



# Islamabad POST

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Pakistan's Credible Daily Newspaper

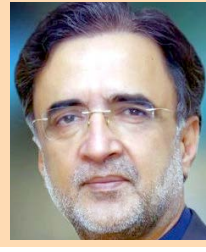
Price Rs. 20

### Germany's Scholz denies influence in tax fraud probe

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### Imran used NAB against political foes

Detailed News On Page-08



### Govt pursuing reforms to attract investors

Detailed News On Page-08



## Briefs

### Lawmakers making self-serving legislation

**KHAYAM ABBASI**  
ISLAMABAD: Chief Justice Umar Ata Bandial on Friday while hearing Imran Khan's petition against the recent amendments made to the National Accountability Bureau (NAB) law said that those sitting in parliament are making self-serving legislation. During the hearing, the PTI chairman's lawyer Khwaja Harris sought more time to submit written arguments. He said he could not submit them on time owing to him having contracted Covid-19. The CJP clarified during the hearing that the court will only be focused on examining the point of amendments against the fundamental rights and will refrain from interfering in political matters.

### Jameel Ahmad appointed Governor SBP

**SAIFULLAH**  
ISLAMABAD: The federal government on Friday appointed Jameel Ahmad as the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) governor for five years. The notification issued by the Finance Division stated, "Jameel Ahmad is appointed as governor State Bank of Pakistan for a term of five years with the approval of the president of Pakistan, upon the recommendation of the federal government, with immediate effect."  
Finance Minister Miftah Ismail congratulated Ahmad on his appointment. Ahmad, a seasoned banker with more than 31 years of experience, previously served as the SBP deputy governor (banking and FMRM) from April 11, 2017 to October 15, 2018. Later, he was reappointed as the deputy governor for a three-year term on Oct 25, 2018. Prior to being appointed as deputy governor, he served as group head of the Operations, Banking Policy & Regulations department.

### Holiday Notice

The office of Daily Islamabad POST shall remain closed on the eve of Ashura on August 08 and 09 therefore there will be no newspaper on August 09 and 10. - Editor

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# Pakistan, India can't afford war

## PM says ties with China time-tested, reiterates call for grand national dialogue

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

ISLAMABAD: Both India and Pakistan cannot afford another war. We spend on our military to protect our frontiers and not for aggression, said Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif. A delegation of students from Harvard University, USA called on Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif in Islamabad. Federal Ministers Ahsan Iqbal, Marriyum Aurangzeb, SAPMs Ahad Cheema, Syed Fahad Hussain, Jahanzeb Khan, Coordinators to PM Bilal Azhar Kiyani, Rana Ihsan Afzal, Chairman HEC and officials from the concerned departments were also present at the meeting. The delegation comprised students of diverse origins and academic backgrounds. The Prime Minister welcomed the students and held a candid discussion about contemporary challenges Pakistan is facing today.  
In response to a question about Pakistan's economy and IMF program Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif replied that Pakistan's economic crisis stems from structural problems along with political instability in the recent decades. The first few decades since the inception of Pakistan witnessed impressive growth across all sectors of the

### PM for a Polio free Pakistan

STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif chaired the National Task Force meeting for polio eradication on Friday and expressed his government's full commitment to take practical measures for curbing wild poliovirus transmission in Pakistan. The Prime Minister said the current climatic conditions pose great challenges to vaccination campaigns, but it is remarkable to see how polio teams have carried on despite floods in several parts of Khyber-Pakhtunkwa (KP) and torrential rains in Karachi. It is important to mention that the current polio campaign for Karachi and six districts of southern Khyber-Pakhtunkwa started on 15 August, while National Polio Vaccination Drive in the rest of the country will commence on the 22nd of

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# Khan should name 'agencies' involved in the politics



STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Information and Broadcasting Marriyum Aurangzeb on Friday alleged that Imran Khan wanted the head of every institution to act like former NAB chairman Javed Iqbal, and dared him to name the "agencies and their officials" who were involved in politics and had given him the guarantee that the incumbent chief election commissioner would toe his line. "Either point out the persons and agencies who have given you (Imran)

a briefing about the corruption of PML-N and PPP or stop this drama once and for all if you lack the courage," the minister said while addressing a news conference.  
The minister said Imran Khan, while addressing a seminar the other day, had claimed that he was briefed about the opposition leaders' corruption by the "agencies" and the incumbent chief election commissioner (CEC) was appointed by him on their guarantee. "Which guarantee was given to him (Imran) for the CEC? Which agency had given him the guarantee? And why he needed the guarantee at all?" she questioned. The minister asked whether he wanted the assurance that the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) would not be declared a foreign-aided party and he himself as a "foreign agent" under that guarantee. She said Imran Khan had made a claim that he received reports from the "agencies" about the leadership of Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) and Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP). Whether

Continued on Page 06



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif chairing a meeting of National Task Force for Polio eradication. - DNA

### FIA to send another notice to Imran Khan

DNA

ISLAMABAD: The Federal Investigation Authority (FIA) on Friday decided to send another notice to the former prime minister and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) supreme leader Imran Khan in the party's prohibited funding case. FIA sources privy to the matter said, five more PTI companies have been traced while the five companies were not mentioned in the reports submitted to Election Commission and FBR. Sources further claimed that the companies are located in the United States (US), England, Australia, Belgium and Canada. Some of these companies are shut while others are still active, they claimed, adding that the FIA has sought audit reports of the companies. It should be noted that Imran Khan refused to provide details of party funds and accounts records to Federal Investigation Authority (FIA).

