



Islamabad POST

Wednesday, November 02, 2022

Pakistan's Credible Daily Newspaper

Price Rs. 25

Kazakh PM calls upon SCO nations to ensure food security

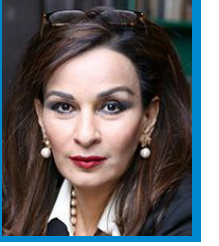
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CPEC to ensure SCO's shared prosperity

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Sherry slams Imran Khan's statement

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Briefs

Biden in Florida for a final push

DNA

WASHINGTON: US President Joe Biden rallies Democrats in Florida Tuesday as he makes his closing pitch for next week's midterm elections that set the balance of power in Congress and state capitols. As he faces signs of a growing "red wave" that could sweep the opposition Republicans to power in the House and Senate, Biden has been attempting with mixed success to court the blue-collar vote. He travels to Hallandale Beach, a coastal city 20 miles (30 kilometers) north of Miami to tout his administration's progress on health care and seniors' entitlement reform.

No one can dictate from London, US

STAFF REPORT

LAHORE: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader Asad Umar says that no one can take decisions of Pakistan sitting in London or US. While holding a press conference along with other party leaders in Lahore on Tuesday, he said that Nawaz Sharif's count has also deteriorated by staying with Pervez Rashid. If there were two hundred people, you would not have made Islamabad a graveyard of containers. Asad Umar said that no matter how many restrictions are imposed, people's minds cannot be changed, people are coming out more as planned for March.

Shahbaz Gill's name added to ECL

KHYIAM ABBASI

ISLAMABAD: PTI leader Shahbaz Gill's name has been added to ECL, sources privy to the matter told media on Tuesday. Officials, who had knowledge about the matter spoke to Geo News on the condition of anonymity, and shared that Gill's name was added to ECL after the federal cabinet's approval. The former special assistant to the prime minister's name has been added to the exit list on Islamabad administration's request.

Azaadi March Day 5 'Will defeat Nawaz in his constituency'

Imran says Nawaz will return in same manner as Dar; warns Rana Sanaullah of grave consequences

OUR CORRESPONDENT

GUJRANWALA: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairperson Imran Khan vowed on Tuesday to defeat PML-N supremo Nawaz Sharif in "his own constituency" as the party resumed its 'Haqeeqi Azaadi March' on Day 5 from Gujranwala. "Nawaz Sharif, I challenge you, when you come back, I will beat you in your own constituency," said Imran in his first speech of the day. He also warned the former three-time premier that when he returns to Pakistan, "we will take you to Adiala jail from the airport". Imran also took aim at former president Asif Ali Zardari and said he should "get ready" for his arrival in Sindh - the traditional bastion of the PPP. Adding that the people of Sindh "need freedom the most", Imran warned Zardari that he is "coming after" him in Sindh. The PTI chairperson reiterated that the time of "true freedom" had arrived and told the march participants that "we will attain it through justice and will fight for the supremacy of law and justice". "This system cannot continue and we will have to change it," Imran told the march participants. "When it is asked who will save Pakistan, the answer is not Imran Khan. It will be you who will save Pakistan and set it free," he told the people.

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'If numbers are small then why are you scared'

STAFF REPORT

GUJRANWALA: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader Fawad Chaudhary Tuesday laughed off Nawaz Sharif's statement that long marchers were no more than 2,000 and that the PTI's demands should be given a deaf ear. "If we are so small in number then what is there for them to be scared of, anyway?" Fawad said addressing a press conference with his party peer Shah Mehmood Qureshi. "If we are just 2,000 then let us come to Islamabad. Why are they shaking in their shoes?" Mocking at an exiled elder Sharif, Fawad said his younger brother (Shehbaz) was in power and the three-time former prime minister was not coming home. "When Prime Minister Shehbaz's own family doesn't

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Pak keen to enhance relations with France

"Pakistan values its relations with France and we earnestly look forward to enhance mutually beneficial multi-domain relations based on common interests," ISPR quoted COAS as saying



STAFF REPORT

RAWALPINDI: French Ambassador to Pakistan, Nicolas Galey, called on Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Qamar Javed Bajwa at GHQ, today, said Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) in a statement on Tuesday. According to the army's media wing, during the meeting, matters of mutual interest including defence & security cooperation and overall regional security situation were discussed. "Pakistan values its relations with France and we earnestly look forward to

enhance mutually beneficial multi-domain relations based on common interests," the ISPR quoted COAS as saying.

Both leaders reiterated the desire to further enhance bilateral relations in all fields, the ISPR said. The visiting dignitary expressed his grief over the devastation caused by floods in Pakistan and offered sincere condolence to the families of the victims. The French ambassador also appreciated Pakistan's efforts for regional stability and pledged to play his role in further improvement in diplomatic cooperation with Pakistan at all levels.



BEIJING: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif being presented with guard of honour upon his arrival in Beijing. - DNA

PM in China on maiden official visit - Says China visit to focus on CPEC revitalization

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday left here for China's capital Beijing on a two-day official visit. During his first official visit to China after assuming office, the prime minister will meet Chinese President Xi Jinping and Premier Li Keqiang. The prime minister will be among the first leaders to visit China following the historic 20th National Congress of the Communist Party (CPC) of China that elected Xi Jinping as general secretary of the party. He is also scheduled to meet the Chinese investors and Pakistani businessmen. The prime minister is leading a high-level delegation including Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, Finance Minister Ishaq Dar, Minister of Communications Maulana Asad Mehmood, Minister of Planning Ahsan Iqbal, Information Minister Marriyum Aurangzeb, Minister of Railways Khawaja Saad Rafiq, Minister for Board of Investment Chaudhry Salik Hussain, Minister for Defence Production Sardar Israr Tareen, and PM's Special Assistant Tariq Fatemi, Fahd Hussain, Zafaruddin Mahmood, Jahanzeb Khan and Sindh Chief Minister Murad Ali Shah. The two sides will review the All-Weather Strategic Cooperation Partnership and exchange views on regional and global developments. The visit is expected to advance the wide-ranging bilateral cooperation agenda with the conclusion of a number of MoUs/Agreements in diverse areas, and consolidate the momentum of CPEC cooperation in the wake of the 11th meeting of the CPEC Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) on October 27, 2022.

Sanauallah urges PTI to resolve issues politically

Says ministry will approach PM for approval to arm security personnel

SHUJAAT HAMZA

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Interior Rana Sanauallah on Tuesday urged Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) to shun riotous agenda and sit with other political parties to reach political solution. Addressing a press conference in Islamabad on Tuesday, he said that unfortunately, a certain section has become a victim of former prime minister and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chairman Imran Khan's misguidance as he [Imran Khan] is a victim of madness and misguidance which started with 7 to 8,000 people. The interior minister condemned Imran Khan's remarks about imposing martial law in the country, saying that the enforcers have decided to abide by the Constitution. "No talks were being held with PTI Chairman [Imran Khan] at any level or at any place," the federal minister added. "The interior ministry will approach Prime Minister [Shehbaz Sharif] to give approval for

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JUI-F files petition against long march

STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: JUI-F's Senator Kamran Murtaza Tuesday filed a constitutional petition in the Supreme Court against the PTI's long march, as it continues to move toward its final destination in Islamabad. The senator has included the federal and provincial governments, PTI Chairman Imran Khan, and his party in the petition as respondents, asking the top court to ensure the safety of citizens as its long march approaches the capital due to security concerns. In October, the federal government had also filed a contempt of court plea

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US again rejects regime change claim

DNA

WASHINGTON: Once again, US State Department has categorically refused Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chief Imran Khan's claims about regime change foreign conspiracy saying that there is no truth to these allegations and America will not let disinformation get in the way of an important bilateral partnership with Pakistan. "The United States has no role in ending the government of Imran Khan in Pakistan. Can provide correct information in response to false and false information," the spokesperson of US State Department Spokesperson Ned Price in a press briefing in Washington. He said the US will counter disinformation,

and misinformation with information. This has been said many times that there is no truth to these allegations, he added. "We won't let propaganda, we won't let misinformation or disinformation get in the way of an important bilateral relationship, including our valued bilateral partnership with Pakistan." He said that there is an important partnership between Pakistan and United States. They always viewed a prosperous and democratic Pakistan as critical to their interests that remains unchanged, Ned Price said. "Our common interest will not change. Values upholding peaceful, constitutional and democratic values," he said. A question regarding the fair process of elections in

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CPEC to ensure SCO's vision of shared prosperity - Page 08

PTI holding march to influence COAS appointment

Maryam Nawaz says Nawaz Sharif not taking any NRO and Imran will know what would happen when Nawaz would enter the field

NEWS DESK

LONDON: Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) Vice President Maryam Nawaz Tuesday claimed that the actual agenda of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf's long march towards Islamabad is to stop the incumbent government from appointing the next army chief. She said the PTI's long march has nothing to do with the nation and welfare of the people. Addressing a news conference in London, the PML-N vice president sent condolences to the family of deceased journalist Sadaf Naeem - who was crushed to death in the line of duty while climbing down PTI Chairman Imran Khan's container during the march - and said that the incident forced her to think about the purpose of PTI's long march. "A precious life was lost. A mother of young children passed away while cover-



ing the long march. It forced me to ponder over the purpose of the long march," she said. She said Imran knows that he has also lost the last card and now came on the streets to cause ruckus. Maryam said Imran started long march after the failure of his conspiracy narrative and people have shown disinterest in his long march. She said Nawaz

Mariyum lambasts Khan over statement

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Mariyum Aurangzeb has criticized Imran Khan for hinting at the implementation of Martial law in the country. During a press conference held in Islamabad on Tuesday, the federal information minister said the former prime minister wants 'anarchy not elections' and does not care about democracy. She said that Imran Khan should explain to whom he was threatening while delivering

speeches on the container during his long march toward Islamabad. Imran Khan is in favor of imposing emergency in the country, she added. "The frustrated Imran Khan has now demanded the imposition of emergency and the martial law in the country," he added. Mariyum said that Imran Khan was simultaneously behaving in an aggressive and disrespectful way which showed that he was frustrated and in mental disarray. "Imran Khan is a 'foreign-funded Fitna' who had admitted to

Sharif not taking any NRO and you will know what would happen when Nawaz would enter the field. She questioned why Imran Khan's sons were not participating in the long march. Taking a jibe at the PTI leader, Maryam said people should keep an eye on their watches as watch thieves are in Gujranwala. Maryam said whom Imran criticise the whole day, he fell into their feet in the night. "Those whom you are criticizing are the defenders of the country and not of Bani Gal. They are the protectors of the country, not your robberies and thefts. Soldiers sacrifice their lives for the country and you insulted them for their salary." Maryam added that had the march been arranged by someone who had not been in power before, it would have made sense, but someone who ruled the country for four years need not hold such marches.

