



# Islamabad POST

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**Brazil election: Lula da Silva makes stunning comeback**

Detailed News On Page-01

**RCCI, PCBF ink MOU for cooperation**

Detailed News On Page-06



**Finch leads Australia to victory**

Detailed News On Page-06



**Briefs**

**Ayaz Sadiq appointed minister of law**

STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Monday appointed Pakistan Muslim League Nawaz (PML-N) leader Ayaz Sadiq as Minister of Law and Justice, ARY News reported. Former Law Minister Azam Nazir Tarar resigned some days back citing personal reasons. According to details, the former National Assembly Speaker Ayaz Sadiq has been assigned the responsibility of the Minister of Law and Justice.

**Deputy speaker PA granted bail**

ABID RAZA

LAHORE: A division bench of the Lahore High Court (LHC), headed by Chief Justice Muhammad Ameer Bhatti, granted protective bail to Punjab Assembly's deputy speaker Wasiq Qayyum Abbasi in a case registered by Islamabad police under anti-terrorism charges amongst others. The petitioner's counsel informed the court that his client is presently residing in Punjab assembly lodges and on gaining knowledge regarding the FIR, the petitioner tried to approach the concerned court for seeking bail before arrest to join the investigation.

**Reference rejected against Gilani**

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Chairman Senate Sadiq Sanjrani on Monday rejected a reference submitted by Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) seeking disqualification of former prime minister Senator Yousuf Raza Gilani. The Chairman, in his ruling, said that the reference is being rejected as Article 63-A does not apply on this particular reference. The reference was filed in the Senate secretariat by PTI's Senator Azam Khan Swati, along with other party leaders.

## PM unveils incentives for farmers

PM said this package also includes loans worth 50bl rupees for youth of rural areas that wants to invest in agriculture sector

SHUJAAT HAMZA

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has announced a mega Kissan Package under which farmers will be provided subsidized loans worth 1800 billion rupees. Announcing the package in Islamabad on Monday evening, he said as compared to previous year the increase in these loans is 400 rupees. The Prime Minister said to facilitate the farmers, the coalition government will provide a subsidy of over ten billion rupees to waive off mark-up fee on the loans availed by farmers of flood affected areas. The Prime Minister said this mega package also includes loans worth 50 billion rupees for the youth of rural areas that wants to invest in agriculture sector. For this purpose, the government will provide 6.4 billion rupees as a subsidy on mark-up of loans. The Prime Minister said after successful negotiations with the fertilizers producers, the new price of DAP has been fixed to 11,250 rupees per bag. For this purpose, the government negotiated a subsidy of

Continued on Page 06

**Khattak rubbishes claims of backdoor talks with govt**

OUR CORRESPONDENT

PESHAWAR: PTI's senior leader Pervez Khattak Monday denied holding backdoor talks and meetings with the government after senior members of the ruling alliance claimed that the party and its leaders reached out for talks. Last week, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Interior Minister Rana Sanaullah said that the PTI Chairman Imran Khan and party leaders, including Khattak and Fawad Chaudhry, approached the government to hold talks regarding two specific matters — election dates and the army chief's appointment. Speaking with journalists in Peshawar, and the former chief minister of

Continued on Page 06

## 'Imran march won't bring revolution'

Mariyum Aurangzeb says there has been no revolution over the last six months, but the people have seen the corruption of Imran Khan

KHAYYAM ABBASI

ISLAMABAD, Minister for Information and Broadcasting Mariyum Aurangzeb on Monday said Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan, the foreign-funded "fitna", has admitted that his rejected bloody march will not bring any revolution. Reacting to Imran Khan's tweet, she said it was evident that from now onwards election and power couldn't be obtained by hurling abuses and brandishing guns. Imran's planned 'bloodshed on the ballot' is proof of bringing revolution through guns. She said there has

Continued on Page 06

**PTI doesn't want clash with establishment**

STAFF REPORT

RAWALPINDI: Awami Muslim League (AML) chief Sheikh Rashid has said that the PTI's long march is only aimed at holding early elections in the country and the opposition does not

Continued on Page 06



ISLAMABAD: French Ambassador to Pakistan Nicolas calling on Senator Saleem Mandviwalla. — DNA



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif announcing Kissan Package in a Press Conference. — DNA

**Imran's request rejected**

NEWS DESK

ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad High Court (IHC) Monday rejected the request of PTI's Chairman Imran Khan to suspend the decision of ECP regarding his disqualification and, however, stopped the by-polls in Minawali. Justice Aamer Farooq of IHC heard the case filed by Pakistan Tehreek e Insaf (PTI)'s Chief and disposed prime minister Imran Khan challenging the verdict of Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) in Toshkhana case. At the outset of hearing, Justice Aamer Farooq inquired that if the petitioner had submitted an application to file some extra documents. Imran's lawyer Barrister Ali Zafar said that they had requested the permission for submission of ECP's notification regarding de-seating of his client.

**French envoy, Mandviwalla discuss trade**

DNA

ISLAMABAD: French Ambassador Nicolas Galey on Monday called on Chief Whip Senator Saleem Mandviwalla here and exchanged views on trade, investment and other issues of mutual interest. Mandviwalla said improving inter-parliamentary relations between the two countries would help enhance business and trade ties, adding that he looked forward to see more interaction among the members of the Pak-France Friendship Group. The chief whip also hoped to see the Pakistan-France Business Alliance play a more active role in promoting trade activities between the two countries.