### Rupee recovers against dollar

DNA

KARACHI: The Pakistani rupee on Friday once again resumed its recovery trend against the US dollar - after it underwent a correction in the last two sessions - in the interbank market. The local currency closed at Rs214.65 against the greenback in the interbank market after gaining 0.14%, data released by the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) showed. The rupee - which emerged as the best-performing currency in the world on Monday - had lost over Re1 in the last two days as it underwent correction after it notched up the largest gain of 11% in the first half of August.

# Pak calls for unfreezing of Afghan assets

## Pakistan shows serious concerns about arms race in region

SHUJAAT HAMZA

ISLAMABAD: Foreign Office Spokesperson Asim Iftikhar has underlined the need to unfreeze the Afghan assets to be used for the welfare and the benefit of the Afghan people. Replying to a question at his weekly news briefing in Islamabad on Friday, he said Pakistan welcomed the initial steps taken by the US Administration in that regard and Islamabad would welcome similar measures in future as well. He said the humanitarian situation in Afghanistan needs to be addressed with some sense of urgency. He said there should be no strings attached toward the unfreezing of the Afghan assets abroad and the Afghan Interim Authorities should be allowed to utilize them for the welfare of the people of Afghanistan. Answering another question regarding acquisition of arms by India, the Spokesperson said it has been a longstanding concern of Pakistan. He said India's unbridled acquisition of arms over the years has started an arms race and created an imbalance of power in South Asia. He said over 70 percent of military capability, the India has acquired so far, is deployed against Pakistan, which is a

cause of serious concern for us. He said Pakistan has expressed its concerns at various world forums, including the United Nations. Asim Iftikhar also informed that Prime Minister will be undertaking a visit to Qatar next week. Besides, the Foreign Minister is also visiting four European countries Germany, Denmark, Sweden and Norway.  
These visits manifest Pakistan's continuing intense engagement and diplomacy with our partners. Asim Iftikhar has also said that Pakistan has serious concerns about the arms race and arms imbalance in the region. The spokesperson of the Foreign Office said 70 per cent of India's weapons installations are against Pakistan. He said that a Kashmiri named Muhammad Ali Hussain was taken away from the custody of the Indian police in the illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir of India and killed. This is the second extra-judicial killing after Zia Mustafa of Rawalakot while Pakistan rejects the Indian attempt to fake pre-election rigging in Occupied Jammu and Kashmir, the spokesperson added.



# Ukraine: Explosions rock areas far from war front

KYIV: Explosions erupted overnight near military bases deep in Russian-held areas of Ukraine and Russia itself, an apparent display of Kyiv's rapidly growing ability to wreak havoc on Moscow's logistics far from front lines. The explosions follow huge blasts last week at an air base in Russian-annexed Crimea. In a new assessment, a Western official said that incident had wiped out half of Russia's Black Sea naval aviation force in a stroke. Ukraine also issued a warning about a frontline nuclear power station where it said it believed Moscow was planning a

"large-scale provocation" as justification to decouple the plant from the Ukrainian power grid and connect it to Russia's. Continuing the mutual blame game, Russia's President Vladimir Putin accused Ukraine of shelling the Zaporizhzhia complex, risking a nuclear catastrophe. In Crimea - which Moscow seized in 2014 - explosions were reported near an air base in Belbek, on the southwest coast near Sevastopol, headquarters of Russia's Black Sea Fleet. On the opposite end of the peninsula,

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# PTI to hold nationwide rallies today

## Imran Khan reiterates he won't accept govt of thieves come what may

### Court orders to keep Gill in hospital till Monday

**IRSHAD ALI**  
ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) lashed out at the government of crooks and announced to hold countrywide rallies against the torture inflicted on Dr. Shahbaz Gill today (Saturday). Talking to media outside the Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences (PIMS) hospital here on Friday after being stopped by police to meet Gill, Chairman PTI stated that the police denied permission to meet Gill who was subjected to inhuman treatment. Chairman PTI reached PIMS along with PTI senior leadership including Fawad Chaudhry, Dr. Shireen Mazari, Murad Saeed, Ali Awan and Senator Ejaz Chaudhry to meet Shahbaz Gill but police did not allow him.  
Imran Khan said that he came to the hospital to inquire about his (Gill) health; however, he was barred from meeting

him despite court orders, as they don't care about court orders. He raised the questions from where the police was getting orders. The PTI Chairman announced to organize a rally in Islamabad and across all divisional headquarters on Saturday to show solidarity with Shahbaz

istrate Raja Farakh Ali Khan by the police amid foolproof security arrangements. The court said that the accused seemed not well as he was suffering from asthma and instructed to conduct his medical examination again.  
During the course of proceeding, the police requested the court to grant further eight-day physical remand of the accused. At this, the judge asked whether the two days physical remand had completed as the accused had been in hospital.

