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German Chancellor Scholz in China amid vast criticism

Detailed News On Page-07

Kaira stresses on unconditional political dialogue

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Maxwell keeps Australian hopes alive

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Briefs

Trump mulls launching fresh WH bid

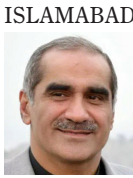
DNA



WASHINGTON: Former President Donald Trump is considering launching a third bid for the White House this month, three Trump advisers said on Thursday, while Trump himself teased a strong possibility of a comeback during a rally in Iowa later in the day. "And now, in order to make our country successful and safe and glorious, I will very, very, probably do it again," the former president said during the rally on Thursday night, teasing a 2024 bid. "Get ready, that's all I'm telling you, very soon. Get ready," he added. Trump was speed-dialing confidantes to hash out possible scenarios as he looks to benefit from expected Republican wins in Tuesday's midterms, his advisers said. "I think like a moth to a flame, Trump will run in 2024," one senior adviser told media, speaking on condition of anonymity. "I think that he wants to run and announcing before Thanksgiving gives him a great advantage over his opponents and he understands that."

China ready to complete ML-1 project

FAIZ CH



ISLAMABAD: Minister for Railways and Aviation Khawaja Saad Rafique says China has agreed to provide Pakistan with latest meteorological equipment to effectively forecast the environmental changes and natural calamities. Addressing a news conference in Islamabad on Friday, he said several agreements were reached during visit of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to China. The Minister said China has not only expressed readiness to complete the ML-1 railway project but also in upgrading Pakistan's meteorological warning systems with the help of Chinese experts to prevent and tackle natural disasters by timely alerts.

Holiday Notice

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

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Tells workers to continue protest

Khan wants resignation of 3 accused

Says two men were tasked to kill him, hit with 4 bullets; calls on Gen. Bajwa to hold black sheep accountable



SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

LAHORE: PTI chief Imran Khan has demanded the resignations of the three people he has claimed are behind yesterday's assassination bid on him. PTI chief Imran Khan described the attack on his life in Wazirabad. He said he was on the container when a "burst of bullets" was directed at him, causing him to get shot in the leg and fall down. "Then a second burst comes, there were two people." He said that if the two bullet sprays had been synchronized, he would not have survived. "Because I fell down, I think he [the shooter] thought I had died and fled."

He noted that one suspect, claiming to be an extremist, had been arrested. "He is not an extremist. There was a plan behind the attempt [and] we will uncover it." Former premier said that three others, separate from the ones who he had named in a tape stashed abroad, had plotted to kill him. "How did I find out? Insiders told me. The day before Wazirabad, they made the plan to kill me as they saw the number of people increasing using the script of religious extremism." He said Interior Minister "Rana Sanaullah, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Major General Faisal" plotted to kill him. He provided no evidence for the claims. Former premier Imran Khan has alleged that the "government and its handlers" had planned to get him murdered in the same way former Punjab governor Salman Taseer was killed. "Firstly, they accused me of blasphemy [...] they made tapes and released them and PMLN projected it, I knew who was doing it. "It is very easy to find out because this is a digital world. So first it was projected that I disrespected religion and then their plan was what they did in Wazirabad [...] that a religious extremist killed Imran Khan," the PTI chief claimed. Imran said that he had already narrated this plan to the public during a September 24 rally. "This [the attempted assassination] happened exactly according to the script."

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PTI workers, police clash during protests

The party staged protests in major cities

STAFF REPORT / DNA

ISLAMABAD: The PTI has started its countrywide protests against the attack on party Chairman Imran Khan. Earlier, the party leadership said that they would start holding demonstrations countrywide after Friday prayers. The party staged protests in major cities across Pakistan including Karachi, Islamabad, Lahore, Quetta, Peshawar, Malakand, Rajanpur, Bahawalnagar, Muzaffargarh, and Kohat, among others. Khan's supporters are also protesting in Rawalpindi's Faizabad Interchange against the assassination attempt on him a day earlier. Islamabad Police has been intermittently firing tear gas shells to disperse protesters in the area who resorted to stone-pelting on the police and Frontier Corps (FC). Meanwhile, Islamabad Police and FC have arrested several PTI workers in Islamabad. Murree Road has been closed to traffic in Rawalpindi. Islamabad Police took to Twitter to inform the public about the situation in the twin cities. Earlier, protesters blocked Rawalpindi's GT Road from both sides which affected traffic in the area. After workers ended their protests in Rawat, GT Road has been cleared for traffic. PTI's women workers, on

the other hand, left after protesting at the National Press Club. Protestors in Lahore held demonstrations against the federal government. Earlier, PTI workers and supporters vandalised public property outside the Governor House's gate at Lahore's Mall Road resulting in a traffic jam before ending the protest, as the police reached the spot. Earlier, some PTI supporters jumped the Governor House's gate while holding PTI flags in their hands and placing them on the gate, while others tried to trespass barriers placed by law enforcement. Meanwhile, lawyers of the Insaaf Lawyer's Forum also gathered at the venue earlier. Demonstrations have affected traffic at Lahore's Thokar Niaz Baig and Shahdara Chowk, as well as at Mall Road's GPO intersection. Demonstrations are also being held at the Maulana Zafar Ali Khan intersection in Wazirabad, where PTI workers have blocked the traffic moving from Lahore to Islamabad. In Lahore, the party's workers and supporters are being led by Senator Ejaz Chaudhry. Karachi's Shahrah-Faisal has been cleared for traffic following protests. Earlier, Karachi Police baton-charged and fired tear gas shells at the protesters on the city's crucial artery to ensure their dispersal.

Continued on Page 06



ISLAMABAD: President Coordinator/ Humanitarian Coordinator of the United Nation in Pakistan Mr Julien Harneis calls on Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif. - DNA

Pak, China to enhance consultative process: PM

KHAYAM ABBASI

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif says Pakistan and China have agreed to enhance their consultative process to discuss geo-political situation and ways and means to bring progress and prosperity not only in Pakistan but the whole region. In an exclusive interview with China Global Television Network (CGTN), the Prime Minister said he is encouraged by the massive support from the Chinese leadership to work jointly for the good of the two peoples and promote CPEC and business to business investments in Pakistan besides jointly dealing with issues which relate to international consideration. The Prime Minister dubbed his meetings with the Chinese leadership in Beijing as most friendly, productive and very useful. Shehbaz Sharif said Pakistan and China are iron brothers and this friendship is unbreakable. He said nobody can damage or find any space in this friendship. He said no matter what, we will remain friends. Responding to a question, the Prime Minister said China has not shown any signs of expansionism rather it believes in peaceful means. He said Chinese President Xi Jinping's philosophy is about globalization, interaction, prosperity and progress. He said those who believe in containing China are sadly mistaken as they will never be able to contain the country. He said the world cannot operate without China. The Prime Minister said that China's military progress is not for aggression but it is for its defense. He said China cannot afford to remain weak in this area.

Punjab responsible for the attack on Imran Khan: Asif

Says naming politicians, military officer by Imran akin to 'derailing' probe

DNA

SIALKOT: Defence Minister Khawaja Asif Friday said that the province where Imran Khan was attacked is responsible for what ever happened on Thursday. Asif, while speaking during a worker's convention in Sialkot, said that akin to the province, the chief minister of the province is equally responsible for the attack on Khan. "Whatever happened in the long march should be condemned," Asif said, adding that taking political advantage of such incidents is also condemnable. "Those who were injured did not receive any medical treatment," the defence minister said. He added that Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, Interior Minister Rana Sanaullah, and the establishment are being targeted for no reason. "The federal government has not abandoned its responsibility," he said during the address. The minister added that the PTI has not yet decided to file a

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Sana advises PTI to 'change behaviour'

SHUJAAT HAMZA

ISLAMABAD: Interior Minister Rana Sanaullah advised Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chief and former premier Imran Khan on Friday to "change" his behaviour and revise security measurements. The minister's remarks came during a press conference a day after Imran was shot in the leg in an assassination attempt. Referring to a video of PTI leaders released after the incident, Sana quoted Asad Umar as saying that Imran Khan was aware of the threats and that party leadership had repeatedly warned him, but he insisted on

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UAE, Iran, Palestine condemn attack on Khan

DUBAI: The UAE has strongly condemned the attempted assassination of Imran Khan, the former Prime Minister of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, expressing its solidarity and standing by friendly Pakistan and its people in the face of violence and terrorism. In a statement, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation confirmed that the UAE expresses its strong condemnation of these criminal acts that aim to destabilize security and stability, and are inconsistent with humanitarian values and principles. Foreign and Expatriates // Condemns the assassination attempt on former Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan. Meanwhile, Palestine Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants condemns in the strongest terms the assassination attempt on former Pakistani

Prime Minister Imran Khan, and affirms the State of Palestine's stand with the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and its people in confronting terrorism in all its forms, and wishes it and its friendly brotherly people safety, security and prosperity, expressing its warm condolences to the families of the victims and its wishes for a speedy recovery to the former Pakistani minister and the wounded. In a statement on Friday, Nasser Kanani, spokesperson of the Iranian foreign ministry condemned the assassination attempt against the former Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan. The foreign ministry spokesperson also prayed to Almighty God for the speedy recovery of the former prime minister and the others injured in the incident. - DNA