Continued on Page 06

## Hearing in apex court Not aware of undertaking about long march: Imran

The former prime minister also requested the court to allow him to submit a detailed response by November 3

SAIFULLAH

ISLAMABAD: PTI Chairman Imran Khan told the Supreme Court on Monday that he was unaware of any "statement or undertaking" given by his party leadership on his behalf regarding the May 25 march. "The answering respondent respectfully submits that he was not aware of any statement or undertaking having been made before this honourable court on behalf of the 'senior leadership of the PTI' or on his behalf during the course of 25.05.2022 nor of the details, including as regards the D Chowk area, of the order passed by this Honourable Court around 06:00 p.m. on 25.05.2022," said the PTI chair in his written response. The PTI chair assured the court that he holds it in the highest

Continued on Page 06

**Imran to send Rs10 billion notice CEC**

STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: Former prime minister Imran Khan, while addressing the protestors at Kamoke, announced that he will be sending a Rs10 billion to Chief Election Commissioner Sikander Sultan Raja for taking his name in the Toshkhana reference. "Sikander Sultan I will get the money for the damages from you," said the PTI chief. He added that he will be filing a case against the ECP chief in court. "I will pay the damages that I win to the [Shaukat Khanum] Hospital. Sikander Sultan, you raised a question on my integrity," said the PTI chief.

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**Inside...**

DC ICT to form committees for removal of encroachments — Page 02

NPO submits proposal to become certification body — Page 03

New technology, skills crucial to benefit from CPEC — Page 04

Putin's plan to crack Germany — Page 05

RCCI and PCBF ink MoU for B2B cooperation — Page 06

President for enhancing the quantum of trade with Ireland — Page 07

Somalia appeals for world help after deadly blasts — Page 08

## Brazil election: Lula makes stunning comeback

Lula spent 580 days in jail before his conviction was annulled and he returned to the political fray. "They tried to bury me alive and here I am," he said, kicking off his victory speech

AGENCIES

BRASILIA: Brazil has taken a turn to the left as former president Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva beat far-right incumbent Jair Bolsonaro in the presidential election. After a divisive campaign which saw two bitter rivals on opposite sides of the political spectrum go head to head, Lula won 50.9% of the votes. It was enough to beat Jair Bolsonaro, whose supporters had been confident of victory. But the division which this election has highlighted is unlikely to vanish. It is a stunning comeback for a politician who could not run in the last presidential election in 2018 because he was in jail and banned from standing for office. He had been found guilty of receiving a bribe from a Brazilian construction firm in return for contracts with Brazil's state oil company Petrobras. Lula spent 580 days in jail before his conviction was annulled and he returned to the political fray. "They tried to

**PM felicitates new Brazilian president on election**

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Monday extended felicitations to Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva on his election as the President of Brazil. "I wish him great success and look forward to working with him to enhance bilateral relations between our two countries," the prime minister, posted on his Twitter handle. Shehbaz Sharif mentioned that he and the new Brazilian president shared a "consensus on the dangers of climate change". — APP

bury me alive and here I am," he said, kicking off his victory speech. Since the announcement, congratulations have been coming in from leaders around the world, including

Continued on Page 06

**'Dastan Kisa Kahani' concludes**

ISLAMABAD: A solo exhibition of paintings titled 'Dastan Kisa Kahani' by prominent artist Hassnain Awaiz will conclude on November 1, Tuesday, here at Satrang art gallery.

The show was dedicated to support and promote artists as well as artisans of Pakistan. The exhibition explored 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 becoming obsolete, said Zahra Khan", Curator of the gallery about the show.

Hassnain creates beautiful, intricate works, representing the delicacy of historical archives. Watercolor washes, oil paints, digital print, lithography and color pencils bring to life Dastan, or life lessons told through stories.

The artist has several solo and group shows to his credit at home and abroad.

Dastan Kisa Kahani is based on archives comprising records that have been selected for permanent or long-term preservation on grounds of their enduring cultural, historical value.

Such records are normally unpublished and almost always unique, unlike books or magazines of which many identical copies may exist. "My work revolves around a feeling or an affection that one develops with such personalized paper, letters, envelopes. We have a strange bond with these archival papers and the fact that we are slowly moving away from them. Elements in my work represent different aspects of our society and its norms.—APP

**Muqam announces awards for scholars**

ISLAMABAD: Adviser to the Prime Minister for Political and Public Affairs and National Heritage and Culture, Engr Amir Muqam Monday announced special awards for scholars working on children literature.

He was speaking during the inaugural ceremony of a three-day International Conference titled "Children's Literature: Past, Present and Future" held at the Pakistan Academy of Letters (PAL). Addressing the opening ceremony, Engr Amir Muqam said that children's literature and storytelling could be helpful in promoting students' development and well-being.

The Adviser to the Prime Minister said that children's literature is playing a crucial part in education as it provides knowledge and entertainment. Engr Amir Muqam said that the PAL's main objective is to work for the promotion of Pakistani literature and the welfare of writers in the country. "It is our understanding that through the promotion of literature and the welfare of the writers, other sections of people and Pakistani society can also be improved", Engr Amir Muqam added.—

**DC ICT to form committees for removal of encroachments****STAFF REPORT**

ISLAMABAD: Deputy Commissioner Islamabad Irfan Nawaz Memon said that for the removal of encroachments in Islamabad, committees comprising representatives of ICCI and market associations will be formed to try to solve this long-standing issue with joint efforts. He expressed these views while talking to a delegation of Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry who met him led by President Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari. The meeting was arranged by former Special Assistant to the Prime Minister Hanif Abbasi so that the issues be-

tween the ICT Administration and the business community could be resolved through mutual understanding.