He questioned why the prosecution was demanding further eight day remand. Special Prosecutor Rizwan Abbasi contended that a medical analysis of the accused was done when he was admitted in hospital. He said that the investigation officer himself could ensure medical check up of the accused in emergency without the directives of the court. It was not written anywhere in the law that the accused physical remand couldn't be granted in sickness, he added.

reiterated that he would prefer death rather than to live under these corrupts. Earlier, Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan expressed his shock over the inhuman treatment meted out to Dr. Shahbaz Gill and vowed that no stone would be left unturned to find out those responsible so as to bring them to book.  
In a statement issued from PTI Central Media Department on Friday, PTI Chairman stated that all the pictures and videos clearly showed that Shahbaz Gill was severely tortured both mentally and physically including sexual abuse - most too gruesome to relate. Imran Khan said that he was humiliated to break him down. "I now have full detailed information in this regard," he added. PTI Chairman went on to say that Islamabad Capital Police (ICT) police clearly stated that it did not inflict any torture. He asked: "So my question is who tortured Gill? He said: "There is a general perception in the public at large and in our minds too as to who could have carried out the gruesome torture." Imran Khan made it clear that remember the public would react.

# ICCI signs MoU with Shifa Tameer-e-Millat University

DNA

ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry (ICCI) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Shifa Tameer-e-Millat University (STMU) Islamabad to promote joint academic and R&D activities of mutual interest in accordance with their respective needs and objectives as well as to promote academia-industry linkages. Muhammad Shakeel Munir, President Islamabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry and Dr. Muhammad Tanvir Afzal, Director Campus, Shifa Tameer-e-Millat University, Islamabad signed the MoU during a ceremony held at ICCI. Jamshaid Akhtar Sheikh Senior Vice President ICCI, Muhammad Naveed Malik former Senior Vice President ICCI, Dr. Shazia Shehzadi, Phycologist and others were present at the occasion. By signing the MoU, ICCI shall help

in providing Internship opportunities to the students of STMU and would invite STMU to its specific events. ICCI shall facilitate the students of STMU in startups and in finding jobs with its member companies. Both parties shall promote collaboration in the field of mutual interest and work jointly for resolving problems of local industrial units. STMU shall provide a 10% discount in tuition fee to the children of ICCI members for selective programs. Speaking at the occasion, Muhammad Shakeel Munir, President, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry said that strong industry-academia linkages are important to conduct research projects for industry and help it produce value added products for exports. He said that universities should focus on applied research with a focus to resolve the key issues of industry and enhance industrial efficiency to make it more competitive for exports promotion. He hoped that the

MoU signed between ICCI and STMU would be a step in the right direction to promote sustainable industry-academia linkages. He assured that ICCI would cooperate with STMU in providing internships to its students and job placement in the local industry. Dr. Muhammad Tanvir Afzal, Director Campus, Shifa Tameer-e-Millat University, Islamabad said that it is high time to introduce research culture in the industry. He said that research promotion for industry would help achieve the future demands of the industrial sector and stressed that academia-industry linkages needed to be strengthened to attain this goal. He said that STMU can assist local industry in new developments and trends in businesses through research and ICCI can support STMU students by providing them opportunities to work in industry for gaining practical experience. Both sides agreed to make joint efforts for industrial efficiency and growth.



ISLAMABAD: Muhammad Shakeel Munir, President ICCI and Dr. Tanvir Afzal, Director Campus Shifa Tameer-e-Millat University are exchanging documents after signing MoU. – DNA

## CM approves release of grant-in-aid Rs 2.5 bn for 10 universities

QUETTA: Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Abdul Qudus Bizenjo approved the immediate release of grant-in-aid worth Rs 2.5 billion for ten public sector universities of the province. He said that students are our future. The students studying in the universities of the province are our own children who needed to be invested so that the students of our province are not left behind in the field of education, skills, science and technology. He expressed these views while addressing the meeting of vice chancellors organized to review the issues related to the provision of grant-in-aid to the universities of the province. Secretary Higher Education informed the meeting that two and a half billion rupees have been allocated in the provincial budget for the fi-

nanial support of the universities of the province, which would be distributed among ten universities according to the agreed formula. He said that all the factors have been taken into consideration in the fixed formula for distribution of grant-in-aid. In the meeting, the need to create ratio between income and expenditure while reviewing the financial affairs and structure of the universities was emphasized. It was agreed in the meeting that universities are autonomous institutions and through better financial management they can be made self-reliant like other universities in the country and the world. Speaking at the meeting, the vice-chancellors of various universities said that the Higher Education Commission should give 9 percent share to the

universities of the province under the formula of the National Finance Commission, but the share given to the universities of the province is 4.5 percent, due to which the universities are facing financial problems and the universities as a whole face a shortfall of 2.9 billion rupees annually. The total income of universities in terms of fees is 1.4 billion rupees, 3.4 billion rupees are received from higher education, while the provincial government gives grant-in-aid of 2.5 billion rupees. This occasion, it was decided that the Chief Secretary along with the Vice Chancellors of the major universities of Balochistan will meet the Chairman HEC and to discuss the provision of 9% grants to the universities of the province under the NFC award. – APP

## Kyrgyz envoy lauds Pak defence industries' capabilities, products

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of the Republic of Kyrgyzstan Ulanbek Totuaev, called on Minister for Defence Khawaja Muhammad Asif on Thursday and praised the capabilities of Pakistan's Defence Industries and their products.

