



Islamabad POST

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Palestinian team in Pakistan for relief and rehabilitation work

Detailed News On Page-08

Baku slams Pelosi's unfair accusations

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Alvarez sees off Golovkin to retain crown

Detailed News On Page-06



Briefs

PML-N did injustice to Punjab

BUREAU REPORT

LAHORE: Punjab Chief Minister Chaudhry Pervaiz Elahi on Sunday while lashing out at Pakistan Muslim League - Nawaz (PML-N) said that PML-N did injustice to the people by Punjab by stopping public projects. The Punjab Assembly members and ticket holders from Punjab called on CM Ealhi in which the political situation and problems of the constituencies were discussed. Announcing the upgrading of Tala Gang hospital and increasing the number of beds to 100, the Chief Minister said that development will be seen in remote areas of Punjab, adding that backward and neglected areas will be given equal development and development projects.

Consultation over COAS in November

AGENCIES

LONDON: Defense Minister Khawaja Asif on Sunday said that the appointment of the army chief will be in accordance with the constitution and the law, adding that the consultation on the appointment of the army chief will begin in November. Khawaja Asif said that PML-N head Nawaz Sharif would return soon, adding that the former prime minister has to Pakistan and the justice should be done to him. Asif was speaking at Nawaz Sharif's London residence where he arrived accompanying Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif.

Foreign aid to help stabilize rupee

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Ahsan Iqbal Sunday said that the foreign aid being received for the flood victims in the country could help stabilize the Pakistani Rupee. He said although the country had faced more than \$30 billion in losses due to the recent floods and torrential rains across the country, but Pakistan's economy was able to come out of the crisis.

Post flood diseases WHO warns Pakistan of '2nd disaster'

Water supply is disrupted, forcing people to drink unsafe water, which can spread cholera and other diarrhoeal diseases

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

ISLAMABAD: Following the unprecedented floods caused by climate change, that have engulfed over 1,500 lives and submerged one-third of Pakistan, the World Health Organization expressed deep concerns about the potential for a "second disaster in Pakistan: a wave of diseases and deaths". In a statement, WHO Director General Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said, "I am deeply concerned about the potential for a second disaster in Pakistan: a wave of diseases and deaths following this catastrophe linked to climate change that has severely impacted vital health systems leaving millions vulnerable." He maintained that water supply is disrupted, forcing people to



IMF to support flood relief efforts

NEWS DESK

PARIS: The International Monetary Fund (IMF) on Sunday said it would support flood relief and reconstruction efforts in Pakistan under the current programme agreed to between the two, according to a statement from the IMF's resident representative in the country, Esther Perez Ruiz. The statement said that the IMF was "deeply saddened" by the devastating impact of the recent floods in Pakistan and extended its sympathies to the millions of flood victims. "We will work with others in the international community to support, under the current programme, the authorities'

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ISLAMABAD: Speaker Punjab Assembly Sibtan Khan meeting with PTI Chairman Imran Khan. - DNA

Australia pledges \$3m more in aid to Pakistan

DNA

CANBERRA: The Australian government has announced an additional \$3 million in aid for Pakistan's flood relief efforts while expressing support for public's efforts to raise funds on their own. The aid announcement on Sunday comes following an August 30 pledge of \$2 million towards relief efforts in response to the devastating floods. Australian Minister for Industry and Science Ed Husic said Australians have been "staggered by the truly devastating" floods in Pakistan. "33 million people have been affected, homes, shops, businesses, crops either severely damaged or completely destroyed and the death toll has been heartbreaking," he told SBS Urdu radio on Sunday. The initial pledge led to calls for an

increase, including from Greens Senator Mehreen Faruqi who called on the Australian government to "pay their fair share". Australia's pledge comes following calls from the United Nations for the international community to provide \$160 million in aid for the disaster. Pakistan's neighbour China committed \$63.7 million, while the United States promised \$44.3 million and the United Kingdom \$25.4 million. Australia's provided \$75 million to Pakistan when it last faced catastrophic floods in 2010. Pakistan said it would cost at least \$14.6 billion to rebuild and repair the country. Authorities said the overall death toll reached 1,481 this week, as waterborne diseases spread among flood victims. On Friday, the Sindh provincial government confirmed 588 malaria cases with another 10,604 suspected, along with 20,064 cases of skin disease and 17,977 of diarrhoea.

STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: Zafar Bakhtawari, Africa-Pakistan Association President, former Islamabad Chamber of Commerce, and Industry, and Chairman of Watson Pharmaceutical Group hosted a dinner reception where many Senators, Parliamentarians, Ambassadors, Media conglomerates, and business communities attended the event. In relation to this, Jemal Beker, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia to Pakistan was a guest of honor at the event where he addressed the gathering. Ambassador Jemal Beker stated that Ethiopia is the third diplomatic Center in the world, it is a headquarter for the African Union and United Nations Economic Commission for Africa and a host

of many international organizations. Moreover, Ethiopia is the founding member of League of Nations, and United Nations and gives great consideration for international peace and security and one of the top United Nations Peace keeping contributing country. To this end, Ethiopia is playing a great role in peace, and stability in the Horn of Africa, and the rest of the continent, fighting terrorism and achieving remarkable inclusive development. With regards to the Northern Tigray region conflicts, Ethiopia was dragged by the warmonger TPLF through child soldier recruitments and attacked the neighboring Amhara and Afar regions on 28 August 2022. In line with this, while Ethiopia is upholding its constitutional obligations to defend and protect its citizens from the belligerence of TPLF and Ethiopia main-



Jemal Beker, Ambassador of Ethiopia

tained strong commitment to resolve the unwanted war through Peace and stretched its hand to the terrorist group of TPLF to resolve the conflict through dialogue under the AU-led auspices.

But the terrorist group disregards the Government Ethiopia's call and pursues war through human weave. We call upon the international community to put pressure on TPLF to come to a negotiated peace dialogue and stand with the Government of Ethiopia for peace's sake. In this regard, the Government of Ethiopia has shown and will continue its commitment and unwavering support for peace and conducts negotiated peace dialogue whenever and wherever. On the other hand, Ambassador Jemal underscored Ethiopia is undergoing deep and penetrating reform that ensures democracy, good governance, equality, and equity and addressed administrative and legal issues that create a favorable environment for FDI, ease of doing business, and one shop

service for export that make Ethiopia preferred investment destinations. In his speech Zafar Bakhtawari greatly appreciated the historical role of Ethiopia playing in welcoming the first Hijra, Bilal Al-Habash, and King Nejjash in Islamic history and we are all obliged to visit this country. He said if Pakistanis want to go as tourists, Ethiopia should be first on their list. Moreover, he also acknowledged the role of Ethiopia Airlines in connecting Africa with the rest of the World and has more than 127 international destinations. To this end, he said we are eagerly waiting for the resumption of Ethiopia Airlines to Pakistan at the earliest possible time. Indeed, once Ethiopia Airlines start flying to Pakistan it will increase and broaden the trade, investment, and tourism between Ethiopia, Pakistan, and the rest of Africa.



LONDON: David Gordon-Macleod, Special Representative of British Foreign Secretary receives the Prime Minister of Pakistan Shehbaz Sharif. - DNA

PM, Nawaz agree to hold elections on time

DNA

LONDON: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Pakistan Muslim League - Nawaz (PML-N) supremo Nawaz Sharif agreed to hold general elections on time, and not to accept any pressure. PM Shehbaz on Sunday called on Nawaz Sharif in London. The meeting took place at the office of Nawaz's son Hassan Nawaz. Former Finance Minister Ishaq Dar and Salman Shehbaz were also present during the meeting. Both the PML-N leaders discussed country's political and economic situation. The premier also apprised his elder brother about situation arising after devastating floods and government's relief operations. The premier said in a conversation with Nawaz Sharif that at present all attention is focused on the rehabilitation of flood victims and improving the economy. Shehbaz Sharif informed Nawaz Sharif about the consultation with Asif Ali Zardari, Bilawal Bhutto and Maulana Fazlur Rehman. In the meeting, it was agreed that all allies are in favour of holding general elections on time, and it was also vowed that the incumbent government will not accept any pressure and will complete its constitutional term. The former PM Nawaz Sharif urged the premier to take measures on the rising inflation in the country and said that steps should be taken to provide relief to the people, while discussions were also held regarding the complete rehabilitation of the flood victims. "Government should take steps to rope in rising inflation in the country and every position step should be taken to provide relief to already burdened masses," Nawaz told younger brother.

Pakistan condemns arbitrary arrest of Islamic scholars

The arrests have marked a new low in the occupation forces' blatant onslaught on human rights

SHUJAAT HAMZA

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan strongly condemns the arbitrary arrests and illegal detention of prominent Islamic scholars, including Maulana Abdul Rasheed Dawoodi, Maulana Mushtaq Ahmed Veeri and five members of Jamaat-e-Islami, in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK). These deplorable actions only days ahead of the UN General Assembly session manifest India's growing intransigence, and utter disregard of human rights and fundamental freedoms. These arrests have marked a new low in the Indian occupation forces' blatant and continued onslaught on the human rights of the innocent Kashmiris. The illegal detention of the Kashmiri Islamic scholars while the true representatives of the Kashmiri people are already under Indian custody under fictitious cases and on fallacious grounds, is yet another Indian attempt to rob the

Continued on Page 06

PM to participate in UNGA high-level debate

STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif will participate in the high-level debate of the 77th Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in New York from 19-23 September. The prime minister will address the UN General Assembly on 23 September. In focus, will be the challenge faced by Pakistan in wake of the recent climate-induced catastrophic floods in the country. He will outline concrete proposals for collectively tackling the existential threat posed by climate change. The prime minister will

Continued on Page 06

Saudi Arabia rollover \$3 bn deposits for Pak

NAZIR SIYAL

KARACHI: The Saudi Fund for Development (SFD) on Sunday confirmed the rollover of an \$3 billion deposit for Pakistan, which will be maturing on December 5 for a period of one year. Taking to its official Twitter account, the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) made the announcement and said that under the programme, the deposit is placed with the central bank, adding that the funds will now become part of the \$8.6 billion forex reserves. "This reflects continuing strong and special relationship between KSA and Pakistan," the SBP wrote. The deposit agreement was made between Pakistan and the Kingdom

in November 2021, in a bid to support Pakistan's foreign currency reserves and contribute toward resolving the adverse effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. It should be noted that last week, the country's foreign exchange reserves held by the SBP faced a decline of 1.9% on a weekly basis. As of September 9, SBP's foreign currency reserves were recorded at \$8,624.0 million, down by \$176 million compared with \$8,799.9 million on September 2. On Friday, the Pakistani rupee registered a decline for the 11th consecutive session, closing the week at 236.84 against the greenback after losing nearly Re1 or 0.41%. The dollar now stands only Rs3.1 short of the all-time high level of Rs239.94 on July 28, 2022.

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20 cases of coronavirus reported in Punjab

LAHORE: The cases of coronavirus were decreasing as 20 new cases were reported in Punjab during the last 24 hours. According to the data shared by the spokesperson of Punjab Primary and Secondary Healthcare Department (P&SHD), the number of coronavirus cases in the province reached 521,978 while death toll 13,609 and recoveries 506,279. The P&SHD confirmed that 10 new cases of COVID-19 were reported in Lahore, 01 in Rawalpindi, 01 in Jhang, 01 in Gujranwala, 01 in Sialkot, 02 in Bahawalnagar, 02 in Bhakkar and 02 new cases of COVID-19 were reported in Faisalabad district during the last 24 hours. The Punjab health department so far conducted 12,007,820 tests for COVID-19 in the province. The Punjab health department urged the masses to follow SOPs for their protection and cover their faces with masks. The people should wash their hands with soap several times in a day to protect themselves from COVID-19. — APP

PAF rescue, rehabilitation operations in full swing

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Air Force (PAF) rescue, relief and rehabilitation operations are in full swing in flood affected areas of KP, Sindh, Balochistan and South Punjab. The PAF personnel had been working round the clock for the well-being and timely provision of basic necessities of food, shelter, drinking water and medical assistance to the flood victims, said a PAF news release. In the last 24 hours, relief goods including 20,060 packs of cooked food, 8,851 water bottles, and 2,520 ration packs were distributed amongst the needy families of Rajanpur, Mitari, Talhar, Machi, Bolani, Lashari, Norwah, Machka, Gharo, Jati, Kodario, Hajipur, Chuhar Jamali, Mirpur Khas, Saind Village, Village Balu, Jhaal Magsi, Basti Sher Muhammad, Lakhra, Matyari, Saeedabad Shahdaddot, Sohbatpur, Basti Jageer Gabool, Fazilpur, and Allah Waraio Jamali. The PAF emergency response teams also provided assistance to the flood affectees of Nasserabad, Jhal Maghsi, Jacobabad, Khyarvi, Sindhri, Sanghar, Goth Ismail, Kumhar, Sargal, Pholari, Dadu, Pagadar Shah, Mian Pota, Pashin, Qila Abdullah, Qila Saifulaha, Thul, Sehwan, Nawab Shah, Sakrand, Esabhathi, Sukkur, Pir Patho, Uthal, Hyderabad, Mirpur Khas, Talhar, Nawakilli, Gulistan Killi Saleh and Killi Habibzai. Moreover, free medical camps established by PAF were constantly providing free medical facilities to the locals. 489 patients were attended by medical teams of PAF deployed in field hospitals in the last 24 hours. — APP

Work on two TDCP uplift projects underway

ISLAMABAD: Work on two uplift projects of Tourism Development Corporation of Punjab (TDCP) was underway in DG Khan area at a cost of Rs 148 million to attract the tourists. Deputy manager TDCP Dera Ghazi Khan Sheikh Ijaz while talking to APP here on Sunday said that eco-tourism and cultural park was being established at Head Taunsa. He said that a restaurant, park, lake, boating area and boundary wall would be built at Rs 118 million will be spent on the project concerned. The total area of the project was consisted on 120 kanals land and it will be completed by next year. Likewise, the work was also in progress at desert safari Tehsil Chobara Layyah district at a cost of Rs 30 million. Deputy manager TDCP said that camping pads, parking area, offices and others were being built at two acres land. He informed that park ways will be built in Chachran Sharif and Pattan Manara areas. He said that TDCP boating safari in Indus river near Chachran Sharif has been started again after two months. —APP

Fasset partners with Prime Minister's Youth Programme

Also partners with JazzCash to Educate 1 Million Youth on Web3 & Digital Assets



ISLAMABAD: Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Youth Affairs, Shaza Khwaja meeting with Fasset team.—DNA