Talking about the delegation's demand for dealing with natural disasters, Irfan Nawaz Memon said that Syed Kashif Bukhari, Director, National Disaster Management Authority will visit ICCI to address the concerns of the business community on this issue.

Former SAPM Hanif Abbasi said that he wished to improve the relations between the ICT Administration and the business community to remove misunderstandings and resolve the problems of the business community. He said the purpose is to promote a business

friendly environment in the Capital to further improve the business and investment activities in order to advance the mission of the Prime Minister of Pakistan Mian Shabbaz Sharif.

President, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari said that efforts would be made to solve the problems of the business community in cooperation with the ICT Administration. He said that the practice of registering cases against businessmen and sending them to jail should be stopped and the honor and dignity of the business community should be respected. He thanked former SAPM Hanif Abbasi and Deputy

Commissioner Islamabad Irfan Nawaz Memon for holding meeting in a pleasant atmosphere. He said that the close liaison between the ICT Administration and the business community is important to move forward for the betterment of the city as the measures taken without consulting the stakeholders usually prove futile. He expressed his determination that he will work with the ICT Administration to resolve the key issues of the business community including the removal of encroachments.

Group Leader Khalid Iqbal Malik said that former SAPM Hanif Abbasi has played the role of a bridge between the ICT Admin-

istration and the business community which is laudable. He also paid tribute to the services of Hanif Abbasi for solving the problems of the business community. President All Pakistan Anjuman-e-Tajir Anjum Baloch and President All Pakistan Tanzeem-e-Tajir Kashif Chaudhry also expressed their views on this occasion and offered their services to move forward together. ICCI Senior Vice President Faad Waheed, former Presidents Khalid Javed, Zafar Bakhtawari, Mohammad Ejaz Abbasi as well as Mohammad Yahya, Khalid Chaudhry, Saifur Rehman Khan and Ali Malik were also in the delegation.

**Chairman CDA visits Barakahu bypass**

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Chairman CDA capt (r) Muhammad Usman Younis visited Barakahu bypass project along with Member Engg, Member planning & member Enviroment, PD north NLC & SPM NLC presented the progress of different components of project. It was apprised that 27 piles out of 32 have been poured at trumpet interchange, 7 piles have been casted at nullah bridge. Casting of girders have been started. Earth work is also in progress at various locations. Work on elevated portion regarding casting of piles will also be taken up in full swing by tomorrow. No work is being carried out within QAU boundaries i.e. 1323 meters in compliance with IHC orders.

**PTI not spending public money on long march**

MULTAN: PTI's president of South Punjab Senator Aon Abbas Buppi said they weren't using even a penny from the public exchequer to proceed for the long march in Islamabad. Addressing a press conference on Monday, the Senator stressed people from 11 districts of three divisions of the southern belt of Punjab were taking part in the long march. "Our planning to participate in the march is complete. The first caravan will be set off from Rahim Yar Khan followed by the next from Rajanpur to reach Islamabad. The third one would move from Bahawalnagar, fourth from Layyah, Fifth from DG Khan and the last one will depart from Bahawalpur to the federal capital," he informed. He said more than 350 buses were kept ready to take participants of the long march to Islamabad. All caravans were bound to reach Zero Point until Friday. However, he said the dates of departure could be altered on the direction of Imran Khan, said Buppi. He expressed sympathy with journalists for sacrificing their lives "for the just cause of democracy". Replying to a query, he said they didn't have an estimated cost for participation in the event. He said holding demonstration for free and fair elections was their constitutional right. He also claimed that they had completed arrangements to stay in Islamabad for three days. "We are bringing quilts, blankets, and dry food along for our stay in the capital."—APP

**PML-N to expose propaganda of PTI chairman: Javed Latif**

LAHORE: Federal Minister Mian Javed Latif on Monday expressed his deepest condolence on the tragic death of journalist Sadaf Naeem who died during Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) long march and prayed for the departed soul. Addressing a press conference at Model Town, here he said that march of PTI started with the death of a journalist, saying that Sadaf Naeem, a reporter of private TV channel lost her life in the line of duty.

The minister said that due to the language used by Chairman PTI against our institutions, the Indian media was giving full coverage to him. He said that the PTI chief's narrative showed that he was not sincere with the public. He said the so-called long march was getting smaller each passing day, adding that at its outset there were about 10 to 12 thousand



people, but now the number got reduced to 3500 to 4000 only, he added. The minister criticised that the PTI chairman made fake claims to give employment to 10 million people, adding that in reality not even a single work or project of public welfare was completed and only 'lip

service' was made during their tenure of government. He said that due to incompetency and weak policies of the PTI government people were suffering hard and were forced to live under open sky. He alleged that the PTI long march was planned to create unrest in the country. He said most of the march was taking place within the boundaries of Punjab, and added that if any untoward incident occurred then the provincial government was to be blamed and held responsible. Javed Latif said that millions of rupees were being spent on the long march and people wanted to know the source of that funding. "If KP and Punjab government were bearing the expenses of long march as well as more than 60 public gatherings of PTI then they should be held answerable before the public."—APP