The Defence Minister welcomed the Ambassador and said that Pakistan greatly values the friendly relations with Kyrgyzstan and looks forward to strengthening this friendship, a news release said. He stressed that Pakistan would continue to further enhance cooperation with Kyrgyzstan within the frame-

work of Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) and other regional and international organization. Moreover, he highlighted that Pakistan and Kyrgyzstan could collaborate extensively in the defence cooperation and provision of defence related products and expertise to Kyrgyzstan. The Ambassador

appreciated Pakistan's support and assistance. He also highlighted the importance of cordial relations between two countries. Both sides agreed to further strengthen the institutional framework for high level bilateral coordination to achieve regional as well as global peace and prosperity.



ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of the Republic of Kyrgyzstan, Mr. Ulanbek Totuaev presenting a souvenir to Federal Minister For Defence, Khawaja Muhammad Asif. – DNA

## 'Infrastructure to be rebuilt to withstand weather change'

ISLAMABAD: The world is experiencing the worst impact of climate change as Pakistan has minimal carbon footprint but among the most vulnerable countries affected by climate change that we need to proactively mitigate the risks and cannot afford to wait till full calamity hits the country. Minister for Planning and Development Professor Ahsan Iqbal said this while addressing via zoom link at the "National conference - Integrating climate smart agriculture and water, Energy and Food Nexus for Sustainable Development and Food Security under changing climate" conducted under the auspices of Dawood University of Engineering, Karachi. The Minister stated that the foremost challenge that climate change poses for the country is Food security. Pakistan as the fifth most populous country in the world and need to cater the food security of the 220 million people. The new pattern of weather calls for transition from the old

Agricultural methods for cultivation of crops and to employ modern and sustainable Agricultural mechanisms. "We need to re-engineer and rebuild our infrastructure that can withstand the future threats from weather change" he added. The Minister noted that Pakistan is endowed with natural water resources; However, the phenomena of melting glaciers is posing a serious threat to our water resources and weather conditions. Planners, engineers and scientists have to look at water resources through strategic lens to reserve more water and its efficient use in the hour when less rain would be expected. Pakistan is among countries that have lowest water use efficiency. We must adopt water conservation techniques, he remarked. Professor Iqbal further said that we have to crack the code in desalination technology and the moment an economical solution is implemented in desalination technology, the sea water can be utilized for production of food, high yield in agriculture and bring fertility in the deserts along the coastlines. He further stated that another challenge is contamination of ground water industry is polluting our drainage and same water is further being provided to farmlands contaminating food crops. It is a challenge how we re-treat our drainage water in all major cities. – APP

## PRCS marks World Humanitarian Day

Red Crescent Chairman Abrar ul Haq says that the day remind us about those who lost their precious lives for humanitarian cause

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Red Crescent Society in collaboration with Access English Micro scholarship project of RELO Pakistan marked the World Humanitarian Day celebration at its National Headquarters here today. Around 100 students under the Access English scholarship program attended the lectures and were briefed on the importance, objectives and history of World Humanitarian Day. PRCS officers gave a detailed presentation to participants on Red Crescent's countrywide humanitarian programs and initiatives. Students were sensitized on blood donation, First Aid skills to help people during disasters and emergencies. On this occasion, students registered themselves as volunteers with PRCS Youth

& Volunteer Department to join humanitarian activities. PRCS officers and staff also attended the ceremony. In his message on this occasion, PRCS Chairman Abrar ul Haq said that the day reminded us about those who

lost their precious lives for humanitarian cause and it is due to their sacrifices, the humanitarian workers without any problems are reaching to the vulnerable be it anywhere in the world. He said Pakistan Red Cres-

cent is committed to protect the humanity, providing relief and support to people through its humanitarian interventions. He said that COVID19 pandemic has drawn attention across the world to the vi-

tal role of key workers, especially those employed in healthcare sector. Despite the hardships and health risks, hundreds of thousands of frontline workers have continued to do their jobs during the COVID19

pandemic, even at the cost of their own lives and safety of their families. "We pay tribute to all the humanitarian workers across the world those have been overcoming unprecedented access hurdles to assist people in this crisis", he added. Abrar ul Haq said that PRCS is advocating and stressing on all forums to make secure the humanitarian work inviting efforts from governments, movement partners, health department and other stakeholders. World Humanitarian Day (WHD) is celebrated every year on 19 August. The day is recognized globally to pay tribute and homage to the brave hearts who leave no stone unturned to come forward and work towards a humanitarian cause. The theme for this year is "It takes a village to raise a child" aimed at showing the importance, effectiveness, and positive impact of humanitarian work.