Civilians 'need to be removed' from Kherson: Putin

"The civilian population should not suffer from shelling, an offensive, a counter offensive or other such things," he said. Russian army later said it was evacuating

NEWS DESK

MOSCOW: Vladimir Putin on Friday said civilians should be taken out of Moscow-occupied Kherson in southern Ukraine, where Russian forces have been leading evacuations since mid-October as Kyiv's forces advance. "Those who live in Kherson should be removed from zones of dangerous fighting," the Russian president told young volunteers from the occupied Ukrainian territories on Red Square as Moscow celebrated Unity Day. "The civilian population should not suffer from shelling, an offensive, a counter-offensive or other such things," he said. The Russian army later said it was evacuating "more than 5,000 civilians" from the Kherson region each day. Moscow's occupation authorities in Kherson say they have helped tens of thousands leave the region and have vowed to turn Kherson city into a "fortress". Kyiv has likened Moscow's efforts to remove the civilian population from Kherson to Soviet-like "deportations" of its people. Putin was speaking to volunteers involved in helping people leave

Russia seeks sanctions exemptions in grain deal talks

MOSCOW: Russia wants the West to ease restrictions on state agriculture lender Rosselkhozbank to facilitate Russian grain exports, according to four sources familiar with the request, made during talks to extend a deal on food shipments from Ukraine. Moscow suspended its participation in the secure Black Sea grain corridor in late October but rejoined after four days, easing fears of further disruptions to grain exports from key supplier Ukraine at a time of rampant global food inflation. President Vladimir Putin has reserved Russia's right to halt the United Nations-brokered agreement again, while U.N. chief Antonio Guterres is pushing Moscow to agree to extend the pact beyond its scheduled expiry on Nov. 19. Russia has not detailed its demands publicly beyond calls to unblock Russian fertiliser stuck in European ports and warehouses and resume exports of ammonia, an important ingredient in fertiliser, through a Russia-Ukraine pipeline. The four sources, who declined to be identified due to the sensitivity of the subject, said Russia was asking Western countries to allow state lender Rosselkhozbank to restore its relations with correspondent banks despite Western sanctions. This would allow the bank, which has not had a major role in the international grain trade so far, to process payments for Russian grain and other foodstuffs, two of the sources added. Before the latest sanctions, such payments were handled by international banks and subsidiaries of other Russian banks in Switzerland. The sources did not say what response, if any, Russia had got to its proposals. - Agencies

Kherson, in remarks made after laying flowers at a monument honouring those who fought off a Polish invasion in 1612. He said Moscow had mobilised 318,000 recruits since he announced a military call-up in September, which has since been completed. "We already have 318,000 (mobilised)," Putin said. That exceeded his target of 300,000 because "volunteers keep coming", he added. The Kremlin chief said he wanted to restore historical monuments in the occupied territories so that those "who lived under crazy, idiotic propaganda for 30 years" would know "where their ancestors came from." He singled out the port city of Mariupol on the Azov Sea, which was flattened by weeks of battles over its steelworks, which fell into Russian hands in May. "Mariupol is a very famous - an ancient, you could say - Russian city," Putin said. "Peter the Great, as is well known, founded his first military flotilla there, had his first victories there," he said of the 17th-century tsar. General Alexander "Suvorov had his steppe campaigns there, and Catherine the Second built up these lands," he added. "There is a lot to work on," he said, referring to reconstruction plans.

Morality, constitutional supremacy, to address political crisis: Experts

KHAYAM ABBASI

ISLAMABAD: Constitutional supremacy, electoral reforms to ensure inclusivity, rule of law, focus on public service delivery, leadership development, taking responsibility and ownership, citizenship awareness, participatory governance based on the realities of socio-political culture of Pakistan instead of adopting Western models, and optimum use of technology for creating efficient systems for governance at all levels of the state were the salient ideas put forward and extensively debated by eminent policy practitioners and academics in a seminar jointly organized by Institute of Policy Studies (IPS) and Islamabad Policy Research Institute (IPRI). The session titled 'Political System and Governance in Pakistan' was part of the 'Grand National Dialogue' initiated by IPRI recently, aiming to take inputs and ideas from academics, intellectuals and practitioners over a host of national issues, in a bid to convert them into actionable recommendations for policy makers.

Chaired by Chairman IPS Khalid Rahman and co-hosted by Brig (r) Raashid Wali Janjua, director research at IPRI and Ambassador (r) Syed Abrar Husain, vice chairman at IPS, the seminar was addressed by Syed Abu Ahmad Akif (SI), former federal secretary, Dr

Syed Tahir Hijazi, former member governance, Planning Commission of Pakistan, Dr Noreen Saher, associate professor/chairperson, Department of Anthropology, International Islamic University, Islamabad (IIUI), Muhammad Arshad, CEO, Sehat Sahulat Program, Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination, Government of Pakistan, and Jawad Akhtar Khokhar, advisor, maritime affairs, Planning Commission of Pakistan. Naufil Shahrukh, IPS' GM Operation, moderated the session. Initiating the discussion, Akif put up a series of questions highlighting several internal and external contributory factors leading to the governance deficit in Pakistan. He underscored economic mismanagement, political disorder, deteriorating civil services, civil-military relations, internal conflicts, lawlessness, extremism, militancy, intolerance, rising debts, external forces, and geo political circumstances as some of the reasons behind the sorry state of affairs in the country. He urged on the need to change the mindset to a productive and constructive one, stressing that no problem can be solved by the same thinking that generated it in the first place. Arshad backed Akif's notions, maintaining that not everything was bad in the country and several success stories can be seen in its journey of seventy-five years. The development of nuclear weapons and

the success against the war on terror were a couple of highlighted examples, but the country has also witnessed commendable progress in some other areas as well and the national capacity to use ICT for governance and public service delivery is at par with the developed nations. The speaker termed the successful planning and implementation of Sehat Sahulat program no less than an achievement itself, as it was delivering health services to 170 million people through 1036 hospitals across the country. A precedence of such a model with such magnitude and in the face of such insurance challenges, according to him, was not even seen in the G7 countries, and the fact that all this was done with any political conformity makes this achievement even sweeter. The speaker maintained that this is just another success example that can be replicated in other sectors as well. The only requirement is to channelize the available resources and adopt the real model of inclusive governance where everyone has a specific role to play, for which he takes ownership and becomes responsible and accountable. Khokhar spoke from the perspective of Gwadar, pointing out challenges in the areas of Gwadar port and city integration, travelling, connectivity and training. On the other hand, he also highlighted some achievements with the help of Chinese institutions in the area.



ISLAMABAD: Amer Sultan Tareen, Secretary Health KP and Yong Ye, Country Director, Pakistan Resident Mission signing a ADB Program Agreement for the implementation of program in KP, Federal Minister for Economic Affairs, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq witnessing the signing ceremony. - DNA

UET Peshawar, Dynea Ltd ink MoU

PESHAWAR :UET Peshawar and Dynea Pakistan Ltd entered into a collaboration for joint applied research after a memorandum of understanding was signed between Mirza Hussain, General Manager of Dynea Ltd and Prof. Dr Iftikhar Hussain, Vice Chancellor of UET Peshawar, here on Friday. The purpose of the MOU is to bring the academia and industry together to create industrial development in the chemical process industry and related fields through joint research projects, training and student internships, according to a press release. "Under the Pakistan Engineering Council (PEC) guidelines, all engineering programmes are now accredited under the Washington Accord's Outcome Based Education system and UET Peshawar has also secured a top place in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Pakistan under the Times Higher Education (THE) World Impact Ranking 2022," the vice chancellor said. Mirza Hussain said, "Dynea Ltd is a Norway based multinational company. Dynea Pakistan is a leading manufacturer of adhesive and surfacing solutions in Pakistan, operational in Hub - Balochistan and Gadoon - Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The company is engaged in the production and sale of formaldehyde, urea and adhesives, molding compounds and glazing powder etc. _APP

PMLN does not believe in political victimization: Muqam

OUR CORRESPONDENT

SHANGLA: Adviser to the Prime Minister for Political, Public Affairs and National Heritage, Engr Amir Muqam here Friday said that Pakistan Muslim League-N leadership did not believe in political victimization and had strongly condemned the firing incident on Imran Khan's container. Addressing a big public gathering here, Engr Amir Muqam said while strongly condemning firing incident at the container of PTI Chairman Imran Khan near Gujranwala that all the top leadership of the coalition parties' government including PMLN had strongly condemned the incident and demanded complete investigation to expose the real culprits. He said: "we should wait for the investigation and avoid speculations over the incident." He said Imran Khan was known for leveling baseless allegations against political opponents and ad-

vised the PTI leadership including Imran Khan not to propagate the incident for politicking. Muqam said that it was the responsibility of the Punjab Government to provide security to the PTI long march that apparently failed in its duty to protect Imran's container. He said PMLN leadership including himself was attacked on number of occasions but did not level allegations against political opponents. He said corrupt practices of Imran Khan were exposed before the nation after ECP's verdict in Tosha Khanna case, adding that Imran's lie based conspiracy narrative was also rejected by all state institutions. The PMLN KP President said Imran Khan was making failed attempts to drag state institutions into politics, adding his desire to regain power through backdoor channels would not succeed. Engr Amir Muqam said that PMLN led coalition government had put the economy

back on track after it was destroyed by the PTI Government in last four years. He said PMLN government has restarted development projects across the country including Shangla. Amir Muqam accused the PTI government in KP for depriving Shangla of development in its nine year long rule. He said whenever a difficult time comes on Pakhtoon community and on people of Malakand division including Shangla he stands for them. Muqam said that development projects were restarted in Shangla by the PMLN led government in the centre including communication, roads, electricity and utility store projects and work on it were expedited. He said Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif had announced a mega development package during his visit to Shangla. He said that the Prime Minister was working day and night to address people's problems and take the country out of existing challenges.