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Fasset is partnering with Pakistan's Prime Minister's Office, as part of their Prime Minister's Youth Program (PMYP) to educate 1 million young people on blockchain based technologies, web3 and crypto. The partnership, in conjunction with JazzCash, the largest telco in the country with over 75 million customers, will work on the Skills for Future Agency agenda, bringing much needed education to the masses. The team of Fasset called on Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Youth Affairs, Shaza Khwaja in this regard in which the partnership was agreed upon. Ms Shaza Khwaja said on this occasion "For years, the Government of Pakistan has been working tirelessly on skill development for youth across the country, but I believe the private sector holds great opportunities for young

people when it comes to preparing for the future. It is the Prime Minister's vision to work on areas with great economic impact - like digital skills for the future. This forms the basis of PMYP's partnership with Fasset. I hope our youth utilize this opportunity to learn from qualified industry practitioners & the world of opportunities that unfold." Mohammad Raafi Hossain, CEO Fasset shared, "Pakistan is amongst the top 3 Web3 adopting nations in the world. In addition to that, Pakistan is home to some of the world's best and brightest developers, researchers and scientists when it comes to tokenization, digital assets and blockchain technology. In tandem with PMYP, Fasset hopes to build awareness and educate the next generation of web3 adopters on safe, responsible and innovative development and adoption of the future of this game-changing space. We believe that with the

right building blocks the talented youth of Pakistan can unlock \$100bn of potential economic growth." Murtaza Ali, Acting CEO, JazzCash said, "This partnership will improve financial literacy by reaching out to millions of youth in underprivileged areas through digital mediums. JazzCash is proud to be the financial enabler for any transactions required to be carried out for upcoming phases of the programme. We are keenly interested in forging alliances with like-minded organizations to further our mission of a financially-included Pakistan." "The Central Asian state's Vision 2025 aims to lift domestic digitization for its youth population of 63% aged between 15 and 33. The PMYP is the leading program for youth skills development. Two core areas will be tackled for the youth skill development agenda, covering Skills for the

Future and Skills for All. Working together, both organizations will create a curriculum to impart education on blockchain and web3. The curriculum will also include technical skills young people will need to create a career in this domain, with a special focus on amplifying the current world class web3 developer base existing in Pakistan. Fasset will work on creating a financial literacy series allowing young people, especially women and vulnerable communities, to build their skills. This will lead them to invest and begin earning passive income. Through this training, the participants can also earn certifications that will help them get jobs in relevant fields. There will be a National Innovation Award in Web3, Blockchain, and related emerging technologies. Both parties will participate in curating the award. This partnership also aims to tar-

get Pakistani expats globally, as well as millions of young people in Pakistan to improve financial literacy in underprivileged areas. JazzCash will act as the financial enabler for this arrangement for any transactions required to be carried out for upcoming phases of the programme and showed keen interest during stakeholder meetings in forging alliances with like-minded organizations to further its mission of a financially-included Pakistan. Pakistan has one of the largest communities of freelancers globally, including some of web3's best developers, and Fasset believes that equipping Pakistan's youth with some of the most in-demand skills will boost the freelancing economy in accordance with the vision of PMYP leadership. The partnership will impact approximately 1 million youth over the period of a year, creating learning and work opportunities with significant economic impact.

Forest Division Sukkur has started seeds sowing in the flood area

Mumtaz Ahmed Bhatti

SUKKUR: Sukkur Forest Division started sowing seeds of different types of trees after the flood water level decreased. As soon as the water level at Guddu barrage and Sukkur barrage has decreased, the forest Sukkur range has started sowing on the sector areas. All officers of Sukkur range are participating in this seed sowing campaign. Conservator Forest Circle Muhammad Saleem Westro, DFO Hosh Muhammad Baloch and Range Officer Shams Khoso are regularly monitoring this sowing campaign. The Conservator, DFO and Range Officer while talking to the media said that due to the recent flood situation, millions



SUKKUR: Conservator Forest Circle Sukkur, Muhammad Saleem Westro, DFO Hosh Muhammad Baloch and Range Officer Shams Khoso are monitoring this sowing campaign on boat.

of acres of land in kcha area Sindh Province have been flooded. The forest department can

benefit from the flood situation in terms of maximum seed sowing. Sowing seeds in this flood water is

a very difficult task, but we have to complete the target of seed sowing by taking advantage of the standing water of the flood.

Plan afoot to force out retired employees from govt quarters

ISLAMABAD: The Ministry of Housing and Works is planning to vacate government quarters in the federal capital by forcing out the retired and relatives of late employees. The plan was being devised in line with the directives of Minister for Housing and Works Maulana Abdul Wasay, who was making serious efforts to address accommodation issues of the government servants, sources in the Estate Office told APP. assistance from the Capital Development Authority (CDA) and Estate Office was also sought for the purpose, they added. The ministry, they said, was considering legal action against the encroachments and illegally constructed structures in government residences in the federal capital. Strict action would be taken against the construction of extra rooms by the employees and their kin and, who had been living in government allotted houses, they added. At present, the

sources said, over 17,000 government houses in Islamabad were under the management of the Estate Office and additional rooms had illegally been constructed by the allottees in over 2,400 residences. The basic purpose of the operation was to purge the government residences of encroachments. The CDA and other relevant departments of the provincial governments had helped the Estate Office to vacate government properties. To a question, they said that over 25,000 government employees were currently on the general waiting list to get accommodation, but they could not be provided with the same as retired employees, their relatives and relatives of even late government employees continued to live in the government quarters. About the criteria of allotments, they said that Estate Office was strictly allocated to the government employees on the basis of merit and as per apex court directions relaxation of rules under

Rule 29A of the Accommodation Allocation Rules, 2002 except in the case of hardship. PAF rescue, rehabilitation operations in full swing ISLAMABAD, Sep 18 (DNA): The Pakistan Air Force (PAF) rescue, relief and rehabilitation operations are in full swing in flood affected areas of KP, Sindh, Balochistan and South Punjab. The PAF personnel had been working round the clock for the well-being and timely provision of basic necessities of food, shelter, drinking water and medical assistance to the flood victims, said a PAF news release. In the last 24 hours, relief goods including 20,060 packs of cooked food, 8,851 water bottles, and 2,520 ration packs were distributed amongst the needy families of Rajanpur, Mitari, Talhar, Machi, Bolani, Lashari, Norwah, Machka, Gharo, Jati, Kodario, Hajipur, Chuhar Jamali, Mirpur Khas, Saind Village, Village Balu, Jhaal Magsi, Basti Sher Muhammad, Lakhra, Matyari, Saeedabad Shahdaddot, Sohbatpur, Basti Jageer Gabool, Fazilpur, and Allah Waraio Jamali. — APP

936,328 children to be inoculated

RAWALPINDI: A week-long Anti-Corona vaccination drive would commence in the entire district on September 19 (Monday) to immunize around 936,328 children between the age of five to 12. — APP

Amanullah Haqqani accuses KP govt of misusing funds

DNA

PESHAWAR: Former provincial minister Maulana Amanullah Haqqani has accused Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government of using funds and provincial resources allocated for containing the spread of dengue on Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf's (PTI) by-election campaign. Haqqani, who is also the provincial deputy general secretary of Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam, made these remarks in a statement issued here on Sunday. He alleged that Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Mahmood Khan had openly been violating the election rules, while the authorities concerned were playing the role of silent spectators. Why an action is not being taken for such a violation of the election rules, he wondered. He said PTI's slogan against corruption was nothing but a trickery as the party had not only been violating the Constitution of Pakistan but also the Election Commission of Pakistan rules. He said according to the rules, PTI ministers neither could participate in election campaign, nor could use

the government resources, while CM KP and his cabinet members had not only been flouting the law and the constitution, but also using provincial resources and helicopters freely. He said the ECP had also imposed a fine of Rs 50,000 on each violator but this could not stop them from breaking the law. "I wonder under which law Imran Khan is using KP government's helicopters for political meetings in the entire Pakistan." He said on the one hand the government was not releasing money for carrying out fogging and spraying of anti-mosquitoes pesticides in the province, while on the other hand, it was using the funds allocated for dengue for filling up helicopters' tanks with fuel. He said to prevent dengue virus, not only spray should be arranged in Peshawar district but free medicines should also be provided for dengue patients in hospitals. The present provincial government is making fun of all kinds of calamities, including floods He also appealed to the people to strictly follow dengue SOPs to prevent the disease and save the precious lives of their loved ones.

Campaign against NCDs concludes

STAFF REPORT

RAWALPINDI: A week-long campaign of National University of Medical Sciences (NUMS) to create an awareness about Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) and achieve UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) concluded here Sunday at its PWD Campus as the speakers urged the students to play an active role in this regard.

Department of Public Health (DPH) organized the advocacy event to mark the Week for NCDs as well as for SDGs from Aug. 15 to Sep. 5. NUMS is a member of NCD Alliance (NCDA) which has been maintaining strategic relations with WHO, UN and Governments for placing NCDs on the agenda of global health and development. NCDA theme this year was "Invest to Protect" in a drive to bolster the efforts for reducing burden of the NCDs. The highlights of school and community-based awareness campaign was to advocate change on NCDs with the theme, "ACT on NCDs: Healthy Habits and Climate Action for a Sustainable Planet". The campaign emphasized on the importance of healthy habits and clean air benefits to overall planetary health. Prof. Dr. Uzma Hassan, Head of Public Health Department, NUMS on the occasion said that the diseases like cardiovascular, chronic respiratory, cancers, diabetes and mental health problems were constantly on the rise and that these major groups of NCDs account for almost 80% of all premature NCD deaths with more than 77% in Low-and middle-income countries like Pakistan. — APP

AIOU organizes Int'l conference on education

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU) has organized sixth 2-day international conference on "Research and Practices in Education". Faculty of Education is organizing this conference on September 26 and 27 with the perspective of "Education for Future". International speakers of the conference include: Dr. Jason Laker, Professor of Higher Education, Student Affairs, and Community Development and Chair of the Department of Counselor Education at San José State University (SJSU) in California, USA and Dr. Faith Muirhead, Senior Associate Director of the Professional Development Center at the University of Delaware, Newark, USA. 159 papers will be presented in oral and round table discussions and poster presentations in this conference. Along with science, technology, engineering and mathematics education, panel discussions will also be held on both days of the conference on 'Education for the Future'. Best practices in research and education will be showcased by non-governmental organizations (Education and Awareness Institute, Pakistan Alliance for Girls Education and Sahar Institute of Emerging Careers). Dean of Faculty of Education, Professor Dr. Nasir Mehmood will preside over this conference. The organizers of the conference include Prof. Dr. Fazlur Rahman, Prof. Dr. Tanzeela Nabil, Dr. Naveed Sultana, Dr. Muhammad Ajmal, Dr. Tanveer Afzal, Dr. Athar Hussain, Dr. Ayub Buzdar and Dr. Azhar Majeed Qureshi.



WAZIRABAD: Secretary General of Friendly Hands Welfare Society Tariq Toor hands over relief goods to Pak Army official.—DNA

National Days and Armed Forces Days

SEPTEMBER

Sept 01 / Libya
Revolution Day

Sept 01 / Tanzania
Defence day

Sept 01 / Uzbekistan
Independence Day

Sept 07 / Brazil
Independence Day

Sept 09 / DPR Korea
National Day

Sept 09 / Tajikistan
Independence Day

Sept 16 / Malaysia
Armed Forces Day

Sept 16 / Mexico
National Day

Sept 16/Papua New Guinea
Independence Day

Sept 18 / Chile
National Day

Sept 21 / Malta
Independence Day

Sept 23 / Saudi Arabia
National Day



Hotels & Restaurants

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



Airlines

Turkish Airlines.....8494949



Emergency

Rescue (Police).....15
Bomb Disposal.....15

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

Emergency Ambulance.....1122
& Rescue Services.4451122

Motorway Police.....9266044

Motorway Police.....9270601-20

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DHQ.....5556311-4

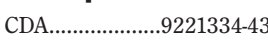
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PIMS.....9261170-79

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Shifa International.4603666



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CDA.....9221334-43

CDA.....9208301-04

Met Office.....9250360-6

RDA.....5555864

TMA.....5770886

Cantonment Board 9270151-3

Islamabad Metropolitan

Corporation.....9209224

Potohar Town.....9209224

Rawal Town.....5773343

Water Tank

Islamabad.....0321-5744480



ISLAMABAD: Chairman Senate Defence Committee Mushahid Hussain Syed photographed with Ambassadors of Denmark Jakob Linulf, EU Riian Kionak, Hungary Bela Fazekas, Dr. Abrarul Hasnain, Alamgir Shah and others during a dinner reception. – DNA

50 women complete course at Pakistan-China Institute

“There was total 130 trainees in first batch. Out of them, 90 were male students and 50 were female students

MAHNOOR ANSAR

ISLAMABAD, Sept.18 (): As many as 50 female students received 15 days free of cost hands-on training after completing their six months courses in Pak-China Technical and Vocational Institute, Gwadar. The course is a part of China's efforts for women empowerment, offering them an excellent chance to become an integral component of the “high-tech man force” direly needed for Gwadar free zones as well as national and internationally competitive markets.

According to Gwadar Pro on Sunday, these female

trainees received on-site skilled and professional training in five trades including Cargo Handling, Office Management, Chinese Language, Crane Operation and Financial Accounting. They belonged to the first batch of 6-month course conducted by PCT & VI in collaboration with National Vocational and Technical Commission (NAVTC) of Pakistan under Prime Minister's Youth Skills Development program. PCT & VI Principal Muhammad Hanif told Gwadar Pro that all female students of impoverished local communities of Gwadar seem to be naturally talented. They needed an

opportunity to show their mettle and once chance came, they seized it and capitalized in professional way. Among them few are likely to get job letters from banks and companies working in Gwadar port, he disclosed. “There was total 130 trainees in first batch. Out of them, 90 were male students and 50 were female students,” he replied a query. These trainees are supposed to be technically and professionally trained and prepared for Gwadar Free Zones, he said, because companies in the Zone will direly seek such kind of skilled and qualified manforce. The development has unleashed employment for Gwadar

youth especially females in the business activities. With technical and professional education, and other allied facilities awarded to them free of cost, Gwadar Youth will prove to be an agent of change, transforming a small fishing town to a modern smart city, said Sohail Asghar, project director of PCT & VI. Another PCT & VI official revealed that after the six-month course, a three-year course is planned. Students will spend one year in PCT & VI Gwadar and one and half years will be in the Shandong Institute of Commercial Technology (SICT) in China. Later, students will learn practical experience as an

internee in courses' related industry in China, he added. “SICT has also agreed to design curriculum in line with requirements of industries. They also consented to bear operational cost of the institute for 3 years for Chinese faculty members' boarding and lodging expenses. The contact agreement with SICT has been submitted to the Ministry of Maritime Affairs for approval,” he added. COPHC Chairman Zhang Boazhong said, “Young people of Gwadar are the main and fundamental stakeholders of Port City of Gwadar. Their participation in operation & management

of the deep-sea port, participation in industrial and commercial businesses, and in urbanization processes is key to all long-term developmental initiatives. This PCT & VI aims to shape and enhance skills of active population of Gwadar to participate in the growth of the Port City.” Groundbreaking of PCT & VI was held on 16th December 2019. During the construction, it provided more than 1000 jobs for locals. This institute possesses 7,350 square meters as a total floor area comprising teaching buildings, training workshops, multi-function halls and dormitories for students and faculty.

