

Bilawal slams by-Election adjournment



lawal Bhutto-Zardari on Thursday took to his official Twitter account and questioned the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) for the "special treatment" being meted out to PTI Chairman and former prime minister Imran Khan. In his tweet, Bilawal asked, "how long will Khan remain a favourite", adding that PPP candidates from Multan and Karachi are frustrated by the sudden postponement of the by-elections in select constituencies of Sindh and Punjab.

Continued on Page 06

he (Imran Khan) didn't understand the se-

riousness of the situation, the court said.

The respect of the judiciary was bigger

than the ego of someone, he observed, add-

A five member bench headed by Chief

Justice Athar Minallah and comprising

Justice Mohsin Akhter Kayani, Justice

Miangul Hassan Aurangzeb, Justice Tariq

Mehmood Jahangiri and Justice Baber

Sattar heard the contempt of court case

against Imran Khan who appeared before

the court amid foolproof security arrange-

ments in place. At the outset of hearing,

ing that it was a criminal contempt case.

Imran Khan said on Thursday that no country can progress unless the courts don't deliver justice and the coalition has to be defeated in the by-elections to save future generation. Addressing a rally in Multan on Thursday, he said, "I salute the spirit and passion of Multan and especially the women." The opponent on Meherbano Qureshi is a worshipper of money, adding that the MPs of the PTI were being threatened to quit party, while the anchors and journalists were also being threatened. Imran Khan said, "We have to liberate the country with real freedom, adding that Asif Zardari,

Continued on Page 06

DNA DUBAI: Virat Kohli hit his first international century since November 2019 with his maiden T20 ton for India as his side piled up 212-2 against Afghanistan at the Asia Cup on Thursday. The star batsman stood unbeaten on 122 off 61 deliveries with 12 fours and two sixes in Dubai after India were put in to

T20 ton

US solidarity, assistance crucial for rehabilitation PM thanked Senior Policy Adviser to the

US Secy of State for visiting Pakistan

Shujaat Hamza

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday while calling the rehabilitation and reconstruction of flood-hit areas formidable challenges, said that the continued support, solidarity and assis-

tance from the United States was crucial

US approves sale of F-16 equipment

Hard times due to floods: Miftah

SAIFULLAH



Revenue Miftah Ismail said that due devastat ing floods in

the country, the economy is going through hard times that have damaged the agriculture sector and infrastructure badly. The finance minister in a meeting with Counselor of the United State Department of State Derek Chollet, who called on him, said the government was taking several administrative measures for dealing with these challenging times, said a press release issued by the finance ministry.



Techaccess Pakistan organizes Cyber handling workshop - Page 02

Approaching ADR as the way forward in Pakistan - Page 03

COMSTECH workshop on 'MS, Tech Parks ends – Page 04

Pakistan's tea production potential – Page 05

US Open: Alcaraz beats Sinner in epic marathon match – Page 06

Pak Press UK, SmileAid hold event to raise funds - Page 07

Pakistan-Kyrgyzstan mull efficient logistics routes - Page 08 Maryam slams Imran over country's crises

Maryam said that Imran Khan is talking that the appointment of COAS should be based on merit. The PML-N Vice President asked Imran whether he was appointed on the basis of merit

DNA

CHISHTIAN: Pakistan Muslim League (N) Vice President Maryam Nawaz said on Thursday that Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan is very worried about the appointment of the Army Chief. Addressing the rally, the PML-N Vice President said that she knows that there is inflation in the country, adding that when the prices of POL products were increased, she did not accept this move made by the government.

Maryam Nawaz said that Shehbaz Sharif



always visited to meet the flood-stricken people, on the other hand Imran visited the flood-hit areas twice on government's helicopter. Continuing her speech, Maryam Nawaz said that yesterday Imran said that voting for PML-N is like a sin, but PML-N is the party that has played vital role in Pakistan's development.

Maryam said that Imran Khan is talking that the appointment of COAS should be based on merit. The PML-N Vice President asked Imran whether he was appointed on the basis of merit. To elect Imran Khan as the prime minister, Nawaz Sharif had to be disqualified and RTS had to sit, Maryam said.

ed from the tournament. Kohli, 33, hit a four and a six off pace bowler Fareed Ahmad to reach his first India ton in nearly three years - his last hundred coming in a Test against Bangladesh. His previous best in 103 T20Is was 94 not out since his debut in 2010. He put on an opening stand of 119 with KL Rahul, who made 62, to lay the foundations of the mammoth total as the Afghan bowlers struggled on their second successive day on the field. Kohli registered his third 50-plus score in the event, which serves as a tune-up to the T20 World Cup in Octo-

bat in their last Super Four

contest after being eliminat-

ber-November in Australia. The Afghans suffered a heartbreaking loss to Pakistan on Wednesday as they went down by one wicket to also crash out of the tournament. Pakistan will take on Sri Lanka in Sunday's final. The Indian openers started cautiously before Rahul and Kohli took on the opposition bowlers with a flurry of boundaries in the first six overs. Kohli survived a dropped catch on 28 by

Ibrahim Zadran in the deep

as the ball popped out of

the fielder's hands for a six

and the star batsman then

raised his fifty in 32 balls.

for the purpose. The prime minister, in a meeting with Senior Policy Adviser to the US Secretary of State Derek Chollet, who called on him, said the government was fully engaged in the rescue and relief efforts. He thanked Derek Chollet for visiting Pakistan at a critical moment when the country had been adversely affected by the most devastating flood in its history, with millions affected and displaced. The prime minister told the foreign dignitary that over 33 million population had been affected; more than 1,300 lives lost; and immeasurable damage was caused to agriculture, livestock, property and infrastructure.

Continued on Page 06

to Pakistan

WASHINGTON: The U.S. administration has announced the approval of the potential sale of F-16 aircraft sustainment and related equipment to Pakistan in a deal valued at up to \$450 million, a move that Ambassador Masood Khan welcomed. "The State Department has made a determination approving a possible Foreign Military Sale to the Government of Pakistan of F-16 Case for Sustainment and related equipment for an estimated cost of \$450 million," the department said.

Continued on Page 06

DINO VALLEY 10 minutes Drive from The Monal Islama

Pakistan's First Ever **Dinosaur Themed Park**



US approves \$2.6bn in aid for Ukraine and allies

US Secretary of State Anthony Blinken arrived in the Ukrainian capital Kyiv, as his colleague urged Ukraine's allies to commit to supporting the country

CENTRELINE REPORT

WASHINGTON: The US has approved nearly \$2.7bn (£2.3bn) in new aid for Ukraine and allies, including \$675m in weapons for Ukraine as it battles Russia. Defence Secretary Lloyd Austin announced the arms package at a meeting with dozens of fellow ministers at the US air base in Ramstein, Germany. The aid includes howitzers, munitions, Humvee vehicles, armoured ambulances and anti-tank systems. The US has already pledged at least \$13bn in military aid for Ukraine. The Biden administration said on Thursday it had earmarked \$2bn in long-term assistance in the form of investments to bolster the security of Ukraine and 18 of its neighbours, including

Continued on Page 06

EU to put the brakes on energy prices exchanges of views." Formal de-

News Desk

BRUSSELS: European energy ministers are expected to agree on Friday to a plan to fight surging electricity and gas prices. The situation on the European gas and electricity market has worsened dramatically. Prices are exploding as a consequence of Russia's war against Ukraine and the stability of the power supply could be threatened in the coming winter. For these reasons, European Union energy ministers are meeting on Friday for what the official invitation calls cisions haven't been promised but time is of the essence. The European Commission wants a mandate to prepare interventions in the bloc's electricity and gas markets, with President Ursula von der Leyen announcing this Wednesday that she wants to present a first draft of a regulation containing drastic measures by early next week. After confidential discussion papers in Brussels were published in the media, von der Leyen spoke to the press on short notice Wednesday to propose five measures against the energy price crisis.

02

NATIONAL

Islamabad **POST** Friday, September 09, 2022

Techaccess Pakistan organizes Cyber handling workshop

NAZIR SIYAL

KARACHI: Techaccess Pakistan this week conducted a Cyber Incident Management Handling Workshop at "The Institute Of Bankers Pakistan" in Karachi, carrying out best practice exercises for the in-depth study of the methods of management, immediate containment and detailed analysis of the acts of recent cyber-attacks, some taken from recorded events. Over thirteen local banks participated in the workshop, much appreciated by the esteemed Participants.

Mr. Syed Aun Abbas Bokhari, CISO at Bank Al Habib, said the seminar was very interesting, as it was addressed to the current issues affecting our securitv mission and topics were nicely covered, well treated, and professionally

clarified. I would recommend more Workshops with advanced levels. Mr. Ali Imran, CISO Bank Islami, expressed his appreciation and compliments on the organization of the Workshop and about its results. He emphasized the need to extend the educational approach to the analysts engaged in sensitive department such as security operation center and incident response teams to continuously update their knowledge on security procedures, new emerging threats way to detect and appropriate updating of new IT architectures to improve the resilience of the whole IT Platform of sensitive institutes such as the Financial Domain. We visited several banks with our security portfolio earlier this year and they highlighted the need for incident management frameworks and need for capacity building, said Mr.

Tariq Malik, CTO Techaccess. He highlighted the professional interest and passionate participation of the representatives of the Banks. Participants raised interesting observations and demonstrated that their use of tools during the Incident Management trials highlighted a serious professional approach to managing multiple security risks that endanger the financial domain.

Participants recommended sharing the incident management seminar through academic channels in all major Pakistani cities so that younger generations can benefit from it and improve their employment prospects. Techaccess is a local integrator and a company specializing in security architectures and its implementation. Mr. Tariq Malik, thanked the participants and trainers.



PESHAWAR: The District Administration Swat with the help of Frontier Works Organization (FWO) and National Highways Authority (NHA) have cleared road from Bahrain to Kalam and opened it for light traffic.

The road link between Bahrain and Kalam was disconnected after flash floods washed away bridges and road at many locations Additional Deputy Commissioner, Ibrar Wazir on Thursday said that for the first time Bahrain- Kalam road has been opened for light traffic after floods. "Public travelling between Bahrain and Kalam are advised to observe traffic

Bahrain-Kalam road opened for light traffic after floods "Public travelling between

Bahrain and Kalam are advised to observe traffic rules

appreciated local He administration and PakáArmyáEngineering Corps for the restoration of Dararkhor link bridge on emergency basis, adding restoration of Kalamároadáwas going onáfromáboth sides. said"Reconstruction He

theáriver sideáwill along not be allowed and damaged buildings will be removed." occasion he also On the



RAWALPINDI: President RCCI posing for a group photo along with newly elected executive members. – DNA

RCCI elects executive body SC adjourns case on hate for 2022-23 unopposed campaign

ISLAMABAD: The Supreme Court on Thursday adjourned a petition against Pakistan Tehreek-e-insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan for an alleged hate

campaign against the national institutions. A two-member SC bench comprising Justice Ijaz ul Ahsan and Justice Sayyed Mazahar Ali Akbar Naqvi adjourned the hearing on an application moved through Advocate on Record Muhammad Sharif Janjua, stating that Hassan Raza Pasha, the petitioner's counsel, was suffering from severe lower back pain.

The petition was moved by Advocate Qausain Faisal through his counsel Hassan Raza Pasha, sought an order to restrain the respondents, including the PTI leadership, members and their official spokespersons, from making any public or private statement.

The application stated that since the doctors had advised complete bed rest for two weeks, Hassan Pasha was not in a position to appear before the apex court to plead the case. The application had also at-

tached the medical prescription of the doctor concerned with a request that the proceedings be postponed in the interest of justice. In the main petition, the petitioner sought a direction to set up a commis-

sion to assess the impact and damage of the alleged organised hate campaign and suggest further legal steps and proceedings to

DNA

RAWALPINDI: The election of corporate and associate class has been completed in the first phase of the annual election of Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI) for the year 2022-23. All ten unopposed elected members of the Executive Committee belong to the Mian Parvez Aslam Group. Now polling will not be held on September 13 Eight candidates filed nomination papers for five seats of corporate class, three

Siraj-ul- Haq visits relief camp

HYDERABAD: Emir Jamaat-e-Islami Pakistan Siraj-ul-Haq visited the relief camp set up by Al-Khidmat Foundation near Detha station on Thursday and distributed relief items among the flood victims.

Speaking on this occasion, Sirajul Haque said that due to rain and floods, there has been a huge disaster in the entire country including Sindh and we all have to work together for the rehawithdrew while 22 candilam Group. dates filed papers for five associate class seats, 17 withdrew their nomination papers and the remaining five candidates were declared uncontested.

On this occasion, the group leader of Rawalpindi Chamber. Sohail Altaf, while congratulating the newly elected executive members, said that the unparalleled success of all the members is a manifestation of the strong confidence of the businessmen and industrialists community of the region on the policies of Mian Parvez Is-

The 3-member Election Commission consisting of Zahoor Ahmad Malik, Muhammad Badr Haroon and Rizwan Mashhadhi announced that Abdul Rauf, Muhammad Hamza Sarosh, Shahid Qayyum, Chaudhry Iameel Ahmed and Kashif Rahim were elected to the five corporate seats of the executive committee while Muhammad Akram, Ikram-ur-Rehman Abbasi, Abu Baker Siddique, Saqib Rafiq and Asad Aftab were elected unopposed to the five associate class seats.

said. He said that thousands of workers of Jamaat-e-Islami and Al-Khidmat were working day and night to help the victims because it was our religious obligation to help our suffering people. Earlier, Sardar Zubair Solangi along with large number of Jamat members welcomed Siraj-ul-Haq on arrival at Hyderabad.

Jamat Islami leaders Syed Miraj-ul-Huda Siddiqui, Muhammad Hussain Mihnati, Abdul Waheed Qureshi, Mujahid Chana, Aqeel Ahmed Khan and other leaders were also present on the occasion. JI chief also visited Madressah-i-Riazul Uloom. - APP

Rs. 22 bn distributed among 894,808 families

bilitation of the victims.

