



Islamabad POST

Saturday, October 29, 2022

Pakistan's Credible Daily Newspaper

Price Rs. 25

Elon Musk takeover of Twitter sparks worries and cheers

Detailed News On Page-08

Nancy Pelosi's husband violently assaulted: Sources

Detailed News On Page-08



CM says steps underway for people welfare

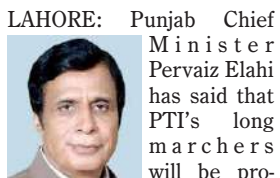
Detailed News On Page-08



Briefs

CM Punjab promises 'foolproof security'

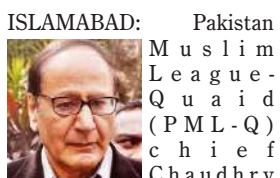
DNA



LAHORE: Punjab Chief Minister Pervaiz Elahi has said that PTI's long marchers will be provided "foolproof security" and the entire route of the protest will be monitored with the help of cameras. In a tweet, he added that a security plan had been prepared for the long march. Earlier this week, Punjab Chief Minister Chaudhry Pervaiz Elahi threw his ring in the while extending his support for Imran Khan's long march said that it will wash away imported govt. In a message posted on social media site twitter, Elahi said that even before the long march has started, the federal government has been quivering in its boots out of fear. Calling Imran a ray of hope for the people of Pakistan, he announced his backing for the long march.

CM Elahi responsible for Punjab security

DNA



ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Muslim League-Q u a i d (P M L - Q) chief Chaudhry Shujaat Hussain on Thursday said that it is the responsibility of Chaudhry Pervaiz Elahi to take care of the life and property of the people of Punjab. Chaudhry Shujaat Hussain in his statement said that Chaudhry Pervaiz Elahi is first a Pakistani and then the Chief Minister of Punjab. He said that as the Punjab Chief Minister, it is responsibility of Pervaiz Elahi to maintain the law and order situation in the province. He said that Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) long march should be peaceful without creating any unrest and added that Pervaiz Elahi is responsible for safety of life and property of people of Punjab.

Holiday Notice

The offices of daily Islamabad POST shall remain closed on Saturday on account of weekly off therefore there will be no newspaper on Sunday.
- Editor

Khan starts Azadi March

'No one can stop flood of people'

Imran Khan says joint press conference by ISI chief and DG ISPR was more "political than Sheikh Rasheed"; staying silent only for the country



SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

LAHORE: PTI Chairman Imran Khan on Friday started his most anticipated "Haqeeqi Azaadi March" from Lahore's Liberty Chowk. PTI chief Imran Khan told the "handlers" of the incumbent government that they were facing a "flood of people" against which none could stand. "Their handlers, listen carefully. This is a flood of people and none can stand against it," he said while addressing the protesters as his march reached Ichhra in Lahore. "This nation has decided that it is better to die than be slaves to these robbers," he added in an obvious reference to

Continued on Page 06

MPA announces decision to leave PTI

ABID RAZA

LAHORE: With PTI's long march yet to start and day after DGS ISI and ISPR's press conference, the party's Punjab Assembly lawmaker Khurram Sohail Khan Laghari announced on Thursday that he will be leaving the Imran Khan-led party. Speaking on Friday, Laghari claimed that five more MPAs have decided to leave the PTI. We were shown "something else" but "something else" was seen practically, said the MPA. "It is possible that we might also resign from the assembly," said Laghari. He added that they are likely to resign from the Punjab Assembly in the next

Continued on Page 06

Tactics of threatening have failed: Sanaullah

Interior Minister rejects accusations made by Swati

SHUJAAT HAMZA

ISLAMABAD: After PTI senior leader and Senator Azam Swati censured state institutions over his arrest, Interior Minister Rana Sanaullah criticised him for "defaming" them. The PTI leader, earlier, had alleged to have been subjected to custodial torture and stripping by two military officials. The senator's accusations were categorically rejected by the interior minister who said that the FIA did not hand him over to any other institutions and denied allegations of torture, alleging Swati and PTI of instigating mischief. "Imrani fitna's characters have adopted the agenda of chaos to create riots and anarchy in the country," he told journalists during a press conference, adding that they have been targeting the officers of the institutions for the past few days. He added that the PTI chief tried to threaten the government and made repeated speeches, but when all tactics failed, he finally resorted to holding a long march. "Imran Khan wants to threaten [the government and institutions], but he has failed in this regard," he said. Sanaullah said if the promises that Khan has made to the SC are true, then the PTI has the right to hold the long march. "Everyone has the right to hold a protest, but the Red Zone is our red line." "He has committed to not enter the red



zone," Sanaullah said. Commenting on investigations in the Arshad Sharif killing case, the interior minister shared that the probe team from Pakistan will reach Kenya today. Commenting on the PTI leader's custody by the agency, he said: "Azam Swati was in FIA's custody. He was neither handed over to anyone else nor did anyone ask [for him to be handed over]. The case against him was filed by the FIA over a highly-objectionable tweet." "It is important to put facts before the nation, as they lie brazenly," the minister said. Sanaullah, flanked by FIA's Deputy Director of Cybercrimes wing Ayaz Khan, added that the accusations are being made without any inquiry and without any application. "The servant said that Azam Swati was not at home. When agency entered Azam Swati's house, he was found hiding inside a drain and was laying on a mattress," Khan said.



ISLAMABAD: David Blome, Ambassador of the United States calls on Finance Minister Ishaq Dar. DNA

PM aide resigns, demands fresh elections



SAIFULLAH

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's focal person on digital media Ahmad Jawad resigned from his post on Friday. Ahmad Jawad in his resignation to the prime minister said, "Thank you for your honor that you chose me as your focal person, but looking at your compulsions, I can guess that you hold the highest post but all the decisions of the government come from three different places. I appreciate your capabilities but in view of your compulsions, I am tendering my resignation." He added, "In a country where the blood is shed unjustly, and the facts never come to the fore. In a country where the ruler is helpless whether it is Imran Khan or you. In a country where the truth means death, and the lie is a key to success. In a country where the narrative of lies is the way to progress, and its buyers are the respected citizens. In a country where slogans like 'respect the vote' are limited to the acquisition of power only." "The people of such a country, especially the youth, will have to decide what is true and what is false. The hour of decision has come. Listen to your conscience. I invested my precious time and money in search of the truth, and I did my duty for the sake of the country."

Pakistan trying to restore relations with the US: PM

Says Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman will visit Pakistan

STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Friday said that the Pakistani government is trying to restore its relations with the United States as he questioned his predecessor's move to damage relations with Washington. PM Shehbaz's comments came while addressing the passing out parade ceremony of the 48th Specialised Training Programme of the Police Service of Pakistan at the National Police Academy. At the start of his speech, the premier appreciated the role played by the police in ending terrorism, saying that their sacrifices will not go in vain. "The daughters of this nation are moving forward in every field and playing an important part in Pakistan's development," he stated. PM Shehbaz said that Pakistan has sons and daughters who fight for the nation by risking their lives. He said that they should be trained with modern technology. He called the Counter-Terrorism Department and Punjab

Continued on Page 06

PM thanks US over additional \$30 mln aid

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Friday expressed gratitude to the United States for additional \$30 million flood relief assistance for the flood-affected people of Pakistan. "Grateful to U.S. govt for the announcement of an additional \$30 million in humanitarian assistance for flood victims," he said in a tweet. He mentioned that with the onset of winter, the challenges of food, health and shelter still persisted. Shehbaz Sharif urged the international community to show urgency in contributing to the

Continued on Page 06

Swati names military officials behind 'torture'

KHAYAM ABBASI

ISLAMABAD: PTI leader Azam Swati on Friday held two military officials responsible for his custodial torture and called for them to be removed from their posts. Swati, who was arrested earlier this month in a case registered against him over a controversial tweet thought to be against the armed forces, made the remarks at a press conference in Islamabad ahead of the PTI's long march. Since his arrest, Swati has alleged he was stripped and tortured. Last week, PTI Chairman Imran Khan decried Swati's "custodial torture" in a press conference alongside him. The Senate Stand-

ing Committee on Human Rights also condemned it. During his presser today, the PTI leader alleged "Major General Faisal" and "Sector Commander Fahim" were the "two culprits" behind his abuse and custodial torture. He did not reveal their full names in his presser. He revealed the names with the "expectation" from the nation, courts, president and parliament members that a proper investigation would be conducted and the officials would be "removed from their positions." Swati referred to "a few individuals of the ISI (Inter-Services Intelligence)" as the "masters of the black and white of this country, as no institution is safe from the blackmailing of those people."

Inside...

Czech embassy, Serena Hotels host Fusion Cello Concert
- Page 02

PM to address key issues of business community: Abbasi
- Page 03

ADP determined to help Pakistan in cash transfer
- Page 04

Global power shift as regionalism spurs rise of Asia
- Page 05

USAID imparts leadership training to varsity deans
- Page 06

N. Korea fires missiles ahead of US-Korea drills
- Page 07

Estimated USD 16.3 bn needed more for rehabilitation: UNDP
- Page 08

Pakistan rejects India's baseless propaganda

Pakistan's role in the global fight against terrorism is acknowledged by the international community despite India's utmost efforts to cast aspersions on Pakistan's intent and efforts

STAFF REPORT / DNA

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan categorically rejects India's baseless propaganda directed against Pakistan at the meeting of UN Counter Terrorism Committee (CTC), hosted in Mumbai today. It is regrettable that India chose to misuse an important Committee of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) to mislead the international community about Pakistan's role in countering global terrorism. India's shenanigans undermine the purposes and mandate of the Committee and are reprehensible. Contrary to Indian claims, it is India that has remained non-cooperative with Pakistan and has deliberately held back judicial proceedings of the Mumbai attack case. The Indian government should be held accountable for attempting to unjustifiably prolong the legal proceedings of the Mumbai case by employing a range of dilatory tactics. India's malevolent intervention in today's CTC meeting in Mumbai yet again corroborates Pakistan's long-standing concerns that India is only interested in politicizing international counter terrorism forums to malign Pakistan. India must remember that Mumbai attacks case is in the court of law and rather than relying on anyone's whims or wishes, it would require irrefutable and legally tenable evidence for efficient disposal. Pakistan's role in the global fight against terrorism is acknowledged by the international community despite India's utmost efforts to cast aspersions on Pakistan's intent and efforts. India, conversely, has been

Pak fully capable of defending itself: FO

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Foreign Office Spokesperson Asim Iftikhar says Pakistan has the capability to defend itself against any aggression or ill designed moves. He said this while responding to a question regarding irresponsible remarks by Indian Defence Minister at his weekly news briefing in Islamabad on Friday. The Spokesperson said New Delhi needs to allow the people of Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir to exercise their free will in accordance with UN Security Council resolutions to resolve this dispute with international legitimacy. Answering another question about Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's upcoming visit to China, Asim Iftikhar said this is a very significant visit as Pakistan Prime Minister will be amongst the first world leaders, who will be visiting China after

Continued on Page 06

involved in supporting terrorism against Pakistan using its own soil and territories of other countries. Indian spy Kulbhushan Jadhav, caught red-handed in Pakistan is a living proof of Indian state involvement in sabotage and terror activities inside Pakistan. Indian collaboration with TTP and other international terrorist organizations are also well known. India's hypocrisy is also evident from its state-sponsored terrorism in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu & Kashmir (IIOJK), where 900,000 Indian security personnel continue to terrorize, torture and torment innocent Kashmiris with impunity. At the same time, the world is well aware of the "saffron terror" orchestrated and unleashed by the BJP-RSS zealots against Muslims and other minorities in India. Pakistan's recent delisting by FATF is a clear recognition of its credible, robust and irreversible counter financing of terrorism actions. Quite predictably, having failed in its attempts to thwart Pakistan's success at FATF, India is now attempting to use other international forums to achieve its vile designs against Pakistan, and misleading international community. The politicization of FATF by India and its irresponsible behaviour at the forum are widely known at international level. Pakistan calls upon the international community to hold India accountable for its patronage of terrorist entities and for supporting, financing and abetting terrorism in neighbouring countries. More importantly, rather than leveling baseless allegations against Pakistan,

Continued on Page 06

Imran should be answerable to institutions

ISLAMABAD: Jamiat Ulama-e-Islam-Fazl (JUI-F) Secretary General Senator Maulana Abdul Ghafoor Haideri Friday said Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chief Imran Khan should be answerable to the institutions.

He, in a statement, said Imran Khan was a man of double standard as his private and public personas of life differ with each other.

"He bows down in the feet in solitude while tries to grab the collar in public," he added.

Haideri said the PTI chief used to say that the numbers had been blocked, if the numbers were blocked, then how the meetings could take place.

He said Imran Khan was playing dubious role in the important appointment and murder of senior journalist Arshad Sharif.

He said conspiracy narratives had a very short lifespan as another lie was being fabricated by the PTI leadership about the 'riot march'.

"The respect of every institution is in that it should work within its constitutional limits," he said adding the institutions should be respected because it makes them stronger. **APP**

Rupee extends losses against dollar

ISLAMABAD: Pakistani Rupee on Friday depreciated by 97 paise against the US dollar in the interbank trading to close at Rs 222.46 against the previous day's closing of Rs 221.49.

According to the Forex Association of Pakistan (FAP), the buying and selling rates of US dollar in the open market were recorded at Rs 225.5 and Rs 227.5 respectively.

The price of Euro against Rupee decreased by Rs 1.70 to close at Rs 221.19 against the previous close of Rs 222.89.

The Japanese Yen remained unchanged to close at Rs1.51, whereas a decrease 70 paise was witnessed in the exchange rate of the British Pound, which was traded at Rs 256.15 as compared to its last day's closing of Rs 256.85. **APP**

BISP receives high performance award from CIRDAP Bangladesh

ISLAMABAD: The Center on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP), Bangladesh has awarded "Azizul Haq Rural Development Award" to the Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) on Friday in recognition of its outstanding performance in terms of rural development and poverty reduction.

The CIRDAP has acknowledged BISP's contributions to promoting multi-disciplinary programme activities contributing in integrated rural development and poverty reduction to improve the livelihood of rural communities of Pakistan.

Azizul Haq Rural Development Award has been awarded to the BISP after approval of the Governing Council of the Center for Rural Development for Asia Pacific, Bangladesh. **APP**

Czech embassy, Serena Hotels host Fusion Cello Concert

The cello concert was dedicated to raise funds for the rehabilitation of the displaced flood affectees



DNA

ISLAMABAD: Serena Hotels and the Embassy of the Czech Republic organised an evening of classical collaboration where world renowned violoncellist duo Jiri Barta and his son Josef Barta along with students from the Musicology department of National College of Arts performed extraordinary

fusion pieces along with classics such as Bach. While celebrating the National Day of the Czech Republic, the cello concert was dedicated to raise funds for the rehabilitation of the displaced flood affectees. The event was well attended by people from all walks of life, including the members of diplomatic missions, corporate sector, and business community, where an ensemble of musicians

from the Musicology department of the National College of Arts joined the Barta duo to create an eclectic blend of unique Pakistani and Western fusion playing traditional local melodies and rhythms, that enthralled the audience. Aziz Boolani, CEO Serena Hotels, appreciated the generous support of the Ambassador of the Czech Republic to Pakistan, H.E. Tomas Smetanka in joining hands with



Serena Hotels in raising funds for the relief and rehabilitation of the flood affectees. He also thanked the audience for their support and generosity in raising funds for this noble cause. Serena Hotels as a responsible Corporate citizen has been active in supporting the flood affectees. The Company is matching the funds donated by the Hotel Guests and Associates, in addition to various fundraising events

organised in collaboration with other diplomatic missions.. The relief goods, i.e., food supplies, and tents, are being distributed directly as well as through international NGOs under the banner of "Jazba-e-Khidmat - In the Spirit of Compassion" initiative. It was an evening dedicated to building close cultural ties while creating an opportunity to generate funds for the relief efforts.