Court Notice

In the Court of Riasat Ali Naib Tehsildar Gujrat

Title: Ansar Javed Versus Yasir Javed etc.

Notice to:

Ijaz Ahmed, Zulfiqar, Muhammad Hussain sons of Allah Ditta, Nazir Hussain S/O Feroz Din, Sifat Zareen W/O Rizwan Asif, Shabbir Hussain S/O Nazir Hussain, Muhammad Ashraf S/O Walayat Khan, Amjad Mehmood, Tahir sons of Akbar Baig Residents of Jalalpur Sobia Tehsil & District Gujrat, Iffat Saleem daughter, Idrees Saleem son of Muhammad Saleem Residents of Model Town, Gujrat, Shoukat Ali, Waris Ali, Ghulam Murtaza alias Riasat Ali, Liaqat Ali sons of Naik Alam, Muhammad Aslam S/O Muhammad Sadiq, Allah Ditta S/O Muhammad Din, Allah Ditta S/O Barkat Ali, residents of Tibba Jalalpur Sobia Tehsil & District Gujrat, Muhammad Ansar S/O Barkat Ali Caste Jatt Resident of Bhonch Tehsil & District Gujrat

Application for separation of Agriculture land

Whereas in the above mentioned case it has been proved to the satisfaction of the court that the above mentioned defendants are not served in ordinary way. It is therefore proclaimed under order 5 rule 20 CPC that if the said defendants will not appear personally or through a duly authorized agent or pleader in court at 8 AM on 07-11-2022, otherwise case will be decided ex parte.

Lord Wajid Khan calls on Punjab governor

LAHORE :House of Lords member Lord Wajid Khan and a renowned Pak-UK businessman Zubair Issa led delegation called on Punjab Governor Muhammad Balighur Rehman at Governor's House, here on Friday. The governor said success journey of Lord Wajid Khan in the United Kingdom was an example to follow for many people. He said Lord Wajid Khan's success was a proof that by the grace of Allah and hard work, anyone could achieve

greatness. The Punjab governor said that overseas Pakistanis were asset to the country, who were playing an important role in the country's economy and bringing good name to Pakistan. He said overseas Pakistanis are Pakistan's ambassadors and their role in promoting a positive image of the country abroad is commendable. Governor Balighur Rehman said that the government was paying special attention to promotion of higher education

in the country as well as bringing the education standard on a par with the international standards. The governor said the country was currently facing many challenges including rehabilitation of flood victims and the current government was working day and night for rehabilitation of flood victims. Balighur Rehman also thanked the British government and the Pakistani community living in the UK for their assistance to the flood victims.--APP



ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Sweden to Pakistan, Henrik Perrson calls on Special Assistant to Prime Minister, Muhammad Owais Noorani. - DNA

PRCS AJK organizes training for volunteers

DNA

MUZAFFARABAD: Pakistan Red Crescent Society AJK State Branch with the support of German Red Cross (GRC) organized two days training on Climate Advocacy & Coordination for Resilient Actions (CACRA) for the volunteers of Pakistan Red Crescent Society AJK State Branch. Twenty Eight participants from five districts of Azad Kashmir (Neelum, Muzaffarabad, Jhelum Valley, Bagh, Poonch and Mirpur) participated in the training. Moreover, two assistant directors of Climate Advocacy & Coordination for Resilient Actions (CACRA) program, National Headquarters Islamabad Ehsan Qadir

& Ms Majida facilitated the training. The training was aimed to further train and enhances the capacity of volunteers with regard to climate advocacy & coordination for resilient actions. It is worth remembering that Pakistan Red Crescent Society National Headquarters Islamabad launched the Climate Advocacy program in Jan 2022. Additionally, the Climate Advocacy & Coordination for Resilient Actions (CACRA) has already launched in Sindh, KP and Gilgit Baltistan however, the program will be officially launched in AJK in next month. It is also worth mentioning that the program will be implemented on Macro, Meso and Micro level. The secretary Pakistan Red Crescent Society AJK

State Branch Gulzar Fatima honoured the concluding ceremony. While addressing the concluding ceremony Ms Fatima thanked the National Headquarters Islamabad and German Red Cross for this initiative. While addressing the participants Ms Fatima said that newly launched program is of great importance keeping in view the current climate situation in Pakistan. While talking about the deteriorated climate situation she said that we need to address this issue on priority basis and pro-active approach in this context will be adopted to address this issue. "It is now our responsibility to reach out to the communities across AJK to raise awareness & sensitize

them about the issue. Pakistan has zero contribution to current exacerbated climatic situation and on the other hand we have to face catastrophic results in terms of flash floods, land sliding, cloud burst and other disasters," she added. The secretary Pakistan Red Crescent Society further said the situation will be exacerbated in coming years if timely actions and preventive measures are not taken. Earlier, the Media & Communication Officer of Pakistan Red Crescent Society AJK State Branch gave detailed presentations on History of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement, history of Pakistan Red Crescent Society & on-going programs

of Pakistan Red Crescent Society. Besides, sessions on climate change, advocacy, disaster management & terminologies were delivered by Assistant directors Ehsan Qadir & Ms Majida. At the end of the concluding ceremony, secretary Pakistan Red Crescent Society distributed certificates among participants and commemorative shields were also presented to Assistant Directors Climate Advocacy & Coordination for Resilient Actions (CACRA). On this occasion, Program Coordinator First Aid Program Yasir Josh, Program Coordinator Risk Awareness & Safer Behaviour Program Yasir Kazmi, Tahira Kazmi Youth & Volunteers Officer & focal person for (CACRA) were also present on this occasion.



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For further information please contact the following.

Maj (r) Sabih Ur Rehman
Mobile: 0300 8553342

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

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

Motorway Police.....9266044

Motorway Police.....9270601-20

Women Police Stations Islamabad.....9222596

Rawalpindi.....9270601-20

Enquiry

Edhi Ambulance.....115

PIA Flight Info.....114

PIA Cargo.....9280979

Railway Inquiry.....117

Railway Exchange9270831-5

WASA Rawalpindi.555489

CAA.....9281092

Hospitals

CMH.....5611111

MH.....561116

Cantt Hospital...9270907-11

DHQ.....5556311-4

RGH.....9290301-7

Holy Family.....9290322-7

PIMS.....9261170-79

Polyclinic.....9218300-09

Shifa International.4603666

Departments

CDA.....9221334-43

CDA.....9208301-04

Met Office.....9250360-6

RDA.....5555864

TMA.....5770886

Cantonment Board 9270151-3

Islamabad Metropolitan

Corporation.....9209224

Potohar Town.....9209224

Rawal Town.....5773343

Water Tank

Islamabad.....0321-5744480

Govt. asks PTI to review security of leadership

The second part of this statement was aired on media and Imran Khan and PTI leaders would have also watched this video

STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: The federal government on Friday asked PTI leadership including Imran Khan to review their security issues and make them more effective to avoid any mishap. Addressing a press conference here, the minister again condemned attack on Imran Khan and other PTI leaders and said that we do not want to scare or stop this long march but it is necessary to bring these matters to notice. The minister cited the statement PTI leader Asad Omer who told Imran Khan about security threats, but he (Imran Khan) said Allah Almighty would take

care. “Ignorance towards security threats by Imran Khan can create unfortunate incidents in future too and we appeal to them to change their attitude and arrange their matters accordingly,” the minister said.

“We have no objection to their protest, and long march, we are not afraid, but these are the issues which we want to bring to their notice as these are very important,” the minister added. The minister declared it as sad that PTI chairman Imran Khan blamed people for his attempted assassination without any investigation or proof. “Not only the government condemned this incident but prayed for health of all wound-

ed persons including Imran Khan because we consider him as our political opponent not enemy,” he added.

