



Islamabad POST

Monday, September 05, 2022

Pakistan's Credible Daily Newspaper

Price Rs. 20

Trump brands Biden 'enemy of the State' over Mar-a-Lago raid

Detailed News On Page-07

Russia trying to destroy European 'normal' life

Detailed News On Page-06

PM directives on fuel being implemented

Detailed News On Page-04



Briefs

September a 'savage' month

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Awami Muslim League (AML) Chief Sheikh Rasheed Ahmed has declared September as a savage month, saying that Imran Khan will call for a march on Islamabad as soon as the floodwater subsides. Rasheed, who was interior minister under Imran, said that the floods – worst in recent world history – have blown Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM)'s reputation into ashes. He claimed that the international community was not ready to donate to current government leaders while people were unable to pay for petrol and electricity with their eroding buying power.

Real politics service of humanity

DNA

LAHORE: Chief Minister Punjab Chaudhry Pervaiz Elahi has said that real politics is the service of suffering humanity. While meeting with senior politician Nazir Ahmed, Chaudhry Pervaiz Elahi said that PDM parties are shining politics even in the current situation. "The apathetic attitude of the opponents shows that they have no value for the suffering brothers and sisters. Coming forward to help flood victims is nothing less than worship. I am personally monitoring the flood victims' rehabilitation measures," he said.

Bangladesh's Rahim retires from T20

DNA

DHAKA: Former Bangladesh captain Mushfiqur Rahim announced his retirement from Twenty20 international cricket on Sunday, three days after the team's unceremonious exit from the Asia Cup. "Today, I am announcing my retirement from T20 internationals," Mushfiqur, 35, said in statement on social media. "I will proudly continue to represent Bangladesh in Test and ODI formats. I am hopeful that I can bring success for our nation in these two formats," he added.

Nation united to overcome flood losses

PM thanks Prince Rahim Aga Khan for donating \$ 10 million

NAZIR SIYAL/DNA

KARACHI: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Sunday said during the current situation which arose after the monsoon rains and floods, the entire nation was working in unison and inspiration to overcome the problems which was very important. The prime minister thanked Prince Rahim Aga Khan for donating \$ 10 million for the relief efforts. Expressing his view after getting a briefing from the relevant authorities over the reconstruction and rehabilitation efforts of road, rail and bridges infrastructure in the area, the prime minister said that it was a matter of satisfaction that all the people had been involved to overcome the enormous issues after the natural calamity hit the country. Appreciating the efforts of the district administration authorities and others, the prime minister said their commitment and devotion had been a source of inspiration for the general public. He said that he saluted all those who had been involved in the relief and rehabilitation efforts. The chief minister and the chief secretary had been coordinating and working with all the

Estimated loss from floods up to \$12.5 billion

IRSHAD ALI

ISLAMABAD: The catastrophic floods in Pakistan have caused economic damages from \$10 billion to \$12.5 billion apart from the loss of lives as estimated by the government, projecting a rise in inflation in the range of 24-27% on touch 30% for the current fiscal year. A high-profile committee with representation from the Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Planning, State Bank of Pakistan, FBR, PIDE and others evaluated that poverty and unemployment have gone up manifold, rising from 21.9% to over 36%. Some 37% of the population has been hit by poverty after 118 districts of the country were ravaged by severe flooding. Unemployment has gone up significantly but the government has decided to share any

Continued on Page 06

Continued on Page 06

Asia Cricket Cup Pak trounce India in a cliffhanger

Rizwan plays the winning knock; Asif Ali does the rest

SPORTS DESK

DUBAI: Pakistan on Sunday defeated India by five wickets in a nail biting encounter. Green Shirts chased down the target of 182 in their first game of Super 4 stage. India had set a 182-run target for Pakistan after being asked to bat first in the Asia Cup Super Four stage match played at the Dubai Cricket Stadium Sunday. Pakistan recovered well from a horrible start to restrict India to 181 for 7. Pace, which had been pretty effective for Pakistan last Sunday, was completely subdued by Indian openers Rohit Sharma and KL Rahul (28 each), who came out all guns blazing and gave India a flying start. The foundation laid by the top two had India eyeing a total in excess of 200 at one point but the introduction of spin curtailed the flow of runs. Shadab Khan and Mohammad Nawaz were excellent again and helped Pakistan negate some of the damage caused by the pacers. Virat Kohli, well and truly back in form, top scored with a 60 but did not quite get the late fireworks from the other



end. Following Pakistan's recovery in the second half of the innings, Pakistan could have held India to an even lower total, if not for a horrible sequence of misfielding in the final over courtesy Fakhar Zaman.

Continued on Page 06



KACHHI: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif receives briefing regarding Pinjara bridge and infrastructure damage by flash flood in district Kachhi, Balochistan. – DNA

Aid workers call for imports from India

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Renowned aid workers and experts have called upon the authorities to immediately allow imports from India keeping in view the havoc caused by floods. Faisal EDHI said it was very important and essential to import from India. We should remove the political hesitation. Hugely beneficial to import from India as freight cost will be less. It's important because people who somehow withstand the floods will perish from food scarcity and die. So we have to look for issues beyond floods and prepare for food scarcity, he added. Nasir Mansoor was of the view that the government has already opened borders with Iran and Afghanistan for food import, and the border with

Continued on Page 06

26 more die due to floods

NEWS DESK

ISLAMABAD, The unprecedented torrential monsoon rains across the country on Sunday inflicted further lives and property losses as the total death count in various incidents reached 1,290 and 12,588 individuals got injured since the onset of the rainy season. The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) issued a 24-hour situation report released on routine basis that accounted overall life, property and infrastructure losses incurred by the heavy rains lashing out various parts of the country.

Next Army Chief

Shehbaz, Zardari want to bring in 'own man': Khan

PTI Chairman Imran Khan says fresh elections only solution to current crises

BUREAU REPORT



FAISALABAD: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman and former prime minister Imran Khan has announced to hold another telethon for raising funds for the flood victims next Sunday. He said Shehbaz Sharif and Asif Zardari were glued to the power despite the fact that they have become highly unpopular only because

Continued on Page 06

Fawad refutes news of backdoor contacts

SUJJAAT HAMZA

ISLAMABAD: PTI leader Fawad Chaudhry has refuted a news report on backdoor contacts with both Pakistan Muslim League Nawaz and Pakistan

Continued on Page 06

Japanese emergency relief goods handed over to Pak

STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: The Government of Japan emergency relief goods, tents, and plastic sheets were handed over to National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) by Mr. KINOSHITA Yasumitsu, Chief Representative of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Pakistan Office, in the presence of Mr. ODAGIRI Toshio, Consul-General of Japan in Karachi, at the Jinnah International Airport Karachi. On August 29, the Government of Japan has decided to provide these goods through JICA, based on a request from the Government of Pakistan to the Government of Japan. The first batch of the goods which was handed over earlier on August 31 were distributed in Balochistan Province. Mr. ODAGIRI stated that Japan is deeply saddened by the widespread damage in Pakistan caused by the unprecedented flooding, which has sur-



DNA

passed even the devastating floods of 2010 and hope that these goods will be of some help to the victims. In addition, he mentioned that there is a high demand for food, water, and medicine in the affected areas, and the United Nations has issued an appeal for as-

sistances. Therefore, the Government of Japan will continue to work closely with the Government of Pakistan, and the Embassy of Japan, the Consulate-General of Japan, and JICA will

Continued on Page 06

MURREE SPARKLETT'S

Bottled Drinking Water

WATER

the most Precious Currency of all !

Also Available in Glass bottle

f murreebrewerycompany www.murreebrewery.com

Inside...

Lahore Biennale Foundation, BC partner for Virtual Museum – Page 02

Pregnant mothers to be covered under Nashonuma – Page 03

Authorities directed to utilize all resources to curb dengue – Page 04

President Tokayev's address to nation opens new political milestone – Page 05

"Russia wants to destroy Europeans' normal life" – Page 06

China asks Pak to provide list of urgently needed supplies – Page 07

Imports of onions, tomatoes start from Afghanistan – Page 08

Briefs

JI accuses
KP govt of
nepotism

PESHAWAR: Parliamentary leader of Jamaat-e-Islami (JI) in KP Assembly, Inayatullah has accused the provincial government of political nepotism in distribution of relief among flood affected people and called for its distribution in transparent manner through local government or Pakistan Army. Addressing a press conference here on Sunday, he said that flood had played havoc in various districts of the province and termed Kohistan and Dir Upper as worse affected areas. Sahibzada Tariqullah and Mohammad Ali also flanked him on the occasion. Inayatullah said that according to initial reports collected by him out of 70 mini-power stations, four big stations have been destroyed in flood while about 200 irrigation and drinking water channels had also been destroyed. He said that beside standing crops, 12 schools and 31 mosques had been destroyed in flood. He said that 10-kilometer long highway from Patrak to Kumrat has washed away; saying the restoration of tourism in Kumrat is difficult in next three years. Similarly, he said that Kumrat National Highway, which had to be completed at the cost of Rs.7 billion will now cost Rs.14 billion. The JI leader called for framing strategy to prevent losses from floods in future and warned the provincial government against making fake commitments with flood affectees. He called for immediate rehabilitation of hydel power stations in Dir. He also accused the provincial government of committing nepotism in selection of focal persons for flood relief programme. — APP

936,000
children to
be inoculated
against
Corona

RAWALPINDI: A week-long Anti-Corona vaccination drive would commence in the entire district from September 19 to immunize around 936,000 children between the age of five years to 12. District Surveillance Officer, District Health Authority Dr Waqar Ahmed said the fixed vaccination centres would be set up in the 210 Union Councils of Rawalpindi district, adding the health teams visiting door-to-door would bring the eligible children to fixed centres for administering the doses. Dr Waqar informed that Form-B, birth certificate or parent's identity card would be essential for vaccination registration. He said the campaign would be launched in five districts of Punjab, including Rawalpindi, Multan, Okara, Bahawalpur, and Lahore. — APP

CM approves
KP Climate
Change
policy 2022

PESHAWAR: Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Mahmood Khan has formally approved Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Climate Change policy 2022 that was aimed to minimize effects of global warming. The policy has been approved with requisite action plan that encompasses necessary steps to combat challenges, said a press release issued here Saturday. As many as 129 factors have been identified in different sectors that negatively impact climate and the action plan includes possible steps and measures to reduce these factors along with adaptation of 172 environment friendly practices. The Chief Minister has termed the policy as a pressing priority adding that KP province was also witnessing effects of climate change like other parts of the country. He added that these effects had become more evident over the past couple of years including forest fires due to severe heat wave that destroyed much of the forest cover in the province. Similarly, monsoon rains had also caused severe floods that could be prevented by timely necessary steps. — APP

75th anniversary of Pakistan

Lahore Biennale Foundation,
BC partner for Virtual Museum

DNA

LAHORE: The British Council and Lahore Biennale Foundation (LBF) have partnered to launch the Lahore Biennale Foundation Virtual Museum project at the National College of Arts, Lahore. The virtual museum is a digital platform for artists, academics and creative practitioners to re-examine our shared cultural language and artistic legacy. The launch event was attended by senior members of the arts community as well as representatives from the British Council and the British High Commission. The project is part of the British Council's Pakistan-UK Season: New Perspectives programme to mark the 75th anniversary of Pakistan. The project invited a diverse group of curators, collaborators and artists across the board to respond and con-

tribute to 75 years of Pakistan's rich, multifaceted history and culture post-independence. The aim is to facilitate broader socio-cultural changes in public interaction which has led to the need of providing people with a virtual space to reconnect with their cultural heritage. The project also questions the role of the "traditional forms of museum making" and builds on the global reality of virtual connectivity despite physical borders, making cyberspace an ideal platform for local and global conversations - transcending boundaries by making knowledge production an accessible and open-ended reality. The LBF's Virtual Museum engages in new forms of museum making, overcomes physical boundaries, and functions as an enduring online resource. Kate Joyce, Business Director Cultural Engagement, British Council South Asia, said: "The Virtual Museum is an innova-

tive way to use art and heritage in community building in an inclusive and impactful way. This formed part of our programme of activity for Pakistan/UK: New Perspectives programme. I look forward to many young artists and curators contributing to this space and meaningfully sharing ideas that pave the way for an inclusive and sustainable future. The tragic recent events in Pakistan with the floods underline the importance of working together to tackle global challenges." The curators and themes for the project are Dastaan-I-Urdu, curated by Ali Usman Qasmi (Co Curator: Mahmood Ul Hasan); The Body and Beyond: Women's Movements in Pakistan, curated by Farida Batool; Taos Chaman - Post-Colonial Identity in Artistic Practices in South Asia, curated by Masooma Syed; Manduva: Exploring What We Won't Like to Call 'Lollywood', curated by Sarmad Sultan Khoosat; Ilme-Mosiqi: Classical Legacies, Folk Music and Contem-

porary Classics, curated by Sarah Zaman and Architecture through Space and Time: Conversations with the first generation of Pakistani Architects, curated by Tanvir Hasan. All these themes respond to a different aspect of our country's shared history, cultural language and artistic legacy. Qudsiya Rahim, Executive Director at the Lahore Biennale Foundation, said: "The Lahore Biennale Foundation Virtual Museum is a unique form of archiving, knowledge making and exhibition discourse in response to the global socio-cultural changes in museum practice and public perception. Curated by a collaboration of leading local artists and academics (and not with a Western lens), it represents our shared history and heritage, and hopes to build upon the research as presented by local practitioners. With the current climate crisis in the country, it is now more crucial than ever, to come together, collaborate and help each other."