## Fascist Modi wants IIOJK under Hindu rule: Mushaal

ISLAMABAD: The Chairperson of Peace and Culture Organization Mushaal Hussein Mullick on Friday said after stripping special status of the occupied valley, the fascist Indian government was now granting franchise to the Indian citizens in so-called assembly polls to bring the IIOJK under Hindu rule. In a strong worded-statement issued here on Friday, Mushaal said that the Hindutva regime hell-bent to give voting rights to Indian Hindus in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) under another sinister move against the Kashmiri people. She said that allowing Indians living in IIOJK to vote in polls was meant to further disempower the Kashmiris as BJP wanted to install fascist people in Jammu and Kashmir to advance the interests of the party. The hurrytaya leader went on to say that importing voters from India, notorious Narendra Modi wanted to bring Muslim-majority IIOJK under Hindu rule in brazen violations of UN resolutions. She said that installing Hindu Chief Minister in Muslim majority Jammu and Kashmir had been a long-held ambition of Hindutva forces, which she said would never be materialized. The chairperson sound alarmed that giving Indians living in the siege valley to vote in polls was part of series of measures started from August 5, 2019 to marginalize Kashmiris. "Redrawing electoral boundaries, giving more seats to Hindu-dominated Jammu and importing voters from India were intended to colonize Kashmir," she added. Mushaal further stated that Modi regime's ultimate aim was to efface Muslim identity and establish Hindu civilization in the region. She revealed that the Rashtriya Swyamsevak Sangh (RSS)-backed Indian government was violating all democratic values to bring Jammu and Kashmir under Hindu rule. She lamented that the people of Kashmir have been forced to live under a fascist BJP rule, that neither respected the lives of the Kashmiri people, nor their fundamental right to self-determination, adding that despite unprecedented human rights abuses, and instances of state torture, the international community remains largely impotent. – APP

## 1.6mln people avail Sehat Sahulat Programme

LAHORE: As many as 1.6 million people have availed the facility of free indoor treatment under Sehat Sahulat Programme in private and public hospitals so far. This was informed in a meeting, presided over by Punjab Health Secretary Imran Sikandar Baloch, held at the Specialized Healthcare Department, here on Friday. The participants in the meeting were apprised that the Punjab government had so far spent more than Rs 40 billion on the treatment of patients. As many as 607 private and 205 government hospitals among 812 hospitals are providing health facilities under the programme and 80,000 beds had been allocated for the purpose. As many as 1.278 million patients got treatment from January 1, 2022 to August 17, 2022 whereas the amount of Rs 26.86 billion was spent during this period on provision of indoor healthcare treatment facility. Under the Sehat Sahulat Programme, dialysis, gynaecology, cataract, cancer, cardiology, hernia, accidents and other medical facilities are being provided. Chief Executive Officer Punjab Health Initiative Management Company (PHIMC) Dr Ali Razaq presented details of expenditures spent on the patients under the programme. The PHIMC was directed to evolve a comprehensive strategy to increase revenue of the public hospitals. – APP

## Kazakh Ambassador meets Chairman Pak Academy of Letters

ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Kazakhstan Yerzhan Kistafin met with Dr. Yousuf Khushk, Chairman Pakistan Academy of Letters (PAL) here on Friday to discuss matters of mutual interest and cooperation in the fields of literature and culture between the two countries. Chairman PAL, Dr. Yousuf Khushk informed the honorable Ambassador of Kazakhstan about the Diamond Jubilee celebrations of Pakistan and the publication of related books and other literary translations and important projects under the PAL. Ambassador of Kazakhstan, Yerzhan Kistafin appreciated the performance of the PAL under the leadership of Dr. Yousuf Khushk and expressed hope that there would be further improvement in the field of literature between the two countries. He emphasized the need for literary translations in both countries. Ambassador of Kazakhstan visited various sections of PAL. He visited the "Academy Studio" and the "Hall of Fame" and took a deep interest in them. Dr. Yousuf Khushk informed the Honorable Ambassador about the photos and brief introductions of famous writers and poets of Pakistani languages and national language in the Hall of Fame. At the end of the meeting, Dr. Yousuf Khushk presented a set of publications of the PAL to the Honorable Ambassador of Kazakhstan Mr. Yerzhan Kistafin. – APP

## Control Room in Islamabad to monitor Karachi by polls

ISLAMABAD: A control room has been established at Islamabad to monitor and register complaints related to Sunday (August 21), by-elections for the National Assembly seat (NA-245) of Karachi. A spokesman of Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) said in a statement that the control room would continue working till receipt of last result. The polling related complaints could be lodged round the clock on telephone no 051-9204402; 051-9204403; 051-9210837 and 051-9210838. The complaints could also be faxed to the control