This status of enemy is given by Imran Khan to his opponents not by us and his stubbornness and insistence towards such attitude is really condemnable. He said that police arrested accused red-handed from the spot and a PTI worker namely Ibtisam assisted in this arrest. In a police station of Gujrat, the statement of accused was recorded but First Information Report (FIR) had not been deliberately registered into this incident as it would be lodged after managing it. The minister said that first part

of the statement of accused was released last day in which the accused told about the reasons behind this attack. The Punjab government and its Chief Minister suspended the entire staff of the police station but second part of the statement was also issued after their suspension. The second part of this statement was aired on media and Imran Khan and PTI leaders would have also watched this video.

The accusation of the assailant are very much condemnable and we tried to stop further dissemination of this video because it describes about certain statement of Imran Khan and a claim of a woman, he added.

The accused termed that he committed this act due to his belief on ‘Prophethood and Nabuwat’. It could be more damaging if this video got more viral and religious fanatics could get opportunity through it, he said. “Therefore, we appeal PTI leadership including Imran Khan to review their security affairs after considering the importance and seriousness of this issue and amend their behavior”.

He cited the statement of Asad Umer who advised Imran Khan to take threats serious as situation is not good but the latter did not care about it. Such attitude could be more damaging if not amended, the minister said.

Gold rates up by Rs 500 per tola

ISLAMABAD: The price of 24 karat per tola gold witnessed an increase of Rs 500 on Friday and was sold at Rs 151, 500 against its sale at Rs 151,000, the previous day.

The price of 10 gram 24 karat also increased by Rs 429 and was sold at Rs 129, 887 against Rs 129, 458; whereas that of 10 gram 22 karat went down to Rs 119, 063 against its sale at Rs 118,670, All Sindh Sarafa Jewellers Association reported.

The price of per tola and ten-gram silver remained constant at Rs 1, 590 and Rs1, 363.13 respectively. The price of gold in the international market increased by \$34 and was sold at \$1,650 against its sale at \$1, 616, the association reported.—APP

2 more test positive for Coronavirus in RWP

RAWALPINDI: Two more people were diagnosed with fatal Coronavirus during the last 24 hours, raising the district’s tally of confirmed cases to 47,700.

As per the latest data released by the District Health Authority here Friday, the infected cases included 44,071 from Rawalpindi and 3,629 from other districts. Among the new cases, both arrived from the Potohar town area. “Presently, 14 confirmed patients are quarantined at homes while no one at any district health facility”, the report added. The report further said that 7,006,011 people, including 44,790 health workers, had jabbed themselves against the lethal Coronavirus (COVID-19) across the district since the vaccination administering drive launched on March 10, 2021. In addition, District Health Authority updated that during the last 24 hours, 1,003 samples were collected, out of which 1,002 were declared negative, while the positivity rate was recorded at 0.2 per cent.—APP

35 more test positive for dengue

RAWALPINDI: As many as 35 more dengue cases were reported in Rawalpindi during the last 24 hours, raising the tally of confirmed cases to 4,421. District Coordinator Epidemics Prevention and Control (DCEPC), Dr Sajjad Mehmood, Friday said that among the new cases, nine patients had arrived from Potohar town urban area, six from Municipal Corporation, Rawalpindi, four from Rawalpindi Cantonment, and one of each from Chaklala Cantonment, Taxila Cantonment, Kahuta, Taxila rural, Kalar Syeda and Taxila city.

Dr Sajjad stated that 109 patients were admitted to the city’s allied hospitals, including 40 to the Benazir Bhutto Hospital (BBH), 36 to the District Headquarters Hospital, and 33 to the Holy Family Hospital (HFH). He informed that out of the total admitted patients, 78 were confirmed cases, with 50 belonging to Rawalpindi, adding one patient was in a critical position at HFH.—APP

Rupee gains 2 paise against dollar

ISLAMABAD: Pakistani Rupee on Friday appreciated by 2 paise against the US dollar in the interbank trading to close at Rs 221.92 against the previous day’s closing of Rs 221.94. According to the Forex Association of Pakistan (FAP), the buying and selling rates of US dollar in the open market were recorded at Rs 225.4 and Rs 227.7 respectively.

The price of Euro against Rupee decreased by 24 paise to close at Rs 216.82 against the previous close of Rs 217.06.

The Japanese Yen remained unchanged to close at Rs 1.50, whereas a decrease of Rs 2.90 was witnessed in the exchange rate of the British Pound, which was traded at Rs 248.79 as compared to its last day’s closing of Rs 251.69.—APP

ISLAMABAD: Speaker National Assembly Raja Pervaiz Ashraf in a group photo with European Parliamentary delegation led by MEP Herve Juvin. DNA

AIOU organizes lecture on Iqbal and Ishq e Rasool (SAWW)

ISLAMABAD :Iqbal Chair on Tasawwuf and Muslim Thoughts, Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU) organized a seminar on “Iqbal and Ishq e Rasool (SAWW)” on Friday. Head, Iqbal Chair, Prof. Fateh Muhammad Malik presided over the event. A well-known philosopher, researcher, and religious scholar of the country, Dr. Habib-ur-Rahman Asim, gave a detailed lecture on “Iqbal and Ishq Rasool (SAWW)”. Sahibzada Sajid Ur Rahman, Dr. Abdul Wajid Tabas-

sum, faculty members and students also attended the seminar. Dr. Habib-ur-Rehman Asim, in his lecture, said that the love of Holy Prophet (PBUH) is an integral part of our faith, and being Muslim is our only way to success in this world and hereafter. He said that there is a need for academic events at the university level to instill the love of Rasool (PBUH) in the new generation. Dr. Habib-ur-Rehman Asim further said that Allama Iqbal had deep love and af-

fection for the Holy Prophet (PBUH) and his poetry revolves around Ishq E Rasool (SAWW) and obedience to the Rasool (SAWW). Iqbal had extensive knowledge of the Qur’an, which is the reason for the fragrance of Ishq e Rasool (SAWW) in his poetry. He said that there is a lot of darkness of hopelessness in society and the love of Muhammad (PBUH) is the only way to remove it. Professor Fateh Muhammad Malik said that Allama Iqbal’s heart was full of love for the Holy Prophet

(PBUH). The Vice Chancellor, AIOU, Prof. Dr. Zia Ul-Qayyum, has established the Iqbal Chair along with other two chairs in the Center of Excellence of the University, where academic events are being held continuously. Professor Muhammad Rafiq Tahir explained the aims and objectives of the Center of Excellence and said that after Rabi-ul-Awwal, it is the month of Iqbal and we will organize more events under Iqbal Chair on Tasawwuf Muslim thoughts to know Iqbal.—APP

CDA approves elevated flyover at Srinagar highway

ISLAMABAD, Nov 04 (APP): Chairman Capital Development Authority Captain (Retired) Muhammad Usman has approved the construction of an elevated flyover at the intersection of Srinagar Highway and Faqir Ipi Road – a busy point where accidents occur repeatedly.

It is pertinent to mention here that Srinagar Highway was made signal-free earlier this year through protected U-turns in lieu of traffic signals to minimise congestion, but it was threatening people’s lives as reckless driving and accidents had increased after the initiative.

Three protective U-turns named G-9/G-10 Protective U-turn, Police Lines Protective U-turn and G-12 Protective U-turn were constructed as an interim arrangement but could not serve its purpose. A meeting to find out the solution of repeated accidents on the highway was held at the CDA headquarter under the chair of Muhammad Usman Younis in which proposals were tabled to make the entire Srinagar Highway signal-free by employing permanent solutions.

The consultant in its presentation suggested constructing a flyover at the intersection of Srinagar Highway and Faqir Ipi Road,

elevated U-turns in front of National University of Science and Technology (NUST) and under construction 10th Avenue’s intersection. However, after detailed discussion, Chairman CDA only approved to construct an elevated flyover at the intersection of Srinagar Highway and Faqir Ipi Road commonly known as Police Line Chowk at the moment and directed the concerned formation to prepare a proper design for the rest of the congestion points.

The flyover will be constructed on main Srinagar Highway while traffic coming from Faqir Ipi Road would be given access through a roundabout to be constructed under the flyover.

Faqir Ipi Road runs between the IJP road and the Srinagar Highway and it transmits massive traffic on the highway due to the presence of police lines, two hospitals, two universities and several other institutions. Meanwhile, Chairman CDA also approved the construction of a pedestrian and bikers bridge between sectors H-13 and G-13 to avoid traffic accidents.

Chairman CDA has directed to design a final foolproof traffic management system to make the Srinagar Highway signal-free on a permanent basis.—

ICT admin refutes notification of sealing Islamabad

ISLAMABAD :The Deputy Commissioner of Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) has refuted the notification circulating on social media notifying the lockdown of Islamabad due to the long march of PTI. According to a statement issued here Friday by the office of the Deputy Commissioner said that the Islamabad administration completely denied the fake news of the lockdown in Islamabad that was published in some parts of the media. The statement termed the fake notification as propaganda against the ICT administration and urged the public that they should dispel the misinformation by utilizing authentic news sources. The ICT administration expressed determination to serve and protect the lives and properties of the citizens by adding that the security situation in Islamabad was under control and traffic flow was smooth.