Two sisters
found dead
in water tank

KARACHI: Two sisters were found dead in mysterious circumstances in the underground water tank of their house in Orangi Town on Sunday. Police have sifted the bodies to Abbasi Shaheed Hospital for post-mortem, while further investigation is underway. The investigators had collected samples for chemical examination to determine the exact cause of the deaths. The girls were identified as Samina (20) and Amina (22). Earlier in February, a dead body of a missing child was found in the water tank of a house in Korangi. — APP

Ghani chairs
meeting
to review
situation

MIRPURKHAS: Sindh Minister for Labour and Manpower Saeed Ghani on Sunday presided over a meeting with the district administration in the commissioner office to review post rain and flood situation. The meeting was attended by MPAs Hari Ram Kishori Laal, Zulfiqar Shah, Mir Tariq Talpur, Additional Commissioner Dr. Ali Nawaz Bharti, Deputy Commissioner Mirpurkhas, Assistant Commissioner and officers of relevant departments. Saeed Ghani stressed the need for ensuring medical facilities to rain-victims at any cost and for this purpose additional staff of doctors and paramedics could be hired on honorarium and on daily wages. He said, "we realize the pain of rain-hit people and will provide every possible assistance to destitute people". Saeed Ghani said that at present more than 10 lac tents were required and for this purpose international agencies were also requested to arrange tents. MPA Syed Zulfiqar Shah stressed the need for seeking Pakistan Army's help for de-watering in Sanghar, Khipro, Hingoro, Mirpurkhas and other areas. MPA Hari Ram Kishori Laal warned that if proper arrangements could not be ensured for de-watering work it may be harmful because with expediting drainage work rehabilitation of rain-victims and cultivation of rice and other crops would be carried out. MPA Tariq Talpur apprised the meeting that without giving cut to zero point rain de-watering could not be carried out properly from Mirpurkhas, Sanghar and other areas, however after giving cut to zero point rain-hit people could be rehabilitated to their concerned areas. — APP

Small dams
inevitable to avert
floods, achieve
autarky in food

FAKHAR ALAM/APP

PESHAWAR, Breaking the 30-year records of torrential rains, the August 27 flash floods that started in River Swat from Upper Kalam and Matalan valleys had affected approximately 30 million people and unleashed destruction to public properties, infrastructure, and agriculture worth billions of rupees while passing through Dir, Bajaur, Mohmand, Charsadda, Nowshera and DI Khan districts in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Destroying hotels in Kalam and Bahrian in Swat, standing crops on thousands of acres and orchards in Dir, Charadda, Nowshera, DI Khan and Tank districts, the unprecedented flash floods also penetrated into the tunnels of under construction Mohmand dam and caused damages not only to protection dyke but also inundated Charsadda and Mohmand districts. "Besides humans and property losses, the devastation of floods to agriculture and national economy was immense and beyond our imagination," said Deputy Collector Irrigation, Engr Abdul Wadood Khan while talking to APP. He said while quoting a report of flood cell of the Irrigation Department of August 28 that over 20 million cusec of flood water passed through river Kabul in Nowshera district in one hour i.e. between 7pm to 8pm causing colossal losses to humans, properties, agriculture, and national economy.

CM for tackling climate
change impacts timely

OUR CORRESPONDENT

PESHAWAR: In an attempt to minimize the negative effects of climate change and to fight against the challenges associated with it, Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Mahmood Khan has formally approved the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Climate Change policy 2022 alongside the requisite action plan that encompasses the necessary steps required to rise up against the challenge. As per details, 129 factors have been identified in different sectors that affect our climate and environment negatively. Accordingly, the action plan includes possible steps and measures to minimize these factors along with adaptation of 172 environment friendly practices. The Chief Minister has termed the policy as a pressing priority adding Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province is also witnessing the negative effects of climate change as in other parts of the

country. He added that these effects have become more evident over the past couple of years including forest fires due to severe heat wave that destroyed much of the forest cover in the province. Similarly, monsoon rains have also caused severe floods which are only going to continue if the necessary steps aren't taken in time. He reiterated that the effects of climate change have also become evident in the northern areas of the province. Mahmood Khan clarified that the Climate Change policy has been divided into various categories keeping in view the priorities. It encompasses immediate measures, short term action plan, medium term measures and long term steps/ action plans. He clarified that the policy will have tremendous impact on our environment and if adopted entirely, we can stand up to the negative effects of climate change in a short span of time. The Chief Minister said that initial work on the policy started back in 2017. However, due to the merger of erstwhile Federally Administered Tribal Areas in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province,

the Forest and Wildlife department felt the need of framing a new policy that takes into account the entire geography and caters to the needs of the entire province. Locusts attacks in Southern Districts, forest fires, and environmental zoning have been taken into account in the new policy and changes have been made accordingly. Furthermore, the necessary steps to be taken by various government departments for effective implementation of the policy have also been elucidated. While commenting on the issue, the Chief Minister also mentioned similar steps taken by the provincial government aimed at promoting a healthy environment and to curb pollution which includes the Billion Tree Tsunami Afforestation Project completed by the Pakistan Tehreek e Insaaf led provincial government during their previous tenure and the plantation of another billion trees in the province under the present Ten Billion Trees Afforestation project.

UNHCR hands over 7,000
tents, thousands of relief
items to KPK government

DNA

PESHAWAR: UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency has handed over 7,000 tents, and thousands of other emergency relief items to the Provincial Disaster Management Authority in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa after flooding devastated homes in a number of the Province's districts. The assistance will benefit tens of thousands of flood affected people in coming days. Among the items provided, 133,244 blankets, 80,000 mosquito nets, 35,347 jerrycans, 23,898 kitchen sets, plastic tarpaulins, buckets, and solar lamps, and other support. UNHCR's Head of Sub-Of-

fice in Peshawar and the Director General of the Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa signed a memorandum to handover the items for immediate distribution to people affected by the floods. Welcoming the UNHCR contribution, the Director General of PDMA, Sharif Hussain, said UNHCR's support was timely and important and greatly help the efforts of the authorities to assist the people of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa at this critical time. Gayrat Ahmadshoev, UNHCR's Head of Sub-Office in Peshawar expressed his commitment to support Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's efforts and its people.



WAZIRABAD: DPI Colleges Punjab Lahore and Deputy Director College Gujranwal posing for a picture during their recent meeting. — DNA

Deadly diseases spreading in Wana

According to the details, infectious diseases have
raised their heads in various areas of Wana Sub-Division

OUR CORRESPONDENT

WANA: Deadly diseases have intensified in different areas of Wana sub-division. Many people have died of cholera in Tehsil Birmal, Shakai and other areas in the past few days, the disease has taken an epidemic form in the area. So far, the health department has not taken any steps, leaving the poor people at the mercy of the Massiah. While the infectious disease diphtheria has also raised its head, a ten-year-old child suffering from diphtheria has tested positive, while many other cases are feared to be positive. Confirmed by the Health Department. When contacted, the District Health Officer said that we have done case response activities, a case response team has been formed, which has been instruct-

ed to visit the concerned areas, DHO South Lower Waziristan said that we would emphasize on vaccination. are, they administer pentavalent vaccination but today they are facing difficulties due to lack of interest among the people. Diphtheria vaccine is hardly available, for which we have requested the Director E.P.I. According to the details, infectious diseases have raised their heads in various areas of Wana Sub-Division. In the past few days, many people have succumbed to cholera, while hundreds of people and families have been affected by this infectious disease, diarrhea and dysentery. It includes Tehsil Birmal, Shakai, Angoradah, Azam Warsak, Manara, Wana, Spain, Durgay Kuwt, lamab sherana and other areas, in these areas entire families have been affected by cholera, dysentery, and

typhoid. Due to this, an atmosphere of fear and panic has been created among the people, while the silence of the health department is a matter of concern, the public circles have described the silence of the government and the health department as sad. It should be noted that the cholera disease that started in the last few days has engulfed entire families, including the elderly, children, youth and women. Seven members of the 1 family in Angoradah, Shakai and the most backward area of Manara have been affected, in which a woman died, while other family members are undergoing treatment in different private hospitals, doctors have confirmed the deaths and the severity of the disease. Affected people say that because of cholera, diarrhea starts with severe abdominal pain, fever and high fever, due to which the per-

son becomes dehydrated, and the state of unconsciousness becomes weak, and timely treatment is needed. Due to the lack of treatment, death occurs. On the other hand, diphtheria (diphtheria), a virulent bacterial disease, has also taken its toll. Diphtheria has killed a ten-year-old child of Amirjan in Kazza Panga area of Azam Warsak. Due to this, the residents of the area have expressed fear of the spread of this deadly disease, while it has been learned from the sources that the Health Department of South Waziristan has sent another report from Shikai area. When DHO Lower Waziristan was asked in this regard, he said that we are sorry for the rapidly spreading diseases of cholera and diphtheria in the area, immediate teams have been formed, and FSMO is supervising these teams.

ZARAI TARAQIATI BANK LIMITED
INVITATION TO BID
Tender No. ICFRID/Consultant/6(31)/2022

**Procurement of Consultancy Services for
"Development of New/Updated Internal Controls
over Financial Reporting"**

Zarai Taraqati Bank Limited, a Public Sector Bank, invites sealed bids from consultant firms/consultants, registered with Income-Tax, Sales Tax Departments and who are on Active Taxpayers List of Federal Board of Revenue for the services of "Development of New/Updated Internal Controls over Financial Reporting"

Request for Proposal/Bid Document (containing detailed terms & conditions etc.) are available for the interested bidders at ZTBL Head Office Branch, 1-Faisal Avenue, Zero Point, Islamabad. Price of the bid documents is Rs. 1000/- . Bid documents can also be downloaded from ZTBL website (www.ztbl.com.pk) free of cost. Method of selection of consultant will be least cost selection method. Before participating in the bid, the bidder must register with ZTBL by submitting a simple bidder registration form available on ZTBL website.

The bids, prepared in accordance with the instructions given in the bidding documents, must reach at ICFR Division, Room No. 1011, Floor No. 10, Main Building, ZTBL Head Office, 1-Faisal Avenue, Zero Point, Islamabad on or before **27-09-2022 up to 11:00 AM**. Bids will be opened on the same day at **11:30 AM**. This advertisement is also available on PPRA website www.ppra.org.pk.

Anjum Abbass
EVP/Chief Compliance Officer, COMPLIANCE & ICFR DIVISION
ZARAI TARAQIATI BANK LIMITED, HEAD OFFICE
051- 9252787

PID NO 1362-22

National Days and Armed Forces Days

AUGUST

Aug 01/ CHINA
Armed Forces Day

Aug 01/ SWITZERLAND
National Day

Aug 01/ LEBANON
Armed Forces Day

Aug 01/ SYRIA
Armed Forces Day

Aug 4/ BUKINO FASO
National Day

Aug 09/ SINGAPORE
National Day

Aug 15/ DPR KOREA
Independence Day

Aug 15/ INDIA
Independence Day

Aug 15/ POLAND
Armed Forces Day

Aug 17/ INDONESIA
Independence Day

Aug 24/ UKRAINE
Independence Day

Aug 25/ URUGUAY
Independence Day

Aug 30/ TURKEY
Armed Forces Day

Aug 31/ KYRGYZ
Independence Day

Aug 31/ MALAYSIA
National Day

Hotels & Restaurants

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

Airlines

Turkish Airlines.....8494949

Emergency

Rescue (Police).....15
Bomb Disposal.....15
Fire Services Rawalpindi/ Islamabad.....1122 & 16
Emergency Ambulance..1122
& Rescue Services.4451122
Motorway Police....9266044
Motorway Police...9270601-20
Women Police Stations Islamabad.....9222596
Rawalpindi.....9270601-20

Enquiry

Edhi Ambulance.....115
PIAFlightInfo.....114
PIA Cargo.....9280979
Railway Inquiry.....117
Railway Exchange9270831-5
WASA Rawalpindi...5555489
CAA.....9281092

Hospitals

CMH.....5611111
MH.....561116
Cantt Hospital...9270907-11
DHQ.....5556311-4
RGH.....9290301-7
Holy Family.....9290322-7
PIMS.....9261170-79
Polyclinic.....9218300-09
Shifa International.4603666

Departments

CDA.....9221334-43
CDA.....9208301-04
Met Office.....9250360-6
RDA.....5555864
TMA.....5770886
Cantonment Board 9270151-3

Islamabad Metropolitan

Corporation.....9209224
Potohar Town.....9209224
Rawal Town.....5773343

Water Tank

Islamabad.....0321-5744480



ISLAMABAD: Spouses of ambassadors and high commissioners posing for a group photo on the occasion of the National Day celebrations of Vietnam. – DNA

Pregnant mothers to be covered under Nashonuma

The programme has enrolled 99,190 beneficiaries and disbursed Rs 310.81mln till March during the Fiscal Year 2022, since inception

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister of Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety, Shazia Marri has said that Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) in collaboration with World Food Programme (WFP) has decided to cover the flood affected pregnant mothers and children under the Benazir Nashonuma Programme. "For this purpose, an additional amount of one billion rupees would be allocated for the flood affected mothers and children apart from the existing beneficiaries" Shazia Marri said while talking to APP.

The Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT) intervention of Benazir Nashonuma was designed by BISP in August, 2020 to increase the uptake of health and nutrition services of its beneficiaries. The primary objectives of the programme

is to prevent stunting in children under two years of age, improve weight gain of pregnant women during pregnancy, reduce anaemia and micronutrient deficiencies and prevent low birth weight. World Food Programme is the lead implementing partner for Benazir Nashonuma. The total budget of the three-year programme is approximately Rs 8.52 billion. A total of 50 Benazir Nashonuma Centres across 14 districts are being established countrywide at the district and tehsil level to provide health services and conditional cash transfers under two years old; Rs1500 for a boy child and mother and Rs 2000 for a girl child mainly to prevent children from stunting growth issue. The programme has enrolled 99,190 beneficiaries and disbursed Rs 310.81 million



till March during the Fiscal Year 2022, since inception. Besides this programme, BISP has been given the task of disbursing Rs. 25,000 per family to the flood

victims by the Prime Minister, Shehbaz Sharif considering the severity of flood situation in the country. Shazia Marri said it is a matter of honour for the BISP team that the prime minister has selected this program for the cash relief disbursement. BISP has once again broken its own previous record of disbursing cash assistance among the flood affected families in a short time despite unusual circumstances for which its team deserves appreciation. The monitoring teams of BISP have been formed to ensure transparency in the cash disbursement process while the concerned officers are visiting the relief centers and monitoring the provision of assistance, she said while expressing the commitment that "BISP will not compromise on duties".