Room on 051-9204404. He said Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Sikandar Raja Sultan contacted Sindh, Chief Secretary, Inspector General of Police (IGP) and other senior officials of the concerned agencies on telephone and asked them to ensure implementation of election code of conduct to enable the voters to use their right to franchise in impartial environment. CEC directed District Police Officer (DPO), District Returning Officer (DRO), Returning Officer (RO) and District Monitoring Officer (DMOs) to

promptly inform law enforcement agencies about any attempt by miscreants to spoil the election environment. Spokesman said Pakistan Army would perform 'Quick Reaction Force' (QRF) duties in case of any law and order situation arising during NA-245 by-poll. This time the number of QRF as well as police personnel has been increased to a considerable extent to prevent any untoward incident immediately. Rangers would perform static duties at most sensitive polling stations along with police, he concluded. – APP





## US-China Joint Communique

Wednesday marked the 40th anniversary of the United States-China Joint Communique on United States Arms Sales to Taiwan, in which the US promised to gradually reduce its arms sales to the island on the basis of its sales worth \$192 million in 1979. However malleable the document, which is also known as the August 17 Communique, might be in the eyes of Washington as far as its rhetoric is concerned, what cannot be denied is the promise the US made to gradually reduce its arms sales to the island in order to maintain sound bilateral relations between the two countries. With its Taiwan Relations Act and the Six Assurances, the US has always used Taiwan as a pawn in its strategy to contain the rise of China. This has become particularly so when China's rapid development has made it the world's second-largest economy.

At the same time, the Democratic Progressive Party authorities on the island have proved to be willing and indiscriminate buyers of the US' previous generation arms, which has made it a convenient and lucrative dumping ground for the US' no-longer wanted weaponry. Washington pays no heed to the fact that its arms sales have emboldened secessionists on the island, whose maneuvers aimed at securing the island's de facto "independence" have intensified the tensions across the Taiwan Straits. Shutting its eyes to the promise it made in the August 17 Communique, the US has placed its interest and strategic goal of containing the rise of China before honoring its pledge. The US has shown no qualms about betraying the fact that the law of the jungle is still the principle it abides by when it comes to geopolitical games despite the banner of human rights and freedom it always wields when it interferes in the internal affairs of other countries. China has made clear that it considers the US' arms sales to Taiwan to be a major barrier to the development of China-US relations. The US' continued arms sales to the island will only further damage its ties with China. The US will definitely stumble in pursuing its interest if it does not abide by the norms of international relations and honor its promises. The US should mend its way and act responsibly in the interests of world peace and development.

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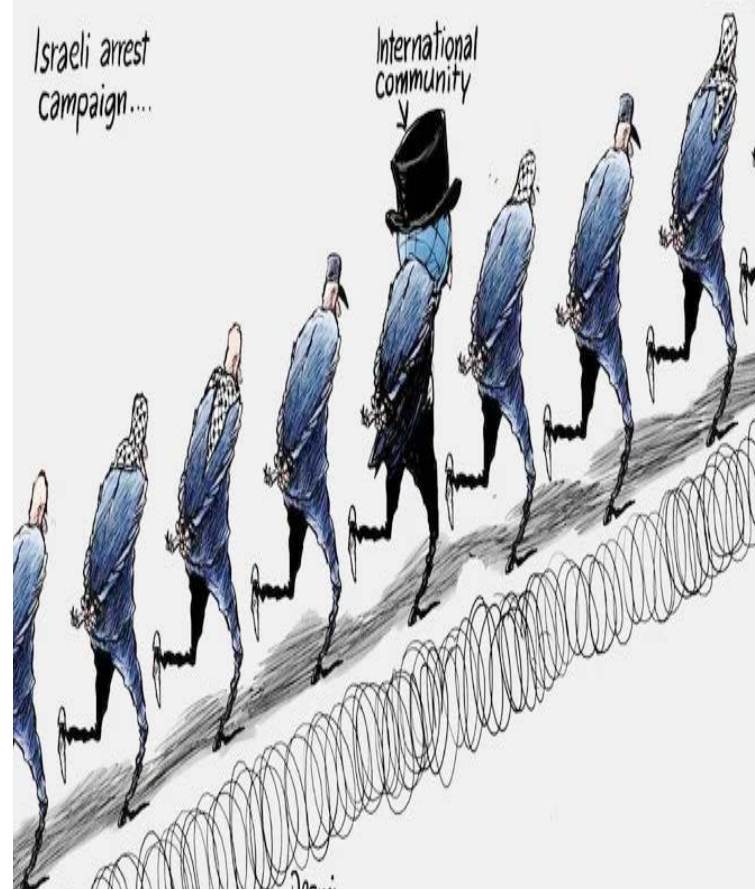
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## Looming dengue outbreak

While the threat of Covid-19 has temporarily dwindled, Pakistan continues to face a host of dangerous diseases that resurge annually and adversely affect the health of citizens. In this regard, health officials in Rawalpindi were baffled to detect large number of dengue mosquito larvae at 16,000 different locations – 15,601 houses and 1,000 other localities – during indoor and outdoor surveillance campaigns. This is indeed an alarming revelation which could lead to a deadly outbreak in the near future. It is believed that these dengue larvae have been breeding on a large scale during the ongoing monsoon season that saw many places inundated with water. Where there is stagnant water, dengue mosquitoes are bound to increase in number and become a health threat. The district has been carrying out anti-dengue campaigns but unfortunately implementation has been lacking as 99 locations were left out and fake activities were recorded in 377 locations. Officials have taken timely action by registering FIRs, sealing buildings, issuing challans and enforcing dengue SOPs but a systematic action plan must be carried out to destroy breeding grounds before these larvae mature. The ordeal also indicates the importance of draining rainwater in a timely manner. But with many provinces across Pakistan witnessing unprecedented levels of rain, dengue could very well escalate into a national health crisis. This merits attention from the very top.