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US starts training program for Pakistani doctors

DNA

ISLAMABAD: The US Department of Health appointed the Institute of Regenerative Medicine (IRM), a Pakistani private institution, as its official representative in Pakistan to train Pakistani doctors in the field of stem cell treatment. The IRM has now become the only authorized institution to train Pakistani doctors in stem cell treatment and issue certificates from the US

Department of Health. At a signing ceremony, held in Islamabad, Director of the US Department of Health, Dr Rozeena Munir, issued a formal license to IRM chief executive Dr Salman Naem Gilani. She said the treatment of many life-threatening diseases would be possible through non-traditional treatment of stem cells. Many Pakistanis who travel abroad for medical treatment shall have all the facilities and treatments available right at their door step. It would also boost medical tourism in

the country. The Pakistani doctors who are seeking specialization in the stem cell treatment would now be trained by the IRM, in Pakistan. At the end of the successful training, the American Department of Health would issue them a certificate on the recommendation of the IRM. Dr Salman Gilani hoped that after this program, Pakistan will be able to compete with other countries like India and Turkey in this field and would soon become a hub of medical tourism.

He said that various diseases including cancer, heart disease, arthritis, autism, joint pain etc. can be treated in a very safe manner through stem cell treatment. He also said that aging problems including weakness, hair fall and skin diseases could also be cured. IRM's Turkish partner, Dr. Murad Artak, shed light on the benefits of stem cells and the innovations and financial benefits of this field across the world including Pakistan. DG Legal Aid Dr. Rahim Awan, Executive Director NIH Professor Amir Ikram, IHRA Chief Dr. Quaid Saeed, former Ambassador Naila Chauhan and former WAPDA Chairman General Muzmal Hussain also participated in the ceremony.



Court extends physical remand of Dost Mazari

LAHORE: A judicial magistrate on Tuesday extended physical remand of former deputy speaker Punjab Assembly Dost Muhammad Mazari for another two days, in an alleged land scandal. The court also sought a report about investigations on the next date of hearing. Judicial Magistrate Ghulam Murtaza Virk conducted the proceedings, wherein the Anti-Corruption Establishment (ACE) Punjab officials produced the former deputy speaker on expiry of his two-day physical remand. The investigation officer submitted that investigations had not been completed and requested the court to extend the physical remand of the accused. However, Mazari's counsel opposed the remand plea, saying that all records were available with the ACE. - APP

Steps being taken to promote environment-friendly energy

OUR CORRESPONDENT

PESHAWAR: Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Mahmood Khan has stated that pragmatic steps are being taken to promote environment-friendly and clean energy production in the province. So far, more than 7,400 schools, 5672 Masajid, 134 Basic Health Units and 6643 households in 100 villages across the province have been solarized under the Annual Development Programme (ADP) at a cumulative cost of Rs 9.134 billion. Besides, 895 Masajids and 5 Churches have also been solarized in the merged districts whereas 7 Hydel Power Projects (HPPs) have also been completed, which is currently contributing 161 MW to the national grid and has generated Rs 31,026 billion in revenue so far. He expressed these views

while chairing a progress review meeting of the Energy & Power department here on Tuesday. Besides, Secretary Energy and Power Department, CEO PEDO, Project Directors and other officials attended the meeting. The chief minister said that the provincial government is contributing significantly to meet the country's energy demands, adding that it is the only province which is producing clean energy at the cheapest possible rates thereby contributing crucially to national development.

The meeting was briefed in detail regarding the ongoing and completed projects of the department in the hydel and solar energy sectors. It was informed that Reshun, Shishi, Machai, Ranolia and 36.6 MW Daral Khwar Hydel Projects have been completed during the period of last nine years, where-

as the 10.2 MW Jabori Hydel Project in District Manshera will be ready for inauguration during the ongoing month. Furthermore, construction works on 11.8 MW Karora, 40.8 KOTO, 84 MW Matiltan and 69 MW Lawi Hydel Power Projects are also underway, which is expected to be completed by the end of the ongoing fiscal year. Likewise, the construction of 10.5 MW Chapri Charkhel and 6.5 MW Barandu Hydel Power Projects is also underway and once completed, the ongoing projects are expected to generate Rs 9.015 billion revenue annually. The Chief Minister clarified that significant resources have been invested by the provincial government in the clean and green energy sector in order to meet the country's energy demands, promote industrialization and generate revenue.

KPITB partners with Amazon

OUR CORRESPONDENT

PESHAWAR: The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Information Technology Board (KPITB) today announced it signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Amazon Web Services, Inc. (AWS) to advance its journey toward the digital transformation of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) Government. The MoU will enable the KP Government to understand and experiment with the application of cloud technology to improve efficiency, reliability, and security at a lower cost.

As part of the MOU, KPITB will work with KP Government agencies and AWS to identify pilot workloads that could benefit from AWS's services, as well as educate the agencies about the advantages and capabilities of using cloud technology. They will be able to access AWS's world-leading infrastructure and security capabilities to leverage the broadest and deepest portfolio of services including analytics, computing, database, Internet of Things (IoT), machine learning, mobile and storage services, and other cloud technologies. This will encourage experimentation with new ideas within the KP Government, as well as help enable agencies to deliver new citizen services more quickly and at a reduced cost. "Cloud services will enable the KPITB and other Government departments to strengthen their existing IT infrastructure, and provide a sustainable long-term solution for keeping the data on a secure and reliable platform," said Atif Khan, Minister for Science and Technology and Information Technology of the province of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Going digital is helping to drive Khy-

ber Pakhtunkhwa's and the broader Pakistan economy, and this innovation will require a digital workforce equipped to meet the rising demand for cloud computing. An AlphaBeta report found that cloud and cybersecurity skills will be the top two most demanded digital skills by employers by 2025. To accelerate innovation within the KP Government, AWS will collaborate with KPITB to develop a training plan to upskill government personnel and build their understanding of how to use cloud technologies. These training initiatives aim to help government employees develop the skills and expertise needed to implement cloud technologies at scale, make better data-driven business decisions, and innovate new services to drive improved outcomes for citizens. Additionally, the KP Government and AWS will explore how to prepare unemployed and underemployed individuals in Pakistan for cloud careers through classroom-based training through programs such as AWS re/Start, a 12-week full-time skill development program that prepares individuals for careers in the cloud.

National Youth Helpline launched at HEC

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Under the Prime Minister's Youth Programme, the National Youth Helpline with a toll-free number 0800-69457 was launched at Higher Education Commission (HEC) Secretariat to provide psychosocial support and counseling to the young people. The helpline will provide a secure and confidential gateway to access information about problems linked to adolescence, particularly related to counseling for psychosocial issues, career advancement and reproductive health challenges.

The initiative is a collaborative effort taken under the Prime Minister's Youth Programme, where in HEC, United Nations Family Planning Association, and Rahnuma-Family Planning Association of Pakistan (FPAP) have partnered to extend psychosocial support to the youth facing multifarious challenges with regard to mental health. Executive Director HEC Dr. Shaista Sohail said that Pakistan's population consists of 64 percent of youth who

er (Global Engagement), HEC, Mr. Awais Ahmed, Director General (Scholarships) Ms. Aayesha Ikram, Director General (Quality Assurance) Mr. Nasir Shah and other officials of the partnering organisations graced the launching ceremony with their presence. In her remarks, Dr. Shaista Sohail said that Pakistan's population consists of 64 percent of youth who

need guidance and support for their mental and psychological health amidst challenges like the recent devastation of floods. She termed the launch an important step taken at the right time as the youth need able guidance and viable solution to their issues. She apprised the audience that this helpline will offer services in two shifts to ensure maximum assistance around the clock.

Addressing the ceremony Ms. Latika Pradhan said that the youth, despite having strong connectivity tools and means, face psychosocial and mental issues including gender-based violence. She maintained that adolescence is an important period of life when the youth have to make choices for their entire life. This is the time they need support the most, she underlined.



KARACHI: Federal Minister for Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety Shazia Marri addressing a press conference. - DNA

Marri condemns Khan's statement of martial law

NAZIR SIYAL

KARACHI: Federal Minister for Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety Shazia Marri Tuesday vehemently condemned the statement of PTI chief Imran Khan said that they would go against him on the issue of his martial law statement as per constitution and took it up on the floor of assemblies as well resolutions would also be tabled, if needed.

Addressing a press conference, she said that Imran Khan was the friend of General Pervez Musharraf and he had voted for Musharraf in referendum. She further said that Imran Khan was the polling agent of Pervez Musharraf. Shazia said that Imran Khan leveled allegations against PPP President Asif Ali Zardari, who did not respond to his allegations because he did not value him. She said that Imran Niazhi adventured in 2014 and his sit-in ended when students of APS

embraced martyrdom. She said, 'We coped with fire, storms and sacrificed for the achievement and restoration of democracy.' She said that our leaders and workers embraced martyrdom for democracy and not for letting crushed the constitution under Imran's feet. She said that they did not sacrifice that a person named Imran Khan talked of imposing martial law.