Imran, others to be probed in Arshad's case: Minister

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister Mian Javed Latif on Friday said PTI chief Imran Khan and other party leaders, including Fawad Chaudhry will also be investigated in the killing case of renowned journalist Arshad Sharif. Addressing a press conference here, he said "Imran Khan in the lust of power was jeopardizing the country's economy, values and traditions of the society. Even he [Imran] did not prevent himself from uttering words against the state institutions. "I am very saddened over the killing of Arshad Sharif which was no doubt a big loss to his family," he said while extending condolences to the bereaved family. He said all those culprits who facilitated and plotted the murder of Arshad Sharif should be brought to justice. He appreciated the commitment of Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) to uphold the constitutions during the press briefing on the other day. Mian Javed Latif urged the prime minister to approve the inquiry into Arshad Sharif's murder in the Cabinet meeting to initiate free fair and transparent investigation into the case. He said criticism was the right of everyone, but dragging youth and inciting students of colleges and universities for personal motives was against the moralities. "We have never seen before that youth was indoctrinated against national institutions and leaders," remarked Javed Latif. He blamed Imran Khan for "inciting people in the name of the so-called revolution," adding that his only "purpose was to ruin the economy, violate the constitution, and weaken the state by bringing revolt in the institutions and ridiculing them." He said his party strongly believed in the supremacy of law and the constitution. **APP**

WAPDA issues water position in rivers, barrages, dams

PESHAWAR: Water & Power Development Authority (WAPDA) has issued the position of the river inflows and outflows at Tarbela, Mangla, and Chashma along with the reservoirs level and the barrages for today (Friday). According to a spokesman of the authority, the inflows and outflows of the Indus River at Tarbela were

25000 cusecs and 52000 cusecs, Kabul at Nowshera (Inflows 9200 cusecs and Outflows 9200 cusecs), Khairabad Bridge (Inflows 15600 cusecs and Outflow 15600), Jhelum at Mangla (Inflows 9500 cusecs and Outflows 26000 cusecs), Chenab at Marala (Inflows 10900 cusecs and Outflows 3200 cusecs) respectively. Jinnah (Inflows 52500

cusecs and Outflows 46500 cusecs), Chashma (Inflows: 42700 cusecs and Outflows 44000 cusecs), Taunsa (Inflows 45400 cusecs and Outflows 40500 cusecs), Guddu (Inflows 46500 cusecs and Outflows 38200 cusecs), Sukkur (Inflows 39300 cusecs and Outflows 20000 cusecs) Kotri (Inflows 51000 cusecs and Outflows 27300 cusecs) Trim-

mu (Inflows 16200 cusecs and Outflow 5700 cusecs) and Panjnad (Inflows 14100 cusecs and Outflows 3100 cusecs) respectively. Similarly, in Tarbela, whose minimum operating level of 1398 feet was operating at 1533.16 feet, the Maximum water conservation level of the dam is 1550 feet, and live storage today is 4.879 million acre-feet (MAF).



ISLAMABAD: Yezhan Kistafin, Ambassador of Kazakh stand to Pakistan called on Adviser to Prime Minister for Political, public Affairs and national Heritage & Cultural Engr Amir Muqam. **DNA**

Floods: Sherry slams lack of cluster approach

PDNA report underscored trillions of rupees cumulative damages, losses and requirements to ensure rehabilitation of the 33 million flood affected people

ISLAMABAD: on Friday said "there are resources for the developed nations to go on wars but not for saving human lives as their response is slow in the case of Pakistan and other natural calamity-stricken nations."

The federal minister said this while briefing the media on the findings of the PDNA Report, launched earlier at the Planning Ministry, which was a finalised and important document based on the joint surveys conducted by the federal government with the provinces.

Meanwhile, Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) report underscored trillions

of rupees cumulative damages, losses and requirements to ensure rehabilitation of the 33 million flood affected people. Senator Rehman said, "the federal government will also launch the rehabilitation plan in 4-5 days that will cover the key aspects of revival efforts to ensure sustainable relocation of the affected communities." The minister added that some 90 districts remained calamity-hit and it was revealed after the joint survey results which were partnered by World Bank, other donor agencies and development partners. The provinces also gave

their input and recommendations in the PDNA, she added. She said the fact sheet clearly stated that one out of seven Pakistanis were affected

due to the recent monster floods whereas four million children were out of health services. "We are going to enter the recovery and rehabilitation

phase, and as per the PDNA the combined total losses accounted of Rs 3.3 trillion, damages of Rs3.2 trillion and needs of Rs 3.4 trillion. All ministries and provinces worked with the development partners to collate the date and compile these figures." She said further planning would have to be made keeping in view the risk of future hazards as 5.5 million in households having children below five not immunised, 1.5 million households having no water sanitation and hygiene (WASH) facilities, and 2.8 million households did not get post-natal treatment.



Solo art show attracts art lovers

ISLAMABAD: A solo art show titled "Dastan Kisa Kahani" by Hassnain Awais is continued to attract art lovers at Satrang Gallery with the abstract imagery that visualizes the letters, documents and memories of the artist.

Created with mixed medium in print making, the display explores the practice of preserving paper records in order to create archives that hold layers of memories within them. In an increasingly digital era this method of recording history and culture is in danger of growing outdated.

Hassnain creates beautiful and intricate works, masterfully representing the delicacy of historical archives. Watercolor washes, oil paints, digital print, kitchen lithography and color pencils bring to life Dastans, or life lessons told through stories. Societal elements take the form of vivid sea and land creatures, and together with floral imagery and rich swathes of color, they create remarkable poetic depictions, says Zahra Khan Curator of the show in a statement.

She said that Satrang Gallery is dedicated to supporting and promoting the artists and artisans of Pakistan through various group and solo shows providing them a platform to display their products.

Hassnain Awais is an artist born and raised in Lahore, he graduated with the degree in fine arts, majored in printmaking. He has exhibited his work in various galleries nationally and also took part in international exhibitions. **APP**

ATC extends interim bail of Asad Umar, Ali Nawaz

ISLAMABAD: An Anti Terrorism Court (ATC) Friday extended the pre-arrest bail of PTI's leaders including Asad Umar and Ali Nawaz Awan in FIR pertaining under section 144 and interfering into the official affairs. ATC Judge Raja Jawad Abbas Hassan heard the pre-arrest bail petition of PTI leaders. **APP**

KMU constitutes anti-drug, tobacco body

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

PESHAWAR: Vice Chancellor Khyber Medical University (KMU) on Thursday constituted a seven-member Anti-Drug and Tobacco committee (ADTC) to ensure drug free campuses in both constituent and affiliated institution by imposing ban on the possession or consumption or use of drug by students and staff. A notification issued here said that the committee would also be responsible for ensuring drug free and smoke free environment in Khyber Medical University (KMU) constituent and institutions and to take measures to safeguard the interests of students and staff. It would further investigate and resolve matter regarding use of consumption, sale and distribution of illegal drugs in Khyber Medical University (KMU) and its attached institutions in collaboration with their administrations. The body would also raise awareness on the prevalence, problems and persistence of drug abuse and tobacco consumption. The committee would be chaired by Dr Haji Bahadar, Assistant Professor KMU while members would include Dr Muhammad Firaz, Zia ul Haq Sarhadi, representatives of HERA, ANP and DC Office, representatives of students and Additional Director Admin KMU Tahir Ayub.

CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (Works Division-II)

CORRIGENDUM

INVITATION FOR BIDS AGAINST THE PROJECT "CONSTRUCTION OF ROAD AND BRIDGES / CULVERTS AT DIPLOMATIC ENCLAVE II, ISLAMABAD."

With reference to Invitation for bids notice as mentioned in Daily National News Papers and CDA websites. The invitation for bids IFB is hereby cancelled and new date and time for issuance and opening of subject titled project are as under:-

For:- Last date for issuance of tender on 28.10.2022 and opening on 31.10.2022 at 12:00 Noon

Read:- Last date for issuance of tender on 09.11.2022 and opening on 10.11.2022 at 12:00 Noon

Deputy Director
Works Division-II, CDA.

PID (I) No. 2720/22

CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY Khanpur Dam Division

AUCTION NOTICE

Bids on the basis of "As & Where" are hereby invited for the unserviceable dismantled material consisting on Copper, Burnt out Transformer 7.5 MVA (with Accessories), C.V Transformer, Batteries, Bearings, G.I Pipes, Ceiling Fans, Chokes, Tyres, Street Light Fixtures, Generators etc. dumped at Water Treatment Plant Sangjani, Islamabad.

Date and time of auction: **16-11-2022 at 11:00AM** at Water Treatment Plant Sangjani, Islamabad Store located at Water Treatment Plant Sangjani, Islamabad.

Terms & Conditions:

- Interested Parties can visit to examine the aforementioned material on working days during office hours up to 15-11-2022
- The token can be obtained from office of undersigned on working day during office hours up to 15-11-2022 by submitting pay order of Rs.500,000/- (Rupees five hundred thousand only) as earnest money in favour of Deputy Director (KDP), CDA alongwith application and copy of CNIC.
- Detail list of auction-able items can be collected from this Division Office Bazar No.08 Office No.09 Street 57 G-6/4 Islamabad during working hours before auction date.
- No token will be issued on the day of auction.
- The successful bidder will be required to deposit 50% of the total bid amount in cash or Bank Pay order as advance on the spot inclusive of the earnest money.
- The remaining 50% bid amount and all government taxes will have to pay by successful bidder within 07 days after approval of competent authority otherwise 50% bid amount already received shall be forfeited.
- Auctioned material should be lifted within 10 days, after issuance of letter of acceptance and payment/clearance of all dues, in the presence of Assistant Director and Deputy Director (KDD).
- Loading /unloading is fully responsibility of successful bidder.
- CDA may reject all bids or proposals at any time prior to the acceptance of a bid or proposal.
- In case the auction is not completed on the 16-11-2022, it will be followed the next working day i.e. 17-11-2022
- Advertisement is also available on CDA Web site www.cda.gov.pk and PPRA website www.ppra.org.pk.

ASIF ALI KHAN)
Deputy Director
Khanpur Dam Division, CDA
Bazar No.08 Office No.09 Street 57
G-6/4 Islamabad
Phone No.051-9244695

PID (I) No. 2721/22

National Days and Armed Forces Days

OCTOBER	
Oct 01 / China	National Day
Oct 01 / Cyprus	National Day
Oct 01 / Republic of Korea	Armed Forces Day
Oct 01 / Nigeria	Armed Forces Day
Oct 02 / Guinea	National Day
Oct 03 / Germany	Unification Day
Oct 03 / Republic of Korea	National Foundation Day
Oct 05 / Indonesia	Armed Forces Day
Oct 06 / Egypt	Armed Forces Day
Oct 09 / Uganda	Independence Day
Oct 12 / Spain	National Day
Oct 23 / Hungary	National Day
Oct 24 / UN	United Nations Day
Oct 25 / Romania	Armed Forces Day
Oct 26 / Austria	National Day
Oct 27 / Turkmenistan	Independence Day
Oct 28 / Czech Republic	National Day
Oct 29 / Turkey	Republic Day

Hotels & Restaurants

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

Airlines

Turkish Airlines.....	8494949
-----------------------	---------

Emergency

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

Enquiry

Edhi Ambulance.....	115
PIA Flight Info.....	114
PIA Cargo.....	9280979
Railway Inquiry.....	117
Railway Exchange.....	9270831-5
WASA Rawalpindi.....	5555489
CAA.....	9281092



Hospitals

CMH.....	5611111
MH.....	5611116
Cantt Hospital.....	9270907-11
DHQ.....	5556311-4
RGH.....	9290301-7
Holy Family.....	9290322-7
PIMS.....	9261170-79
Polyclinic.....	9218300-09
Shifa International.....	4603666



Departments

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

Islamabad Metropolitan

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

Water Tank

Islamabad.....	0321-5744480
----------------	--------------

PM to address key issues of business community: Abbasi

Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari, President, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry paid tribute to former SAPM Hanif Abbasi for his great efforts in resolving the issue of Centaurus Mall and said that the business community of the region is grateful to him for this favour



DNA

ISLAMABAD: Former SAPM Hanif Abbasi said that he would arrange a meeting of ICCI delegation with the Prime Minister Mian Shahbaz Sharif to resolve the key issues of the business community including the establishment of a new industrial estate in the region and the representation of ICCI in the CDA board. He said this while addressing as Chief Guest a dinner reception hosted by the Islamabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry to pay tribute to his role in de-sealing of the Centaurus Mall, which was attended by a large number of business community of the twin cities. Hanif Abbasi

thanked the Prime Minister of Pakistan Mian Shahbaz Sharif and Interior Minister Rana Sanaullah for solving this issue. He said that Saudi Arabia has shown interest to invest US\$ 30 billion in Pakistan, which would boost our economy. He said that the government is working to reduce energy cost to facilitate the growth of business activities. He said that he will take up the issue of gas shortage for commercial consumers with the government. He emphasized that the business community should maintain unity in its ranks and assured that he will continue to raise his voice to protect the interests of traders in future as well. Speaking at the occasion, Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari, President, Is-

lamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry paid tribute to former SAPM Hanif Abbasi for his great efforts in resolving the issue of Centaurus Mall and said that the business community of the region is grateful to him for this favour. He said that Hanif Abbasi has always raised his voice for the rights of traders, which is laudable. He said that the trend of constructing high rise buildings in the Capital is on the rise and stressed that the CDA should arrange fire tenders for them to deal with any emergency situation. He said that SNGPL has issued notices to suspend natural gas supply to commercial consumers for three months in winter and they are being asked to switch to LNG gas

which is very expensive. He said LNG will increase manifold the cost of doing business and badly hit many businesses including the hotels and restaurants. He urged that the government should review its decision and address this issue in consultation with the stakeholders. Group leader Khalid Iqbal Malik said that Hanif Abbasi has done a great job by solving an important issue, which has created positive feelings about the government in the business community of the twin cities. He lauded the efforts of the government for providing quality transport to the citizens of Islamabad as it will solve an old issue of the citizens and greatly facilitate their travelling.