He asked the officers con-

cerned that there was a

need to work on a war foot-

ing for the relief and reha-

bilitation of flood victims,

which will help reduce their

Al-Khidmat Foundation is a

welfare organization that is

helping the victims as per

it's capacity, but govern-

ment and the army can help

them more than a welfare

organization, Sirajul Haq

suffering

ISLAMABAD: Under Benazir Emergency Cash Initiative over Rs. 22,370,200,000 has been distributed among 894,808 families in flood affected areas. Minister for Poverty Alleviation and Social safety Ms .Shazia Marri urged upon the international community to reach out to flood

to avoid traffic congestion

sionerá Malakandá Division Shaukat Ali Yousafzai visited áthe tourist destinationáBahraináthat was severely devastated by floods. Assistant CommissioneráBahrain, Ishaq Ahmed rules to avoid traffic conbriefed the Commission-

gestion". Earlier, Commiser on relief activities and damages caused to infrastructure in the area. The commissioner assessed the

distributed relief packages amongáfloodávictims and expressed satisfaction over ongoing relief work and other measures taken to facilitate damages in theáBahraináBatheáaffected people. He said zar, infrastructure, houses compensation would be proand also reviewed tempovided to flood victims as per rary rehabilitation work on policy after a detailed assess-Bahrain- Kalam link bridge. ment of damages. - DNA

determine individual liability as well as a collective responsibility and to stop the negative effects of the campaign against national security, which had allegedly adversely affected Pakistan's relations with friendly countries. - APP

affected people as a lot more have to be done given the size and magnitude of this catastrophe. This is bigger than any country to handle, said the Federal Minister in her interview with Matt Galloway, host of program The Current on CBC Radio One. As of Wednesday evening 107,481 affected families have received Rs.2,687,025,000 in Balochistan; 530,489 families have received Rs.13,262,225,000 in Sindh; 110,920 families have received Rs. 2,773,000,000 in KP and 145,918 families have received Rs.3,647,950,000 in Punjab. 78 percent of the total identified beneficiaries have been served so far through 377 special campsites established across the flood affected regions in the country. On the directions of Federal Minister for Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety / Chairperson BISP Ms. Shazia Marri all payment centers are kept open on holidays for the disbursement of payment to the affectees. - DNA

CS directs authorities to work efficiently

PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Secretary Dr Shahzad Khan Bangash has directed the authorities concerned to work efficiently for the relief and rehabilitation of flood victims. He gave these instructions while presiding over a high level meeting held here at Civil Secretariat on Thursday. The meeting was attended by additional chief secretary, senior members of board of revenue, advocate general, administrative secretaries and other relevant officials. The meeting reviewed implementation of decisions taken in last meeting and other administrative matters.

The chief secretary said that the province was facing gigantic task of rehabilitation of flood affectees besides different economic challenges. He said that brave and resilient people of the province would overcome the difficult situation with assistance of the provincial government.

Dr Shahzad instructed the relevant authorities to make rehabilitation operation transparent and efficient and ensure early payment to the flood victims.

The survey teams should soon complete assessment of damaged houses in the flood affected districts, he said.

The secretary health briefed the forum about dengue cases, roles and responsibilities of line departments under multisector approach. He said that so far 2,221 cases of dengue had been reported this year, and most of them were reported in August. The chief secretary directed district administrations to focus on prevention of dengue and malaria in the flood-hit districts. - APP

PAF providing whole hearted support in rehabilitation process

DNA

KARACHI: In the aftermath of recent flash floods which have caused havoc in Balochistan, Sindh, South Punjab and KPK, Pakistan Air Force has dedicated maximum efforts towards rescue, relief and rehabilitation operations for flood affectees. PAF helicopters and transport fleet are also actively participating in transport of food and medical supplies along with safe evacuation of the flood victims. Flood relief camps have been established to provide continuous food and medical support.

During the last 24 hours, PAF emergency response teams have distributed 26,125 cooked food packs,1000 water bottles and 2475 ration packs consisting of basic food commodities amongst the needy families. Moreover, in addition to the provision of free food and shelter, 2810 patients were also attended by the medical teams of Pakistan Air Force in field medical camps of PAF.



COURT NOTICE

In the Court of Madam Shagufta Sabir Judge Family Court Gujrat

Title: Asia Khurram etc. Versus

Malik Khurram Abbas

Notice to: 1. Malik Khurram Abbas S/O Muhammad Boota Resident of Village Moin Uddin Pur, Hakam Colony Bolay Tehsil & District Gujrat presently residing in South Africa

Amended suit for recovery of Maintenance. Whereas in the above mentioned case it has been proved to the satisfaction of the court that the above mentioned defendants are not served in ordinary way. It is therefore proclaimed under order 5 rule 20 CPC that if the said defendants will not appear personally or through a duly authorized agent or pleader in court at 8 AM on 09-09-2022, otherwise case will be decided ex party.

ISLAMABAD: The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) on Thursday postponed the bye elections in ten national and three provincial assembly constituencies due to flood situation in the country.

According to the ECP spokesman. the decision was taken in a meeting chaired by Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Sikandar Sultan Raja. Only polling was being postponed and the remaining schedule of the by elections would remain the same in all these constituencies. The new date for the polling would be announced on improvement of situation and availability of law enforcers. The polling on these constituencies was scheduled on September 11, 25 and Oct 2.

The ECP was of the view that the

elections on scheduled time were not possible due to flood devastation, engagement of all relevant institutions in flood relief activities, problems in movements due to floods, terror incidents in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and mass exodus of people from flood hit areas.

Secretary ECP told the meeting that the bye elections

were being held in constituencies including NA

157, Multan IV; PP 139, Sheikhupura V; PP 241

Bahawalnagar V were being held on September 11

The meeting was told that the Interior Ministry has reported to ECP that Pak Army, Rangers, FC and others were busy in flood relief activities, including maintaining peace and prevention of terrorist activities, hence Interior Ministry cannot assure providing services of these for elections. Military authorities has also referred National Emergency situation saying that the Pak Army Jawans could not be called back

from flood affected areas and hence were not available for election duty. The Secretary ECP told the meeting that the bye elections were being held in constituencies including NA 157, Multan IV; PP 139, Sheikhupura V; PP 241 Bahawalnagar V were being held on September 11.

ECP postpones by e elections in 13 constituencies

The bye elections in nine National Assembly constituencies including NA 22, Mardan III, NA 24 Charsadda II; NA 31, Peshawar V; NA 45 Kurram I; NA 108 Faisalabad VIII; NA 118, Nankana Sahib II; NA 237, Malir II; NA 239 Korangi, Karachi I and NA 246 Karachi South I were scheduled on September 25. And the by elections on PP 209, Khanewal VII were scheduled to be held on October 2, 2022. - DNA

م م *ال*اكمنت،

British HC calls on Balighur Rehman

LAHORE: British High Commissioner to Pakistan Christian Turner called on Governor Punjab Muhammad Balighur Rehman and discussed matters of mutual interest flood situation. environment, promotion of bilateral trade during a meeting at the Governor's House, here on Thursday. The British High Commissioner Christian Turner expressed his grief over the loss of lives and property due to floods in different areas of Pakistan while the Governor Punjab thanked the British High Commissioner for expressing solidarity with the flood victims. Speaking on

this occasion, Punjab Governor said PM has taken all the institutions and provinces onboard to help and rehabilitate the flood victims. - APP



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



Turkish Airlines......8494949





and the media at the Asian Wok, on Thursday. - DNA

Approaching ADR as the way forward in Pakistan

Pakistan's courts are overburdened and clogged with a caseload that is humanly impossible for the current judiciary to manage

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Opting for alternate dispute resolution (ADR) mechanisms is often argued to be the way forward as an alternative to litigation and for effectively solving endemic delays in the domestic courts. This narrative was considered and addressed at an international conference on "Expeditious Dispensation of Justice: ADR the Way Forward?" organized by the International Center for Appropriate Dispute Resolution and Prevention (ICADRP), in collaboration with Safer Communities, Samdani & Qureshi, a reputed law firm working in the field of arbitration, and the Weinstein International Foundation, a US based foundation that focuses on mediation. It was also a formal launch of ICADRP.

After hosting the first day at Serena Hotel,

impossible for the current judiciary to manage. The whole society ranging from litigants to lawyers to judicial officers suffer in silence; in the hope for an external savior in the form of better human, technical and financial resources but no concrete answer to how the issues of frivolous and unnecessary litigation would be resolved in the long run. In the midst of this crisis, various countries across the world have adopted ADR as the way forward for settlement of disputes and, successfully so, have seen this develop as a parallel regime to the traditional court system. Pakistan, it was argued at the conference, needs to take a similar approach of developing a functional parallel system to that of the courts for litigants to obtain relief, lawyers to expand their expertise beyond the role that is played at the bar, and judicial officers to facilitate out of court settlement

for the benefit of society as a whole.

Honorable Chief Justice of the Islamabad

High Court, Mr. CJ Athar Minallah presided

Nazeer Tarar amongst other local and foreign experts, and former justices of various high courts in Pakistan also graced the event.

The Honorable Chief Justice emphasized that the backlog of cases and overburdened courts in Pakistan necessitated intervention through adopting ADR. He emphasized that the judicial system was suffering heavily owing to neglect towards adopting ADR as per the present legal system and that the courts must play a vital role in guiding the parties towards adopting the various ADR mechanisms for their dispute resolution. He concluded with calling on everyone to join hands with the Islamabad High Court in furthering this initiative towards encouraging and facilitating ADR.

The honorable Mr. Justice Miangul Hassan Aurangzeb of the Islamabad High Court also spoke about the need for taking ADR initia-

forward for the legal system in Pakistan. The Federal Minister for Law and Justice, Senator Azam Nazeer Tarar, also graced the event and said that the government was committed to introducing speedy justice at the doorstep. Dr. Shoaib Suddle of Safer Communities, an organization committed to improvements in the justice sector, and Ehsan Sadiq, Additional Inspector General of Police, emphasized the role of ADR in criminal matters.

They mentioned that some pilots in Pakistan had already demonstrated how ADR can be used to settle disputes expeditiously at the police station level and at little cost to the parties. Barrister Farrukh Qureshi, the Managing Director of ICADRP, explained how a silent revolution had taken place in many countries around the world so that most disputes were settled out of court. He

said that ADR held a lot of promise for solv-

ing problems faced by litigants in Pakistani

courts. He hoped that ICADRP can play an

important role in this respect. Dr. Nudrat

Piracha, CEO of ICADRP also discussed

how the intense backlog of cases in Paki-

Dacoit gang busted; three arrested

RAWALPINDI: In an operation against criminal elements, Rawalpindi Police have busted a dacoit gang and arrested its three members besides recovering Rs 52,000, weapons and other items from their possession. According to a police spokesman, Rawat police arrested Faizan, Saghir, and Nasir who were wanted in various cases. He informed that the police team constituted under the supervision of SHO Rawat Police Station on the directives of SP Saddar conducted raid and managed to net the gang members.

As per the preliminary police record, the criminals were also involved in other crimes, he added. - APP

181 NICs issued to non-nationals cancelled in three years

ISLAMABAD: National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA) has cancelled 181 National Identity Cards (NICs) during the last three years and initiated process against 8,152 individuals for the verification of national status.

A few non-nationals succeeded in obtaining NICs by providing fake documents through connivance of NAD-RA employees and the NICs of such non-nationals were digitally impounded or cancelled as and when reported, an official source told APP on Thursday. However, the digital impounding of NICs was stopped on the directions of Islamabad High Court.

Due to presence of a large number of illegal immigrants throughout the country, the source said, the NADRA had to be extra vigilant to counter the menace of non-nationals' inclusion in its database while ensuring that only genuine citizens were registered. Moreover, he said that NA-DRA had initiated inquiries against employees involved in the illegal processing and 279

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 PIAFlightInfo.....114 PIACargo......9280979 Railway Inquiry.....117 Railway Exchange9270831-5 WASA Rawalpindi..5555489 ...9281092 CAA



Hospitals

СМН	5611111
MH	
Cantt Hospital.	9270907-11
DHQ	5556311-4
RGH	9290301-7
Holy Family	9290322-7
PIMS	9261170-79
Polyclinic	9218300-09
Shifa Internatio	nal.4603666

Islamabad, conference's second limb was continued in the honorable Islamabad High Court on 2nd September, 2022 in collaboration with the Islamabad High Court Bar Association, under the auspices of President of the Association, Mr. Shoaib Shaheen. Pakistan's courts are overburdened and clogged with a caseload that is humanly

Fatality rate may rise if health issues not resolved

ISLAMABAD: The country's one third land has been submerged due to torrential rains and flash floods and it has been causing health complications among the affected people particularly in the children and women. In an exclusive talk with APP on Thursday, Senior Medical Officer and Child Specialist Dr Nasrullah Sabki alarmed that the fatality rate could rise if health issues were not resolved in the flood affected areas timely. He said due to the stagnant water, skin infection was a common disease being reported in all age groups of people in the flood-hit areas. However, the accumulated water and unhygienic environment had also multiplied the growth of flies and mosquitoes which were the main source of malaria, dengue, typhoid, gastro, cholera, hepatitis A and food poisoning, he added.

He said the flood affected people should use boiled water for the drinking purpose if they wanted to protect themselves from gastro, cholera, typhoid, food poisoning, hepatitis A and other water borne diseases. He said due to dilapidated infrastructure, the pregnant women had no access to the hospital therefore they must be provided nearby health facilities so that they could give birth to babies.

Appreciating the government, Pakistan Army and non-profitable organizations' health activities in the affected areas, Dr Sabki said the medical teams were not sufficient enough to cope with this catastrophic situation. He said a large number of medical teams must be dispatched to every nook and cranny of the affected areas along with medicines and medical supplies to save the people's health and lives. - APP

the event as Chief Guest, while Honorable Mr. Justice Miangul Hassan Aurangzeb and Honorable Mr. Justice Sardar Ejaz Ishaq Khan of the Islamabad High Court, and the Federal Minister for Law and Justice, Senator Azam British HC

meets women

cricketers

ISLAMABAD: With the

English men's cricket team

arriving in Pakistan this

month, the British High

Commissioner on Thursday

met women cricketers at

Lahore's Gaddafi Stadium

and hoped a tour of Eng-

land's women's cricket team

would follow soon. The

English men's cricket team

will be touring Pakistan for

the first time in 17 years to

play seven T20 internation-

als in September followed

by three international test

matches in December. This

year also marks 75 years of

As the Pakistan and Eng-

lish cricket boards finalise

arrangements, the High

Commissioner met PCB

Chairman Ramiz Raja and

thanked him for his support

for the upcoming tour. The

High Commissioner also

wished good luck to the

Pakistan men's team in the

Asia Cup. - APP

Pak-UK relations.

tives and his contributions in the field. He emphasized the necessity of lawyers' being at the forefront of leading the initiative for supporting ADR in Pakistan. The honorable Mr. Justice Sardar Ejaz Ishaq Khan of the Islamabad High Court further delved into a judges' perspective on how there was no question about the fact that ADR was, in fact, the way

stan created a grave need for adopting ADR mechanisms for the country. AIOU and JICA commits to

IRSHAD ALI

ISLAMABAD: "Government is taking exemplary steps for the improvement of the education sector, due to which not only the out-of-school children will join the education network, but the dropout rate will also decrease significantly," said the Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training, Ms. Zeb Jaffar while addressing a symposium organized on the topic of "Redefining Literacy in Pakistan" on account of World Literacy Day at Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU) yesterday.