The minister said that over 20 FIRs have been registered against those involved in the illegal deductions from the BISP payments to the flood affected families."Zero tolerance policy has been adopted against those involved in illegal deductions from payments of the affected families", she added. She said around 33 million people have been displaced at national level as a result of the recent floods which is a big number. Shazia Marri said the people of Pakistan are a part of the global community and are suffering from huge flood devastation. She urged the international community and philanthropists to stand with the flood victims and extend support, "We need more tents, ration and essentials for the flood affected people", she added. – APP

Pakistan to seek flood aid from IMF, WB, ADB

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan will reach out to the global lenders including International Monetary Fund (IMF), World Bank (WB), Asian Development Bank (ADB) and others for monetary assistance to deal with devastating floods in the country. According to sources privy to the matter, the global lenders will be conveyed a joint report of NDMA, finance and planning and development ministries over losses during the floods. "A report on initial losses has been prepared and it highlighted a loss of US\$10 billion to the national economy owing to the devastating floods," they said, adding that it included damages

to infrastructure and harvest. The report, according to sources, shared that 33 million population and one million homes were affected due to the floods. "IMF will be asked to give monetary assistance under rapid finance instrument while other global lenders will also be asked to release funds for disaster management," they said. State Minister for Finance Aisha Ghous Pasha confirmed the development and said that international lenders will be approached for rehabilitation of flood affected areas. "We will complete estimates of damages from floods in two days," she said. According to a report, Pakistan has also approached G-20 countries for relief in debt payments as the country faces devastating floods that have killed more than 1,000 people and displaced millions.

Highways being restored for traffic on priority basis: NHA

ISLAMABAD: The land connection between Swat's and Bahrain was restored with the tiring efforts of the Federal Minister of Communications Maulana Asad Mehmood. According to details, the ground connectivity was restored by engineers of Pakistan Army Corps, National Highway Authority (NHA) and district administration. The staff of NHA was also in the forefront of relief activities in the country. Meanwhile, the Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif was himself

supervising the maintenance of communications and roads and a report is also being submitted to him on daily basis. On the instructions of Prime Minister, the minister and Chairman NHA were ensuring the maintenance of national highways was going up on speedy basis. During the last fortnight, flood-affected highways have been restored in all four provinces and Gilgit-Baltistan. "The maintenance of communications and highways is the top priority of the Prime Minister. On his instructions the work of restoring highways and connecting roads in flood-affected areas is underway on an emergency basis. He himself is supervising the maintenance of communications and roads and in this regard, a report is being submitted to him on daily basis. – APP

IESCO customers get a big relief

IRSHAD ALI

ISLAMABAD: On the instructions of the Prime Minister of Pakistan Mian Shehbaz Sharif and the Federal Minister for Energy (Power Division), Engineer Khurram Dastgir Khan, IESCO has provided relief to the consumers in the form of fuel price adjustment in view of the rains and floods in the country. According to the details, those domestic tariff consumers with single phase meters who have used 201 to 300 units during the month of June 2022 have completely waived off the amount of fuel price adjustment in their electricity bills for the month of August 2022 and due date has also been extended till September 12, 2022. The revised and extended bills have been uploaded on IESCO website www.iesco.com.pk. Customers can get the duplicate copy of corrected and extended bill from IESCO website, concerned SDO/Revenue Offices or nearest customer service. IESCO Customers who fulfill the above conditions and have submitted their August 2022 bill amount deposited for fuel price adjustment will be credited in the bill of September 2022, for this the customers do not need to visit IESCO offices. Further Protected consumers whose units consumed in the last 6 months are 200 or less than 200 have already been given relief of Rs 6 per unit in support of the fuel price adjustment for August 2022 electricity bills on the instructions of the Government of Pakistan.

POWER SUSPENSION SCHEDULES For 5th September 2022.

According to Islamabad Electric Supply Company (IESCO)'s spokesman, System Maintenance/Development Work is in process. Therefore power supply of below mentioned feeders/areas will be temporary suspended as per given schedule: On 5th September, From 07:00 AM to 12:00 Noon, Kattas, Dalwal, EME Complex, Jhangi, P&T Wani, Azharabad, CWO, Wanhar, Mial, Nust Road feeders and surroundings will be closed. IESCO management apologizes to its esteemed customers for the power outage. If the work is completed ahead of time, the power supply can be restored even before the scheduled time.

Ashrafi invites world personalities for victims support

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister's Special Representative for Interfaith Harmony and Middle East Hafiz Muhammad Tahir Mehmood Ashrafi has invited the world leading personalities and organizations for supporting the flood victims in Pakistan. Talking with national and international media on Sunday, Ashrafi who is also the Chairman of Pakistan Ulema Council, said that Pakistan alone could not cope with the damages caused by the floods in different parts of the country. Seeking support to overcome this critical situation, he said the world should come forward and witness itself the damages incurred due to flash floods in Pakistan. Besides lauding the services of Pakistan Army and volunteers of religious organizations in flood hit areas, he said the endeavors on the part of Palestine for 'Pakistan Solidarity Day' and assistance for flood victims were commendable. He said Pakistan was grateful to the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Turkiye, China, United Kingdom and United States for extending all out cooperation to the flood victims in Pakistan. In the post-flood situation, the leaderships of Saudi Arabia, Qatar, United Arab Emirates and Turkiye had expressed their bonds of love and brotherhood with Pakistan. – APP

Media's role needed to save youth from Tobacco products

ISLAMABAD: Media can play a strong role to counter the deceptive campaigns of tobacco industry to promote harmful emerging tobacco products in Pakistani youth, health activists said during a consultation organized by Society for the Protection of the Rights of the Child (SPARC). The health activists and the senior journalists explored the need to ban emerging products such as nicotine pouches, e-cigarettes and heated tobacco devices, as they are becoming increasingly popular among Pakistani youth due to elaborate advertisement and promotional campaigns, said in a press release issued here on Sunday. Dr. Ziauddin Islam, former technical head/Director, Tobacco Control Cell, Ministry of NHR&C mentioned that the number of smokers in Pakistan has reached up to 29 million adding tobacco consumption is causing serious health implications on Pakistanis and yearly, 170,000 people die due to tobacco consumption. Pakistan became a party to the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC) on February 27, 2005. – APP

Some construction activities have started after flood

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Former President of Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI) Dr. Shahid Rasheed Butt on Sunday said construction activities have been started in some parts of Punjab and it will gain momentum across the country after floodwater subsides. Large-scale construction activities will begin in the country for the construction and repair of destroyed structures, bridges, dams, schools, shops and houses, he said. Shahid Rasheed Butt said that large quantities of steel bars, cement, and other construction materials will be required for the purpose and the government should keep an eye on the prices. He said that if the cement and steel mafia is allowed to take advantage of the opportunity, the rehabilitation will be delayed and the whole process will also become expensive. The business leader said that apart from steel and cement, there is a need to control the price of other items including aluminium, fibre and wood etc.

PAF rescue & relief operation continues

Air Marshal Hamid Rashid Randhawa, HI(M), Deputy Chief of Air Staff Administration inspected PAF relief camp near Hyderabad. He expressed his satisfaction on the facilities being provided to flood affectees

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Air Force has dedicated maximum resources for rescue and relief operation in flood affected areas of KPK, Sindh, Balochistan and South Punjab. PAF helicopter fleet is actively participating in operations for airdrop of ration, medicine and critical supplies in the area. PAF personnel are also extending all-out support to civil administration in the rehabilitation process of the flood affectees. Air Marshal Hamid Rashid Randhawa, HI(M), Deputy Chief of Air Staff Administration inspected PAF relief camp near Hyderabad. He expressed his satisfaction on the facilities being provided to the flood affectees. The Air Officer also lauded the professionalism of PAF Emergency Response Teams for taking



prompt actions and continued relief operations in far-flung areas. Earlier in the day, Air Vice Marshal Hakim Raza, SI(M), Air Officer Commanding Northern Air Com-

mand also oversaw relief activities conducted by Saidu Sharif Dett at Arak, Tehsil Matta. Area locals and civil administration appreciated PAF's relief and rehabilitation



efforts. To alleviate the sufferings of flood affectees, PAF Emergency Response Teams distributed 1853 dry ration packs, 1960 water bottles and 11860 cooked food

packets during the last 24 hours. Additionally 3644 patients were also treated by PAF medical teams at field medical camps established by Pakistan Air Force.

Briefs

PFC to take part in Intel expo in Istanbul

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Furniture Council (PFC) will take part in a five-day International expo being held in Istanbul Turkey from September 10 to discover business opportunities and explore new markets in Europe. Chief Executive Officer PFC Mian Kashif Ashfaq presiding over board of directors meeting here on Sunday said that PFC along Chenone will be participating in this international mega event that attracts thousands of global manufacturers from all over the world which showcase their products. He said Chenone will also exhibit its high international quality products to capture their share in intel market. He said it's an excellent opportunity to showcase Pak products and develop business deals with international buyers. He said this fair also offers professional buyers a sourcing platform with wide variety of products ranging from basics to the most creative and qualitative. Mian Kashif said PFC and Chenone have already attended several other international fairs in US, China, Italy, Sri Lanka etc and introduced its products which are in great demand. He hoped in getting orders from foreign buyers. He said main purpose of attending the foreign fairs is to help strengthen the national economy and TDAP is facilitating the manufacturers of export products. – APP

PHHSA to dispatch relief goods

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Hi Tech Hybrid Seed Association (PHHSA) will dispatch relief goods to flood affected areas of Sindh and South Punjab. Talking to media here on Sunday, Chairman PHHSA Shahzad Ali Malik said all members of the Association in first phase contributed to help meet the urgent needs of marooned flood affectees stuck at various localities and services of Al-Khadmat volunteers will be acquired to distribute relief goods among flood hit families. He said that Rice Exporters Association of Pakistan (REAP) also distributed 18 trucks load of rice in affected areas. Shahzad Malik, who is also founder chairman of REAP, said that the present REAP chief Ali Hussam Asghar played key in timely raising funds and all members donated generously towards relief measures. He said that entire business community was well aware of the gravity of deadly flood havoc that caused colossal loss to human, property, infrastructure and agriculture besides denting the economic growth. – APP

Proposal for access to Model prison through motorway

ISLAMABAD: Ministry of Interior has proposed National Highway Authority (NHA) to create an interchange or link road at sector H-16/17 from Motorway to the site of Model Prison situated at H-16 Islamabad. The work on the modern prison in Sector H-16 Islamabad is underway and it would be completed soon, resolving the problem of district administration and Capital police who have to transport prisoners from Rawalpindi for hearing in courts. It is to mention that Model Prison is a project of Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) administration and Ministry of Interior. For access to this prison, Ministry of Interior has forwarded a proposal to NHA to create an interchange or link road at sector H-16/17 from Motorway to the site of Model Prison situated at H-16 Islamabad, the sources told APP on Sunday. A number of meetings have been also held in Ministry of Interior to discuss the best possible option to provide access to Model Prison from link road of Motorway M-1/M-2 including construction of Flyover and low cost access to Model prison from Srinagar Highway. A committee has been constituted by Secretary Interior to visit the Model Prison site and evaluate their options for access to Model Prison, Islamabad from Srinagar Highway/Motorway. – APP

Authorities directed to utilize all resources to curb dengue

Over Rs 50,000 fines were also imposed for violating Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) issued by the government to control dengue, he added

RAWALPINDI: The authorities concerned of Rawalpindi Cantonment Board (RCB) have been directed to utilize all available resources to control dengue and accelerate the ongoing anti-dengue campaign besides strictly monitoring anti-dengue activities in all Cantt areas as September and October are very important regarding control of dengue. According to Cantonment Executive Officer, Imran Gulzar, the authorities concerned had been directed that strict action in accordance with the law would be taken against negligent officials. He also informed that 17 FIRs were registered against the rules violators while several shopkeepers were also issued warning during last week. Over Rs 50,000 fines were also imposed for violating Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) issued by the gov-

ernment to control dengue, he added. He said, September and October were very important regarding control of dengue as most of the cases were reported during this period so the teams must focus activities to ensure elimination of dengue larvae. The CEO said that anti-dengue surveillance activities, elimination of larvae, IRS Spray and fogging was being carried out in Cantt areas while special teams on emergency basis had also been constituted. He informed that anti-dengue teams visited Chamanabad, Masrial Road, Allahabad, Westridge Bazar, Afshan Colony, Gawalmandi, Koh-e-Noor, Mukaram Town, Qasimabad, Milatabad, Shahbaz Town, Naseerabad and other areas during last week and issued several notices. He said that so far 54 FIRs had been registered

while fines amounting to Rs 315,000 were also imposed on the violators during this season. Anti-dengue spray was also conducted in over 430 houses, he added. The CEO urged the residents to play their due role and remove stagnant water from rooftops and other places besides cooperating with the anti-dengue teams. He said the citizens were also being educated and informed about importance of sanitation, cleanliness and preventive measures against dengue. Lady health workers during door-to-door campaign were visiting houses to educate the community particularly females about preventive measures against the disease, he added. The main focus of the campaign was on public health education, he said and informed that the sanitary staff had been

directed to ensure timely cleanliness and proper solid waste disposal in all areas. The RCB teams were also visiting hotels, restaurants, workshops, tyre shops and junkyard godowns and apprising the citizens about dengue and adoption of maximum precautionary measures against dengue, he said adding, the teams were also removing stagnant water and dengue larvae from several breeding sites. The vulnerable points were regularly being checked and special inspection was being conducted to check dengue mosquito larvae, he said. The CEO urged the citizens to adopt precautionary measures and remove stagnant water from their homes and roof tops as most of dengue larvae and adult mosquito is found in air coolers water drums and scrap items. – APP