While rejecting again the statement, she said, 'We demand of those, who provide relief to him again and again, they must call him and ask him about the meaning of bloody march and ask him how he dared to get imposed martial law in Pakistan.' The minister said that it was not an ordinary statement. Criticising Imran Khan, asked why he wear black glasses in the night time. She said that he wanted to be Prime Minister again.

"He brought Farha Gogi and minted money and wanted to have government," she added. Imran Khan did not answer the performance of

his previous four-year government, she said adding that PTI chief was the thief, who stole watch. Shazia Marri said that such kind of fascism was also spread in the past. Imran Khan and his allies were talking of weapons, she said, adding that two persons had lost their lives in bloody march. She asked Imran Khan, if he was not guilty then why not a fair and transparent inquiry was conducted on the death of a female report, who lost her life in the march.

The very next day another journalist was beaten up, she said adding that in PTI's tenure journalists were rounded up and a media related draconian law was introduced. 'We know Imran Niazhi you are crazy for chair,' she said. The minister said that there was a list of Imran Khan's scandals from Peshawar BRT to Islamabad Rawalpindi Ring Road. She said that it had been proved that Imran Khan were a big thief and had set new examples of sealing things.

National Library to get modern facilities

ISLAMABAD: Advisor to Prime Minister for Political and Public Affairs and National Heritage and Culture Engr Amir Muqam on Tuesday said the heritage division would take measures to equip the National Library of Pakistan (NLP) with modern facilities on a par with international standards. During his first visit to the NLP, he directed the library officials to immediately resolve the low internet issue to facilitate students and researchers. He also issued directives to expedite work on the proposal of Digital Library Services at the NLP. The advisor said he would also discuss with the prime minister the matters related to the NLP as it was a very important place for students, and new schemes would be initiated to make it more useful. Talking to media, he said the masses should reject the people dividing the nation as the government, under the leadership of Shehbaz Sharif, was working for economic stability providing maximum relief to the masses. - APP

US Consulate delegation visits Faisalabad University

FAISALABAD: A delegation from the US Consulate visited The University of Faisalabad (TUF), here on Tuesday. The delegation was led by Paul Garr, Cultural Affairs Officer, U.S. Department of State, Mission to Pakistan. Ms. Syeda Atia Batool, Cultural Affairs Assistant (Exchanges), and Tanveer Hassan, Cultural Affairs Specialist, were part of the delegation. The delegation held a meeting with Chairman Board of Governors (BoG) Muhammad Haider Amin, member BoG Muhammad Abu Bakar, Rector Prof Dr Muhammad Khalique-Rehman, management and relevant faculty in the conference room

and discussed collaborative and partnerships pathways. Additional Registrar Zahida Maqbool briefed the distinguished guests about The University of Faisalabad, Madina teaching hospital and other welfare programmes continuing under the Madina Foundation. Atia Batool and Tanveer Hassan apprised the participants about cultural exchange and US scholarship programmes and urged students to avail the opportunities. Later, a session on US exchange program for Pakistani professionals and students was held at the university auditorium. Paul Garr said that he was very impressed by the talent of Pakistani students during

his brief stay in Pakistan. He said that law and order had improved in Pakistan due to which delegates from the US consulate were visiting the educational institutes in various cities like Islamabad, Lahore and Faisalabad. Paul Garr said he was feeling excited by visiting The University of Faisalabad and termed that the best professional educational facilities were available in the university. He also lauded the efforts of the Madina Foundation. Earlier, Chairman BoG Muhammad Haider Amin, in his address, briefed about achievements of the university and success of different departments at national and international level. - APP

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National Days and Armed Forces Days

- November**
- Nov 01 / Algeria
National Day
 - Nov 04 / Italy
Armed Forces Day
 - Nov 07 / Russian Federation
Socialist Revolution
 - Nov 09 / Cambodia
National Day
 - Nov 11 / Poland
Independence Day
 - Nov 14 / Jordan
Birthday of King Hussein
 - Nov 15 / Belgium
Kings Day
 - Nov 15 / Brazil
Republic Day
 - Nov 15 / Northern Cyprus
National Day
 - Nov 18 / Morocco
Independence Day
 - Nov 21 / Bangladesh
Armed Forces Day
 - Nov 22 / Lebanon
Independence Day
 - Nov 25 / Suriname
National Day
 - Nov 28 / Mauritania
National Day
 - Nov 28 / Albania
Flags 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
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- & Rescue Services.4451122
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- DHQ.....5556311-4
- RGH.....9290301-7
- Holy Family.....9290322-7
- PIMS.....9261170-79
- Polyclinic.....9218300-09
- Shifa International.4603666

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- Met Office.....9250360-6
- RDA.....5555864
- TMA.....5770886
- Cantonment Board 9270151-3

Islamabad Metropolitan

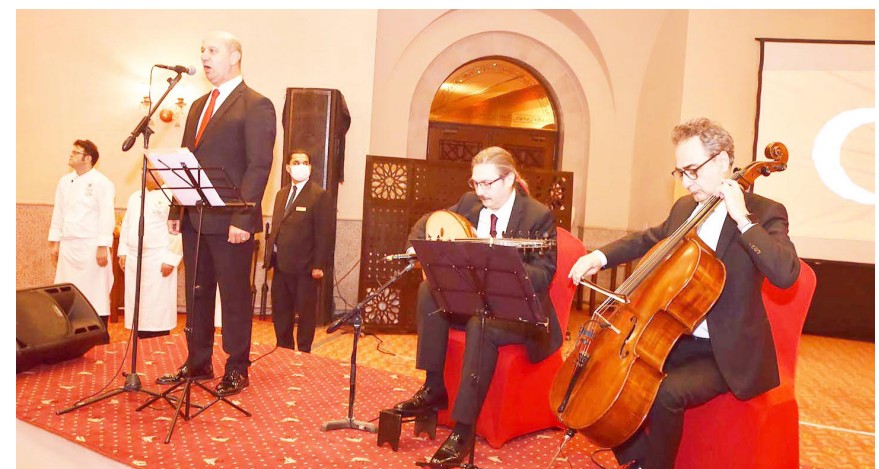
- Corporation.....9209224
- Potohar Town.....9209224
- Rawal Town.....5773343

Water Tank

- Islamabad.....0321-5744480

99th Anniversary of the Republic of Turkiye celebrated

The ambassador also read out the statement of the President of Turkiye Recep Tayyip Erdogan



STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Turkey Dr. Mehmet Pacaci has said 99 years ago on October 29, 1923, the Republic of Turkiye was established under the leadership of Gazi Mustafa Kemal, after a victorious war of independence. The ambassador made these remarks on the occasion of the National Day of Turkiye. Defence Minister Khawaja Muhammad Asif, was the chief guest while former Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee Gen Zubair Mahmood Hayat, Hina Rabbani Khar, Faisal Karim Kundi, Shazain Bugti and others also attended the event. Ambassador Pacaci also welcomed

guests from Turkiye including chefs and musicians who presented spell-binding performances. The ambassador also read out the statement of the President of Turkiye Recep Tayyip Erdogan. The messages reads, "I greet you with my most heartfelt feelings, affection and respect. Today we altogether feel the pride and the enthusiasm of celebrating the 99th anniversary of the foundation of the Republic of Turkiye. The President message further said, 'we pursue our uninterrupted struggle to elevate the Republic of Turkiye, which we founded by paying heavy sacrifices 99 years ago under very difficult conditions, above the level of contemporary civilizations. Thanks to the democracy and development revolutions, which we have achieved in the last 20 years we removed not only the obstacles raised before the national will but also the thick walls placed between the people and the Republic. We transformed Turkiye into a county with an exemplary democracy an impressive economy, whose diplomacy is followed with interest and which preserves its national unity and brotherhood in the strongest way possible despite all attempts of sabotage. We strive to set up a peace and prosperity zone around us through our entrepreneurial and humanitarian foreign policy, from ending the humanitarian tragedy in Syria to finding a solution to the Russia-Ukraine crisis.

RDA seals booking offices of two housing schemes

RAWALPINDI: Rawalpindi Development Authority (RDA) under the directives of Director General (DG), Muhammad Saif Anwar Jappa here on Tuesday conducted raids and sealed booking offices of two illegal private housing schemes. According to RDA spokesman, the Metropolitan Planning and Traffic Engineering (MP&TE), Directorate RDA sealed the illegal booking offices at

Demand of fish increases as winter approaches

ISLAMABAD, Nov 01 (APP): The demand of fish has increased as is evident from the increasing number of stalls set up in different markets of twin cities. Several markets including Melody market, Karachi Company, Jinnah Super market, Super market, Aabpara, F-10, F11, G10 Markaz, Commercial Market, Saddar, Raja Bazaar and other places witnessed an increase in the number of fish stalls and are doing good business. According to fish sellers, the sale of different kinds of fish including Dambra, Rohu, Mahasher, Thela fish, Salmon and Silver has increased as people from all ages are thronging fish sale points.—APP