Surveillance campaigns must be carried out across flood affected areas to identify and destroy breeding grounds. Urban cities must issue dengue SOPs and work towards draining the remaining water left in affected localities. Abandoned buildings along with ponds, pools and other bodies of water in recreational spaces must not be left unchecked. But most importantly, the healthcare sector must be notified and well-equipped to deal with any outbreak.

## When nations vanish

Dr. Abdus Sattar Abbasi

Historically Muslim societies promoted inclusion and diversity in the society. The second Caliph of Islam was martyred as a result of assault by his ex-servant who wasn't a Muslim. Once the second Caliph of Islam, who ruled almost half of the planet, tried to convince this servant to embrace Islam but on his refusal the second Caliph abandoned to pursue while saying, "There is no compulsion in religion"

Nations vanish when they obstruct diversity of thoughts and ideas in their lands. Decline becomes their destiny when they try the dominance of single thought or philosophy, the viewpoint of the majority, for the existence in their society. It is even harmful in present times when humanity learned the power of inclusion and diversity. The learning and insight which comes from the participation of all segments of the society has been considered as invaluable for the progress and the development of any group, organization and a society. This aspect helped modern civilizations to eliminate divisions based on race, ethnicities, religions or any philosophical foundation. We learned that

appropriate for the largest democracy to curb autonomy of universities, a hallmark of modern-day institutions of higher learning. According to Dr. Michael Crow the President of Arizona State University, "Universities are unique kinds of global institutions. Universities are institutions intended to be durable and enduring. When wisely designed, governed and financed, they are unique entities in a democracy and in our global society. Universities are neutral conveners, assemblers of talent, and unmatched idea factories where the passion, creativity, and idealism of great minds, young and old alike, can be applied to problem-solving and advancing our societal and economic well-being. Con-

considering and accommodating viewpoints of others is more productive than inhibiting thoughts to proliferate at critical times, engagement is fruitful than confrontation to understand each other instead of marginalizing people to provide space for undesirable outcomes. Historically Muslim societies promoted inclusion and diversity in the society. The second Caliph of Islam was martyred as a result of assault by his ex-servant who wasn't a Muslim. Once the second Caliph of Islam, who ruled almost half of the planet, tried to convince this servant to embrace Islam but on his refusal the second Caliph abandoned to pursue while saying, "There is no compulsion in religion".

Recent campaign in India against Islamic scholar Abu al 'Ala Maududi suggests suffocation and narrow-mindedness of Indian society. This decay is a result of hatred and extremism promoted by the current ruling regime in India. It is inappropriate for the largest democracy to curb autonomy of universities, a hallmark of modern-day institutions of higher learning. According to Dr. Michael Crow the President of Arizona State University, "Universities are unique kinds of global institutions. Universities are institutions intended to be durable and enduring. When wisely designed, governed and financed, they are unique entities in a democracy and in our global society. Universities are neutral conveners, assemblers of talent, and unmatched idea factories where the passion, creativity, and idealism of great minds, young and old alike, can be applied to problem-solving and advancing our societal and economic well-being. Con-

temporary universities have a responsibility to transcend traditional disciplinary limitations in pursuit of intellectual fusion, and develop a culture of academic enterprise." George M. Sammy argued, "Institutions of higher education were all born of a search for truth and thus knowledge. In its earliest relationship, the search for and testing of ideas and theories gave rise to research. The frontiers of knowledge were pushed back, and theorizing sought the aid of experimentation as a means of proof. At the university we will not find unitary or one-way tendencies but rather multiple and cross-dimensional tendencies. Here we are dealing with divergent and conflicting tendencies in a more or less creative or fruitful tension. The frontiers of knowledge were pushed back, and theorizing sought the aid of experimentation as a means of proof. At the university we will not find unitary or one-way tendencies but rather multiple and cross-dimensional tendencies. Here we are dealing with divergent and conflicting tendencies in a more or less creative or fruitful tension. It is this fearless and ceaseless seeking and testing without let or hindrance that has given the university its special characteristics, and thus its influence in the world today." China has emerged as global power in recent times. When I decided to present a paper on Islamic finance during my visit to China to attend 'The First Belt and Road International Finance Symposium' at HeBei Normal University (HNU) on October 27-31, 2019 most of my colleagues were of the view that probably it will not be acceptable for the organizers to listen to the Islamic finance. But eventually it was a pleasant surprise for entire delegation to notice extensive interest among participants of the conference to know about Islamic banking and finance. Academics from different universities and officials from public offices took special interest, asked relevant questions and looked into the possibilities to assimilate Islamic banking and finance into their financial organizations. China also quickly adapted to the modern capitalistic approaches thus reaping benefits of modifications in their economic policies. Their hybrid approach to the democracy