ANF recovers over 1401 kg narcotics; arrests 26 accused

RAWALPINDI: Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) while conducting raids in different areas of the country managed to recover over 1401 kg narcotics and arrested 26 accused during last 10 days. According to an ANF Headquarters spokesman, ANF in an operation conducted a raid in Islamabad and arrested an accused on recovery of 90 kg charras and 30 kg opium. The accused was trying to smuggle drugs from Khyber Agency to Punjab.

In another operation, the ANF recovered 1.792 kg cocaine at Islamabad International Airport, tactfully concealed in trousers.

In a raid, the ANF recovered narcotics including 52.800 kg charras, and 22.800 kg opium from a car and held two drug smugglers.

In another operation, the ANF arrested three accused on recovery of 38.40

kg charras and 27.600 kg opium.

The drug smugglers were trying to smuggle narcotics from Peshawar to Punjab through a Hiace van and a Suzuki Mehran car.

The spokesman informed that ANF Peshawar acting on a tip-off conducted a raid and recovered 31.200 kg charras from a car and arrested an accused.

ANF Peshawar also recovered 2.640 kg heroin from possession of a passenger, going to Doha at Bacha Khan International Airport.

The force in a raid conducted at Karachi check post in Parachinar area recovered 435.600 kg charras and one kg suspicious powder besides netting an Afghan national.

ANF Peshawar seized 19.2 kg charras and 15.6 kg opium from two cars and netted two accused.

ANF Karachi acting on a

tip-off conducted a raid on Karachi-Hyderabad Super Highway and arrested an accused besides recovering six kg charras, concealed in a vacuum cleaner.

ANF and Motorway police in a joint operation recovered 20 kg heroin at Peshawar Motorway Toll Plaza while in another raid, ANF Peshawar recovered eight kg heroin from secret cavities of a car and arrested an accused.

Similarly, ANF Peshawar in its operation arrested a passenger, going to Bahrain at Bacha Khan International Airport and recovered 752 grams Ice-filled capsules.

The ANF Rawalpindi in an operation conducted a raid near Islamabad Toll Plaza and recovered 1250 grams Ice drug from the possession of a passenger, travelling in a Hiace van. Ice was tactfully concealed in a trolley bag. – APP

Amin expresses concern over Nepra's refusal

ISLAMABAD :The Federal Minister for Information Technology and Telecommunication Syed Amin Ul Haque on Sunday expressed his concern over Nepra's decision regarding the dismissal of a petition of Telecom Companies to grant an Industrial Electricity Tariff (IET).

In a statement, he said that the Telecom sector has been given the status of an industry by the government and it was the right of Telecom companies to get electricity tariffs at industrial rates.

“Giving maximum incentives to companies working in Pakistan will also encourage other International Investors” he added.

This matter is not only for the Telecom sector. – APP

Quality of items at utility stores highest

ISLAMABAD: In order to improve the demand and supply and to ensure uninterrupted supply of branded items at all utility stores across the country, the prices of some branded items have been increased, but this increase is by the branded companies.

Various national and multinational branded companies supplying goods to utility stores have increased the prices of various branded items.

The prices of these items were kept stable for the last seven months.

Utility Stores Corporation does not manufacture or produce itself but purchases from reputed and certified branded companies of

the country. When raw material prices increase, production charges increase and transportation charges increase, the product cost also increases due to which the prices have to be revised.

So that demand and supply improve and availability of these products is possible.

Despite this, the utility stores are committed to providing basic and branded items to the public at lower rates than the open market.

The new prices of these items at utility stores are lower than the printed retail market price.

Remember, subsidized ghee at Rs 300 per kg, sugar at Rs 70 per kg and 20 kg bag of flour at Rs 800 are available in abundance at all utility stores across the country. Subsidy is also being given on pulses and rice.

Apart from this, hundreds of other branded items available at utility stores are also being provided on cheaper rates than the general market. –DNA

Experts plead ‘Charter of Economy’ to overcome crises

SHAMS ABBASI

ISLAMABAD: Notwithstanding the unsuccessful attempts by the Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf to derail the country's fragile economy, the incumbent government had successfully struck a deal with International Monetary Fund (IMF), saving the country from impending default. Amidst the challenges of depreciating rupee against dollar and burden of repayment of loans, there could have been no other quick fix than to restore the IMF program as the government needed immediate respite in a challenging situation.

The situation had become more taxing after the devastating floods across the country that inundated hundreds of thousands houses and livestock and crops on millions of acre, giving a severe blow to already struggling economy. In this situation, Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue, Miftah Ismail and his team had made untiring efforts to put the Extended Fund Facility (IMF) program back on track.

The minister, in his interviews and press conferences, has been vehemently articulating that had the IMF program not been approved, the country would have been facing threat of default. Moreover, in view of recent floods that inflicted loss of approximately US\$30 billion to the national economy, approval of loan facility under EFF by IMF had rekindled hopes of economic survival.

“Agreement with the board has opened other bilateral and multilateral funding avenues for Pakistan, already in dire need to cope with existing economic situation amid flood destruction,” said an economic expert at Finance Ministry. “The program will strengthen country's external sector and help improve economy as multilateral donors and borrowing agencies would have more confidence in Pakistan,” he added.

FGRF plans to construct 10,000 houses

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Faizan Global Relief Foundation (FGRF), a non-profitable organization, is entering in rehabilitation phase besides rescue and relief activities and planning to construct 10,000 single-storey houses for the flood victims across the country at the initial stage.

As per plan, it would construct 100 houses in clusters at 100 various points to be designated by the provincial governments.

Each house would be comprised of 800 square feet having two bedrooms, corridor, kitchen and washroom.

In an exclusive talk with APP, FGRF Representative Muhammad Adil Attari informed that the foundation's delegation held a meeting with Punjab Chief Minister Chaudhry Pervaiz Elahi and Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) Director General Faisal Fareed to give a final shape to the plan in the province on Monday.

He said the Punjab chief minister appreciated the ongoing welfare activities, carried out by the FGRF, and assured all-out support to make the plan a success story.

According to the understanding, the Punjab government would facilitate the FGRF with lands in various areas to construct the residential units for the people severely affected by the torrential rains and flash floods in the province, he added.

He said the talks were underway with other provincial authorities concerned on the same terms and conditions so that the affected people could be populated in their new houses in the days ahead. –APP

CJP forms four benches for imp. cases

The bench one would comprise of CJ Umar Ata Bandial and Justice Ayesha A Malik while the second bench would comprise of Justice Qazi Faez Isa, Justice Yahya Afridi and Justice Muhammad Ali Mazhar

ISLAMABAD: Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Umar Ata Bandial has constituted four regular benches at the principal seat Islamabad to hear a number of important cases during the week starting from Monday. The bench one would comprise of Chief Justice Umar Ata Bandial and Justice Ayesha A Malik while the second bench would comprise of Justice Qazi Faez Isa, Justice Yahya Afridi and Justice Muhammad Ali Mazhar.

The third bench would comprise of Justice Sardar Tariq Masood, Justice Amin-Ud-Din Khan and Justice Jamal Khan Mandokhail. The fourth bench comprising Justice Ijaz Ul Ahsan and Justice Sayyed Mazahar Ali Akbar Naqvi would hear cases from 9:30 am to 11:00 am while after 11:30 am the bench composition would be Justice Ijaz Ul Ahsan, Justice Sayyed Mazahar Ali Akbar Naqvi and Justice Ayesha A Malik. The benches will hear many important cases including service and pension matters of government employees, educational institutions matters, labour cases, appeals against death sentences and life imprisonment, appeals against acquittal of accused in murder and corruption cases, bail appeals in NAB cases, election petitions of different politicians, Atta Abbas Zaidi and others appeal against National Accountability Bureau (NAB) and according to NAB the petitioner was charged for allegedly being involved in illegal mutation & allotment of land by misusing his authority, Government of Pakistan Secretary Interior at



State Bank of Pakistan, Islamabad and others against Zia Ullah Khan and others regarding impugned proceedings on complaint through Pakistan Citizen Portal, appeal filed by Robina Farooq against NAB and according to NAB inquiry against Investigation Officer (Petitioner) for criminal misconduct for allegedly hampering the investigation, M/s Oil & Gas Development Company Ltd OGDCL appeal regarding imposition of production Cess on Crude Oil [Sections 2 and 6 of the Regulation of Mines and Oil-fields and Mineral Development (Government Control) Act, 1948, differ-

ent appeals seeking exemption from Sales Tax and Income Tax at import stage available under Entry of 151 of the 6th Schedule to the Sales Tax Act, 1990, The Collector of Customs (Enforcement) and Customs House, Karachi v. M/s Hassan Trading Company Karachi asking whether the consignments, which have been mis-declared can be released/cleared unconditionally upon payment of duties and taxes. Moreover, the SC would hear Muhammad Riaz Sajid petition against District Police Officer, Mianwali seeking recovery of his daughter from the improper custody of R-3, appeal seeking grant of prospecting license for Chromite, appeal questioning whether an agreement to sell can be used as an instrument by the vendees to deprive their sisters from the share of their inheritance, Dr. Wishah Urwat Ul Wusqa appeal seeking transfer of case from the Judge Family Court Multan (Punjab) to the Judge Family Court Islamabad (ICT), cases relating to PEMRA against interim order for change of License Category/Contents from “Entertainment” to “News and Current Affairs and Waleed Saad Khan petition against National Accountability Bureau seeking declaration of Inquiry as illegal and quashment of inquiry proceedings in the alleged allotment of land in favour of the petitioner. According to cause lists, no adjournment on any ground will be granted and no application for adjournment through fax will be placed before the court. – APP

Briefs

Death anniversary of Amanat Ali Khan observed

ISLAMABAD: The 48th death anniversary of legendary classical singer Ustad Amanat Ali Khan marked on Sunday (Sept. 18). He was born in 1922 in Indian city Hoshiarpur. He belonged to a famous Patiala gharana of musicians.

In 1948, he migrated to Pakistan. He got fame both in classical as well as in Ghazal formats of singing. He released many ghazals, including 'Insha Ji Utho Ab Kuch Karo', 'Honton Pe Kabhi Unke Mera Naam' and 'Mora Jiya Na Lagay' and many others which are still remembered by fans. He was awarded 'Pride of Performance' by the government of Pakistan in 2009. - APP

Chairman PHA for planting maximum saplings

RAWALPINDI :Chairman, Parks and Horticulture Authority (PHA) Rawalpindi, Asif Mehmood has directed the officers concerned to plant maximum saplings under ongoing plantation campaign. He instructed the officers to take all possible steps to make Rawalpindi city green and beautiful. The Chairman said, "We are also making efforts for beautification of Murree." Under the project, the beautification of different roads and parks of the city would also be ensured, he added. He said, joint efforts would be made by all the departments concerned for beautification of the city and it would be made a more attractive and beautiful area. According to a PHA spokesperson, the Chairman had also ordered the authority to further uplift green belts, roads and parks of Murree, the most popular hill station of the country. Asif Mehmood had directed the officers to accelerate the pace of the work to complete the projects within shortest possible time frame and formulate a comprehensive plan to further enhance beauty of the hill station, he added. - APP

Int'l Day of Peace on Sep 21

ISLAMABAD: International Day of Peace will be marked on September 21(Wednesday) to recognize the efforts of those who have worked hard to end conflict and promote peace. The dove is a symbol often associated with the International Day of Peace. On the International Day of Peace, also known as Peace Day, people around the world take part in various activities and organize events centered on the theme "peace". Events vary from private gatherings to public concerts and forums involving large audiences. Activities include: Interfaith peace ceremonies; A toast for peace; A peace choir; Lighting candles; Peace prayers; A peace convoy of vehicles; Tree planting for peace; Art exhibitions promoting peace; Picnics for peace. Peace walks.

A UN resolution established the International Day of Peace in 1981 to coincide with the opening of the UN General Assembly. The first Peace Day was celebrated in 1982 and was held on the third Tuesday of September each year until 2002, when September 21 became the permanent date for the International Day of Peace. The assembly decided in 2001 that the International Day of Peace should be annually observed on September 21 starting from 2002. By setting a fixed date for the International Day of Peace, the assembly declared that the day should be observed as a day of global ceasefire and non-violence. By creating the International Day of Peace, the UN devoted itself to worldwide peace and encouraged people to work in cooperation for this goal. Since its inception, Peace Day has marked personal and planetary progress toward peace. It has grown to include millions of people worldwide and many events are organized. - APP



ISLAMABAD: Secretary General UBG and Chairman D Watson Group Zafar Bakhtawari speaking on the occasion of a dinner he hosted for Moben Rafiq from UK, at his resident. —DNA

Pakistan to take advantage of Indonesia's \$1 tr market

Ambassador of Indonesia says China was enjoying a bilateral trade of around \$ 600 billion with ASEAN, but Pakistan-ASEAN bilateral trade was less than 1%

STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Indonesia to Pakistan, Adam M. Tugio on Sunday said that Pakistan can take full advantage of Indonesia's US\$1 trillion economic market potential, which will increase economic cooperation between the two sides. The Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI) organized a Pakistan-Indonesia Joint Business Form (JBF) to discuss the potential areas of business cooperation between the two largest Muslim countries. Adam M. Tugio, Ambassador of Indonesia was the chief guest at the occasion. Speaking at the occasion, Ambassador of Indonesia in the US\$ 2.9 trillion economic market of Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN), Indonesia's share is \$1.1 trillion, thus Pakistan can not only benefit from the Indonesian market, but can develop its strong economic relations in the ASEAN countries through Indonesia, he said. The Ambassador that his country was a gateway for \$2.9 trillion economy of ASEAN region and Pakistan should tap it for trade and exports by developing close cooperation with Indonesia.

He said that China was enjoying a bilateral trade of around \$ 600 billion with ASEAN, but Pakistan-ASEAN bilateral trade was

less than 1%, which should be increased to achieve better results.