Zeb Jaffar said that the educational services of the AIOU and JICA are commendable, and it is great to hear that AIOU is providing free education to neglected areas and deprived classes, especially transgenders. She

ucation is the right of every child, and the government gives a monthly stipend of 2 thousand rupees to every needy child. The symposium was organized by the AIOU's Faculty of Education in collaboration with Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and National Commission for Human Development (NCHD).

further said that the best ed-

Vice Chancellor, AIOU, Prof. Dr. Zia Ul- Qayyum said that the number of children who do not go to school and drop out in Pakistan is continuously increasing. He said that Allama Iqbal Open University with the support of JICA and different organizations is providing secondary and skillbased education to women in remote and backward areas of the country. JICA has always been very supportive in our initiatives and with the collaboration of JICA, we gave Middle Tech education

raise literacy rate in Pakistan to 560 students in Torghar, the most backward district of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and now these students can enroll in matriculation for which the university will also provide financial support to them. Dr. Zia said that AIOU provides free matriculation education to the students Balochistan, Merged of Districts, and Gilgit-Baltistan. We are also giving free education to Jail inmates, transgenders, and disabled persons. He added that the best solution to bring out-ofschool children into the education network is the use of

information technology. Speaking at the occasion, Mr. Kinsoshita Yasumit-Chief Representative - JICA Pakistan said, 'Literacy is our gateway to lifelong learning that prepares us to collaborate, achieve and celebrate our collective, social and economic recovery, and prosperity.

inquiries had been initiated during the period between July 1 last year and June 30 this year as per the E&D Rules 2020. – APP

Court extends Imran's prearrest bail till Sept 27

ISLAMABAD: A lower court of Islamabad on Thursday extended interim bail of PTI's chairman and former prime minister till September 27, in an FIR pertaining vandalizing the public property during his party's long march. District and Session Judge Kamran Basharrat Mufti heard the pre-arrest bail petition of Imran Khan.

The judge inquired about the attendance of former prime minister, at this Imran's Lawyer Dr. Baber Awan requested the court to grant his client one-time exemption from hearing. The judge questioned whether the accused had joined the investigation of the police in the case. The lawyer answered that the PTI chief had joined the investigation process through his counsel. After listening arguments, the court extended the pre-arrest bail of Imran Khan till September 27.

It may be mentioned here that the capital police had registered an FIR against former prime minister regarding the damaging of the public property during the long march of his party. - APP

IHC disposes of PTI's plea

ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad High Court (IHC) on Thursday disposed of a petition seeking permission of PTI's worker convention at Convention Center Islamabad. Chief Justice Athar Minallah heard the case filed by PTI. Additional Attorney General Munawar Dogal informed the court that the district administration had granted permission to PTI for holding even at Convention Center.

The PTI's lawyer said that his party had been given a NOC including the terms and conditions for holding the event. He prayed the court to also issued a directive for grant of permission in future to this the chief justice said that court was not passing such order. – APP

Telenor pledges PKR 1.1 bn for flood relief



Departments

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

Islamabad Metropolitan

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

Water Tank Islamabad.....0321-5744480

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Telenor Pakistan, along with its parent company, Telenor Group, have pledged PKR 1.1 billion in cash and in-kind services to support nationwide flood relief efforts. Telenor's cash donation comprises voluntary contributions from Telenor Pakistan and Telenor Microfinance Bank employees and funds from Telenor Pakistan and the Group. Additionally, a range of in-kind services is part of the total contribution.

Earlier today, Telenor Pakistan made a cash donation of PKR 100 million to UNICEF Pakistan to support them in relief efforts by providing life-saving nutrition and hygiene packsin affected areas on an immediate basis.

Irfan Wahab Khan, Chief Executive Officer, Telenor Pakistan and chairman, Telenor Microfinance Bank, said, "In this moment of national tragedy and calamity, our thoughts and prayers are with those affected by the floods. With the support of Telenor colleagues from around the world, we are committed to supporting impacted families and communities through these testing times and will do all we can. The road of rehabilitation for the affected is long and treacherous, and we will continue to support to the best of our abilities."



"The torrential monsoon rains that left one-third of Pakistan under water have destroyed the vital infrastructure children rely on to access essential services. More than 20,000 schools and 1,460 public health facilities have been damaged or destroyed, and 20 to 50 per cent of water systems in the hardest-hit areas," said Abdullah Fadil, UNICEF's Representative in Pakistan. "At least 3.4 million children need immediate, life-saving support. Telenor's generous donation will enable UNICEF to provide flood-stricken children living out in the open with their families with immediate access to hygiene kits and therapeutic food supplements. We thank Telenor employees for their generosity and Telenor, a close partner which has been standing with us in support of the children in

Pakistan for over four years. UNICEF will use the cash donation to provide life-saving medical and other emergency supplies to support children and women affected by the floods. These include drinking water, water purification tablets, hygiene kits, medicines, vaccines, and therapeutic nutritional supplements for children. Alongside this, Telenor has been helping to provide support in Pakistansince the beginning of the monsoon seasonthrough subsidised and accessible services, offers, and addons for telecom and banking consumers.

04

TWIN CITIES



Briefs

Administration demolishes **22 structures**

RAWALPINDI: Rawalpindi Development Authority (RDA) on the directives of Chairman RDA Tariq Mehmood Murtaza and Director General, RDA Muham mad Siaf Anwar Jappa on Thursday launched an operation and demolished 22 un der constructions residential structures, four site offices and nine billboards of four illegal housing schemes at Chak Beli Road Rawalpindi. According to a RDA spokesman, the Metropolitan Planning and Traffic Engi-neering (MP&TE) Directorate RDA took action in accordance with the law against four illegal housing schemes namely Turkish Smart City, Nishan-e-Mustufa, Ample Living and the Countryside Farms at Chak Beli Road Rawalpindi as the housing societies were violating the rules and the approved layout plans.

He said, RDA's operation against illegal housing schemes was in full swing and the authorities concerned were taking strict action against illegal housing schemes. The Director MP&TE RDA said that the owners of the aforesaid mentioned housing schemes constructed illegal buildings without approval of the maps / No Objection Certificates (NOCs) in violation of Punjab Development of Cities Act 1976 and Punjab Private Housing schemes and Land Subdivision Rules 2010. He said, the notices had been issued to the owners of the four housing schemes and directed to stop illegal advertisements of their projects. - APP

CDA chief inspects ongoing projects

ISLAMABAD: Chief Commissioner, ICT/Chairman, Capital Development Authority (CDA) captain (Retd) Muhammad Usman Thursday conducted a surprise visit to High Court, Margalla Avenue, Khayaban-e-Iqbal, 11th & 12th Avenue projects to monitor

COMSTECH workshop on MS, Tech Parks ends Prof. Choudhary said that science and technology parks were indeed time tested institutions since 1951 and contributed in economic development of many

countries, including the USA, the UK, China, France, and Germany

STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: Two-day International training workshop on 'Managing Science and Technology Parks' concluded on Thursday at COMSTECH after local and foreign experts deliberated over the importance of strengthening science and technology parks for building knowledge economy.

The workshop was arranged by COMS-TECH in collaboration with the Pardis Technology Park, Iran and ICCBS Technology Park and Technology Incubation Center, Pakistan.

The inaugural session of this two-day workshop was addressed by Director General of International Affairs and Public Relations of Pardis Technology Park Amin Reza Khaleghian.

Speaking on the occasion, he stressed the need for the establishment and optimum management of science and technology parks (STPs) in OIC member states. He talked about the programmes and activities of the Pardis Technology Park. The Coordinator General of COMSTECH Prof. Dr M. Iqbal Choudhary emphasizing the need to strengthen science and technology parks,



ISLAMABAD: Coordinator General Comstech Iqbal Chaudrhy presenting a souvenir to Ambassador of Iran during a function. - DNA

said that the science and technology parks were part and parcel of the knowledge econ-

omy ecosystem. He said STPs played a central role in fostering linkages between the

Federal capital's air quality healthy

ISLAMABAD: The air quality of the federal capital on Thursday was clean as air pollutants ratio recorded were below permissible limits and the air quality was recorded healthy due to reduced vehicular traffic on roads. The air quality data has been collected by Pak-EPA which monitors air pollutants ratio for 24 hours based on three intervals of eight hours of data collection from different locations. The Pak-EPA data revealed that the air quality throughout the three intervals of data monitoring remained high as the pollutants were below the permissible limits of national environmental quality standards (NEQS). The hazardous air pollutant particulate matter of 2.5 microns (PM2.5), which was a lethal atmospheric contaminant, remained 21.10 micro grammes per cubic meter on average which is lower than the NEQS of 35 mic-programmes per cubic meter and

The PM2.5 is generated through combustion of an engine, industrial emissions, burning garbage or inflammable material and dust

blown up by fast moving cars plying on non-cemented patches of the roads. Moreover, the frequent forest fires in the federal capital also created high suspended particles, dust and particulate matter in the atmosphere

The particulate matter had exceeded the permissible limits beyond 40 microns prior to the onset of rainfall which was mainly due to persistent hot and dry weather. The nitrogen dioxide (NO2) and sulphur dioxide (SO2) were recorded below permissible ratio as it were recorded 6.6 and 8.23 micro-grammes per cubic meter in past 24 hours in the atmosphere against the NEQS of 80 and 120 micro-grammes per cubic meter respectively.

These effluents were mainly produced during the operational activities of industrial plants and factories that were already under control. The EPA urged the masses with respiratory conditions and other critical heart or lungs diseases to avoid prolonged outdoor visits and wear face coverings and goggles when the air quality was unhealthy while venturing outdoors. - APP

CTP issues 978 tickets for speeding RAWALPINDI: City Traffic Police (CTP) Rawalpindi during their ongoing campaign issued 978 challan slips to violators for over speeding on city roads and imposed Rs 300,850 fines on the violators. Checking was conducted on new airport road, old airport road, Taxila, Kalar Syedan, Mandra-Chakwal Road, and other roads of Rawalpindi city. According to in-charge CTP's camera squad, the CTP on the directives of CTO Rawalpindi Naveed Irshad had formed a special camera squad to check over speeding on various roads. The squad checked over speeding at various roads during August and penalized the violators. He said, the CTP were making all out efforts to control over speeding and violation of traf-

fic rules aimed at minimizing road traffic accidents. - APP

academic institutions and industries. Prof. Choudhary said that science and technology parks were indeed time tested institutions since 1951 and contributed in economic development of many countries, including the USA, the UK, China, France, and Germany.

He said that the OIC countries were increasingly realizing the importance of STPs, and there were many success stories in countries like Turkey, Iran, Malaysia, Egypt, and now in Qatar, Saudi Arabia, UAE, Pakistan, and several Central Asian member states. Prof. Choudhary informed that a large majority of the OIC member states, especially in Africa, were still lagging behind in this process of harnessing the innovative potential of their youth though such initiatives. COMSTECH, with partner institutions, had launched major initiatives to help strengthen the STPs, including establishment of Inter-Islamic Network on Science and Technology Parks, based in Iran. The Pro-Rector for Research, Innovation and Commercialization NUST addressed

the session and highlighted the importance of the STPs and their role in the socio-economic development of countries.

Sikh man figures out he's Muslim, family is in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD: After 75 long years, a Jalandhar-based Sikh man got to know that his original family was in Pakistan and they were Muslims. According to Kashmir Media Service, Amarjit Singh, who is learnt to be from Nurmahal area near Jalandhar, Indian Punjab, had a tearful meeting with his sister Kulsoom Akhtar at Kartarpur Gurdwara. A Pakistani journalist shared on his Twitter account the video of a wheelchair-bound Amarjit Singh meeting his sister. As per reports, Kulsoom reportedly told the media that she was born in Pakistan after the Partition and that her mother would often tell her that she had an elder brother and a sister at Pabwan village of Jalandhar whom she could not bring along to Pakistan.

She said she mentioned this to her father's friend Dara Singh who was planning to come to Indian Punjab. She gave him their address and he was able to locate her brother and arrange his contact. Kulsoom was told that her elder sister had died. After the emotional reunion, Amarjit Singh told the media that he was raised by a Sikh family in the village and never knew that his original family was in Pakistan and that they were Muslims. - APP

Railways start two rail cars between

ANF recovers over one kg ice

ISLAMABAD: Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) has recovered more than one kilogram of ice and arrested one accused at Sialkot International Airport.

According to the ANF spokesperson, during the search, the drug was recovered from accused Noor Saleem, a resident of District Khyber who was travelling from Sialkot to Bahrain by Gulf Airline Flight number GF-773. A case has been registered under the Anti-Narcotics Act and further investigation is in progress. - APP

Plan underway to replace fossil fuel electricity

ISLAMABAD: The government is embarking on an ambitious plan to replace 9,000 MW electricity being generated on costly fossil fuel with clean and low-cost hydel energy.

Official sources told APP here Thursday that currently the share of costly thermal based electricity in total energy mix stood at around 70 per cent.

Keeping in view, the high prices of imported fuel at the international market, the government has planned to switch towards indigenous sources including low cost hydel.

4500 MW Diamer Basha dam, 4200 MW Dasu, 1530 MW Tarbela 5th Extension hydropower, Mohmand dam and Keyal Khwar Hydropower projects etc were launched to enhance share of hydel in total energy mix besides replacing costly imported fuel based power plants, they said.

They said these projects would drastically cut the electricity generation through fossil fuel in the country. These projects were mostly multiple purposed and would not only generate low cost hydel electricity but also store water besides mitigating flash floods which brought havoc in the entire country during the current monsoon season. - APP

denotes the air quality unhealthy.

the progress. He also vis ited Sector E-11 to check working of different departments for provision of Services in the area.

