



Islamabad POST

Friday, August 26, 2022

Pakistan's Credible Daily Newspaper

Price Rs. 20

King Salman orders \$1 billion investment in Pakistan

Detailed News On Page-01

Pakistan-Iran can enhance trade ties

Detailed News On Page-08

'Come out of your office', Abid tells Miftah

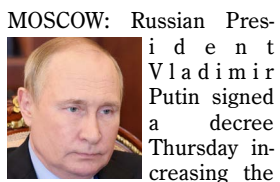
Detailed News On Page-02



Briefs

Putin orders increase in Army troops

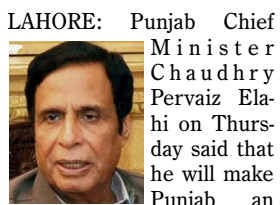
AGENCIES



MOSCOW: Russian President Vladimir Putin signed a decree Thursday increasing the size of his country's armed forces by 137,000, as the Kremlin's war in Ukraine passed the six-month mark. Putin's decree will increase the number of combat personnel in the Russian armed forces by about 10%, to 1.15 million. That will take the total head count of the military to 2.04 million. A copy of the order on a Russian government website says it comes into effect Jan. 1, 2023. It was published online and reported on by Russian state media, but no reason for the boost in troop numbers was immediately given.

Elahi vows to make Punjab 'ideal province'

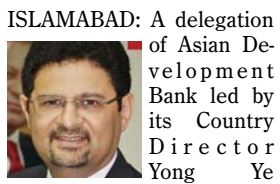
ABID RAZA



LAHORE: Punjab Chief Minister Pervaiz Elahi on Thursday said that he will make Punjab an ideal province according to Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) supremo Imran Khan's vision. Taking to Twitter, the Punjab CM penned that "Imran Khan is the most popular leader in Pakistan. He will continue to support him and we believe in tolerance and respect in politics."

Miftah lauds ADB's help in development

DNA



ISLAMABAD: A delegation of Asian Development Bank led by its Country Director Yong Ye called on Minister for Finance Miftah Ismail in Islamabad on Thursday. The delegation briefed the Finance Minister about various aspects of a special program titled 'Building Resilience with Active Countercyclical Expenditures' and other initiatives undertaken to mitigate the sufferings of the people affected by floods in Pakistan.

FM Bilawal lauds initiative

King Salman orders \$1 bn investment in Pakistan

Saudi Arabian press report says its confirmation of the Kingdom's support for Pakistan and its people

NEWS DESK / DNA

RIYADH: King Salman has issued a directive to invest \$1 billion dollars into Pakistan, in confirmation of the Kingdom's support for the country and its people, Saudi Press Agency reported on Thursday. The directive came during a telephone call between Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Faisal bin Farhan and his Pakistani counterpart Bilawal Bhutto Zardari. Regional and international issues of common interest were also discussed during the call. Bhutto Zardari said on Twitter that he welcomed the investment in Pakistan and briefed his counterpart "on damages caused by unprecedented floods" in his country. He added that he highly valued the solidarity expressed by Saudi Arabia and "all possible assistance" provided by the Kingdom. It should be remembered that on Wednesday, Qatar had announced an investment of \$3 billion in Pakistan. Earlier this month, citing sources it was reported that Saudi Arabia has decided to extend the period of its \$3 billion safe deposit in assistance to Pakistan. According to sources in the finance ministry, the Kingdom

Continued on Page 06

PM hails Pak-Qatar economic cooperation

DNA

DOHA: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif said on Thursday that Pakistan and Qatar have a clear vision of the future, with new opportunities and greater awareness to upgrade bilateral relations, particularly on the economic front. "Heading back to Pakistan today after the conclusion of my important trip to Qatar. Thank you to the government & people of Qatar, especially my brother HH Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani for the warm welcome and excellent hospitality," the PM said in a tweet. Speaking of the two "noteworthy" aspects of his visit in another tweet, the premier stated that "Pakistan and Qatar have a clear vision of the future which offered new opportunities and avenues in a swiftly changing world". He added that "there

Continued on Page 06

COAS instructs army to help flood-affectedes

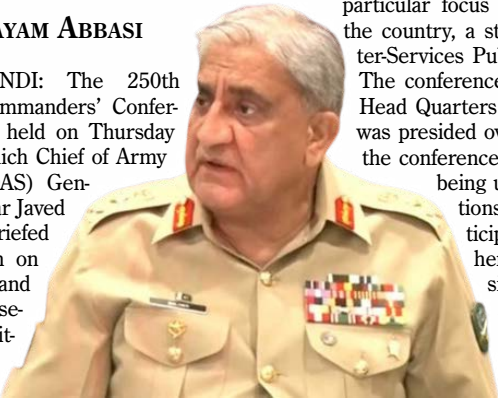
Corps Commanders discuss ongoing relief operations

KHAYAM ABBASI

RAWALPINDI: The 250th Corps Commanders' Conference was held on Thursday during which Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Qamar Javed Bajwa briefed the forum on external and internal security situations with

particular focus on the flood situation in the country, a statement issued by the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) said. The conference was held at the General Headquarters (GHQ) in Rawalpindi and was presided over by Gen Bajwa. During the conference, ongoing relief operations being undertaken by army formations were discussed. The participants undertook a comprehensive overview of the flood situation and ongoing relief and rescue operations by the army. Expressing

Continued on Page 06



DOHA: Transport Minister of Qatar Jasim Saif Al Sulaiti sees off Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif at Doha Airport. - DNA

Kyiv: 25 dead after strike on station

More than 50 were injured in the blasts

FOREIGN DESK

KYIV: The death toll has risen after an Independence Day attack on a train station in east Ukraine. Elsewhere, \$1 billion of goods are still being shipped from Russia to the US each month despite sanctions. Follow DW for more. As Ukraine marked its 31st Independence Day from the former Soviet Union under heavy Russian shelling, a missile attack on a rail station killed 25 people, setting a passenger train on fire. Missiles also struck north of Kyiv, the capital. Ukraine's Independence Day also coincided with the six-month anniversary of Russia's full-scale invasion. In video remarks to the UN Security Council, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said rockets hit a train in the small town of Chaplyne, roughly 145 kilometers (90 miles) west of Russian-occupied Donetsk in the central Dnipropetrovsk region. His aide Kyrylo Tymoshenko later said Chaplyne had been shelled twice by Russian forces. In the first missile strike, a boy was struck dead in his home and 21 people were later killed as rockets hit the train station where five train cars caught fire. Five of the dead were recovered from one of the railway cars, while search and rescue operations were still taking place, Zelenskyy said in his nightly address. Authorities raised the casualty count by morning as more of the dead were recovered from the blasts' locations.

ATC grants bail to Khan till September 1

Khan also gets interim bail in another case related to Section 144

SHUJAT HAMZA

ISLAMABAD: An anti-terrorism court on Thursday approved the bail plea of former prime minister Imran Khan till September 1 in a terrorism case. The Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chairman was nominated in a terrorism case by the incumbent government for hurling threats at a lower court's female judge, Islamabad police chief and his deputies during a jalsa. Meanwhile, a district and sessions court in Islamabad also granted interim bail to PTI Chairman Imran Khan in another case related to the alleged violation of Section 144 in the federal capital. The Islamabad Police had filed the case against the former prime minister and other PTI leaders for holding a rally in the federal capital on August 20 despite a ban. It is pertinent to note that Interior Minister Rana Sanaullah had made it clear that Imran

Continued on Page 06

Terrorism case registered against Rana Sanaullah

DNA

GUJRAT: The police on Thursday registered a case against Interior Minister Rana Sanaullah on the charges of terrorism and interference in government matters. The case was filed by a citizen in the Industrial Area Police Station of Gujrat. According to the first information report (FIR), the interior minister threatened the government officials to kill their children and said that Pakistan's court and its judiciary will not help them. The FIR

Continued on Page 06

Taliban say they've not found body of Zawahiri

NEWS DESK

KABUL: The Taliban have not found the body of Ayman al-Zawahiri and are continuing investigations, group spokesperson Zabihullah Mujahid said on Thursday, after the United States said they killed the Al Qaeda leader in an airstrike in Kabul last month. The United States killed Zawahiri with a missile fired from a drone while he stood on a balcony at his hideout in July, US officials said, in the biggest blow to Al Qae-

da since US Navy SEALs shot dead Osama bin Laden more than a decade ago. His death in Kabul raised questions about whether he received sanctuary from the Taliban, who had assured the United States as part of a 2020 agreement on the withdrawal of US-led forces that they would not harbour other militant groups. Zawahiri, an Egyptian doctor, was closely involved in the September 11, 2001 attacks on the US and was one of the world's most wanted men.