He stressed for promoting cooperation among women entrepreneurs of Pakistan, Indonesia and ASEAN region that would give boost to trade among these countries. Ambassador Adam said that his embassy was planning to organize a dialogue on economy involving B2B and G2G meetings between the two countries besides holding an exhibition of the products of both countries to highlight their potential for bilateral trade.

The two sides identified many areas including real estate, construction, mines and minerals, textiles, information technology, e-commerce, infrastructure development, tourism, women entrepreneurship, youth development and spices that offered great potential for mutual cooperation between Pakistan and Indonesia. Big brands of real estate sector including J7 Group, Fair Deal, Star Marketing, Elaan Marketing and 5G Group gave presentations of their projects to highlight the potential of JVs and investment for Indonesian investors in them. Speaking at the occasion, Muhammad Shaheel Munir, President, Islamabad Chamber



of Commerce and Industry said that the Pak-Indonesia combined population was a huge market of around 500 million people, but their bilateral trade of around USD 4 billion was not matching with their actual potential. He stressed for diversification of trade to increase its volume.

President ICCI stressed that both countries should finalize free trade agreement to reduce trade barriers and boost the volume of two-way trade. He underscored the need of regular exchange of trade delegations to explore all untapped areas of mutual cooperation between the two countries.

Shehzad Cheema, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Works said that Pakistan was facing a shortage of 7.7 million housing units and Indonesian investors have great potential to invest in Pakistan's housing sector. He said that his ministry was planning to organize an international expo on housing to attract local and foreign investors.

Jamshaid Akhtar Sheikh Senior Vice President and Muhammad Faheem Khan Vice President ICCI also spoke at the occasion and said that the geographic locations of Pakistan and Indonesia offered enormous potential for promoting bilateral and regional trade that should be exploited for achieving beneficial outcomes.

Pakistan paying over \$30 bln price for serious climate change

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan is victim of climate change produced by the heavily industrialised countries and paying a horrendous price of over US\$30bn for the intransigence of others. It was stated by Coordinator to Federal Tax Ombudsman Meher Kashif Younis while talking to a delegation of Environmentalists led by Prof Dr Sajid Rashid Ahmad Arain, Principal Earth and Environmental Sciences Punjab University in Lahore on Sunday. He said even Prime Minister of Fiji Frank Bainimarama admitted on his tweet while responding to a question on situation in Pakistan he said "Let be clear: Pakistani people did not do this to Pakistan-we all did, and highly emitting nations are most responsible. Unless we end our species addiction to fossil fuels, every country in the world remain in the crosshairs of climate breakdown". Mr

Frank concluded. He said the UN Secretary General after visit of flood hit areas said "He had never seen climate related destruction on such a scale and I'm asking for Justice as it is a global crisis which demands a global response". He said according to UN estimate Pakistan contributes less than one percent of global greenhouse gas emissions and is yet 8th on the list of countries most vulnerable to severe weather caused by climate change. He said Pakistan floods are a big wake-up call. He said our survival and that of our future generations will indeed depend upon our response today. He said climate change has surfaced as a threat more dangerous than terrorism. Meher Kashif said what we need to do urgently is to boost agriculture production by using hi-tech hybrid seeds, construction of dams

and water reservoirs, rehabilitation of flood affected people and restoration of infrastructure and active involvement of philanthropists for assistance of flood affected people besides drawing future line of action to avert such large scale disasters plunging the country in a state of quagmire. He said severe heat and drought have continued to sweep across most parts of northern hemisphere. He said human caused climate change made the event at least 10 times more likely. He said this drought, which is further disrupting supply chains and pushing up food and energy prices, once again reminds us of the urgency in working together to tackle climate change. Meanwhile, many European countries including Germany, France, the Netherlands and Denmark have been quietly restarting

SC to hear pleas against former minister on Wednesday

ISLAMABAD: The Supreme Court will hear a petition against former federal minister for Industries and Production Makhdoom Khusrul Bakhtiar and former provincial finance minister Makhdoom Hashim Jawan Bakht regarding their assets beyond means on Wednesday (September 21). A three-member bench comprising Justice Ijaz Ul Ahsan Justice Sayeed Mazhar Ali Akbar Naqvi and Justice Ayesha A Malik would hear the appeal against the Islamabad High Court (IHC)'s verdict. The IHC had dismissed Muhammad Ahsan Abid's writ petition against PTI leaders. Ahsan Abid is voter of NA-177 Rahim Yar Khan and had contested general elections from the same constituency. -APP

NUST idea to revive shelter for flood-hit people

DNA

ISLAMABAD: The faculty and students of National University of Science and Technology (NUST) are working on a concept of "Own a Village" for revival of livelihood and shelter for the flood-hit people. NUST "Own a Village" concept has to cater for the revival of livelihood, shelter and community services relying on a need-based assessment through engaging the community and local government. Some of the important aspects in this regard are provision of seeds, fertilizers, insecticide sprays, agriculture implements/ tools, tractors, and livestock etc. NUST focus will be on revival of community services to include repair and maintenance of school, health care unit, mosque, water supply (wells and hand pumps), sewerage drains, mud roads etc. Apart from providing goods and ration, the main objective of NUST is to provide rehabilitation and reconstruction support in flood affected areas. The university is already carrying out its flood relief operations in all affected areas of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Balochistan, Sindh, and South Punjab with full zeal. The university has so far distributed more than 3000 ration bags to over 2500 families in calamity-stricken in and around Quetta, Sukkur, Naushahro Feroze, Badin, Sanghar, Dadu, Thatta, Sibbi, Swat, Ghizer, Dera Ghazi Khan, Risalpur and Nowshera. Heavy rains and deluge have caused serious damage to life and property across the country. Joining the national efforts amidst this perilous crisis.

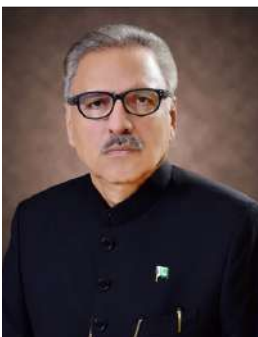
President declares revision in profit rate by CDNS as maladministration

DNA

Islamabad, 18 September 2022: While accepting a representation of an aggrieved citizen against a decision of the Wafaqi Mohtasib, President Dr Arif Alvi has directed the Central Directorate of National Savings (CDNS) to pay profit on the Special Saving Certificates (SSCs) as per the profit rate prevailing at the time of purchasing the certificates.

He said that CDNS had committed maladministration by revising the profit rates retrospectively and in contrary to the existing law, thus causing the citizen a loss of Rs 5.3 million. The President issued these directions while deciding on a representation preferred by Ms Yasmeen Merchant, who had purchased six SSCs from CDNS on 01.11.2019 at a profit rate of 12.7% for five certificates and 13.9% profit rate for the sixth certificate. Four days later on 05.11.2019, however, Finance Division is-

sued a notification reducing the profit rates from 12.7% to 11% and 13.9% to 11.8% with retrospective effect from 01.11.2019, causing her a loss of Rs 5.3 million. The President accepted her representation and held that the complainant was entitled to the profit rate prevailing on the date of issuance of certificates and that the change made through the notification did not apply to her investment in retrospective and, therefore, it could not affect her duly earned right of profit nor it can nullify it to her disadvantage. He said that the



notification issued was in the nature of subordinate or delegated legislation and took effect from the date of its publication in the official Gazette and not from any prior date. The President added that the rationale behind it was that only the Parliament/legislative bodies could enact a law from a date prior to its enactment i.e., retrospectively and the Government by itself, unless authorized by the statute, had no such authority or power to issue a notification operative from a date different from the date of its publication in the official Gazette.

The President further highlighted that a person may feel allured by the incentives floated by the Government and act upon it, and it did not behove the Government to recant on its commitment as it may erode the confidence of the general public in the government bodies and may also negatively affect the credibility of the Government. He further stated that such law was based on settled legal principles and Quranic

injunctions as per the 1st verse of Surah Al-Maida "O ye who believe! Fulfil your undertakings".

The President held that it was not only logical, fair and just to fulfil promises, undertakings and agreements but was also a universally accepted norm. He further declared that both sides were bound by the commitments made at the time of issuance of certificates and directed CDNS to pay the profit as per the promised profit rates of 12.7% and 13.9% on the purchased certificates. As per details, the citizen's grievance was that she had purchased the SSCs because of the prevailing profit rate whereas the notification gave retrospective effect to the profit rates and was issued after investment to her disadvantage. She approached CDNS and later the Wafaqi Mohtasib for redressal of her grievance but to no avail. She then filed a representation with the President, which he accepted.

Space Week celebrations to start at IST

STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: Institute of Space Technology (IST), Islamabad in collaboration with National Center of GIS and Space Applications (NCGSA) has planned to celebrate World Space Week 2022, from October 4-10 at its Islamabad campus.

According to the IST, the annual week long space festivity encapsulates over 100 events, related to space science, technology and its applications.

The celebrations are in pursuance of United Nations declaration of October 4-10 as international week of space aimed at celebrating, and acknowledging the contributions of Space Technology towards betterment of humankind.

It is the largest annual space event of the world aimed to build up the workforce of tomorrow by inspiring students and educating the public about multifaceted domains of space.

Pakistan is one of the major contributors in the WSW space festivities, the national activities are held under the patronage of SUPARCO. Institute of Space Technology has been celebrating World Space Week since 2005 in line with its vision "Be a National torchbearer in the realm of academics, through quality teaching, robust research and outreach, to produce leaders in the field of Space Science and Technology, in line with National aspirations".

2022 K-Movie Festival in Pakistan

DNA

ISLAMABAD: The Embassy of the Republic of Korea in Islamabad held the 2022 K-Movie Festival at Pakistan National Council of Arts (PNCA) on the 16th of September, 2022. This event was held to promote the vibrant Korean arts and culture. The event was attended by high-level dignitaries including the Heads of Missions, International organizations, Pakistani officials in Islamabad. The event is a testament to the growing enthusiasm in Korea's artistic achievements and its cultural legacy among Pakistanis and the world. The Ambassador of the Republic of Korea commented that events like this reaffirm the cultural exchanges are an effective way to enhance bilateral cultural understanding, and shared his hopes that such events would continue to become building blocks towards solidifying and strengthening cultural ties between Korea and Pakistan.

Entries for descriptive writing contest

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Science Foundation (PSF) in collaboration with the Embassy of China in Pakistan was organizing a competition titled "Descriptive Letter Writing Competition to Chinese Astronauts" for students interested in space and breeding of crops in space. According to an official, PSF being the premier organization for the promotion and popularization of science in the country conducts such competitions on regular basis to inculcate students' interest in various fields of science. Institute of Crop Sciences (ICS), Beijing is China's leading institute working under the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences for the development of new seed varieties for increased yield and enhanced resistance against diseases and viruses. ICS is also running "The National Center of Space Mutagenesis for Crop Improvement" whose main function is to send seeds for short trips to space to help scientists in developing new crop varieties that can thrive in the changing climate and help feed the world's growing population. In May 2022 more than 12,000 seeds of several types of grass, oats, fungi, alfalfa and others including some from the University of Karachi were sent to spacecraft for breeding while orbiting our planet, where they are under microgravity and are bombarded by cosmic rays - APP

Dangerous rise of the far right in Europe

The scary rise of the far right in Europe: it's a familiar theme and one that progressive politicians and liberal media often rehearse. A game-changing surge in support for nationalist, Eurosceptic, culturally intolerant parties was predicted after the 2016 Brexit referendum and Donald Trump's US election victory. Yet it never really took off. Last year's electoral success of Germany's centre-left Social Democrats, and setbacks for the hard-right Alternative for Germany, suggested the forces of reaction were in retreat. Then came France's presidential election run-off, when the far-right's Marine Le Pen gained a record 13.3m votes – over 41% of the total. The broader lesson to be drawn from such fluctuations is that efforts to discern distinct, Europe-wide trends can be misleading. Voting behaviour in different countries is influenced by personalities, events, timing, regional issues, party loyalties and electoral systems. In the end, all politics is local.

That said, far-right populist parties are a pan-European problem that concerns all democrats. Common ground, and ideological conjunctions, can be found, for example, between Sweden, in Europe's far north, and Italy in the Mediterranean south. In both, radical right parties are on the up.

Surprising many in Stockholm, the Sweden Democrats, a party with neo-Nazi roots and a fierce anti-immigrant, law and order stance, won second place in last week's national election, backed by one in five voters. Its support will be crucial for the new centre-right coalition aiming to replace the Social Democrats. If the fact that such a party, skewered by opponents as neo-fascist brown shirts, will play kingmaker is not alarming enough, then consider this: in the land of Greta Thunberg's birth, 22% of first-time voters aged 18 to 21 voted for the Sweden Democrats, a party that shares the European far right's scepticism about the climate crisis. Like the Sweden Democrats and Le Pen's National Rally (formerly the National Front), the Brothers of Italy have carefully laundered their image and suppressed their wilder urges. Meloni has moderated her anti-EU stance and distanced herself from Russia. In contrast, Berlusconi is known as an old pal of Vladimir Putin. Italy's far right shares other characteristics with European brethren – hostility to "elites", authoritarian tendencies, disdain for multiculturalism and gender rights and an obsession with national identity underpinned by racism. Poland, the Netherlands, Austria, Spain, Serbia – all have their own versions of the same contagion. The damage the far right can do in power is painfully evident in Hungary. Its pro-Moscow prime minister, Viktor Orbán, and his Fidesz party have obstructed EU action on Ukraine and undercut judicial, academic, minority and media freedoms. Last week, the European parliament declared Hungary was no longer a democracy.

At a moment of national introspection and not a little self-flagellation, the British should be grateful – and proud – that far-right parties have never gained the significance they have elsewhere. Could it happen here? If our affairs are mismanaged badly enough, yes, it could.

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

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Email: dailyisbpost@gmail.com

Phone: 051-2266165 / 051-2261960

Off: Awan Plaza, Block 18-A, G-8 Markaz Islamabad



Gun violence stems from US institutional flaw

The fact that nearly every US citizen will know at least one victim of gun violence in their lifetime and more than 1 million US citizens have been shot in the past decade presents a horrifying picture about how firearms in private hands pose a threat to people's safety in the United States.

What is even more shocking and alarming is the fact that firearm-related deaths increased 13.5 percent from 2019 to 2020, and among children and adolescents they surged a staggering 30 percent. Statistics show that 12 children die from gun violence each day in the United States and another 32 are injured.