ANF recovers over one ton drugs; arrests two

RAWALPINDI: The Anti Narcotics Force (ANF) on Sunday while conducting an operation managed to recover over one ton drugs and arrested two accused. According to an Anti Narcotics Force headquarters spokesman, Anti Narcotics Force acting on a tip-off conducted a raid in Islamabad area and seized over one ton narcotics including 1020 kg charras and 28.800 kg heroin besides netting two members of an inter-provincial drug smugglers gang. The drugs concealed in a container of refrigerators were being smuggling from Balochistan. Anti Narcotics Force after registration of a case against the accused, started further investigation to net other members of the gang, he added. – APP

River Indus continues to flow furious

ISLAMABAD: The Federal Flood Commission (FFC) has said that River Indus continues to flow in "high flood" in Sukkur-Kotri Reach and in "medium flood" at Guddu while complete normalcy has returned to River Kabul. According to daily FFC report on Sunday, the River Indus is discharging normal flows at rest of its control structures (Tarbela, Kalabagh, Chashma and Taunsa). Other main Rivers of Indus River System i.e. Jhelum, Chenab, Ravi and Sutlej continues to flow with normal discharges. Tarbela Reservoir Management authorities are maintaining it at its Maximum Conservation Level (MCL) of 1550.00 feet since 28th August 2022, whereas Mangla Dam is at an El: 1188.55 feet against its MCL: 1242 feet (50.41 percent storage still left). Yesterday's trough of Westerly Wave over Northeastern Afghanistan and adjoining areas lies over Northern parts of Pakistan whereas Seasonal Low lies over Northeastern Balochistan and adjoining areas. At present, moderate moist currents from Arabian Sea are penetrating into upper parts of the Pakistan up to 5000 feet. According to FFD Lahore, scattered thunderstorm/rain of moderate intensity with isolated heavy falls is expected over upper catchments of all the major rivers along with Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Islamabad and Punjab (Rawalpindi, Sargodha, Gujranwala, Lahore and Faisalabad Divisions) during the next 24 hours. – APP

6,307 notices issued on violations of anti-dengue SOPs

RAWALPINDI: District Coordinator Epidemics Prevention and Control (DCEPC) Dr Sajjad Mehmood has said that the District Administration Rawalpindi, in collaboration with other departments, had issued around 6,307 notices and imposed Rs 3,859,100 fines on violations of anti-dengue SOPs from January 1 to date in various areas of the district. He informed that around 1,515 FIRs had been registered, 433 premises sealed, while challans were issued to 1,460 violators for not adopting anti-dengue SOPs. Dr Sajjad added that as many as 496 confirmed cases had been reported in the district this year, while the number was 591 in 2019, seven each in 2020 and 2021 during the period. Presently, 97 patients having positive symptoms were admitted to City's allied hospitals, including 39 in the District Headquarters Hospital, 30 in Holy Family Hospital and 28 in the Benazir Bhutto Hospital. The health officer said that teams were fumigating different areas of the district while main bus terminals and government departments were spraying to control the spread of the lethal virus. He added that the health department had already sprayed chemicals to destroy mosquitoes in areas where the dengue fever patients were reported. The District Coordinator called upon the residents to clean their water tanks and not leave any place wet with stagnant water. – APP



ISLAMABAD: Mr. Fahad Barlas Formar Chairman Handicraft Association of Pakistan Recieved Best Performance Award from Muhammad Baligh ul rehman Governor Punjab. – DNA

AIOU concludes fourth batch of vocational training in GB

IRSHAD ALI

ISLAMABAD: "Vocational education is an important tool of economic stability of any society, the efforts of Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU) to equip the youth with vocational education will be beneficial in the social and economic development of the country. AIOU is providing commendable services in the field of vocational education. Introducing hotel management courses for the youth of Gilgit-Baltistan will boost the tourism sector with proper

hospitality in tourist destinations", said Minister for Education, Gilgit-Baltistan, Raja Mohammad Azam Khan at the graduation ceremony of the fourth batch of the six-week training course vocational training for youth in Gilgit, Skardu, Hunza, Shigar, and Ghizer. The event was held at Karakoram International University, Gilgit-Baltistan. It is pertinent to mention here that Allama Iqbal Open University has started skill development courses in these areas with the support of Alight Pakistan and the TAF Foundation.

More than 250 male and female students have graduated in the last one and a half years. Education Minister GB appreciated the services of AIOU, Alight Pakistan, and TAF Foundation for offering skill-based training courses for youth. Representatives of the Directorate of Technical Education and Skill Development (GB), Ministry of Tourism, Serena Shigar Fort, TAF Foundation, and National Commission for Human Development were present at the ceremony. The focal person of AIOU, Dr. Zahid Majeed, said that the hotel industry sector is

on the way to rapid development, keeping this need in view, the Vice Chancellor of AIOU, Prof. Dr. Zia Ul-Qayyum had given instructions to launch this course. He said that the graduating youth will get honorable employment opportunities. Regional Director, Alight Pakistan, Dr. Tariq Cheema said that AIOU, Alight Pakistan, and TAF Foundation jointly provide skills courses to the youth. We are trying to provide the best opportunity to shape the future and this process of providing skills, education and training will continue in Gilgit-Baltistan.

Parking woes in capital go unabated

ABDUL SAMAD & TAJ NABI

ISLAMABAD: Over the years, the unbridled population growth, expansion of residential and commercial areas and increase vehicles numbers had made parking a major challenge for the residents of the capital city. Looking into the shrinking space that often makes mobility a woman's job brings the realization that the authorities concerned are either in deep slumber or in the state of denial. Therefore, the delayed attention towards this issue brought in an irksome challenge of most often seeking space to park their vehicles. Owing to lack of space outside offices, shopping malls, and business centers, vehicles are being parked wherever the car owners find space and shade, causing inconvenience to others. Therefore, verbal brawls have become common on the "right or wrong parking" issues. Similarly, parking violation is very common and we usually see cars parked at places of no parking and sometimes even right in front of "No Parking" board.

The issue is directly related to number of vehicles plying in Capital's road as over the years, this number of vehicles registered with federal excise department rising to around one million. On the other hand, the parking space more or less remains the same adding to woes of commuters. "Issue of parking has become more chaotic in commercial areas of the federal capital like Blue Area, Aabpara, Melody, Super and Jinnah Super Markets," said Adil Abbasi, a daily commuter of the expressway. "Limited public transport and expensive cab rides have increased the need for personal vehicles that eventually resulted in parking problems." Hundreds of thousands of vehicles other than those registered in the capital ply across the ICT jurisdiction stuffing the city roads. "Approximately 400,000 vehicles come in and go out of the city daily on average while the number of cars and different vehicles owned by residents are almost the same," a senior official in Islamabad Traffic Police said. "This number increases during duty hours and on weekends, festivals and tourism season."

Women Wing formed at The Diabetes Centre Islamabad

ISLAMABAD: A ceremony was held at The Diabetes Centre Islamabad where in Women Wing led by Dr Nuzhat Hameed, one of the Board of Directors of Hospital was formed. A high-level delegation of women from various spheres of life including renowned affluent women of the Capital, Mrs. Iram Shahzad and Mrs. Shazia Pasha among others visited the main hospital on special event. They were apprised about efforts being made by Hospital against diabetes in the country. – APP

Cigarettes manufacturers to pay advance excise duty

Tax evaders are pressurizing FBR through farmers for withdrawal of this major documentation measure and creating a false impression of farmers being taxed

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Newly imposed advance excise duty on tobacco purchase will not impact farmers but manufacturers and would dent the massive tax theft in the tobacco sector. Tax evaders are pressurizing the FBR through farmers for withdrawal of this major documentation measure

and creating a false impression of farmers being taxed. Recently, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Farmers Rights Protection Association (KPFPPA) has opposed the advance excise duty and wrongly associated it with farmers. Spokesperson of FBR clarifies that, "FED on unmanufactured Tobacco has been enhanced from Rs 10/per kg to Rs 390/per kg w.e.f 23.08.2022, through

promulgation of Tax Laws (Second Amendment) Ordinance, 2022, in terms of S.No 7 of Table 1 of First Schedule to the Federal Excise Act 2005." He added that the FED is chargeable on unmanufactured Tobacco for manufacturers of cigarettes by the Green LEAF Threshing Units (GLT Units) after processing and conversion of tobacco green leaf as defined under sub-section (2A) of section 2 of the Federal Excise Act 2005. He said that the amount of FED is adjustable in terms of section 6 of the Federal Excise Act 2005, from the amount of duty collected.

Therefore, the main purpose of imposition of FED on unmanufactured tobacco is the documentation dormant undocumented segments of Tobacco industry. Furthermore, he added that no FED is imposed or chargeable on raw tobacco leaf supplied by the tobacco growers/farmers to the GLT Units. Experts believe that the imposition of advance excise duty has been instrumental in documentation of the purchase of tobacco by manufacturers of cigarettes and other tobacco products as all manufacturers who purchase tobacco from farmers must process tobacco through GLT plants.

PM directives on fuel charges adjustment being implemented: Marriyum

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Information and Broadcasting Marriyum Aurangzeb said on Sunday that notification had been issued on the order of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif regarding the "fuel charges adjustment" and its implementation has been started. In a tweet, she said that under the relief Prime Minister Sharif was able on the consumers who are more than 300 electricity, that from ing 300 units not be charged in electricity bills. The minister said that on the instructions of the Prime Minister, the payment of new bills has been started and last date of bill payment has also been extended. For those consumers who have already paid the bills, the required amount will be reduced from the next month's bills, she said. – APP



AIOU collaborates with JICA for women empowerment

Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Dr. Zia Ul-Qayyum said that women from backward areas will be provided with career opportunities to help these women for income through a better way of employment

DNA

ISLAMABAD: "Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU) with the support of Japanese organization (JICA) is educating the women of the backward areas and also teaching them skills so that they can earn a dignified livelihood in their own areas," said the Vice Chancellor, AIOU, Prof. Dr. Zia Ul-Qayyum in his meeting with the Deputy Commissioner District Torghar, Anwar Zeb Khan. Country Head of JICA in Pakistan, Ms Chio Dean Faculty of Education, Prof. Dr. Nasir Mehmood, and Director General, Regional Services AIOU, Dr. Malik Tauqeer Ahmad Khan were also present. JICA's Country Head, Ms. Chio said that there were no post-primary educational facilities for



women in Torghar, JICA paved the way for the women here to continue their studies to the middle. She further said that in a short period of one and a half

years, more than 550 female students of Torghar have completed their education up to the middle. Speaking to the media, Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Dr. Zia Ul-Qayyum

said that women from backward areas will be provided with career opportunities to help these women for income through a better way of employment. He said

that Allama Iqbal Open University with the support of JICA will provide matriculation education to the students of Torghar. He further said that the university has also taken steps to introduce easy courses for women here in the field of health. Later, Dr. Zia distributed certificates to the students who completed middle school in the Government Girls Middle School, Tehsil Jadaba. On this occasion, he said that female students should continue their education, and those students who are unable to pay their fees can contact the university for the scholarship. He further said that the university will appoint the middle school teachers here as tutors as a special case. On this occasion, the vice chancellor also inaugurated the study center of AIOU Torghar.

Indian atrocities must be called out loud

INDIA'S continued atrocities and human rights violations are making it to International organizations. Various lawmakers as well as justice departments have also raised concerned over Indian atrocities. At the top of such organizations is Amnesty International. Since India's illegal annexation of Jammu and Kashmir three years ago, the Indian government has drastically intensified its repression of the people of the occupied state, including journalists and human rights defenders, by subjecting them to multiple human rights violations, according to a new report released by Amnesty International, a leading London-based rights watchdog. The 31-page report – 'We are being punished by the law: Three years of abrogation of Article 370 in Jammu & Kashmir' – documents how civil society, journalists, lawyers, and human rights defenders have faced relentless interrogations, arbitrary travel bans, revolving door detentions and repressive media policies while blocking access to appeals or justice in courts and human rights bodies. "For three years, civil society and media in Jammu and Kashmir have been subjected to a vicious crackdown by the Indian government, which is determined to stifle dissent using draconian laws, policies and unlawful practices in their arsenal," Aakar Patel, Amnesty International's India Board Chair, said in a statement. "By harassing and intimidating critical voices, authorities are targeting all credible, independent sources of information in and about Jammu and Kashmir. All dissent is being silenced through heavy-handed repression, which has spread fear and uncertainty in the region," he said. "The government's use of unlawful measures and unjust barriers impeding various rights in the region must be removed without further delay. The Indian authorities must end the long-drawn repression in Jammu and Kashmir immediately." Amnesty said it has recorded at least 60 instances of a crackdown on journalists and human rights defenders since August 2019.



Soaring defense budget

THE defense budget request made by Japan's Defense Ministry is the largest ever. If approved, it will continue the country's soaring military spending over the past decade. The proposed sum of 5.6 trillion yen (\$40 billion) for the fiscal year of 2023, which ends in March 2024, will surpass the 5.4 trillion yen in planned spending for the current fiscal year. Japan's defense budget for this year has already set a record for the 10th consecutive year. Yet, both foreign and Japanese media reports show the proposed budget could rise to 6 trillion yen, or even to 6.5 trillion yen, up 20 percent from this year as Wednesday's proposal does not include the costs of missiles for preemptive strikes that it recently proposed, as well as dozens of other weapons. Japan used to cap its annual defense spending at around 1 percent of its GDP. But with the country pushing to comprehensively remilitarize, the calls for its military spending to be on a par with that required of NATO members have become increasingly loud, not only in Japan, but also in Washington, which is encouraging Japan to be in the vanguard of NATO's expansion into the Asia-Pacific. The military spending of NATO members is supposed to be 2 percent of their GDP, which if Japan was to follow suit would make its military budget the third-largest in the world. In recent years, politicians in Tokyo have been increasingly citing China as the main reason behind its military spending hikes. This year, apart from hyping up the China threat theory as usual, the conflict in Ukraine has given a fillip to the scaremongering. Japan's growing military spending points to the rebound of Japanese militarism and the intention of right-wing Japanese politicians to make Japan's militarily stronger again, which in the eyes of many people in Asia, is tantamount to reviving the ghost of Japan's military past. This is especially worrisome as Japan has never sincerely reflected upon its actions during the World War II era, including its war crimes. Instead, it has relentlessly sought to deny and distort history in recent years, including denying the country's wartime atrocities and making modifications to its history textbooks. Tokyo has also chosen to draw closer to the US alliance, enthusiastically rushing to the forefront in the US' strategic containment against China and making waves over China's core interests and mutual concerns. At home, Japan's ultra-right politicians have seized every opportunity to push their country to steadily break the limit of its "pacifist" Constitution. Hence, Japan's latest move to boost its defense budget is not only irresponsible but dangerous as it will reduce its neighbors' sense of security, heat up the arms race that is brewing in the region, casting a shadow over regional peace and stability.