**Shirakat launches 'shattered dreams'**

LAHORE: Shirakat-Partnership for Development in collaboration with Amplify Change launched a report titled "Shattered Dreams" on a nationwide survey of the victims of early and forced child marriage (CEFM). Shirakat - Partnership for Development, a women-led national organization has been working on gender justice, women and child rights, economic justice and climate justice in Pakistan for the past 17 years. The launch was attended by government functionaries, National Commission on the Status of Women, Social Welfare, CSO representatives, child rights activists, mothers, and young women and men. Early and forced child marriage continues to be a pressing issue in the country. With key drivers such as poverty, inequality, lack of access to quality education, limited life choices, social norms and beliefs that marriage can be legalized as soon as both the girl and boy hit puberty and that this law cannot be amended, the reduction in early child marriage requires effort and collaboration from multiple sectors. The research report highlighted the adverse economic, marriage satisfaction, mental health and maternal and child health outcomes as a direct consequence of early and forced child marriage. Not only were the victims' underage at the time of marriage but it was also found that when it comes to consent of child bride or groom, the supremacy of parents' or guardians' decision took priority and consent of the child bride or groom was hardly ever sought in true sense. The research concluded that the biggest problem was the implementation of the law. Lack of awareness of this issue as well as the Child Marriage Restraint Act in the public was highlighted as one of the key challenges to implementation of child marriage laws. In addition, marriage being a private affair further impeded the progress in timely reporting of CEFM. For provinces where the child marriage law was 16 years, stakeholders highlighted the legislation was contradictory to the requirement of the child bride having an ID card since CNIC is issued at the age of 18. —DNA

**Most of deaths caused by breast cancer due to lack of awareness**

KARACHI: First Lady Samina Arif Alvi on Monday said most of the deaths caused by the breast cancer in Pakistan were due to the lack of awareness among the victims. Addressing as a chief guest at a breast cancer awareness seminar organized by Memon Professional Forum at Karachi Gymkhana, the first lady emphasized upon awareness among masses and not to limit the awareness campaigns to the month of October only.

She said since the start of this awareness campaign, doctors informed that cases of diagnosis at third or fourth stage had receded to a some extent. Samina Alvi said 50 percent of the deaths caused by the breast cancer in Pakistan were due to the late diagnosis while in the West recovery ratio was 98 percent. She said fortunately after the commencement of the awareness campaign stigma attached to the disease had also minimized and it was

being discussed openly at numerous forums. A seminar regarding breast cancer held in a seminary in Wana, Waziristan, which indicate that stigma attached to the disease was declining rapidly. "Our awareness campaign was taking momentum", she said. The first lady said the participation of survivors of breast cancer in the awareness campaigns besides the doctors and civil society was encouraging.

She also emphasized upon sensitizing men to participate in the campaign. Samina Alvi appreciated the Memon Professional Forum for organizing the seminar and expressed the hope that the forum members would carry forward this awareness message. The first lady also urged upon the participants of seminar to support her efforts for creation of an inclusive society to bring the differently-abled to mainstream.—APP

**Iran's unrest to have fallout for region**

KHAYAM ABBASI

ISLAMABAD: Though there are a few genuine problems with the Iranian regime, the fault-lines are being systematically targeted through media-framing and threat-perception building in an orchestrated manner which, in turn, fuels unrest by mobilizing the populace, both domestically and internationally. This was observed during a session, titled 'The Current Unrest in Iran and its Impact on Pakistan and the Region', held at the Insti-

tute of Policy Studies (IPS). The session was addressed by Iran affairs experts Ambassador (r) Asif Durrani and Dr. Nazir Hussain, dean faculty of social sciences and humanities, University of Wah, besides Khalid Rahman, chairman IPS, and Ambassador (r) Syed Abrar Hussain, vice chairman IPS. The speakers were of the view that incidents that caused unrest are not new for Iran but, at times, an increased level of turmoil provides an opportunity for entities to exploit it to fulfill their ulterior agendas and corner elements which are a bigger threat or problem. The current un-

rest in Iran follows the same trend and is of interest to many global players for varied reasons entailing domestic or international agendas. Considering this, a prominent role in forming public political opinion on Iran's situation is being played by the Western media, they highlighted. Though there are problems in Iran, the depiction by the media, through employing media framing and building threat perception, is inaccurate in its meaning. It is not only intensifying the disturbance but also mobilizing the demand to bring a political change in Iran.

The speakers pointed out that this is a part of non-traditional warfare in which fault-lines are exploited to fulfill an agenda. These fault-lines can be internal conflicts in a system and disagreements among the public. In the case of Iran, they further noted that so far it has been managing well its political fault-lines, such as the extreme disagreement of people and governmental flaws, in order to avoid greater unrest by maintaining continuity in the political system. However, greater challenges regarding the continuity of the supreme religio-political leadership, another fault-line that is being eyed by hostile entities, may emerge in the future.



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## Israel's "apartheid" against Palestinians