It is no exaggeration to call gun violence an epidemic in the US. Mass shootings at schools have already become a nightmare that haunts US children and their parents. Children are even required to receive training about how to react to a mass shooting in Texas which has the highest rate of school shootings.

Despite US President Joe Biden's repeated remarks and efforts to push for a ban on high-capacity ammunition magazines, enforce universal background checks for all gun sales and eliminate gun manufacturers' immunity from lawsuits, it seems very unlikely the world's most developed country will be able to address its gun violence. It is unlikely to be even able to effectively stop the rapid rise of mass shootings in schools and other public venues.

It is the intrinsic flaw in its governance system that makes it impossible for the US government to place the interests of the American people first despite the fact that its politicians hold high the banner of freedom and democracy when talking about the political strengths of the US.

Bipartisan strife characterizes US politics. And behind the two major political parties are interest groups, including gun manufacturers and dealers, which have been making handsome profits. The National Rifle Association is their lobbyist to Congress. It has received tens of millions of dollars from the gun companies to ensure the defeat of responsible gun ownership regulations.

No matter how sincere Biden and other politicians are when they talk about the need to address gun violence, they can do nothing more than pay lip service to the settlement of the problem.

Talking about measures to reduce or stop gun violence is one thing, doing something concrete is another. This has become a reality that Americans living under the shadow of gun violence have to accept.

The fact that gun sales jump immediately after every mass shooting suggests that gun violence has become a vicious cycle in the US – the more frequent mass shootings are, the more necessary and urgent Americans feel the need to possess firearm of their own to protect themselves from being shot.

There would be no solution to gun violence in the US unless its political institution is fundamentally reformed, which seems impossible in the foreseeable future.

Returning morals and ethics to domestic and foreign policymaking (P-1)

James Dorsey

Instead, contributors to the journal argue that examining how to avoid catastrophic failure might be a better way of going about it. In doing so, the editors of the special edition, Daniel W. Drezner and Amrita Narlikar, again implicitly, call for out-of-the-box thinking. They propose the application of the medical sector's Hippocratic Oath to international relations

The Biden administration is mulling whether to grant Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman sovereign immunity in a case related to the 2018 killing of Jamal Khashoggi. The journalist's fiancé and a non-profit organization he helped found filed the lawsuit in a Washington district court.

The court has extended its original August 1 deadline until October 3 for the administration to advise Judge John Bates on whether it believes that Mr. Bin Salman qualifies for sovereign immunity, a status usually reserved for heads of state, heads of government, and foreign ministers.

It is hard to believe that the administration would refuse the crown prince immunity following US President Joe Biden's July pilgrimage to the kingdom and the energy crisis sparked by sanctions imposed on Russia in response to its invasion of Ukraine.

Mr. Biden's visit intended to repair relations with a country that he had described as a "pariah" state during his election campaign. Moreover, it came after Mr. Biden had refused to deal directly with Mr. Bin Salman in the president's first 18 months in office.

It is equally unlikely that the court would go against the probable advice of the administration to grant immunity to Mr. Bin Salman. One consideration in the administration's deliberations may be whether Mr. Bin Salman would want to be more cooperative in addressing the energy crisis by pumping more oil and pressuring the Organisation of Oil Exporting Countries (OPEC) and its partners to increase

their production levels in a bid to reduce prices in return for immunity. Mr. Bin Salman has, so far, given little, if anything, in response to Mr. Biden's pilgrimage but has benefitted from the boost the president gave to the crown prince's rehabilitation in the United States and Europe.

The killing of Mr. Khashoggi and the Yemen war turned Mr. Bin Salman into a tarnished, unwelcome figure in Western capitals. In the wake of Mr. Biden's pilgrimage, Mr. Bin Salman has made his first trip to Europe with stops in Greece and France. In addition, the crown prince is expected to travel to London in the coming days to offer his condolences for the death of Queen Elizabeth.

Whatever the judge decides, the stakes go far beyond the legal aspects and the political fallout of his eventual ruling. Double standards

The likely ruling in favour of Mr. Bin Salman will spotlight double standards in politics and policymaking and the lack of a moral and ethical yardstick.

Too often, opportunism, in the absence of inclusive moral and ethical standards, allows leaders, officials, policymakers, and politicians to prioritise their interests rather than those of the nation or affected people elsewhere.

The likely ruling will also raise the question of why governments, leaders, and officials should be held to a different standard before the law.

The issue of double standards is closely related to a debate about the principle of universal jurisdiction that legal systems like those of Spain and Belgium have appropriated for themselves and how they relate to the mandate of the International Criminal Court (ICC) in The Hague.

In 2014, the Spanish parliament curtailed the country's universal jurisdiction after a Spanish judge issued arrest warrants for former Chinese president Jiang Zemin and four senior Chinese officials on charges of human rights abuses in Tibet. The jurisdiction enabled the prosecution of Chilean dictator Augusto Pinochet that has yet to establish a standard for accountability. A Hippocratic Oath

A recent special edition of International Affairs, an academic journal, implicitly approaches the debate about the lack of a moral and ethical yardstick that undergirds politics and policymaking by suggesting that academics, analysts, and practitioners revisit the maxim of seeking to replicate past policy successes as the basis for the crafting of new policies.

Instead, contributors to the journal argue that examining how to avoid catastrophic failure might be a better way of going about it. In doing so, the editors of the special edition, Daniel W. Drezner and Amrita Narlikar, again implicitly, call for out-of-the-box thinking. They propose the application of the medical sector's Hippocratic Oath to international relations. The oath obliges doctors to avoid doing harm.

"The Hippocratic Oath principle in IR (international relations) serves as a cautionary warning against action merely for action's sake. There is a bias in politics towards 'doing something' in response to an event. Doing something, however, is not the same as doing the right thing.... A Hippocratic Oath asks policymakers to weigh the costs and risks of viable policy options before proceeding," the editors argue in their introduction to the special edition.

Responding to former White House chief of staff and onetime secretary of State and of the Treasury James Baker's observation that policy solutions often create problems that need to be ameliorated at a later stage, Mr. Drezner and Ms. Narlikar note that this is an "endemic problem created by the mismatch between the grand arc of international relations and the powerful short-term incentives that political leaders face." Inclusive Morals and Ethics The issue of inclusive morals and ethics in politics and policymaking has been further pushed to the forefront by the fact that recent international events and trends, including the controversy over the 2020 US presidential election; Britain's exit from the European Union; the Russian invasion of Ukraine; ethno-religious nationalism in Russia, China, Hungary, Serbia, India, and Israel as well as among American Christian nationalists; and bloodshed in the Middle East, involve civilizational choices and policies that often violate international law and challenge a world order based on heterogeneous nation-states and/or propagate exclusionist policies. Inclusive morals and ethics come into play when conservatives claim civilizational superiority based on allegedly more advanced development and argue that the "fundamental foreign policy blunder of our times (that) has been at the root of the West's promotion of wrong policies in LCL (Lower Civilizational Level) societies – such as parliamentary democracy, religious freedom, excessive liberties, etc. – that have proven highly destructive to the stability and advancement of many LCL societies that were not ready for them."

Morals and ethics also become essential in countering the argument by conservatives and segments of the left that immigration and multiculturalism spark "civilizational trauma and severe terror attacks." The implicit equation of Islam and terrorism ignores the fact that Christian nationalists account for a fair share of recent violent attacks, including the 2011 killings in Norway by Anders Behring Breivik, the 2018 Pittsburgh synagogue shooting, and the 2019 mosque murders in New Zealand.

Culture vs. Racism Conservatives and civilizationalists frame their politics and policies as a cultural battle rather than an expression of racism. For example, Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orbán argues that his opposition to mixing Europeans and non-Europeans and pursuing a homogenous Christian Hungary "is not a racial issue for us. This is a question of culture. Quite simply, our civilization should be preserved as it is now."

Mr. Orbán's philosophy echoes far-right Russian ideologue Alexander Dugin who asserts the cultural battle "is a war of ideas. We are not part of the global civilisation. We are a civilisation by ourselves. ... We had no other possibility to prove that Huntington was right without attacking Ukraine."

He was referring to the late Harvard University political scientist Samuel P. Huntington who controversially predicted a post-Cold War clash of civilisations that would be fought not between countries but between cultures. In his hugely influential ultra-nationalist tome, The Foundations of Geopolitics: The Geopolitical Future of Russia, published in the 1990s, Mr. Dugin envisions a clash of civilisation between the West and a Eurasian bloc supported by Russia.

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The ideologue further argues that "it is especially important to introduce geopolitical disorder... encouraging all kinds of separatism and ethnic, social and racial conflicts, actively supporting all dissident movements – extremist, racist, and sectarian groups." In doing so, Mr. Dugin unwittingly argues for re-introducing inclusive morals and ethics into politics and policymaking. Their absence and the lack of a consensus on an inclusive definition of national interest has led to a world in which gaps in income distribution have become ever more yawning, and more and more societal groups are marginalised and disenfranchised. Racism and repression are on the rise and have become mainstream, and the world is moving ever closer to the abyss of a third global war. Shared responsibility

Discussing the attempted killing in August of Salman Rushdie and his own experience of being surrounded by bodyguards, Turkish Literature Nobel Prize winner Orhan Pamuk puts a share of the responsibility for greater adherence to inclusive morals on ethics on journalists and writers who have the luxury to work in an environment of freedom.

Mr. Pamuk noted in an article in The Atlantic that Mr. Rushdie's assailant was a 24-year-old clerk in a department store. "If we hope to see the principle of freedom of expression thrive in society, the courage of writers like Salman Rushdie will not suffice; we must also be brave enough to think about the sources of the furious hatred they are subjected to," Mr. Pamuk wrote.

"What we need to do is use our privilege of free speech to acknowledge the role of class and cultural differences in society – the sense of being second- or third-class citizens, of feeling invisible, unrepresented, unimportant, like one counts for nothing – which can drive people toward extremism," he went on to say.

"In many cases, these differences in class and social status have become taboo subjects that nobody wishes to hear or dares speak about. The news media, reluctant to appear to be somehow condoning violence, don't dwell on the fact that the people who turn it tend to be poor, uneducated, and desperate," Mr. Pamuk said.

A utopian task Key questions dominate discussions about civilizationalism and the importance of inclusive morals and ethics for politics and policymaking. These questions include what does it mean to be a nation? What do citizens need to agree on to be or become a people? And must the 'people' be united, or can they be divided?

In a twist of irony, Islam scholar and public intellectual Shadi Hamid notes that debate in the 21st century about existential issues of culture, identity, and religion initially emerged in the Middle East during the 2011 popular Arab revolts and only several years later in other parts of the world.

"During the heady, sometimes frightening days of the Arab Spring, the region was struggling over some of the same questions Americans are contending with today," Mr. Hamid says. In the absence of a strong liberal trend and/or a secular-liberal consensus, the debate was dominated by illiberal Islamists who "were carrying the banner of anti-liberalism before anti-liberalism was cool."

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Pakistan floods are a big wake-up call

Zahid Hafeez Chaudhri

The Government of Pakistan has deployed all available resources for the relief and rescue operations. Thousands of lives have been saved, hundreds of thousands of people including women and children have been moved to safer locations, millions are being provided temporary shelter, food and medical facilities. A man carries goods as he wades through a flooded street after heavy monsoon rains, in Karachi, Pakistan, Wednesday, Aug. 26, 2020. Families of those who have lost their lives or injured and the other affectees are being provided compensations.

Floods in Pakistan have killed more than 1,500 people and destroyed land and infrastructure, plunging the South Asian nation into crisis. Climate chaos, climate carnage, climate crisis, climate catastrophe, and monsoon on steroids are some of the terminologies used by the UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres to describe the devastating floods in Pakistan caused by climate change.

The unprecedented floods have impacted over 33 million people, deluged almost one third of Pakistan-an area equal to the size of the Great Britain, killed around 1400 people, washed away more than 1,800 miles of road and 149 bridges, damaged 19,000 schools and 900 health facilities, and resulted in economic losses estimated at US\$ 30 billion. After visiting the flood hit areas, the UN Secretary General said he had never seen climate related

destruction on such a scale. The Government of Pakistan has deployed all available resources for the relief and rescue operations. Thousands of lives have been saved, hundreds of thousands of people including women and children have been moved to safer locations, millions are being provided temporary shelter, food and medical facilities. A man carries goods as he wades through a flooded street after heavy monsoon rains, in Karachi, Pakistan, Wednesday, Aug. 26, 2020. Families of those who have lost their lives or injured and the other affectees are being provided compensations.

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the worst climate change induced natural disaster the world has ever seen. Flights from friendly countries and international organizations including UAE, Turkey, China, US, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Nepal, UNHCR, UNICEF, and WFP continue bringing the much-needed relief supplies. We are particularly grateful to the brotherly Government and the people of the UAE for sending in the maximum

number of flights so far. Pakistan is a victim of climate change produced by the more heavily industrialized countries. We are paying a horrendous price for the intransigence of others. Pakistan is responsible for less than one percent of the global greenhouse gas emissions and is yet 8th on the list of countries most vulnerable to severe weather caused by climate change. Climate change is becoming a bigger threat to Pakistan than terrorism.

It is not a threat to Pakistan alone, it is an existential threat to all of us. Today it is Pakistan, tomorrow it could be any other country. Responding to the situation in Pakistan, the Prime Minister of Fiji Frank Bainimarama tweeted: "Let's be clear: the Pakistani people did not do this to Pakistan-we all did, and the high-emitting nations are most responsible. Unless we end our species' addiction to fossil fuels, every country in the world will remain in

the crosshairs of the climate breakdown". Speaking to the media during his recent visit to Pakistan, the UN Secretary General said: "I'm not asking for solidarity or generosity, I'm asking for justice. This is a global crisis which demands a global response". The floods in Pakistan are a wakeup call to all of us. The mother nature has spoken against the injustice being done to planet Earth. It is a call no one can afford to ignore. Our survival and that of our future generations will indeed depend upon our response today. We will have to stop sleepwalking towards the destruction of our planet by climate change.

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Briefs

WHO warns Pakistan of '2nd disaster'

FROM PAGE 01
drink unsafe water, which can spread cholera and other diarrhoeal diseases. The WHO official said that stagnant water enabled mosquitoes to breed and spread vector-borne diseases such as malaria and dengue. Health centres had been flooded, their supplies damaged and people had moved away from homes which made it harder for them to access their normal health services. "All this means more unsafe births, more untreated diabetes or heart diseases, and more children missing vaccination, to name but a few of the impacts on health," he said. "But if we act quickly to protect health and deliver essential health services, we can significantly reduce the impact of this impending crisis. "Health workers in Pakistan are stretched to the limit as they do all they can to deliver critical services amid the destruction. Nearly 2,000 health facilities have been fully or partially damaged," he maintained.