ANF seizes over 556 kg drugs in 23 operations; arrests 28

RAWALPINDI :Anti Narcotics Force (ANF) Pakistan seized over 556 kilograms of drugs worth US\$ 13.618 million internationally, arrested 28 persons including a woman and impounded 11 vehicles in the 23 counter-narcotics operations during last week throughout the country. According to an ANF Headquarters spokesman, the seized drugs comprising 127,200 kg of opium, 6,501 kg of heroin, 318,200 kg of hashish, 29,730 kg of methamphetamine (Ice), 48 gram of weed and 3,20,000 of xanax tabs (weighing 75 Kg). ANF North recovered 358,067 kg of drugs in seven operations, and arrested 10 persons including a woman in drug smuggling while seizing four vehicles. The seized drugs comprised 127,200 kg Opium, 2,099 kg Heroin, 230,400 kg Hashish, 720 grams Methamphetamine (Ice) and 48 gram of Weed. ANF KPK recovered 47,927 kg of drugs in five operations while six persons were also sent behind the bars besides seizing two vehicles. The seized drugs comprised 40 kg Hashish, 7,010 kg Methamphetamine (Ice) and 966 grams Heroin, he added. He said that ANF Sindh recovered 89,200 kg drugs in three operations and arrested six persons allegedly involved in drug smuggling and seized three vehicles. The seized drugs comprised 3,20,000 Xanax Tabs (weighing 75 kg) and 14,200 kg Hashish. ANF Punjab recovered 39,436 kg drugs in seven operations and arrested five persons besides seizing a vehicle. The seized drugs comprised 2,400 kg Opium, 33,600 kg Hashish and 3,436 kg Heroin.—APP

Moza Thaliam near the new airport Islamabad and Commercial Market, Rawalpindi. He said the owners of the illegal housing schemes were running booking offices without prior approval of the schemes in violation of the Punjab Private Housing Scheme Rules 2021. The authorities concerned with the directives of the DG were taking legal action against illegal advertising and marketing of illegal housing schemes, he said adding, the authorities also issued notices to the owners of the illegal housing projects. The RDA had also registered First Information Reports (FIRs) against the rules violators, he added. The spokesman said that the owners and sponsors of the illegal housing schemes were misleading the public through advertisements,

Lahore-Sialkot Motorway to be extended in 18 months

ISLAMABAD: The authorities concerned would be awarding extension work of Lahore-Sialkot Motorway, which is expected to be completed in 24 months, for the betterment of the public. The National Highway Authority (NHA) intends to extend Lahore-Sialkot Motorway by building Sialkot-Kharan and Kharan-Rawalpindi Motorways on Build Operate Transfer (BOT) basis under Public-Private Partnership (PPP) arrangement, an official told APP. He said the contract was yet to be awarded and as per current status, the bids received for the project were opened on July 13. After detailed evaluation, Letter of Intent (LoI) was issued to the successful bidder on August 15, he said. He said subsequent to that, a Letter of Support (LoS) would be issued followed by contract negotiations. It is anticipated that the concession will be awarded after taking necessary approvals by December, 2022, he said.—APP

UNODC successfully completes training

DNA

ISLAMABAD: UNODC Criminal Justice and Legal Reforms Programme in collaboration with Balochistan Levies Force has successfully completed the 'Advanced Investigation Skills' training for Investigation Officers of the Balochistan Levies Force. This initiative is funded by European Union under the larger ambit of the Rule of Law Project in Balochistan. The trainings were conducted for 3 batches of Investigation Officers at the Levies Headquarters in Quetta. Training for the 1st batch was held from 22-26 August 2022 with the participation of 20 Investigation Officers. This was followed by a training on 17-21 October for 25 participants including 3 women and, concluded with the 3rd batch on 24-28 October for 27 Investigation Officers including 4 women. The last two training sessions are of particular importance due to the unprecedented participation of women levies officials in the investigation skills trainings organized by UNODC. Prior to this,

training was broken down into modules to enhance the understanding of best practices and application of skills for effective and efficient investigation, interrogation, and interviewing of victims, witnesses, and suspects. The training programme also focused on stress management, professionalism, and a positive behavioural change while assuming duty. In his closing remarks, Mr. Zahid Saleem, Additional Chief Secretary Home and Tribal Affairs Department stated, "The Levies have demonstrated their characteristic role for security in the entire length and breadth of the Province. They have made great sacrifices for maintenance of peace. Levies Force is our pride. Levies are the protectors of Balochistan. We are paired at the martyrdom of soldiers of Levies in Mastung, Chaman and Lorala". At the conclusion of the training, Mr. Zahid Saleem and Mr. Qadir Baksh Pirani, Director General Balochistan Levies Force distributed certificates of completion to the graduating Investigation Officers of the Balochistan Levies force. The trainees expressed their satisfaction with the skills learned and thanked UNODC for its continued efforts to support them in this essential learning process.



Pak-US trade witnesses over 23% surplus during Q1

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's goods and services trade with the United States (US) witnessed a surplus of 23.31 per cent during the first quarter of the current fiscal year (2022-23) as compared to the corresponding period of last year. Trade surplus during the period under review was recorded at \$1079.589 million against \$875.469 million last year, showing 23.31 per cent growth. The overall exports to the US were recorded at US \$1657.359 million during July-September this year against exports of US \$1565.321 million during the same quarter last year, showing an increase of 5.87 per cent, SBP data revealed. Meanwhile, on year-on-year basis, exports to the US during September however decreased by 3.49 per cent from US \$ 553.839 million to US \$ 534.477 million. Similarly, month-on-month exports to the US also dipped by 14.23 per cent during September 2022 as compared with exports of US \$ 623.196 million in August 2022, the SBP data said. Overall Pakistan's exports to all countries witnessed an increase of 5.45 per cent in three months, from US \$7201.057 million to US \$7594.042 million, the SBP data said. On the other hand, imports from the US during the quarter under review were recorded at US \$577.770 million against US \$689.762 million of last year, showing a decrease of 16.23 per cent in July-September (2022-23).—APP

IRSA releases 103,100 cusecs water

ISLAMABAD: Indus River System Authority (IRSA) on Tuesday released 103,100 cusecs water from various rim stations with inflow of 51,500 cusecs. According to the data released by IRSA, water level in River Indus at Tarbela Dam was 1530.13 feet and was 132.13 feet higher than its dead level of 1,398 feet. Water inflow and outflow in the dam was recorded as 29,800 cusecs while outflow as 52,000 cusecs. The water level in River Jhelum at Mangla Dam was 1160.70 feet, which was 110.70 feet higher than its dead level of 1,050 feet. The inflow and outflow of water was recorded 5,600 cusecs and 35,000 cusecs respectively. The release of water at Kalabagh, Taunsa, Guddu and Sukkur was recorded 60,400, 39,900, 35,800 and 12,600 cusecs respectively. Similarly, from River Kabul, a total of 8,300 cusecs of water released at Nowshera and 1,900 cusecs released from River Chenab at Marala.—APP

Pakistan's First And Only Diplomatic Daily

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Member APNS / ABC Certified

Vol: 03 Issue: 81

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NATO chief wrong to view China as threat

NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg portrayed China as a threat to the NATO countries last week when appealing for continued US support for Ukraine in its conflict with Russia. A victorious Russia would "be bad for all of us in Europe and North America, in the whole of NATO, because that will send a message to authoritarian leaders – not only Putin but also China – that by the use of brutal military force they can achieve their goals," he said in an interview with POLITICO. "The presence of the United States – but also Canada – in Europe, is essential for the strength and the credibility of that transatlantic bond," he added. Stoltenberg might have good reasons for his worries about decreasing US support. The upcoming US midterm elections could possibly see the Republicans, who have promised to slash support for Ukraine, take control of Congress, thus leading to the US cutting back its military aid to Ukraine. Since the Russia-Ukraine conflict broke out, the US has pledged to give Ukraine more than \$17 billion in assistance, well above what the European countries have collectively committed. Yet support among ordinary Americans for such vast sums of assistance to Ukraine is reportedly decreasing. Given that China is committed to an independent foreign policy of peace, and it has consistently urged a negotiated end to the conflict between Russia and Ukraine, it is rather despicable for the NATO chief to try to use China as a means to hype up the value of the transatlantic alliance. China's position on the Russia-Ukraine conflict has been impartial and consistent. It advocates that the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all countries, including Ukraine, be respected and the legitimate security concerns of all countries be taken seriously. It also supports all efforts that are conducive to a peaceful settlement of the crisis. Yet despite this, the NATO chief is depicting China as a major security challenge for the military bloc. But in citing what he claims is China's "coercive behavior" in the South China Sea and against its neighbors, he has simply revealed his own ambitions for expanding the remit of the security organization. The confrontational stance that Stoltenberg has taken against China appeals to the anti-China sentiment that now runs deep in Washington. The Pentagon said in an unclassified version of the National Defense Strategy last week that China "presents the most consequential and systemic challenge, while Russia poses acute threats". The rhetoric of Stoltenberg and the Pentagon bode ill for world peace and stability.



Good win for Brazil and the world

THE remarkable return of the leftwing politician Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva for a third term as Brazil's president is not just good for his country. His victory over the incumbent rightwing extremist, Jair Bolsonaro, is also good for the world. Since Mr Bolsonaro took office in 2019, forest fires and deforestation soared in the Amazon, with the federal government turning a blind eye to illegal logging, mining, cattle-grazing and land-grabbing. Brazil's rainforest went from a carbon sink to a carbon source. If allowed to continue, the damage to the world's lungs would have been irreversible – with disastrous effects on global weather systems and food security. Lula, as he is universally known, pledged to reverse his predecessor's policies that have worsened the climate emergency. The world will breathe more easily as a result. But Mr Bolsonaro only narrowly lost the election. He has, at the time of writing, still refused to concede his defeat. Mr Bolsonaro, who praised dictatorship and torture, may never accept the people's will. But those who have supported him – from evangelists to political allies – have recognised that the game is up. His reluctance to go quietly may be because he fears ending up behind bars. Presidential immunity and an obliging attorney general have helped shelter Mr Bolsonaro and his politician sons from investigations into longstanding suspicions of embezzlement and corruption. For Mr Bolsonaro, that shield disappears in January. Mr Bolsonaro was nicknamed the "Trump of the tropics" – and he used a similar playbook. Like the former US president, Mr Bolsonaro polarised his divided country by denigrating women, gay people and minorities. He armed his supporters by flooding the country with guns. A pandemic that killed almost 700,000 people helped push poverty numbers to the highest on record and saw him sink in the polls. Jailed under the previous rightwing Temer government for alleged corruption, Lula was released and his convictions quashed last year, allowing him to run again. However, Brazil is a very different country from the one he last presided over. When he left office in 2010, Lula's approval ratings were stratospheric. Now a sizable minority think their once-and-future president is corrupt. Brazil in 2010 was the world's 7th largest economy – it has now slipped to 13th. The country is marked by rising debts and deepening divides. Brazil's modest economic recovery is unlikely to last as the world faces a recession that it won't escape. Lula's victory cannot eclipse the fact he faces a Congress dominated by self-seeking conservative politicians of the Centrão ("big centre") – who have been allied with Mr Bolsonaro. The new president will need to strike deals to get legislation passed. Big structural reforms that need changes to the constitution will probably be off the table. Thanks to his environmental policies and his defence of democracy, Lula can count on the support of the world's leading powers. President Joe Biden has offered to create a \$20bn fund for the Amazon once Brazil starts showing results in protecting its rainforests. Under Mr Bolsonaro, Brazil lost its way – and its mind. Lula's victory shows the country can return to the path of sanity.