HEC women team clinches 2 medals

ISLAMABAD: Dr. Mukhtar Ahmed, Chairman, Higher Education Commission (HEC) Pakistan has congratulated the HEC Taekwondo women team on winning two medals, including a silver and a bronze medal, in the Combaxx 4th Asian Open Taekwondo Women Championship. Over 500 male and female athletes from 23 countries are competing in 16 senior and five junior weight categories in the championship being organised by Pakistan Taekwondo Federation held at Liaquat Gymnasium, Pakistan Sports Complex, a press release on Friday said.

A total of six players are representing HEC in the championship. Maliha Ali of Lahore Garrison University won the silver medal in the under 67 KG category and Alma Shfan Alizai of National University of Modern Languages, Islamabad clinched the bronze medal in the under 62 KG category. “Through organising such international events, sports ecosystem can be developed in the country along with enhancing avenues of sports tourism in the country,” the Chairman said.

Dr. Mukhtar Ahmed also thanked the Government for providing a conducive environment for the country’s youth to outperform in every walk of life. He said that the Government is continuously supporting HEC in executing youth-centric projects under Prime Minister’s Youth Programme. HEC plays a pivotal role in facilitating universities to promote sports along with academic activities. In this regard, HEC not only organizes intervarsity championships but also facilitates players’ participation in national and international championships

Tasneem urges USC to expand service to rural level

ISLAMABAD: Special Assistant to the Prime Minister (SAPM) on Industries and Production Tasneem Ahmed Qureshi here on Friday asked the Utility Stores Corporation (USC) to expand its services to the rural level as the majority of the population resides in the countryside.

Speaking at a briefing on the performance and initiatives of USC, the SAPM said that the coalition government was committed to providing maximum relief to masses across the country, said a press release issued here.

Briefing the SAPM about the performance and initiatives, Managing Director (MD), Muhammad Ali Ammer informed him about the Prime Minister’s special relief package and overall operations of the USC.

The MD said that the utility store was working hard to provide branded and non-branded items to the public at comparatively lower prices. The prices of these items in utility stores were still less than in the open market.

The meeting was briefed on the progress made on subsidy on util-

ity stores, targeted subsidy to the poor, expansion of the number of utility stores across the country and provision of low-price flour in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

The MD said that USC had put in operation as many as 200 mobile stores in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province to facilitate people at their doorsteps. Currently, 100 mobile stores were operational in Abbottabad zone and 100 others in Peshawar zone, which were facilitating people to buy products in their localities in addition to availing subsidy on essential food

items, he added.

He said that the USC had been made a profitable entity since 2020-2021 fiscal year and so on as the consumer reposing confidence in the good quality of the food items of it, purchased 30 per cent ghee and sugar 16 percent of the total market share.

The subsidy mechanism is digital whereas the National Database and Registration Authority (Nadra) and the Ministry of Poverty Alleviation are linked to the data. In Balochistan, subsidized supply of essential commodities was

being ensured not only at utility stores but mobile stores had also been set up to ensure supply in remote areas, the MD added.

He said that USC was always ready to work in coordination with federal, and provincial governments and the National Disaster Management Authority during natural hazards like floods, earthquakes etc as it supplied 25,000 raskan bags daily to meet Provincial Disaster Management Authority demand of a total of 345,000 ration bags during floods in Sindh.—APP

Briefs

Police launches search operations in different areas

RAWALPINDI: Rawalpindi District Police on the special directives of City Police Officer (CPO) Rawalpindi, on Friday launched search operations in different city areas in the jurisdictions of Sadiqabad, City, Gungmandi, Bani, New Town, Taxila, Morgah, Patriata, Dhama, Rawat, Gujar Khan and R.A. Bazaar police stations, said a police spokesman. He informed that heavy police contingents, Elite Force, Special Branch personnel and Ladies police under the supervision of senior police officers, conducted search operations in different areas and searched 528 houses, 130 shops, 10 hotels, six hostels, besides checking the particulars of 131 tenants. Over 1900 persons were also checked during the operations, he added. Police recovered 1350 grams of charras and weapons during search operations, he said and informed that three FIRs were also registered against renting rules violators. Senior Superintendent of Police, Operations, Rawalpindi Waseem Riaz Khan said that search operations were being conducted to net criminals and other law-breakers.—APP

Three arrested for running illegal petrol, LPG agencies

RAWALPINDI, Nov 04 (AP-P): The Rawalpindi District Police under an ongoing operation against illegal Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) and Petrol agencies conducted raids and arrested three accused. According to the police spokesman, the Wah Cantonment police conducted raids in their jurisdiction and arrested Shamsheer, Ajaz and Babar Haider for operating illegal petrol and LPG agencies. The police confiscated petrol, LPG cylinders and refilling gadgets from their possession and registered separate cases against the accused, he added. He said that the police would continue their operation against violators and the illegal petrol and LPG agencies would be sealed. He warned the violators to stop the illegal business immediately otherwise strict action in accordance with the law would be taken.—APP

12 drug peddlers, bootleggers

RAWALPINDI: Rawalpindi District Police, in their ongoing operations against criminals, conducted raids in different areas and rounded up 12 drug peddlers, bootleggers and illegal weapon holders besides seizing 4.5 kg charras, 10 liters liquor, illegal weapons and ammunition from their possession. According to a police spokesman, in line with special directives of City Police Officer, Rawalpindi, Pirwadhai police conducted a raid and held Abdul for having 1610 grams charras. Waris Khan police netted Waheed with 1210 grams charras while Taxila police rounded up Imran for possessing 1350 grams charras. In another raid, Gujar Khan police arrested Bilal for having 430 grams charras, he said adding, Civil Lines and Dhamail police held Rashid Shoukat with six liters liquor and Israr for having four liters liquor. The spokesman said that Westridge, Taxila, Gujar Khan, Mandra, and Kahuta police in their raids recovered a 222 rifle, 44-bore rifle, three 30-bore pistols, a 9mm pistol and ammunition from the possession of Waseem, Farhan Ali, Matloob, Farhan, Imran Zafar and Tariq. Separate cases have been registered against all the accused while further investigations are underway. Senior Superintendent of Police Operations said no one would be allowed to violate the law and violators would be treated with iron hands.—APP

DIG Safe City assures to improve vigilance in markets

He said that there were many facial recognition security cameras installed at different hotspot points in the city

STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: Deputy Inspector General Safe City Islamabad Police, Rommel Akram said that the vigilance for the business community would be further improved by connecting cameras installed in commercial areas and markets with the Safe City Project to ensure high vigilance and improved security in the city. He said this while addressing the business community during his visit to the Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI), said a press release issued here on Friday. Rommel Akram said that the installation of more cameras would increase the coverage of key locations and help to improve law and order situations in the city. He said that the safe city project regulates the different domains of the security of the city by installing security cameras at different designated



locations to ensure 24/7 surveillance of the city. He said that there were many facial recognition security cameras installed at different hotspot points in the city. An Eagle Squad has been established to ensure continuous patrolling in the city adding that

community policing would be encouraged to increase the participation of the community in public safety initiatives. Islamabad Police was promoting traffic and safe city education in schools to raise awareness about traffic rules and the safety of citizens.

He further said that the Islamabad Police intends to promote student policing to control the menace of drugs among the young generation and counter its handlers and suppliers in the city. President ICCI, Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari appreciated the efforts

of DIG Safe City for connecting the cameras with the safe city project as it would improve the security situation in business areas. He said that the police patrolling in markets and industrial areas should be increased to curb the incidents of thefts, mo-

bile snatching and other crimes in business areas and the city. He said that the security situation in the Kahuta Industrial Area is not satisfactory due to which the women entrepreneurs are feeling insecure and stressed that the police patrolling in that industrial area should be increased. He assured that ICCI would fully cooperate with Islamabad Police to make the Capital a crime-free city. Senior Vice President Faad Waheed, Vice President ICCI Azhar ul Islam Zafar, Zafar Bakhtawari, Muhammad Ejaz Abbasi, Saif ur Rehman Khan, Ch. Javed Iqbal, Sheikh Muhammad Ejaz, Maqsood Tabish, Ch. Muhammad Ali, Akhtar Hussain, Dr Muhammad Usman, Khalid Chaudhry, Shaikat Hayat and others also spoke at the occasion and highlighted various police-related issues of their markets that needed the close attention of Islamabad Police for redress.