President Tokayev's address to nation opens new political milestone in Kazakhstan's History

Erlan Karin



The President's decision to make the entire electoral schedule public is an unprecedented step for Kazakhstan's political practice. The launch of the entire election cycle is conditioned by the need for a radical reboot of our political system and is fully consistent with the rationale of the constitutional reform supported by the majority of citizens in the June referendum

ANOTHER Presidential Address opens a fundamentally new political milestone in the history of the country. The head of state is setting qualitatively different standards for the system of power. It is the utmost transparency in the adoption of the most important political decisions, constant renewal, and open competition. The President's decision to make the entire electoral schedule public is an unprecedented step for Kazakhstan's political practice. The launch of the entire election cycle is conditioned by the need for a radical reboot of our political system and is fully consistent with the rationale of the constitutional reform supported by the majority of citizens in the June referendum. The consecutive holding of presidential elections followed by the election of deputies of the Mazhilis (the lower chamber of the Parliament) and maslikhats (local representative bodies) will allow focusing on the solution of urgent and strategic tasks on socio-economic development of the country. In other words, the accumulated rhythm of the country's modernization will not be disturbed. The growing geostrategic tensions and turbulence in the world economy are a strong factor in favor of holding early elections. The unpredictability of the dynamics of world processes multiplies the risks and challenges not only for individual states, but for entire regions. Another central initiative of yesterday's address is the head of state's proposal to limit the presidential mandate to a single term of seven years without the right to re-election. This proposal is a thoroughly considered decision, which, if approved by the Parliament, will determine the future of Kazakhstan's political system. In this case, the election of one person as President for only one seven-year term is a political innovation, which now has no precedent in the near and distant surrounding of Kazakhstan. The norm of a one-time presidency is primarily aimed at the long-term stabilization of the political system, eliminating the risks of power monopolization and strengthening the basic principles of democracy. The initiative on

a single presidential term is a logical progression of steps already taken to finally move away from the super-presidential model. These include the non-partisanship of the head of state, the ban on his relatives holding positions in government agencies and state-owned companies, and the redistribution of some presidential powers in favor of other institutions of power. The introduction of a single presidential term thus closes the process of institutionalizing a presidential republic with an optimal balance of power. The initiative to hold early elections to the Mazhilis and maslikhats of all levels in the first half of next year also comes from the rationale of the political modernization program. Elections in single-mandate districts under a mixed electoral system that is being implemented will become an important factor in improving political culture in the country and a powerful tool for articulating the interests of citizens at the local level. The electoral legislation will soon work according to new rules. The registration procedure for political parties will be simplified, which is already contributing to the emergence of new parties, new faces in politics, and increased political competition. And this trend is irreversible, with the deepening of political modernization it will only grow. Renewal of representative bodies of power, new principles of Mazhilis and maslikhats formation are closely linked to the comprehensive transformation of the executive vertical – the government and akimats (administration). In the future, the government will include not only representatives of the party that won the most votes, but representatives of other parliamentary parties as well. In general, all the political initiatives presented in the address comprehensively fill with real content the key formula of our nation-building "strong President – influential Parliament – accountable Government". The new reform gives a start to the electoral cycle, which will allow a restart of the entire political system.

– The author is the State Counsellor of Kazakhstan.

Moderation for quality

Dr. Abdus Sattar Abbasi

Moderation is most effective when both internal (from inside the university) and external (from other universities) moderators are involved and conducted in a spirit of professional learning...

UNIVERSITY teaching is a sole discretion of a teacher irrespective of his professional and social development, ability to deliver, and capability to comprehend class dynamics. Despite exceptional qualifications having highest degrees from both national and international institutions of higher learning still there are several aspects in teaching, learning and assessment process in higher education institutions (HEIs) which need attention. Curriculum development attracts major devotion probably in every university as a main task right from conception of the course to the development of contents. Guidelines from Higher Education Commission (HEC) are followed in every HEI to determine numbers and types of courses, credit hours, eligibility criteria etc. Both evolving and established accreditation bodies add to the exercise to strengthen almost every degree program in their domains through evaluation of course outlines and records in the form of folders. In some cases program and course level objectives have also been integrated in degree programs. These bodies have extended their influence to look into the classroom resources, student teacher ratio, departmental budgets and so on to enrich teaching and learning experience at university level. However, university teachers by and large remain at their will for actual delivery and evaluation. These are two most important components which still remain out of the scope of even accreditation bodies. During their visit for periodic accreditation members of the team do visit classrooms according to the protocols, but this is probably not enough for continuous quality improvement. A huge gap exists in classroom teaching and evaluation mechanism of HEIs which

deters quality of higher education in the Country. Despite developing strong course handbooks there is no such established mechanism in our universities to determine that appropriate content is delivered or not, either resource person is developed enough to extend his knowledge in a meaningful manner to the students, if s/he is capable to create conducive learning environment in a class. There are different forces which impact the teaching, learning and assessment from teacher's professionalism to student's readiness. A teacher may try to teach intricacies of business studies to a student, but whether the student learns something depends on many factors within and outside the teacher's control: Is the student motivated? Did the teacher use the appropriate instructional strategy? Is the student interested? Are the classroom and university conditions conducive to learning? Are the student's parents supportive? Is there enough time to digest the ideas and practice new skills? Is there any peer pressure? The list goes on. Perhaps the most significant implication of these ideas about learning and knowledge is that they imply that thoughtful teachers are who think both about subject matter and students, constructing bridges between the two. According to Wilson S. M. and Peterson P. L. from National Education Association USA, "Yet widespread belief persists that teaching is a straightforward enterprise. Using textbooks, teachers follow each page, directing students in what they should read and do. If the materials are good, and everyone behaves himself or herself, so the logic goes, students will learn. That is simply not true." Learner is not a sponge; learner is an active constructor of meaning with certain domestic and societal backgrounds. While teacher is not a robot, teacher is a human being, who is not beyond inefficiencies and inabilities this make teaching, learning and assessment a whole complex and challenging endeavour. Therefore universities are required to institutionalise globally recognized mechanism of moderation. According to Graham S. Maxwell from The University of Queensland, "Moderation is the process of teachers sharing their expectations and understandings of standards with each other in order to improve the consistency of their decisions about students' learning and achievement. Moderation helps teachers to either confirm or adjust their initial judgments. The process involves teachers sharing evidence of learning and collaborating to establish a shared understanding of what quality of evidence looks like. Universities use moderation to increase dependability of teacher judgments. Moderation is concerned with the consistency, comparability and fairness of professional judgements about the levels demonstrated by students."

Moderation is most effective when both internal (from inside the university) and external (from other universities) moderators are involved and conducted in a spirit of professional learning and quality improvement. It is important that moderation is carried out regularly and moderators have appropriate knowledge of content area, assessment practices, and policies & procedures. Professional respect and trust should be maintained during the process, moderators should have good communication skills and they should ensure participation of all stakeholders with open-mindedness for better decision making. Moderation brings together collective wisdom, resulting in greater consistency of judgment, and focused teaching. It provides greater confidence in teacher judgments and assurance that judgments are consistent with other professionals. It also develops deeper understandings about content and progressions of learning. One of the ironies of higher education is that while peer review of research is a firmly established and internationally recognised cornerstone of academic scholarship, peer review of teaching – the practice of colleagues providing feedback on one another's teaching – has little or no prominence in university policies and does not feature strongly in academic cultures and practices. Peer review can significantly improve classroom teaching in HEIs if conducted with respect and support for the development of both faculty and students. Moderation and peer review together can also keep checks on 'teaching to exam' a detrimental phenomenon wherever it exists in institutions of higher learning. According to Prof. Graham Webb from University of Melbourne, "Education should be about the contest of ideas and the means by which judgments are challenged. Alternative views are its life blood, and the ability to marshal arguments for and against propositions and positions, its stock in trade. The power of truth should continually be forged in every classroom. It should not be so easily confined to what is accepted." Our existence at this point in the history of nations demands significant endeavour in every discipline of life from social to business, political to economics, scientific to technological arenas. Higher education is the backbone of every progress. New ideas, theories, philosophies, technologies, paradigms all emerge from higher education institutions. Therefore moderation and peer review, proven global practices, can serve as valuable interventions to enhance quality of higher education in the Country.

– The writer is Associate Professor Management Sciences Head, Center of Islamic Finance COMSATS University (CU) Lahore Campus, Email: drabdussattar@cuilahore.edu.pk

Relief and Rehabilitation work in flood hit areas by INGOs

Sayed Sajid Shah Bokhari

The secretary General of UNO Antino Guterious has already, announced technical and financial assistanceto Pakistan

AFTER couples of weeks the government of Pakistan has finally decided to allow the international non-governmental organizations for the activities to be carried out in flood hit areas. The situation of flood is turning to be the worst one because of inaccessibility and numerous other problems. The people in troubles during flood lies in pain even after flood because of non-availability of basic human needs required for their survival. Especially the diseases spread in the area like Di-hoera and vomiting has further increased the level of vulnerability of affected people. The condition of children and women is extremely worst. The current flood has affected 116 districts of Pakistan amongst the total 154 districts. The homeless people had no access to food and clear drinking water despite having water from all sides. The meteorological department has guessed extra ordinary rains in the month of September which might increase the problems of flood affected people. It was a good decision by Government of Pakistan to allow 7 countries (15 INGOs) to work in Pakistan. The secretary General of UNO Antino Guterious has already, announced technical and financial assistance to Pakistan. Meanwhile shelter, food, pure drinking water, FI and NFI is required at huge amount to the communities suffering in all the four provinces. Although the quickly response from China, USA and many other countries had minimized the misery of people but due to inaccessibility and submerged water condition the flood victims still faces huge risk of survival. Although in the recent Moon Soon spells Baluchistan was affected badly, however Sindh, Punjab and KPK had also a devastated history. Total deaths occurred in the current floods could be more than 1043, injured 3000, livestock killings 793,995, Damaged Houses 670328, Roads damaged 3082, Bridges collapsed 152, Small dams breached 30 and totally displaced people of 35 Million. Meanwhile the people in troubles need attention and focus from international community and philanthropists. Still half of the population needs food items, shelter and basic human necessities along with proper health check up, Medicines and relief. This is a time where the international community will extend their support and assistance however, at the same time it is important to develop a mechanism where the needy and victims of flood may get proper Aid. In the financial matters transparency is very essential. The question arises here is that how transparency shall be ensured and how only the needy people could be benefited? Already, the floods of 2010, in Pakistan had faced worst experience. Just imagine even after 13 years we could not rehabilitate the communities suffered badly. Half of the Bridges, Communication channels and roads are still destroyed. Besides killing of thousands of people it had affected 400 million people in the four provinces at one time. The History repeats itself the first storm due to rain was actually Toofan Nooh (ASM). The rain continuous for 40 days and 40 nights. The water of rain rose for 110 days according to Bible, however, in the next 74 days it was decreasing continuously. Just imagine that deluge continues for 371 days in total. In recent period the River Yangtze and River Yellow storm in the province of Henan China was the real catastrophe which undaunted 11 cities and 5000 miles of land. It killed 1 million people and made 400,000 people homeless in 1887. This time very important is not to repeat the past bad experience we possess. The role of PDMA and NDMA needs restructuring. To build the capacity of these organization needs professionalism, expertise, commitment and visionary people. The past experience in emergencies had shown negative results and most of the organization had failed to achieve the targets due to corruption and nepotism. The natural disaster could not be controlled or stopped even after long struggle however; its suffering could be minimized with technicality and professional struggle if planned properly. Although in Emergency situation the numerous troubles of affected people had aware the world to cooperate with them but still the innumerable problems existence lies in the way. It is a time where every Pakistani should play positive role and help the people in trouble rather than benefiting themselves.

Briefs

Nation...

FROM PAGE 01

relevant authorities, he added. It was your commitment to the nation, he said, adding that their efforts would serve as a beacon of light for the people. It was the teamwork that could yield results in trying times, he opined. The prime minister announced Rs5 million relief grant for the labourers who were working there in the difficult situation and another amount of Rs1 million for the staff that was working for the restoration of gas pipelines. A committee would be set up to dispense the amount on merit. The prime minister said the floods had caused large-scale damages across the country, affecting all the provinces. About 1300 lives were lost, livestock swept away, while the economic and infrastructure damages were enormous. In this district, the prime minister said, recent floods had swept away Bibi Nani bridge, disrupting traffic from Quetta to Sukkur and leaving about 6000 people stranded on both ends. Meanwhile, Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif has urged the United Nations, UNICEF and other global agencies to support Pakistan as the climate-induced calamities have adversely affected the country's children.

In a tweet, the Prime Minister said over 400 children died in recent floods which make up one-third of the overall death toll. He expressed regret the children are exposed to a greater risk of water-borne diseases. He said a Pakistan battles one of the worst climate-induced calamities, among the most adversely affected are children. He appreciated the NHA, law enforcement jawans and other authorities who restored the damaged bridge within 8 hours, adding that they did a great national service. The prime minister said that when a catastrophe hit, the whole nation stood up and march in unison by working hard to overcome the challenges. The prime minister announced Rs3 million for those labourers working on the restoration of Bibi Nani bridge. National Highway Authority Chairman Khuram Agha also briefed the prime minister about the restoration of Bibi Nani bridge. About 106 kms road around Bibi Nani and Pinjar Bridges were largely affected. The chief minister thanked the prime minister for his visits and continuous support to the flood-affected areas of the province. He said the FC personnel had played a major role in the restoration of connectivity bridge.