Chairman said that all ongoing development projects would be completed in time and directed that slackness at any level will not be tolerated. Meanwhile anti-encroachment operation against illegal block-factories, structures and shops has been conducted by CDA Enforcement, Roads and MPO Directorates.

CDA land has been cleared from encroachments for construction of Bhara Kahu Bypass. Assistant Commissioner (Secretariat) provided magisterial cover during the operation. - APP

SSP reviews security arrangements for Chehlum

RAWALPINDI: Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Operations Rawalpindi Waseem Riaz Khan here on Thursday reviewed the security arrangements for Chehlum of Hazrat Imam Hussain (AS). The meeting held in Police Lines was attended by SP Rawal, Babar Javed Joya, SDPOs, SHOs and other officers concerned. The SSP direct ed the officers to finalize foolproof security arrangements for the Chehlum.

The police officers briefed the SSP about security and traffic plan being finalized to guard and facilitate the mourners in their respective areas on the occasion of Chelum of Hazrat Imam Hussain (AS). Addressing the meeting, the SSP directed the police officers to provide foolproof security to the mourners and processions to be taken out in connection with the Chehlum.

He said that there should only be one entry and exit point of all the processions whereas all other ways should be blocked to avoid

any untoward incident. The police and volunteers should allow the mourners to join processions only after passing from walkthrough gates and a comprehensive body search with the help of metal detectors. He directed that the parking lots should be established far away from the routes of processions. - APP

Over 703 animals' sheds destroyed due to floods

ISLAMABAD: Recent flash floods and torrential rains have not only destroyed the major and minor cash crops standing over thousands of hectares across the four provinces of the country, but it also ruined basic livestock infrastructure developed over vast areas. Due to the devastation, hundreds of thousands small and large animals killed, besides destroying and damaging of poultry sheds and fish farms established over vast areas in the country. According to a senior official of the Ministry of National Food Security and Research, over 703 animals' sheds in flood hit areas were completely damaged, whereas 591 sheds were partially damaged.

The initial data compiled by provincial livestock departments revealed that over 86,120 rural poultry birds vanished due to floods, whereas 01 poultry shed was completely damaged and 5 sheds partially damaged, he said adding that basic livestock infrastructure in Balochistan Province had seen the worst destruction as about 586 animals sheds completely destroyed and 417 animals sheds partially damaged. In Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, about 61 animals' sheds destroyed completely, whereas 84 received partial damages, he said adding that one poultry shed was destroyed and 5 were partially damaged. Meanwhile, the official informed that over 56 animals sheds in Sindh Province were completely damaged and 90 sheds partially damaged due to recent floods and rains in the country. It is worth mentioning here that the recent torrential rains and floods have wreaked havoc across the country, causing damages of Rs 320.824 billion to agriculture and livestock alone. The floods damaged standing crops including cotton, maize, sugarcane, oil seeds and seasonal pulses spreading over millions of hectares of land whereas the livestock sector also faced huge losses. - APP



ISLAMABAD: CDA workers busy in road construction work to extend the road for better and smooth traffic flow at Sirinagar highway with heavy machinery in Federal Capital. - APP

Rawalpindi-Lahore

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Railways had started two special rail cars between Lahore and Rawalpindi to cater the rush and facilitate the passengers in a more efficient way. "The rail cars have been started on the special instructions of Minister for Railways Khawaja Saad Rafigue which would not only provide comfortable journey to passengers but also help increase in department revenue," an official in the Ministry of Railways told APP. The official said the first non-stop rail car had departed from Lahore at 7:30 pm to Rawalpindi while the second train will leave from Lahore at 5 am to Rawalpindi. He said both the up and down trains had comprised two AC business class, two AC standard class, five economy class and one power van while the second train had to stopovers at Gujranwala and Jhelum. The special rail cars between Lahore-Rawalpindi had received overwhelming response from thousands of passengers between the routes and they expressed their gratitude to Pakistan Railways for facilitating them, he added. To a question, he said Pakistan Railways were also planning to upgrade five major railway stations across the country on modern lines to facilitate the passengers. "The purpose to upgrade the railway stations is to make them commercial hubs for business activities and facilitate the passengers," he said. The five major railway stations including Karachi, Lahore, Faisalabad, Peshawar and Quetta were also included in the up-gradation. - APP

IRSA releases 253,500 cusecs water

ISLAMABAD: Indus River System Authority (IRSA) on Thursday released 253,500 cusecs water from various rim stations with inflow of 269,400 cusecs. According to the data released by IRSA, Tarbela Dam has already attained its maximum conversation level of 1550 feet and was 152 feet higher than its dead level of 1,398 feet. Water inflow and outflow in the dam was recorded as 155,800 cusecs and 155,000 cusecs respectively. The water level in River Jhelum at Mangla Dam was 1191.00 feet, which was 141.00 feet higher than its dead level of 1,050 feet. The inflow and outflow of water was recorded 25,100 cusecs and 10,000 cusecs respectively. The release of water at Kalabagh, Taunsa and Sukkur was recorded 159,100, 182,800 and 273,400 cusecs respectively. - APP

ECC approves funds for relief operations

ISLAMABAD: The Economic Coordination Committee (ECC) of the cabinet here on Thursday approved Rs540 million for Utility Stores Corporation (USC) for supply of essential commodities in flood-affected areas. According to press statement issued by the finance ministry, the ECC meeting was chaired by Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Miftah Ismail. The committee also allowed to supply PASSCO's wheat among all recipients @ 50% local and 50% imported. However, USC will be provided wheat @ 75% local and 25% imported.

ECC approved Rs3 billion to National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) to meet expenditure on rescue, relief and rehabilitation of calamity stricken population across Pakistan.

It approved funding requirement of Rs1009 million for running cost/salary of the staff of three Pakistani hospitals in Afghanistan. The committee allowed the Trading Corporation of Pakistan (TCP) to initiate the process for import of 300,000 MT of Urea on government to government basis for Rabi season 2022-23. – APP

Gang involved in Illegal issuance of SIMs nabbed

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) in collaboration with Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) carried out a successful raid at three different locations in Peshawar against illegal activation of SIMs on Afghan passports, tampering in Afghan passports and issuance of SIMs on fake visas.

During the raid, a total of ten (10) suspects were arrested whereas copies of 450 Afghan Passports, three (3) Laptops, four (4) PCs and fifteen (15) mobile phones were recovered, said a press news release. The raid proves PTA's commitment and persistent efforts in curbing the menace of illegal issuance of SIMs. - APP

BTBU–ECOSF to hold training on Li-ion batteries By the end of 2021, China's power battery production capacity accounted for about 70% of the global total. Additionally, six of the top 10 lithium battery manufacturers in the world are from China

ISLAMABAD: BTBU-ECOSF Joint Training Center has planned to host its sixth training program titled "Powering Belt and Road - Lithium - ion batteries" in the month of September to guide entrepreneurs about manufacturing of lithium-ion batteries for energy storage

According to an official of ECOSF, the objective behind this training, scheduled to be held on September 28, is to bring China's extensive expertise and best practices to help guide entrepreneurs to develop a regional lithium-ion battery manufacturing value chain that creates equitable clean-energy and hi-tech jobs in the Belt and Road (B&R) countries while mitigating climate change impacts. Energy storage market is on rise across the world.

Every company, new or old, that is in the field of renewable or electric vehicles, is looking for even more reliable and affordable storage technology. Battery energy storage provides several valuable services and advantages in stationary, renewable grid services and electric mobility.

In stationary storage and renewable grid service battery energy storage provides for frequency regulation, peak shaving as well as mitigating the fluctuations in generation from variability in renewable sources.

Lithium-ion (Li-ion) batteries today are poised to become the preferred choice for many applications across the electric mobility, grid storage and consumer electronics. This is because of inherent characteristics of the Li-ion batteries, which last longer and recharge faster, saving time, saving money, being more productive and reducing risk throughout the life cycle.

Hence, Lithium-ion batteries are the

key technology to achieve net-zero carbon emissions in transportation, industrial equipment, and consumer electronics for the Belt and Road and ECO Member Countries.

The Joint Training Center fully recognizes the fact that the China has now been the world's largest lithium battery consumer market for five consecutive years.

In 2021, the global lithium-ion battery market reached 545 GWh, and China accounted for more than half of the total. Increasing demand for new energy vehicles is one of the main factors underpinning the recent surge in China's lithium battery industry.

By the end of 2021, China's power battery production capacity accounted for about 70% of the global total. Additionally, six of the top 10 lithium battery manufacturers in

the world are from China. In this backdrop, this training program will seek to understand and learn from China's expertise and capabilities about viable options for creating a strong lithium-ion manufacturing based in the B&R region, show case best practices, success stories, and barriers on implementation of policies and programmes promoting low carbon development, and match the potential cooperation among BRI counties in Lithium-ion Battery production.

The interested participants can register http://www.ecosf.org/signup.aspx. Once registered, you will receive further information with login and password to access the training sessions. Interested participants are requested to register themselves by September 26, 2022. On successful registration, participants would receive access to zoom webinar links. - APP

Global food crisis

S EVEN years ago, world leaders committed to a highly ambitious target: ending hunger by 2030. That goal is now more distant than ever. The United Nations estimates that the number of peo-ple in "hunger emergencies" – just one step away from famine – has jumped from 135 million in 2019 to 345 million. This week the UN humanitarian chief warned that famine is "at the door" in Somalia. Across the drought-ravaged Horn of Africa, 22 million are at risk of starvation. Almost a third of Pakistan is underwater, and as much as four-fifths of its livestock have died. In southern China, drought and a heatwave are putting crops at risk. These follow Russia's invasion of Ukraine, which affected supplies from two major exporters, and sent energy and fertiliser prices soaring. Arif Husain, the UN World Food Programme's chief economist, has noted that the war itself did not create the crisis, but rather "put a lot of fuel on an already burning fire". Multiple conflicts and climate shocks were already having an impact when the pandemic hit. Though its effects on food production were not as severe as many had feared, it depleted reserves and many have not recovered. It looks highly likely that 2023 will be worse. Two-thirds of those affected by hunger last year were women – with the food security gap between women and men multiplying by 8.4 since 2018.

The UN stresses that at the moment the issue is not supply but access and affordability. Globally, prices have risen by about 20% year-on-year (while food inflation stands at 33% in Iran and a staggering 122% in Lebanon). But production is an increasing concern. Fertiliser prices have soared by as much as 300% in some countries in Africa; wars and extreme weather are disrupting planting for next year's crops. The crisis is laying bare the broken food system that underlies it, in which consumers, and often producers, struggle while others make huge profits. Grain trading is concentrated in the hands of only four companies, which are making record profits from desperately needed dietary staples. Speculation and profiteering were blamed for helping cause the Arab spring in the last food crisis; the fear is that they are once more prevailing.

The resumption of Ukrainian grain exports, though sorely needed, cannot fix this even if it endures. A good harvest would help, if major food-producing regions are luckier with the weather next year. A wind-fall tax on companies that have profited richly from the pandemic could be used to help feed people now and create a sustainable food system, as Oxfam has proposed. The failure of governments to address the real problems has left the way clear for companies to exploit high prices for excessive profit, and Vladimir Putin to manipulate food for political ends – a tactic that others may be tempted to adopt in future, knowing full well its deadly cost. Meeting the 2030 goal is now a more daunting challenge than ever. The backwards slide must be halted.

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Friday, September 09, 2022

US profits while allies suffer

ITH European Union energy ministers due to hold an emergency meeting on Friday to discuss a price cap on Russian gas, Russian President Vladimir Putin threatened to halt all supplies of energy to Europe if Brussels went ahead with the move. Speaking at an economic forum in Russia's Far East on Wednesday, Putin said that "We will not supply gas, oil, coal, heating oil – we will not supply anything" if Europe imposes the proposed cap. Europe imports about 45 percent of its gas and 30 percent of its oil from Russia and with Nord Stream 1, the main pipeline supplying Russian gas to Europe, currently shut, supposedly for maintenance, European countries are already feeling the pinch of the energy shortage, with public anger at rising prices turning up the heat on governments.

Rising energy prices already pushed the annual inflation rate in the eurozone to 9.1 percent in August, up from 8.9 percent in July.

The European countries only have themselves to blame for this. By supporting the United States in its proxy war with Russia, they are inflicting severe wounds upon themselves. Nor should they expect the US to offer a helping hand. The US is indifferent to the suffering of its European allies. It is even willing to make a buck or two, or more, on it. According to Business Insider, every ship carrying liquid gas to Europe from the US makes a profit of more than \$100 million on average. And despite all its rhetoric aimed at justifying the sanctions on Russia, the US has been quite happy to carry on trading with Russia itself and it continues to import Russian crude oil.

Unless Europe changes course, its relationship with Russia, its main energy supplier, will not improve. And if that is the case, the rising energy prices will worsen Europe's economic recession and trigger a chain reaction of social turmoil.

It will take an enormous effort of will for European countries to end their dependency on the US for security, but if they weren't aware of it before, the dire consequences of the conflict in Ukraine should be enough to convince them that the capital-crusaders in the US don't give two hoots about them and they will sacrifice anyone and everyone in the name of American exceptionalism.

US Energy Secretary Jennifer Granholm reinforced the bitter truth that the US' European allies can't count on the US when the chips are down by writing to several major US oil refining companies asking them not to increase fuel exports but to concentrate on increasing US inventories. The US' European allies have been left high, dry and shivering, hoisted by their own craven acceptance of Washington's petard.

Dr. Abdus Sattar Abbasi

The most disappointing part of the report is the detail about MumtazQadri who assassinated the governor of Punjab on supporting Asia Bibi, conclusion of whose case has also been reported with artfully designed angle. The report did not appreciate that

despite popular support, as it has been specifically

Victim Card

majority of Muslims through manipulations and joining hands with global communities and international organizations by narrating the half-truth. Islam is an established religion for more than 1400 years with almost 1.8 billion followers today around the globe. Pakistan is a country of more than 200 million Muslims. According to the Constitution of Pakistan Ahmediyya community has been declared as non-Muslim minoriity, while same document protects rights of all minorities living in the Country. This declaration was the result of a democratic process through legislation in a democratically elected assembly of Pakistan after thorough debate by all relevant stakeholders including representatives from Ahmediyya community.