UNESCO reaffirms commitment for journalists' safety

ISLAMABAD, Nov 4 (AP-P): UNESCO under its Multi-Donor Program on Freedom of Expression and Safety of Journalists marked the International Day to End Impunity for Crimes Against Journalists (IDEI). The event was held in collaboration with the Delegation of the European Union to Pakistan, the Embassy of Sweden, and the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands. Some seventy participants from diverse backgrounds joined the event, observing the need to ensure the freedom of expression and safety of journalists, said a UNESCO press release issued on Thursday. This year completes the 10 years of the UN Plan of Action on Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity (UNPA). It is

the first concerted effort to address attacks and impunity of crimes against journalists globally. Adopting a holistic approach, it brings together UN bodies, national authorities, media, and civil society organizations together to promote a safer environment for media workers. The anniversary is a milestone to reaffirm, recommit and reposition efforts to advance the UN plan. Pakistan was amongst the five countries in which the UNPA was piloted. Initiatives were also taken at the regional level. During the event held today, experts shed light on the efforts that took place during the decade. The recently enacted 'Protection of Journalists and Media Professionals Act 2021', states to imple-

ment best practices provided for in the UNPA. The International Day to End Impunity for Crimes Against Journalists recognizes the far-reaching consequences of impunity, especially of crimes against journalists in limiting fundamental freedoms, especially the freedom of expression. According to the UNESCO observatory, in Pakistan, 14 journalists lost their lives while doing their professional duties in the past two years. Independent research highlights extremely low levels of convictions against the killings of these journalists. This day asks member states to investigate these cases to reduce the impunity against these crimes. Speaking at the occasion Her Highness Dr Riina Kionka, Ambassa-

dor of the European Union Delegation to Pakistan stated, "The protection of journalists is a concern for all of us: a free press is a global public good that we should not take for granted. Putting an end to impunity for crimes against journalists is a must if we want to uphold freedom of expression and media freedom". Former Senator Farhat Ullah Babar graced the occasion and reiterated that enacted laws need to be implemented to ensure rule of law and governance. Youssef Felali-Meknassi, Country Representative and Director, UNESCO thanked the participants and stated, "As media freedom mirrors our freedom to express, we need to increase our efforts to protect and safeguard our fundamental freedoms.—APP

“Shugal-e-Azam” brings Comedy Theater to Isloo

ISLAMABAD: A comedy play on the humorous drama 'Shugal-e-Azam' was staged here late Thursday at the Pakistan National Council of the Arts (PNCA) for fun lovers and youth of the Twin cities of Rawalpindi and Islamabad. Written and Directed by Asma Butt and produced by Ammad Butt, the play was presented by Dolphin Communication in collaboration with All Pakistan Chinese Overseas Youth Federation. The story of the play revolves around the duties of a king who is kidnapped and replaced by untrained people and the drama starts when he makes the wrong decisions and creates disturbance among his people. The play is dedicated to the unemployed youth and depressed persons to get recreational opportunities and quality entertainment in the federal capital. The play has been sponsored by the All Pakistan Chinese Overseas Youth Federation as a token of friendly relations between Pakistan and China and to bridge the gap between the cultures of both countries. The federation works for cultural promotion on both sides and creates people-to-people contacts through various activities, said Asma Butt, Director of the play while talking to APP. The event aimed at bringing quality events for entertainment and discourse to the twin cities. Through soft expressions of performing art, the play had a message for the progress and prosperity of Pakistan that everyone should play a positive role to take the country out of the crisis, she said.—APP

Change of weather attracts soup lovers

ISLAMABAD: With the arrival of winter, soup lovers are attracted to food stalls in twin cities as the soup is a source of a warm, nourishing meal for those looking for something mild and simple. Talking to APP Nutritionist Rimsha Tehseen said the combination of vegetables and eggs turns the soup into a complete meal that provides proteins and micro-nutrients to the consumers. She said meat provides proteins while vegetables are a great source of micro nutrients like vitamins and minerals. Through soup consumers get nutraceutical that provides both nutrition and medicinal benefits, she said. Rishma said that procedure of soup making is not harsh due to which nutrient value remains within the meal. She said soup gives a feeling of fullness and it is a safe and healthy food. Talking to APP a soup stall owner Mansoor Khan said that the types of soup depending on the preferences of consumers but chicken corn soup is the most sold item in twin cities. He said customers can choose toppings and sauces that suit their tastes. Those who prefer something mild and simple consider standard vegetable soup as their ideal, he added. He explained that customers who have strong tastes or prefer something spicier add more chilli sauce, black pepper and green chilli in their serving. Talking to APP a customer Shaista said, she consumes the soup once a week with a belief that soup repels the common cold and flu. "I advise my teenage children to prefer healthy soup over unhealthy junk food", she added. She said the consistency of the soup is important as longer cooked soup becomes thick and vital nutrients are lost. She said if the soup is properly cooked then this can lead to a delicious-tasting meal with no leftovers at all.—APP



ISLAMABAD: Chairperson Benazir Income Support Programme, Shazia Marri and Chairman NADRA Tariq Malik witness MoU signing for stating fresh survey through Dynamic Registry at BISP Headquarters. – APP

Report calls for China's help on climate change

ISLAMABAD: China's solutions to climate change are more feasible for countries such as Pakistan. China's status as a developing nation allows it to relate to the realities of other developing countries and formulate a more suitable and effective plan for tackling climate change. This as stated in a report on climate change published by KASB Securities on a climate change seminar held in Karachi ahead of the upcoming COP27, according to Gwadar Pro on Friday. The report says, given the disproportionately high cumulative greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from developed countries in history, "the developing countries should not face undue pressure from developed nations to take drastic steps in reducing GHG emis-

sions". As of yesterday, the devastating floods in Pakistan has caused 1,739 deaths, 12,867 injured, and 33 million displaced, offering a most prominent example of the massive humanitarian costs the Global South is paying for the high carbon emissions of the North. "The people of Pakistan are the victims of a grim calculus of climate injustice. Pakistan is responsible for less than 1 per cent of global greenhouse gas emissions, yet it is paying a super-sized price for manmade climate change", noted UN Secretary-general Guterres on the General Assembly. From a historical perspective, the cumulative GHG emissions originating from the developed world have significantly outpaced developing countries. As per

IEA, from 1971 to 2020, G7 accounted for 34.5% of the world's total GHG emissions in the energy sector. The US alone takes up 20% of the world's total, nearly 56x higher than Pakistan. Total cumulative emissions from US nearly 56x those from Pakistan. Source: IEA. Worse still, the economic rebound after Covid-19 led

to the highest-ever level of emissions from power plants and coal consumption, pushing the CO2 emission level to an all-time high. Growth rate of energy and process CO2 emissions 2020-21 (Mt CO2). Source: UN. Since the developed nations have taken the advantage of "taking first steps on the development

ladder", the report appeals that these countries should take greater responsibility in tackling climate change. "With 2022 already set to become one of 10 warmest years on record, there is a dire need of increased technical and financial support to combat climate change", the report stressed. According to the UN Adaption Gap Report, the estimated climate adaption cost was found to be 5-10 times higher than the present public adaption finance flows. The world expects the US and EU to deliver on the \$100 billion climate finance commitment to developing countries and take the lead in emissions reduction to ensure the right to development of developing countries. In addition, fair and assistance reduction in emission standards should be put in place. The US Pres-

ident Biden has set a 50-52% reduction target in carbon emissions by 2030 from levels witnessed in 2005. But as per Emission Database for Global Atmospheric Research (EDGAR), even a 50% reduction suggests the US's per capita emissions in 2030 would be nearly 2.2x the current world average. US per capita GHG emissions from energy outpaced Pakistan by 17x. Source: IEA "Climate Justice", therefore, is what Pakistan is making case for at COP27 to be held in Egypt from 6 to 18 this month, expecting "no sidelining of these pressing matters". "If Pakistan emits less than 1% that causes the warming that triggers such shocks, why is assistance cast in a 'disaster aid' or 'begging bowl' basket? —APP



Capital's atmosphere healthy after steady decline in air pollutants

ISLAMABAD: The Federal Capital's air quality on Friday was healthy as air polluting particles and pollution was recorded low in the atmosphere amid cold and dry weather, and less anthropogenic activities. The Pakistan Environmental Protection Agency (Pak-EPA) daily air quality report noted that the air pollutants ratio recorded were below permissible limits and the air quality was healthy. The air quality data was collected by Pak-EPA for 24 hours based on three intervals of eight hours of data collection from different locations of the federal capital. The Pak-EPA data revealed that the air quality throughout the three intervals of data monitoring remained low as the ratio of pollutants was below the permissible limits of national environmental quality standards (NEQS). The hazardous air pollutant particulate matter of 2.5 microns (PM2.5), which was a lethal atmospheric contaminant, remained 30 micro grammes per cubic meter on average which is lower than the NEQS of 35 micro-grammes per cubic meter and denotes the air quality healthy. The PM 2.5 is generated through combustion of an engine, industrial emissions, burning garbage or inflammable material and dust blown up by fast moving cars plying on non-cemented patches of the roads.—APP

Sub-national polio immunization campaign concludes

ISLAMABAD: A five-day sub-national anti-polio vaccination campaign concluded on Friday during which polio drops were administered to children under the age of five years. According to spokesperson of the Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination, during the campaign, over 25 million children under five years of age were vaccinated in 83 districts of Pakistan, including southern Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) where the current outbreak was reported. He said that out of total 83 districts, the children were vaccinated in 21 districts of Sindh, 14 districts of Punjab, 28 districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, 18 districts of Balochistan and two areas of Islamabad. Minister for National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination, Abdul Qadir Patel appreciated the efforts of front line workers and security organizations during the drive. He said that recent polio cases have made Pakistan more determined to fight the virus till its complete elimination. Qadir Patel said, Pakistan's Polio Programme continues to work hard to reach zero polio cases, and the recent cases in Pakistan have made us more determined to fight this virus till the end. He said that Wild Polio Virus Type-1 (WPV1) was detected in environmental samples collected from 11 districts of the country including Bannu, Peshawar, Swat, Nowshera, South Waziristan, Lahore, Rawalpindi, Bahawalpur, Islamabad and Landhi in Karachi.—APP