Economic nosedives

Dr. Abdus Sattar Abbasi

Historical data shows that Pakistan has not been able to sustain growth for long periods. Rather, it has had short growth sprints followed by nosedives. This is because economic policies are subject to change with the changes in government corridors. This implies that when governments are concluding their terms they ignore long-term implications of spending and utilize funds for their immediate political concerns to secure maximum seats in coming elections at the cost of national reserves; this is clearly evident from at least last three regimens of three different political parties. During the fifth year in the office governments hastily extended unplanned subsidies and threw funds carelessly to constituency...

IT was indeed a pleasure delivering a talk on October 23, 2022 to accomplished professionals about economic nosedives of the country with special emphasis on causes and remedies. When I entered the hall a workshop on learning Arabic was in progress. The facilitator, a British Pakistani, also invited me to participate in an exercise on some fundamental conversational vocabulary. The exercise concluded with a quiz on Kahoot and surprisingly I took second position which encouraged me to embark on Arabic learning which I aim to do soon. Historical data shows that Pakistan has not been able to sustain growth for long periods. Rather, it has had short growth sprints followed by nosedives. This is because economic policies are subject to change with the changes in government corridors. This implies that when governments are concluding their terms they ignore long-term implications of spending and utilize funds for their immediate political concerns to secure maximum seats in coming elections at the cost of national reserves; this is clearly evident from at least last three regimens of three different political parties. During the fifth year in the office governments hastily extended unplanned subsidies and threw funds carelessly to constituency specific projects to win voters for forthcoming polling. This trend suggests reflecting on our policy of framing five year financial plans. It will be better to have legislation for 10 year financial plans with the consensus of all parties in the parliament while cycle of the government should remain the same five years. It will ensure continuity of policies and liberate outgoing government from the urgencies of accommodating immediate demands. State-owned white elephants are double burden on the economy. Organizations which are supposed to earn and contribute to the GDP of the Country are actually eating up what is earned by some of the state-owned enterprises. According to Dr. Ishra Hussain, "Currently we have 212 state owned enterprises (SOEs). 85 are commercial SOEs while another 83 are subsidiaries attached to one or another SOE; 44 are non-commercial entities (such as trusts, foundations, regulatory bodies, universities, research and training institutions, promotional and advocacy bodies and welfare funds). These SOEs make up 98% of the government's assets and account for almost 100% of losses. The top ten

loss-making SOEs contribute around 90% to the total loss of the government. The set includes NHA, Pakistan Railways, PIA, Pakistan Steel, five power sector DISCOs and ZTBL. SOEs are a major drain on the country's budget and consume public resources without any guilt or hesitation. These corporate giants have been maintained by successive governments to fulfill their own political agendas. Governments have blatantly resorted to granting excessive and out-of-merit employment at all levels in these organizations, causing acute inefficiencies and deep-rooted corruption. In the financial year (FY) 2019-20, the commercial SOEs collectively recorded net losses of Rs. 143 billion. Oil and Gas companies show net profits of Rs. 242 billion while Infrastructure companies (PIA, Railways, NHA, Post Office etc.) show net losses of Rs. 267 billion and Power companies of Rs 117 billion." Foreign direct investment (FDI) is extremely important for an economy. FDI helps generate employment, contributes to GDP growth and boost foreign currency reserves. During FY 2021, the net foreign direct investment (FDI) dropped by more than 28 percent. Including uncertain government policies there is nothing right to attract FDI, factor costs, transport costs, political environment, exchange rate, trade openness, tax rates, infrastructure, and property rights every dimension needs serious attention of policy makers to facilitate foreign investors to explore untapped opportunities in the 5th biggest market of the world. Parking of capital in the real state is the big challenge for coming governments. The obsession with real estate has understandable foundations and originates in a fundamentally good idea: the need to buy assets that generate inflation-beating returns. But it has gone too far and is now starting to create a drag on economic growth, investment opportunities, and housing affordability. There are some leading entrepreneurs who opted to invest in real state due to attractive profits and less volatility. They blame government policies not promoting investments in manufacturing sector which has a better potential to provide employment. Construction sector does serve as a driver for several linked industries but when it dumps capital in non-productive tower blocks in mushroom residential societies it becomes real burden on the economy of the country. Government needs to introduce poli-

cies which can divert the capital to the employment intensive sectors for better productivity and economic growth. Young population has exceptional potential to contribute towards the development of the economy particularly in the technology and startup sector, which is thriving, and the government has so far taken some initiatives to facilitate them but still there is long way to go. Market development is the key for the progress of any economy. We hardly observe any initiative from relevant departments for market development in countries where we have a few satisfied customers. Market development in international societies is a costly affair and needs government interventions to support businesses back at home by enhancing demand of those products in which we have absolute or comparative advantage over our competitors. On the other hand international business development is the process to identify new markets, nurture and acquire new clients and business opportunities to drive growth in the demand of your core products to contribute to the increased profitability of your businesses in country of origin. It has generally been observed that customers from international market are better aware of our strengths and coordinate exactly with those industries and businesses that can fulfill their expectations and deliver the promise. But we hardly experience any policy or practical intervention by relevant departments to attract and facilitate potential international clients to visit Pakistan and explore opportunities to get better products. Mismanagement of different government departments and organizations has always been discussed and the same happened during Q&A session, it was general consensus that there is no dearth of competence in the Country however it is probably the sense of responsibility and initiative which generally lacks in our government departments and organizations that costs us heavily in terms of economic nosedives and otherwise relatively less performance and mismanagements in key areas & critical events. The session concluded with supplication (dua) for the betterment of participants and Pakistan.

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Iran under conspiracy and fragmentation with a desperate attempt

Muhammad Sayed Anwar



Iran and America, Israel and their allies is a soured rival group that they rarely trust each other. The intervention of their intelligence agencies is very vigilant in each others country. During this crisis moment of Iran's government, CIA and other ally agencies are working more vigilantly in Iran. The assassination of Qasem Soleimani executed by the USA drone attack..

IRAN, a Shia majority, an American rival and Russian ally country is under a great threat of falling government. It is needed to focus on the conspiracy theory to understand such phenomena. MaishaAmini, an Iranian kurdishgirl, was arrested for the charge of violating hijab compulsory rule of the Islamic Republic of Iran and died under the preservation of 'the morality police' in last 16th September in a hospital of Tehran. Following this, a huge mass protest has been seen all over the country, even including Tehran. Rioting mind is seen mostly in College and University students. The government forces are defending vehemently by using tear gas, shooting etc. In 2019, the mass movement had been occurred due to the oil price hike was defended by killing more than 1000 people by the Revolutionary Guard (IRGC). The same lined protest sparked across the country after MaishaAmini's death that has led to the anti-government protest, making a loss of 150-200 civilian people so far. Some Iranian officials and Medias have been accusing USA of conspiring behind the mass protest. They claimed, "The western officials and espionages are working to escalate the situation". On the other end, EU officials, western Medias, most blatantly, Joe Biden himself is seen uttering for the support of the mass upsurge. Along with all these, on 28 October in the evening, three men have committed terrorist gun attack on shah Cheraghmausoleum, killing 15 people including 1 woman and 2 children. It's claimed by Iranian officials that two of the terrorists had been arrested and seem to be ISIL affiliated terrorists, supported from the west. The bloody attack in the southern city of Shiraz could be a significant sign for the future of Iran. Again, thousands of mourners paid tribute to Amini on