Today we live in a civilised mostly democratic society on this planet. If we transformed some fundamental values of human societies in some countries through a democratic process then why we are sceptical for a declaration which evolved through constitutional amendment in the National Assembly of Pakistan. Today we value the collective wisdom of people of any country concerning their beliefs and options to practice their lives within the domain of their constitutions, the same should be the spirit relating to the constitutional declaration case has also been reported with artfully designed angle. The report did not appreciate that despite popular support, as it has been specifically projected in the document, the State decreed the death penalty to the assassin who is considered as a martyr by the vast majority of the country. Report should have recognized that the government of Pakistan doesn't allow anyone to take law in his/her hand and remains committed to ensure rule of law in the Country. The subject report also says, "Asia was finally released on 7 November 2018 after serving eight years in prison." Asia Bibi was arrested after the FIR followed by court proceedings leading to her conviction according to the law of the land but eventually the Supreme Court of Pakistan gave verdict on her appeal which states, "A conclusion is inescapable and irresistible that the prosecution had failed to prove its case against he appellant beyond reasonable doubt. This appeal is, therefore, allowed, the conviction and sentence of the appellant recorded and upheld by the courts ... and she is acquitted of the charge by extending the benefit of doubt to her. She shall be released from the jail forthwith.'

Handling of above cases at the state level suggest that Pakistan is committed to the declaration of Partition Council on July 22, 1947 stating, "Both the Congress and the Muslim League have given assurances of fair and equitable treatment to the minorities after the transfer of power. The two future governments re-affirm these assurances. It is their intention to safeguard the legitimate interests of all citizens irrespective of religion, caste or sex. In the exercise of their normal civic rights all citizens will be regarded as equal and both the Governments will assure to all people within their territories the exercise of liberties such as freedom of speech, the right to form associations, the right to worship in their own way and the protection of their language and culture." Now it is the responsibility of all creeds living in the Country to respect constitution of Pakistan and laws of the land to ensure peaceful coexistence to inculcate prosperity for our future generations without being exploited by such initiatives as the subject report aimed at cultivating divides in the society. None of the countries on this planet is free from crimes, we all have to work together to eliminate every kind of injustice, discrimination and lawlessness from Pakistan for our happy and thriving life. - The writer is Associate Professor Management Sciences Head, Center of Islamic Finance COMSATS University (CUI) Lahore Campus, Email: drabdussattar@cuilahore.edu.pk

Yet another K2 Cleanup

Munir Ahmed

Most importantly, the provincial govt of Gilgit-Baltistan needs to urgently pay heed towards the increasing challenges to K2 as the total visitors to this area have increased to 3857 in 2022 from 668 in 2011. As the federal govt has taken several tourism friendly...

projected in the document, the State decreed the death penalty to the assassin...

WAS bit curious while going through a case study in a report titled "Suffocation of the faithful" featuring a murder attempt in Karachi on UmmadFarooq, an adherent of Ahmediyyacommunity, on October 19, 2012. There are a few other purposely selected incidents described in the report which clearly indicate the bias of the authors. In the same year according to the crime report by the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics the country witnessed 13846 murders and 15338 murder attempts and the trend of thousands of murders in the country continues with 8490 murders and 11797 murder attempts during 2020. If these thousands of people wereassaulted by the criminals, then how can we pick and choose an incidence portraying as a persecution of a certain community. Numbers above are indicative of alarming crime rate in the Country and the person may be the subject of a criminal incidence. There is no substantive evidence in the report that the person was specifically targeted due to his religious affiliations. It is always easy to portray oneself as an innocent victim to get sympathies and attention to control the of Pakistan about Ahmediyya community.

Burning mosques and religious sites, bomb blasts, and fatal attacks are not unknown to Pakistan due to extremely difficult history of war against terrorism through one dimension or another for more than five decades now. Audience of such reports should always keep in the mind the fact that those who develop and propagate such reports have vested interests, and personal agendas for political and financial gains exploiting sensitivities of today's civilized world. The same report features an attack on a cardiologist on the 26th of May 2014 but forgot to mention several other doctors who lost their lives in the same kind of instances in the length and the breadth of the Country. MukhtarAlam reported in 2012, "According to the Karachi chapter of the PMA (Pakistan Medical Association), the killing of doctors has continued with intervals since the 1990s. Eight doctors lost their lives to hostilities on a yearly average." Either we need to consider this incidence as of other dozens of occurrences of same kind or we should investigate all those to determine that they were also subject to religious oppression to validate the hypothesis, if not then why the report links this particular incidence as a persecution against Ahmadiyya community. .

The most disappointing part of the report is the detail about MumtazQadri who assassinated the governor of Punjab on supporting Asia Bibi, conclusion of whose

ORLD'S second 70.07 highest peak K2 is increasingly becoming more crowded and the dump of used tents. ropes, drums and several other kinds of waste. This is fast happening after the Pakistan government specially the Gilgit-Baltistan government has blindfolded towards increasing engagement of Nepali Sherpas in the mountaineering expeditions to summit the highest peaks of Pakistan. The GB and federal governments need to open their eyes wide to see the garbage collected by the Pakistani climbers and high altitude potters vet again in a cleanup of K2 in August 2022. The K2 base camp and mountaineering route right up to camp 4 had become a dump of filth. In a recent drive, organized by the Directorate of Central Karakoram National Park (CKNP) in Gilgit-Baltistan, Pakistani climbers and high altitude potters collected more than 1610 kg of garbage that was thrown there by the foreign mountaineers

and their Nepali Sherpas.

The Sorry state of affairs

The month-long K2 cleanup

campaign collected all sorts

of items used during the ex-

peditions, including oxygen

cylinders, tins, old ropes,

tents and others. The waste

on the high altitude moun-

tains pose threats to very

sensitive mountain ecosys-

tems. The Nepali Sherpas'

unfriendly practices to the

mountain environment and

mountain ecosystems have

increased the degradation. Extremely commercialized

patterns of mountaineer-

ing and excessive human

interventions have posed

severe threats to the K2

environment. The foreign

expeditions' facilitators are

making big bucks at the cost

of Pakistan's mountain eco-

systems and the livelihood

of the locals. It needs to be

The CKNP Directorate be-

lieves that the fees collected

from each expedition for the

cleanup of K2 is very low as

compared to the amount

of pollution they make on

the mountain ecosystems.

and its impact on the lives

of the locals and the peo-

ple living downstream. We

all are on the mercy of the

expeditions that bring a fair

amount of revenue. But, the

intangible costs are never

counted that may be higher

than what we earn. I strong-

checked at earliest.

shall not continue.

ly believe that the cost-benefit quotient shall include the intangible costs too. Mainly they are waste and pollution's impact on the health of locals, natural resource degradation, and consistent additional impact to the climate change vulnerability. Yasir Rizvi, the CKNP K2 Cleanup Campaign Manager, stated the campaign was officially started on July 19, 2022 with a formal briefing session at CKNP Headquarters Skardu and concluded on August 18. 2022. All the cost of the cleanup was covered from the fees collected from all the visitors of the CKNP (Central Karakoram National Park). We engaged all the local expert climbers for the campaign at relatively lower wages to thoroughly complete the task. They generously did the campaign with dedicated hard work and to the entire satisfaction of the managers despite inclement weather.

Rizvi says it should be noted that this year, the trek was overcrowded due to the hundreds of people heading together to the K2 peak, and the waste was correspondingly high. Unfortunately, most of the international, national and local climbers carried their waste up to their tents. They dropped waste in various upper camps of K2 peak, due to which there was a fear of severe negative impact on

the ecosystem. importantly, the Most provincial government of Gilgit-Baltistan needs to urgently pay heed towards the increasing challenges to K2 as the total visitors to this area have increased to 3857 in 2022 from 668 in 2011. As the federal government has taken several tourism friendly measures, expected visitors to Gilgit-Baltistan will be increasing enormously, so the waste and pollution accordingly. Damage to the mountain ecosystems will be unprecedented. Do the necessary legislation to manage and control it right now, do strengthen your institutions and departments before it's too late.

- The writer is a freelance journalist and broadcaster, and Director Devcom-Pakistan. He can be reached at devcom. pakistan@gmail.com and tweets @EmmayeSyed

Pakistan's tea production potential

Usman Ahmad

Pakistan is a black tea loving country. It has been observed that black tea consumption is rapidly growing because of its popularity during the past few decades.According to the Food and Agriculture Organization, black tea consumption will escalate to 250,755 tons from the current value of 172,911...

BOUT 6 million tonnes of dried tea is produced each year around the globe.It is cultivated over an ١Ģ area of 4.09 million hectors and growing in more than 35 countries. Japan, Kenya, Bangladesh, China, India and Sri Lanka are the major tea producing countries. Out of the total, eight countries contributed 87 percent of total tea production in the world. ButChina ranked at the top inglobal tea production since the mid-1990s. China tea production was 1.03 million tonnes followed by India with 0.94 million tonnes produced out of 0.4 million hectors. Kenya and Sri Lanka control 40 percent of world exports and have large shareholders. About 20 percent is Green tea. 78 percent is Black tea and less than 2 percent is Oolong tea derived from single plant species Camellia sinensis. It is one of the world major three non-alcoholic beverages used, and originally discovered in China. Tea is manufactured from young shoots as well as its chemical composition indicates that these are extremely rich in polyphenolic compounds, the largest group being the catching, which constitute up to 30percent of the dry weight of the material with other healthy nutrients.

China, India and Kenya are major Tea producing countries in the world. China tea production was more than 2500 million Kg while India produced more than 1000 million Kg in 2020. Kenya and Sri Lanka control 40 percent of world exports and have large smallholders. According to world information China and India combined supplied almost 62percent of the world's tea in 2016. In 2021, China exported around 369 thousand metric tons of tea worth nearly 2.3 billion U.S. dollars, at least a quarter of the global supply. The majority of tea exported to Northern and Western African countries. In 2019, Morocco was chosen to open China's first tea company in Africa, signaling China's growing presence in the continent. Uzbekistan, where tea is an integral part of daily life, was the second largest Chinese tea customer in 2020, importing over 23 thousand metric tons of tea. China is the leadingtea producer closely followed by India and Kenya.

Pakistan is a black tea loving country. It has been observed that black tea consumption is rapidly growing because of its popularity during the past few decades.According to the Food and Agriculture Organization, black tea consumption will escalate to 250,755 tons from the current value of 172,911 tonnes in 2027.On a per capita basis tea imports have seen an increase of around 36 percent from 2007-2016. Pakistan also exists in a tea producing region. In 1982, Chinese conducted a survey in Pakistan and declared more than 64000 hector' land suitable for tea production. National Tea Research Institute is working under the auspices of Pakistan Agricultural Research Council. It has been established in 1986 as National Tea Research Station on 50 acres of land in district Mansehra and upgraded to the level of Institute in 1996. The suitable land for tea plantation is located in Mansehra hillyterrain while some areas of AJ&K and Swat are quite suitable for tea production.In 1986 Pakistan started tea cultivation in District Mansehra as response to that survey and established a Tea Research Station at Shinkevari. The total production of both green and black tea was negligible in these areas. Tea is cultivated about 100 hector only in promontories of District Mansehra under Unilever Brothers Support with production of about 5 tonnes. The tea cultivation took momentum from 1998-2006 with a total cultivated area of 870 hector in Swat. Batagram and Mansehra districts. Currently, Pakistan's tea production is limited to District Mansehra at an area of 100 hector with production of 25 tonnes which is not enough to fulfill its domestic needs. Unfortunately, Pakistan has not caught up its real tea production potential.

So tea imports have become inevitable. In 2018, Pakistan ranked as 1st among tea importers with an import bill worth US\$549.6 million followed by Russia with a sum of US\$525 million and the USA of US\$486 million. It has become one of the largest importers of tea and spends over approximately 590 million U.S. dollars on imports of tea in 2020. The consumption of imported tea witnessed to increase by 15.64 percent in the first three quarters of the current fiscal year as compared to previous year. The current data revealed that Pakistan is the top importer of tea in the world with 8.9 percent of total imported tea. Black tea is imported from 19 different countries; the largest amount of 80 percent is imported from Kenya. The Pakistan Bureau of Statistic data revealed that Pakistan has spent \$533 million on the import of 221,319 tons of tea during the current fiscal year between July 2020 and April 2021. Large amounts of current account and fiscal deficits have led to huge debt levels. This leads to a depreciation of local currency. The imported tea contributes to this chain process. According to the Pakistan Tea Association, this loss in value of PKR contributes rigorously to the price of imported tea. In 2018, currency depreciation resulted in a PKR 30-50 per kilogram increase.

The reasons behind impinging tea production potential are outdated technology, on-evaluation of teavarieties, lack of value addition and processing, environmental&climate changeclimate, soil structure and pH are the most important factors for tea growth. The research and development regarding Tea production is a dire need for its long run growth and development. The new scientific tea breeding techniques that would not only increase the total output of tea but also would enable it to produce good quality tea that could be exported to other countries. Interest free long term loan for the tea growers and growers returned gradually when the plantation starts producing yield. There is need to build small dams in the mountainous terrains, which can store rainwater and can be used during drought season. For the identification of appropriate land for tea farming,a country level inclusive survey should be conducted. There is need to establish home based tea nurseries, this can empower women through training. Tea nurseries should be established in the private and public sector. In order to reduce the plucking cost mechanical harvesting should be encouraged. Government should encourage the private sector to invest in local tea production and processing.

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06

WORLD / SPORTS



US Open: Alcaraz beats Sinner in epic marathon match

FROM PAGE 01

the chief justice remarked that there was a legal procedure if someone was affected by a judge's decision. Addressing Imran's lawyer, the chief justice said the court had told you last time that District Judiciary was a red line for us. The decisions of the Supreme Court related to contempt of court were a binding on us and we had to obey law, Justice Minallah observed and asked whether you had tried to justify the objectionable remarks in the answer.

Imran Khan's lawyer Hamid Khan said we had tried not to justify but to explain it. The chief justice said place and time of the insulting statement were very important. Whether your reply was as per the directives of the top court, he asked the lawyer.

Justice Minallah asked that whether a former prime minister could give justification of not knowing the law. There was so much division in the society that followers of political parties used to insult opponents in public places, he said, adding that the female judge could also face the situation somewhere.

Chief Justice asked the lawyer whether the decisions should be made by the courts or in the public meetings. Whether they would have submitted the same answer if the matter was related to the Supreme Court's judge, he asked.

Advocate Hamid Khan said that the judges of Supreme Court, High Court and lower judiciary were respectable for us. He said we wrote that were were regret if the judge's feelings were hurt.