Continued on Page 06

Inside...

Collective approach prerequisite against drug addiction - Page 02

Pakistan going through climate-induced disaster - Page 03

President for innovation in agri and industrial sectors - Page 04

Floods wreak havoc in Pakistan - Page 05

PM Shehbaz lifts ban on departmental sports - Page 06

Turkiye to continue with anti-terror operations - Page 07

Taliban implementing own doctrine of Islam - Page 08

Int'l organizations announce \$500m for flood affectees

The PM also cancels London visit due to worsening flood situation

SAIF ULLAH

ISLAMABAD: The international organizations and financial institutions on Thursday announced immediate assistance of more than 500 million dollars for the flood victims on the appeal of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif. The PM chaired an important meeting with the international donors here for providing relief to the flood victims. The representatives of the World Bank, Asian Development Bank, international financial institutions, development partners, and donors attended the meeting. The officials of China, the United States and the European Union, agencies of the United Nations and the World Health Organization also took part in the meeting. The Prime Minister briefed the international partners about the devastation caused by floods in the country, particularly in Sindh and Balochistan. He said the country faced an emergency situation because of the historic rains and floods and a large number of people

Mariyum Aurangzeb for showing national spirit

ISLAMABAD: Terming the ongoing flood situation as a national emergency, Minister for Information and Broadcasting Mariyum Aurangzeb on Thursday said that at this critical juncture, there was need of showing national spirit to deal with the situation of extraordinary disaster in Sindh and Balochistan. The entire nation, especially overseas Pakistanis, should donate generously to help the flood victims as huge amount of money will be required for rehabilitation of the victims due to the large-scale disaster, she said. The federal government, along with the provinces, was making vigorous efforts, all resources were

being mobilized, she said. The minister said owing to heavy rains and severe flooding, there were difficulties in relief operations. She said that rescue and relief process of the victims could be accelerated with the help of the public. The minister said that the details and process for depositing donations in the Prime Minister Flood Relief Account 2022 have already been released. Local and overseas Pakistanis donations could be deposited in the account (Prime Minister Relief Fund Account 2022 Account No. 'G-12164'). "Compatriots in trouble were waiting for our help, let us all be a support for them".



away and land routes were cut off which made it difficult to carry out rescue and relief activities. The relief activities were expanded with the help of the Pakistan army and helicopters, he informed. The devastation caused by floods was more

grave than what happened in 2010, he said adding the affectees needed food, medicines, tents, and temporary shelters. He said the federal government

Continued on Page 06

Afridi appointed 'Brand Ambassador'

ISLAMABAD: AAA Associates, one of Pakistan's most leading and prominent companies has announced that it has signed Shahid Khan Afridi, one of Pakistan's most prolific cricketers from the former national team, as its brand ambassador.

According to Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) Shahid Khan Afridi will be the exclusive brand ambassador of AAA Associates' Grand project AAA Octa Karachi in the sought-after location in Bahria Town Karachi. Shahid Afridi popularly known as "Boom Boom" or "Lala", because of his explosive batting style and magical spinner, is a former Pakistani cricketer. He is the youngest cricketer holding the fastest century in just 37 balls. - APP

AIOU to help flood victims

IRSHAD ALI

ISLAMABAD: A special meeting of General Body of the Academic Staff Association (ASA) of Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU) was held the other day. The meeting was presided over by the President, ASA, Prof. Dr. Moinuddin Hashmi. The body unanimously decided to provide financial assistance, tents, and basic medical facilities to victims in flooded areas. According to President ASA, Prof. Dr. Moinuddin Hashmi, 1.7 million rupees have been collected so far, from which 8 lac rupees are donated from the fund of the ASA and we are aiming to collect 2 million rupees at least. Two separate committees have been set up to identify and distribute aid. Furthermore, AIOU's Employees Welfare Association (EWA) and Officers Welfare Association (OWA) are also collecting donations to help the flood victims.

Rawalpindi's Corona tally reaches 47,539 cases

RAWALPINDI: Seven more corona cases had been reported during the last 24 hours, raising the district's tally of confirmed cases to 47,539. According to the District Health Authority data on Thursday, the total infected cases included 43,932 from Rawalpindi and 3,607 from other districts. Among the new cases, three arrived from Rawalpindi Cantonment, two from Potohar Town and one from Rawal Town and Gujjar Khan. - APP

Pakistan going through climate-induced disaster

The Met Office statistics were startling, she said, adding the flash floods caused by massive rains had swept away bridges and communication infrastructure in various areas of the provinces

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Climate Change Senator Sherry Rehman on Thursday referring to the havoc wreaked by ongoing unprecedented monsoon rains, said Pakistan was going through a climate-induced humanitarian disaster at the moment. The media should play an effective role in highlighting the plight of flood victims, rescue and relief efforts, and damages to life and property so that the stakeholders could manage a well-coordinated response with the public support, she told a press conference. Sherry said the country had so far received average 166 millimeters rainfall during the month of August, which was 241% above normal, whereas its southern parts particularly Sindh, got 784% more than normal average rain of the season which was alarming. The Met Office statistics were startling, she said, adding the flash floods caused by massive rains had swept away bridges and communication infrastructure in various areas of the provinces. The current deluge in the Indus River was even more than the super flood of 2010, Sherry remarked. The minister said a national emergency had been declared in the country as Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Foreign Minister Bilawal had



postponed their official visits abroad. "We are in the eighth spell of monsoon rains with southern Pakistan receiving heavy rains, including 23 districts of Sindh declared as calamity-hit." She said as half of the country in the south was inundated, the armed forces and National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA)

along with provincial governments were actively engaged in rescue and relief activities. "Almost 30 million people are without shelter, thousands of them displaced and have no food. As needs assessment is underway and will be completed soon, which will help in approaching donor agencies for relief and rescue as the crisis has surpassed

the capacity of the government." She reiterated that it was not possible for a government or a province to solely handle such massive flooding and heavy rains. "The Prime Minister's Relief Fund account is active to accept donations for disaster-hit masses whereas tents have been ordered by the NDMA and PDMAs (Provincial Disaster Management Authorities). The prime minister has also opened a war room at the NDMA to spearhead and monitor rescue and relief efforts." The minister underlined that there was forecast of extended monsoon activity in September, which was again alarming one. She said the Sukkur and Taunsa barrages had high water flow and all available machinery and other resources were being utilized in the affected region. At present all the departments were focused on flood-hit areas to cope with any evolving situation. Sherry said some 913 people had perished in rain-related incidents, with more number of deaths of the children in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. However, the number of the injured was also reported high, she added. She said it was now time for donors and the world to support Pakistan, which had always volunteered to assist nations, including its neighbours during natural disasters. - APP

Exhibition being held to enhance Pak-Iran trade

ISLAMABAD: A three-day long exhibition to enhance cooperation for mutual trade and investment between Iran and Pakistan being held here in Islamabad will conclude tomorrow. "Pakistan-Iran Trade Exhibition", organized under the auspices of the Embassy of Iran in Islamabad with the support of Iran National Innovation Fund and Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare Iran, began on August 24 at Pak-China Friendship Centre. The Iranian business groups worth \$ 800 million including traders and 33 companies arrived in Pakistan from Iran to participate in the 'Pak-Iran Trade Exhibition'. These companies and business groups are related to various commercial sectors. Around 33 Iranian companies including 22 traditional businesses and 11 knowledge based companies specializing in science and technology and innovation, telecoms, dairy and food industry, kitchen wares, carpet, iron industry and textile industry, participated in the exhibition. The owners of Iranian companies participating in the exhibition were of the view that the 'Pakistan-Iran Trade Exhibition' would

help in bringing the business community of both countries closer and promoting mutual investment. They said that Pakistan and Iran both were located at geo-strategic positions and this could facilitate the development of regional trade and the achievement of geo-economic goals by the countries of the region. Talking to APP, Mohsen Berekatin, Managing Director of Mongolia Flavor and Fragrance, a knowledge based business group from Iran, said that "Our company is working on new tastes and flavors in food." He said that his company was worth \$ 300 million dollar, which was considered the largest company in the Middle East working in this sector. He said that their company was introducing new innovations and techniques in this sector. The organizer of the exhibition, Chairman and Board CEO of Milad-E-Noor Group, Ali Mohtasham Amiri said that the purpose of this trade exhibition was to bring the business community of the two countries closer and increase opportunities for mutual trade. He said that the exhibition offered an opportunity to develop communication and coordination between the businessmen of the two countries. Speaking on the occasion, Ambassador of Iran to Pakistan, Seyed Mohammad Ali Hossein said that it was important for the business communities of both countries to come closer to promote mutual trade between Iran and Pakistan. The Ambassador said that the purpose of the Pakistan-Iran trade exhibition was to increase cooperation in the fields of trade, industry and investment in both countries. Ambassador Mohammad Ali Hosseini said that recently Pakistan Iran Joint Economic Commission (JEC) talks were held in Pakistan and Iran to promote mutual trade between the two countries. Its aim was to increase the volume of trade between the two countries. He said that after these negotiations, agreements were also signed between the two countries in four different fields. Iran's Minister for Corporate, Labor and Social Welfare Mehdi Maskani said that this was the first event held after the Pakistan Iran Joint Economic Commission (JEC) meeting. - APP