Former MNA Anjum Aqeel Khan, Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry President Saqib Rafique, ICCI former Presidents Khalid Javed, Muhammad Ejaz Abbasi and Sardar Yasir Ilyas Khan, Rawalpindi Chamber of Small Traders President Tariq Jadoon, All Pakistan Anjuman-e-Tajir President Ajmal Baloch, Markazi Tanzeem-e-Tajir President Kashif Chaudhry, Rawalpindi Chamber of Small Traders Group Leader Malik Shahid Ghafoor Paracha and Islamabad Goods Transport Association Group Leader Chaudhry Wajid Ayub and Faad Waheed Senior Vice President ICCI also spoke at the occasion and lauded the services of Hanif Abbasi for the traders.

Speakers call for serious efforts to promote science studies

ISLAMABAD: The speakers at a ceremony held at National Language Promotion Department (NLPD) in connection with the sixty-year celebrations of the Urdu Science Board emphasized on initiating serious efforts for promoting science studies in Urdu language. The ceremony was presided over by renowned dramatist, poet and columnist and former Director General Urdu Science Board Amjad Islam Amjad while Prof. Oriental College Punjab University Dr. Zia ul Hassan was the chief guest on the occasion. Amjad Islam Amjad said that translation was an important tool of promoting foreign literature in the country. The Urdu Science Board has rendered valuable services for the publication of science and technology related studies in Urdu language through translations. There is a general impression that Urdu language is not capable of becoming the language of science, medicine, engineering and other important sciences despite a fact that all these disciplines were being taught in Jamia Usmania in Urdu Language, a century ago. Urdu language is the

language of communication between people living in different parts and provinces of Pakistan. There is no need to translate the term, names and words of scientific inventions into Urdu language. He observed that the trend of book reading had decreased all over the world due to internet, mobile phone and other such inventions, which also affected the overall sales of books. Amjad Islam Amjad suggested that basic science should be taught in Urdu in an easy and interesting manner till Grade VIII. Earlier, in his welcome address, Executive Director, NLPD, Dr. Rashid Hameed said that Urdu Science Board had rendered great services for the publication and promotion of scientific and technical studies in the country. "Translation of scientific studies from English and other languages into Urdu is a wonderful achievement of the board", he said. Dr Rashid said that the Board was honored to have prominent literary personalities like Hanif Ramey, Ashfaq Ahmed, Amjad Islam Amjad and Kishwer Naheed as the head of the institution. The board has published number of important encyclopedias, diction-

aries and books on various topics which is a great asset for the country. The ten-volume Urdu Science Encyclopedia is an important academic asset, which has received immense recognition in the academic world due to its usefulness. Despite the limited financial resources and manpower, the board has played vital role in raising scientific awareness in the society through its publications, lectures, seminars and workshops. Dr. Rashid Hameed said that more such event would be organized in Quetta and Hyderabad in connection with the sixty-year celebrations of the board. Professor Dr. Zia Al Hassan while addressing the ceremony said that language was a medium of communication and there was a huge repository of sciences in English language. English language carries a great significance around the world due to its great share in promoting scientific knowledge and internet. Dr. Jameel Ahmad said that the government should patronize academic and literary institutions and provide them with adequate funds for academic projects.—APP

Demand of second-hand items increases as winter arrives

ISLAMABAD: Stalls of second-hand day-to-day items including woolen goods, blankets and shoes are loaded at Sunday markets where consumers are attracted and trying to buy the best products at reasonable rates. Talking to APP a shopkeeper of Sunday Bazar at Peshawar Mor said that due to high inflation people prefer second-hand garments and other hold stuff. "The consumers believe that second-hand stuff is imported and has a fine quality", he added. Talking to APP a visitor of Bazar said that clothes, jackets, shawls, shoes, purses, crockery and kitchenware appliances could be purchased in the market on relatively cheaper prices. Another visitor Aslam said that jackets and sweaters were in the most demand and their quality was better than the brand-new items with a long shelf life. A visitor Ayesha said that the dresses of growing-age children did not fit in the next season and that was the reason parents prefer second-hand clothes for them. Another customer Fahad said that he came to buy large-sized shoes which were not easily available in the market. "I bought shoes six months before and found them of good quality", Fahad added.—APP

HEC invites applications under PM's award programme

ISLAMABAD: The Higher Education Commission (HEC), has invited applications from the Pakistani young innovators and entrepreneurs for funding under the Prime Minister's National Innovation Award to turn their ideas into businesses. According to HEC on Friday, the youth aged between 15 to 30 may submit their proposals through www.pmyip.gov.pk by November 15, 2022. The Prime Minister's National Innovation Award is a flagship programme of the Prime Minister's Youth Programme being executed by HEC. The objective of the innovation award is to improve Pakistan's ranking in the Global Innovation Index, foster entrepreneurial culture among youth, and transform ideas into businesses. It is an open opportunity for all Pakistani youth to propose innovative ideas and get funding and technical support from industry experts along with a six-month incubation opportunity to convert their ideas into a flourishing business. A total of 250 innovators will get the chance of 'Idea Pitching Training' for their innovative ideas. However, 50 ideas will be finalised for the award. The maximum funding provided to a single startup is up to Rs. 2 million to be divided into two phases. Initially, an amount of Rs. 1 million will be provided to the top 10 selected ideas each, while the rest of the 40 ideas will get up to Rs. 0.5 million each in funding. In the corresponding phase, all 50 winners may also request supplementary funds up to Rs. 1 million in addition to the award money as per their requirements to scale up their innovative ideas through Business Incubation Centres (BICs) as a follow-up programme. The additional funding will be given through respective BICs and will be tied to startup deliverables and approved budget. The Prime Minister's National Innovation Award will help motivate youth to use their innovative skills and thus contribute to the society and the country's economy. This will also help resolve the local challenges. The award is open to all kinds of innovative ideas including but not limited to Food Security, Water Management and Sustainability, Sustainable Energy, Urban Planning, Climate Change and Environment, Information Technology and Telecom, Innovative Governance and Reforms, Sociology and Philosophy, Medical and Health Sciences, and others. The selection of awards will be made through an open, rigorous, transparent, competitive, and merit-based process.—APP

65 more diagnosed with dengue virus

RAWALPINDI: As many as 65 more dengue cases were reported in the city during the last 24 hours, raising the tally of confirmed cases to 4,181. District Coordinator Epidemics Prevention and Control (DCEPC), Dr Sajjad Mehmood, Friday said that, among the new cases, 20 patients had arrived from Potohar town urban area, 12 each from Rawalpindi Cantonment and Municipal Corporation, Rawalpindi, eight from Chaklala Cantonment, four from Potohar rural, three from Taxila and one from Murree and Gujjar Khan. Dr Sajjad added that 190 patients were admitted to the city's allied hospitals, including 75 to the Benazir Bhutto Hospital (BBH), 60 to the District Headquarters Hospital (DHQ) and 55 to the Holy Family Hospital (HFH). He informed that out of the total admitted patients, 137 tested positive, with 90 belonging to Rawalpindi. He informed three patients were in a critical position at BBH. The health official said that the district administration, in collaboration with allied departments, had registered 2,971 FIRs, sealed 666 premises, issued Challans to 7,743, notices to 12,909 and a fine of Rs 9,265,616 imposed on violations of anti-dengue SOPs from January 1 to date in various areas of the district.—APP

ICT admin seeks PTI explanation over violations

ISLAMABAD: Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) administration on Friday sought an explanation from a political party (Pakistan Tahreek-e-Insaaf) over violations it made during May 25 public gathering in the federal capital. The ICT Administration had issued a written reply in response to the letter submitted by the PTI regarding permission of holding Jalsa / Sit-in from November 4, at Srinagar Highway (between H-9 and G-9) Islamabad. "It is stated that section 144 Cr PC is imposed on all kind of public gatherings in Federal Capital including in & around Red Zone. Furthermore, the instant application has been examined at length in the context of previous NoCs/ permissions issued by the undersigned upon submission of undertakings by you. Whereas, it is imperative to mention here that on numerous occasions various clauses of terms & conditions were violate," said the reply. It added that keeping in view the following violations of undertakings submitted by PTI and the past record, please explain (point wise) as to why the party instant application may be considered favorably and may not be turn-down rejected. "On May, 25 2022 it was decided that you will convene Jalsa at H.9 (in-front of Metro depot) Islamabad but you failed to adhere to the agreement and the protesters moved towards the Red Zone of Islamabad. For July 2nd, 2022, public gathering NOC was issued by the civil administration upon submission of consent / undertaking by you that being organizer you will be responsible of any damage caused to the public property (clause 9).—APP

Six including five children injured

RAWALPINDI: At least six, including five children sustained injuries after a bus rammmed into a school van here on Friday near Chartri Chowk on Qadeer Khan Road. According to Rescue 1122 spokesman, the rescue team after receiving information about the accident rushed to the site and rescued the injured namely Abdullah (39 years), son of Anwar Shah, Arma (13 years) d/o Tanveer, Hanna (11 years) d/o Khubab, Fatima (18 years) d/o Safdar, Umm-e-Hani (10 years) d/o Kaleem and Sharjeel (17 years) s/o Yaseen. The injured were provided first-aid on the site while the injured driver was shifted to a nearby hospital for medical treatment.—APP

President reprimands ANF over denial to blind candidate

ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi has taken a strong exception to the denial of opportunity to a blind person, who had applied for the post of Assistant (BS-15) in the Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF). The candidate was barred from taking the examination by the invigilator on the ground that he was blind and was unable to perform the duties of the Assistant. "We need to make a special effort for differently-abled people to make them part of our society and enable them to earn their livelihood. However, through such acts, we will make them a social burden on the nation. Have a heart!", the President decided on a representation filed by complainant Suleman Arshad against a decision of the Wafaqi Mohtasib. The President termed the premature denial of the opportunity to

take the examination by ANF's staff "an act of maladministration" and remanded the case to the Wafaqi Mohtasib to hear it afresh on merit with the direction to decide the matter within 30 days. He termed the attitude of ANF's staff as "reprehensible and smacked of an ignorance bias". He added that there was no rule to reject a person, that too by an invigilator who was supposed to only conduct the examination, without affording him the opportunity to show his skill or giving him a hearing. The President said that the ANF's stance that a blind man would require an additional person for the discharge of his functions and that the complainant was not fit for the Secretariat nature job was rooted in ignorance. He stated that the agency had prematurely denied

the complainant the opportunity without referring the case to the Medical Board to examine him physically and determine the fitness of the complainant for the post of Assistant. Dr Alvi said that he had given Presidential Awards to blind people who had performed excellently, adding that there were hundreds of cases of visually impaired Pakistanis who had done exceptional work even internationally. He particularly mentioned that Yousaf Saleem, a visually impaired lawyer, became Pakistan's first blind judge in 2018 and Saima Saleem made headlines on making Pakistan proud when she addressed the UN General Assembly with a strong speech in support of the right of Kashmiris to self-determination. "All cameras were on her as she sat behind the Pakistan nameplate and read

her address written in Braille", he noted. He also mentioned that there were food outlets in Karachi and Islamabad which were being run totally by visually impaired people and that he had been personally served at these outlets and had found the service to be excellent. The President noted that ANF's act was in total disregard to human rights, adding that Pakistan was a signatory to many international charters and treaties against discrimination of all sorts, including gender and disabilities. In his decision, the President said that these basic aspects were not considered and heard by the Wafaqi Mohtasib, thus, the case was remanded back to it for a fresh hearing and deciding on merit. As per details, Suleman Arshad had applied for the post of Assis-

tant in ANF against its advertisement published on 29.11.2020. According to him, on the test day, after arriving at the venue, the concerned officer of the ANF had not allowed him to appear in the examination with the remarks that he was blind and unable to perform the duties of the Assistant. Feeling aggrieved, he approached Federal Ombudsman who passed the order to close the matter stating that the functions of Assistant could not be performed by a blind person and that the complainant had listened to the arguments of ANF's representative and had failed to rebut them. Afterward, Arshad filed a representation with the President, who asked Mohtasib to hear the matter afresh on merit.—APP

Briefs

Rich European cultural traditions to allure people

ISLAMABAD :After a gap of three years, the popular family-focused "Euro Village" festival will be held at the Pakistan National Council of Arts (PNCA) on October 29 (Saturday) to entertain the public through different colorful activities. The festival being arranged by the European Union and its member states, will welcome the Pakistani public to get a taste of European food, culture, heritage and music.

Euro Village is being organized by the diplomatic missions of the European Union, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Hungary, the Netherlands, Poland, Romania and Sweden. It will include information and activity booths for both adults and children with interactive games, selfie corners, food, and an opportunity to meet the diplomatic team and learn about areas of partnership.

The event will feature performances by European performers and Pakistani artists, including Asim Azhar and Shae Gill.

Previous editions of Euro Village attracted over hundreds of enthusiastic visitors from the twin cities and beyond. Euro Village tradition offers a window into rich culture of European States and celebrates "unity in diversity," a strong connection between the EU and Pakistan. This year's Euro Village will be special as the European Union celebrates 60 years of diplomatic relations with Pakistan. The six decades of partnership in development, trade and political engagement show how the EU and Pakistan are stronger together. The important highlight of the event will be the EU-Pakistan friendship truck, which will be presented to the public for the first time before setting out to tour the country to engage with Pakistanis across all provinces and to show what EU - Pakistan relations are.—APP

Eight bootleggers, illegal weapon holders held

RAWALPINDI :The district police in their ongoing operations against lawbreakers conducted raids in different areas and rounded up eight bootleggers and illegal weapon holders besides seizing 41 liters liquor and four 30-bore pistols with ammunition.

According to a police spokesman, in line with special directive of City Police Officer, Airport, Rawat, Rattaamral, Race Course, Gujar Khan and Jatli police conducted raids and rounded up eight bootleggers namely Hanif, Tariq, Rizwan and Abdullah and recovered 41 liters liquor while Waseem Wahab, Sohail, Ahsan and Imran were sent behind the bars on recovery of four 30 bore pistols and ammunition. Separate cases have been registered against all the accused while further investigations are underway. Senior Superintendent of Police Operations said no one would be allowed to violate the law and violators would be treated with iron hands.—APP

Two street criminals arrested

RAWALPINDI :In an operation against criminal elements, Rawalpindi Police on Friday arrested two street criminals and recovered 10 snatched motorcycles, weapons and other items from their possession.

According to a police spokesman, Rawat police arrested two members of a street criminal gang namely Furqan and Yasir, wanted in various cases. He informed that the police team constituted under the supervision of SHO Rawat Police Station on the directives of the Superintendent of Police conducted a raid and managed to net the accused and recovered 10 snatched motorcycles, weapons and other items from their possession. As per the preliminary police record, the criminals were also involved in other crimes, he added.—APP



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif reviewing parade during his visit to National Police Academy to attend the passing out ceremony of 48th STP of PSP. APP

ADP determined to help Pakistan in cash transfer

1 Country Director ADB appreciated BISP's ongoing Prime Minister Cash Relief in calamity-hit/flood affected areas

DNA

ISLAMABAD :The recent floods in Pakistan have affected 33 million people, many lost their homes, jobs, and businesses, large number of cattle and crops are devastated, tens of thousands people are still homeless and ADB will continue to assist Pakistan to help flood affected people, said Mr. Yong Ye, the Country Director Pakistan for Asian Development Bank.

Mr. Yong Ye, in a video message, said that now flood water is subsiding, infectious diseases and severe food shortages are looming, and in this situation ADB has moved swiftly to support Pakistan's flood response through immediate relief, early recovery, and reconstruction assistance.