Wednesday in her western hometown. President Raisi appeared to link the two tragedies yesterday, declaring that, "the intention of the enemy is to disrupt the country's progress, and then these riots pave the ground for terrorist acts". President also vowed 'a severe response' over the mass killing at shia mausoleum during evening prayers, confessed by the Islamic State (IS). Nearly six weeks after Amini's death, demonstrations show no signs of ending, powered by outrage over a crackdown that has claimed the lives of other young women and girls. Prolonged Kurdish separatist movement has been a threat for the governments of Iran and other neighboring countries with Kurdish minority. These Iranian Kurdish separatists again are supposed to be supported by CIA. Again, Iran's separatist group, Mujahedin e-Khalq (MEK) is having all kinds of support from the USA, accused by the Iranian officials. Once the group was blacklisted as terrorist group by USA but delisted later on. Iran and America, Israel and their allies is a soured rival group that they rarely trust each other. The intervention of their intelligence agencies is very vigilant in each others country. During this crisis moment of Iran's government, CIA and other ally agencies are working more vigilantly in Iran. The assassination of Qasem Soleimani executed by the USA drone attack is another issue for the distanced relationship between them. Moreover, the detainment of nuclear deal has been failed by Biden administration in recent times that was withdrawn by the previous administration. The socio-political relations between the two countries are becoming more and more frustrating day by day. New level of sanctioning each other is labeling its zenith. If we compute and evaluate all these, we would

see that there has a huge potential of turning Iran into a backlashed country like those of Libya, Syria, Iraq, Yemen and so on, collapsing the reign of Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. The world community must learn something from Libya fronting the issue of Iran. Libya, once a flourished country, now has become a failed and unstable state. The outside intervention made the country of such type. The people haven't got what they wanted during Gaddafi's reign. The 42 years of Colonel Muammar Gaddafi's dictatorship left a clear mark on Libya. After the independence from the colonial rule of Italy in 1951, Libya was led by a monarch, king Idris-1 under the domination of west powers. Gaddafi's control over the country in 1969 had been strong and firm, free from outside influence. He was anti-colonialist, anti-imperialist and in favour of pan Arabism and pan Africanism. But Libyan people saw their human rights being denied day by day but this was not entirely true because women could join army and other services. The medical care, health and education sectors were developed and ensured. What problem happened with Libya was because of its being a tribal society. Again, a few number of anti-government opposition groups were emerged. As Libya is an oil-oriented country, it was geopolitically crucial for the world hegemonic power like USA. The whole system was favourable for rival countries to conspire against Gaddafi's dictatorship. The 2011 mass upsurge was a great chance for dethroning the threat for world hegemony, violating the UN charter of nonintervention. As per as this viewpoint, the world community need to consider the situation of Iran of not making another Libya, Iraq or Syria, degrading human secondary to hegemony power and of solving the situation with discussion, nonintervention and in a peaceful way.

Briefs

Will defeat Nawaz in his constituency

FROM PAGE 01
Reacting to Rana Sanaullah's recent rhetoric against him, PTI Chairman Imran Khan warned the interior minister of "grave consequences." Addressing the participants of the long march in Gujranwala, Khan warned, "Rana Sanaullah! Your time has come as well." Urging the masses to join the PTI's long march, Khan said, "Allah orders Jihad against thieves."
The thieves were imposed on us under a foreign conspiracy, the PTI leader reiterated, adding that if they accepted them just like sheep, then there is no future for them. Referring to the statements of the ruling alliance, Khan said, "Rats are threatening us while sitting there (in Islamabad). Khan maintained that he would give a call to all Pakistanis when he reaches Islamabad.
In Gujrat, Punjab Chief Minister Pervez Elahi and his son Moonis Elahi will welcome the participants of the march, said Fawad.
On November 4, the march aims to arrive in Lala Musa and the initial plan to reach Islamabad by Sunday will not be possible, said the PTI leader, adding that the march will no longer be able to travel through Sialkot. The PTI leader asked supporters from Sialkot to join the march en route instead as "going to Sialkot would extend the march by 15 days". PTI Senator Faisal Javed Khan said the march would resume "shortly". He added that party chairperson Imran Khan will address the supporters at "multiple spots during the course of the journey". Faisal also claimed that the size of the march is "200 per cent larger" than the party's 2014 march. Party chairperson Imran Khan said the 'Haqueqi Azadi Caravan' has started its journey from Sindh and will join the party's leadership and supporters in Islamabad. He expressed hope that it would be the "greatest gathering of Pakistanis" in Islamabad.

If numbers are small...

FROM PAGE 01
trust him then how will investors do. "You will have to bow down to the people of Pakistan," Fawad said. Meanwhile, PTI stalwart Shah Mehmood Qureshi said the government was trying to make the long march look negative. "PTI workers and citizens are not going to shed blood and are advancing peacefully," Qureshi said. They were campaigning with all their might that PTI was an adversary to the army, Qureshi said adding those who were now playing the sentinels [of the institutions] had been badmouthing about the establishment [in the past]. "Word has it that a new press conference is coming up. Imran Khan has said that these press talks are not going to harm him or the party, but the ones who will address it," Qureshi said.

PTI holding march...

FROM PAGE 01
"Look at any area, be it economy, foreign relations, foreign policy, or governance, Imran Khan destroyed all of them during his tenure." She said that the way the PTI-led government trampled upon the economy of the country, which led to skyrocketing inflation, Khan should not even be able to utter a word anymore. "Yet, he has taken out a rally on the streets of Pakistan," she said. Criticising the march further, Maryam said that personnel of the Punjab Police employed to provide security to Khan greatly outnumbered the participants of the march. "Millions of taxpayers' money is being spent to provide security to a march which is aimless and holds no national agenda," she said, adding that it certainly needs a criminal-minded person to spend the public's money so lavishly without having an iota of remorse. She further said that the narrative of a conspiracy that Khan built following his ouster has been exposed. "One after the other, his lies started unfolding before the nation which is why the masses are largely indifferent to this long march," she said.

England reignite World Cup hopes with New Zealand win

With the game slipping away, Stokes had Williamson, who was trying to lead his side in his typically measured way, caught at short third on the cut

SYDNEY: England earned a nerve-shredding 20-run win over New Zealand to reignite their hopes in the Men's T20 World Cup in Australia.
Knowing defeat would all but eliminate them, England survived under intense pressure to successfully defend 179 at the Gabba.
After being reduced to 28-2, the Black Caps looked to have swung the game in their favour when Glenn Phillips and captain Kane Williamson combined for a stand of 91 from 59 balls. But, with 61 runs needed from 31 balls, Ben Stokes provided the crucial breakthrough by dismissing Williamson for 40 from 40 balls.
From there England impressively turned the screw - and held their nerve under a series of high catches.
In the 18th over, the increasingly dependable Sam Curran had Phillips, who was dropped on 15 by Moeen Ali, caught at long-on for 62 from 36 balls to end New Zealand's bid. Earlier Jos Buttler, who was relieved by a TV review of a catch on eight and dropped again on 40, hit 73 from 47 balls to lift his side



to 179-6.
He put on 81 for the opening wicket with Alex Hales, who made 52 from 40 balls, and although England did not fully capitalise they go into the final round of matches with the advantage. They will qualify for the semi-finals if they beat

Sri Lanka on Saturday, as long as Australia do not beat Afghanistan a day earlier and also overturn England's significant net run-rate advantage. The fact England's match comes 24 hours after Australia helps their cause as they will have a clear picture of any

net run-rate requirements going into their final game. For a period in New Zealand's chase, on a ground where England have suffered many an Ashes heartbreak, it looked like Buttler's side were slipping to defeat. But rather than being an Australian-sup-

porting bearpit, the Gabba crowd was largely England supporting and those fans leapt to their feet in celebration as the late catches were taken. Buttler played the crucial hand with the bat when it was needed most, making the most of the opportunities present-

ing to him to reach a good total on a tiring pitch. The bowling was an all-round effort by the seamers with Curran and Chris Woakes taking two wickets apiece and Mark Wood and Ben Stokes one. Sri Lanka will be no pushover on Saturday in Sydney - they are the Asia Cup champions and are coached by England's former boss Chris Silverwood - but England have kept their quest alive. Phillips' onslaught is survived by England were in control of the chase early on, after Woakes had Devon Conway caught down the leg side in the second over - Buttler taking a leaping catch to his right - and Curran deceived Finn Allen with a slower-ball bouncer to see the back of the opener before he could wreck havoc. But next came the moment that could have ended England's World Cup. Phillips miscued one off Adil Rashid and Moeen looked set to take the simplest of catches, only to hardly get a hand on the ball. Phillips responded by thrashing 17 from a Rashid over, including two huge leg-side sixes. He scored a century in New Zealand's win against Sri Lanka - a man unwise to drop.—Agencis

Sabalenka surprises Jabeur, Sakkari edges Pegula



SPORTS DESK

FORT WORTH: World number seven Aryna Sabalenka rallied from a set down to beat second-ranked Ons Jabeur on Monday as round-robin play began at the season-ending WTA Finals. Sabalenka shook off an error-strewn start to beat the Tunisian, a finalist at

both Wimbledon and the US Open this year, 3-6, 7-6 (7/5), 7-5 at Dickies Arena in Fort Worth, Texas. "I think it's the biggest win of the season for me," said Sabalenka, who was a semi-finalist in the WTA's season finale last year but has endured a disappointing 2022 campaign. "She played unbelievable and somehow another miracle happened for me and I



was able to win this match." Sabalenka had to dig deep to improve her record against Jabeur to 3-1. Jabeur, making her WTA Finals debut, was two points away from victory at 5-3 in the second set tiebreaker, and she had two chances to break for a 5-2 lead in the third. But Sabalenka held on, breaking Jabeur at love to level the set at 4-4 and

capturing the victory when Jabeur netted a forehand on the first match point. "I didn't feel welcome on this court," Sabalenka said of her early struggles. "I couldn't understand what was happening, the ball was bouncing too slow for me." Then in the second set I kind of calmed down and tried to think what I had to do to win this match."