AMNESTY International has applauded the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Adequate Housing for declaring that 'Israel' is committing the crime of "apartheid" against Palestinians. At the UN General Assembly on Friday, Special Rapporteur Balakrishnan Rajagopal presented an "Adequate Housing" report which condemned 'Israel' for overseeing an "institutionalised regime of systematic racial oppression and discrimination against the people of Palestine". The report, which compared the forcible transfer of Palestinians to the Syrian regime's destruction of civilian homes, concluded that Israel's routine abuse – including forced displacement and illegal demolitions – amounts to "the crime against humanity of apartheid". In the report, the Special Rapporteur cites several examples of Israeli government laws and policies which are used to confiscate Palestinian land and property, such as the Absentee Property Law and land registration procedures. Israeli occupation authorities also use the designation "firing zone" or "closed military zone" to confiscate Palestinian lands. Approximately 20% of the occupied West Bank has been designated as "firing zones", and Palestinian presence is banned there without permission from the Israeli forces, according to the report. This affects more than 5,000 Palestinians from 38 communities, who are hit with eviction orders, threatened with displacement, or forced to leave their homes while the military conducts training exercises. In the community of Masafer Yatta in the occupied West Bank, more than 1,000 people are facing forcible eviction due to this policy. "Israeli authorities' domination and control of the Palestinian population, including through discriminatory land, planning and housing policies, is well documented, and extends to Palestinians wherever Israel has control over their rights," said Heba Morayef, Amnesty International's Regional Director for the Middle East and North Africa. "There is growing recognition among human rights experts that Israel is committing apartheid, and the presentation of this report today could not be more timely. As well as the ongoing threat of forced eviction, demolition, and forcible transfer, there has recently been an alarming escalation in attacks on Palestinians in their homes and towns throughout the occupied West Bank." She added, "Military incursions, closures, state-backed settler attacks, home demolitions, and destruction of property are all manifestations of Israel's apartheid system." Earlier this year, Amnesty International released a report declaring 'Israel' is carrying out "the crime of apartheid against Palestinians." Amnesty's report details how 'Israel' enforces a system of oppression and domination against Palestinians. Israeli human rights group B'Tselem also asserted that Israeli policies had been designed to enforce "Jewish supremacy from the Jordan River to the Mediterranean Sea".

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## Pakistan and climate catastrophe

DESPITE all the efforts to control the environmental pollution, there was no difference in the pollution and last day Lahore was declared as the most polluted city in the world. The campaign against environmental pollution continues and the authorities claim that in Lahore many polluting factories have been shut down and many have been given notices. The whole world is affected by climate change due to pollution and the flood situation caused by untimely heavy rains in Pakistan was also due to this reason. Recently, Pakistan launched an anti-pollution campaign, announcing that those who burn residues in fields will be punished, smoky factories and brick kilns will also be targeted, while garbage burning in the city will also be banned. And the closure of smoke-emitting vehicles was also announced, however, according to the information of the department, several measures were taken, but the effects were not seen, nor was the burning of garbage stopped in the city, and even the vehicles that emit smoke are not being asked. There is a need for the relevant departments to perform their duties diligently and awareness should be raised among the citizens that smog also affects health. The window to take urgent climate action is closing rapidly. Unless countries dramatically scale up their efforts to counter the climate crisis, the world faces a global catastrophe, United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres warned last week. Guterres' comments come upon the release of the UN Environment Programme's (UNEP's) Emissions Gap Report 2022, which shows that under current Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), the world is headed for 2.8 degrees of global heating by the end of the century. Simply put, an NDC is a climate action plan to cut emissions and adapt to climate impacts. Each party to the Paris Agreement is required to establish an NDC and update it every five years. Despite a call for strengthened NDCs for 2030, UNEP's report finds that progress since COP26 in Glasgow last year has been inadequate. "The recommendations in today's report are clear," said Guterres. "End our reliance on fossil fuels. Avoid a lock-in of new fossil fuel infrastructure. Invest massively in renewables." "Commitments to net zero are worth zero without the plans, policies and actions to back it up. Our world cannot afford any more greenwashing, fake movers or late movers," he added. "We must close the emissions gap before climate catastrophe closes in on us all." Guterres' warning comes less than two weeks before the UN Climate Change Conference (COP27), where global leaders will discuss ways to tackle the climate emergency – from building resilience and adapting to its impacts to financing climate action. As climate impacts intensify, the Emissions Gap Report 2022 finds that only an urgent system-wide transformation can avoid an accelerating climate disaster. The report looks at how to deliver this transformation through action in the electricity supply, industry, transport and buildings sectors, and the food and financial systems.

## Putin's plan to crack Germany

Jeremy Stern

The US has indicated that a Russian nuclear attack could trigger NATO's Article 5 collective defense clause on the grounds that radiation would spread from Ukraine to NATO territory, like Poland. It would only take a small tactical nuclear explosion on the Ukrainian battlefield, or even perhaps an "accident" at the Russian-occupied Zaporizhzhia nuclear plant, to end 77 years of the international nuclear taboo. This is why US national security adviser Jake Sullivan recently warned that, "We have communicated directly, privately, and at very high levels to the Kremlin that any use of nuclear weapons will be met with catastrophic consequences for Russia, that the US and our allies will respond decisively"

AFTER 30 years as a bastion of political and economic sanity in Europe, Germany is once again approaching the kind of disaster scenario it thought it had left behind forever. An energy supply crisis, runaway inflation, threats of nuclear war in Europe, attacks on energy infrastructure in the Baltic Sea, increasing diplomatic isolation, a collapsing economic model, and rising populist politics—Berlin's worst nightmares all seem to be coming true at once. How Germany responds will have consequences not only for German voters but for Europe as a whole, as well as for global stability. It is hard to exaggerate how shocking these circumstances are for most Germans. Germany has built an admirable society based on a high degree of social trust, a robust social security system, and low inequality. That post-reunification Germany was able to become the world's fourth-largest economy in such a short period of time is due in large part to its highly competitive industrial exports, which kept voters happy and politics boring. But ever since the pandemic-induced economic crisis began in 2020, and especially following the economic tremor of Russia's expulsion from the Western trade and financial system in early 2022, the German model has been revealed as something of a pyramid scheme. Far from a resilient system that can adapt to external disturbances like pestilence and war, the Germany economy depends on cheap Russian gas, reliable Chinese supply chains, and large foreign export markets. Now, Germans are watching in disbelief as steel, fertilizer, and chemical plants are closing or on the brink of shutting down. German automakers are being forced to consider moving domestic production to countries where energy is cheaper. Large German hopes have been pinned on green hydrogen as the future of the energy landscape, but as soon as it had to become a solution to an industrial problem rather than a climate problem, hydrogen now looks less attractive. If Germany, no longer has access to cheap energy—either from nuclear power or from pipeline-bound cheap gas—then en-