NA body asks to ensure vehicles on control prices

PAF's relief operations continue in flood-hit areas

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Air Force (PAF) was actively participating in rescue and relief operations in flood affected areas of Balochistan, Sindh and South Punjab. During the operations, 12,375 pounds of relief goods have been distributed amongst the flood affectees who have been badly hit by recent torrential rains spell and flash floods, a PAF news release said. The PAF emergency response teams were continuously busy in evacuating flood victims to safe areas. Additionally, in the last 24 hours 346 patients have been attended by teams of PAF doctors and para-medical staff at the field hospitals established by Pakistan Air Force. Despite inclement weather conditions throughout the country especially in the flood stricken areas, PAF personnel were working hard to provide humanitarian assistance to flood affectees. - APP

NA body asks to ensure vehicles on control prices

ISLAMABAD: National Assembly, Standing Committee on Industries and Production on Thursday asked for taking measures to ensure the timely availability of vehicles on controlled prices. The committee directed that ministry may take stringent measures to stop the monopoly of Manufacturing Companies and middlemen to eliminate the extra payment of "Own" in order to ensure the timely availability of vehicles on controlled prices. The committee met under the chairmanship of Syed Ghulam Mustafa Shah, MNA to discuss the various issues pertaining to ministry and its attached departments, said a press release issued here. The committee also expressed concern over the price hike of vehicles in Pakistan despite the fact that dollar rate had been decreased incredibly during the recent past. The committee warmly welcomed the newly elected chairman, Syed Ghulam Mustafa Shah, and assured to extend full cooperation for smooth functioning of the committee. The committee expressed grave concern over the theft of valuable items of Rs. 10 Billions (aprx) from Pakistan Steel Mills (PSM) and directed that ministry may pursue the case effectively and develop proper liaison with Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) for early completion of Inquiry Report so that culprits could be penalized accordingly. The committee also decided to discuss the privatization of Pakistan Steel Mills with Privatization Commission in its next meeting. The committee also expressed concern over the shortage of "Urea" in the country despite the fact the Urea were not being used in the country due to heavy floods across the country. The committee therefore, directed that Ministry may ensure the availability of Urea on affordable prices and also take concrete measures to stop its smuggling across the borders as its prices are higher in international markets. Earlier, Federal Minister and Secretary for Industries and Production briefly apprised the committee about the efforts made by them to provide subsidy to farmers on harvesting equipments and to control the prices of vehicles in Pakistan. They informed that PM would announce a special subsidy package for farmers soon which would help the growers to increase per acre yield and would help to enhance the economy of the country as well. - APP

IESCO officials urged to take part in flood relief work

DNA

ISLAMABAD: In the light of the instructions of the Government of Pakistan and the Ministry of Energy (Power Division), orders have been issued by the IESCO management to all field offices to provide relief to IESCO customers in terms of fuel price adjustment. According to the details, those consumers with domestic tariff (single phase) whose units used every month for the last 6 months are 200 or less than 200 have been given a relief of Rs. 6 rupees per units in the fuel price adjustment in the bill of August 2022. Apart from this, those consumers with domestic tariff (single phase) who have used more than 200 units in any one month for the last 6 months but have used 200 units or less in the month of June will be given full relief in terms of fuel price adjustment in electricity bill of August 2022. All private agricultural consumers have also been given relief under FPA in the electricity bill of August 2022. IESCO Chief Dr. Muhammad Amjad Khan has said that consumers who meet the above conditions can corrected their electricity bills from the concerned SDO/Revenue Office or Customer Services Center of IESCO.

گزشتہ 30 سالہ تاریخ کے بدترین سیلاب کے متاثرین آپ کی امداد کے منتظر ہیں

وزیراعظم فلڈ ریلیف فنڈ

میں دل کھول کر عطیات دیں اکاؤنٹ نمبر G-12164

بیرون ملک سے

- منی ٹرانسفر آہٹ
- منی ٹرانسفر
- منی ایکسچینج ہاؤسز

اندرون ملک سے

- کسی بھی بینک میں
- پی آر ڈی / ایم اے ڈی ڈرافٹ
- انٹرنیٹ / موبائل بینکنگ، ڈرافٹ پاس

مخیر حضرات اپنی مدد دآب کے تحت سیلاب متاثرین کو درج ذیل اشیائے ضروریہ کی فوری فراہمی میں بھی بڑھ چڑھ کر حصہ لیں

اشیائے خورد و نوش، شیلڈز، سلسا کے کپڑے، جوتے، ہاتھیچین پراکٹس، اوبیات اور موٹھیوں کیلئے چارہ و اوبیات