Estimated...

FROM PAGE 01

number after holding consultations with relevant stakeholders. The unemployment rate stood at 6% before the recent severe floods. Official sources said that the GDP growth would be reduced from 5% to 2% for the current fiscal. The State Bank of Pakistan revealed that growth would be reduced from 4% to 4.5% to 2% for the current fiscal. The News reported. Meanwhile, Pakistan Finance Minister Miftah Ismail expects the economy to grow by more than 3.5% for the fiscal year that started in July, Bloomberg News reported on Saturday. Ismail predicted that inflation – running at a 47-year high and the second-highest in Asia – was close to its peak and would average at 15% for the year, the report said. Curbs on luxury items may remain in place for longer than currently anticipated, Ismail was quoted as saying. The minister added that he wants Pakistan to survive within its means, maintaining that the import payments should be equal to dollar inflows. He went on to say that the government can delay the purchase of luxury items while keeping in view the current situation.

Pak trounce...

FROM PAGE 01

For Pakistan, Asif Ali produced a couple of shots to see the country go through, before getting bowled out in the last over. Meanwhile, Nawaz played a crucial and quick innings that set up the momentum in Pakistan's favour. Pakistan's next match is against Afghanistan on Wednesday.



VIENNA: Ambassador of Pakistan to Austria Aftab Khokhar and his team ready to take part in Diplomatic Cup 2022. – DNA

“Russia wants to destroy Europeans’ normal life”

The pipeline, which runs to Germany, had been shut for three days for what Gazprom described as maintenance work and had been due to reopen

NEWS DESK

KYIV: Russia wants to destroy the normal life of every European citizen, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky has said. “It is trying to attack with poverty and political chaos where it cannot yet attack with missiles,” Mr Zelensky said in his regular address on Saturday. He was speaking hours after Russia said that its main gas pipeline to Europe would not reopen as planned. Europe accused Russia of using its gas supplies to blackmail Europe amid the Ukraine conflict, which Moscow denies. Energy prices have soared since Russia invaded Ukraine on 24 February

and scarce supplies could push up costs even further. There are growing fears families in the EU will be unable to afford the cost of heating this winter. Governments across the continent are contemplating what measures to take to alleviate the crisis. Germany - one of the countries worst affected by the Russian supply disruption - announced a 65bn (£56bn) package of help on Sunday. Chancellor Olaf Scholz said Russia was no longer a reliable energy partner. The stand-off with Russia has forced countries to fill their own gas supplies, with Germany's stores increasing from less than half in June to 84% full today. Europe is attempting to wean itself



off Russian energy in an effort to reduce Moscow's ability to finance the war. Russia's state energy firm Gazprom announced on Friday the Nord Stream 1 pipeline could be closed indefinitely. The pipeline, which runs to Germany, had been

shut for three days for what Gazprom described as maintenance work and had been due to reopen. The interruption of the service was “sadly no surprise”, EU Council President Charles Michel said. “Use of gas as a weapon will not change the resolve of the EU. We will accelerate our path towards energy independence. Our duty is to protect our citizens and support the freedom of Ukraine,” he tweeted in response to Gazprom's announcement. Moscow denies using energy supplies as an economic weapon against Western countries supporting Ukraine. It has blamed the sanctions for holding up routine maintenance of Nord Stream 1, but the EU says this is a pretext. Gazprom's

announcement came shortly after the G7 nations agreed to cap the price of Russian oil in support of Ukraine. The G7 (Group of Seven) consists of the UK, US, Canada, France, Germany, Italy and Japan. Their introduction of a price cap means countries that sign up to the policy will be permitted to purchase only Russian oil and petroleum products transported via sea that are sold at or below the price cap. However, Russia says it will not export to countries that participate in the cap. The gas pipeline stretches from the Russian coast near St Petersburg to north-eastern Germany and can carry up to 170 million cubic metres of gas a day.

Premier League to review VAR decisions with PGMOL

SPORTS DESK

LONDON: The Premier League is to review the controversial VAR decisions at Chelsea and Newcastle yesterday with referees' body PGMOL as a matter of priority. The move comes after decisions that denied Newcastle United and West Ham goals against Crystal Palace and Chelsea, respectively. Both teams thought they had scored, with the goals confirmed by the on-pitch referee. In each instance, the goals were disallowed after VAR. Both decisions have been heavily criticised, with many arguing that the role of VAR is not to get involved to reverse debatable calls that have already been made. BBC Sport understands the PGMOL (Professional Game Match Officials Limited)

will fully co-operate and collaborate with the Premier League's request to review the incidents, using the outcome as part of an ongoing assessment of weekly performances and the development of its match officials going forward. West Ham were denied a 90th-minute equaliser when Maxwell Cornet's flourish was ruled out after Jarrod Bowen was judged to have fouled Edouard Mendy in the build-up - a decision David Moyes called “scandalous”. “The goalkeeper comes to take it, and actually fumbles it out of his hands five or six yards, so he could never recover it,” said Moyes, who added he was “embarrassed” for VAR official Jarrod Gillett. “Then he acted as if he had a shoulder injury. I'm amazed that VAR sent the referee to see it. “It was a ridiculously bad deci-

sion. I'd question VAR as much as the referee, but the referee should have stuck to his own guns - there is no excuse for that not to be a goal, none whatsoever. “The sad thing is this is the level of the weak refereeing at the moment.” Meanwhile, Newcastle saw what manager Eddie Howe called a “perfectly good goal” chalked off against Palace. Palace defender Tyrick Mitchell turned the ball into his own net and referee Michael Salisbury ruled it out for a foul by Joe Willock on goalkeeper Vicente Guaita, though Newcastle felt the midfielder was himself pushed by Mitchell. BBC Sport pundit Alan Shearer said: “It is shocking, abysmal, disgraceful - Willock is going to head that ball, so Mitchell shoves him. Michael Salisbury gets it right, it is Lee Mason [VAR official] who

somehow bizarrely tells him 'you have made a howler'. “Lee Mason is the one to blame because it is an inexperienced referee. At this level you have got to get that decision right, he has had no help from VAR. Far too many errors, VAR is not the problem, it is the people who are running it.” World Cup referee Michael Oliver ignored the advice of VAR in a game between Nottingham Forest and Bournemouth at the City Ground, despite being asked to review a penalty decision on the pitchside monitor. Instead, Oliver opted to stick with his initial call and award Forest the spot-kick for handball. Elsewhere, Leeds boss Jesse Marsch was sent off for his reaction to two penalty decisions that did not go his side's way in a defeat by Brentford.

Bagnaia wins San Marino MotoGP for fourth straight victory

MISANO ADRIATICO: Italy's Francesco Bagnaia won the San Marino MotoGP on Sunday to claim his fourth straight premier class triumph and close in on championship leader Fabio Quartararo. Ducati rider Bagnaia pipped Enea Bastianini in a thrilling win at Misano Adriatico which moved him to within 30 points of reigning world champion Quartararo, who finished fifth. He moves into second spot in the championship standings ahead of Aleix Espargaro after the Spaniard finished a place behind Yamaha rider Quartararo. Aprilia rider Espargaro is 33 points behind Quartararo after being overtaken by the Frenchman who had started on the grid in eighth. Bagnaia's victory was all the more impressive for him being forced to start from fifth after a three-place grid penalty imposed during practice on Friday. After taking the lead on lap three Bagnaia held off first Maverick Vinales and then Bastianini - his teammate next season - to claim his sixth win from the 14 GPs raced so far this season. Bagnaia's teammate Jack Miller had started on pole for the second time in his MotoGP career but was one of five riders to crash in a chaotic opening to the race. Johann Zarco, Michele Pirro and Pol Espargaro all crashed out on the very first corner, while Miller and Marco Bezzecchi went down a lap later. Andrea Dovizioso finished his final MotoGP race in 12th place. – APP

Lithuania topples last Soviet monuments

WEB DESK

VILNIUS: Vladimir Ilyich Lenin, the revolutionary Bolshevik and founder of the Soviet Union, died in 1924 but remained omnipresent decades after his death. Carved in stone and cast in iron, he stood larger than life in the most prominent places of cities all over Lithuania. But with the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, his cult of personality was over.

As elsewhere in formerly communist countries, Lenin sculptures and those of other dictators were taken down from their pedestals and removed from sight. “After the rapid demolition of many monuments in the early 1990s and the renaming of streets and squares, the issue of monuments then fell into obscurity for a long time,” said Arunas Bubnys, the director of the Genocide and Resistance Research Center in Vilnius.

Masood Khan appeals Pakistani American community to donate

The Ambassador said many people have died in the floods. People have also lost their houses and cattle and millions of families are waiting for food, basic facilities and medicine

WASHINGTON: Pakistan's Ambassador to the United States Masood Khan has appealed the Pakistani American

community to donate generously for the flood victims in Pakistan. Addressing a large gathering organized by Pakistani American community in connection with Pakistan Day, he said the floods have caused unprecedented destruction in the country. The Ambassador said many people have died in the floods. People have also lost their houses and cattle and millions of families are waiting for food, basic facilities and medicine. He urged the community to come forward and generously help flood victims as they did in past at the time

of 2005 earthquake and flood in 2010. Earlier, the Ambassador met editorial board of Chicago Tribune and briefed them about devastation of flood in Pakistan. Later, the Chicago Tribune also published an editorial highlighting the magnitude of natural calamity in Pakistan and the need for providing immediate help to recover from this disaster. It said Pakistan is one of the world's most vulnerable nations to the devastating impact of climate change, despite the fact that it emits less than one percent of the planet's greenhouse gases. – DNA

Ali Imran, Adil Amin guide Northern, KP to victories

Northern's Ali Imran – later named player of the match – smashed 56 at a strike rate of over 164 after Central Punjab captain Qasim Akram elected to bowl

ISLAMABAD: Ali Imran's half-century guided Northern to a three-run victory over Central Punjab while Adil Amin's quick unbeaten 40 helped Khyber Pakhtunkhwa overcome Sindh by six wickets in the matches of Kingdom Valley National T20 Cup 2022-23 at Pindi Stadium, Rawalpindi on Sunday. In the first match, Tayyab Tahir's third half-century of the tournament – the most for any batter – went in vain as Central Punjab lost to Northern by three runs.

The Central Punjab opener scored 53 off 39 (six fours and a six) and stitched a crucial 82-run second wicket partnership with Abdullah Shafiq (33 off 23, five fours) in a contest curtailed to 16 overs because of rain. Northern's Ali Imran – later named player of the match – smashed 56 at a strike rate of over 164 after Central Punjab captain Qasim Akram elected to bowl. Ali struck three sixes and as many fours in his 34-ball knock before he was dis-

missed by Mohammad Ali – who returned three for 33 – in the penultimate over. He added 39 runs with opener Hasan Nawaz (24 off 23) and 47 with Mubasir Khan (18 off 17) in what was an extraordinary rearguard after Northern were reduced to 10 for two in nine balls. Sohail Tanvir made his experience count down the order spanking 20 runs off eight deliveries (two fours and a six). In the second match of the day, Adil Amin's superb unbeaten 40 off 24 helped

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa surmount 152-run target with eight balls spare. Player of the match Adil Amin smashed three four and two sixes as Khyber Pakhtunkhwa crossed the line with six wickets in hand. Adil was provided a solid platform for the run chase by openers Sahibzada Farhan (45 off 34) and Mohammad Haris (37 off 29) as they added 82 for the first wicket. Khyber Pakhtunkhwa had a scare in the 11th over when both were dismissed by leg-spinner

Zahid Mehmood. Sind's Saad Khan top-scored with 40 off 36 and wicketkeeper Sarfaraz Ahmed made 27 not out off 24 after captain Saud Shakeel elected to bat. The other notable batters in Sindh's innings were opener Saim Ayub (23 off 20), Saud (20 off 15) and Danish Aziz (21 not out off 15). Scores in brief: Match 1- Northern 146-7, 16 overs (Ali Imran 56, Hasan Nawaz 24, Sohail Tanvir 20 not out; Mohammad Ali 3-33, Ali Asfand 2-24, Aamer Yamin 2-30). Central Punjab 143-5,

16 overs (Tayyab Tahir 53, Abdullah Shafique 33; Salman Irshad 2-27). Match 2- Sindh 151-4, 20 overs (Saad Khan 40, Sarfaraz Ahmed 27 not out, Saim Ayub 23, Danish Aziz 21 not out, Saud Shakeel 20; Mohammad Imran 2-30). Khyber Pakhtunkhwa 154-4, 18.4 overs (Sahibzada Farhan 45, Adil Amin 40 not out, Mohammad Haris 37; Zahid Mehmood 2-32). Monday's fixtures: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa v Southern Punjab at 0930; Balochistan v Northern at 1345. – APP

Aid workers...

FROM PAGE 01

India may also be opened. ‘If you don't do it, scarcity will only increase and will lead to famine and lots of fatalities’. He said, not only Wagah but Kokhrapur border should also be opened. Renowned economist Kaisar Bengali said it was important and essential to import goods from India. We should remove the political hesitation as it was hugely beneficial to import from India as freight cost will be less. It's important because people who somehow withstand the floods will perish from food scarcity and die. So we have to look for issues beyond floods and prepare for food scarcity, he added.

Shehbaz...

FROM PAGE 01

they want to appoint the next army chief of their choice. He said both of them had looted the public wealth and now they want to appoint an army chief with the intention that he may protect them. While addressing a public gathering in Faisalabad, Imran Khan announced that he will hold another telethon next Sindh for raising ‘billions of funds’ once again for the flood victims. Imran Khan said that the PTI government had planted 10 billion trees to reduce the effects of climate change in Pakistan. “We have to construct more dams. Our government had constructed 10 dams.” “We need a proper water drainage system to avoid such disasters. We need to improve the water drainage system across Pakistan.” “When we came to Faisalabad for electioneering in 2018, the people of the city were facing unemployment and textile industries were shutting down. During 3.5 years of the PTI government, Faisalabad's textile industry witnessed growth and people got employment, whereas, the farmers received timely payments.” Khan said that record crop production was witnessed during the last two years of the PTI government.”