ergy-intensive production may increasingly move to where cheap energy is located. Rather than move green hydrogen across the globe to supply a steel mill in Germany, for example, firms may just move their plants to the Middle East, or to other EU countries where, thanks to nuclear power, green energy supply may soon exceed power demand. These are the kinds of disruptive economic changes that have led to populist political movements across the Western democratic world, from Britain and the United States to Italy and France. And indeed, the far-right Alternative für Deutschland (AfD) now polls as the most popular political party in all five states of the former East Germany. This is not a reassuring development for Germany's neighbors, who are already smarting until the diplomatic clumsiness of the government of Chancellor Olaf Scholz. In response to the energy crisis, for example, Scholz recently unveiled a national subsidy that was uncoordinated with EU allies and thus seen as sabotaging their own efforts. The chancellor has so far taken a high-handed attitude to their fury. As kanzlerin for 16 years, Angela Merkel attempted to readjust Germany's position by warming up to (and benefiting from) a rising China, a supposedly declining America, and what she and the German establishment thought of as a revived Russia. Scholz, who served as Merkel's Finance Minister, largely shared this vision. But with China more inward-looking and hostile to foreign companies and imports, the United States growing closer to Northern, Eastern, and Central European countries as a result of the war in Ukraine, and Russia all but ostracized from the Western economic order, the Merkel-Scholz plan is now in tatters, and Germans feel increasingly alone and uncertain in a terrifying world. This is the political and psychological baggage with which Germans are approaching Vladimir Putin's mounting threats to use nuclear weapons in Ukraine. The United States has indicated that a Russian nuclear attack could trigger NATO's Article 5

collective defense clause on the grounds that radiation would spread from Ukraine to NATO territory, like Poland. It would only take a small tactical nuclear explosion on the Ukrainian battlefield, or even perhaps an "accident" at the Russian-occupied Zaporizhzhia nuclear plant, to end 77 years of the international nuclear taboo. This is why US national security adviser Jake Sullivan recently warned that, "We have communicated directly, privately, and at very high levels to the Kremlin that any use of nuclear weapons will be met with catastrophic consequences for Russia, that the US and our allies will respond decisively." If Putin did go through with his nuclear threat, in other words, there is a distinct possibility that it could lead to a NATO attack on Russia or Russian military assets in Ukraine or the Black Sea. Frank-Walter Steinmeier, the President of Germany and a leading member of the ruling Social Democratic Party, has publicly vowed that Germany will never participate in armed hostilities with Russia, implying a special German exemption from NATO's Article 5 commitment of mutual assistance. Scholz has never disavowed such claims. Both Steinmeier and Scholz come from a long line of Russophile German leaders who see the two countries' destinies as inextricably linked, and Germany as the only country that understands the "Russian soul." Putin, who began his career as a KGB officer in East Germany and speaks fluent German, knows the Germans better than they know him. He has good reason to believe that they would be prepared to violate their treaty obligations to NATO, if push came to shove. Putin sees his place in Russian history not only as the man who will have reclaimed lost territories, but as the man who will have finally defeated the hated "West." If a tactical nuclear strike in Ukraine might cause NATO to break part and the EU to fracture over support for Ukraine—to say nothing of causing markets to crash and an economic depression in Europe—Putin's threats may not be as empty as we all hope.

— Source: Al Arabiya

## Being ruled by elites is not new for the UK

Mark Blacklock

Of course, the answer to the inequalities in Britain's historically unequal contemporary society - the cost-of-living crisis - would be a redistribution of wealth. An authentically socialist agenda would make the economy less vulnerable to the vicissitudes of market forces, and control of natural resources would provide stability by ensuring critical decisions are based on more than the motive to make profit. That will never happen under Sunak's government

IN Britain, there is cause for celebration that Rishi Sunak has become the first person of color to ascend to the highest public office in the UK. To have a British Asian of Indian descent as prime minister of a country whose empire conquered, colonized, and plundered for a hundred years the homeland of his ancestors is a fantastic achievement for him personally and for the UK as a multicultural nation. Beyond that, his example will serve as an inspiration to others in minority communities that they live in a land where diversity is seen as a fundamental tenet of the national character, and not a barrier to be overcome. To that extent, the arrival of Sunak, a proud and devout Hindu, in No.10 Downing Street renders him a luminary, both as a person of faith and a person of color. Like most of Europe, Britain has a growing population which is increasingly diverse. Migration is acknowledged as one of the drivers of this and people of Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) origin now account for about 14 percent of the population, although they are still underrepresented in many areas. The 2019 general election sees Britain elect its diverse parliament, with 10 percent of MPs from a minority background. The picture is slowly improving: The figure is much less than 10 percent 20 and 30 years ago. The old "stale, male, pale" image long associated with people in UK public life is altering as the nation learns to embrace and celebrate its diversity. Its capital London is one of the most ethnically diverse cities in the world. The city's Labour