یہ سوچنے کا نہیں فوری مدد کا وقت ہے

National Days and Armed Forces Days

AUGUST

Aug 01/ CHINA
Armed Forces Day

Aug 01/ SWITZERLAND
National Day

Aug 01/ LEBANON
Armed Forces Day

Aug 01/ SYRIA
Armed Forces Day

Aug 4/ BUKINO FASO
National Day

Aug 09/ SINGAPORE
National Day

Aug 15/ DPR KOREA
Independence Day

Aug 15/ INDIA
Independence Day

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

Emergency

Rescue (Police).....15

Bomb Disposal.....15

Fire Services Rawalpindi/ Islamabad.....1122 & 16

Emergency Ambulance.1122 & Rescue Services.4451122

Motorway Police.....9266044

Motorway Police.....9270601-20

Women Police Stations Islamabad.....9222596

Rawalpindi.....9270601-20

Enquiry

Edhi Ambulance.....115

PIA Flight Info.....114

PIA Cargo.....9280979

Railway Inquiry.....117

Railway Exchange 9270831-5

WASA Rawalpindi...5555489

CAA.....9281092

Hospitals

CMH.....5611111

MH.....5611116

Cantt Hospital...9270907-11

DHQ.....5556311-4

RGH.....9290301-7

Holy Family.....9290322-7

PIMS.....9261170-79

Polyclinic.....9218300-09

Shifa International.4603666

Departments

CDA.....9221334-43

CDA.....9208301-04

Met Office.....9250360-6

RDA.....5555864

TMA.....5770886

Cantonment Board 9270151-3

Islamabad Metropolitan

Corporation.....9209224

Potohar Town.....9209224

Rawal Town.....5773343

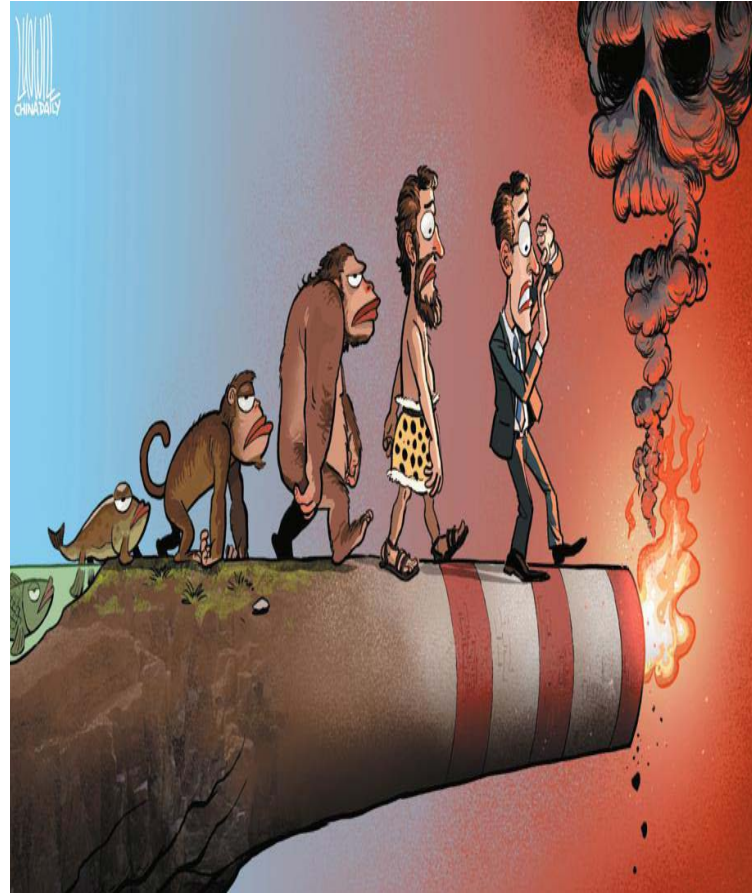
Water Tank

Islamabad.....0321-5744480

Floods wreak havoc in Pakistan

Pakistan has urged the international community to help with relief efforts as it struggles to cope with the aftermath of torrential rains that triggered massive floods last month, killing more than 800 people, officials said. Funding and reconstruction efforts will be a challenge for cash-strapped Pakistan, which is having to cut spending to ensure the International Monetary Fund approves the release of much-needed bailout money. "No question of the provinces or Islamabad being able to cope with this magnitude of climate catastrophe on their own. Lives at risk, thousands homeless. Int'l partners need to mobilise assistance," said Sherry Rehman, Federal Minister for Climate Change in a tweet. According to the United Nations Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), heavy monsoon rainfall and floods have affected some 2.3 million people in Pakistan since mid-June, destroying at least 95,350 houses and damaging a further 224,100. Sindh in the country's south east and Balochistan in the south west are the two most affected provinces. More than 504,000 live-stock have been killed, nearly all of them in Balochistan, while damage to nearly 3,000 km of roads and 129 bridges has impeded movement around flood-affected areas. The main supply route from the port city of Karachi has been cut for more than a week after a bridge linking it to Balochistan was swept away, while dozens of small dams in the province were overwhelmed. "Federal government has also appealed to the international development partners for assistance, so reconstruction of infrastructure destroyed by the flooding can be started once the water recedes," Ahsan Iqbal, Minister of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives said in a twitter post. China said Wednesday that it would be providing emergency humanitarian aid to Pakistan, according to a tweet from the Chinese Embassy in Pakistan. The supplies would include 25,000 tents along with \$300,000 in emergency cash to aid the flood-hit regions in Pakistan, according to the statement. The effects of climate change have so far been drastic. It's high time that the relevant authorities take concrete measures to lessen the impact of such disasters by well management and pre-planning.

Pakistan's First And Only Diplomatic Daily
Editor-in-Chief: Ansar Mahmood Bhatti
Deputy Editor: Abid Raza
 Member APNS / ABC Certified
Vol: 03 Issue: 27
 Email: dailyisbpost@gmail.com
 Phone: 051-2266165 / 051-2261960
 Off: Awan Plaza, Block 18-A, G-8 Markaz Islamabad



Macron looks to 'future' on Algeria trip to mend ties

President Emmanuel Macron started a three-day visit Thursday to Algeria to help mend ties with the former French colony, which this year marks its 60th anniversary of independence. The first French president to be born after Algerian independence, Macron is hoping "to lay a foundation to rebuild and develop" a sometimes difficult relationship with the North African nation, his office said. The two heads of state visited a monument to martyrs of the country's war for independence, which ended more than 130 years of French colonial rule with Algeria's independence in 1962. Franco-Algerian relations have seen repeated crises since then. The French leader, on his second visit to Algeria since he took power in 2017, "has chosen to direct this visit towards the future, (focusing on) start-ups, innovation, youth, new sectors. Macron, alongside a 90-strong delegation, met entrepreneurs in Algiers as well as young people in the second city Oran. Ties between Paris and Algiers have been particularly stormy since last year, when Macron questioned Algeria's existence as a nation before the French occupation and accused the government of fomenting "hatred towards France". Tebboune withdrew his country's ambassador in response and banned French military aircraft from its airspace. But Macron's office issued a statement saying he "regretted" the misunderstandings caused by his comments, and his aides believe that both sides have moved on. They note the resumption of normal diplomatic relations and overflights to French army bases further south in Africa. Analyst Mansour Kedidj said that "given instability in the Maghreb region, conflicts in the Sahel and the war in Ukraine, improving ties between France and Algeria is a political necessity". France's latest efforts to mend ties comes as Algeria moves to fill a vast shortfall in gas supplies to Europe following Russia's invasion of Ukraine. European nations are seeking to end their dependence on Russian hydrocarbons, giving Algeria - Africa's biggest gas exporter with direct pipelines to Spain and Italy - renewed clout. "The French president will certainly ask Algeria to make an effort to try to increase its gas production," said Algerian economist Abderrahmane Mebtoul. But Macron's office has said that gas is not a major feature of the visit, and an advisor said the trip is "about being oriented towards the future".

China's foreign policy towards Pakistan and India

Dr. Muhammad Akram Zaheer



Pakistan was seeking active support on the issues of Kashmir and Kargil but the Chinese position was unchanged. During the visit of Pakistani Foreign Minister to China in 1999, Chinese Foreign Minister Tang Jiaxuan told the international community that he has great concerns about the South Asian situation and Pakistan should remain cool and exercise self-control

Since the late 20th century, China has shifted its policy from isolation and separation to the international community. Today it is on the way of becoming the major economic power of the world. The Chinese leadership has formulated a more attractive, pragmatic, and flexible foreign policy for the global affairs and issues. Along with economic growth, China is also expanding political influence through investment as well as the installation of industry, which has given a new impetus to its quest for energy resources. Moreover, it is projecting its soft power vigorously and peacefully by promoting culture, sports, education, tourism, and other exchanging. Chinese believe they are

In the past, Chinese diplomacy was often employed to pursue goals of unbalanced interests. China was allied with the USSR and viewed the United States as its principal enemy during 1950s. On the other hand, Washington sought an anti-communist alliance with Pakistan as well as close relations with India. After the Indo-Pak War of 1965, the American-Indian relations became weaker due to Washington's limited supply of weapons to India. In the 1970s, India moved closer to the Soviet Union and China become closer to Islamabad because of the complicated strategic position of India. Then China wisely inclined towards the United States in search

of export markets and to counterbalance the Soviet Union. After the collapse of the Soviet Union, the peaceful environment of Central Asian region was favorable to China and a shift also came in its foreign policy towards South Asia. Now, Beijing was seeking political and economic bilateral ties with the regional countries, which was a particularly positive development in the process of the Sino-India rapprochement. This shift was not favoring Pakistan and posed negative consequences for the Pak-China traditional relationship. This shift in the foreign policy of China put the dint during the Pak-India crisis over Kashmir in 1989-90 when Beijing did not support it on a resolution on Kashmir in the United Nations. It remained neutral and calm and gave emphasis on both parties to solve the issue by dialogue. Contrary, during the Cold War, Chinese policy towards Pakistan was supportive against India. During the 1990s, China has been advising both Pakistan and India to solve their problems through dialogue. In 1996, President Jiang Zemin visited Pakistan and in his 45 minute speech to the Senate, he urged Pakistan to develop cooperative relations with India and put thorny issues aside. Pakistan should make trade and economic relations to lessen the hostility with India. At the time of the Kargil crisis, China-India rapprochement had entered a mature phase. This time again, China adopted neutral policy and stressed to hold talks and solve the issue through negotiations. Pakistan was seeking active support on the issues of Kashmir and Kargil but the Chinese position was unchanged. During the visit of Pakistani Foreign Minister to China in 1999, Chinese Foreign Minister Tang Jiaxuan told the international community that he has great concerns about the South Asian situation and Pakistan should remain cool and exercise self-control. It was a warning to Pakistan that China would not support it by military means, and Pakistan should get out from Kargil and settle the crisis by dialogues. Post-Cold War, the Soviet model was ended and India was looking for economic reforms. Therefore, Delhi no longer remained allied to Moscow and became less of a danger to Beijing. Now the need of Islamabad for Beijing was lessened to counterbalance Delhi and Moscow but the Delhi-Washington closeness was a concern to Beijing because it wanted to prevent India from allying with the United States. This situation was very tough for China to sustain and maintain balance and demonstrate its abil-