Italy's gov't approves 1st package of measures

ROME: Italy's new far-right government led by Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni approved its first package of measures Monday, including norms that relax some anti-COVID restrictions as well as a delay in planned justice reform in a sign of discontinuity with the previous Cabinet. The new rules, approved after a two-hour-long Cabinet meeting, allow the re-integration of doctors and nurses who are currently suspended because they refused to undergo com-

pulsory vaccination against COVID-19 as imposed by the Draghi government earlier this year. The measures, unveiled by Meloni and the relevant ministers, come six months after the end of the COVID state of emergency in the country. The new Health Minister, Orazio Schillaci, explained that they were a response to "the worrying shortage of medical and health personnel" and followed a scientific

assessment of the pandemic's developments. At a news conference following the Cabinet meeting, Meloni said she refused to adopt an "ideological approach" to COVID measures, which she said wrongly became "an electoral campaign issue." She also clarified that the obligation to wear a mask will be prolonged for both health workers and visitors to hospitals and nursing homes after being substantially lifted

in most closed environments over the past few months. The newly-installed rightist government also decided to delay implementing some of the justice reforms approved under the government of former Prime Minister Mario Draghi needed to obtain the next tranche of the European Union's recovery funds. Meloni, however, stressed that her government remains committed to the reforms.—APP

Sweden's economy staring at 'grim winter'

STOCKHOLM: Sweden is projected to fall into recession next year as unemployment rates are on the rise and the country's gross domestic product (GDP) is likely to stagnate, the country's new finance minister has warned. "The Swedish economy is heading towards a rather grim winter. We don't know how cold and grim it will be yet," Elisabeth Svantesson said. She warned that the country will continue to face a tough economic situation next year as unemployment is expected to rise to 6.5 percent in 2023. "Getting rid of inflation is not the main task of fiscal policy, but it is important

for us not to exacerbate the inflation that exists now," Svantesson stressed. The newly-appointed finance minister warned that many of her countrymen will continue to experience tough economic times next year. According to the government's forecast, the Swedish economy will enter recession with a GDP falling by 0.4 percent next year, while inflation will rise to almost 6 percent, the highest in two decades. Meanwhile, Sweden bank, one of the Nordic country's largest banks, predicted that the GDP will decrease by 1.1 percent in the next year while inflation will reach 7.4 percent.—APP

Russia recruiting US-trained Afghan commandos

"We thought they might create a special programme for us, but no one even thought about us," said one former Afghan commando, who requested anonymity because he fears for himself and his family

MOSCOW: Moscow wants to attract the elite Afghan soldiers, who fought alongside US troops during their 20-year occupation, to join a "foreign legion". It is offering lucrative salaries of 1,500 a month and promises safe havens for the ex-servicemen and their families. Most of the men fled Afghanistan to neighbouring Iran, following the US's chaotic withdrawal last year. They cannot return home as they risk death at the hands of the Taliban. "They don't want to go fight - but they have no choice," said Afghan general Abdul Raof Arghandiwal,

adding that the commandos he knew feared deportation to Afghanistan the most. "They ask me, 'Give me a solution. What should we do? If we go back to Afghanistan, the Taliban will kill us,' he continued. Recruitment is led by the shadowy Russian mercenary force Wagner Group, a former Afghan special forces commander who lived in Russia and speaks the language is also helping. US soldiers who fought alongside Afghan special forces have warned for months that the Taliban was intent on killing these troops and that they might join the US's ene-

mies in order to stay alive or out of anger. "We didn't get these individuals out as we promised, and now it's coming home to roost," said Michael Mulroy, a retired CIA officer who served in Afghanistan. He added that the Afghan commandos are highly skilled, fierce fighters. "I don't want to see them in any battlefield, frankly, but certainly not fighting the Ukrainians." Russia's Defense Ministry did not respond to a request for comment by AP. A spokesman for Yevgeny Prigozhin, once Putin's chef who

recently acknowledged being the founder of the Wagner Group, dismissed the idea of an effort to recruit former Afghan soldiers as "crazy nonsense". UK military intelligence says 1,000 Wagner mercenaries are currently deployed in Ukraine. Their presence has been documented across Ukraine, Syria and African countries, where they have been accused of war crimes and human rights abuses. A senior official from the US Defense Department says recruitment would not be surprising given that Wagner has been trying

to sign up soldiers in several other countries. It is unclear how many Afghan special forces members have been courted by the Russians, but one told AP he is communicating through the WhatsApp chat service with about 400 other commandos who are considering offers. "We thought they might create a special programme for us, but no one even thought about us," said one former Afghan commando, who requested anonymity because he fears for himself and his family. "They just left us all in the hands of the Taliban." —Agencis

PTI holding march...

FROM PAGE 01

"Look at any area, be it economy, foreign relations, foreign policy, or governance, Imran Khan destroyed all of them during his tenure." She said that the way the PTI-led government trampled upon the economy of the country, which led to skyrocketing inflation, Khan should not even be able to utter a word anymore. "Yet, he has taken out a rally on the streets of Pakistan," she said. Criticising the march further, Maryam said that personnel of the Punjab Police employed to provide security to Khan greatly outnumbered the participants of the march. "Millions of taxpayers' money is being spent to provide security to a march which is aimless and holds no national agenda," she said, adding that it certainly needs a criminal-minded person to spend the public's money so lavishly without having an iota of remorse.

Marriyum lambasts...

FROM PAGE 01

bring revolution in the country through bloodshed. The PTI chief also admitted that he wanted the martial law and emergency in the country," he added. Speaking on the occasion, she warned the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chief that bullying will get him nowhere. "The government will not announce elections under pressure no matter what." Marriyum also said Imran Khan has a history of climbing on a container to create unrest in society. "He was in the container protesting in 2014 too," she remarked, adding that because of him the visit of the Chinese president was postponed. The minister further maintained that during his premiership, Imran Khan was guilty of sidelining CPEC which is now being revitalized by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif. Marriyum highlighted that for four years Imran Khan was not able to prove the corruption of any member of the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N).

Sanaullah urges PTI...

FROM PAGE 01

providing arms to the security personnel guarding the Islamabad's Red Zone," Rana Sanaullah said. Referring to former federal minister Ali Amin Gandapur's leaked audio, he said that the security personnel have the right to defend themselves. "Law enforcement agencies may suffer damages and its responsibility will be on a single person," he said in apparent reference to Imran Khan. The interior minister further said that the forces should be armed to defend themselves from the goons of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf. It is pertinent to mention here that Punjab Chief Minister Pervaiz Elahi asserted that 'backdoor talks' were underway during Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf's (PTI) long march towards Islamabad.

JUI-F files petition...

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against the PTI chairman in the Supreme Court over his long march. In its petition, the government said, "Imran Khan is making announcements to attack Islamabad", which it claimed was a violation of a court order. It urged the apex court to direct the PTI chief to ensure the implementation of its orders related to protests and sit-ins. The petition by JUI-F has asked the SC to direct relevant governments to issue guidelines for conducting political rallies and order the Khan-led party to not exceed the designated number of days approved for its jalsa and sit-in.

US again rejects...

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Pakistan, the spokesperson said, "In the case of Pakistan, elections have not yet been scheduled, but we support the peaceful upholding of constitutional and democratic principles not just in Pakistan, but around the world." "These are issues that we discuss with all of our partners around the world," he added. The spokesperson of the US Department of State regarding Afghanistan said that Afghanistan will not be allowed to become a haven for terrorists again. In the Doha agreement, the Taliban had assured that they would not give shelter to terrorists.

Briefs

IHC to hear PTI's plea seeking permission for sit-in

DNA

ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad High Court (IHC) will hear Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf's (PTI) plea seeking permission for sit-in in Islamabad on Tuesday. The IHC senior judge justice Aamir Farooq will hear the petition. On the other hand, Senator Kamran Murataza filed a constitutional petition in the Supreme Court of Pakistan (SC) against the PTI's long march. In the plea, the Federation, four provinces, Imran Khan, and Tehreek-e-Insaf were made parties. The petition stated that Tehreek-e-Insaf violated the assurance given to the Supreme Court on May 25, adding that PTI will arrive in Islamabad to again attack PTV and parliament.

Erdogan to speak with Putin, Zelensky

ISTANBUL: Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan will speak with his Russian and Ukrainian counterparts in the coming days with the aim of restoring the grain export deal, the Turkish foreign minister said Tuesday. "Our president will speak with (Russian President Vladimir) Putin and (Ukrainian President Volodymyr) Zelensky in the coming days," Mevlut Cavusoglu told reporters. "We believe we will overcome this... (The grain deal) benefits everyone." Turkey, one of the brokers of the July agreement alongside the United Nations, has stepped up diplomatic efforts to salvage the deal signed by warring nations Russia and Ukraine. - APP

Germany's Scholz set for high-stakes China visit

FRANKFURT: German Chancellor Olaf Scholz makes a high-stakes trip to China this week, walking a tightrope between shoring up a key economic relationship and facing heightened concerns about over-reliance on authoritarian Beijing. Scholz, accompanied by a delegation of business executives, will be the first European Union leader to visit the world's second-biggest economy since 2019. During the one-day trip on Friday, he will hold talks with President Xi Jinping and Premier Li Keqiang. But the visit has sparked controversy, coming as Berlin reels from an over-dependence on Russian energy imports and amid surging tensions with China over issues ranging from Taiwan to alleged human rights abuses against the Uyghurs in Xinjiang. Even senior figures within Scholz's coalition are raising concerns. Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock said she feared mistakes made in the relationship with Russia could be repeated with China. "We must prevent that," Baerbock - from the Greens, a member of Scholz's uneasy three-party ruling coalition - told broadcaster ARD at the weekend. "I think it is extremely important that we never again make ourselves so dependent on a country that does not share our values." The sensitivity was highlighted when a row erupted last month about whether to allow Chinese shipping giant Cosco to buy a stake in a Hamburg port terminal. Ultimately, Scholz defied calls from six ministries to veto the sale over security concerns, instead permitting the company to acquire a reduced stake. Ahead of the trip, Scholz's spokesman Steffen Hebestreit stressed the chancellor was not in favour of "decoupling" from China - but also wanted to "diversify, and minimise risks". For now, the German and Chinese economies remain deeply intertwined.

SELF DEFENCE FORCES DAY OF JAPAN



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Power Khurram Dastgir, Ambassador of Japan, Defence Attache of Japan, Lt. Gen Asim Munir, Quarter Master General Pakistan Army and others cutting cake to celebrate Self Defence Forces Day of Japan. - DNA

Japan Self-Defense Forces Day celebrated

STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Japan to Pakistan, H.E. Mr. WADA Mitsuhiro and Mrs. WADA Naoko hosted a reception on Tuesday to celebrate the 68th anniversary of the Japan Self-Defense Forces (JSDF) Day. Defense Attache, Colonel YAMAMOTO Hidetaka represented the Japan Self-Defense Forces (JSDF) at the Embassy. H. E. Mr. Khurram Dastgir Khan, Federal Minister for Power was the chief guests on the occasion. The reception was attended by the military officials as well as Ministers, parliamentarians, senior members of the Government of Pakistan, members of the diplomatic community and other dignitaries from the public and private sectors. JSDF Day was originally celebrated when the Japan Defense Agency (upgraded to the Ministry in 2007) and the JSDF were established on July 1st, 1954, but the date has been changed to November 1st as the JSDF are expected to respond to natural disasters such as frequent typhoons in summer season in Japan.