Fawad...

FROM PAGE 01

Tehreeke-Insaf by some quarters. A private-run TV channel, which the PTI leaders have often praised for its coverage of the party, reported about the “on going” backdoor contacts with the PMLN and PTI, without stating openly who had contacted either of the party. It said that Imran Khan had recently met a key person in Islamabad and that there were reports of ‘a thaw’. Retweeting the report, Fawad Chaudhry said that “backdoor talks happen only where matters are decided by the elite and not the people.” “But now in Pakistan no one has anything in their hands. People have taken the decisions in their own hands. [The PTI is] ready for talks with the government but these talks won't be held secretly. There is only one conditions for the talks that fresh elections are announced,” Fawad said.

Japanese...

FROM PAGE 01

cooperate with each other to respond to the situation. Mr. KINOSHITA expressed his sincere condolences to the grieving families who have lost precious lives and their loved ones. He said “Japan has also experienced various disasters in the past. Entire JICA family is with you in this most difficult time. JICA has decades old partnership with the government of Pakistan in disaster management. With the partnership of JICA, the Government of Pakistan prepared its first ever disaster management plan in year 2012, which currently is in the process of revision for next 10 years. JICA is committed to support relief, recovery, and rehabilitation effort of the Government of Pakistan with the motto of ‘Build Back Better.’” He also mentioned his heartfelt respect to the dedication and contribution of NDMA to overcome this catastrophe. Mr. Muhammad Muazzam Zaman, Representative of NDMA explained the situation in various areas affected by the disaster and the ongoing relief efforts by the Pakistani government, and stated that they are grateful for Japan's assistance and will make sure that the supplies will be delivered to the victims.

Briefs

Chile expected to reject overhaul of constitution

SANTIAGO: Chileans began voting Sunday on whether to adopt a new constitution that aims to shift its market-driven society into one that is more welfare-based, while enacting broad institutional reforms. Although Chileans previously voted in droves for a rewrite of the current constitution – adopted in 1980 during Augusto Pinochet's dictatorship – opinion polls suggest the new text will be rejected. Polling stations opened at 8:00 am (1200 GMT), with long lines of voters gathered in various parts of the country. Social upheaval that began in 2019 as tens of thousands of people demanded a more equitable society provided the impulse to overhaul the constitution, but several clauses of the 388-article proposed draft have proved controversial.

"I will reject it because it was a constitution that started badly," Maria Angelica Ebnes, a 66-year-old homemaker, told AFP in Santiago. "It was forced, through violence." In October 2019, protests sprung up mostly in the capital led by students initially angered by a proposed metro fare hike. Those demonstrations spiraled into wider discontent with the country's neoliberal economic system as well as growing inequality. – APP

Norway's future CO2 cemetery takes shape

OYGARDEN: On the shores of an island off Norway's North Sea coast, engineers are building a burial ground for unwanted greenhouse gas. The future terminal is to pump tonnes of liquefied carbon dioxide captured from the top of factory chimneys across Europe into cavities deep below the seabed. The project in the western municipality of Oygarden aims to prevent the gas from entering the atmosphere and contributing to global warming. It "is the world's first open-access transport and storage infrastructure, allowing any emitter that has captured his CO2 emissions to deliver that CO2 for safe handling, transport and then permanent storage," project manager Sverre Overa told AFP.

As the planet struggles to meet its climate targets, some climate experts see the technique, called carbon capture and storage, or CCS, as a means to partially reduce emissions from fossil-fuel-based industries. Norway is the biggest hydrocarbon producer in Western Europe, but it also boasts the best CO2 storage prospects on the continent, especially in its depleted North Sea oil fields. The government has financed 80 percent of the infrastructure, putting 1.7 billion euros (\$1.7 billion) on the table as part of a wider state plan to develop the technology. A cement factory and a waste-to-energy plant in the Oslo region are set to send their CO2 to the site. – APP

Germany agrees 65bn-euro inflation relief package

BERLIN: The German government on Sunday unveiled a new multi-billion euro plan to help households cope with soaring prices, and said it was eyeing windfall profits from energy companies to help fund the relief. German businesses and consumers are feeling the pain from sky-high energy prices, as Europe's biggest economy seeks to extricate itself from reliance on Russian supplies in the wake of Moscow's invasion of Ukraine. Rapid measures to prepare for the coming cold season will ensure that Germany would "get through this winter," Chancellor Olaf Scholz said at the unveiling of the 65-billion-euro (\$65-billion) package. The latest agreement, which brings total relief to almost 100 billion euros since the start of the Ukraine war, was hammered out overnight into Sunday by Germany's three-way ruling coalition of Scholz's Social Democrats, the Greens, and the liberal FDP. – APP



ISLAMABAD: Ahsan Bakhtawari, candidate for the President of Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry speaking during a function held in connection with election campaign. – DNA



China asks Pak to provide list of urgently needed supplies

MoU signed to strengthen Sino-Pak coop in buffalo business

DNA

BEIJING: Luo Zhaohui, Director of China International Development Cooperation Agency (CIDCA) announced that China will provide another 300 million yuan of relief supplies to Pakistan. He announced the message while meeting with Chairman National Disaster Management Authority, Pakistan Lieutenant General Akhtar Nawaz via video, Gwadar Pro reported on Sunday. Luo Zhaohui requested the Pakistani side to provide a list of urgently needed supplies at an early date and determine the mode of transportation so that the Chinese assistance can reach the flood victims as soon as possible. He highlighted the higher-than-mountain, deeper-than-sea, and sweeter-than-honey all-weather friendship between the two countries, recalling that during the Wenchuan Earthquake in China in 2008, Pakistan sent all its

tents in stock to the stricken area. At the onset of the flood in Pakistan, Chinese military aircrafts carried 3,000 tents for assistance. China has also raised 200 tons of onions as needed by Pakistan, which will arrive in Pakistan via the Karakoram Highway within a week. The China Meteorological Administration has also been providing real-time weather forecasts to Pakistan. Ordinary Chinese people, enterprises and local governments are also raising donations in cash and kind, manifesting the iron-clad friendship between the two countries. He said that in the next step, China is ready to share the experience in disaster relief and provide support in post-disaster reconstruction. Lieutenant General Akhtar Nawaz, Chairman National Disaster Management Authority, Pakistan, thanked Chinese leadership and Chinese people for their assistance. He briefed that the first batch of tents provided by China has reached the flood-stricken ar-

reas. He introduced in detail the latest situation and relief efforts in Pakistan, shared specific needs in the following step and expressed readiness to cooperate with China in distributing relief supplies. Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan Nong Rong, Consul General in Karachi Li Bijian, Pakistani Ambassador to China Moin ul Haque, and members from the Ministry of Commerce, the Ministry of Emergency Management, the Bureau of Meteorology and other departments of China attended the video meeting. **MoU signed to strengthen Sino-Pak coop in buffalo business** Royal Group, China, and JW Holdings, Pakistan, in the spirit to enhance cooperation in buffalo business between the two countries, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) as a side event of the 2022 China International Fair for Trade in Services (CIFTIS), China Economic Net (CEN) reported on Sunday. According to the MoU, the two companies will deepen coopera-

tion in buffalo farm building, buffalo dairy products deep-processing and other related projects. "We and JW Holdings will jointly invest USD 100 million, to develop buffalo breeding and buffalo milk and meat products processing industry in Pakistan, build a number of modern large-scale buffalo disease-free pastures, dairy processing plants and slaughterhouses, and jointly promote and sell buffalo milk and meat products produced in Pakistan to ASEAN countries and the Middle East region," said Teng Cuijin, deputy president of Royal Cell Biotechnology Corp., while taking an exclusive interview with CEN. Also, "we will deepen cooperation in research and development of buffalo germplasm, standardized feeding and deep processing of dairy products," she told the reporter, adding that Royal Group has accelerated the implementation of its cooperation project with Pakistan's buffalo business since 2021. As per Teng, the project is

based in Punjab, one of Pakistan's major agricultural provinces that enjoys a similar climate with south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, in which Royal Group is based. And that, she added, makes it more feasible when introducing quality Pakistani buffalo germplasm to China. Pakistan itself is a big animal husbandry country. "They have a quality germplasm of buffalo, but they mainly raise them in a free-range way. While China has rich experience in buffalo farming, management and intensive production, which can be shared with our Pakistani friends," Teng told CEN. With the signing of the MoU, "we will train local talents, improve local agricultural technology and promote the development of local industries in Pakistan. At the same time, the introduction of quality germplasm from Pakistan to China will promote the development and upgrading of China's dairy industry," Teng Cuijin pinpointed.



UTHAL: Pak-UAE Mobile Field Hospital arranged free medical camp at Lakhani Uthal Balochistan to provide healthcare facilities at most destructive area. First largest Medical Camp arranged in Balochistan with courtesy by Dr Adel Alshamry CEO-Zayed Giving Initiative-UAE and Pakistan Eye Society with local collaboration with Jam Muhammad Yousuf Welfare Society Uthal. – DNA

Pakistan Pavilion set up in China Int'l Fair for Trade in Services

BEIJING: A Pakistan National Pavilion being set up in the China International Fair for Trade in Services (CIFTIS) for the first time, China Economic Net (CEN) reported on Sunday. The 2022 CIFTIS witnessed the flourishing business of these Pakistani merchants. With this platform, they are logging their growing appetite for the Chinese market. "How about this necklace? It's more stunning than the former one. Yep dear all from Pakistan! Quality ones!" In front of the Pakistani jewelry stall stands a Chinese buyer who is in a video call with his wife, holding his mobile phone to shoot the gems shining

in the booth. "It's the very first time I participate in CIFTIS. This year we are looking to understand more about the Beijing market," Pakistani jeweler Aqeel Ahmed Chaudhry told CEN. He is also the founder of WINZA from Pakistani gemstone firm Cosmo Enterprises Pvt. Ltd. Shanghai, the first stop for this Pakistani brand to shine in China, nourished its business and now, next destination – "next year we plan to open our next retail store in Beijing." Muhammad Kamil Khan, CEO of Pak Link Enterprises, has been participating in the fair for two consecutive years. He told the reporter that his stall to showcase high-end Pakistani handicrafts is much bigger than last year. For the 2022 CIFTIS he applied for two stalls in different exhibition areas to exhibit quality onyx handicrafts and wood carving handicrafts to Chinese customers. Khan, who has been in the industry since 2012, got his own key to success. "Our design is specially made for Chinese customers, and they like it a lot," he said. – DNA

Trump brands Biden 'enemy of the state' at Pennsylvania rally

WILKES BARRE: Ex-president Donald Trump branded his successor Joe Biden an "enemy of the state" during a rally in Pennsylvania Saturday, as he slammed last month's FBI raid of his Florida home. Making his first public appearance since the August 8 raid, Trump said the search was a "travesty of justice" and warned it would produce "a backlash the likes of which nobody has ever seen." "There can be no more vivid example of the very real threats from American freedom than just a few weeks ago, you saw, when we witnessed one of the most shocking abuses of power by any administration in American history," Trump said. His suggestion that the Biden administration had overseen the raid goes against long-standing protocols which see the Justice Department and the FBI act independently of the White House. Trump told cheering supporters at the rally in the city of Wilkes-Barre that the "egregious abuse of the law" was going to produce "a backlash the likes of which nobody has ever seen."

Trump also hit back at Biden's speech this week in which the president said his predecessor and Republican supporters "represent an extremism that threatens the very foundations of our republic." Biden gave the "most vicious, hateful and divisive speech ever delivered by an American president," Trump told supporters "He's an enemy of the state. You want to know that," Trump said. "Republicans in the MAGA movement are not the ones trying to undermine our democracy," he continued, alluding to his Make America Great Again movement. "We are the ones trying to save our democracy, very simple. The danger to democracy comes from the radical left, not from the right," he added. – APP



Pak-China enhancing agri coop under CPEC

DNA

BEIJING: Pakistan and China are enhancing agricultural cooperation under China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) while Pakistan is ready to become food basket for China, Commercial Counsellor, Pakistan Embassy Beijing, Ghulam Qadir said. He made these remarks while addressing International Forum on Development and Investment of Modern Supply Chain of Food on sidelines of 2022 China International Fair for Trade in Services (CIFTIS) held here. Ghulam Qadir pointed out that rice export from Pakistan registered phenomenal growth in the last decade, adding, "In 2010 Pakistan's exports of rice to China were only 3000 MT but now Pakistan is exporting nearly one million MT rice annually." He expressed the confidence that Pakistan had a potential to become a food basket of China, by utilizing its fertile and vast arable land. Pakistan, he said, was looking forward to enhancing the bilateral food supply chain and agricultural cooperation by using China's latest technologies and methods. "We are looking forward to China's investment and technology transfer for agricultural modernization and better productivity in Pakistan. We will also enhance our bilateral trade by using the latest methods like e-commerce and online platforms," he added. Ghulam Qadir attended opening ceremony held on August 31 as well as participated in several activities including signing ceremony of Royal Group and JW Group, Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Roundtable Seminar on Digital Trade with relevant organizations and summit Forum on China's International Economic Cooperation "Going Global."

German humanitarian aid for Lasbela, Balochistan

DNA

KARACHI: The German Consul General, H.E. Holger Ziegeler We are shocked by the devastating Pakistan Floods. Early response is crucial!" An emergency food relief project was signed by the German Consul General, H.E. Holger Ziegeler, and the CEO of the Balochistan Rural Support Programme (BRSP), Dr. Shah Nawaz Khan, today in Karachi to provide food aid for 1,000 families for two months in Lasbela District, Balochistan. After the signing ceremony, the Consul General remarked: "This will help flood-stricken families with their immediate nutrition needs and allow them to focus on other pressing issues." Dr. Shah Nawaz added: "We appreciate the generous support of the people of Germany! The disaster is so extensive that GOP and NGOs need the help of the international community as well so that we can address rehabilitation through education, health, and clean drinking water." The funds were made available by the German Federal Foreign Office's Humanitarian Assistance on appeal from the Consulate General.