ity in the region of nuclear powers. The incident of 9/11 brought regional and international development and new adjustment in the foreign policy for China. This event led to a diplomatic standoff between Pakistan and India. Almost for a year, military forces of both the sides stood eyeball-to-eyeball and came dangerously close to war. The terrorist attack on the Indian parliament and the Srinagar incident flamed insecurity and instability in the region. Beijing has concerns about Pak-India tension and it played a proactive role at the diplomatic level to diffuse tension. China also activated the SCO and other forums to lessen the tension between Islamabad and New Delhi. Soon after 9/11, the United States declared a global war against terrorism and China was discomfited and had many internal and external concerns. It warned the US that counterterrorism should not be used for hegemonic privileges. Although the war against the Taliban regime in Afghanistan was a serious threat to regional security, China also managed its own domestic situation (the troubled province Xinjiang) and was unsettled by the presence of United States forces near its border. China believed that Washington would create instability in the region and might have new political designs. The region, particularly Central Asia, was more attractive to China due to its energy resources and Washington's political and military involvement in the region might have caused worries for China. Washington was increasing pressure on Islamabad to get Pakistani support for the war on terror in Afghanistan after 9/11. On the other hand, China had concerns of Delhi-Washington expanding strategic cooperation. India and the United States were considering China as a common rival of both countries and were thinking to limit the rise of China as well. Washington made efforts to the diffuse crisis between Pakistan and India by its balancing posture during this period. China also maintained a balanced position towards Pakistan and India during post-9/11 period. Another worry for China was the Indian move towards Japan and Vietnam with whom Chinese relations remained tense. In this circumstance, China revisited its policy towards Pakistan and enhanced bilateral relations in all the fields related to the national interest of both the countries. The cooperation in political, economic, security, and diplomatic issues and bilateral ties produced a \$62 billion Chinese investment in Pakistan through CPEC. China has

regularly provided support to Pakistan in the United Nations Security Council. China has assisted Pakistan to improve its security and defense capability via the joint venture of the JF-17 Thunder in 2003. The deteriorating relationship between Islamabad and Washington also provided them motivation and impetus to improve their bilateral relations. On the other hand, China and India are two natural strategic rivals with great numbers of the population in the region. The sense of competition between the two countries is very high. China has engaged Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, and Maldives, which is considered the area of Indian influence. China has tried to build a road in the area of Doklam in Bhutan, which is a source of tension for India. It seems that China is occupying the strategic territory, which is very necessary for Indian security. In addition, India thinks that Pakistan is serving Chinese interests by forcing it to fight wars, deterring the Indian ability to counter the Chinese rise. Nowadays, China itself has engaged India in the Galwan Valley in Eastern Ladakh. Since the confrontation between China and India, Pakistan is trying to cash in on this situation. From the diplomatic maneuvering behind the scenes, Pakistan is bashing India for the overall development in Ladakh and Kashmir but standing on the side of China. However, the leadership of both China and India has recognized the need of peace and cooperation to ease the tension. China also seems to be the major beneficiary of the China-India economic and trade relations. Hence, both countries have recognized that the expansion of cooperation on multiple levels to ensure peace on their borders is in their interests. As to its rise of economic power, China has its own paradigm of development and new ways of interaction to regional and global powers on a win-win basis, and it has earned the respect and credibility of other nations. Being the neighbor of China, Pakistan has the privilege to achieve investment and trade. The frequent exchange visits by the leadership of both countries have reinforced mutual trust and cooperation. However, India and Pakistan are challenging each other on the issue of Kashmir and both the countries had fought four wars in the past. On the issue of Kashmir, Beijing put the shoulder behind Islamabad and forced a discussion in the United Nations Security Council on India's reordering of Kashmir. Chinese policy will have significant implications for the China-India-Pakistan relationship and will be a test of China's foreign policy towards Pakistan and India.

Creating resilience and cohesion in the Tribal districts!

Rashad Bukhari



UN's International Organization for Migration (IOM) is working through its Community Resilience Activity North (CRA-N) project towards building community resilience through workshops and other interventions to support the transition and rehabilitation efforts in these Newly Merged Districts

Incidents of violence and killings continued unabated in the newly merged tribal districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province amid the ongoing negotiations with the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) for a truce facilitated by the Afghan Taliban. It was hoped that through these negotiations, TTP would be willing to lay down its arms and mainstream in the society to create peace and stability in the region and the country. TTP, however, is adamant in its demand for the reversal of the merger of the tribal districts, something unacceptable for the government. The instability and uncertainty of the region require immediate attention and engagement. In 2018, Pakistan's National Assembly passed the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) Reforms Bill, which merged FATA with the adjacent Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province. This led to the creation of district-based administration bodies within the respective NMDs (Newly Merged Districts). This was followed by the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) Sustainable Development Strategy (2019-2023) focused on making the newly merged KP Province into a secure, economically vibrant, and prosperous society. Despite these efforts, these districts have continued to witness acts of violent extremism that have taken the lives of both civilians and security forces. Government can't alone do all the work to develop the region after the merger without ensuring support from the local communities, different stakeholders, and other non-government organizations. Support from neutral and internationally recognized bodies with their technical resources must be welcome. It is very challenging for any organization, local or international, to work freely and effectively in that region due to acute poverty, underdevelopment, illiteracy, continued militancy, and state prohibitions nonetheless. Despite these challenges, a few courageous and resourceful organizations contribute their bit for stability through awareness raising, capacity building, and development projects with some laudable impact. UN's International Organization for Migration (IOM) is working through its Community Resilience Activity North (CRA-N) project towards building community resilience through workshops and other interventions to support the transition and rehabilitation efforts in these Newly Merged Districts. The project focuses on reducing marginalization and exclusion amongst remote border communities most vulnerable to violent extremist (VE) influence where resilience is lacking. CRA-N promotes cohesion within and between communities that are at risk, particularly those with ethnic

or sectarian identities which have previously been exploited by violent extremist organizations (VEOs). CRA-N promotes engagement between segments of society, increasing social bonds, strengthening a sense of belonging and purpose, and increasing civic engagement, particularly amongst the youth. Local government and community leadership systems struggle with violence, inter-communal conflict, and religious intolerance. CRA-N is aware of how inequalities in access to information, public services, economic opportunities, and resources may lead communities to embrace extreme ideologies based on their grievances of systemic inequities. CRA-N works with government and local partners in an inclusive, participatory approach to address identified drivers of extremism and instability in these remote NMDs. Interventions are demand-driven, adaptive, and multi-sectorial. Activities include civic awareness and engagement, youth and women empowerment, community cohesion and cultural development, skills training, livelihood development, and small-scale infrastructure rehabilitation. The activities are implemented in close coordination with the Provincial Government's Planning & Development Department, Deputy Commissioners, and District Government Authorities to ensure a coordinated and consistent approach to GOP priority efforts. These workshops were designed to enable diverse local stakeholders to identify and pilot innovative approaches to improve community resilience to instability and other stressors like violence, intolerance, and conflicts. Three overarching objectives of the project include: 1) increasing civic engagement of the community

members, 2) enhancing inter and intra-community cohesion efforts, and 3) addressing the current challenges faced by formerly Temporarily Displaced Populations in their efforts to reintegrate within their communities. To quote only one example of the kind of impact made through capacity building of local leaders, CRA-N is also providing training in Alternative Dispute Resolution to local ADR committee members to help resolve disputes locally. After the training, these members find themselves in a better position to promote peace and play an active role in supporting Government efforts to mobilize resources to address tensions and disputes between communities and tribes. Some of these members are also involved in conflict resolution regarding ongoing communal issues. After the training, Peace Committee members resolved a land settlement issue between the Makhazia tribe of Lower Kurram and the Lalamai tribe of Center Kurram. They convinced both communities to avoid violence and submit their case to a court of law, to which both parties agreed. The importance of engaging youth in productive activities like skill training, sports, and arts in the tribal areas can never be over-emphasized. Activities that bring people of different tribes and sects together and increase inter-tribal and inter-sectarian interaction are required. They needed to strengthen the positive characteristics of their community and weaken the negative things so that the society could become more resilient and would not fall prey to the culprits' propaganda again. Society should be able to adapt to new situations, strengthening its strong points, and addressing its weaknesses, while keeping its identity intact. The writer is a consultant and researcher working on social issues, including building resilience and cohesion in stressed communities.

Briefs

King Salman...