He said that recently approved \$1.5 billion BRACE program will provide much-needed support to expand social protection and food security coverage to mitigate the impacts of rising food prices and loss of livelihood.

Country Director ADB appreciated BISP's ongoing Prime Minister Cash Relief in calamity-hit/flood affected areas and said it's a good example that BISP has quickly disbursed more than Rs. 66 billion out of a Rs. 70 billion package announced by the Government of Pakistan. "This is proving to be a timely and great



help to affected families during the relief and early recovery stage, before the rehabilitation and reconstruction projects kick in" he said. "ADB's assistance will not only

help enhance the number of families receiving cash transfers, but will also increase the number of children enrolled in primary and secondary schools and expand geographic coverage of health services and nutritional supplies through the Benazir Income Support Program" he added, and further said that ADB will continue to support BISP to make it a more efficient, shock responsive social protection agency.

Mr. Yong Ye said that the transition of the BISP database, the National Socio-Economic Registry, from a static to dynamic registry, has enabled the government of Pakistan to rapidly identify and

connect with the affected families. Country Director ADB quoted BISP's ongoing Prime Minister Cash Relief in calamity-hit/flood affected areas and said it's a good example that BISP has quickly disbursed more than Rupees 66 billion out of a Rupees 70 billion package announced by the government. "This is proving to be a timely and great help to affected families during the relief and early recovery stage, before the rehabilitation and reconstruction projects kick in" he said. Mr. Yong Ye assured ADB's and other international agencies commitment to work closely with the Government of Pakistan to help and rebuild lives and livelihoods of the people affected by this climate-triggered disaster.

The technology that connects us also controls us

Aamna Rafique, Research Associate at ACDC, ISSI in her remarks mentioned that in contemporary times social media was a de facto internet

DNA

ISLAMABAD :The propagation of social media outlets over the years was far-fetched in its influence, said Ms Perlin Vardarlier, Associate Professor, Istanbul Medipol University, Turkey. She was addressing a webinar titled Role of Social Media in Perception Building: Case of Cambridge Analytica organised by the Institute of Regional Studies (IRS) here on Friday. She said that social media provided freedom of expression which was essential for democratic countries. She was of the view that social media allowed people to make informed decisions during the elections. The disadvantages outweighed advantages when it considering mi-

cro-targeting, she added. She recommended that political parties should declare their spending on micro-targeting and election campaigns on social media. She was of the view that social media companies should work on content moderation according to guidelines issued by international organisations. In her concluding remarks she emphasized on enhancing digital literacy and production of counter-narrative.

Waqas Jan, Director G5 Internet Observatory at IPRI was of the view that role of social media with regards to politics was becoming negative and Pakistan was prime example of that. Cambridge Analytica scandal in this regard highlighted how data could be misused to influence public views in

certain ways, he added. He referred digital space as new battlegrounds and highlighted that information operations were being used by hostile states against Pakistan. Ms Aamna Rafique, Research Associate at ACDC, ISSI in her remarks mentioned that in contemporary times social media was a de facto internet. She was of the view that fake news and narrative building had produced far reaching effects.

In the past few years, elections of over 20 countries were manipulated through social media, she added. She also said that advertising model of social media was being replicated in political realm. She emphasized on the fact that the negative use of social media would lead to domestic instability in Pakistan.

PM directs disbursement of resources

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Friday directed the concerned departments to ensure the disbursement of all resources for early rehabilitation of the flood-affected people on top priority. He was chairing a meeting to review the rehabilitation of the flood-affected people. He was briefed on Post Disaster Need Assessment (PDNA) prepared with the assistance of the Asian Development Bank and the United Nations agencies. Minister for Planning and Development Ahsan Iqbal briefed the prime minister on the extensive measures being taken to rehabilitate the flood-affected people. The meeting was also attended by Lt Gen Zafar Iqbal of National Flood Response Coordination Centre (NFRCC), Minister for Climate Change Sherry Rehman, Minister for Finance Ishaq Dar, Additional Secretary Nadeem Aslam Chaudhry.—APP

RCCI concerned over termination of gas connection

STAFF REPORT

Rawalpindi: The Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI) has expressed concern over the notification of termination of gas connection and forced transfer to RLNG by Sui Northern Gas for commercial customers and demanded that it be withdrawn. RCCI President Saqib Rafiq in a statement said that more than three thousand commercial consumers of Rawalpindi-Islamabad will be affected by the notification. President Chamber said that it is very alarming that connections are being terminated with only five days' notice, without any consultation with stakeholders and orders have been issued to remove gas meters from November 1. All cafes, bakeries, milk-shops, tea stalls, canteens, barber shops, laundries, hotels, malls, places of entertainment like cinemas, clubs, theatres, and private offices, corporate firms, owners of tandoors etc will be affected if SNGPL suspends supply of indigenous gas to them, he added. He said that traders are already suffering due to inflation and economic slowdown, the stoves of thousands of families will go off due to the said notification, he said. He demanded that the government in consultation with the stakeholders should devise a comprehensive plan for gas distribution in winters. Appealing to State Minister for Petroleum Musadik Malik and MD Sui Northern, he demanded that the notification be withdrawn and old connections be restored for commercial users. As per notification, SNGPL is now offering RLNG to such commercial consumers only who sign the RLNG supply contract prior to October 31, 2022. Indigenous gas supply to all commercial consumers will be disconnected; therefore, commercial consumers are requested to sign the contract before October 31, 2022 in order to ensure continuity of gas supply on RLNG tariff.

Gujar Khan Police launch search operation

RAWALPINDI: Police on the special directives of City Police Officer (CPO) Rawalpindi on Friday launched a search operation on G.T.Road and adjoining areas in the jurisdiction of Gujar Khan Police Station, said a police spokesman.

He informed that heavy police contingents, Elite Force, Special Branch personnel and Ladies police under the supervision of senior police officers conducted a search operation in the area and searched 40 shops, five hotels besides checking the particulars of 150 individuals. Superintendent of Police, Saddar said that search operations were being conducted to net the lawbreakers.—APP

MoCC briefs NA body on COP27

ISLAMABAD: The Ministry of Climate Change officials on Friday briefed the National Assembly Standing Committee on its preparations to attend the global 27th Conference of the Parties (COP27) to be held in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt where the world would join heads to discuss efforts for coping with environmental degradation.

The Standing Committee on Climate Change in its 31st meeting held under the chair of MNA Nuzhat Pathan lauded the efforts of the Ministry for including the advocacy of Climate Finance, loss & damages and adaptation to bring on the agenda of the 27th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP27) for the first time.

The Ministry of Climate Change (MoCC) shared its schedule which includes the Prime Minister's Speech, Joint Chairing of round table with the Prime Minister for Norway, bilateral engagements at the ministerial level, negotiation on eight dedicated streams, side events by Pakistani delegation and Civil Society Members.

The Secretary, MoCC gave a comprehensive briefing on the upcoming COP27. He apprised the Committee about the stance of Ministry of Climate Change on the issue of adaptation mechanism during the Conference. He also informed that Pakistan was in the front line of the advocacy of the Climate Finance Issues along with other developing countries. He said that unprecedented climate-induced disaster in Pakistan hit 84 districts across the country. The World Bank has estimated Pakistan's flood losses around \$40 Billion. "Pakistan will emphasize on seeking \$100 billion as promised in 2009. Pakistan will be suggesting to develop a transparency mechanism for defining Climate Finance needs." At the end, the committee decided to hold its next meeting on November 29 at Gawadar to witness the marine pollution and waste management at sea site.

Eight bootleggers arrested

RAWALPINDI :The district police in their ongoing operations against lawbreakers conducted raids in different areas and rounded up eight bootleggers and illegal weapon holders besides seizing 41 liters liquor and four 30-bore pistols with ammunition.

According to a police spokesman, in line with special directive of City Police Officer, Airport, Rawat, Rattaamral, Race Course, Gujar Khan and Jatli police conducted raids and rounded up eight bootleggers namely Hanif, Tariq, Rizwan and Abdullah and recovered 41 liters liquor while Waseem Wahab, Sohail, Ahsan and Imran were sent behind the bars on recovery of four 30 bore pistols and ammunition. Separate cases have been registered against all the accused while further investigations are underway. Senior Superintendent of Police Operations said no one would be allowed to violate the law and violators would be treated with iron hands.

He directed the police officers to accelerate ongoing operations against drug peddlers, bootleggers and illegal weapon holders, he added.—APP

Beware: Safe spaces for children online

For quick resolution of the matter, SM platforms always prefer direct communication with complainant since it is easier to seek further information (if required) directly from complainant

MUHAMMAD FAROOQ

People are usually aware of the benefits of internet but very few know its dark side. Online risk is a global phenomenon however, from Pakistan's perspective we face additional challenges e.g. uploading/posting of blasphemous and sectarian content. These sensitive subject matters and require particular consideration to avoid propagation of hate. Keeping in view the gravity of matter, it is imperative to sensitize our social media users (i.e. youngsters, parents, teachers, and other key stakeholders) about the issue and timely adoption of proper measures to save our generation from further harm. In order to achieve these desired results, a collective effort is required to be made by all stakeholders.

Youngsters are vulnerable in the online world and parents/guardians supervising them are not fully aware about online risks, community guidelines of Social Media platforms and punishments mentioned in local laws (i.e. PECA, PPC etc.). Parents and teachers need to be watchful of their kids'/students' online activities especially if they are exhibiting aggressive behavior, usually resulting from seeing inappropriate content or playing online fighting/War games. Kids/students at this stage require proper counseling by their parents/teachers from time to time along with adoption of proven measures such as: avoid giving them handheld devices and allow them to use PCs placed in a common area visible to all, and replacing online gaming facilities with physical activities. Most importantly, parents must spare time for their children, be friendly and educate them about online risks and

allow them to discuss their issues without judgment otherwise, they may confide in strangers/online predators. Educational institutions should also step up and raise awareness through organizing seminars/webinars, workshops etc. In addition, using parental control software and built in safety features of SM applications is ineffective in filtering inappropriate content/apps, limiting screen time, observing online activities etc. (List of parental control software is available at PTA website: www.pta.gov.pk). For Social Media users' guidance PTA has also placed a list containing links/URLs of Community Standards of major SM platforms having information/guidelines about their important policies to be followed while posting content over SM platforms or sharing with others. Moreover, Prevention of Electronic Crimes Act (PECA) was approved in 2016, which empowers PTA to control circulation of un-

lawful content over internet/social media and FIA to investigate cybercrime related issues. Public can report unlawful content to PTA for blocking through Complaint Management System (CMS): <https://complaint.pta.gov.pk/RegisterComplaint.aspx> or PTA CMS mobile app and cybercrime related issues to FIA Cybercrime Wing (CCW) for initiating legal action against offender.

It is important to mention that all popular SM companies and their systems are hosted outside Pakistan on encrypted HTTP sites. PTA after analyzing received complaints takes up the matter with concerned SM platform for removal/blocking of reported content. For quick resolution of the matter, SM platforms always prefer direct communication with complainant since it is easier to seek further information (if required) directly from complainant.

Pakistan's First And Only Diplomatic Daily

Editor-in-Chief: Ansar Mahmood Bhatti

Deputy Editor: Abid Raza

Member APNS / ABC Certified

Vol: 03 Issue: 78

Email: dailyisbpost@gmail.com

Phone: 051-2266165 / 051-2261960

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

Brazil's election

ON Sunday, Brazilian electors will cast their vote in a tight contest that will not only set the course for this extraordinarily polarised country but also have a powerful impact on the future of the world. Hopes that the far-right incumbent, Jair Bolsonaro, would be decisively rejected in the first round were dashed when he fared far better than expected, with 43% of votes, and his challenger, the former president Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, fell just short of an outright majority with 48%. Eleventh-hour handouts to the poorest and lavish quantities of disinformation have aided Mr Bolsonaro's recovery. The hope is that his momentum is already fading. But the polls vary, and a second presidential term would be bad news not just for Brazilians but also the rest of us. The primary danger is climate catastrophe. As the UN's environment agency warns that there is no credible route to limit global warming to 1.5C, deforestation in the Amazon is at a high: a carbon sink could become a carbon emitter. Criminal syndicates of loggers and ranchers race to do their worst for fear that a new administration will rein them in. A secondary – but still deeply alarming – risk is of a further entrenchment of anti-democratic authoritarianism. If Mr Bolsonaro is re-elected, he will be emboldened, and will benefit from the strengthened rightwing presence in Congress. There are fears that he could undermine institutions and change the constitution to allow himself a third term. If he isn't re-elected, will he care? He has spent months preparing for such an outcome. His son already claims – without evidence – that his father is the victim of "the greatest electoral fraud ever seen", an eerily Trumpian phrase. His party claims – again without evidence – that officials could simply alter results. Because pro-Lula regions are likely to declare results later, he might attempt to claim victory prematurely. To Lula's supporters, the former shoeshine boy and trade unionist is the champion of the poor, as well as a leader who raised the country's status internationally. Others note that it was easier for him to boost spending as the beneficiary of the commodities boom. His Workers' party was rife with corruption, which saw him jailed too; he was only able to stand when the charges against him were quashed last year. Yet Mr Bolsonaro is dishing out billions from a government fund with minimal oversight, and there are plenty of questions over his own family's finances. This looks, as one polling expert puts it, like a clash of two Brazils, in which the vote splits clearly on class, race, gender and religious lines. Even if Mr Bolsonaro is seen off this time, he may well be back. Yet his extremism has helped ensure that Lula has pulled together a convincing multi-party alliance, including figures from the right. They recognise what is at stake. The rest of us must hope that enough of their compatriots do.

Diplomatic moves to set the record straight

CONSIDERING the questions the international community has about China and its relations with the outside world, the just-concluded 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China gave an opportunity to the Chinese leadership to articulate to the rest of the world in clear terms what it is truly after at home and abroad. After all, with the sheer size of its economy, which has been woven tightly into the global economic fabric, what happens within China increasingly has international consequences, and countries are looking for clues as to what those may be. The top leadership's report to the congress made clear that the country's continued ambition is to make greater contributions to world peace and development through its own development, in part by further increasing China's international standing and influence so that it can play a greater role in global governance. While the former colonial powers and their acolytes are seeking to discredit this endeavor as an aggressive undermining of the rules-based order, their smearing of China's actions and intentions has been motivated by China taking a clear-cut stand against their power politics in international affairs. China's effectiveness in gradually tilting global governance away from its inbuilt partiality has attracted the full weight of their resentment. In their attempts to maintain their systemic advantages these favored few are doubling down on their efforts to portray China as a malign actor. So it is important that China's diplomatic work put flesh on the bones of the objectives and orientations set out in the report to the congress. Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi made the diplomatic establishment's first move in that direction on Wednesday with a meeting with the resident diplomatic envoys from ASEAN countries. While briefing the diplomats of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations on the "epoch-making implications" of the CPC event, Wang called on ASEAN to adhere to the "ASEAN approach" and uphold a sense of regional community. The ASEAN countries will host three important multilateral meetings – the G20 Summit, the APEC Informal Leaders' Meeting, and the East Asian Cooperation Leaders' Meeting Series – which Wang said represented an "Asian moment" for global governance. Wang stressed that on its part, China would continue to prioritize relations with neighboring countries in its diplomacy, give precedence to ASEAN, and pursue common prosperity with ASEAN members. China's vision of global governance is encapsulated in its promotion of a human community with a shared future. It has offered two initiatives to facilitate the building of such a community: the Global Development Initiative and the Global Security Initiative. These will be the basis for China to play its part in upholding better global governance.