Did you want to contest the contempt case, Justice Minallah asked. This was not just a statement against a female judge but a case of incitement he said and asked wheth er someone could give

first-time Grand Slam champion is already guaranteed in the men's singles at Flushing Meadows, with Norway's Ruud and Russia's Khachanov contesting the other semi-final

DNA

NEW YOREK: Spanish teenager Carlos Alcaraz reached his first major semi-final after beating Italy's Jannik Sinner in a US Open thriller which ended at a record latest time of 2.50am in New York. Alcaraz, 19, saved a match point before clinching an epic 6-3 6-7 (7-9) 6-7 (0-7) 7-5 6-3 win over 11th seed Sinner. The third seed will face Frances Tiafoe on Friday for a spot in Sunday's final. The American, 24, also plays in a first major semi-final after his 7-6 (7-3) 7-6 (7-0) 6-4 win over Andrey Rublev. "I still don't know how I did it. The level I played of high quality tennis. It's unbelievable," said Alcaraz, who is the youngest man to reach a Grand Slam semi-final since Rafael Nadal at the 2005 French Open. "I always say you have to believe in yourself all the time. Hope is the last thing you

use. I believed in myself, my game.' A first-time Grand Slam champion is already guaranteed in the men's singles at Flushing Meadows, with Norway's Casper Ruud and Russia's Karen Khachanov contesting the other semi-final. Alcaraz and 23-year-old Ruud also have a shot of becoming the new

world number one as an intriguing tournament nears a conclusion. Tiafoe gets his wish for marathon match Tiafoe joked after his win - which finished more than 10



hours before the last quarter-final finally ended on Thursday morning - he hoped the match between Sinner and Alcaraz would be a "marathon and super-long". His wish came true after an extraordinary night on Arthur Ashe Stadium. Alcaraz showed quality, resilience and boundless energy to beat Sinner in a captivating contest. Full

of powerful and precise hitting, incredible shot making and jaw-dropping athleticism, the match between two of the sport's brightest talents surpassed even the already-lofty expectations. After missing five set points in the second set, unable to serve out the third and stopping Sinner taking a match point in the fourth. Alcaraz sealed victory

time," said Swiatek. "I am very happy as I have worked very hard

"It was a really tight match. I tried to push her back but she was

Swiatek overcame giving up the first break of the match in the

fifth game to reel off 16 of the next 18 points to claim the open-

The 21-year-old Pole and American eighth seed exchanged three

service breaks apiece in the first eight games in an untidy second

set. It was the French Open champion who carved out the sev-

enth break on a net cord to give herself the opportunity to serve

for the match. Eighth-ranked Pegula roused herself to stay alive in

portunity to seal a spot

the semi-finals. The

seed failed again

as Pegula sealed

the 10th break

to send the set

into a tie-

break

contest before a double fault on break point in the

top

the

ican this year.

dominated to

clinch a third

win over the Amer-

which

Pole

11th game handed Swiatek a second op-

putting pressure on me so that's what it went to a tiebreak."

but have kept my expectations low.

ing set in 38 minutes.

the

after five hours and 15 minutes with his first match point. The teenager collapsed to the court in elation, covering his face and breathing heavily as he lay down to process what had just happened.

He peeled himself off the surface to share a warm hug with Sinner, who walked around the net to congratulate his opponent. An exhausting battle ended in front of a healthy number of dedicated fans in the early hours and Alcaraz celebrated wildly with his incredulous supporters, even giving a trainer each to two of them. Alcaraz lost to Sinner in the Wimbledon fourth round in July, but started confidently at Flushing Meadows to win a superb first set which offered some signs a classic might unfold. Sinner fought back in a tense second set which could have swung either way, with fans already leaping to their feet with disbelieving facial expressions at what they were seeing. That included Alcaraz hitting an audacious behind-theback shot that led to a winning point in the 12th game and Sinner hitting a brilliant backhand winner to level the match. Both players saw their first-serve percentage drop in the third set, with the intensity of the battle taking its toll. Sinner was broken for the second time as Alcaraz led 6-5, but he stopped the Spaniard serving out for a two-sets-to-one lead by somehow staying in an exchange at deuce which switched mo-

mentum back in his favour.

Chelsea

appoint

Potter as

manager

pointed Graham Potter as

their new manager follow-

ing the sacking of Thomas

Tuchel. Potter has left fel-

low Premier League club

Brighton to take up the role

sea a more successful club.

"He has had a major impact

at his previous clubs and we

look forward to his positive

impact at Chelsea. - APP

deal with the Blues.

Todd Boehly.

US solidarity, assistance crucial...

Islamabad **POST**

Friday, September 09, 2022

FROM PAGE 01 He also cautioned about the likely outbreak of water-borne diseases. Prime Minister Sharif underlined that Pakistan was committed to deepen and widen its ties, especially in the areas of security, health, climate change, trade and investment. He emphasized the need for a constructive and sustained engagement between the two countries, based on the principles of mutual trust, respect and understanding.

While highlighting the devastating impacts of climate change on the planet, the prime minister called for stepping up international efforts to meet climate goals, including mobilizing climate finance to better cope with this challenge.

In the regional context, he stressed the importance of a peaceful and stable Afghanistan, and called for unfreezing of the Afghan assets. He also emphasized the need for enhanced engagement with the Afghan authorities.

Underlining Pakistan's commitment to promote peace in the region, including with India, the prime minister highlighted the need for resolution of long-standing Jammu and Kashmir dispute, as per the UNSC resolutions and the wishes of the Kashmiri people.

US approves sale of F-16 equipment to Pakistan

FROM PAGE 01

and has signed a five-year The Defence Security Cooperation Agency (DSCA) The 47-year-old said he was delivered the required "incredibly proud and excited certification notifying Conto represent Chelsea". Potgress of this possible sale ter's first game in charge will on Wednesday. "This is a be an away derby with fellow positive development," the west London club Fulham on Pakistan envoy said, adding, Saturday at 12:30 BST. "We "We welcome it." He added, are thrilled to bring Graham "This should be a new beto Chelsea," said the Stamginning to reinforce closer, ford Bridge club's chairman broad-based ties between Pakistan and the US."

"Not only is he extremely "The proposed sale will talented on the pitch, he continue the sustainment has skills and capabilities of Pakistan's F-16 fleet, that extend beyond the which greatly improves Papitch which will make Chel-

Top seed Iga Swiatek into first United States Open semi-final LONDON: Chelsea have apforced errors. "It means a lot to be in the semi-finals for the first

DNA

NEW YORK: World num-Swiatek reached her Open semi-final on day with a 6-3, 7-6 win over Jessica ula of the Unit-States. The French pion will balenfinal o f 2022.

e

Wednes-(7/4)Pegd Open chamface Aryna Saka for a place in Saturday's after making the last-four a Slam for the third time in

ber one Iga

first US

threat of legal action in a public meeting. Hamid Khan said we were not taking legal action by going outside the circle of law. He said Imran Khan did not make any threats, maybe it was felt too much.

US approves \$2.6bn in aid...

FROM PAGE 01 both Nato members and non-members at risk of future Russian aggression. It said it would notify Con-

gress of the aid plan. US Secretary of State Anthony Blinken arrived in the Ukrainian capital Kyiv, as his colleague urged Ukraine's allies to commit to supporting the country for as long as necessary and be prepared to adapt the type of support offered.

"It means moving urgently to innovate and to push all of our defence industrial basis to provide Ukraine with the tools that it will need," Mr Austin said.

Describing Russia's invasion as an "illegal, imperial and indefensible war of conquest", he said: "Now we're seeing the demonstrable success of our common efforts on the battlefield.'

On Wednesday, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky said his country's military had recent ly carried out successful attacks against Russian forces which control large areas of Ukraine in the south and the east and retaken settlements near the north-eastern city of Kharkiv. He did not give details but both Ukrainian and pro-Rusofficials report sian fighting around Balakleya, 60km (38 miles) south-east of Kharkiv.

No country can progress without...

FROM PAGE 01

Nawaz Sharif have been plundering the money of the country for the past 30 years and they cannot buy cheap oil because they are afraid of their master.

"That will be a verv tough match. There will be some fast serves and heavy hitting, just like tonight," said Swiatek In a mistake-filled quarter-final on Wednesday, there were 13 breaks of serve and a combined 61 un-

Hooliganism is not acceptable in cricket: Ramiz

LAHORE: The Pakistan-Afghanistan match gave birth to a lot of controversies; from Asif Ali butting heads against the Afghan pacer to Naseem Shah clinching the victory for Men in Green to fans' altercation after the match had ended. Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) chairman took notice of the matter and claimed that the board will lodge a formal complaint in regards to the incident that took place after the match had ended. Ramiz's statement also addressed the incident which followed after Pakistan's victory where Afghan fans turned to aggression for losing the match.

The PCB chairman claimed that hooliganism has no place in cricket and that such an atmosphere such be kept away from cricket at all costs. After Pakistan eventually registered an emphatic 1-wicket victory, the Afghan fans reverted to violence and threw everything from chairs to plastic bottles at Pakistan supporters.

"You don't identify hooliganism with cricket. This is something that cricket definitely doesn't want, and we don't want such an atmosphere around cricket," said Ramiz. Adding on to his initial point, Ramiz said that PCB will launch a formal complaint to the ICC regarding this. "We will write to ICC about this and raise our voices, doing whatever is within our power. The visuals were very disturbing, and this isn't the first time this has happened. Wins and losses occur on the ground, and it was a grueling contest," added Ramiz. The former cricketer further added that emotions should be kept in check. - DNA

34 political prisoners on verge of execution in Saudi Arabia

LONDON: A Europe-based human rights organization has expressed concerns over the imminent execution of dozens of political prisoners in Saudi Arabia, as Saudi courts continue to hand heavy punishment to human rights activists for expressing their opinion. The European Saudi Organization for Human Rights (ESOHR) said in a statement that 34 people are currently on the verge of execution in the oilrich Persian Gulf country, noting that Saudi authorities have put at least 120 people to death since the beginning of lanuary until the end of May this year. ESOHR said that Bahraini nationals Jaafar Mohammad Sultan and Sadeq Majeed Thamer, who have been accused of terrorism-related crimes, face imminent "arbitrary" execution and could be killed at any moment. "Due to the escalation of repressive

measures in Saudi Arabia, the lives of these two Bahraini youths are in danger. Many other political detainees are at the risk of execution as well,' the human rights organization said. Back in May, Saudi Arabia's Supreme Court upheld the death sentences of Thamer and Sultan after finding them guilty of "smuggling explosives" into the kingdom and involvement in terrorist activities. The two Bahraini nationals were arrested in May 2015 along the King Fahd Causeway, which connects Saudi Arabia and Bahrain. They were held incommunicado for months after their arrest while being subjected to systematic and fatal torture with the aim of extracting false confessions from them. In January, the UN special rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions called on Saudi Arabia to halt the men's execution and investigate their allegations of torture and ill-treatment. International human rights organizations have called upon Saudi authorities to stop the imminent execution of the two Bahraini men.

The organizations have urged the officials not to ratify the death sentences, but rather, quash their convictions and re-try them in line with international fair trial standards. According to the European Saudi Organization

for Human Rights, Abdullah al-Howaiti, Jalal al-Bad, Yusuf al-Manasif, Sajjad al-Yasin, Hassan Zaki al-Faraj, Mehdi al-Moshen and Abdullah al-Razi are among the Saudi teenagers sentenced to death. Saudi courts, ESOHR went on, have recently imposed heavy punishment and decades-long prison sentences against human rights activists and democracy advocates for expressing their opinion.

It noted that Saudi officials have sentenced Nourah al-Qahtani to 45 years in prison for her social media posts. According to Democracy for the Arab World Now (DAWN), Qahtani received the heavy sentence on appeal after she was convicted of "using the internet to tear [Saudi Arabia's] social fabric" and "violating public order" via social media. The Washington-based group added that she was convicted under the kingdom's so-called counter-terrorism and anti-cybercrime law. Earlier, Saudi officials had sentenced women's rights activist Salma al-Shehab to 34 years in prison. – Agencies

and I am loving every bit of it, especially the Pakistani

food. Soliton event reminded me why I enjoy sharing

leadership teachings with anyone willing to listen and

learn. Attendees genuinely wanted to learn about ways

they could create teams that work better than together.

Soliton Technologies has a huge potential to grow and

positively impact people's lives. With good leaders in

He also expressed the dire need to play a leadership role

in rescuing and helping the Pakistani flood victims in

need. It was a highly interactive session in which partic-

ipants enthusiastically participated. The event was also

well-received by the Twitter audience and was trending

In light of Pakistan's ongoing monsoon floods, caused by

the heaviest rainfall the country has seen in over 3 decades,

Dr. Mansoor Khan (Chairman of Soliton Technologies) en-

couraged the attendees to step forward and demonstrate

their civic duty by taking on a leadership role to help the

Dr. Mansoor Khan said, "It's heart-wrenching that

hundreds of thousands of Pakistani men, women, and

children have lost all they had built over their life-

times. I hope the flood will be an eye-opener, and mo-

flood victims financially, physically, and emotionally.

tivate the nation to reorder its priorities.'

place, you can become the industry leaders.'

on the Twitter trend panel for over 3 hours.

kistan's ability to support counterterrorism operations through its robust capability.' air-to-ground the State Department said, adding that Pakistan will have no difficulty absorbing these articles and services into its armed forces.

According to the Congressional notification, the proposed sale does not include any new capabilities, weapons, or munitions.

It said that Pakistan had requested to consolidate prior F-16 sustainment and support cases to support the Pakistan Air Force F-16 fleet by reducing duplicate case activities and adding additional continued support elements.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security objectives of the United States by allowing Pakistan to retain interoperability with U.S. and partner forces in ongoing counterterrorism efforts and in preparation for future contingency operations," according to the notification. Included are U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics services for follow-on support of Pakistan's F-16 fleet to include:

- Participation in F-16 Aircraft Structural Integrity Programme;

- Electronic Combat International Security Assistance Programme;

- International Engine Management Programme;

- Engine Component Improvement Programme, and other technical coordination groups;

- Aircraft and engine hardware and software modifications and support;

- Aircraft and engine spare repair/return parts;

 Accessories and support equipment;

- Classified and unclassified software and software support;

- Publications, manuals, and technical documentation;

- Precision measurement, calibration, lab equipment, and technical support services;

- Studies and surveys, and, Other related elements of aircraft maintenance and programme support.