ANF seizes 300,000 intoxicated tablets

RAWALPINDI: Anti Narcotics Force (ANF) on Friday seized over 300,000 intoxicated tablets, 5,220 liters of prohibited chemical and 20 kg charras, besides netting an accused. According to an ANF headquarters spokesman, the ANF in an operation at Karachi International Container Terminal, recovered 300,000 intoxicated tablets weighing 65 kg from three different containers which were being sent to United Arab Emirates. An accused resident of Karachi was also arrested. In two other operations, ANF seized 5,220 liters of prohibited chemical from different areas of Chaman, Balochistan. The spokesman said that ANF and FC in a joint operation in Khyber recovered 20 kg charras.—APP

Strength of time-tested Pak-China friendship

China has always had a special niche in its neighborhood diplomacy for its relations with Pakistan. Over the years, the two neighbors have forged a resilient time-tested friendship by standing together through thick and thin and mutually supporting each other.

Pakistan has stood firmly beside China in the face of the West's provocations on the Taiwan question as well as the issues concerning the South China Sea, Hong Kong, Xinjiang and Tibet. While China, on its part, has always backed Pakistan's sovereignty and territorial integrity and security, and promoted its socio-economic development and prosperity. Most recently, it has provided emergency assistance to Pakistan after the severe floods in the country and will continue to provide support for Pakistan's plans for rehabilitation of the affected areas. As President Xi Jinping said in his meeting with visiting Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif in Beijing on Wednesday, the two countries are "good friends, good partners and good brothers". Xi reaffirmed China's commitment to advance the building of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor and said China will seek to further deepen the synergy between its development strategies and those of Pakistan, and support Pakistan in its efforts to stabilize its financial situation.

The two leaders have agreed to press ahead with a slew of massive infrastructure projects under the CPEC, including speeding up the construction of the Pakistani deep-sea port of Gwadar. The two leaders also made it clear that the CPEC, as an open and inclusive platform, welcomes interested third parties to benefit from investment opportunities in priority areas such as industry, agriculture, IT, science and technology, and oil and gas.

The CPEC is a flagship bilateral project as well as an important part of the two countries' cooperation under the Belt and Road Initiative, and its high quality, efficiency and security cannot be overstressed. Since Chinese personnel in Pakistan have been repeatedly targeted and been the victims of terrorist attacks in recent years, it is crucial that the two sides strengthen their security and protection cooperation to ensure the safety and security of Chinese personnel, projects and institutions in Pakistan. This would help pave a more stable road for bilateral cooperation in all areas.

By consolidating practical bilateral cooperation and strengthening collaboration on multilateral platforms, China and Pakistan will be better able to withstand the current headwinds.

Saying that it was a great honor for him to be among the first foreign leaders to visit China after the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, Prime Minister Sharif said his visit was a testament to the profound, iron-clad friendship between the two countries. He said that no country has ever helped Pakistan or other developing countries with such wholehearted sincerity as China. The visit shows that China and Pakistan, widely perceived as "iron brothers", will continue to step up their efforts to strengthen and deepen their all-weather strategic cooperative partnership.

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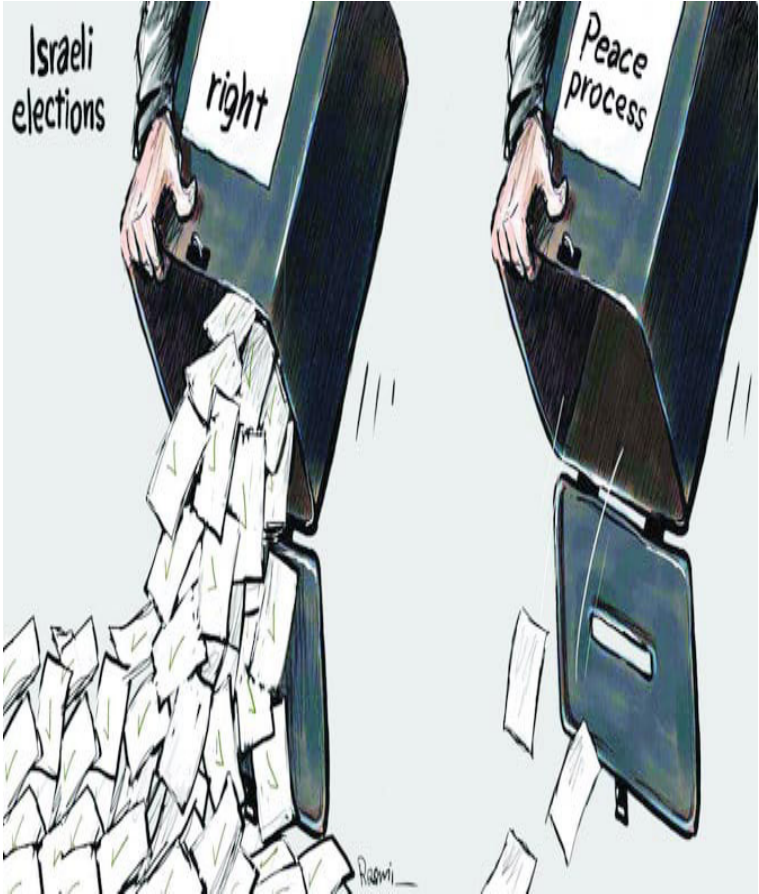
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Olaf Scholz's visit to Beijing

The brevity of Olaf Scholz's one-day visit to China, where he will meet President Xi Jinping on Friday, means that there will be little scope for the kind of colourful photo-ops that his predecessor, Angela Merkel, enjoyed during 12 visits to Germany's most important trading partner. For Mr Scholz, who becomes the first G7 leader to visit Beijing since the beginning of the Covid pandemic, that is just as well. The optics of the German chancellor's trip have already proved controversial enough. Mr Scholz is travelling with the traditional bevy of CEOs from companies such as Volkswagen, BMW and the chemicals giant BASF. But the mood music accompanying a much-criticised visit bears little relation to the confident mercantilist rhythms of the Merkel era. Vladimir Putin's invasion of Ukraine, and the Kremlin's subsequent weaponisation of energy, have laid bare the potential cost of relying on politically hostile actors.

Germany's Green foreign minister, Annalena Baerbock, has openly questioned the timing of the chancellor's trip, as his coalition government works on a new strategy to deal with a country now defined as a "systemic rival". Frank-Walter Steinmeier, Germany's president, previewed the visit by saying that the lesson of Ukraine was: Such sentiment is understandable, given Germany's humiliating failure to see Mr Putin's energy blackmail coming. China's trade war with the US is ongoing. It has tacitly supported Mr Putin's illegal war and has its own eye on taking control of Taiwan. Its increasingly authoritarian regime stands accused of "crimes against humanity" against Uyghur Muslims in the Xinjiang region. Yet Germany's economic exposure is, if anything, greater than was the case with Russia pre-invasion.

In that context, Mr Scholz's decision to push through a Chinese shipping company's purchase of a stake in a Hamburg container terminal, against the advice of multiple ministries, has raised eyebrows. Nevertheless, there is some truth in his argument that to precipitate "decoupling" would be both impractical and wrong-headed. Diagnosing a dependency problem is one thing. Solving it in the short or even medium term is quite another: Chinese raw materials are crucial to Germany's green transition; the EU's largest economy provides close to half of Europe's total investment in China, and millions of jobs depend on the economic relationship. Ahead of a winter in which soaring energy costs and high inflation are already panicking industry, it is understandable that Mr Scholz does not want to go too far and too fast in an attempt to achieve greater strategic autonomy. And in a multipolar world, there is no better alternative to dialogue, however compromised and imperfect. But he should be robust in Friday's meeting when discussing Ukraine, the climate emergency and human rights, on which western leaders have often proved notably muted. On the eve of his visit, Mr Scholz argued that "it is precisely because 'business as usual' is no longer an option in these circumstances that I'm travelling to Beijing". The question is whether he can really negotiate new terms of trade.

How China outsmarted US in Africa

Jonathan Fenton-Harvey

Before the war, Moscow had already deepened its influence in Africa. This came amid the first ever "Russia-Africa Summit" in Sochi in October 2019, where Russia pledged \$12.5 billion in business deals, mainly in arms and grains. Alongside weapons sales, Russia's Wagner mercenary group has bolstered Moscow's military clout in the continent.