Global power shift as regionalism spurs rise of Asia

Ishtaq Ahmed



The Biden administration's response to China's growing economic regionalism in the Asia-Pacific region is establishment in May of the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework, a broad alliance of 14 countries, including India (mostly from South and Southeast Asia) working on four nonmilitary pillars of economic and strategic cooperation. However, the IPEF lacks core incentives such as market access and better trade opportunities for the member states. It is no surprise that India has refused to join trade pillar, while arguing that it is structured in favor of the affluent members

WITH Europe and the US facing a mounting economic crisis caused by the Ukraine war, China and Russia have geared up the process of economic and security integration across Asia. Not only are the current regional networks in Eurasia and Southeast Asia being consolidated, but their mutual nexus is also being reinforced and expanded with the inclusion of new member states from the Middle East. The latest expression of Asian regionalism is the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia, which held its sixth summit on Oct. 12-13 in Astana, Kazakhstan, and decided to gradually transform itself into a full-fledged organization for economic and security cooperation in Asia. Its 27 member states account for 90 percent of Asia and generate two-thirds of the global gross domestic product. Russia has proposed its new name as the Eurasian Organization for Cooperation. This year marks the 30th anniversary of the CICA, whose founding idea was proposed by Kazakhstan in 1992. Over time, China and Russia have steered its evolution and expansion to include countries from Southeast Asia and the Middle East. Israel, Egypt, Jordan, the UAE, Qatar, Bahrain, Iran and Palestine are already members. Kuwait is the latest entrant. This informal intergovernmental forum seeks to implement confidence-building measures in the economic, human, new challenges and threats, environmental and military-political domains. Besides kickstarting the process to become Asia's largest international organization at the recent summit, the CICA also concluded a partnership agreement with the Eurasian Economic Union, which Russia created in 2015 in response to the EU's Eastern Partnership Policy of 2009. The EAEU has helped its smaller members, including Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Armenia, to benefit from Russia's political support, security guarantees, and economic incentives, such as cheap energy. The EAEU provides for free movement of goods, services, capital and labor among the member states, which consist of nearly 200 million people and have \$5 trillion in combined GDP. Though the EAEU is far from achieving the intended goals of EU-like customs union and common market, it has helped a great deal in labor mobility from Kyrgyzstan, and enabled Russia to bypass current Western sanctions and import restricted goods from Kazakhstan. The EAEU seeks an economic pivot to Asia as opposed to the West, a goal that is manifested in Russian President Vladimir Putin's 2016 declaration to transform the organization into a "Greater Europe-

an Partnership" to include China, India, Pakistan and other countries from Southeast Asia. This is compatible with the global Belt and Road Initiative of China, which also has a trade relationship with the EAEU. Uzbekistan and Azerbaijan are among the aspirants of its membership. As compared to the CICA and EAEU, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization has established its niche as the most integrated intergovernmental body in Eurasia during the last two decades. Its 22nd summit last month consolidated economic, security, political and cultural cooperation among the eight member states: China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, India and Pakistan. Covering over 40 percent of the world's population and nearly 30 percent of its GDP, the SCO is also joined by six Middle Eastern states as dialogue partners, including Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Turkey, the UAE, Qatar, Kuwait and Bahrain. Iran will gain full membership in a year. China leads the SCO and is engaged in massive infrastructure development projects in the member-states, while Russia prioritizes the corresponding expansion of energy corridors. Beyond Eurasia, China has emerged as an important player in the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership, the largest trading bloc in Asia-Pacific that accounts for a third of the global GDP and almost half the world's population. The RECP entered into force in January this year. Its other members include Japan, South Korea, Australia, New Zealand and six of the 10 member states of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations. The RECP will ultimately enable China to write trade rules for the region, at the expense the "rules-based" free trade regime being propounded by the US. The Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation is the only regional organization that includes both China and the US as members. Its 19 member states are home to more than 2.9 billion people and make up over 60 percent of global GDP. Established in 1989, the APEC aims to promote sustainable economic growth, trade and investment, and prosperity in the Asia-Pacific region. The Biden administration has made containment of China an integral part of the US National Security Strategy, which was announced on Oct. 12. This is surely bad news for APEC ahead of its summit next month. China is also seeking membership of the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership trade pact. It is the renegotiated version of the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement that the US signed in 2016 but exited a year after it entered into force in 2018. The CPTPP has 11 mem-

bers: Japan, Australia, Singapore, Canada, Mexico, Peru, Chile, Brunei, Malaysia, Vietnam and New Zealand. China's entry into the trade pact, which is supported by Singapore as a founding member, will be a major setback for the US. The Biden administration's response to China's growing economic regionalism in the Asia-Pacific region is the establishment in May of the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework, a broad alliance of 14 countries, including India (mostly from South and Southeast Asia) working on four nonmilitary pillars of economic and strategic cooperation. However, the IPEF lacks core incentives such as market access and better trade opportunities for the member states. It is no surprise that India has refused to join the trade pillar, while arguing that it is structured in favor of the affluent members. In response to China's BRI and the Global Development Initiative, launched by President Xi Jinping at the UN General Assembly last year, the US also relaunched the G7 Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment in June. In this case as well, it is highly uncertain that the US will be able to mobilize \$200 billion in the next five years, given the growing economic constraints faced by all the G7 nations of the US, Canada, France, Germany, Italy and Japan due to the current global energy crisis. Moreover, the US attempt to create potentially anti-China informal groupings such as the QUAD (group of four, with the US, Australia, Japan and India) and AUKUS (a military alliance between the US, UK and Australia) are either security-centric or too small to rival China's expanding regional networks across Eurasia and Asia-Pacific. They also pale in comparison to the BRI's extensive economic footprint in Asia, Africa, South America and even parts of Europe. Contrary to the US-led initiatives, the countries participating in regional integration processes led by China, or inclusive of it, tend to accrue tangible economic gains. The US and Europe also seem to be losing out against China in the Middle East, especially as the Gulf nations increasingly diversify their economies in Eurasia by partnering with the SCO and CICA. Spurred by a fresh wave of economic regionalism, Asia is, indeed, rising. This is a historic transition in world power, from the long-drawn era of European domination and the relatively recent push for the American century. – **Ishtaq Ahmad is a member of the Planning Commission of Pakistan. A former journalist, he previously served as the vice chancellor at Sargodha University, Pakistan, and the Jinnah Chair at Oxford University in the UK**

Here's what Putin needs to stop losing: A good columnist

Andrew Mitrovica

Alas, Putin is being taught a stiff, disorienting lesson: it's best not to mess with Ukrainians who seem to be getting by with a little help from their friends. So, like every other failed imperialist, Putin keeps spinning the wheel of generic generals to try to stave off what looks like the inevitable: retreat or negotiate an exit ramp off the human catastrophe of his foolish making. But, wait, Mr President, there may be an unorthodox way to avoid further humiliation. Rather than turn to another dour, medal-laden, do-as-he's-told Russian general...

AS a rule, I am not in the habit of offering unsolicited advice to men like Vladimir Putin, responsible for the deaths of countless innocents. I have decided to make an exception on this urgent occasion because it's clear that the smug thug with a wispy-haired comb-over is in a bit of a geopolitical pickle that he has to get out of before he reaches for the nuclear codes. Putin thought Ukraine was Czechoslovakia circa summer 1968. Sure, Ukrainians might mount a spirited fight, but the harrowing sight of an endless conga line of Russian tanks would put a quick end to any real resistance. A shaken Kyiv would, in due and largely bloodless course, return to the Motherland's always welcoming bosom. At the most, plucky Ukraine might give it a good, noble go in spite of the awful odds. Sort of how a bunch of brave, white-clad-from-head-toe Finns on cross-country skis once held out for a long time in the face of Soviet invaders. Alas, Putin is being taught a stiff, disorienting lesson: it's best not to mess with Ukrainians who seem to be getting by with a little help from their friends. So, like every other failed imperialist, Putin keeps spinning the wheel of generic generals to try to stave off what looks like the inevitable: retreat or negotiate an exit ramp off the human catastrophe of his foolish making. But, wait, Mr President, there may be an unorthodox way to avoid further humiliation. Rather than turn to another dour, medal-laden, do-as-he's-told Russian general, hire a columnist to show you how to fix what has, until now, gone so unexpectedly wrong. That's right. A columnist. At this dire point, what do you have to lose, sir? It's all right to ask for help. Russia is at what a lot of bad, cliché-addicted Western columnists call an "inflection point". You're just asking for help in the wrong places, including at the majestic Kremlin. You've been a columnist yourself, Mr President. Once, you were published in the venerable New York Times, where you cautioned Western leaders from attacking Syria. Your column included this prophetic paragraph. "The potential strike by the United States against Syria, despite strong opposition from many countries and major political and religious leaders, including

the pope, will result in more innocent victims and escalation, potentially spreading the conflict far beyond Syria's borders," you wrote in 2013. "It could throw the entire system of international law and order out of balance." It's a shame you didn't take your own prescient advice, sir. Oh well, live and not learn. As a member of the fraternity, you know that columnists have a solution for every problem – big or small – that confronts and bedevils this mad, mixed-up world. Who better to recruit for advice and direction given that your gratuitous invasion hasn't unfolded the way you had hoped for "on the ground". Beyond the likelihood that Earth is hurtling towards extinction as it keeps get hotter year after year, I can't think of another matter that requires the singular attention of a columnist for hire than the disastrous war that was supposed to be over within hours of your starting it. It would, I suppose, be preferable to turn to a Russian columnist. Fair warning, though: if he or she remotely shares the grating certitude of many English-language columnists, they will be blinded by hubris, harbour few doubts, and will not tolerate introspection. That sounds a lot like you too, Mr President. Forgive me, I digress. I assure you that the know-it-all all the time columnist will offer you – in a thousand words or less – the elusive prescription to steer Russia out of the quagmire that you and your grovelling sycophants are responsible for. Satisfaction guaranteed. But given your, to put it charitably, uncharitable habit of silencing, jailing, maybe even arranging the sudden demise of – please note, sir, I wrote "maybe" – pesky, contrarian Russians, perhaps taking on a Moscow-based columnist as a wartime consigliere isn't in the offering. Not to worry, there is a happy excess of top-tier candidates. One of my colleagues at Al Jazeera wrote a fine piece earlier this month listing several reasons why you have failed in Ukraine. You thought your big stick would bludgeon Ukrainians into capitulation. You were convinced the Biden administration and NATO would not respond decisively. Finally, your vanity and cocksure temperament made you sure that Ukraine

would be crushed. Wrong, wrong and wrong again. Since you insist on surrounding yourself – like any other autocrat – with agreeable "yes men", I doubt my wise, iconoclastic opinion-page partner would be the ideal choice. OK. Why not approach these two marquee American columnists – Fareed Zakaria and Thomas Friedman? They had a brief chat recently on CNN about what you are likely to do given that the liberation of Ukraine from marauding neo-Nazis has flopped. It's so bad your people have been doing a passable impersonation of Dr Strangelove with all this crazy talk of launching a "limited" atomic strike. Anyway, the segment was called Putin's Next Move. You see, the clairvoyant duo already knows what you're going to do, despite, to my knowledge, neither columnist speaking or reading Russian and sitting comfortably in front of television cameras thousands of miles from the real front. You may recall, Mr President, that both Zakaria and Friedman were for invading Iraq before they were against you invading Ukraine. (Bad.) You may also remember that Friedman was a big fan of your "reformist" agenda for a vibrant, capitalist Russia emerging from its Cold War coma. (Good.) In 2001, he wrote a long, remarkable hagiography of you disguised as a "think piece" which ended with this goey line: "So keep rooting for Putin." (Great.) The "rooting" has ended. These days, Friedman says you've been blowing up natural gas pipelines as part of a bigger plan to have oil and gas prices spike and force Europeans, in particular, to choose between "heating or eating" this winter. Then, Ukraine will be obliged to "cut a dirty deal" with you. There you have it, Mr President: your problems solved in a nice, neat 50-second soundbite. Sounds like Friedman's your man. Still, I would be remiss in not sharing my own opinion, as an opinion columnist. You're losing, Mr President. Forget "saving face". Start saving lives. Stop the killing. Let Ukrainians return to their homes to rebuild their shattered country as best they can. And allow Russian soldiers to return to their mothers – alive. – *Courtesy: Al Jazeera*

Briefs

'No one can stop flood of people'

FROM PAGE 01
the country's incumbent rulers. "We will never accept them." Addressing supporters after reaching the Liberty Chowk, Imran said that the joint press conference by Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) chief Lt Gen Nadeem Ahmed Anjum and Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) DG Lt Gen Babar Iftikhar yesterday was more "political than Sheikh Rasheed". "DG ISI, listen carefully, the things I know, I am staying silent for my institutions and the country. I don't want to damage my country," the PTI chief said as the crowd cheered.

Imran said that he wanted to see a Pakistan that was free and for that, a powerful army was needed. "DG ISI, when we criticise [the institutions], it is constructive and for your betterment. I am saying this again, I can say a lot and can respond to you. But I don't want the institutions to get weak," he asserted. The former prime minister also countered that he never made any unconstitutional demands during "backdoor contacts".

"I want free and fair elections. I want the people to decide who will lead the country - not Washington, America or anyone else," Imran added. Imran Khan during a short pitstop in Lahore's Ichhra, delivered another fiery speech, this time targeting the government.

"They steal money, go abroad, come back after receiving an NRO and then return [to power] again," Khan said from atop his container as Shah Mahmood Qureshi stood behind him. "What do they think of us? That we are bher bakriyan (fools)? Those who have stolen billions from our country and live in palaces in London are made prime minister."

Imran Khan posted a video of his making his way to the roof of his shipping container. "Haqeeqi Azadi March started at Liberty [Chowk] and the people of Lahore have come out to lead our march." PTI chief Imran Khan, who is leading his party's anti-government march to Islamabad, has said "you are actually witnessing a revolution".

In a short interview while sitting atop his container, the former prime minister also explained the ideology behind the PTI's long march that "Pakistan's decisions should be made in Pakistan". Secondly, he continued, "we want justice, which gives freedom". In this connection, he highlighted journalists' "killings", particularly of Arshad Sharif, and the alleged torture of PTI Senator Azam Swati in custody. "The way Azam Swati was treated by agencies, the names he took today, we want justice from all of them," he said. Imran Khan also announced that a journalism university under the name of slain journalist Arshad Sharif will be established in Punjab to honour him. The long march is scheduled to enter Islamabad on November 4.