The principal contractor will be Lockheed Martin Corporation, Fort Worth, Texas, according to the notification. There are no known offsets proposed in conjunction with this sale, it added. - APP

Soliton invites US expert for Team Building training Dr. Rick Arrowood is a distinguished thought leader with over three decades of experience in nonprofit organizations and global leadership, holding positions in academia, organizational leadership, and consulting for some of the largest global companies

DNA

LAHORE: Soliton Technologies invited Dr.Rick Arrowood (Northeastern University, Boston, Massachusetts USA) to deliver a session on "Building Dynamic Teams to Better Solve Problems".

Business leaders have frequently identified teamwork and problem-solving skills as being key competencies for an organization's success. The workshop explored individual personality types and preferences coupled with leadership behaviors, and offered attendees an opportunity to understand why some teams are highly effective, and others are less effective, along with how others could work better together.

Dr. Rick Arrowood is a distinguished thought leader with over three decades of experience in nonprofit organizations and global leadership, holding positions in academia, organizational leadership, and consulting for some of the largest global companies. He is a former Associate Professor at Northeastern University's College of Professional Studies and is now an Adjunct Professor at Northeastern University D'Amore-McKim School of Business.

Dr. Rick Arrowood said, "It's my first time in Pakistan,



Π7

BUSINESS / WORLD

Islamabad **POST** Friday, September 09, 2022

ECB unleashes

historic rate hike

FRANKFURT: The Europe-

an Central Bank announced the largest rate hike in its

history Thursday, as runaway energy prices drove

eurozone inflation to new heights. Policymakers resolved to raise the ECB's

key rates by 75 basis points, a leap matched only by a

technical move made in

1999 shortly after the cen-

the ECB's move away from

a "highly accommodative level of policy rates" to one

that would bring inflation

back to its two-percent tar-

Eurozone inflation hit a re-

cord 9.1 percent in August,

as steep increases in the

price of energy in the wake

of the Russian invasion of

Ukraine heaped pressure on

households and businesses.

Consumer prices were likely

to continue to rise at a very

quick pace "for an extended

period", the ECB predicted,

with its latest forecasts ex-

pecting inflation to average

"Given the level of inflation

and the uncertainties about

its evolution, for the ECB,

there is less risk in doing

more than in doing less,'

said Franck Dixmier, head

of fixed income at Allianz

Global Investors. The ECB

already exceeded expecta-

tions at its July meeting with

a 50-basis-point increase in

8.1 percent for 2022.

get, it said in a statement.

tral bank's founding. The "major step" quickened

Briefs

Foreign travelers traveling to Karabakh

DNA

BAKU: A trip of famous travelers from over 20 countries to Azerbaijan's Karabakh and Eastern Zangazur has begun, Azernews reports. The delegation is led by Charles Veley, the founder of MTP (Most Traveled People) Club, one of the four largest travel clubs in the world.

First, the travelers got acquainted with the consequences of the Armenian vandalism in Shusha city.

During the trip, they scrutinize riddled by the Armenian troops, monuments of Uzeyir Hajibayli, Natavan, and Bulbul during the first Karabakh war in the 1990s, as well as the destroyed houses of Azerbaijanis.

Later, they also visited Jydyr Duzyu and were informed about the 44-day second Karabakh war, as a result of which Azerbaijan liberated its land from the 30-year Armenian occupation.

In particular, the visitors were interested in the operation of liberating Shusha city. Further, the guests will visit Aghdam, Fuzuli, Khojavand and Zangilan districts, including the Aghali smart village, and Jabrayil city. The trip is of exceptional importance for popularizing the Azerbaijani territories liberated from occupation within the framework of "grief tourism".

CGGC assisting Pakistan in flood relief efforts

DNA

ISLAMABAD: China Gezhouba Group Corp. (CGGC) initiated a donation campaign among its company staff in Pakistan and provided relief materials worth Rs.1.3 million to Pakistan's National Disas-

Floods in Pakistan Pak Press UK, SmileAid hold event to raise funds

Now the irksome situation prevailing there in Pakistan and people are suffering at the hands of claims and now brotherhood demands to help them and pull out from quagmireof problems, they added

ATTAULLAH CHEEMA

MANCHESTER: The press club of Pakistan UK in its continued campaign to raise funds for the Pakistani flood water victims, in collaboration with a local charity organisation "SmileAid"arranged a grand, well-attended event to raise funds for the flood-hit Pakistani victims.

The family members of overseas Pakistanis, Muslim and Sikh communities of other countries, also joined the even there at the Pakistani community, centre, Manchester the other day.

Addressing the participants, the speakers maintained that a big number of Pakistani brethren have been devastated, numerous peoples have lost their lives, house hold, cattle headand, crops, whereas their houses, have been raised to ground, valuables, and crops have been swept away and fields ruined, by the flood waters in Pakistan. Consequently ,flood-affected people are lying under the open sky, whereas water-bornediseases have aggravated their miseries, creating as evere critical situation for them. Expressing their deep concerntheyadded that although we are thousands of miles away from Pakistan naturally our hearts



beat with the same ideand feel their plight, and pain, similarly as they feel themselves. Now the irksome situation prevailing there in Pakistan and people are suffering at the hands of claimsand now brotherhood de-

YAP Pakistan, Bank Alfalah to

mandsto help them and pull out from quagmireof problems, they added.

They also said that despite the help of Pakistani Govt. philanthropists, financial aid from

friendly countries is comparatively insuffi-

cient to cope with the havoc of flood waters and meet the necessary needs of suffering souls. The speakers also urged the part takers to extend a strong helping hand to the flood water stricken people, as we are ethically and religiously, bound to help them. The officer bearers of the press club Shaukat Qureshi, Syed Rizwan shah, Mehmmud Asghar Chaudhry, Ch.Nasrullah, Shakeel Aslam, and Samina, spoke on the occasion.The women activists Razia Chaudhry, Farzana Afzal, Faiqa Gul, Zarqa Ahmed and others, who told this scribe that charity beginS at home.....and the volunteers of the Smile Aid, Muhammad Abu Bakr, within a day collected two containers ofdonations which have been dispatched to Pakistan while more are in pipeline. In the second part of the event, a cultural

show was staged. A story teller Badr Khan, presented the history of Punjab, Lahore and its rulers including Maha Rajah Ranjeet Singh and other Muslim rulers, in such a traditional ancient style that everyone in function adored him with a big applause.

Later Badr Khan, said that he is promoting Pakistani history, culture and tourism around the world by adopting the art of storytelling as was done in old emperors, kings

interest rates, its first hike in more than a decade. Thursday's drastic increase was not the end of the ECB's work, however, with the central bank saying it "expects to raise interest rates further" in its next meetings. Ahead of the meeting, ECB board member Isabel Schnabel called on her colleagues to show "determination" to

Egypt vows to champion climate finance for Africa

tame price rises. - APP

CAIRO: When Egypt hosts a global climate summit in November, it will seek to represent Africa which shares little of the blame for global warming but suffers many of its worst impacts, its environment minister says. Yasmine Fouad told AFP in



needed to tackle climate change

BEIJING: Pakistan-China cooperation in green development and ecological protection is getting more and more significant when it comes to addressing climate change issues, said Ambassador Moin ul Haque, While talking to China Economic Net (CEN) during his visit to 2022 China International Fair for Trade in Services (CIFTIS), he said for the first time an environmental services sector was included in the 2022 CIFTIS to display new technologies and applications in ecological protection and energy conservation. "Pakistan has recently been affected by severe floods; and China is also facing drought now. Both countries are impacted by climate change. So these innovations and new approaches to tackle climate change are very important for the two countries," Moin ul Haque said while visiting the sector. Pakistan is one of those countries that are vastly affected by the consequences of climate change despite being the least contributors to the shift in weather behaviour. "And this is true for all developing countries. So it is in our own interest that we work together with all the countries, especially China, in this respect," Haque told CEN. "We're more than happy to share China's experience in this field," pinpointed Zhang Tianli from National Early Warning Centre, China. "For example, when it comes to floods, with WMO Global Multi-Hazard Alert System-Asia (GMAS-A) we are able to issue early warnings and have affectees who need shelter and support prepared." Zhang noted Pakistan has been wrecked and devastated by the recent floods, and had many losses of precious lives and infrastructure. "In the future, the Belt and Road countries, and countries prone to disasters will be included in cooperation." Terming China a world leader in terms of pursuing environmental protection and leading the fight against climate change, the ambassador said that "We are very happy to have partnership with China in this perspective. We've just launched a green corridor focusing not only on agricultural cooperation, food security, but also on environment and ecology." As per Ghulam Qadir, Commercial Counsellor of the Embassy of Pakistan in China, China has comparative advantage in green development and there is a lot more potential that can be tapped for both countries. "It's an area we look forward to strengthening." - DNA

Darbars, he concluded. Sino-Pak green co-op

ter Management Authority (NMDA) following the devastating floods that have left a third of the country underwater.

"We've been working here for nearly 15 years, and Pakistan is a second home for us. We feel deeply sorry for our iron brothers and sisters suffering from the disaster, and would provide what we can to help them pull through," Hong Na, General Manager of China Gezhouba Group Company Limited Pakistan Branch said at the donation ceremony, according to a report published by Gwadar Pro on Thursday.

The company had also worked together with the locals to rescue roads and bridges that were destroyed by hill torrents after a sudden rainstorm triggered a landslide and caused flash flooding near the SK Hydropower Project in Kaghan Valley, Mansehra District on August 25. "Dozens of bridges around SK Hydropower Project were damaged by floods to varying degrees, posing a serious threat to the safety of passengers.

France's trade gap at all-time high in July

PARIS: France's trade deficit increased to an all-time high of 14.5 billion (\$14.5 billion) in July, wider than the market forecast of a 13.08 billion (\$13.07 billion) gap, according to official data released on Thursday. July figure increased from an upwardly revised 13.08 billion shortfall in June. the customs ministry data showed. French exports decreased 2.3% month-onmonth to 48.7 billion (\$48.7 billion) and driven by the rise in the energy bill, imports increased 0.5% to a new record high of 63.3 billion (\$63.2 billion).

Meanwhile, France's current account deficit also widened from June's revised figure of 1.5 billion (\$1.5 billion) to 5.3 billion (\$5.3 billion) in July, the largest gap in over two years, according to Banque de France. The goods deficit rose to 12.8 billion (\$12.8 billion) while the services surplus declined to 5.6 billion (\$5.6 billion) in July, the bank said. - APP

DNA ISLAMABAD: YAP Paki-

stan, thefirst regional financial super appproviding consumers and businesses with a one-stop shop of innovative financial products, has partnered with Bank Alfalah, one of Pakistan's largest commercial banks, to offer customized digital financial products and services for small and medium Enterprises (SMEs) in the country. The collaborationpaves

the way to create a more for an Electronic Money In-

376 candidates register for Kuwait's elections

KUWAIT CITY: The deadline for submitting candidacy

for the Kuwaiti National Assembly elections ended on

Wednesday, with the registration of 376 candidates.

including 27 women. On Aug. 29, the Department of

Elections Affairs of the Ministry of Interior opened

the door for candidacy for the elections, which are

Former National Assembly Speaker Ahmed Al-Saadoun

is expected to take over the presidency of the new par-

liament, especially as the outgoing speaker, Marzouq Al-

Al-Saadoun, 87, is a veteran lawmaker, who has been a mem-

ber of the National Assembly since 1975, and has won all

He was elected head of the assembly for the first time

in 1985, but the council was dissolved a year later. He

was also elected at the head of the National Assembly in

1992 and 1996. In 1999, the late businessman, Jassem

Al-Kharafi, took over the speakership until 2012, when

Al-Saadoun returned to the post. In a surprise announce-

ment. Al-Ghanim said on Tuesday that he would not run

for this year's elections. He said his move would be "fol-

lowed by a return with a stronger impetus." - DNA

Ghanim, withdrew from the parliamentary race.

the elections organized in Kuwait since that year.

scheduled to be held on Sept. 29.

across Pakistan.

financially inclusive ecostitute (EMI) license, which will equip users with a digisystem for customers and businesses by enabling ustal account and an app that ersto access a comprehenwill enable users to perform sive array of digital finanvarious financial tasks at cial services, including a the touch of a button. "SMEs have unique needs fully operational business bank account, payroll, reporting, analytics and ex-

and are looking for a more seamless approach to pense management. YAP banking and we are pleased customers will also be able to partner with Bank Alfalah to create a suite of to access over-the-counter services at Bank Alfalah's products and services to vast network of branches support them," said YAP Pakistan CEO Meharyab Niazi. "SMEs contribute YAP Pakistan secured the In-Principle Approval from to 40% of Pakistan's GDP the State Bank of Pakistan and 25% in overall exports, which emphasizes the de-

falah was also awarded the Best Transaction Banking Award in 2021.

transfer instructions to the

bank in real-time. Bank Al-

"Bank Alfalah is committed to supporting Pakistan's growing Fintech startup ecosystem. YAP's regional experience with SMEs promises to bring innovative payment solutions to this largely unserved market in the country. We look forward to supporting YAP by providing them access to our financial products and jointly developing new ones." saidBank Alfalah Retail Banking Group Head Ms. Mehreen Ahmed.

an interview Wednesday that Egypt will also remind rich countries of the industrialised world of their unfulfilled aid pledges, at the COP27 summit in the Red Sea resort of Sharm el-Sheikh.

Part of Egypt's role as host is to "represent the African continent and its needs clearly and explicitly: We were not the cause of these emissions, but it is us -our people and our natural resources -- that are affected." Fouad said. She was speaking on the sidelines of an international conference in Cairo aimed at highlighting "Africa's needs and ambitions" in fighting and adjusting to climate change. African countries are among the most exposed to the impacts of climate change, especially worsening droughts and floods, but responsible for only around three percent of global CO2 emissions, former UN chief Ban Ki-moon said this week.

He was speaking at an Africa-focused summit in the Dutch city of Rotterdam, where African leaders lashed out at industrialised nations for failing to show up. Egypt's environment minister said that "at this point, a stance must be taken on the international community level to say that everyone must fulfil their obligations, as set out in the Paris Agreement". – APP

Russia expels Romanian diplomat

DNA

MOSCOW: Russia said on September 8 that it was ordering a Romanian diplomatic out of the country in response to a recent expulsion by Bucharest. Romanian authorities expelled a Russian diplomat last month, citing a breach of international norms, and Russia's Foreign Ministry confirmed the diplomat's departure. Moscow has deemed Romania along with other EU member states to be an "unfriendly" country, a designation introduced amid unprecedentedly tough sanctions to punish Russia's unprovoked invasion of Ukraine in February.

