, The attorney holder may not be the employee of any Government, semi Government institute/That Only legitimate attorney holder may be allowed to get tender documents. No tender will be sold on the date of opening of the tender. Tenders will be sold upto 12:00 Noon on 26-08-2022.

The bid security of all bidders would be deposited in the CDA Bank account and same may be returned after the acceptance of the contract with the successful bidder. The eligibility criteria of the firm with the relevant experience i.e. at least three number of works in last two financial years may be observed/fulfilled before issuance

The intending bidder will have to provide telephone no of the relevant office / formation issuing work orders for

verification purpose.

No tender will be issued without showing the required documents in "ORIGINAL". Tender bids will be received and opened on above date and time in the office of Director Parks, Environment

Wing, CDA located at Mehran Gate No.01, Fatima Jinnah Park, Islamabad. Tender rate on percentage basis should be filled in figures as well as in words.

The tender documents must be accompanied with non-relationship certificate, NTN Certificate, Non-Judicial

Stamp Paper worth of Rs.50/- or above and. No tender will be entertained without these documents CDA reserves the right to accept or reject any/all tenders as per PPRA Rules. No conditional tender will be

PID (I) No. 859/22

Dy. Director Landscape Directorate of Parks (East)



Islamahar POST



SATURDAY, AUGUST 13, 2022 | WWW.ISLAMABADPOST.COM.PK

Briefs

Pakistan, China to boost economic relations

ISLAMABAD: China and Pakistan on Friday agreed to enhance the business and economic relations for joint ventures, business to business talk for increasing industrial cooperation.

On the backdrop of the successful meeting of the Minister, Chaudhry Salik Hussain and Secretary, Asad Rehman Gillani, Board of Investment with Ambassador of China, Mr. Nong Rong, during which the resolve was made to create conducive atmosphere for B2B, Joint Ventures and Matchmaking, especially in the ambit of the recently signed Framework Agreement on Industrial Cooperation.

The Board of Investment led by the Additional Secretary/ EDG-II, Khashih ur Rehman and Project Director, CPEC-IC, Asim Ayub, called on the Consul General, Li Bijian in Karachi. The Consul General, Li Bijian appreciated BOI for meeting the Chinese and Pakistani associations in Karachi, and bridging the gap between the private sector of both countries.

He praised the BOI's efforts of taking calculated steps for attracting high quality FDI through concrete efforts. An example of which is the BOI's initiative along with All Pakistan Chinese Enterprise Association and the Chinese Embassy for establishing the Pakistan Business and Investment Forum, the same forum was appreciated by President Xi jinping during Pak-China joint statement.

Sanaullah bars police from raiding Bani Gala

KHAYAM ABBASI

ISLAMABAD: Federal Interior Minister Rana Sanaullah on Friday stopped the Inspector General Police (IGP) Islamabad Dr Akbar Nasir Khan from raiding Bani Gala to arrest the driver of Pakistan Tehreek e-Insaf (PTI) leader Shehbaz Gill. According to the sources, the IGP from Saudi Arabia over the phone and got the details related to the Shahbaz Gill case.

Interior stopped the IG Islamabad from conducting a raid to arrest the driver of Shahbaz Gill and also expressed his displeasure over the ar rest of the driver's wife and daughter. He ordered IG in case of non-cooperation, to inform him first and his permission should be taken before conducting any raid on Bani Gala Red. Interior Minister said the driver of Shahbaz Gill should be arrested in any case to recover the laptop and mobile phone.

Flash floods sweep away bridge near KK Highway

DNA

DASU: A temporary Compact 200 bridge on Friday was swept away because of a massive flash flood at Uchaar Nullah stream near the Karakoram Highway. The incident took place in Upper Kohistan's Dasu area, leaving Gilgit-Baltistan disconnected from the rest of the country.

Torrential rainfall in the area triggered flash floods, sweeping away the bridge - located close to the residential camps of the 4,500-megawatt Dasu Hydropower Project. Minister for Climate Change Senator Sherry Rehman also tweeted about the devastation in the wake of the flood asking all district commissioners to "remain vigilant". "Massive flash flood at Nullah (RD 303) in Dassu district, KP. Compact bridge has been washed off with the flood surge," Senator Rehman tweeted, informing followers that the Karakoram Highway has been blocked from both sides."No buses are allowed for now on Babusar road," she tweeted, adding that the bridge was not resilient.

President says does not want any controversy

Says that the political parties and stakeholders needed to sit together and chalk out an agreed way forward

STAFF REPORT

LAHORE: President Dr Arif Alvi has said that as President all institutions of the country are respected and dear to him and he does not believe in generating any controversy. While talking to the eminent media persons at Governor's House, Lahore, he said that the purpose of his media interaction with eminent media persons was to get a qualified input from them on the prevailing political and economic situation and discuss possible ways and means to bring down the political temperature in the country.