PM to participate in UNGA...

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also share Pakistan's position and perspective on regional and global issues of concern including Jammu and Kashmir, which is one of the long-standing unresolved disputes on the UN agenda, Foreign Office Spokesperson said in a press release on Sunday. During his participation, the prime minister will be accompanied by the foreign minister, other members of the cabinet and senior officials. On the sidelines of the UNGA Session, the prime minister will participate in the 'Global Food Security Summit' jointly organised by the African Union, European Union and the United States, and a closed-door Leaders Gathering on COP-27 bringing together select world leaders to discuss climate change. These would be important platforms to deliberate on effective measures required at the global level for addressing the two most pressing challenges confronting the international community today. Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif will hold a number of bilateral meetings with his counterparts from various countries, President of the General Assembly, the UN Secretary-General as well as heads of International Organizations, IFIs and philanthropic organizations. "The prime minister's participation in the UNGA Session is a manifestation of Pakistan's abiding commitment to multilateralism, with the UN playing a central role in international affairs for promoting peace and prosperity worldwide," it was added. Both in its national capacity and as the current Chair of the largest international grouping of developing countries, the Group of 77 and China, as well as the current Chair of the OIC Council of Foreign Ministers, Pakistan will serve as the collective voice of the Global South to promote international peace and security, sustainable development and human rights for all, in accordance with the principles of the UN Charter. Leaders will also have the opportunity to interact during the receptions hosted by the UN Secretary General and the President of the United States. The prime minister will also hold interactions with the international media. Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari will also have an extensive programme attending various high-level meetings and events, bilateral meetings with a number of his counterparts, media and think-tank interactions, besides chairing G-77 and China Annual Meeting of Foreign Ministers, OIC Annual Coordination Meeting of Foreign Ministers, and participation in the meeting of the OIC Contact Group on Jammu and Kashmir. Center of multilateralism, the United Nations is the most vital international body, promoting international peace and security, development and human rights and providing the foundations of a stable and sustainable world order. As the most representative and inclusive multilateral forum of nation states, the UN General Assembly offers the best platform to the international community for advancing shared objectives and common solutions to the common challenges faced by humanity.



OSLO: Sinser Cricket Club players posing for a group picture. The Club won the Norwegian Cricket Championship for the fourth consecutive time. – DNA

Alvarez sees off Golovkin to retain his crown

"Thank you so much, my friend," Alvarez said to Golovkin in the ring after a bout whose build-up was marked by some bitter rhetoric

DNA

LAS VEGAS: Saul "Canelo" Alvarez retained his undisputed super-middleweight world title on Saturday, seeing off Gennady Golovkin to complete their epic fight trilogy in Las Vegas. Mexico's Alvarez was in charge for most of an electric 12 rounds at the T-Mobile Arena, winning a unanimous decision to spark wild scenes of celebration among the Mexican fans who made up most of the sell-out crowd. One judge scored the bout 116-112 while the two others saw it 115-113. "Thank you so much, my friend," Alvarez said to Golovkin in the ring after a bout whose build-up was marked by some bitter rhetoric. "We gave the fans three good fights. Thank you for everything." It was a welcome return to form for Alvarez, who

suffered the second defeat of his career earlier this year after moving up to light-heavyweight to face Dmitry Bivol. "You have to continue to move forward," he said. "I have shown that defeats can show you can be great and you can regain your humility. He is a good fighter, a real fighter," he added of Golovkin. "I am glad to share the ring with him." This return to 168 pounds clearly suited Alvarez, but Golovkin was left to rue a slow start in which he only sparked into life when it was too late. Alvarez improved to 58-2-2 with 39 knockouts, but he said he knew in the first round he wouldn't get the KO he said he wanted. "First round, I knew he's tough. He's a tough fighter. I need surgery, my left hand is not good. But I'm good, I'm a warrior, that's why I'm here. I can't hold a glass. It's really bad. But



I'm a warrior." This highly anticipated third tussle between two of the hardest hitting fighters in the world came a whole four years after their last meeting. Back in 2018, it was Alvarez whose hand was raised at the end of 12 frenetic, quality rounds which saw Golovkin suffer defeat for the very first time after coming out on the wrong

which held up this edge-of-your-seat trilogy. Golovkin, who fell to 42-2 with one drawn and 37 knockouts, said any dispute with Alvarez was "100%" settled. "I want to shake hands with Canelo," he said. "If you don't understand, you don't understand anything." Alvarez came to the ring roared on by his adoring public, many of whom were still in the mood for a party after Mexican Independence day celebrations in Sin City. GGG has been on the road for almost a decade, so taking on Alvarez – and the pumped up crowd – was nothing new, unlike fighting at super-middleweight which was a first for the 40-year-old. Chants of "Mexico! Mexico!" roared on as Alvarez opened aggressively, but couldn't find a way through the Golovkin rearguard. The first couple of rounds were cagey with Alvarez

throwing a lot but not connecting with everything. Golovkin's face started to redden thanks to Alvarez's jab. The Mexican was firmly on the front foot. A big right hook in the fifth smashed against Golovkin's granite chin, but the Kazakh was able to absorb the force and push his cause on against his far more aggressive opponent. Golovkin started to show his age as Alvarez continued with a barrage of shots which attempted to break down the GGG defence. In the ninth round, Alvarez found himself against the ropes but Golovkin just couldn't make any inroads even though he had begun to throw more shots. The last few rounds were frenetic and action packed, Golovkin throwing everything at his Mexican opponent but it was too little, too late as Alvarez held firm.

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Arsenal beat Brentford to regain Premier League top spot

LONDON: Arsenal moved back to the top of the Premier League as goals from William Saliba, Gabriel Jesus and Fabio Vieira put the gloss on a dominant performance to beat Brentford 3-0. Injuries to captain Martin Odegaard and Oleksandr Zinchenko had stretched Mikel Arteta's squad to the extent that 15-year-old Ethan Nwaneri came off the bench late to become the youngest player in Premier League history. However, the Gunners showed no sign of weakness at a ground where they were beaten 2-0 last season to move back one point above Manchester City and Tottenham at the top of the table. The match had been moved forward two hours to help ease police pressures around Queen Elizabeth II's funeral and Britain's longest serving monarch was remembered in a minute's silence before kick-off. Once the action did get underway, it was one way traffic for 45 minutes as Arsenal



bounced back in style from their sole defeat of the season away to Manchester United two weeks ago. Gabriel Martinelli should have opened the scoring within two minutes as he fluffed his shot from Granit Zhaka's cut-back. It took just 15 minutes more for Arsenal to make the breakthrough when Sal-

iba flicked Bukayo Saka's corner in off the far post. Jesus also used his head to score his fourth goal in seven Premier League games since joining from Manchester City as he powered home another enticing delivery from Zhaka. Saka was then wasteful with a glorious chance from

Fabio Vieira's through ball. The absence of Odegaard also handed Vieira his first Premier League start and the Portuguese midfielder made his mark with a sumptuous strike from outside the box to kill off any doubt over the outcome four minutes into the second half. Brentford striker Ivan Toney had been handed his first England call-up in midweek but was kept well in check by the towering presence of Saliba. The Bees will be hoping this was just an off day after an impressive start to the season and that Thomas Frank will still be in charge after the international break with the Dane linked as a potential successor to Brendan Rodgers at Leicester. But an easy day for Arsenal was rounded off a minute from time when Arteta was able to hand Nwaneri his debut as just 15 years and 181 days, breaking Harvey Elliott's record as the youngest player in Premier League history when he appeared for Fulham as a 16-year-old. – APP

UN condemns year-long ban on Afghan girls' education

KABUL: The United Nations urged the Taliban on Sunday to reopen high schools for girls across Afghanistan, condemning the ban that began exactly a year ago as "tragic and shameful". Weeks after the Taliban seized power in August last year, the hardline Islamists reopened high schools for boys on September 18, 2021, but banned secondary schoolgirls from attending classes. Months later on March 23, the education ministry opened secondary schools for girls, but within hours the Taliban leadership ordered classes to be shut again. Since then more than a million teenage girls have been deprived of education across the country, the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) said. "This is a tragic, shameful, and entirely avoidable anniversary," said Markus Potzel, the acting head of UNAMA in a statement. "It is profoundly damaging to a generation of girls and to the future of Afghanistan itself," he said, adding the ban had no parallel in the world. UN chief Antonio Guterres urged the Taliban to revoke the ban. "A year of lost knowledge and opportunity that they will never get back," Guterres said on Twitter. "Girls belong in school. The Taliban must let them back in." Several Taliban officials say the ban is only temporary, but they have also wheeled out a litany of excuses for the closures – from a lack of funds to time needed to remodel the syllabus along Islamic lines. Earlier this month, the education minister was quoted by local media as saying it was a cultural issue, as many rural people did not want their daughters to attend school. After seizing power on August 15 last year amid a chaotic withdrawal of foreign forces, the Taliban promised a softer version of their harsh Islamist regime that ruled Afghanistan between 1996 and 2001. But within days they began imposing severe restrictions on girls and women to comply with their austere vision of Islam – effectively squeezing them out of public life. – APP

Wazir to fight for World Youth title

ISLAMABAD: Pakistani ace boxer and formerly known as 'Asian Boy' Usman Wazir would step in the ring for The World Youth title to take place on September 28 in Bangkok, Thailand. According to Wazir, who remains undefeated in international fights, he would face top ranked Thai boxer Somphot Seesa in the World Youth Title fight. Wazir also won the World Boxing Association Asia Welterweight title in June this year. On the other hand, he had also bagged the World Boxing Council Middle East Champion title last year. The 22-year-old, who hails from Gilgit-Baltistan, also bagged the Super Light category competition in Manila, Philippines. "I'm hopeful for the win in The World Youth Title and I request whole Pakistani nation to remember me in their prayers. I'm training hard for the fight and I want to make Pakistan and Gilgit-Baltistan proud by winning the title," the Asian Boy said. Usman was determined to triumph and shine in the world of boxing. – APP

Pakistan condemns arbitrary...

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Kashmiri people of their distinct religious and cultural identity. The reprehensible arrests of the Kashmiri Islamic scholars under the draconian Public Safety Act (PSA) that defies all international humanitarian laws and permits preventive detention for as many as two years without the need of any trial, is a deplorable preemptive step by the Indian authorities planning to illegally occupy the religiously significant 'Waqf Board' properties. Apprehensive of widespread protests and unrest in the face of such a malicious move, these scholars have not only been unjustifiably arrested but shifted from Kashmir to a prison in the Hindu majority Jammu. These politically motivated arrests are clearly meant to stifle the voice of the Muslims of IIOJK and further marginalize them. Pakistan calls for the immediate release of these religious scholars and all other Kashmiri prisoners illegally detained by India. We also urge the international community to take note of the dangerously growing trajectory of Islamophobia in India, instigated at the behest of the BJP-RSS nexus, that is aimed at suppressing the Muslims of India, denying them space to freely practice their faith and attacking their places of worship.

IMF to support...

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relief and reconstruction efforts, and especially their ongoing endeavour to assist those affected by the floods while ensuring sustainable policies and macroeconomic stability," the statement said. Floods from record monsoon rains and glacial melt in the mountainous north have affected 33m people and killed more than 1,540 since June 14, washing away homes, roads, railways, livestock and crops, in damage estimated at \$30 billion. Both the government and UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres have blamed climate change for the extreme weather that led to the flooding, which submerged nearly a third of the country.

AGP's report on TBTP KP based on facts or assumptions?

As per the rules and regulation, a special audit is done on completion of any project. Why was the urgency shown regarding TBTP?



MUMTAZ AHMED BHATTI

AGP's report on TBTP KP is based on facts or assumptions? As per the

rules and regulation, a special audit is done on completion of any project. Why was the urgency shown regarding TBTP? A special audit has been conducted in haste for political revenge? In June, the current government asked the Auditor General of Pakistan (AGP) to conduct an audit of the Billion Tree Tsunami Project, which was initiated by the PTI government. According to the Ministry, "To ensure transparency and value for money of the programme, it is necessary to conduct a financial audit of TBTP which has not been conducted so far, as the program is likely to be completed in 2023... a special Audit should be conducted for the financial years 2019-2020, 2020-2021

and 2021-22. A special audit of TBTP was conducted. According to the audit report, during the three-year special audit of PTI's flagship 10-Billion Tree Tsunami Project (BTTP), irregularities of over Rs 3.493 billion have been detected. The auditor has declared payment of Rs 1259 million as doubtful and expenditure of Rs 983 million as fictitious. Fake monitoring reports were generated for the entire Mardan Division. Different forest divisions showed plantation of eucalyptus in violation of the PC-1 allocation of 10% of the total plantation. The scrutiny of the record revealed that 36% eucalyptus plantation was made against the 10% provision of the PC-1. The DFO DI Khan

carried out different activities in waterlogged areas while as per the monitoring report, the said areas were dry and not waterlogged. Rs.25.97 million were incurred for the purchase of various materials, but no stock register as well as tender documents were shown for audit to authenticate the procurement, usage and issuance of the said material, which made the whole expenditure of Rs 25.97 million doubtful. Uncertified and ungraded seeds obtained from unauthentic sources not only caused Rs109.365 million losses to the government but also increased the failure chances. Some officials did fake reporting of the project achievements which were duly verified by the

monitoring team of the PMU. The fake reporting was carried out in Chitral, Dir Kohistan, Lower Dir, Malakand, Kunhar Watershed and Unhar Watershed Forest Divisions. The auditor is of the view that reporting fake areas was a fraudulent practice that might not be justified. There is a high risk of misappropriation in the establishment of enclosures. The high degree of overlapping put a question mark on the management and professionalism of the whole chain of command. According to the AGP report, The whole chain of command was responsible for these irregularities and losses and should be determined. AGP's audit team ignored some ground realities in its report. For exam-

ple, government land and private land have also been included in the report that has been issued regarding Eucalyptus more than ten percent plantation. Because Eucalyptus plantation is done as a cash crop in KP South. Eucalyptus is the only desire of private landowners. Will the report of Punjab, Sindh, Balochistan, AJK and GB be similar after KP? The issue of 3.49bn irregularities is not so small. If the allegations made in the AGP report are true, it is a matter of high concern. And if the facts have been distorted in this report, then it is very dangerous for this project and for Pakistan in terms of environment. A detailed investigative report on this report will be published very soon.