Hundreds of diplomats from both sides have been expelled since. In April, Romania expelled 10 Russian Embassy employees in Bucharest at once, prompting a tit-for-tat move by Moscow. - APP

BAKU: President of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev got acquainted with the pavilions of Pakistan at the 4th Azerbaijan International Defense exhibition (ADEX) and 13th International "Securex Caspian" exhibition which was held on 6th September in Baku. - DNA

Living standards declining in 90% of countries

first place in 1990 when the index was first calculated, but has since slipped to 21st place

DNA

NEW YORK: Living conditions in 90% of the world's countries deteriorated in 2021, according to the UN Development Programme (UNDP). The UNDP's Human Development Index measures a country's health, education and standard of living. The index has declined globin the world. Norway and Iceland come at a close second and third place. Germany came in at ninth behind Sweden. place,

ahead of the Netherlands

The United States took

first place in 1990 when

the index was first cal-

culated, but has since

and Finland.

Achim Steiner said that even at the height of the last global recession which broke out in 2007, the index declined in only around one in ten countries. The combined effects of

climate change, the war in Ukraine and the COVID-19 pandemic have created an "uncertainty complex" exerting downward pressure on global living standards, the report said. "We are living through very distressing times, whether it is a world underwater, a world with no water, a world on fire or a world in the midst of the pandemic," Steiner said. According to the index,

try listed in the ranking is South Sudan, followed by Chad and Niger. North Korea, Somalia, Nauru and Monaco were not list-



ed on the index. The 2021 index data counts Hong Kong, which came in at fourth place as the most highly developed territory in Asia, separately from mainland China, but not

all indicators were available for all countries," and urged readers to use "caution" in drawing comparisons between countries.

tance now to avoid a worst-

"Starvation and death are

likely already occurring.

During the 2011 famine,

about 50 per cent of the

more than 250,000 people

who died, did so before

the official declaration. At

least half were children."

they said. The IASC brings

together the heads of 18

organizations, namely key

UN agencies and their

partners, to better prepare

for and respond to humani-

The warning comes as some

a dire and entirely avoida-

tarian crises.

case scenario.

Earlier, in a statement issued on Monday, the principals of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) called for increased support and humanitarian access to save lives.

Famine is already unfolding in Baidoa and Burhakaba districts in south-central Somalia, and they said the situation will likely last until March if aid is not significantly and immediately scaled up.

20.5 million people across Meanwhile, millions more the Horn of Africa are in the grip of what its chiefs called Somalis face extreme levels of acute hunger. Women, ble hunger crisis", adding particularly pregnant and lactating women, as well "this is unacceptable".

ally for two years in a row Switzerland is the most slipped to 21st place. as children under five, are Taiwan or Macao. The resince the first time it was The least developed counhighly developed country port pointed out that "not among the most vulnerable, calculated 32 years ago. The and require urgent assis-

The US took UNDP's report said that this erased "the gains of the past five years." UNDP chief











Briefs LHC Judge excuses from hearing Maryam's plea

Pakistan-Kyrgyzstan mull efficient logistics routes

DNA

LAHORE: A Lahore High Court (LHC) judge has excused to hear a petition filed by Pakistan Muslim League Nawaz (PML-N) Vice President Maryam Nawaz seeking her passport back.

According to details, Justice Anwarul Haq excused from hearing the case after a two-member bench led by Justice Baqar Najafi of the LHC had to hear the proceedings. The division bench has returned the case to the LHC chief justice for forming another bench for hearing the case.

On Wednesday, Maryam Nawaz filed a petition in the LHC seeking the return of her passport. In the petition, the PML-N vice president said that her passport has been in judicial custody for past four years. It is pertinent to mention here that former premier Nawaz Sharif's daughter had submitted her passport to the court after it approved her bail in the Chaudhry Sugar Mills case.

ECC approves Rs540m for USC in floodhit areas

DNA

ISLAMABAD, SEP 08 (DNA) - The Economic Coordination Committee (ECC) of the cabinet has approved 540 million rupees for Utility Stores Corporation (USC) to ensure supply of essential commodities in flood-affected areas.

The ECC, which met in Islamabad Thursday with Finance Minister Miftah Ismail in the chair, also allowed supply of PASSCO's wheat among all recipients with a ratio of fifty percent each local and imported. However USC will he pro vided 75 percent local and 25 percent imported wheat. According to a press statement issued after the meeting, Ministry of National Food Security and Research tabled a summary for alloca tion of PASSCO's local and imported wheat sock among recipient agencies.

The resolve was expressed in a meeting between Ambassador of Kyrgyz

Republic and Minister of Railways and Aviation Khawaja Saad Rafique

DNA

ISLAMABAD: The Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Kyrgyz Republic to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan H.E. Mr. Ulanbek Totuiaev met with the Minister of Railways and Aviation of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan H.E. Mr. Khawaja Saad Rafique.

During the conversation, the parties discussed topical issues on the bilateral agenda of the Kyrgyz-Pakistani cooperation, in particular, in terms of trade, economic, investment and technical cooperation. In this context, special emphasis was placed on the importance of developing efficient logistics routes between the coun-



tries of the region, which is one of the most important factors for building successful mutually beneficial cooperation.

In this regard, the parties agreed to conduct joint work aimed at increasing the number of air flights between Kyrgyzstan and Pakistan. In addition, the parties indicated the importance of joining efforts for the successful implementation of railway communication projects between countries, such as, for example, the China-Kyrgyzstan-Uzbekistan railway, as well as Uzbekistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan.

In this context, H.E. Mr. Khawaja Saad Rafique assured that the Pakistani side would soon officially grant permission to Kyrgyz side to operate regular flights between the two countries.

UK's Truss freezes energy bills in first big **policy shift**

LONDON: New British Prime Minister Liz Truss on Thursday said domestic fuel bills would be frozen for two years, marking her first week in office with a costly plan to tackle a worsening cost-of-living crisis.

Two days after taking over, Truss unveiled emergency measures that include authorising more oil and gas drilling in the North Sea and lifting a ban on fracking, a controversial method to dig for fossil fuels.

The government said it would also review progress towards its legally enshrined target to achieve net-zero carbon emissions by 2050, to ensure no "undue burdens on businesses or consumers", but stressed it remained committed to the goal. Households are facing an 80-percent hike in gas and electricity bills next month due to the rise in the cost of wholesale energy made worse by a squeeze on supplies after Russia's invasion of Ukraine. - APP

US dollar soars to over Rs225 against rupee

ISLAMABAD: The US dollar did not budge from demonstrating its immense prowess on Thursday also as it went up by Rs2.00 against the toothless Pakistani rupee. As the trading concluded in the interbank, the forex dealers saw the greenback continued its upward journey went up to Rs225.42 up by Rs2.00. On Wednesday, the US dollar also appreciated by Rs2 and closed the day at Rs223.42. According to experts, the government is responsible for the dearth of dollars in the open market which is causing rupee's slump. They say that the government has made it mandatory to declare cash and other valuables at arrivals. This move didn't au-

'Pakistan has a special place in Saudi hearts'

The Ambassador said that, "We have a special place for the people of Pakistan in our hearts." adding that Pakistan has immense potential in terms of its capable human resource, textile sector, scenic beauty and hospitality

ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Saudi Arabia to Pakistan Nawaf bin Said Al-Malki on Thursday called on Minister for Economic Affairs Sardar Ayaz Sadiq and discussed the matters of mutual interest.

During the meeting, the minister said that the relations between both countries are rooted in the centuries old religious, cultural and commercial ties and are based on shared Islamic ideals, according to a press release. The Ambassador said that, "We have a special place for the people of Pakistan in our hearts." adding that Pakistan has immense potential in terms of its capable human resource, textile sector, scenic beauty and hospitality. The Ambassador stressed on the need to highlight strengths of the country globally to attract more investments and tourism as well. Sardar Ayaz Sadiq appreciated the fondness of the Ambassador for Pakistan and said that the relation-

ship between both nations can be strengthened by increasing mutual cooperation. The minister apprised the Ambassador about the current devastating situation of flood in the country and stated that regular meetings are being conducted by the Prime Minister of Pakistan to moni-

tor the flood situation. He apprised the ambassador about the collaboration with the donors on flood and stated that damage need assessment report will be ready in coming weeks that will give us a complete picture of the damage caused by the unprecedented rains and flash floods. Furthermore, Minister stressed on the completion of two Saudi sponsored projects in Islamthe Saudi Minister for Economic Affairs to strengthen the relationship. Speaking on the occasion, the Secretary Economic Affairs also stressed on boosting the relationship between both nations.

He said that currently due to flood situation, Pakistan is in the relief phase for which there is immediate requirement of tents, blankets, mosquito nets, food packs, medical assistance etc. For which, the Pakistan government has requested both bilateral and development partners for help with the relief effort.

He further expressed gratitude to the Saudi government for providing gracious assistance during our difficult times and stressed on en-

into

Britain's Queen Elizabeth II dies aged 96

BALMORAL: Queen Elizabeth II, the UK's longest-serving monarch, has died at Balmoral aged 96, after reigning for 70 years. Her family gathered at her Scottish estate after concerns grew about her health earlier on Thursday. The Queen came to the throne in 1952 and witnessed enormous social change. With her death, her eldest son Charles, the former Prince of Wales, will lead the country in mourning as the new King and head of state for 14 Commonwealth realms. In a statement, Buckingham Palace said: "The Queen died peacefully at Balmoral this afternoon. "The King and the Queen Consort will remain at Balmoral this evening and will return to London tomorrow." All the Queen's children travelled to Balmoral, near Aberdeen, after doctors placed the Queen under medical supervision. Her grandson, Wil-Prince liam, is also his there, with brother, Prince Harry, on his way. Queen Elizabeth II's tenure as head of state spanned postwar austerity, the transition 😽 from empire to wealth, Common-end of the the Cold War UK's entry and the

Canada stabbings suspect dies after arrest

TORONTO: The suspect in a stabbing spree in Canada which left 10 people dead and 19 injured has died after being captured by police. Myles Sanderson, 32, experienced "medical dis tress" after the arrest on a motorway in the province of Saskatchewan following a high-speed chase and died later, police say. They gave no details. An unnamed official earlier said that Sanderson died of self-inflicted injuries. Ten victims remain in hospital. - DNA

abad namely, construction of King Salman hospital at Tarlai and establishment of F. G. College of Home Economics, Management Sciences and Specialized Disciplines.

He also expressed his desire to meet

hancing the assistance. The minister expressed gratitude to the Ambassador for expressing immense love for Pakistan and ensured to enhance the brotherly relations between both nations. - APP



ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Saudi Arabia to Pakistan Nawaf bin Said Al-Malki on Thursday called on Minister for Economic Affairs Sardar Ayaz Sadiq. - DNA



S. Korea mulls family reunions with North

"The South and the North should confront the painful parts of the reality," Seoul's Unification Minister Kwon Young-se said in a televised briefing. "We must solve the matter before the term 'separated families' disappears"

DNA

SEOUL: South Korea's new government proposed talks with North Korea on Thursday to organize another round of family reunions, as tensions rise over Pyongyang's missile tests. Around 40,000 Koreans remain separated on either side of the border, the majority of whom are in their eighties and nineties. Many are hoping to reunite with their loved ones before they die. "The South and the North should confront the painful parts of the reality," Seoul's Unification Minister Kwon Youngse said in a televised briefing. "We must solve the matter before the term 'separated families' disappears." Although experts say North Korea is unlikely to accept the offer in the near future, Kwon said he will "continuously make proposals" to hold more family reunions.

South Korea's conservative president Yoon Suk-yeol, who took office in May, unveiled an "audacious" plan to provide economic aid in return for nuclear disarmament on the Korean peninsula. However, he has also pledged to take a tough stance towards any potential provocations. Kim Yo Jong, the powerful sister of North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, said last month Yoon should "shut his mouth" and her country would not sit face to face with him, calling his plan "absurd." Thursday's proposal by the South to resume family reunions comes after North Korea ramped up missile tests in recent months. However, the Unification Minister said the reunions would not be part of the aid-for-denuclearization offer. "The audacious plan and humanitarian issues can go in parallel, bringing positive effects to each other," Kwon said on Thursday.

All eyes on Xi Jinping at Party Congress

MONITORING DESK

BEIJING: As China revealed the date of the 20th Party Congress, President Xi Jinping is expected to cement power and secure a third term. On October 16, China's governing Chinese Communist Party (CCP) will begin its 20th party congress, during which Chinese President Xi Jinping is expected to secure an unprecedented third term. The meeting typically lasts about a week and this year - as the current congress completes its five-year term - more than 2,000 members of the body will take part in the selection of new blood for the party's Central Committee. Some of the central committee members will be promoted to the 25-people Politburo. There will likely also be some new faces in the seven-member Politburo Standing Committee (PSC), the party's most powerful organ.

Despite some domestic and global challenges, including weak economic performance and growing tensions with the United States, analysts say that setting the date of the congress for October shows that Xi's authority in the party remains largely stable. "The dates of past party congresses where leadership change took place were usually in November, which was largely caused by negotiation and compromises between different factions," said Hsin-Hsien Wang, an expert on Chinese politics at the National

Chengchi University (NCCU) in Taiwan. "But the fact that the 20th Party Congress will be held in mid-October, as the other past party congresses where there was no leadership change, shows that the foundation of Xi's authority is very solid," he added. Ling Li, a Chinese politics and law expert at the University of Vienna, pointed out that the date of the congress would not have been announced if the choice of the next party leader remained contested.

"When a date is announced, we can safely assume that key decision-makers have achieved a consensus on that choice," she told DW. In a piece published on August 30, the state-run China Daily wrote that the congress will focus on the CCP's work over the past five years, major achievements, and valuable experience of the party's Central Committee with Xi Jinping at the core. 'The congress will thoroughly review the international and domestic situations, comprehensively grasp the new requirements for the development of the cause of the party and the country on the new journey in the new era, as well as the new expectations of the people," the article said. At the congress, a lot of attention will be on whether Xi will fill the lineup of top officials with his loyalists, including a potential successor. Since removing the presidential term limits in 2018, experts say Xi has continued to focus on preparing for an unprecedented third term.

SEPTEMBER 2022

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