and the economy is an excellent example of accommodating and learning from the diversity of thoughts, philosophies, approaches and the brains from different parts of the globe. I got the opportunity to attend a seminar in the University of Punjab on August 08, 2022 deliberating this emerging challenge for universities in India. It was indeed a surprise for most of the participants that how universities can be dictated to ban any scholar or any school of thought from scholarly analyses. Some leading academicians, development sector professionals, public sector representatives and seasoned journalists were present in the program. It was a consensus that these kinds of restrictions will certainly blemish Indian higher education institutions (HEIs) in particular and set a wrong tradition for HEIs around the globe. It is the time for groomed, learned and liberal segments of the Indian society to campaign against such measures of strangling specific schools of thoughts to be taught in universities where student, teachers and researchers can critically evaluate, analyse, qualify, refute, reject or accept theories and ideas on the basis of academic discourses. Otherwise these discussions and reflections will find room in the streets and cafes of the society leading to repercussions which may not be subject to any discipline and control. It is equally a responsibility of universities to resist such drives throttling their independence and autonomy. Universities in India have to fight strong to maintain their academic liberty and integrity to uphold globally recognized scholastic culture of institutions of higher learning.

We hope sanity prevails in policy making circles of India and universities remain on their freedom to develop their curriculum according to intellectual and communal needs of their surrounding environment.

## From the diary-pages of Rashid Minhas Shaheed

Asma Ishaq

During his training at the PAF Academy Risalpur, he appeared as the great debater. It was observed that when Rashid began speaking for any declamation competition, he had left everyone enthralled sitting in the audience. Nonetheless, Rashid established the true leadership qualities, an amazing mediator, a highly focused young boy as well determined for the set goals. Yet! Above all, he was an awesomely humble soul. He never showed even the slightest of contempt and arrogance towards anyone

This line goes true about our one young pilot officer: Rashid Minhas Shaheed who happens to be the youngest and only PAF officer becoming recipient of the Highest Military Award-Nishan-e-Haider. Born on 17 February, 1951 in Karachi, this flying officer had got every

slightest of contempt and arrogance towards anyone. He was a happy-go-young man who made all the people smiling around him. Other than all these personality traits of Rashid Minhas Shaheed, there was one strong habit of writing diary

entries on daily basis. There, on those pages, one can find the real Rashid Minhas who was a true dream-chaser and who had set goal beyond the sky. His diary was replenished with his sincere thoughts for the family, his unwavering love for Motherland, and unfathomable yearning for embracing the martyrdom. Rashid used to write his diary entries with mentioning date and time properly. On one page, he wrote his heart out for the martyrdom, "Death or Victory! We all have to die one day. Man is mortal. Then why not to die for the country? Isn't so easy?"

It was mentioned above that Rashid was a deep-thinker. Now, read these lines from his one letter about the life and its truth. One will concede to his philosophical approach about the life, "Man wants to know the Truth, the truth about himself, about the world, about everything. This is what they call the eternal quest for truth or truth through knowledge. Of-course religion gives it all to you in a concise form but it does not stop you from finding out for yourself and strengthening your belief. That is how it must be with you. So, you must find out the Truth yourself. Satisfy your self. The books just give you the thing how it happens. People can just advise you. How? and Why? You must answer it yourself. Think it out!"

One page of his diary shares one beautiful two-quatrains poem about the life and its purpose for upcoming generations, It expresses like, This world is but a stopping place, And life but a short span, So why not through time-race, And accomplish whatever we can, So that generations to come, Will remember us as great ones!

We cannot but forever live,  
And we have to die for once,

So why not to our country give,  
The life which we can easily can!

Rashid Minhas was so convinced and hopeful for the determination to inspire the later generations with his thoughts, spirits and sacrifice. I come as one of those who has learnt many things from him. From my school days, I was fond of reading articles and excerpt of his diary-pages published for the Defence Day edition in different kids' magazines. Moreover, my late-father was a great admirer of all the martyrs from the Armed Forces. It was him who had instilled this love for Armed Forces in me. I remember still, he had taken me to one stationary shop and bought two posters to me: one was of Major Aziz Bhatti Shaheed and other was Rashid Minhas Shaheed. I had put up both posters on my wardrobe so lovingly. Seeing them daily had been an energizing factor throughout my student life.

Human carries light within and one sees the self, life, world and entire universe through its prism. This light has been given and is guided by the Divine Himself. Blessed are those who get succeeded to see this light. And more blessed are those who transfers this light to the fellow humans. There, the person is called the benevolent. Rashid Minhas has been one such most fortunate in this regard. The light in him has been guiding many hundred souls. Such a short-lived life yet he had become a great source of motivation not only for the aspiring young flying officers but also for many young kids in the country. He has definitely personified the line of one famous PAF song sung by Vital Signs, "Zindagi ka mazayunjeenay main hai, kalb-hizindarahain, aesy hum jiyay."

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