Briefs

China doubles down on coal

BEIJING: China has stepped up spending on coal in the face of extreme weather, a domestic energy crunch and rising global fuel prices – raising concerns Beijing's policies may hinder the fight against climate change. The country is the world's biggest emitter of the greenhouse gases driving global warming, and President Xi Jinping has vowed to reduce coal use from 2026 as part of a broad set of climate promises. Beijing has committed to peaking its carbon emissions by 2030 and achieving carbon neutrality by 2060. Overall carbon emissions in China have fallen for four consecutive quarters on the back of an economic slowdown, research reported by climate monitor Carbon Brief showed in early September. But at the same time, slowing growth has led authorities to rely on smokestack industries in an effort to boost the economy. The push to shore up coal power – which still makes up most of China's energy supply – has alarmed analysts who warn that it will make an eventual transition to a renewables-dominated energy mix more difficult. Spooked by an energy shortage last autumn, Chinese authorities in spring ordered coal producers to add 300 million tonnes of mining capacity this year – the equivalent of an extra month of coal production for the country. In just the first quarter of 2022, regulators endorsed the equivalent of half the entire coal-fired power plant capacity approved in 2021, according to Greenpeace. Authorities have also burned and mined more coal in recent weeks in order to meet increased air conditioning demand and make up for shrunken hydropower dams during China's hottest-ever summer. – APP

27 people killed in China bus crash

BEIJING: A bus crash killed 27 people in southwest China on Sunday, police said, the country's deadliest road accident so far this year. The accident took place on a highway in rural Guizhou province when the vehicle carrying a total of 47 people "flipped onto its side", Sandu county police said in a statement published on social media. The other 20 people were being treated for injuries and emergency responders were dispatched to the scene, police said, without providing any more details. The accident happened in Qiannan prefecture – a poor, remote and mountainous part of Guizhou, home to several ethnic minorities. Two social media posts by the China Road Network monitoring service, that have since been deleted, said the accident occurred at around 2:40 am (1840 GMT on Saturday), according to screenshots circulating on the Twitter-like Weibo. Social media users angrily demanded why a passenger bus was travelling down a highway in the early hours of the morning, when many major roads in the province have been closed to regular traffic. – APP

Poland opens new canal from Baltic Sea

WARSAW: Poland opened a new canal Saturday that was built so ships do not have to get permission from Russia to pass from the Baltic Sea to the port of the Vistula Lagoon. Hundreds of people gathered in the rain with Polish flags to watch the Zodiak II technical ship pass as it was being prepared for the opening of the canal, while the national anthem was played. Polish President Andrzej Duda said in an address that the investment will be rewarded by the increase in the value of surrounding lands and the development of cities and ports on the lagoon, thanks to trade, business and tourism. Duda said the aim is "to avoid having to ask permission from an unfriendly country whose authorities do not hesitate to attack and subjugate others." Built for around \$420 million, the canal will allow travelers to go from the Baltic Sea and the Gulf of Gdansk to Elblag and the lagoon's smaller ports without Russia's permission to pass through the Pilawa Strait. – APP

Canadian govt refuses to act against Khalistan Referendum

Commenting on the situation which emerged after an attack on a Hindu temple and the poster of a revered Khalistan Sikh leader, a Canadian government official said that the Canadian nationals had every freedom to express their views

DNA

ISLAMABAD: The Canadian government has refused to stop Canadian Sikhs from expressing their views through holding of Khalistan Referendum by linking it with a peaceful and democratic process within the legal parameters of the Canadian laws. Commenting on the situation which emerged after an attack on a Hindu temple and the poster of a revered Khalistan Sikh leader, a Canadian government official said that the Canadian nationals had every freedom to express their views under the Canadian laws relating to right to freedom of expression and right to free speech and assembly. The official views came after lobbying by the Indian

government urging the Canadian government to act against the rising pro-Khalistani sentiment in Canada, which is home to over one million Sikhs. A high-profile campaign for Khalistan is being run by the pro-Khalistani and pro-separatist group Sikhs for Justice (SFJ). According to international media reports, the Indian government tried to apply diplomatic pressure on the Canadian government ahead of the Khalistan Referendum voting on 18 September at the Gore Meadows Community Center in Brampton, Ontario. Hundreds of Sikhs gathered at the centre on Saturday to make preparations for the voting on Sunday. The Canadian officials were quoted as saying that it could not take away right of

the Canadians to engage in any kind of political activity and demand their rights through peaceful and democratic means. Canadian parliamentarian Sukhinder Singh Dhaliwal also said that constitutional and democratic political expression could not be stopped. Gurpatwant Singh Pannun, the Counsel General of Sikhs for Justice and a New York Attorney, said the Indian government used every trick to paint Sikhs in a bad light before the West but the democratic governments had refused to come under the Indian pressure. They recognized that Khalistan Referendum sought to assess the desire for an independent Khalistan, he said, adding once the voting process was completed then the case would be taken

up at the United Nations. Gurpatwant Singh Pannun reiterated that SFJ and other pro-Khalistani organizations had no links with violence. "We are for ballot, not bullet. India hates our approach to peace," he maintained. Jatinder Singh Grewal, the policy director of SFJ, said: "The issue of Khalistan Referendum falls well within the right of freedom of expression, which is a fundamental right enjoyed by all Canadians. India has a difficult time understanding this principle as they have systematically criminalized political dissent within their state and today countless Sikhs who wish to exercise their right to self-determination are labelled as 'terrorists.' And now India was trying to export this system to the west. But the Canadian

Charter of Rights and Freedom guaranteed this right and no amount of Indian pressure would change this reality, he added. According to media reports, Modi's government felt perturbed at the scenes of thousands of Sikhs coming out in the western capitals demanding freedom from India and the establishment of an independent state of Khalistan. The issue of Sikh separatism was a major bone of contention of Prime Minister Trudeau's trip to India a few years ago. The Indian government had openly accused the Canadian authorities of showing leniency towards Khalistanis in Canada. The Indian government demanded to prevent people from misusing their right to freedom of expression to "incite

violence and glorify terrorists as martyrs" which was vehemently denied by SFJ. The Indian media said that earlier this week, the Indian authorities launched a strong protest with the Canadian counterparts after BAPS Swaminarayan Mandir in Toronto was vandalised with anti-Indian and pro-Khalistan slogans written at the entrance ahead of 18 September Khalistan Referendum voting which was set to attract tens of thousands of Sikhs. The Indian government condemned the vandalism at the Mandir, calling on the Canadian prime minister to take action against the suspected Khalistani activists. "India had formally submitted a request in 2021 to the Canadian administration demanding a ban on SFJ.

Khamenei makes public appearance

DNA

TEHRAN: Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei made a public appearance in the capital Tehran on Saturday amid reports of his failing health. He took part in a ceremony to commemorate Arbaceen, which marks the 40th day after Ashura, the day Islam's Prophet Muhammad's grandson was killed in 680 AD, wearing mask and sporting black dress. It was a pre-scheduled meeting with representatives of university students that his office had publicized a few days ago. The annual meeting had been canceled past two years due to the coronavirus pandemic, like all other public engagements of Iran's top leader. Images released by his office on Saturday showed Khamenei waving to the audience and walking slowly to his seat on the podium with participants chanting his name. Speculation about his deteriorating health were fueled by a report by The New York Times on Friday citing unnamed sources in Khamenei's office that he was "gravely ill" after undergoing surgery for bowel obstruction. The report further stated that he was too weak to even sit or walk and had canceled all his meetings and public appearances.

Death toll in Kyrgyz-Tajik clashes rises

DNA

BISHKEK: Kyrgyzstan's death toll from the border clashes with Tajikistan rose to 36, with 129 others getting injured, its Health Ministry said on Sunday. Another 12 bodies were brought to medical facilities in Batken region, which borders Tajikistan and where forces of the former Soviet republics clashed over a border dispute. The previous death toll stood at 24. Meanwhile, Tajikistan has not given any official casualty numbers, but local press said at least 39 people had died. Border clashes started on Wednesday, with the two sides later agreeing to a cease-fire. While there were accusations of breaching the deal from both sides, Kyrgyzstan declared a state of emergency in the Batken region late Friday. – APP

Japan orders 2M people to evacuate

TOKYO: Japan warned nearly two million people to evacuate as typhoon Nanmadol approached the country, local media reported. "Nearly two million people in southern Kyushu have been ordered to evacuate because a powerful typhoon, Nanmadol, is approaching the region," Japanese public broadcaster NHK reported on Saturday. Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA) issued a level 5 warning against the typhoon, which is expected to hit the Kyushu region in the country's south. A level 5 alert is the highest on Japan's disaster warning scale, the NHK said. – DNA



LAHORE: Ambassador of Spain Jose A De Ory called on Punjab Chief Minister Pervez Elahi, during his recent visit to Lahore. – DNA

China's Tianjin pledges RMB 10 million relief for Pak-flood victims

BEIJING: To support the relief and rehabilitation efforts of the Government of Pakistan, the People's Government of Tianjin Municipality has announced a relief assistance package of RMB 10 million for the flood victims. The relief items include tents, food packages and blankets needed urgently in Pakistan. The decision to this effect was conveyed through a letter addressed to Ambassador Moin ul Haque by Li Hongzhong, the Party Secretary of Tianjin, Gwadar Pro reported on Sunday. Sharing his grief and condolences with the bereaved families, Mr. Li Hongzhong said that as All-weather Strategic Cooperative Partner and Iron Brother, China stands with the people of Pakistan in this difficult time. Expressing his good wishes for the early rehabilitation of the flood victims, Li reaffirmed the resolve of Tianjin Municipality to continue to deepen ties with the friendship cities and provinces of Pakistan. A formal launch ceremony of the relief goods was held through a video link. The meeting was joined by Luan Jianzhang, DG FAO, Tianjin Municipal Government, Liu Jinsong, DG Asian Affairs, Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Moin ul Haque, Murtaza Wahab, Administrator, Karachi Municipal Government and a senior representative from Chinese Peoples Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries. Speaking at the occasion, Ambassador Moin appreciated the urgent assistance offered by Tianjin Municipality. Recalling that two countries have always stood together in difficult times in the past, Ambassador Moin said that Chinese assistance to Pakistan for flood victims has once again proven the unique nature of fraternal ties between the two countries. – DNA

Baku slams Pelosi's unfair accusations against Azerbaijan

NEWS DESK

BAKU: The statement by Speaker of the US House of Representatives Nancy Pelosi during her visit to Armenia on September 18, 2022, which distorts the situation in the region, is deeply regrettable, the Azerbaijani Foreign Ministry stated in a statement, Azernews reports. "Pelosi's baseless and unfair accusations against Azerbaijan are unacceptable. "The incident that took place on a conditional, non-delimited border on the night of September 12-13 this year is a large-scale military provocation by Armenia against Azerbaijan. The Armed Forces of Azerbaijan prevented the provocation and ensured the protection of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of our country. Currently, the ceasefire is observed and the escalation of the situation has been prevented. All responsibility for the aggravation of the situation in the region and the large-scale provocation lies with the military-political leadership of Armenia. "In general, Pelosi is known as a pro-Armenian politician, and the presence of pro-Armenian members of Congress in her delegation is evidence of this. With the midterm congressional period approaching, Pelosi is using this visit for her domestic political agenda and

in order to enlist the support of the Armenian lobbying circles in the United States. It is unacceptable to transfer political intrigues and lobbying of interests from the US domestic political agenda to the South Caucasus region through Armenia. "We emphasize with regret that Pelosi, who speaks of justice, has not purposefully shown any position until today regarding the policy of aggression of Armenia against Azerbaijan, the occupation of the territory of Azerbaijan for almost 30 years, the ethnic cleansing of hundreds of thousands of Azerbaijanis and other similar grave crimes, for which Armenia is responsible. "What Pelosi said in Armenia should be regarded as a statement made on the basis of Armenian propaganda. This is a serious blow to efforts to normalize relations between Armenia and Azerbaijan. "Such unilateral steps and unfounded statements do not serve to strengthen the fragile peace in the region, but, on the contrary, escalate tension," the Azerbaijani Foreign Ministry said in a statement.



Crushing Defeat to Armenian Army

DR MEHMOOD UL HASSAN KHAN

It seems that armed forces of Armenian are on the "run" from all fronts. They started another failed attempt to spoil the peace and stability in the region through its "enigmatic activities" and "draconian provocations" at different borders of Azerbaijan i.e. Dashkasan, Kalbajar and Lachin due to which common people and servicemen remained under heavy mortar and gunship firings from the Armenian side. Therefore, Armenia again seriously "breached" the trilateral peace agreement and committed a serious crime against humanity, sovereignty and territorial integrity of other independent country, Azerbaijan and its common civilian people. In this regard, initially the Armed forces of Azerbaijan showed total "restraint" but unstoppable heavy shelling of Armenia forced them to take all possible countermeasures to deter unprovoked acts at its borders. Thanks Azerbaijan's armed forces did not indulge in any so-called military misadventure as propagated by the Armenian social media handlers and remained within its borders. Furthermore, as usual the Armenian Diasporas living in different parts of the world disseminated false, fake and fictional propaganda against so-called military encroachment of Azerbaijan side which is absolutely "untrue", "fake" and "brainchild" of a defeated army of Armenia. Actually they are behaving like a "fleeing army of mosquitos" which does not any vision but "revolving vicious

past", full of genocides, massacres and racial discriminations against innocent and peaceful Azerbaijan people living for centuries in these areas. The most recent attacks on Azerbaijan embassy in "Beirut", Lebanon and "self-glorification" in California vividly reflected their "sick mindedness" and "conspiratorial characters" always force them to violate spirits of decency, diplomacy and development and habitually indulged in severe crimes against simple and pure humanity. In this context, many reports and media centers publications (September 17, 2022) reconfirmed massive destruction of military equipment and personnel of the Armenian side during the clash on the Azerbaijan-Armenia border on September 12-14. According to these reports, 4 radars, 2 S-300 5N63 IYR radars, 3 S-300 5P85 BQ launchers, 2 S 125 RTS-125 radars, 1 radio-electronic combat vehicle, 14 cannons and howitzers, 9 mortars, 32 military vehicles, 3 KAMAZ, 1 URAL, 1 UAZ, 3 pieces of engineering equipment, 1 anti-aircraft missile complex, 35 arms with various calibers, 20 hand grenades, 2 optical devices, 2 communication devices, 14,500 pieces of ammunition and the air defense system was completely destroyed in certain directions. Moreover, the dislocation point of one brigade of the enemy side, and firing points of 2 S-300 and 2 S-125 divisions were destroyed. It was noted that 74 fighting positions, 2 mortar firing positions and 11 strategic heights were taken under control. The recent number of losses of Armenia is at least 450.