He said that he was given the responsibility by the people of Pakistan as President of Pakistan which rested upon him some important constitutional responsibilities. As a President of the country, all institutions of the country are respectable and dear to him and he does not believe in generating any controversy, however, there are many avenues where improvement can be made through a consultative process, he added. He said that there was a need to initiate a consultative process to bring all important stakeholders on the table to listen to each other. However, the constitutional role of the President does not allow him officially to reach out to the stakeholders. He further said that it was the primary responsi-



bility of the Executive and the opposition in the Assembly and outside the Assembly and the relevant institutions to deliberate upon defusing the polarization.

While agreeing with the views of an eminent journalist, he said that the political parties and stakeholders needed to sit together and chalk out an agreed way forward, especially with regard to holding free and fair elections and developing a charter of economy that could help ease out the current political polarization and economic situation. The President further said that he believed

that corruption was a major factor in the backwardness of any country. He said one of the best ways to counter corruption was to make all financial transactions through formal Banking channels especially by the political parties while receiving and managing donations. Replying to another question, he said stakeholders within Pakistan should only be involved in resolving the issues confronting the country without any involvement of any foreign persons or country.

While replying to a question he said that social media is now here to stay but unfor-

tunately, we are not used to it and that it is difficult to control. Therefore, we need to focus on social media and on what is happening on it. He said that 90% of the social media is good and provides lots of information while we should learn to deal with the remaining 10% by filtering out fake news and hearsay. He further said he had a very cordial relationship with the existing government and he accorded timely approval to all the summaries except four summaries which were delayed while remaining within the ambit of the constitution.

Interior ministry cancels NOC

DNA

ISLAMABAD: The Ministry of Interior has cancelled the no-objection certificate (NOC) of ARY Communications Private Ltd, citing "adverse reports from agencies" as the reason behind the decision, it emerged on Friday. The notification issued by the ministry, dated August 11, to the Pakistan Electronic Media Regulatory Authority (Pemra) reads: "The NOC issued in favour of M/S ARY Communications (Ltd). is cancelled with immediate effect and until further orders on the basis of adverse

reports from agencies." Reporting on the development, ARY News' English website called the cancellation by "the coalition government led by PML-N" an "economic murder of more than 4,000 media workers associated with the news channel". The report also called it a "a new move against the iournalist fraternity", saying this was done without any notice. "The channel's administration condemned the suspension of its transmissions, saying the network is being victimised by the federal government," it added.

Funds released for NW families

PESHAWAR: PDMA releases Rs364m for disbursement among registered families in North Waziristan, Khyber districts, a statement said on Friday. The PDMA of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa has released three hundred and sixty-four million rupees for disbursement among the registered families in North Waziristan and Khyber districts. According to a spokesman of PDMA, the funds will be distributed among the registered families as financial assistance to help them to overcome financial difficulties due to war on terrorism in area. – **DNA**

British HC plant 75 trees to mark 75 years of UK-Pak ties



DNA

ISLAMABAD: On Friday to commemorate 75 years of UK - Pakistan relations, British High Commission staff joined by Chevening alumni and personnel from the Islamabad Capital Development Authority, planted 75 trees native to Pakistan, in the Shakarparian National Park. This activity compliments a vast year-long tree planting programme carried out in the UK by the British Pakistan Foundation and Pakistan High Commission. Named 'The Legacy Project', this was launched to celebrate the achievements of British Pakistanis over the last 75 years. A

total of 7,500 trees are set to be planted. The UK - Pakistan relationship has gone from strength to strength this year, with major events such as the independence anniversary and the Birmingham Commonwealth Games revitalising deep people-to-people ties. On the occasion the Acting British High Commissioner Andrew Dalgleish said: "Right now the UK and Pakistan are collaborating to tackle some of the world's most pressing challenges from driving forward action on climate change to improving gender equality. I know that we will continue to do so over the next seventy-five years. Happy Birthday, happy Independence Day, Azm-e-aali Shaan, Shaad rahe Pakistan!"

Salman Rushdie attacked on stage in New York

NEW YORK: Salman Rushdie, the controversial British author of Indian origin, whose book "The Satanic Verses" outraged the Muslim world for its blasphemous content and led to death threats from Iran in the 1980s, was reportedly stabbed Friday before giving a speech in Chautauqua, a town in western New York, according to media reports.

An Associated Press (of America) reporter witnessed a man storm the stage at the Chautaugua Institution and begin punching or stabbing Rushdie, 75, as he was being introduced. The author was taken or fell to the floor, and the man was restrained. A bloodied Rushdie was quickly surrounded by a small group of people who held up his legs, presumably to send more blood to his chest, according to the American news agency. In a press release, the New York State Police confirmed that a man rushed the stage and stabbed Rushdie in the neck. "Rushdie suffered an apparent stab wound to the neck, and was transported by helicopter to an area hospital," the press release said. "His condition is not yet known. The interviewer suffered a minor head injury. "A State Trooper assigned to the event immediately took the suspect into custody. The Chautauqua County Sheriff's Office assisted at the scene." "The Satanic Verses" has been banned in many countries since 1988. A year later, Iran's late supreme leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini issued a fatwa, or edict, calling for Rushdie's death. Iran has also offered over \$3 million in reward for anyone who kills Rushdie. Iran's government has long since distanced itself from Khomeini's fatwa, but anti-Rushdie sentiment lingered. - APP