MPA announces decision to leave PTI

FROM PAGE 01
three to four days. Lahari expressed his concerns regarding the Punjab Assembly cabinet, saying that they should know the criteria for appointing a minister. Lahari contested in the 2018 general elections as an independent candidate. He later joined the PTI after the 2018 polls. The PTI MPA served as the special assistant to the chief minister during Usman Buzdar's tenure but he was removed from his position in 2020. Commenting on the resignation handed over by Ahmad Jawad, focal person of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's social media team, PTI leader Fawad Chaudhry said: "More resignations will come from PML-N, and not PTI." He rejected the possibility of PTI MPAs resigning following Lahari's departure from the party. "The MPAs, whose names were given, have denied quitting PTI," he said, adding that earlier Sheikh Rasheed was removed to not participate in the long march, but now he is partaking in it. He further claimed that at this time, PTI will only be left by the faction that doesn't want to continue politics in future.

USAID imparts leadership training to varsity deans

"To improve the quality of all service sectors and govt departments across Pakistan, we need to invest more in education sector and particularly the higher education"

DNA

ISLAMABAD: The USAID's Higher Education System Strengthening Activity (HESSA) conducted a two-day training titled 'Advancing Leadership Capacities of Deans' for public sector universities. HESSA is being implemented in collaboration with 16 Pakistani universities with a focus on strengthening universities' capacity to deliver market-driven education and research to enhance graduate employability. The inaugural session was attended by USAID's Director of Education Office, Ms. Anne Flaker, USAID's Senior Education Advisor, Ms. Asima Rehman and Executive Director of Higher Education Commission, Dr. Shaista Sohail. Speaking at the occasion, Dr. Shaista stressed the importance of continued investment in



higher education and appreciated USAID's commitment to Pakistan's economic growth. She said, "To improve the quality of all the service sectors and government departments across Pakistan, we need to invest more in the education sector and particularly the higher education. By strengthening our higher education system, we can build a cadre

of expertise and leadership in the all the relevant areas." To effectively lead the various departments, university Deans must possess a variety of skills including excellent critical thinking ability to understand the needs of their institution, faculty, and students and find practical solutions, particularly for resource mobilization,

visioning, and fundraising activities. The Deans also require strong interpersonal, communication, and leadership skills to interact with all members of the institution effectively. This training, facilitated by international experts from the University of Utah and the University of Alabama, empowered the Deans to lead the long-term

transformation of their universities by providing a sustainable pathway for change through implementing latest knowledge and theories of change. Furthermore, this 2-day training will be followed by online sessions where Deans will develop strategic plans for improvement of student success and linking outcomes with their university specific mission and values. HESSA is a five-year, \$19 million, USAID-funded program that seeks to improve public universities' capacity, relevance, adequacy, and inclusivity by engaging a wide array of stakeholders to introduce sustainable higher education reforms in Pakistan. In addition to working with universities on international best practices in teaching, research, and governance, HESSA also seeks to enhance the support services available to students on campus.

Pakistan rejects India's...

FROM PAGE 01

India would be well advised to abjure its policy of state terrorism in IOJK, and against Muslims and other minorities in India, and allow the subjugated Kashmiri people to exercise their right to self-determination as enshrined in the relevant UN Security Council resolutions. Pakistan also urges the United Nations and members of the Security Council to remain wary of India's propensity to engage in baseless and misleading propaganda and its blatant attempts to hijack serious international platforms in order to fulfill its own nefarious agenda. The international community also has an abiding responsibility to ensure justice for over 90,000 victims of state terrorism in IOJK.

Pak fully capable of defending itself: FO

FROM PAGE 01

the 20th Congress of the Communist Party of China. He said broad range of areas of cooperation between the two countries as well as regional and global issues will come under discussion during the visit. He said Pakistan and China will continue to work together for the peace and security of the region. Regarding Islamabad's relations with London in view of political changes taken place in the United Kingdom, the Spokesperson said our ties continue to grow irrespective of, who is in power. He said our bilateral ties will further improve under UK Prime Minister Rishi Sunak.

Pakistan trying to restore...

FROM PAGE 01

Science Agency as role model departments, adding they needed to be replicated in other parts of the country. The prime minister congratulated the cadets who achieved awards in their professional field and also expressed satisfaction over the contribution of the women police force towards national development. He urged the cadets to demonstrate dedication, professionalism and commitment in their field. The premier said the government despite financial constraints would provide funds to Islamabad police to enhance its professional capacity. PM Shehbaz said that Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud will visit Pakistan for a \$12 billion state-of-the-art deep conversion refinery project along with a petrochemical complex in Pakistan. He lamented that this plan was first offered in 2019, however, no progress could be made on it. The PM also said that the previous government did not initiate work on projects offered by Saudi Development Fund. He said all procedures for those delayed projects were completed within two days.

PM thanks US over additional...

FROM PAGE 01

UN flash appeal on relief assistance for the flood-struck people of Pakistan. "World should promptly contribute to UN aid appeal to mitigate the impact of tragedy," he said. U.S. Ambassador Donald Blome on Thursday announced an additional \$30 million in humanitarian assistance to support flood-affected populations in Pakistan. This new funding brings the United States' total assistance to Pakistan for flood response, food security, and disaster preparedness and capacity-building efforts to \$97 million this year. The new funding, according to a press statement by the US embassy, will expand efforts to address immediate needs, scaling up assistance to the most affected communities and enabling USAID to reach more than 4 million people. With additional funding, the US government, through USAID, will provide life-saving food, nutrition, and health assistance to mitigate increased food insecurity and malnutrition resulting from the impact of floods, as well as curb the rise of diseases resulting from stagnant flood waters.

At least 42 killed as storm lashes Philippines

COTABATO: Landslides and flooding killed at least 42 people as heavy rain from an approaching storm lashed the southern Philippines, a disaster official said Friday. The storm unleashed flash floods carrying uprooted trees, rocks and mud overnight in nine mostly rural towns around Cotabato, a city of 300,000 people on Mindanao island. Many residents were caught by surprise as floodwaters rose rapidly before dawn, Naguib Sinarimbo, the spokesman and civil defence chief for the regional government, told AFP. Sinarimbo said 27 died in the town of Datu Odin Sinsuat, including 11 from a mountain village buried in

mud, while 10 died in Datu Blah Sinsuat town and five were killed in Upi town. Teams in rubber boats had rescued residents from rooftops in some towns, Sinarimbo said, adding that 16 people were missing in the region. In recent years, flash floods with mud and debris from largely deforested mountainsides have been among the deadliest hazards posed by typhoons on Philippine communities. Mindanao is rarely hit by the 20 or so typhoons that strike the Philippines each year and kill hundreds of people. But those that do tend to be deadlier than those that hit Luzon, the main island. A long moun-

tain range walls off most of Luzon from the Pacific, where most storms are spawned, helping to absorb the blow, the state weather service said. Local filmmaker Remar Pablo told AFP he was shooting a beauty pageant in Upi when the floodwaters suddenly came in after midnight and forced audience members to flee. A row of cars sat half-submerged on the street outside, his clips showed. "We were stranded inside," said Pablo, who eventually waded through the water to get home. Rescuers carried a baby in a plastic tub as they navigated chest-deep water, a photo posted by the provincial police showed. - APP



BRUSSELS: Federal Minister for Commerce and Investment Syed Naveed Qamar in a group photo with Executive Vice President of European Union Commission and EU Trade Commissioner Valdis Dombrovskis. - DNA

Minister urges diversification of export portfolio with EU

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Commerce and Investment Syed Naveed Qamar in a meeting with Executive Vice President of European Union Commission and EU Trade Commissioner Valdis Dombrovskis in Brussels on Friday expressed Pakistan's desire to diversify its export portfolio with EU. The commerce minister was joined by Pakistan's Ambassador to Belgium, Luxembourg and the European Union Dr. Asad Majeed Khan, said a press release from the Pakistan's

embassy in Belgium. During his meeting with Valdis Dombrovskis, the minister underscored that the GSP Plus facility had been mutually beneficial and played an important role in the growth of trade between the two sides. He reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment towards the effective implementation of GSP Plus-related international Conventions and hoped that the new scheme would continue to focus on its primary aims of sustainable development, good govern-

ance and poverty alleviation without overburdening the partner countries with fresh conditionalities. Naveed Qamar stressed that investment from the EU in manufacturing and agro-food sectors will help Pakistan diversify its exports to EU in a sustainable manner. While highlighting the importance of Pakistan-EU trade and investment relations, Vice President Dombrovskis reaffirmed EU Commission's interest in further strengthening this partnership. - APP

Match officials for Pakistan-Bangladesh U19 named

LAHORE: The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) on Friday confirmed the match officials' appointments for the six-match Pakistan-Bangladesh U19 series, comprising a four-ODIs, three 45-over-per-side fixtures and two T20s. Umpires Rashid Riaz, Shobaz Raza and Waleed Yaqub will share the on-field and reserve umpire duties, while Prof Muhammad Javed Malik, who is a member of PCB Elite Panel of Match Referees and International Panel of ICC Match Referees, will perform refereeing duties for all the six matches. - APP

Australia-England World Cup clash washed out

SPORTS DESK

MELBOURNE: Cricket's Twenty20 World Cup is in danger of being diminished by bad weather after more rain forced the abandonment of both matches in Melbourne on Friday including an Australia-England blockbuster. Forecasters warn that more rain - but also some sun - is on its way in the coming days in Australian cities hosting what should be the pinnacle of cricket's shortest format. The famed Melbourne Cricket Ground, which will stage the final on November 13, was buffeted by almost non-stop rain on Friday. First the weather claimed Ireland's match against Afghanistan without a ball being sent down, meaning the Afghans have had two of their three World Cup matches abandoned because of rain. They lost the other. Teams take one point each when a match is washed out and they are not rescheduled. "Very frustrating. Obviously after the (washed out) New Zealand game, you thought no way is it going to happen twice," Afghanistan coach Jonathan Trott, the former England batsman, said at a sodden MCG. "The frustrating thing as well is there's a stadium down the road that's got a roof on it as well so you can play cricket there, so we could have had lots of cricket," Trott added. With the rain refusing to go away, the highly anticipated clash between Ashes rivals Australia and England then fell victim, doing neither team any favour as two of the pre-tournament favourites attempt to rescue their failing title bids. "The outfield has taken a drizzling over the last couple of weeks, as well as I've ever seen it," said Australia skipper Aaron Finch. "The run-ups and around the circle were very, very wet. It's about player safety." The Super 12 stage has now seen four games out of a scheduled 14 abandoned because of rain - three in Melbourne and the other in Hobart. England's shock defeat to Ireland on Wednesday, again in Melbourne, was also impacted by rain. The Irish won by five runs on the DLS method. Zimbabwe coach Dave Houghton made no attempt to hide his anger after umpires tried, but failed, to complete their match with South Africa in Hobart on Monday in what he called "ridiculous" amounts of rain. Zimbabwe fast bowler Richard Ngarava slipped and had to be taken off injured before the game was eventually called off just as South Africa closed on victory.

Spain prosecutors drop charges against Neymar, others

BARCELONA: Prosecutors in Spain on Friday dropped corruption and fraud charges against football star Neymar and others accused in a trial over the Brazilian's 2013 move from Santos to Barcelona. In a dramatic move, the prosecutor announced "withdrawal of the charges against all the accused and for all allegations" they had faced. Neymar, 30, had said he did not remember if he took part in the negotiations which led

to an agreement sealed in 2011 with Barcelona over his transfer two years later to the Spanish side from Brazilian club Santos. Spanish prosecutors had sought a two-year prison term for Neymar, a key member of the Brazil team that will be heading to the World Cup in Qatar next month, and the payment of a 10-million-euro (\$9.7-million) fine. Dropping of the charges is the culmination of a years-long

legal saga over Neymar's high-profile transfer to Europe. He then joined Qatar-owned Paris Saint-Germain in a world record 222-million-euro transfer in 2017. Neymar had been one of nine defendants on trial on corruption-related charges, among them his parents and their N&N company, which manages his affairs. Even if he had been convicted, prison terms of two years or less are never enforced in

Spain for a first-time offender. Investigators began probing the transfer to Barcelona after a 2015 complaint filed by DIS, a Brazilian company that owned 40 percent of the player's sporting rights when he was at Santos, the club where he rose to global prominence. The firm claims that Neymar, Barcelona and the Brazilian club colluded to mask true cost of his transfer thereby defrauding it of its legitimate financial interests. - APP

Zong donates Rs 10 million to flood affectees

STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: Zong 4G, Pakistan's leading mobile telecommunications network, has donated PKR10 million to the Government of Sindh for flood affectees. The donation was presented at an event held on 20th of October 2022 to support flood-affected victims during this time of crisis, to demonstrate the network's excellence during testing times, and to honor the resilient bond between Pakistan and China. Pakistan has been devastated by one of the worst humanitarian disasters in recent history. This has resulted in unprecedented national damage. As one of the country's largest telecommunications networks, Zong believes it is its responsibility to assist Pakistan in regaining its footing. The employees of the company stepped up and donated their one-day salary. While Zong 4G donated 1.5 Rupees, for every rupee contributed by the employees. To accomplish this, Zong has collectively donated 10 million rupees to the Sindh government, which will be used to rehabilitate the province's flood victims. This cheque was presented Mr. Muhammad Ismail Rahoo, Provincial Minister of Environment, Climate Change, Coastal Development, Universi-



ties and Board Departments, who thanked Zong and its employees on behalf of the people of Sindh for this generous contribution. Chairman and CEO of Zong 4G, the Minister of Information Technology and Telecommunication, and the Chinese Ambassador all addressed the participants. In addition to the cheque presentation, Zong highlighted its sustainability efforts and shared the following year's technical plan, which highlighted the company's ongoing best efforts in ensuring best services for its customers.

Commenting on Zong's support for flood-affected victims, Zong 4G Chairman and CEO Mr. Wang Hua said, "ZONG has always been at the forefront of helping our fellow Pakistanis in their time of need. I am proud of all of our employees who have stepped forward in these difficult times to support our communities and extend all help possible." "Zong has once again come through for their country in a time of crisis. The amount that has been raised for the victims of the floods in Sindh is commendable" said Mr.

Muhammad Ismail Rahoo, Provincial Minister of Environment, Climate Change, Coastal Development, Universities and Board Departments "It will be beneficial to a large number of people." Zong also elaborated on its committed towards rebuilding Pakistan at the occasion. As part of its social contract, the telecommunications leader will carry out flood relief efforts in three phases. Phase 1: Robust Connectivity - Zong's technical teams are working around the clock to ensure robust connectivity in all flood-affected areas. Phase 2: Delivering Necessities for Survival - Zong is collaborating closely with NGOs and the Government to ensure that flood affectees have access to food, medicine, and shelter. Phase 3: Rehabilitation and Re-building the country - In the long term, Zong will take a variety of initiatives to aid the reconstruction of the country's digital and communications infrastructure. Along with the company's senior management, several dignitaries were also in attendance at the event, including the Minister of Information Technology and Telecommunication, Provincial Minister of Environment, Climate Change, Coastal Development, Universities and Board Departments, Representatives from Pakistan Telecommunication Authority, and the Chinese Ambassador.