Food dept officials competent; efficient

Disappointment among the officials as most of them ignored for the top positions; Food dept officers performance better than officers from any other cadre



MUMTAZ AHMED BHATTI

ISLAMABAD: Among the four provinces, AJK and Gilgit-Baltistan have the largest and most active food department of Punjab. Food Department Punjab not only procures most of the wheat but also helps in meeting the requirement of wheat in Punjab as well as other provinces, AJK and GB if required. As per rules and regulations,

Deputy Directors and District Food Controllers must be appointed thirty percent from Administration and seventy percent from Food Department. But among the deputy directors who are appointed at present, fifty percent are appointed from administration and fifty percent from food department. 18 grade officers should be posted on the post of Deputy Directors, but all PCS 17 grade officers were posted on eighteen grade posts while they should have been posted on DFCs posts. No one noticed this serious violation of rules and regulations. Lahore, Rawalpindi, Gujranwala, Faisalabad and Bahawalpur are the main stations of the food department, while junior grade PCS officers who have no experience in the food department have been posted at the same stations.

Experienced and senior officers of Food Department were posted in Sahiwal, Sargodha, DG Khan and Multan. An impression has been spread that Food Department officers are corrupt and incompetent and PCS officers are honest and competent. This perception is completely wrong and based on assumptions. There is no mechanism to evaluate the performance of PCS and Food Department officers. According to my opinion the performance of food department and PCS officers is comparable, the performance of food department officers will be better because food department officers spend a long time in food department, working in junior posts and getting promoted to DFCs and reach the post of Deputy Directors while PCS officers are posted in the Food Department

for short time. Influential officers get postings at favorite stations and stay at those stations for a long time. Procurement of wheat, availability and quality of flour, prevention of illegal movement of wheat and flour, Issuing wheat to flour mills and ensuring milling of wheat. Regular sampling of flour from flour mills and markets. Is it possible that rats have eaten millions of bags of wheat from the government warehouses of Sindh? Is it possible to stop the smuggling of wheat and flour? How difficult is it to run flour mills under the rules? How political influence is involved in wheat quota, postings and transfers. Food departments are very important. Their responsibilities are as follows, Procurement of wheat for issuance to the mills. To act as

government agent to provide a wheat purchase window to the farmers at support price. Ensure Food Security in wheat and wheat products. Transportation from surplus to deficit regions. Protection of wheat from pest and other hazards. Targeted Food Support Programmes and Ramzan/Christmas Packages. Undertaking all activity related to export of wheat up to supply at port. Co-ordination with provinces and International Agencies for matters relating to wheat. When the purchased wheat is sent from the open wheat center to other cities, are the bags refilled? If wheat bags are refilled, it is illegal. few politicians were spreading disinformation about Food Department Sindh. this disinformation was spread that millions of bags of wheat were eaten by mice from

wheat warehouses of Sindh. I had written several times that this is not possible. And then I got the details and visited some warehouses and came to the conclusion that these were completely false reports and had nothing to do with reality. But the Sindh Food Department was much maligned. People of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan always complain about quality, availability, rate of flour. It is the responsibility of the administration to ensure the availability of flour at the rates fixed by the government. The availability and quality of flour is the responsibility of the Food Department. Availability of different types of flour is not only illegal but also playing with people's health. Maximum complaints of flour and wheat smuggling are also received from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and

Balochistan. How did the food department perform in flood-affected areas? What are the facts, how much is the truth in people's complaints, a detailed investigative report will be published soon. The food department of Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) often complains that wheat is not supplied as per their requirement. The people of Azad Kashmir are demanding that they should also be given subsidized flour like the people of Gilgit-Baltistan. According to the WHO report, Kashmiri women suffer from mineral deficiency, that's why minerals are mixed during the grinding of wheat in all the flour mills of AJK. If wheat is not issued to AJK as required, they have to use expensive and without minerals flour from Punjab flour mills which is harmful to their health.

Briefs

Navy deploys
hovercrafts,
helicopters
in flood areas

KARACHI: The Pakistan Navy on Sunday deployed hovercrafts and helicopters in flood affected areas to expedite evacuation process. The relief and rescue operations continued in different flood affected areas of Sindh, Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa including Mirpur Khas, Sukkur, Sanghar, Qambar Shahdadkot Sajawal, Rajanpur, Paharpur and Dera Ismail Khan, a Pakistan Navy news release said. Pakistan Navy had deployed two hovercrafts to evacuate stranded people in flood water at Dadu District. These hovercrafts have evacuated hundreds of trapped people from Goth Ahmed Khan Chandio in Khairpur Nathan Shah to high point safe areas. These hovercrafts are capable to be operated on water, land and muddy areas. PN utilizes them for defence of Creeks Areas. Currently, stationing of hovercrafts to evacuate standard people will speed up the rescue operation at far flung and remote areas where evacuation through small boats is difficult. — APP

Four boys
arrested for
laughing at
Atta Tarer

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Islamabad Police arrested four youths for laughing at the ruling Nawaz League's leader Atta Tarer. According to the details, in a surprising move, Islamabad Police have kept four youths in lockup for more than 24 hours without registering any case against them on the charge that they had laughed at a Pakistan Muslim League Nawaz (PML-N) leader. Four youths identified as Zain, Taimur, Salman, and Qadeer have been imprisoned in Kohsar Police Station on the order of PML-N Atta Ullah Tarer. The SHO of Kohsar Police Station quoting Atta Tara said the youths allegedly stair and laugh at him, and called him a thief in a restaurant.

Rain, storms
likely in
upper parts
of country

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD) has forecast rain-wind/thundershower in upper Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Kashmir, upper Punjab and Gilgit Baltistan during the next 24 hours. Isolated heavy falls may occur in Kashmir and upper Khyber Pakhtunkhwa during the period. Hot and humid weather is likely to prevail elsewhere in the country. According to the synoptic situation, moist currents from the Arabian sea were penetrating central and upper parts of the country. During the last 24 hours, hot and humid weather prevailed over most parts of the country. — APP



ISLAMABAD: The French government, on the instructions of the French President Emmanuel Macron has sent a special plane loaded with relief goods and hi-tech equipment. A team of doctors and technical experts has also arrived. The French ambassador to Pakistan Nicolas Galey also accompanied the doctors and other officials. Health Minister Abdul Qadir Patel received the relief goods. France happens to be the first and only European country so far that has extended relief support to Pakistan. The EU had extended EUR 1.8 million in this regard. — DNA

Imports of onions, tomatoes
start from Afghanistan

The Customs officials are deployed day and night for the clearance of onion and tomato vehicles at the Torkham border, FPCCI Convener for Pakistan-Afghanistan and Central Asian States Shahid Khan Shinwari when contacted

BUREAU REPORT

PESHAWAR: Good news for poor citizens as the imports of onions and tomatoes from Afghanistan through Torkham are continuing with 222 trucks of tomatoes crossing the Pak-Afghan border, customs officials told APP when contacted. The customs official who wished not to be named, confirmed that in the last 4 days, 6,000 metric tons of tomatoes were imported in 222 trucks and 9,000 metric tons of onions in 308 trucks were also imported. It is worth mentioning here that the federal government recently waived duty on onion and tomato imports from Afghanistan and

Iran in order to ensure cheap vegetables to the people of Pakistan who already suffered and were affected because of the flood. The Customs officials are deployed day and night for the clearance of onion and tomato vehicles at the Torkham border, FPCCI Convener for Pakistan-Afghanistan and Central Asian States Shahid Khan Shinwari when contacted, said. He said due to duty-free imports from Afghanistan, prices of onions and tomatoes are decreasing in the country. He said the government decision of keeping the border open on 24/7 would further increase trade activities between two neighboring countries. Shinwari said no other country can give such level of concessions which have been given by Pakistan to Af-

ghanistan for transit trade. He assured that all the difficulties faced by the Afghan brothers will be resolved with mutual consultations. He said there is a problem relating to unavailability of trackers. He said the Pakistan government must consider credentials of other tracking companies as well to ensure healthy competition. He said cooperation will continue from the Pakistan side for improving the pace of clearance of vehicles. Steps have been taken to facilitate trade and economic activities along the Pakistan-Afghanistan border at Torkham and Pakistani authorities have finalized all arrangements to keep the border crossing open round-the-clock. I think enhanced business between the two coun-

tries will ultimately lead to a solution to end political differences between the two immediate neighbors. The option of keeping the border open will help achieve the \$6 billion bilateral trade volume annually, Shahid Khan said. He said keeping the crossing open will ensure multiple trade activities between the two neighbors, provided the governments sort out the mechanism to ease trade barriers and bureaucratic formalities for a smooth release of goods without unnecessary delay. He said, due to poor supply from Afghanistan fruit, vegetable prices went up as fruits and vegetables from Afghanistan are in short supply, their prices have gone up here and in other parts of Pakistan.

Major flood-hit
road setup
restored

ISLAMABAD: Under directives of Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif, rehabilitation work on a number of flood-damaged highways, roads and links roads had been completed whereas on the remaining sections, the restoration work was continuing on an emergency basis. Minister for Communication and Chairman National Highway Authority (NHA) are ensuring the early restoration of the damaged road infrastructure in different parts of the country. Prime minister is personally supervising the roads rehabilitation work and receiving updated reports on daily basis, PM Office Media Wing said in a press release. During last fortnight, different damaged roads in the four provinces and Gilgit Baltistan had been restored. — APP

2 US Congress members
on solidarity visit

ISLAMABAD: Two US Congress members, Sheila Jackson and Tom Swazi, are visiting flood-ravaged Pakistan starting Sunday to show solidarity with the country. US Congress members Sheila Jackson Lee and Tom Swazi left the US on Saturday,

but there was no official announcement from either the US Embassy or the Foreign Office with officials citing "security reasons". This has been the practice in the past as well and is not unusual. Sheila Jackson is the chair of the Pakistan Caucus. Another US official arriving on Sept 7, for a three-day visit, is Derek Chollet, the counsellor of the US Department of State, where he serves at the rank of under secretary as a senior policy adviser to the secretary of state on a wide range of issues and conducts special diplomatic assignments as directed by the secretary. While the flood-hit areas the US Congress members will visit have not been revealed, media understands that a visit to Sindh is on the cards, as well as meetings with senior political leaders and govt officials in Islamabad. Before leaving the US, Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee also wrote to Biden, requesting immediate provision of assistance including material, equipment, and technical assistance to support efforts to bring relief to the hardest-hit areas of Pakistan. — DNA

Climate justice
World human rights bodies
urged to support Bilawal call

SAIFULLAH

KARACHI/ISLAMABAD: Surendar Valasai Special Assistant to Sindh Chief Minister for Human Rights has urged the international Human Rights organizations to echo the demand of Pakistani Foreign Minister for climate justice and ensure that the impact and redressal of climatic disasters are justifiably shared by the global community. In a statement issued here, the PPP MPA from Tharparker said that the global climate emergency is having devastating effects on human rights as well. Addressing climate change requires a crucial role of international human rights organizations and

the world needs for urgent action to ensure a safe climate for humanity on the planet. PPP leader pointed out that Pakistan is among the world's top 10 nations most affected by climate change. Global warming is caused by uncontrolled and unabated greenhouse gases emissions. Carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions — mostly generated by industrialized nations — are taking a toll in poor countries. "Countries that are responsible for greenhouse gases are the least vulnerable to climate change. However, those countries which are emitting the least amount of greenhouse gases are the most vulnerable to the disastrous effects of climate change. Pakistan is one of them; others include Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Haiti, Kenya, Malawi and Niger.

NASA unsure rocket launch
possible this month

Artemis 1 space mission hopes to test SLS as well as the unmanned Orion capsule that sits atop, in preparation for future Moon-bound journeys with humans aboard

KENNEDY SPACE CENTER: After scraping a second attempt to get its new 30-story lunar rocket off the ground due to a fuel leak, NASA officials said Saturday it may not be possible to try again this month. The current launch window for NASA's Artemis 1 mission to the Moon ends Tuesday and is "definitely off the table," said Jim Free, associate administrator for Exploration Systems Development, at a press conference Saturday. The next possible launch window is September 19 to October 4, and failing that, October 17 to 31, NASA said. The ability to take off during those windows "will really depend on the options that the team comes back with likely on Monday or early Tuesday morning," said Free. Millions around the globe tuned in to live coverage and crowds gathered on beaches in Florida on Saturday hoping to witness the historic blastoff of the Space Launch System (SLS). But a leak near the base of the rocket was found as ultra-cold liquid hydrogen was being pumped in, forcing a halt. The Artemis 1 space mission hopes to test the SLS as well as the unmanned Orion capsule that sits atop, in preparation for future Moon-bound journeys with humans aboard. The first launch attempt on Monday had

also been halted after engineers detected a fuel leak and a sensor showed that one of the rocket's four main engines was too hot. "This is a whole new vehicle, a whole new technology, a whole new purpose of going back to the moon and preparation to go to Mars," said NASA administrator Bill Nelson. "Yes, it's hard." Artemis mission manager Mike Sarafin described the hydrogen leak as "large," and said one of their "leading suspects" was a seal on a fueling tube. Engineering teams believe they will have to replace the seal, either directly on the launch pad or after taking the rocket back to its assembly building a few miles away. It was "too early" to entirely rule out a launch before the end of September, said Sarafin, who promised a status update next week. NASA has previously said that the early October period would be complicated to coordinate because a crew of astronauts will be using the Kennedy Space Center for a rocket launch to the International Space Station. In addition to the leak, another problem facing the SLS is its emergency self-destruct system. Designed to explode in case the rocket deviates off course, the system will likely need to be reexamined before the next launch, which can only be done in assembly building. — APP

SEPTEMBER 2022

Pakistan's Premier News &
Diplomatic Affairs Magazine

Find us on:
www.centreline.com.pk
www.dnanews.com.pl
www.islamabadpost.com.pk

@Postislamabad/ @Editordnanews

A sister concern of
Daily
Islamabad POST

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