mayor Sadiq Khan is a former MP and the son of a working-class bus driver of Pakistani heritage. Khan, a devout Muslim, described Sunak's election as a source of pride for British Asians. Anglo Saxon dominion has been decaying and its power of exploitation is declining. However, Sunak's achievement should be seen in its proper context: Not as that of a person of faith or a person of color, but as a person of his class. Unlike Khan, Sunak is one of the richest people in UK politics. He may as head of the UK government represent the nation but he is as far removed from the average voter as it is possible to be. Fabulously rich, sitting on a family fortune of about 730 million pounds (\$843 million), the owner of at least four homes in Britain and the US each worth several million, he has had a life of privilege unattainable by ordinary people. He has enabled policies which impact negatively on the lives of millions of people living in real financial peril. They are in danger of losing their jobs, their homes, and some face daily choices of whether to feed themselves or heat their homes. Any hopes of rapid aid from Sunak have been dashed by his delaying of a fiscal plan until the end of October. People cannot afford to wait for any help. Superstitious people might think it is no coincidence the plan would be unveiled on October 31, which is celebrated as Halloween. In legend, a time when spirits are afoot. How fitting. The party Sunak leads seems intent on keeping poorer people poor and the rich even richer. He has hard-line political views at odds with

any minority's role model: He was an outspoken advocate of Brexit, which helped trigger a wave of racist crimes; he supports the deportation of refugees to Rwanda; he dismisses legislation designed to protect minorities as "woke nonsense." Of course, the answer to the inequalities in Britain's historically unequal contemporary society - the cost-of-living crisis - would be a redistribution of wealth. An authentically socialist agenda would make the economy less vulnerable to the vicissitudes of market forces, and control of natural resources would provide stability by ensuring critical decisions are based on more than the motive to make profit. That will never happen under Sunak's government. The former investment banker and hedge fund manager, educated at an elite public school and at Oxford and Stanford, will look after the interests of his own kind - the infamous "1 percent." That exclusive proportion of the population regarded as the richest, having personal wealth of more than 3.6 million pounds, is apart from the other 99 percent of "ordinary people." He is more prepared to pull the ladder up to keep his class in power. In this way, Sunak reveals his foremost loyalties - not to ordinary people, but to the establishment, the ruling class, membership of which is accessible only through wealth and privilege. Being ruled by elites is nothing new for British people, and as long as Sunak is in charge it will be more of the same.

— Source: Global Times





**Briefs**

**Alvi summons NA session on Nov 3**

ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi has convened the session of the National Assembly on November 3 (Thursday), the President's House said on Monday. The session will be held at 4 pm at the Parliament House. The president has summoned the National Assembly session in line with Article 54-L of the Constitution. - APP

**Bilawal to represent Pakistan in SCO meeting**

**STAFF REPORT**  
ISLAMABAD: Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari will represent Pakistan at the SCO Council of Heads of Government (SCO-CHG) meeting scheduled to be held in Beijing on 1st November 2022. The SCO-CHG will be held in a virtual format owing to the Covid-19 pandemic restrictions. The CHG will be chaired by the Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, Mr. Li Ke-qiang and attended by the Heads of Government from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. Heads of Government of SCO Observer States i.e., Belarus, Iran and Mongolia will also attend the meeting. The Council of Heads of Government is the second highest forum in Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) that focuses primarily on the areas of trade, finance, commerce and socio-economic cooperation among SCO Member States.

**Dar meeting proves fruitful as dollar depreciates**

**NAZIR SIYAL**  
KARACHI: Finance Minister Ishaq Dar's meetings with the officials of the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) and currency dealers proved fruitful as the Pakistani rupee opened the week strongly in the interbank market on Monday. According to the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP), the local unit gained Rs1.59 or 0.72% against the greenback in the interbank market, closing at 220.88. Last week, the rupee lost 0.93% to 222.47 against the dollar. Analysts believed that the local currency would trade range-bound this week. Pakistan-Kuwait Head of Research Samiullah Tariq said that the meetings of the finance minister with the State Bank of Pakistan's (SBP) officials and market participants including banks and exchange companies have improved the market confidence. Meanwhile, Finance Minister Ishaq Dar warned last week that tough actions will be taken against those found manipulating the exchange rate. Dar stated that the rupee's actual value is below the 200 level against the dollar.

**India bridge collapse kills more than 130**

MORBI: At least 137 people died in western India when a colonial-era pedestrian bridge packed with revellers collapsed into the river below, police said Monday. Authorities said nearly 500 people were celebrating the last day of the Diwali festival on and around the nearly 150-year-old suspension bridge in Morbi when supporting cables snapped after dark on Sunday. CCTV footage showed the structure in Prime Minister Narendra Modi's home state of Gujarat swaying - with a few people apparently deliberately rocking it - before it suddenly gave way. The walkway and one fence crashed into the river, leaving the other side dangling in mid-air and hundreds of people in the water. "I saw the bridge collapse before my eyes," said one witness who worked all night on rescue efforts, without giving his name. - APP

**TURKISH NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATED**



**ISLAMABAD:** Chief Guest Khawaja Muhammad Asif Minister for Defence, Federal Minister for Narcotics Shazan Bugti, Former Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee Gen @ Zubair Hayat, SAPM Faisal Karim Kundi, Ambassador of Turkiye Dr. Mehmet Pacaci and others cutting cake to celebrate National Day of Turkiye. - DNA