FROM PAGE 01

of Saudi Arabia will extend its \$3 billion safe deposit for one more year adding that three percent interest will be paid for it. "The safe deposit amount will be liable to be paid back immediately in case of Pakistan's default," sources shared. The amount will not be liable to be utilized, sources said. The period of \$3 billion safe deposit will likely to be extended upto December 2023, according to sources.

PM hails...

FROM PAGE 01

is greater awareness between the two countries of the need for upgrading the bilateral relations by making economic cooperation the pivot of bilateral ties". During his visit, the PM assured the Qatari investors about the government's full support in deepening their footprints in Pakistan, and urged them to explore the opportunities presented by the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). He interacted with prominent Qatari and Pakistani business leaders at the 'Pakistan-Qatar Trade and Investment Roundtable 2022', which was also attended by Finance Minister Ali bin Ahmed Al Kuwari, CEO, Qatar Financial Center Chief Executive Officer Yousaf Al Khater Jaida and others. At the QIA - one of the largest sovereign wealth funds in the world - PM Shehbaz invited investors from Qatar to invest in Pakistan's energy, aviation, agriculture, livestock, maritime, tourism and hospitality sectors.

COAS...

FROM PAGE 01

deep sorrow over the loss of precious lives and extensive damage to infrastructure due to unprecedented rains and floods, the forum resolved to spare no efforts for mitigating the sufferings of flood affectees. Gen Bajwa appreciated the ongoing relief efforts and directed Army Formations to render all possible support to the people affected by floods. "Every single affected individual must be reached to bring comfort in this hour of distress," he stressed. The army chief also directed the formations to maintain operational readiness and underscored the need for efforts to counter terrorism, particularly in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan to continue.

ATC grants...

FROM PAGE 01

would be arrested if the ATC rejected his bail plea. During the hearing, Imran's lawyer Babar Awan contended before the court that the PTI chief had stated that he will lodge cases against the Islamabad police IG and his deputies. "Imran Khan did not say that he will kill someone," Awan added. Security was tightened around the judicial complex. Frontier Corps and Islamabad police personnel were seen deployed with batons and wearing anti-rioting gears. However, PTI workers were able to break the walk through gate leading inside.

PM Shehbaz lifts ban on departmental sports

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday announced lifting of ban on departmental sports in the country. The ban was imposed by the previous government asking all public departments, corporations and autonomous bodies to stop their funding to sports teams in 30 different disciplines. The decision had led thousands jobless from the positions of departmental sports.

PM Shehbaz Sharif after assuming the office had pledged to restore the departmental sports with an aim to promote healthy games among the youth. He said Pakistani sportsmen, who bagged top positions in the Commonwealth Games and Islamic Solidarity Games, had made the country proud and were an inspiration for the country's youth. The prime minister was speaking at a cash prize distribution ceremony for the winning sportsmen of the international sport events recently held in Birmingham, UK and Turkey. The prime minister said the entire nation was proud of the outstanding performance of the players who had proved their mettle with hard work and dedication.

He expressed confidence that the talented sportsmen would bring more laurels to the country and would continue to achieve success in their respective games. PM Sharif said steps would be taken to hold sporting events at college and university levels to encourage the students get indulged in healthy activities. The prime minister mentioned that Pakistan was passing through challenging times due to flash floods across the country. He expressed grief over the



death of around 800 people in last few months due to floods and said the government would leave no stone unturned to provide relief and rehabilitation to the victims. Earlier, the prime minister gave away cash prizes to the players including Nooh Dasta-

gir Butt, Shah Hussain, Sharif Tahir, Arshad Nadeem and several others at the special ceremony held here at the PM House.

Nadal, Swiatek lead Ukraine support at US Open

SPORTS DESK

NEW YORK: The US Open held its 'Tennis Plays for Peace' event for Ukraine relief ahead of the start of the year's final grand slam event, raising \$1.2 million, according to the United States Tennis Association (USTA). Participating in the event held in New York were Rafael Nadal, Iga Swiatek, John McEnroe, Coco Gauff, Carlos Alcaraz, Leylah Fernandez, Felix Auger-Aliassime, Jessica Pegula, Matteo Berrettini, Maria Sakkari, Stefanos Tsitsipas, Taylor Fritz, Frances Tiafoe, Tommy Paul, Sebastian Korda

and Ben Shelton. Nadal and Swiatek took on McEnroe and Gauff in one of the highlights of the evening. Women's world No. 1 Swiatek said: "For me, especially because Ukraine is right next to my country and because we as Poles are really united and helping, and I want to use every opportunity to show people that we all can be united." US star Coco Gauff added: "For me to speak out is something that I always cherish. I always said you can change the world with your racket. So being here today on Armstrong and playing for such an amazing cause is something that I

won't take for granted, and I'm grateful to do it amongst legends of the sport." Ukrainian players Dayana Yastremska, Katarina Zavatska and Daria Snigur - as well as former players Sergiy Stakhovsky and Olga Savchuk - were also at the Louis Armstrong Stadium, while 12-year-old Ustyn Chornyy, from the Ukrainian Chorus Dumka of New York, sang the Ukrainian national anthem. The USTA said that all ticket revenue from the event went to the GlobalGiving's Ukraine Crisis Relief Fund, which supports humanitarian assistance in impacted communities in Ukraine and surrounding regions where Ukrainian refugees have fled. Several hours ahead of the event, the USTA announced that Victoria Azarenka of Belarus would not participate, saying: "In the last 24 hours, after careful consideration and dialogue with all parties involved, Victoria Azarenka will not be participating in our 'Tennis Plays for Peace Exhibition' this evening. "Vika is a strong player leader and we appreciate her willingness to participate. Given the sensitivities to Ukrainian players, and the on-going conflict, we believe this is the right course of action for us." The event comes after the Ukraine Ministry of Youth and Sports announced in a statement on Tuesday that 133 Ukrainian athletes and coaches have died to date in the six months of the Russian invasion of the country.



Six Pak players move to quarterfinals of PSF-Combaxx Tournament

ISLAMABAD: Six Pakistan players managed to book berths in the quarterfinals of the PSF-Combaxx Men International Squash Tournament after registering emphatic wins in the second round fixtures at Mushaf Squash Complex, Islamabad on Thursday. Pakistan's Noor Zaman, Farhan Zaman, Muhammad Ashab Irfan, Nasir Iqbal, Hamaz Khan and Ahsan Ayazm pulled off the wins. Noor Zaman defeated compatriot Farhan Mehboob 11-4, 11-8 (Retd) in 19 minutes, while Farhan Zaman trounced compatriot Muhammad Ammad in a well-fought contest 11-8, 9-11, 11-8, 11-4 in 39 minutes. Similarly, Muhammad Ashab Irfan edged compatriot Naveed Rehman 10-12, 11-6, 11-6, 11-9 in a 45-minute interesting competition. Hafiz Zahri of Malaysia overcame Ireland's Alireza Shameeh 12-10, 11-6, 11-8 in 32 minutes. Nasir Iqbal beat compatriot Salman Saleem 11-4, 12-10, 11-6 in 29 minutes, while Hamaz Khan outwitted Sepehr Etemadpoor of Ireland 5-11, 11-5, 11-9, 8-11, 11-8 in a 42 minutes' seesaw battle. Ahsan Ayaz saw off compatriot Zahir Shah 11-8, 11-4, 11-3 in 24 minutes. Egypt's Abdallah Elmasyr warded off challenge from his compatriot Khaled Labib 11-7, 11-8, 11-5 in 28 minutes to advance to quarterfinals. The quarterfinals will be played on Friday. - APP

Bryant's widow awarded \$16m over crash photos

WEB DESK

LOS ANGELES: Kobe Bryant's widow has been awarded \$16m (£13.5m) after first responders took and shared graphic photos from the site of the helicopter crash that killed the basketball star, their teenage daughter and seven others. A federal jury has found that Los Angeles County must pay damages over photos of the NBA star's body at the site of the 2020 helicopter crash that killed him. The jurors agreed with Vanessa Bryant and her lawyers that her privacy was invaded when deputies and firefighters took and shared photos of the remains of Bryant and their daughter Gianna. Ms Bryant tearfully testified during the 11-day trial that news of the photos compounded her grief after losing her husband and daughter. Speaking in the witness stand on Friday for more than three hours, Ms Bryant said she wanted to begin to grieve the loss of her husband and daughter, but was faced with "fresh horror" after learning of the leaked photos a month after the crash. "I felt like I wanted to run, run down the block and scream," she said. "It was like the feeling of wanting to run down a pier and jump into the water. The problem is I can't escape. I can't escape my body."