Firefighters contain French blazes but caution reigns

News Desk

HOSTENS: A huge fire that has devastated swathes of southwestern France appeared contained on Friday as French and foreign firefighters worked flat out, but blistering temperatures made victory uncertain, local authorities said. The 40-kilometre (25-mile) active fire front in the Gironde and Landes departments around Bordeaux "has not developed, but the weather conditions are pushing us towards extreme vigilance", deputy prefect Ronan Leaustic told reporters. Temperatures stood at 39 degrees Celsius (102 Fahrenheit) in the fire zone, just like the day before. No new evacuations had been ordered on top of the 10,000 people already asked to leave, Leaustic added. But "temperatures continue to rise and the water table keeps falling", he said. EU members including Germany, Poland, Austria and Romania have pledged reinforcements totalling 361 firefighters to join the roughly 1,100 French ones on the ground, along with several water-bombing planes from the European Union fleet. Many of the newcomers went into action on Friday. "It doesn't matter which country we're in, we're firefighters, we are

able to help people around the world," said

Cristian Buhaianu, who commands a 77-strong

firefighting contingent from Romania. At the Merignac air base, near the southwestern city of Bordeaux, where Canadair planes and other firefighting aircraft are stationed, a Greek pilot said scenes of devastation like the ones seen in France were commonplace in his home country.

"We see this every year in Greece, and right now we see this in France," the pilot, 36-year-old Anastasis Sariouglou told AFP. "We have the feeling of helping you guys and it's nice." In the hardhit area around the village of Hostens, the thick smoke seen on Thursday gave way to blue skies and occasional clouds. France has been buffet ed this summer by a historic drought that has forced water use restrictions nationwide, as well as a series of heatwaves that experts say are being driven by climate change. The blaze near Bordeaux erupted in July -

the driest month seen in France since 1961 - destroying 14,000 hectares and forcing thousands of people to evacuate before it was contained. But it continued to smoulder in the tinder-dry pine forests and peat-rich soil. Officials suspect arson may have played a role in the latest flare-up, which has burned 7.400 hectares (18,000 acres) since Tuesday. Fires in 2022 have ravaged an area three times the annual average over the past 10 years, with blazes also active in the Alpine Jura, Isere and Ardeche regions this week.

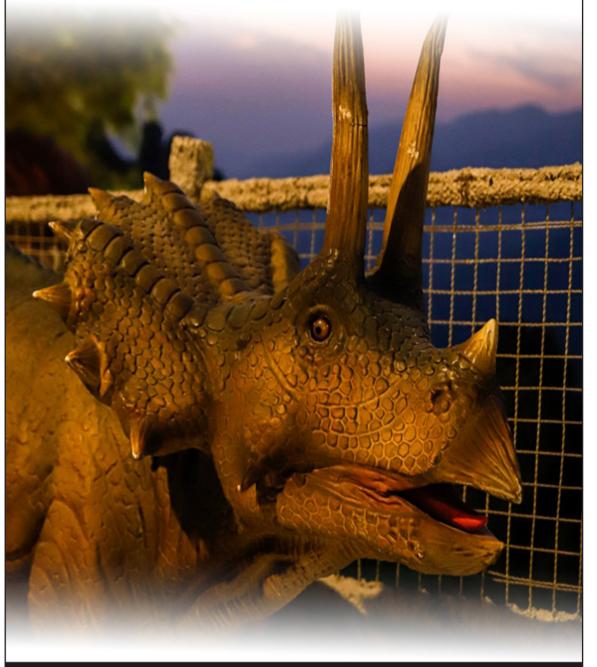
Minar-e-Pakistan replica unveiled in Beijing BEIJING: Pakistani Ambassador to China Moin Ul Haque unveiled the replica of Minar- e-Paki-

stan (monument of Pakistan) here at Chaoyang Park to further promote the all-weather friendship between China and Pakistan. Addressing a gathering, the Ambassador said this is a very special national monument of Pakistan, according to China Economic Net (CEN). "It reminds us of a very important day in the history of Pakistan, that is 23rd March 1940 when the Muslims of the subcontinent demanded through a resolution a separate homeland", he added. This monument is a symbol of the independence, freedom, and hope for the 220 million people of Pakistan. The Ambassador hopes that this replica would be cherished by the people of China and it would also serve as a symbol of friendship between China and Pakistan. Speaking on the occasion, Chen Wei, Counsellor, Asia Department, China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs said that China and Pakistan are all-weather strategic partners and enjoy deep-rooted friendship. "This monument will further enhance awareness about Pakistan among the Chinese people", he added. This replica of Minar-e-Pakistan was installed at Chaoyang Park to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties between Pakistan and China in 2021. - DNA

INOVALLEY

10 minutes Drive from The Monal Islamabad

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