**Somalia appeals for world help after deadly blasts**

MOGADISHU: Somalia's president has issued an urgent plea for international help for wounded victims of devastating car bombings at the weekend that claimed the lives of 100 people. Bulldozers were continuing to clear the blast site in the capital Mogadishu on Monday in the hunt for bodies feared trapped under the rubble. Saturday's attack, which also wounded more than 300 people, was claimed by the Al-Shabaab jihadist group and was the deadliest in the fragile Horn of Africa nation in five years. "We appeal for the international community, Somali brothers, and other Muslim brothers and partners to send doctors to Somalia to help the hospitals treat the wounded people," President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud said in a statement Sunday. He warned that the death toll could rise, as ill-equipped hospitals were swamped. Somalia has one of the world's weakest health systems after decades of conflict. "We cannot airlift all these numbers of wounded people... anyone who can send us we request to send us," said Mohamud, who himself has donated blood for the victims. Prime Minister Hamza Abdi Barre has ordered schools closed so that students can take part in a national blood donation drive. The World Health Organization said on Sunday it was ready to help the government treat the injured and provide trauma care. Al-Shabaab, an Islamist group linked to Al-Qaeda, claimed responsibility for the attack in which two cars packed with explosives blew up minutes apart near the city's Zobe intersection, followed by gunfire.

It said in a statement it had targeted the country's ministry of education. The explosions tore through walls and shattered windows of nearby buildings, sending shrapnel flying and plumes of smoke and dust into the air. Ali Yare Ali, a local government official in Mogadishu, told reporters that between seven and nine bodies were suspected to be under the rubble of buildings destroyed by the blasts. Somalia's allies denounced the bombings, with the United States, the United Nations and the African Union among those issuing messages of support. The attack tests the government's ability to secure the conflict-weary nation, including the capital of nearly 2.5 million people. "The Somali nation and these terrorists are at war, as I speak now, there is fighting ongoing in many parts of the country," Mohamud said Sunday. "We are at war with them, and we are killing each other." The attack took place at the same busy junction where a truck packed with explosives blew up on October 14, 2017, killing 512 people and injuring more than 290, the deadliest attack in Somalia. Al-Shabaab fighters have stepped up their attacks in Somalia since Mohamud was elected in May and vowed an "all-out-war" on the Islamists. The insurgents have been seeking to overthrow the fragile foreign-backed government in Mogadishu for about 15 years. Al-Shabaab fighters were driven out of the capital in 2011 by an African Union force but the group still controls swathes of countryside and continues to wage deadly strikes on civilian, political and military targets. - APP

*Somalia's allies denounced the bombings, with the United States, the United Nations and the African Union among those issuing messages of support*

**Pak strongly condemns terrorism in Somalia**

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan strongly condemns the heinous and cowardly terrorist attack in Mogadishu, Somalia claiming over 100 innocent lives and injuring many. Our thoughts and prayers are with the families of the deceased and wounded. The people of Pakistan stand in complete solidarity with the Somali nation in this most tragic hour of grief and mourning. Pakistan attaches great value to its fraternal ties with Somalia, and believes that the resilient Somali nation shall emerge from this tragedy stronger. - DNA

**Mirwaiz among 500 most influential Muslims**

ISLAMABAD: Incarcerated senior APhC leader and renowned Islamic scholar Mirwaiz Umar Farooq has been listed among the 500 most influential Muslim personalities globally. According to the Kashmir media service, RISSC based in Jordan in collaboration with Georgetown University published the annual list. Mirwaiz has been listed among 500 Muslim influential global personalities such as King Salman of Saudi Arabia, Ayatollah Khamenei of Iran, former PM Imran Khan, Turkey's President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and King Abdullah of Jordan. - APP

**Arshad Sharif murder Khurram, Waqar inquiry raises new questions**

**NEWS DESK**

NAIROBI: As part of its investigation into the Arshad Sharif murder case in Kenya the two-member Pakistani inquiry team has dug up some new details after interviewing the slain journalist's hosts. The questionable role of Khurram Ahmed, who was driving the vehicle carrying the slain senior journalist Arshad Sharif in Nairobi, and his brother Waqar Ahmed has come to the fore, especially the part where one of them miraculously dodges the Kenyan police bullets to reach the farmhouse safely with Sharif, who was killed by the head and chest shots. The government team closely examined the bullet-riddled



car Sharif was travelling in, the crime scene, the dinner spot, and the farmhouse where the journalist was allegedly staying. At the same time, the whole incident was also reenacted in light of the investigation. The farmhouse is 22 kilometres from the crime scene and is accessible mostly through a dirt road (trail). According to a briefing given to the Pakistani investigators, the lodge where Sharif reportedly had dinner had no CCTV cameras, while the place was powered by generators or other sources. The Kenyan authorities also provided details to the Pakistani team. The Pakistani sleuths also thoroughly interrogated Khurram Ahmed, who was driving Arshad Sharif to Nairobi at the time of the shooting.

**Pakistan need to emulate China model: PM Shehbaz Embarks on China visit; lauds the efforts of Chinese Ambassador Nong Rong**



**STAFF REPORT /DNA**

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Monday said he looked forward to meeting the Chinese leadership for a series of "productive and fruitful meetings" aimed at boosting business, strategic and people-to-people relations. Shehbaz Sharif, who

is set to embark on a two-day visit to China on Tuesday, said Pakistan strongly needed to emulate the Chinese model of development for its sustainable progress and prosperity. Addressing here at the first steering committee meeting of the Pakistan China Business and Investment Forum (PCBIF), he emphasized creating favourable environment for building a business-to-business relationship. "Let's join hands and move forward to create a win-win situation for the Chinese and Pakistani businessmen and investors," he said. The prime minister mentioned the huge potential existing between the two countries and called for streamlining the business procedures in Pakistan to benefit from China being the second-largest economy in the world. He termed the CPEC a game-changer for development in Pakistan with billions of dollars of investment already committed by Chinese companies.

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