Terrorism...

FROM PAGE 01

added that Sanaullah said they [government] will surround those judges who are going to promote PTI's agenda. "Rana Sanaullah's statement was to terrorise the judiciary, chief secretary and other government officials and to not let them do their job so that they are unable to fulfil their judicial commitments," stated the report citing an old video of the PML-N leader. The FIR mentioned that the minister's statement has caused fear and terror among the judiciary, authorities, police, bureaucracy and the nation. Soon after the news came out, PML-Q senior leader Moonis Elahi said that the interior minister will be arrested soon. "You make false cases against Imran Khan, now Pakistani nation has registered a true case against you," he wrote on Twitter.

Taliban say...

FROM PAGE 01

US officials, speaking on the condition of anonymity, had said the United States carried out a drone strike in the Afghan capital Kabul on the morning of July 31. "Now justice has been delivered, and this terrorist leader is no more," Biden had said in remarks from the White House. "We never back down."

Int'l...

FROM PAGE 01

undertook relief activities in coordination with the provinces and the federal and provincial departments were working together. The government released Rs five billion for relief and family of every deceased was given the financial assistance of Rs one million. Each flood victim family was immediately given Rs 25,000 and Rs 80 billion were allocated for this purpose, he added. He said the extent of the destruction of floods was so huge that the federal and provincial governments could not complete the rehabilitation of the flood affectees on their own. He urged international organizations, financial institutions and countries to cooperate with the Pakistan government on an emergency basis, adding a large area of Sindh and Balochistan was already declared disaster hit. Shehbaz said, "I am personally overseeing the rescue, relief, and rehabilitation activities from day one." The government had set up a Prime Minister Relief Fund 2022 to speed up the efforts for assistance and restoration of the flood affectees, he said adding the assistance of the international financial institutions and organizations was crucial in the rehabilitation of the affectees. He said the army, government institutions, public service departments, doctors, nurses and volunteers were working with passion in a difficult situation. He lauded all those who were helping out the flood affectees and said he was grieved at the difficult conditions faced by the people stranded in floods. "We want to reach out to every affected Pakistani and we want help of the international partners. We need essential items and medical staff to overcome the difficult situation." He invited international partners to visit the flood-affected areas. The government would make arrangements for the visit of the international partners.

Djokovic to miss US Open

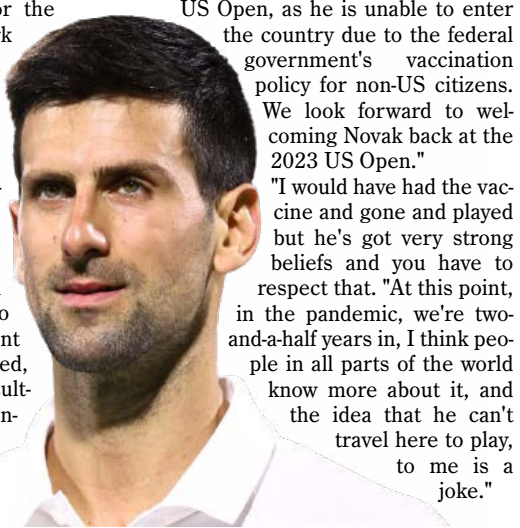
Djokovic, who has chosen not to have a Covid-19 vaccine, will miss out on the tournament due to current US rules

SPORTS DESK

NEW YORK: Novak Djokovic says he will not be able to travel to New York to compete at the US Open, the last Grand Slam of the year that begins next week. Djokovic, who has chosen not to have a Covid-19 vaccine, will miss out on the tournament due to current US rules requiring travellers to show proof of full vaccination to board flights to and enter the country. "Sadly, I will not be able to travel to NY this time for US Open," Djokovic wrote on Twitter. "Good luck to my fellow players! I'll keep in good shape and positive spirit and wait for an opportunity to compete again." He was also unable to defend his Australian Open crown this year after being deported from the country over his vaccination status in January. The Serb previously said he was prepared

to miss Grand Slam tournaments that require participating players to be vaccinated against Covid-19. Djokovic was on the entry list for the tournament in New York before his social media post and the US Open's statement on Thursday mid-afternoon. The US Open organisers said Djokovic's withdrawal had taken place ahead of the draw and they clarified the official seeding list is not determined until the draw is made. Due to the qualifying tournament having already commenced, Djokovic's withdrawal resulted in a lucky loser being included in the draw. Stacy Allaster, the US Open tournament

director, said: "Novak is a great champion and it is very unfortunate that he will be unable to compete at the 2022 US Open, as he is unable to enter the country due to the federal government's vaccination policy for non-US citizens. We look forward to welcoming Novak back at the 2023 US Open." "I would have had the vaccine and gone and played but he's got very strong beliefs and you have to respect that. "At this point, in the pandemic, we're two-and-a-half years in, I think people in all parts of the world know more about it, and the idea that he can't travel here to play, to me is a joke."



AUGUST 2022

Pakistan's Premier News & Diplomatic Affairs Magazine

Find us on:

www.centrelines.com.pk
www.dnanews.com.pl
www.islamabadpost.com.pk

@PostIslamabad/ @Editordnanews

A sister concern of

Islamabad POST

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



Briefs

Court adjourns Gill's bail petition

DNA

ISLAMABAD: A lower court of Islamabad on Thursday served notices to respondents on a petition seeking post-arrest bail of PTI leader Shahbaz Gill in a sedition case registered against him by capital police. Additional District and Session Judge Tahir Abbas Sappara heard the bail petition of Shahbaz Gill filed through his lawyers including Faisal Chaudhry and others. The petitioner adopted the stance that the FIR registered by the Kohsar Police station was based on dishonesty and political rivalry. It added that some parts of his statement were added in the FIR and it was presented against the context. The petitioner said that he was a highly educated person and had been studying in institutions of US and Europe. He said that the case didn't meet the sections applied in FIR, adding that he was trapped in the matter. He prayed the court to grant him a post-arrest bail. After listening arguments, the court adjourned hearing of the case till Friday.

Israel's premier urges West to reject Iran deal

DNA

JERUSALEM: Israel's prime minister called on President Joe Biden and Western powers to call off an emerging nuclear deal with Iran, saying that negotiators are letting Tehran manipulate the talks and that an agreement would reward Israel's enemies. Yair Lapid called the emerging agreement a "bad deal" and suggested that Biden has failed to honor red lines he had previously promised to set. "The countries of the West draw a red line, the Iranians ignore it, and the red line moves," Lapid told reporters at a press conference in Jerusalem. An emerging deal, Lapid said, "does not meet the standards set by President Biden himself: preventing Iran from becoming a nuclear state." Biden has been eager to revive the 2015 deal, which offered sanctions relief to Iran in exchange for curbs on Iran's nuclear program. The original deal unraveled after then-President Donald Trump withdrew from it in 2018 and reimposed sanctions, with strong encouragement from Israel. It remains unclear whether the United States and Iran will be able to reach a new agreement. But the Biden administration is expected to weigh in on Iran's latest offer in the coming days. With an agreement appearing close, Israel has stepped up its efforts to block it.

US warns Turkey of sanctions

DNA

ISTANBUL: Turkey's top business association has confirmed receiving a letter from the US Treasury warning of possible sanctions if it continues doing business with Russia. Washington is growing increasingly alarmed that the Russian government and businesses are using Turkey to evade Western financial and trading restrictions imposed in response to the Kremlin's invasion of Ukraine six months ago. Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin agreed to step up economic cooperation at a summit in the Black Sea resort of Sochi earlier this month. Official data show the value of Turkish exports to Russia between May and July growing by nearly 50 percent from last year's figure. Turkey's imports of Russian oil are ballooning and the two sides have agreed to transition to ruble payments for the natural gas exported by the Kremlin-tied giant Gazprom.