CPEC to ensure SCO's vision of shared prosperity

Sharing Pakistan's experience of several successful initiatives to alleviate poverty, the foreign minister also announced that the first meeting of the SCO Special Working Group on Poverty Alleviation would be held in Islamabad in December

BEIJING: Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari on Tuesday said China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) was significant in supplementing the vision of Shanghai Cooperation Organization, aimed at ensuring shared prosperity through regional connectivity and integration. Addressing at the 21st Meeting of the Council of Heads of Government (CHG) of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Council of Heads of Government Meeting in Beijing, the Pakistan foreign minister said the flagship project of the Belt and Road Initiative would build greater connectivity across SCO region and help unlock the political and economic potential of intra-SCO cooperation. The meeting was virtually hosted by China, as the current Chair of the SCO-CHG. The heads of government of China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan as well as representatives from SCO Observer States attended the meeting. The foreign minister emphasized the importance of enhancing economic and trade cooperation between SCO member States. Reaffirming the importance Pakistan attaches to SCO, the foreign minister highlighted actions taken by Pakistan under various agreements and projects for advancing regional cooperation based on principles enunciated in the 'Shanghai Spirit.' Sharing Pakistan's experience of several successful initiatives to alleviate poverty, the foreign minister also announced that the first meeting of the SCO Special Working Group on Poverty Alleviation would be held in Islamabad in December. Thanking the SCO countries for expressing solidarity with and extending

support for the flood-affected people in Pakistan, the foreign minister highlighted the significance of collective action to combat the far-reaching devastating impact of climate change. He also urged the developed countries to fulfill their commitments on climate finance to help developing countries address climate change for meeting sustainable development goals. Reflecting on the importance of achieving lasting peace and security in the region for economic development, the foreign minister stressed the need to address the scourge of terrorism in all its manifestations, including state terrorism. He also underlined the importance of sustained and practical engagement with Afghanistan in order to help the Afghan people overcome the humanitarian and economic crises afflicting their country. The CHG is the second highest forum of the SCO, where Heads of Government of Member States exchange views and provide policy guidance on the emerging regional and global issues in the context of regional connectivity, economic integration as well as socio-cultural and humanitarian cooperation among Member States. - APP



'Imran's statement reflects fascist thought'

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Climate Change has condemned PTI chairman Imran Khan's statement about the martial law, saying that his statement reflects the fascist, not democratic thought. Reacting to the statement in a tweet on Tuesday, she said: "Which politician demands the martial law from institutions?" The minister termed Imran Khan a psycho who wants bloodshed in the country in lust of the power. "What is meant by your bloody revolution?" She said that a democratic politician never instigates for the martial law. "The institutions are saying that they will not interfere in politics. But Imran Khan asks them to interfere in politics. Imran Khan is either demanding the power or the martial law," she added. Sherry Rehman was of view that a politician believing in constitutional democracy can never demand an unconstitutional thing. "A politician who claims of waging a political struggle for 26 years does not say impose martial law if you want," tweeted Rehman. She added that democratic politicians do not invite institutions to impose martial law. "Imran Khan believes that if he is not in power then no one should be in power," said the minister.

CNS expresses full confidence over operational preparedness

ISLAMABAD: Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral Muhammad Amjad Khan Niazi on Tuesday expressed full confidence over the high state of operational preparedness of Pakistan Navy to meet all challenges while safeguarding the maritime frontiers of the country. The Naval Chief presided over the Command and Staff Conference of Pakistan Navy that concluded here at Naval Headquarters, a Pakistan Navy news release said. During the conference, matters related to geo-strategic milieu, national security, operational preparedness, training and welfare of troops were reviewed. A comprehensive briefing on important on-going and future developmental projects of Pakistan Navy was also given to Chief of the Naval Staff. The Naval Chief expressed confidence over combat readiness and significant contributions of the Navy in maritime domain. He emphasized on strengthening of maritime security and maintaining combat readiness so as to effectively respond to any aggression against Pakistan. The Naval Chief lauded the initiatives undertaken towards capability development through acquisition of emerging technologies. He also appreciated the efforts put in by Field Commanders along with civil administration and various philanthropic organizations in providing continuous assistance to flood affected population. - APP

Failure to implement RSD 'betrayal' of UN Charter

The right to self-determination must be exercised freely, cannot lapse with time and must not be obfuscated or eclipsed by conflating it with terrorism, the Pakistani envoy said

DNA

NEW YORK: Despite the right to self-determination being UN Charter's "cardinal principle", Pakistan has deplored that millions of people, including Kashmiris, continue to live under alien domination and foreign occupation. "The price of this failure is being paid, in blood, by successive generations of people living under foreign occupation," Ambassador Aamir Khan, deputy permanent representative of Pakistan to the UN, told the General Assembly's Third Committee, which deals with social, humanitarian and cultural issues, on Monday. Speaking in a debate on 'Right of the peoples to self-determination, he said that suppression of this "fountainhead of all other rights", often brutal and violent, is one of the gravest violations of Security Council and General Assembly resolutions, referring to extra-judicial killings, arbitrary arrests, enforced disappearances, rape and sexual violence, torture, curfews, communication blackouts, lockdown of civilian populations, illegal settlements and demographic changes. The right to self-determination must be exercised freely, cannot lapse with time and must not be obfuscated or eclipsed by conflating it with terrorism, the Pakistani envoy said. Despite these clear injunctions of international law, Aamir Khan said that millions continue to live under alien domination and foreign occupation, calling it a "betrayal" of the UN Charter. In Indian-occupied Jammu and Kashmir, he said, bloodletting has gone on for seventy-five years and has accounted for the lives of over 100,000 Kashmiris,

who have suffered decades of occupation awaiting the fulfillment of their UN-promised inalienable right to self-determination. Since India's annexation of Jammu and Kashmir in 1949, there have been arbitrary arrests, abductions, violence and a lack of hospitals to care for the wounded, Aamir Khan said. "Harrowing stories abound of widespread torture, inhumane or degrading treatment and arbitrary arrests; of how thousands including children have been abducted from their homes in the dead of the night, without any trace; of hospitals running dangerously short of supplies and turning into graveyards," India, he said, ignores the lesson of history that a people's yearning for freedom can never be crushed by brute force. "We would like to reaffirm that the Jammu and Kashmir dispute will remain on the UN agenda until the Kashmiri people are allowed to exercise their will, according to the agreed method prescribed by the Security Council a plebiscite under the auspices of the United Nations," the Pakistan envoy added.

South Korea officials admit responsibility in tragedy

AGENCIES

SEOUL: South Korean officials admitted responsibility and apologized on Tuesday for failures in preventing and responding to a Halloween crowd surge that killed more than 150 people and left citizens shocked and angry. The government is facing growing public scrutiny over whether the crush Saturday night in Seoul's Itaewon district, a popular nightlife neighborhood, could have been prevented and who should take responsibility for the country's worst disaster in years. National police chief Yoon Hee Keun said an initial investigation found there were many urgent calls from citizens notifying authorities about the potential danger of the crowd gathering in Itaewon. He said police officers who received the calls failed to handle them effectively. "I feel a heavy responsibility (for the disaster) as the head of one of the related government offices," Yoon said in a televised news conference. "Police will do their best to prevent a tragedy like this from happening again."

Swati details torture, asks COAS to investigate

PTI senator alleges torture happened in presence of FIA cybercrimes assistant director

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Senator Azam Swati on Tuesday detailed the "torture" he allegedly faced at the hands of the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA). Swati, who was taken into custody by the FIA cybercrime unit on October 13 for making 'controversial claims' against state institutions, including the army chief, made these remarks during a press conference. PTI chief Imran Khan had termed Swati's denatation illegal, stating that an elderly senior citizen was tortured in front of his grandchildren for "a crime of criticising the institution", adding that the incident earned Pakistan a bad name. Addressing Chief of Army Staff (COAS) Gen Qamar Bajwa in his presser, Swati said that "the COAS has 27 days left at the army general headquarters (GHQ)", urging him to "follow the Constitution and summon FIA cybercrime assistant director Ayaz Khan". He stated that Ayaz would name the people involved within "five minutes". The senator alleged that the FIA official was present on the occasion and driving the vehicle during his torture. He asked that the phones of all individuals present be checked for video evidence of his torture, and see who was "laughing" during the ordeal. "They covered my

head and kept hitting me throughout, while someone recorded the everything as I screamed," he added. The senator alleged that he was then taken to an unknown location and physically tortured and forced to strip naked. "Bajwa sahab... if your agency says this incident did not occur, then let me state that is not politics. This is a breach of my honour and my family's honour," he said. If I am lying then the Almighty will punish me," he said,



reiterating that he was tortured inside his house as well. Swati maintained that he would not only voice the incident nationally, but also internationally, because "if a senator is not respected, then citizens' are not protected either". He complained about the Constitution not being respected by all and named two military officials who considered themselves "above the Constitution". "This 74-year-old senator is not trying to become a source of shame for you. I am a living corpse and fighting for my fundamental rights. I believe that this sacrifice from me and my family will protect a citizen, professor or a general from being stripped," he stated. Calling upon the army chief again, Swati said, "I've not been martyred like Arshad Sharif. I am alive", and asked the COAS to send his men to determine who "played such a disgusting game with a sitting senator."