Ironically, the Armenian armed forces, which did not take a lesson from the crushing blows of the Azerbaijani Army against the provocations of the Armenian army, continue their reconnaissance activities in different directions of the front. On September 16, the Combined Arms Army in the Nakhchivan Autonomous Republic shot down an unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) of the armed forces of Armenia, which attempted to carry out reconnaissance flights over the defense positions. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan has stated that on September 12, 2022, starting at late night, units of the armed forces of Armenia held large-scale provocations in the directions of Dashkasan, Kalbajar and Lachin of the Azerbaijan-Armenia state border. Escalation took place between armed forces of Azerbaijan and Armenia on 13 September, 2022. According to the Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Azerbaijan, sabotage groups of the armed forces of Armenia using the mountainous relief of the area and existing valley gaps carried out planting landmines in the areas between the positions of the units of Azerbaijan's army and the supply roads in different directions. Moreover, Armenian armed forces fired intensively at the positions of the Azerbaijani Army in the Dashkasan, Kalbajar and Lachin regions with different types of weapons, including mortars. As a result, there were casualties among the Azerbaijani armed forces and damage inflicted on military infrastructure. Unfortunately, the "wandering souls" of

Armenian armed forces have been designing numerous provocations against Azerbaijan in the directions of Lachin, Gadabay, Dashkasan and Kalbajar regions of the state border and behaving like "wolves knocking at the doorsteps". The Armenian armed forces used various types of weapons and firing remained intensive and systematic. Moreover, Armenia's increased its "militarization" along Azerbaijan's borders, and deployed heavy equipment and large-calibre weapons in the region indicated that Armenia was preparing for a large-scale military provocation. In this regard, responsibility for the provocation, clashes and losses lies with the military-political leadership of Armenia. The ministries of foreign Affairs and Defence of Azerbaijan uphold that any such actions against the territorial integrity and sovereignty of the Republic of Azerbaijan will be resolutely prevented." To conclude I would like to clarify that my last article titled "Azerbaijan: Time to change the military strategy" of the last week published in different media outlets is somehow "misquoted", "misconceived", "misinterpreted" and "misperceived". Armed forces of Azerbaijan are "undoubtedly" second to none in the South Caucasus. It has "great" army which has "rich history" of bravery, courageousness and "martyrdom" and knows the art of war in its all professional and tactical formations. Its air force has many "distinctive" comparative advantages over poor Armenia. Furthermore, its border forces units are

the best in the world because they are fighting against clandestine operations of Armenian forces in which purposeful networking of wild spread deadly mines, difficult mountain terrains, hidden tunnels and geography of darkness and deceiving hang-over is creating trouble. So it was not a gross intelligence failure on part of Azerbaijan armed forces and its secret agencies. Because they are vigilantly standing fast at borders and ever ready to sacrifice their lives for the national pride, honor and sovereignty against any external aggression. It seems that Armenia has specific madness in its current military misadventures against Azerbaijan armed forces and its civilians which should be neutralized with "flurry" of unmanned drones which will provide cheap access to tactical aviation and precision guided weapons, enabling them to destroy Armenian much-costlier equipment such as tanks and air defense systems. In this regard, formation of "new drone war units" of predators Turkish Bayraktar TB2 and Israeli kamikaze drones would be a value addition. Furthermore, use of modern electronic war gadgets, night vision weapons in terms of night vision monoculars, binoculars, Goggles (NVG) and night vision rifle scopes along with tactical sensors and anti-radar electronic devices should be used at the borders to closely monitor all suspicious activities of Armenian forces in the darkness. Strategically, Azerbaijan, Türkiye and Pakistan should form a trilateral military alliance to protect their vested interest in the region and beyond.

Briefs

Airlines reimburse Rs40,000 to each traveller

DNA

ISLAMABAD: On the directive of the federal government, domestic and international airlines have started to reimburse the federal excise duty they earlier charged from air travellers. The airlines will return Rs40,000 to each business class passenger who bought air ticket before July 1 and made additional payment in the form of federal excise duty. The airlines have also directed the affected passengers to contact airlines officials for refund of their money.

Fazl dares Imran to march on Islamabad

DNA

PESHAWAR: Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) Chief Maulana Fazlur Rehman has dared PTI chief Imran Khan to march on Islamabad, saying that 'Hakeem Sanaullah' is waiting for the PTI chief and his supporters. Speaking in Peshawar, Fazlur Rehman said that the ruling alliance had crushed the fita (strife) for good and Imran Khan will never return to power. Imran Khan has been threatening to march on Islamabad for days, saying that he will give a call for the march this month. Let Imran Khan give a call for Islamabad, Hakeem Sanaullah is sitting there, said Fazlur Rehman referring to Interior Minister Rana Sanaullah. Fazlur Rehman said that the decision on the appointment of the next chief of army staff (COAS) will be made by the prime minister, not Imran Khan. Meanwhile, Fazlur Rehman, who heads Jamiat-e-Ulema Islam (F), met with the provincial president of the Awami National Party (ANP), Aimal Wali Khan.

Super typhoon down on Japan's Kyushu island

DNA

TOKYO: Typhoon Nanmadol bore down on Japan's southernmost main island of Kyushu on Sunday with the Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA) warning of gales and high waves "like never experienced before". The 14th typhoon of the season, classified as a super typhoon by the US Navy's Joint Typhoon Warning Centre, could bring record rainfall, the JMA said, warning of the risk of rivers overflowing and landslides. Southern Kyushu could receive 500 mm (20 inches) of rain and wind gusts of up to 250 km per hour (155 miles per hour) on Sunday, while the central Tokai region could see 300 mm (12 inches) of rain, the agency forecast. Railway operators have cancelled trains in the region with convenience store chain Seven-Eleven Japan temporarily shutting around 950 stores.

Chinese Communist Party sends food packs

ISLAMABAD: The International Department of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (ID-CPC), through the embassy of China in Pakistan, has donated food pack assistance to the flood-affected people of Balochistan through national and regional level political parties. The ID-CPC, in a news release issued here on Sunday, noted that Pakistani people were facing a disastrous situation due to the massive floods, which affected their livelihoods on all levels by causing heavy damages to road connectivity, infrastructure, and food supply chain. - APP

**President Mahmoud Abbas' call
Palestinian humanitarian team
in Pakistan for relief work**

The Palestinian Disaster Response Team includes 27 professional Palestinian members formed by the Ministry of Health, the Palestinian Red Crescent and the Civil Defense

ANSAR M BHATTI

ISLAMABAD: In a rare show of solidarity with the Pakistan brothers and sisters the Palestine government has sent a special humanitarian and relief mission to Pakistan to be at the side of the people affected by the devastating floods. A team of doctors, members of the Red Crescent and the Civil Defense arrived in Pakistan on Saturday September 17, 2022. Ambassador of Palestine Ahmed Rebai arranged a media interaction with the visiting team with a view to apprise members of Pakistani mass media about the objectives and mandate of the Palestine relief team. Mian Riaz Hussain Pirzada Minister of Human Rights, Mr. Musawwar Abbas Shah, Director Middle East Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador of Palestine and all the Embassy staff welcome the Palestinian team at Islamabad Airport. The Palestinian Disaster Response Team includes 27 professional Palestinian members formed by the Ministry of Health, the Palestinian Red Crescent and the Civil Defense. These actions are going to be Part of the Palestinian People campaign "In loyalty to Pakistan ... Jerusalem with you" which was launched by The Palestinian Presidency last month for victims of Pakistan's floods. Imad M. Zuhairi, Assistant to the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates for IR/ PICA Director General is leading the team, which is scheduled to stay in Pakistan for eight days. The team shall be taking care of the humanitarian and relief operations in Dera Ismael Khan. Mr. Zuhairi told this newspaper that this is the first mission whose mandate is to carry out relief and humanitarian work while another mission shall arrive soon that will take care of infrastructural jobs. He further said that the government and people of Palestine have always been indebted to Pakistan for its unflinching support to the cause of Palestine. He said when President Mahmood Abbas heard about this natural calamity, he immediately ordered a relief mission to Pakistan. Javed Ahmed Umrani, Additional Secretary (ME) Ministry of Foreign Affairs while speaking on the occasion thanked Palestine government and people for extending this generous support at a critical juncture. He added, Pakistan always supported Palestine in its struggle for a separate homeland. Ambassador of Palestine Ahmed Rebai in his remarks that hearts of people of Palestine and Pakistan throbbed together adding tons of humanitarian goods had already been dispatched to the areas of Swat and Sindh. Ambassador Rebai added, Pakistan despite its economic and other challenges always wholeheartedly supported Palestine for which the entire Palestinian nation owes a great deal to the Pakistani brothers and sisters and the respective governments as well.



FIA tasked to look into US dollar's flight

The FIA has been directed to start an immediate crackdown on all suspected money changers and Hundi dealers in order to stop the mindboggling flight of the US currency

DNA

ISLAMABAD: In order to stop the continuous devaluation of Pakistani rupee, the government has given a task to the Federal Investigation Agency to look into the matter of US dollar flight which is almost unstoppable despite the fact that the

country has received the much-needed financial boost in the shape of IMF tranche last month. A notification signed by the chief of staff of the FIA DG was sent to all zonal offices of the agency in this regard. The FIA has been directed to start an immediate crackdown on all suspected money changers and Hundi

dealers in order to stop the mindboggling flight of the US currency. The dollar has been holding a formidable position against the Pakistani rupee which has been crumbling down in the last several trading sessions. Talking to a press conference on Saturday, All Pakistan Textile Mills Association (APTMA) Group

Leader Gohar Ejaz said that the actual price of the US dollar was around Rs200 and the current greenback rate of Rs237 is artificial. He alleged that even the commercial banks were involved in the speculative trading thus making windfall profit. Market experts also pointed out that the banks were sending dollars out via credit cards.

Imran Khan to launch vertical development projects on Oct 22

CBD Punjab tasked with converting dead capital into viable transactions channeling wealth generation for the country

ISLAMABAD: Former prime minister and PTI Chairman Imran Khan has announced that the groundwork for 100+ vertical developments under the first Central Business District Punjab (CBDP) will be launched in Lahore on Oct 22 as this project will convert the dead capital into viable transactions channeling wealth generation for the country, besides reshaping entire infrastructure of the vicinity. On his Twitter handle on Sunday, Imran wrote: "Pak's 1st central business district, @CBDPunjab, will accommodate 100+ vertical developments adding 600b+ to country's economy. To complement futuristic vertical development, groundwork will commence Oct '22 on Lhr's Main Blvd reshaping entire infrastructure of the vicinity. "CBD Punjab tasked with converting dead capital into viable transactions channeling wealth generation for the country. Similar projects with immense potential will be launched across Punjab leading to econ growth & prosperity by providing multiple opportunities for domestic & FDI." - DNA

JUI-F asks ECP to disqualify Imran Khan

PESHAWAR: Jamiat Ulema Islam-Fazal (JUI-F) has demanded of the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) to take notice and disqualify the PTI chief Imran Khan for election over his use of official machinery including the helicopter. The demand was made during a meeting of the Provincial Council of JUI-F held here in the Mufti Mahmood Markaz with provincial Ameer, Senator Maulana Atta-ur-Rehman in the chair, said a press release issued here on Sunday. JUI-F chief Maulana Fazal-ur-Rehman especially attended the meeting and delivered an address to the participants. - APP

Sheikh Rashid hopes SC will restore corruption references

ISLAMABAD: Former interior minister and founder of Awami Muslim League, Sheikh Rashid Ahmad has hoped that the Supreme Court will restore the 150 corruption references against the rulers after the annulment of amendments made to the NAB laws, besides saying that he will go to the high court to challenge the appointment of 70 ministers which is against the constitution. Under the newly amended NAB laws, the accountability courts have started sending back corruption references to the anti-graft watchdog. The accountability courts have recently sent back several references, including the one against Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and his son Hamza Shehbaz (Ramzan Sugar Mills) and former premiers Yousaf Raza Gilani (USF) and Raja Pervaiz Ashraf (rental power projects),

to the NAB chairman, citing the amended legislation. In his tweet posted on Sunday, Sh Rashid wrote: "God willing, the Supreme Court will restore the return of 150 corruption references against the rulers. The NAB amendments will be declared null and void and 10 million overseas Pakistanis will get the right to vote. The number of 70 ministers is against the constitution. I will go to the High Court against it. The economic crisis has become very serious. "The PDM has drowned the nation in the sea of inflation, all records of inflation have been broken. For the last three days, the government has not been allowed to decrease the POL prices owing to pressure being exerted by petrol mafia. Reconciliation or resistance is going to be decided. Ministers cannot go to their constituencies. - DNA



Iran: Fury grows over woman who died after hijab arrest

The Persian hashtag #MahsaAmini has now reached 1.63 million mentions on Twitter

AGENCIES

TEHRAN: Protests persisted on Sunday and #MahsaAmini became one of the top hashtags ever on Persian-language Twitter as Iranians fumed over the death of a young woman in the custody of morality police enforcing strict hijab rules. Amini, 22, died on Friday after falling into a coma following her arrest in Tehran earlier in the week, putting a spotlight on women's rights in Iran. Police rejected social media suspicions that she was beaten, saying she fell ill as she waited with other detained women. Hundreds of protesters gathered on Sunday around the University of Tehran on Sunday, shouting "Woman, Life, Freedom", according to online videos. In Iran, women are obliged to cover

their hair and wear long, loose-fitting clothes. Offenders face public rebuke, fines or arrest. But in recent months activists have urged women to remove veils despite the hardline rulers' crackdown on "immoral behaviour". The Persian hashtag #MahsaAmini has now reached 1.63 million mentions on Twitter. Amini was from Kurdistan, where there were also protests on Saturday, including at the funeral in her hometown Saqez. Iran's Revolutionary Guards have long put down unrest among the minority Kurds. Police repressed the Saqez demonstrations, with videos posted online showing at least one man with a head injury. Behzad Rahimi, a member of parliament for Saqez, told the semi-official ILNA news agency that a few people were wounded at the funeral. "One of them was hospitalised in the Saqez

Hospital after being hit in the intestines by ballbearings," he said. Kurdish rights group Hengaw said, however, that 33 people were injured in Saqez. Reuters could not independently confirm the number. The Kasra Hospital in Tehran, where police took Amini after she collapsed and slipped into a coma, said she was brought in without vital signs. Iranian filmmaker Asghar Farhadi, who rarely reacts publicly to events in Iran, expressed sorrow and called Amini's death in custody a "crime". Iranian ultraconservatives have called for harsh punishment and even lashes for women who disobey the hijab law, arguing that allowing women to show their hair leads to moral decay and the disintegration of families. The judiciary has in recent years urged people to inform about women who do not wear the hijab.

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