Briefs

FPCCI apprised of global obligations of WTO

KARACHI: Director General, Pakistan Standards and Quality Control Authority, Zain-ul-Abideen, during his visit to the Federation of Pakistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI) here on Friday, informed the business community of the global obligations of World Trade Organization (WTO) related to technical barriers to trade and agreed that both the bodies needed to develop inter active partnership in that regard.

The Director General, accompanied by senior PSQA officers' team, discussed wide range of issues relating to facilitating production and consumer economy.

Prominent on the side of FPCCI were Vice Presidents Engr. M.A. Jabbar, Shabbir Hassan Mansha and Khurram Ijaz, Director PSW Pakistan Single Window.

Zain-ul-Abideen informed the participants that tariff and technical barriers to trade were simultaneously applied in regulating trade and manufacturing sectors to produce and sell quality goods against value of supply by the consumers who were the actual source of generating economy. He suggested that FPCCI, being the apex trade body of the country, should form interactive groups for negotiating facilitation for FPCCI stakeholders to be extended by regulatory framework of PSQA. "We all should be alive to the needs of serving consumer economy," he asserted adding that for this purpose the manufacturers, importers and PSQA would have to play their due roles in satisfying consumers. PSQA Chief fully appreciated the offer of FPCCI on Pakistan Single Window through its Vice Presidents Engr. M.A. Jabbar and Shabbir Hassan Mansha and FPCCI Non-Executive Director Khurram Ijaz on PSW.—APP

PSX loses 462 points

ISLAMABAD: The 100-index of the Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) witnessed bearish trend on Friday, losing 462.52 points, a negative change of 1.11 percent, closing at 41,140.34 against 41,602.86 points on the last working day. A total of 177,761,063 shares were traded during the day as compared to 203,560,788 shares the previous day, whereas the price of shares stood at Rs 4.656 billion against Rs 6.364 billion on the last trading day. Some 322 companies transacted their shares in the stock market, 87 of them recorded gains, and 220 sustained losses, whereas the share price of 15 companies remained unchanged. The three top trading companies were WroldCall Telecom with 25,722,000 shares at Rs 1.32 per share, K-Electric Ltd with 13,204,000 shares at Rs 2.73 per share, and Nenergyco PK, 10,383,017 shares at Rs 4.66 per share. Sapphire FiberXD witnessed a maximum increase of Rs 81.46 per share price, closing at Rs 1,259 whereas the runner-up was Premium Tex XD with a Rs 46.01 rise in its per share price to Rs 698. Bata (Pak).—APP



DHAKA: Pakistan's High Commissioner to Bangladesh, Mr. Imran Ahmed Siddiqui visiting Photo Exhibition organized in connection with Kashmir Black Day at Pakistan's High Commission, Dhaka.—DNA

Pak to establish technical varsity in S. Arabia for expatriates

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development (OP&HRD) Sajid Hussain Turi said that Pakistan, with the cooperation of Saudi Arabia, would establish a technical and vocational university for Overseas Pakistanis.

He said that Saudi Arabia was the home of some 2.3 million Pakistanis who were working and living there for a long time. He reiterated that overseas Pakistanis were playing key role in the development of Pakistan hence, the development and welfare of Pakistanis was paramount which was priority of the present government.

The minister was addressing to Pakistani diaspora at a dinner and discussion session hosted in his honor by Pakistan People Party UK chapter in the Ilford, United Kingdom. Former governor KPK Sajid Hussain Turi was also among the guests at the event. The meeting was held with prominent UK based PPP leaders.

The minister informed about the stances the party was taking with the Pakistan People Party chairman's support to deliver innovative policies for overseas Pakistanis. He further elaborated that with the collaboration of OPF a facilitation desk would be established in order to resolve the problems of Pakistanis and their dependents.

Naval Chief attends convocation ceremony of BUHSC

KARACHI: The 8th convocation ceremony of Bahria University Health Sciences Campus (BUHSC) was held here on Friday.

Chief of the Naval Staff and Pro-Chancellor Bahria University Admiral Muhammad Amjad Khan Niazi graced the occasion as chief guest and awarded medals and merit certificates to the students having outstanding achievements in academics, said a news release.

A total of 262 graduates were conferred degrees of M. Phil, MBBS, BDS, BS (Nursing), DPT and MLT. Certificates of merit and medals were awarded to the position holders. Speaking on the occasion, Chief of the Naval Staff congratulated the students, parents and faculty on achieving a significant milestone in their life and also appreciated extensive efforts put in by the students and BUHSC faculty. The chief guest underscored that by pursuing health education as career, they have opted for a very noble profession that serves humanity at large, without any distinction or discrimination. He also expected that young graduates of BUHSC will spend some time in rural areas which will definitely contribute towards health care of the needy.—APP

North Korea fires missiles ahead of US-Korea drills

South Korea's military said it had "detected two ballistic missiles fired from Tongchon area in Kangwon between 1159, 1218," it said, referring to a province on North Korea's east coast

SEOUL: North Korea fired two short-range ballistic missiles on Friday, the South's military said, the latest in a blitz of launches that Washington and Seoul have warned could culminate in another nuclear test. The launch comes as the South wraps up 12 days of amphibious naval military exercises, involving key security ally America, and ahead of the Monday start of major combined air drills that will involve more than 200 US and South Korean fighter jets. Such exercises infuriate Pyongyang, which sees them as rehearsals for invasion and has repeatedly justified its blitz of missile launches as necessary "countermeasures" to what it deems US aggression. South Korea's military said it had "detected two ballistic missiles fired from the

Tongchon area in Kangwon between 1159 (0259 GMT) and 1218," it said, referring to a province on North Korea's east coast.

"Our military has increased monitoring and surveillance and is maintaining a full readiness posture in close coordination with the US," Seoul's Joint Chiefs of Staff said in a statement.

The missiles flew approximately 230 kilometres (143 miles) at an altitude of 24 kilometres and speeds of Mach 5, the statement said, calling the launch "a serious provocation" that violated UN sanctions.

The US military's Indo-Pacific Command also condemned the launch, saying it highlighted "the destabilising impact" of North Korea's banned weapons programmes. With talks long-stalled, tensions on

the peninsula are at their highest point in years, with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un last month declaring his country an "irreversible" nuclear power, effectively ending negotiations over his banned weapons programmes.

Officials in Washington and Seoul have been warning for months that Kim is ready to conduct another nuclear test, which would be the country's seventh — and the first since 2017.

On Tuesday, South Korean President Yoon Suk-yeol said it appeared Pyongyang had "already completed preparations for a seventh nuclear test", he told parliament. On Wednesday, the United States, Japan and South Korea vowed such a test would warrant an "unprecedentedly strong response". North Korea has

this month fired multiple artillery barrages into a maritime "buffer zone" that was set up in 2018 as a way of reducing tensions with the South during a period of ill-fated diplomacy. It also announced it had staged what it called "tactical nuclear drills" that simulated showering the South with nuke-capable missiles. And on Monday, a North Korean ship reportedly crossed the two countries' flashpoint maritime border, prompting an exchange of warning shots.

North Korean state media has also recently carried a rare series of statements from the country's military condemning the "enemy's war drills" and calling for them to stop. The Friday launch is Pyongyang's effort to push back against both the "Hoguk"

amphibious drills and "Vigilant Storm" air drills, said Hong Min of the Korea Institute for National Unification. "The North knows it cannot compete with the combined US-South Korea air capabilities so instead it intends to show it has the capacity to strike their air command centre with their missiles," he told AFP.

"The North has always dreaded and been sensitive to the Vigilant Storm exercise involving a large joint fleet of fighter jets, and views it as a very aggressive posture," he added.

North Korea's latest launch is part of a dramatic increase this year in what Seoul calls "provocations", including Pyongyang conducting its longest-ever missile launch by distance, which overflew Japan and prompted rare evacuation warnings.

In response, Seoul has conducted live-fire drills, and the US redeployed a nuclear-powered aircraft carrier to the region to conduct large-scale trilateral drills also involving Tokyo.

Analysts say Pyongyang's confidence that gridlock at the United Nations will protect it from further sanctions has emboldened it to step up its weapons testing.

The Security Council has been divided on responding to Pyongyang's nuclear ambitions for months, with Russia and China on the sympathetic side and the rest of the council pushing for punishment. Kim has made developing tactical nukes — smaller, battlefield-ready weapons — a priority, and Seoul recently warned Pyongyang could be preparing to conduct multiple consecutive nuclear tests as part of this drive.—APP

Sino-Pak cooperation in buffalo embryo production stressed

DNA

BEIJING: Sino-Pak cooperation in buffalo embryo production and transfer will create win-win outcomes, says a report published by China Economic Net (CEN) on Friday. In recent years, buffalo milk has been increasingly more popular in China because of its certain health benefits and flavour-some taste. To tap the massive market potential of buffalo milk in China, Sino-Pak cooperation in buffalo embryo production, breeding and dairy processing is already happening and has achieved new milestone lately. In China, many buffalo are hybrids of Chinese native buffalo and Pakistani buffalo for more than two or



three generations. "Pakistan's buffalo is superior to China's local buffalo in terms of production and body shape. The milk yield of Pakistan's buffalo is 5 to 6 times that of the Chinese local buffalo," Lan Yong, Director for Animal Husbandry, Royal Cell Biotechnology (Guangxi) Ltd. said. After being introduced to

China, the hybrid buffalo's milk production has been further lifted with advanced Chinese feeding technology, machinery, and management. "Now our company is constructing pasture in Pakistan, to which we will apply the mature Chinese technology so as to improve the production and operation management level of

pasture in Pakistan," Lan Yong said.

Notably, this year China's Royal Group and Pakistan's JW Group reached a joint venture agreement to boost the buffalo industry in Pakistan. "Our joint venture plans to invest \$100 million in 5 years. When fully completed, we will have an annual output value of \$90 million. From the cultivation of pasture to the breeding of buffalo and deep processing, we will create nearly 1,000 jobs," Teng Cuijin, Vice President of Royal Group and General Manager of Royal Cell Biotechnology (Guangxi) Ltd. told CEN.

According to Teng Cuijin, they have built a central laboratory in Lahore, which has been officially put into

use since this May. Technical exchange and training of embryonic production and breeding are going on in the lab between the company and Pakistani scientific research institutions. At present, the success rate of buffalo embryo transfer is still low.

Embryo transfer can be done both in Pakistan and in China so that we can compare the efficiency of embryo transfer in different feeding environments. Our experience of embryo transfer made in China can be used in Pakistan if Pakistani needs it. On the whole, we should help improve the success rate of buffalo embryo transfer not only in China but also in Pakistan to promote bilateral technical exchange.—APP

SSP Operations presents certificates

RAWALPINDI: Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Operations, Rawalpindi Waseem Riaz Khan has presented certificates of appreciation to 66 police officers including SP Rawal, Babar Javed Joya and SDPO City, Maham Khan.

In appreciation and recognition for exceptional services rendered in the line of duty, the SSP distributed cash prizes and appreciation certificates among police personnel for their stellar performance.

The SSP said that the police teams from Sadiqabad, Pirwadhai, Wah Cantt and Rwp Cantt police stations were given certificates of appreciation for their excellent performance during operations against criminals and lawbreakers.—APP

Women empowerment top priority of Govt: Minister

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Human Rights Mian Riaz Hussain Pirzada here on Friday said women empowerment was the top priority of the government. He was addressing a Consultation and Analysis session arranged by National Commission on the Rights of Child on the issue of Child Marriages in Pakistan. Representatives from the UN, members of civil society and other dignitaries also participated in the session. In his address, the minister lauded the efforts of Chairperson NCR, Afshan Tahseen and her team for launching policy brief and KAP (Knowledge, Attitude and Practices) Survey to suggest a way forward to address the issue of early marriages in Pakistan. He said that prevention and elimination of child marriage was important for economic and social uplift of the country. He stated that in our society, poverty and limited educational opportunities

for children were the main reasons for marriage at a young age that was causing adverse effects on the physical and mental health of child brides.

Early marriage also deprived girls of their right to education and became a reason behind the intergenerational transfer of poverty, he added. The minister further said that child marriages made our society unsafe especially for girls and more incidents of domestic violence, social discrimination and abuse were reported in the areas with high ratio of early marriages.

He mentioned that under article 25 A of the constitution of Pakistan, it was the state responsibility to provide free and compulsory education to all children up to the age of 16 years. "There is a need to make further efforts by all provincial and federal governments to ensure that educational laws are properly applied as this is the only way forward

that will help a great deal to reduce the number of child marriages in Pakistan," he added.

While stating the factors contribute towards national development, the minister said that enabling girls to improve their education, health and employment opportunities and ending poverty should be a top priority for all of us to gain the sustainable social and economic development. He expressed that in the past, this social issue was not taken seriously even this topic was considered difficult to bring under discussion but now situation has been entirely changed due the sincere efforts of some institutions and leaders. At the end, the minister reiterated that his ministry would fully contribute and play its role to adapt the recommendations of the session as a regular law to stop the child marriages in the country.—APP

OCTOBER 2022

Pakistan's Premier News & Diplomatic Affairs Magazine

Find us on:

www.centrelines.com.pk

www.dnanews.com.pl

www.islamabadpost.com.pk

@PostIslamabad/ @Editordnanews

A sister concern of

Islamabad POST

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

Briefs

PIA to resume direct flights between Islamabad, Beijing

DNA

ISLAMABAD: International Airlines has completed all arrangements to restart its direct weekly passenger flights on Beijing-Islamabad-Beijing route from Sunday. According to official sources, PK-854 will depart from Islamabad International airport at 6.45 am on Sunday morning and arrive at the Beijing Airport at 14.55 pm local time. This flight will return to Islamabad later in the evening. The Civil Aviation Administration of China stopped flights of all international airlines including PIA to and from Beijing in wake of Covid 19 pandemic prevention and control measures at the beginning of the year 2020. As per official sources, the Civil Aviation Administration of China also accorded approval to PIA to restart its direct flight operation between Islamabad and Beijing considering Pakistan as the only all-weather strategic partner of China.

FIA summons Qureshi over audio leaks

DNA

ISLAMABAD: The Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) has summoned former foreign minister and PTI leader Shah Mahmood Qureshi in case related to a leaked audio on the Cypher issue. The FIA summoned Qureshi on November 1 at its Headquarters at 12 noon. The sources said former foreign secretary Sohail Mahmood was also summoned to PIA headquarters on Friday where he was questioned in reference to the Cypher. FIA is conducting an inquiry into an audio leak of PM House in which the alleged voices of former prime minister Imran Khan and his principal secretary Azam Khan regarding the Cypher. The sources said Qureshi was summoned in light of the statement given by former foreign secretary Sohail Mahmood.