Taliban implementing own doctrine of Islam

The UN report further states that from mid-Aug 2021 to mid-June 2022 UNAMA has documented 2,106 civilian casualties, including 700 people killed. Most of these casualties were caused by so-called Daesh forces

SHAMIM SHAHID

PESHAWAR: Since return to power with help of Doha truce with US, the Taliban regime in Afghanistan has broken away all previous records of victimization and state aggression in the name of religion and political grudges. Though the UN Watchdog on Human Rights, Amnesty International and others are raising voices against Taliban Human Rights policies from last one year but now the US has also joined the row of critics. However, common Afghans are still reluctant to trust the US, "the Americans are following dual standard in its policies towards Afghanistan", Afghans are holding the US policy makers responsible not only for derailing the smooth political process but gross violations of human rights, even extra judicial killings in Afghanistan. The US Commission on International Religious Freedom in its latest communiqué, has expressed concerns over Afghanistan, saying: "Religious freedom conditions in Afghanistan have drastically deteriorated." Most recently, following the killing and wounding of 120 in recent attacks in Kabul,

Amnesty International urged the Taliban to immediately step-up measures to protect Hazaras. The systematic attacks on the minority Hazara Shiite community in Afghanistan may amount to crimes against humanity and should be unequivocally condemned. AI said in a statement. Earlier, the UN new report on the Human rights situation in Afghanistan showcased human rights violations against women, ex-Afghan security personnel, media workers and civil society, including arbitrary arrests, torture and ill-treatment, threats and harassment. The report says on 17 August 2021, the de facto authorities announced an amnesty for former government officials and Afghan National Security and Defense Force members. This amnesty does not, however, appear to have been consistently upheld, with UNAMA recording at least 160 extrajudicial killings of former government and security officials by members of the de facto authorities between 15 August 2021 and 15 June 2022. The UN report further states that from mid-Aug 2021 to mid-June 2022 UNAMA has documented 2,106 civilian casualties, including 700 people killed. Most of these casualties

were caused by so-called Daesh forces. With regards to places of detention: encouragingly, the de facto authorities do appear to be seeking to fulfill their obligations in relation to the treatment of detainees, with the Taliban leader having issued guidance on this issue in January 2022. Progress is hindered by financial constraints, resulting at times, in inadequate food, medical care and hygiene supplies for detainees and the cessation of vocational education and training programs for prisoners that were previously funded by the international community. Similarly, the global HR activists report, that "the education and participation of women and girls in public life is fundamental to any modern society. The relegation of women and girls to the home denies Afghanistan the benefit of the significant contributions they have to offer. Officials of de facto Istikhbarat have been identified for their particularly severe treatment of people deprived of their liberty. The UNAMA report details instances where the de facto Istikhbarat was involved in perpetrating human rights violations against individuals in their custody, including extrajudicial killings, torture and ill-treatment, as well as

arbitrary arrests and detentions. However, the Taliban assert that inmates "are satisfied" with prison food, but UNAMA reports that prisoners have been denied food and water as punishment. A new report by the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) makes for very grim reading, confirming many of the concerns Afghan human rights advocates have raised since last August, when the Taliban took control of Afghanistan. The UNAMA catalogues serious human rights abuses that Taliban forces have committed, including summary executions and enforced disappearances of former members of the Afghan National Security Forces, which have continued months after the Taliban takeover. Quoting an Afghan journalists support organization AFC, the US commission on HR states, "beside limitation of access to information intimidation and detentions of Afghan journalists and media workers increased after the takeover of Taliban in Afghanistan." The AFC in its report published late Monday said that self-censorship practices increased in the past 12 months because to avoid arrests by the Taliban regime.

Control room for flash floods established at BISP HQs

DNA

ISLAMABAD: On the directions of Federal Minister for Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety / Chairperson Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) Ms. Shazia Marri, a "Control Room for Flash Floods 2022" has been established at BISP headquarters for coordination and disbursement of Government Emergency Cash Assistance to the affectees of flash floods 2022 across the country. The said Control Room will be fully operational from tomorrow, 26th August 2022. People can visit BISP headquarters or contact at 051-9246312 from 08:00 AM to 07:00 PM for the assistance and other related information. Mr. Muhammad Khalifa, Director (Field Operations) BISP will monitor and oversee the whole activities of the control room. He may also be contacted at 051-9246352. Moreover 97 campsites have also been established for the disbursement of financial aid to the flood affectees of Balochistan. In order to get registered in the Emergency Cash Assistance programme, the affected families would need to SMS CNIC number on 8171. Once the eligibility SMS is received from 8171 the emergency cash can be collected from the nearest payment center. The staff of Benazir Income Support Programme is present at the campsites established in flood affected areas and is monitoring to ensure the transparent disbursement of financial aid. The administration of BISP has canceled the holidays of BISP staff with the instructions to fully coordinate and facilitate the flood affectees in their respective regions.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Miftah Ismail and the Ambassador of the Republic of Korea, Suh Sangpyo exchanging views during a meeting. - DNA

Miftah apprises Korean envoy of investment areas

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Miftah Ismail Thursday apprised the Ambassador of the Republic of Korea, Suh Sangpyo of potential investment areas of Pakistan and extended the government's greater facilitation and support in that regard. The ambassador called on the minister and they discussed ways and means to further enhance bilateral trade and investment between the two countries. The minister highlighted the bilateral ties between both the countries in areas of trade, investment, human exchange and development cooperation. He also highlighted that the government was focusing on various other avenues of mutual interest so that the existing bilateral relations could be extending to a new level. The ambassador showed a keen interest in enhancing and strengthening the bilateral relations between both the countries especially in trade and investment. - APP

Calls for restraint after fighting returns to Ethiopia

ADDIS ABABA: The international community appealed for restraint on Thursday after fighting resumed in northern Ethiopia between government forces and Tigray rebels, scuppering a truce and casting a shadow over hopes for peace. The situation on the ground was unclear a day after fresh fighting erupted on the border of Tigray, where the warring sides accused each other of igniting the first major clashes in five months. Rebel authorities in Tigray said on Wednesday that government forces failed to breach

their defensive lines, but offered little detail on the status of combat or casualties. The government of Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed has also not provided an update on the fighting, or whether combat has spread beyond the scenes of Wednesday's battles on Tigray's southern border. Spokespeople for Abiy's government and the rebel Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) did not respond to AFP's requests for comment about the situation on the ground. The return to combat has alarmed the international community, which has been pushing both sides to peacefully resolve the brutal 21-month war in Africa's second most populous nation. US Secretary of State Antony Blinken said the truce reached between the warring parties in March had "reduced violence and saved lives". - APP

AVM Aurangzeb appointed new PAF spokesperson



ISLAMABAD: Air Vice Marshal Aurangzeb Ahmed, SI(M), has been appointed as Director General Public Relations (Air Force). Air Vice Marshal Aurangzeb Ahmed was commissioned in GD(P) Branch of Pakistan Air Force in December, 1992. During his career, he has commanded a Fighter Squadron and an Operational Air Base. He has served as Assistant Chief of the Air Staff (Operational Requirements & Development) at Air Headquarters, Islamabad. He holds Master's degrees in Military Arts from China and National Security & War Studies from National Defence University, Islamabad. The Air Officer has served as Directing Staff and faculty member at National Defence University, Islamabad. He has also performed his duties in Saudi Arabia as Contingent Commander of Pakistan Aeronautical Complex team. He is a recipient of Sitara-i-Imtiaz (Military). - DNA

Pakistan, Iran can enhance trade ties

NEWS DESK

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan and Iran have great potential to enhance the trade in various fields such as energy, gas, electricity, agriculture, textile and leather. This was expressed by Ambassador of Iran to Pakistan, Seyed Mohammad Ali Hosseini during a meeting with new President of ECOSF, Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi held here. Prof. Tayebi briefed the Ambassador about his joining as new President ECOSF and dis-

cussed his future plans pertaining to the promotion of Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) in the ECO region. He emphasized that STI is very important for socio-economic development of the ECO region. Speaking on the occasion, Seyed Hosseini said that joining of Prof. Tayebi as President ECOSF will strengthen the ties between the member countries, especially Pakistan and Iran. He said that there is great potential between Pakistan and Iran to enhance the trade in various fields such as energy, gas, electricity, agriculture, textile, leather, etc. He also shared that a knowledge based exhibition launched in Islamabad from today will boost economic ties between the two countries. As many as 30 companies from Iran are participating in the exhibition. The Ambassador also appreciated the role of ECOSF in promoting STI activities in the ECO region. The Ambassador said that Iran is the founding and key member of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) who also hosts the headquarters of ECO, thus, ECO and its allied organizations and institutes are very much supported/cooperated by Iran. He also assured his maximum possible support to ECOSF specially to resolve the issue of transfer of funds from Iran; which is mainly due to the international embargo on Iran.



DINO VALLEY
10 minutes Drive from The Monal Islamabad

Pakistan's First Ever Dinosaur Themed Park

17 KM, Pir Sohawa Road, Haripur, KP. ☎ 03005221018 / 03455357094 ☎ 03001769377