Recession fears stalk Europe despite German growth

FRANKFURT: Germany's economy unexpectedly grew in the third quarter, official data showed Friday, but slowing growth in France and Spain added to fears that high inflation and an energy crisis will tip the region into recession. Europeans are bracing for a difficult winter as Russia crimps gas supplies in the wake of the Ukraine war, raising the spectre of energy shortages and worsening a cost-of-living squeeze for millions. Despite the gloomy outlook, Germany surprised analysts by posting growth of 0.3 percent quarter-on-quarter, driven mainly by consumer spending. France and Spain meanwhile reported 0.2 percent growth each from July to September, a sharp slowdown however from the 0.5 and 1.5 percent expansion they saw in the previous quarter. "The German economy managed to hold its ground despite... the continuing Covid-19 pandemic, supply chain interruptions, rising prices and the war in Ukraine," federal statistics agency Destatis said about the preliminary data. Germany narrowly eked out 0.1 percent growth in the second quarter, and analyst had predicted that Europe's biggest economy would shrink by 0.2 percent in the third quarter. But economists warned that Friday's data merely provided a brief respite and that a downturn was coming, as Russia's war in Ukraine sends food and especially energy costs surging. - APP

Estimated USD 16.3 bn needed more for rehabilitation: UNDP

The PDNA Human Impact Assessment highlights that the national poverty rate may increase by 3.7 to 4.0 percentage points, potentially pushing between 8.4 and 9.1 million more people below the poverty line

ISLAMABAD: The recent and updated Post-Disaster needs assessment has called for urgent support to implement a recovery and reconstruction that 'Builds Back Better' based on the principles of the poor first, transparency, inclusion, and climate resilience in flood hit-area of Pakistan. The assessment estimated total damages to exceed USD 14.9 billion, and total economic losses to reach about USD 15.2 billion. Estimated needs for rehabilitation and reconstruction were at least USD 16.3 billion, not including much needed new investments to strengthen Pakistan's adaptation to climate change and overall resilience to future climate shocks, or reconstruction needs of affected private entities, an updated report of United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Pakistan said. Housing; Agriculture and Livestock; and Transport and Communications sectors suffered the most significant damage, at USD 5.6 billion, USD 3.7 billion, and USD 3.3 billion, respectively. Sindh is the worst affected province with close to 70 percent of total damages and losses, followed by Ba-

lochistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, and Punjab. The Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives led the Post-Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA), which was conducted jointly with the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the European Union (EU), the United Nations agencies with technical facilitation by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and the World Bank. The PDNA, in addition to estimating damages, economic losses and recovery and reconstruction needs, also assesses broader macro-economic and human impacts and recommends principles along which to develop a comprehensive recovery and reconstruction framework. The floods affected 33 million people and more than 1730 lost their lives. They are particularly impacting the poorest and most vulnerable districts. The situation is still evolving, with flood waters stagnant in many areas, causing water-borne and vector-borne diseases to spread, and more than 8 million displaced people now facing a health crisis. The crisis thus risks having profound and lasting impacts on lives and livelihoods.

Loss of household incomes, assets, rising food prices, and disease outbreaks are impacting the most vulnerable groups. Women have suffered notable losses of their livelihoods, particularly those associated with agriculture and livestock. The PDNA Human Impact Assessment highlights that the national poverty rate may increase by 3.7 to 4.0 percentage points, potentially pushing between 8.4 and 9.1 million more people below the poverty line. Multidimensional poverty can potentially increase by 5.9 percentage points, implying that an additional 1.9 households are at risk of being pushed into non-monetary poverty. Compounding the existing economic difficulties facing the country, the 2022 floods are expected to have a significant adverse impact on output, which will vary substantially by region and sector. Loss in gross domestic product (GDP) as a direct impact of the floods is projected to be around 2.2 percent of FY22 GDP. The agriculture sector is projected to contract the most, at 0.9 percent of GDP. The damage and losses in agriculture will have

spillover effects on the industry, external trade and services sectors. The government is providing immediate relief to the impacted communities and supporting the early recovery, while aiming to ensure macroeconomic stability and fiscal sustainability. Moving forward, as recovery and reconstruction spending rises, the loss in output could be mitigated. Yet, significant international support will be needed to complement Pakistan's own commitment to increase domestic revenue mobilization and save scarce public resources, and to reduce the risk of exacerbating macroeconomic imbalances. Although the early loss and damage estimates may increase as the situation is continuously evolving on the ground, the PDNA lays the groundwork for an agenda for recovery and reconstruction that is designed to build back a better future for the most affected people in Pakistan. While the recovery will require massive efforts for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of damaged infrastructure, buildings and livelihoods, it will also be an opportunity to strengthen institutions and governance structures.

ECP issues another notice to PTI chief

PESHAWAR: District Election Commissioner (DEC) NA-45, Kurram-1, issued second notice to contesting candidate Imran Ahmad Khan Niazi in by-election from the said constituency to appear before him in person or through counsel on Saturday and explain his position regarding the alleged violation of code of conduct. This comes following an earlier notice issued by the DEC on October 26 regarding the utilization of the services/assistance from Provincial Minister for Relief, Rehabilitation and Settlement Muhammad Iqbal Wazir during the ongoing election campaign activities. This, according to the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) official, is tantamount to violation of para-8 of the ECP code of conduct. The PTI chief was directed to appear before the DEC on October 27 at 11:00 a.m. in Parachinar, District Kurram, either in person or through a counsel to explain as to why necessary action under the law should not be taken against him by the Commission. In case of failure to comply with the notice, the candidate was warned of ex-parte action in the form of recommendation to the Election Commission of Pakistan for proceeding against him under the law. Imran did not appear before the DEC, which prompted the latter to issue another notice to the candidate. - APP

Nigeria beefs up security after US, UK 'terror' warning

ABUJA: Nigeria on Friday said it had beefed up security and called for the public to be vigilant but calm after the United States and Britain warned of a high "terror" threat in the capital Abuja. Without giving details on any specific threat, the US on Thursday ordered diplomats' families to leave Abuja due to what it called a "heightened risk of terrorist attacks." Residents of the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) have been on high alert since Sunday, when several Western embassies changed their travel advisories citing an elevated risk of attack in Abuja. Nigerian troops are fighting jihadist insurgents mostly in the northeast, though there are small cells in other parts of the country. Militants linked to the Islamic state group claimed several attacks near the capital in the past six months, including a mass jailbreak in July. The incident in Kuje, in which more than 400 inmates including dozens of suspected jihadists escaped, had prompted Buhari to say he was "disappointed" with his intelligence services. - APP

Musk takeover of Twitter sparks worries, cheers

WASHINGTON: Elon Musk's acquisition of Twitter sparked both concern and celebrations among users Friday, with many expecting radical changes in how the platform regulates comments. US billionaire Mark Cuban, known for his role on the "Shark Tank" entrepreneur reality show, said sardonically that he was "looking forward to" Musk capturing Twitter. "He is a ready, fire, aim entrepreneur who will... flex his independence to show everyone who's in charge. Prominent media critic Jeff Jarvis warned that Musk's immediate management sackings at the company presaged a new approach. "He's not 'cleaning house.' He is purging the company of responsible adults with expertise and experience," Jarvis wrote. "Be careful of your words." Former Russian president Dmitry Medvedev, who exchanged sarcastic tweets over the Ukraine war a week ago, wished Musk "good luck... in overcoming political bias and ideological dictatorship on Twitter." "And quit that Starlink in Ukraine business," he added, referring to the Musk-controlled, satellite-based internet service now used heavily by Ukrainians. - APP

Tareen invites Azeri Military leadership in IDEAS-2022

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Defence Production Muhammad Israr Tareen extended invitation to Azerbaijan Military leadership to participate in International Defence Exhibition and Seminar (IDEAS)-2022 to be held in Karachi in November. The invitation was extended during a meeting with Azerbaijani Ambassador Khazar Farhadov, who called on the federal minister here on Friday. The minister welcomed the dignitary and highly appreciated the brotherly support of Azerbaijan Government to Pakistan on all international forums, including OIC and the United Nations, a news release said. Tareen said that Pakistan was a peace-lov-

ing country, strictly believing in peaceful coexistence with all. The minister reiterated that Pakistan's commitment to peace was evident through its major contribution to the UN peace efforts in war-torn countries in different parts of the world. He also expressed Pakistan's strong desire to broaden and strengthen its partnership with Azerbaijan in all fields, including defence production. The ambassador thanked the Government of Pakistan for its cooperation in the development of Azerbaijan's defence industry and appreciated the efforts of the Ministry of Defence Production in enhancing ties between the two countries. - APP

CM says steps afoot for people welfare

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

PESHAWAR: Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Mahmood Khan has said that the incumbent provincial government of Pakistan Tehreek-Insaf has taken pragmatic steps for public welfare as per Chairman Imran Khan's vision for the establishment of a social welfare state, adding that the ultimate goal of the efforts and struggle over the years is to contribute to the national economy and provide people of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa with easy access to basic services. In a statement issued here from Chief Minister's Secretariat regarding the reforms and transformation strategy of his government, the chief minister said that PTI has emerged as the only political party that is

representative of Pakistanis and stands for their rights. The provincial government has proved this by taking practical steps over the last four years which have resulted in significant improvement in the overall service delivery system in the province. Mahmood Khan said that the major public welfare steps of the government include Sehat Card Plus, uniform academic curriculum, revamping and rehabilitation of healthcare centres, establishment of service delivery centres, provision of honorarium to Aaima Masjid and religious leaders of minorities, launching of Insaaf Food Card, reforms introduced in Patwar system, solarization of Masjid, improvement in the communication network all over the province and many other initiatives under the good governance strategy of the provincial govt.

Iran protests continue as UN sounds alarm

NEWS DESK

TEHRAN: The United Nations human rights office has voiced concern at Iran's treatment of detained protesters and said authorities refused to release some of the bodies of those killed, as demonstrations in the country continue. "We've seen a lot of ill-treatment... but also harassment of the families of protesters," Ravina Shamdasani, spokeswoman of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, told a Geneva press briefing on Friday, citing multiple sources.

"Of particular concern is information that authorities have been moving injured protesters from hospitals to detention facilities and refusing to release the bodies of those killed to their families," she said. Shamdasani added that in some cases, authorities were placing conditions on the release of bodies, asking families not to hold a funeral or speak to the media. Protesters in detention were also sometimes being denied medical treatment, she said. The Iranian government has not commented on the claims so far, but has accused Western nations of meddling in its internal affairs, and said Iran's "enemies" were hatching plots against the country. Iran has been gripped by demonstrations since the death of a 22-year-old woman, Mahsa Amini, in police custody last month. The unrest has posed one of the boldest challenges to Iran's leadership since the 1979 Islamic revolution.

Nancy Pelosi's husband 'violently assaulted'

WEB DESK

WASHINGTON: The husband of US House of Representatives Speaker Nancy Pelosi has been "violently assaulted" after a break-in at their California home. Paul Pelosi, 82, was taken to hospital and is expected to make a full recovery, a spokesperson said. The suspect, who has not been named, is in custody but the motive for the attack is unclear. Mrs Pelosi was not at the San Francisco residence when the incident took place on Friday morning. "The Speaker and her family are grateful to the first responders and medical professionals involved, and request privacy at this time," a spokesman for the senior Democrat said. Two people who spoke on condition of anonymity told the Associated Press that the attacker had specifically targeted the residence. The assailant used a hammer to gain entry, two sources told CBS News, but it is unclear if it was used to attack Mr Pelosi. Mrs Pelosi is one of the most powerful politicians in the country. She was re-elected to a fourth term as Speaker of the

House of Representatives in 2021, making her second in line to the presidency after Vice-President Kamala Harris. The Baltimore native has represented the San Francisco area in Congress since 1987, and typically splits her time between California and Washington. She is currently fundraising and campaigning with Democrats around the country ahead of the midterm elections on 8 November, and was in Washington with her security detail at the time of the attack. Her husband, the multimillionaire founder of a venture capital firm, resides primarily in San Francisco where he was born and raised. The couple have been married since 1963 and have five children. Their combined net worth, primarily from Mr Pelosi's investments, has made the speaker one of the richest members of Congress. The exact circumstances of the attack are unclear and it is not known how the intruder entered the couple's residence. The FBI and the US Capitol Police, which has a field office in California, are assisting San Francisco police with the investigation.

Pakistan will continue its support to Kashmiris - Says UN-pledged RSD an inalienable right of Kashmiris

DNA

WASHINGTON: Pakistan's Ambassador to the United States Masood Khan, has said that Pakistan will continue its support to the oppressed Kashmiris in their struggle for securing their right to self-determination. Masood Khan addressing an event organized in the Pakistan Embassy in Washington in connection with Kashmir Black Day said, "The right to self-determination is an inalienable right of people of Kashmir and no power on earth can deny that fundamental right". The gathering was also included the President Azad Jammu & Kashmir, Barrister Sultan Mehmood Chaudhry, as the Chief Guest, and other Kashmiri leaders - Dr. Ghulam Nabi Fai and Dr. Imtiaz Khan. He presented a historical perspective of the longstanding issue, highlighting the immense sacrifices by the people of Pakistan in their moral, diplomatic and political support for the just Kashmir cause. Ambassador Masood Khan urged the people of Kashmir not to lose hope, as "The flame of liberty must continue to burn in your heart." Ambassador Khan urged the people of Kashmir not to lose hope, as "The flame of liberty must continue to burn in

your heart." Also present were members of Pak-American community, activists, students and media representatives. The messages of President Arif Alvi and Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif were read out on the occasion. Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed, Member of the House of Lords of the United Kingdom Wajid Khan, UK's Shadow Justice Minister Afzal Khan, US activist for Kashmir cause, Daniella Khan, Associate Professor of History at Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad, Dr Ilhan Niaz, and Kashmiri activist Shaista Safi sent video messages. Speaking on the occasion, the President of Azad Jammu and Kashmir Barrister Sultan Mehmood Chaudhry highlighted various efforts that have been made in the past to engage the international community and highlight the Kashmir dispute at international level. He also shared his thoughts about the recent attempts by the Indian government

to change the demographic composition of the Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir. The AJK President urged the participants to become the voice of Kashmiris by not only engaging the US lawmakers and raising the issue on international platforms but also proactively participating in the US political process. Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed, in his video message, expressed solidarity with the people of Kashmir on behalf of the Parliament of Pakistan and called upon international community that there should be no double standards with regard to any illegal aggression, occupation and annexations. Lord Wajid Khan, in his message, said that the United Nations should not forget Kashmir and the Kashmiri people, who were being denied their basic human rights. MP Afzal Khan said that UK, US and the EU have a responsibility to push for a multilateral effort for the resolution of longstanding issue of Kashmir. Dr. Imtiaz Khan said that the land

of Kashmir was being plundered and human rights were being violated by the Indian occupation forces. He highlighted that 130,000 innocent Kashmiri have been killed and over 100,000 women have been raped in the struggle for the right to self-determination. Calling for practical actions and a concrete Plan of Action, Dr. Khan said that unless there was practical international pressure on India, the atrocities would continue. Dr. Ghulam Nabi Fai cautioned that the whole nation of Kashmiris was on the brink of extinction. He reiterated that the Kashmiri nation was united in their legitimate struggle for the right to decide their own destiny. Ms. Danielle Khan, in her video message, called for continued efforts to raise awareness about the issue of Kashmir. Dr. Ilhan Niaz, Associate Professor of History Quaid-i-Azam University Islamabad, underscored the need for resolution of the longstanding Kashmir issue in a manner consistent with the aspirations of the Kashmiri people and the legitimate security interests of India and Pakistan. Shaista Safi urged the global community to take serious notice of human rights abuses in Indian occupied Kashmir and the ongoing project of illegal settlements and attempts towards forced demographic change.