As Washington directed its energy on Russia, Beijing stepped in to fill the vacuum with large infrastructure projects and generous aid to nations. As the United States aims to sanction and isolate Russia amid the Ukraine war, it has also turned its attention to Africa to uproot Moscow in the politically volatile continent. While Russia had previously established a foothold in the continent, Washington has tried to pressure states into not doing business with Moscow and ending their bilateral military ties. Yet China's financial influence in the continent, often seen as an attractive alternative to Washington's paradoxical cocktail of indifference-dictating the states' politics and military hard power—could once again accelerate and further fill the vacuum. The Tigray conflict in Ethiopia is a tell-tale sign of the US' faltering leverage in Africa. The US has often seen Ethiopia's

government of Abiy Ahmed as an important ally. Yet while sanctioning Addis Ababa over its alleged role in the Tigray conflict, Washington has failed to provide adequate diplomacy to end the conflict despite its leverage in the region.

After peace talks over the conflict in October, Russia and China blocked a UN Security Council statement to condemn Addis Ababa's current operations in its Tigray province, which shows how Moscow and Beijing in particular have deepened their clout in the region amid Washington's faltering influence.

In the most critical conflicts, in which the US could play a bigger role, American diplomacy has fallen short. Take Libya for example, where the US' evident apathy had enabled Moscow to become a dominant actor in the East and even build ties with the West of the fractured country.

With alarm bells ringing within Western policy circles over the prospect of Russia and China challenging American influence in Africa, NATO's chiefs have warned of Moscow and Beijing's leadership using "economic leverage, coercion, and hybrid approaches to advance their interests in the region". Washington has also tabled a bill which would punish African countries for doing business with Russia, attempting to pressure non-aligned countries in the continent.

In a hypothetical world, at least for NATO and Washington's most hawkish voices, China may team up with Russia in their agenda on Africa. Yet, despite having conflicting aims, both countries' advancements arguably testify to the shortcomings of Washington and other Western powers' foreign policies in the continent.

Pressure against Russia While Russia has claimed some geopolitical victories in Africa since the Ukraine war broke out in February, efforts to

sanction and isolate Moscow have apparently triggered even more reactionary policies from Russia.

Before the war, Moscow had already deepened its influence in Africa. This came amid the first ever "Russia-Africa Summit" in Sochi in October 2019, where Russia pledged \$12.5 billion in business deals, mainly in arms and grains. Alongside weapons sales, Russia's Wagner mercenary group has bolstered Moscow's military clout in the continent, including in Libya, alongside Sudan and more recently Burkina Faso's military juntas, Mozambique and the Central African Republic (CAR).

At the war's onset in February, the defiance of many African states to condemn Russia's incursion on Ukraine at the UN Security Council, including leading economies like Algeria, Ethiopia and South Africa, revealed many countries were torn between Washington and Moscow.

Although the US secured a promise from Burkina Faso not to recruit Russian mercenaries, the ties are evident. In October, coup supporters in Burkina Faso waved Russian flags as they protested near the French Embassy in the capital city of Ouagadougou. Similar displays of support for Russia took place in Niger in September as protestors decried France's presence.

In addition, other countries have defied Washington and aligned with Moscow, having faced past pressure from the US. Having already faced past sanctions, Zimbabwe has declared strong support for Russia. The Central African Republic (CAR) has also been strongly pro-Russia, and its cryptocurrency adoption in April has attracted speculation that this policy aims to circumvent international sanctions and do business with Russia. Meanwhile, Putin and Guinea-Bissau's President Umaro Sissoco Embalo met in Russia on October 25, with the former stating he wants to buy Russian warships and helicopters, an offer which Moscow may consider.

Russia's ambitions in Africa have also faced setbacks, largely owing to the US'

pressure on African states. Take Sudan, where Russia was forced to abandon its plans for a naval base to project power in the Red Sea. Moreover, with sanctions being a factor in preventing African states buying Russian weapons like Su-35s, Sudan has had to abandon its ties of buying the fighter jets, and it would also prevent other states from buying them. Though Russia's influence may be limited, Washington's pressure has opened a door in which China can enter and offer alternatives. Indeed, in August, Sudan sought to buy Chinese J10s alongside other military equipment from China. China's growing clout With Russia's limited financial muscle power, China arguably offers a larger threat to the US' geostrategic interests in Africa than that of Russia – despite Washington's focus on isolating Moscow.

Beijing has already outmatched both Moscow and Washington on the continent, per its 2013 Belt and Road Initiative, a 70-country development project that has propelled soaring levels of Chinese investment in African infrastructure. Among Beijing's steps have been low-cost loans, large scale infrastructure projects, including dozens of government buildings, which would help win over support of African states. In fact, very few areas in Africa have not been touched by Chinese investment.

In Ethiopia, where the US' influence has clearly fallen on deaf-ears, China is a crucial investor. Beijing has given around \$13.7 billion worth of loans to Addis Ababa from 2000-2019; in the same period, Ethiopia's GDP per capita saw an average annual increase of 9.3 percent.

Although China has stood back from Ethiopia, Beijing's loans and investments have not only encroached its trade routes in the continent but could give states enough confidence to defy Washington.

Indeed, China's direct loans and investments with no political strings attached have already largely counterbalanced US aid, which often has more political

conditions and demands for transparency. Having already enhanced its soft power in the continent during the Covid pandemic by providing vaccines and other equipment, Africa's economic crises amid food and staple shortages following the Ukraine war could make further Chinese aid and investment seem more enticing over the next decade.

On the other hand, many believe that it would make many of the recipient countries dependent on China.

According to Johns Hopkins University's China Africa Research Initiative, CARI, Beijing wrote off more than \$3.4 billion of debt between 2000 and 2019, many of which were interest-free loans to African countries. However, as per the study, state-owned Chinese lenders restructured or refinanced \$15 billion. Considering the fact that the poorest countries in the world face \$35 billion in debt-service payments to official and private sector creditors in 2022, with more than 40 percent of the total due to China, this possibility apparently exists. Implications of a multipolar world

As we move towards a more multipolar world, Africa will naturally have more choices of allegiance and investment. Crucially, African commentators have argued that the continent should not be swayed either by Western or Russian or Chinese ambitions, as continued dominance over their domestic affairs could harm the continent.

The US will have to come to terms with the fact that China is here to stay in Africa. Even so, there is still a gap in finances that Washington and Europe could fill with genuine investment, while also deploying more effective diplomacy in conflicts like Tigray, rather than treating African states as pawns which should be kept from Russia and China.

Although having sought to maintain a unilateral world order since the fall of the Soviet Union in 1991, it may take time if ever for the US to accept that it can no longer unconditionally call the shots.

Courtesy: TRT World

Israel teeters on the edge of the abyss

Dr. Dania koleilat khatib

Israel has become more polarized, with the extreme right increasingly vocal and gaining a stronger foothold in society. Democratic norms, or what was left of them, have been further eroded. And now, perhaps unsurprisingly, Bibi's allies are talking about changing the law to block his corruption trial. It should be noted that the previous government failed because of differences over settlement policy in the occupied West Bank, the relationship between state and religion.

The fifth Israeli elections in three years has now seen the return of Benjamin Netanyahu, and the defeat of incumbent Yair Lapid, on a platform of hatred toward Palestinians, marking a dangerous turn for the country.

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It should be noted that the previous government failed because of differences over settlement policy in the occupied West Bank, the relationship between state and religion, and the rights of the Palestinian/Arab minority. It is unlikely the incoming administration will fare much better in dealing effectively with these issues.

Netanyahu's victory means that the prospects for peace or reaching a settlement are increasingly dim. Even before the elections, Israel's leaders showed little goodwill. Despite Lapid's conciliatory UN speech and posturing,

expansion of the settlements has continued unabated.

In addition, Tel Aviv continues, in the face of world condemnation, with the illegal practice of collective punishment and the demolition of homes. How can a country claim it is democratic while resorting to those undemocratic means to punish people? Where is the respect for private property which is a fundamental tenet of democracy and the rule of law? This shift in Israeli society is an existential threat to the country and likely to create further divisions. Israel has always been revered in the West, especially in the US, for being a beacon of democracy in a sea of "authoritarian regimes." This perception is at greater risk than ever with the rise of the far right, and fringe players like the divisive Itamar Ben Gvir now becoming more mainstream. The question now facing all Israelis is whether this is the country they want. Netanyahu has been quite determined to block any attempts at seeing the creation of a Palestinian state. How this is translated into policy is yet to be seen. His record is indicative of the direction he will take, which includes overseeing the passing of the citizenship law that discriminates against Palestinians living in Israel. This was another step in turning Israel into an apartheid state. If Netanyahu's campaign promises are realized, then there will be no place for liberals who believe in coexisting with Palestinians.

In a video that showed Zionist zealots calling for the death of Palestinians, one extremist shouted that Arab countries will no longer help Palestinians. The irony here is that while some Arab countries are looking at Israel as a counterbalance to Iran, an increasing number of Western countries are repulsed by the changes the country is witnessing. This includes the transgressions of the Israel Defense Forces which have becoming increasingly difficult to conceal.

Lapid had been the only chance for Israel to stem this rightwing shift in society. Despite the ideological differences between the various factions that formed the Lapid/Naftali Bennet government, the inclusion of Arab ministers had great significance and was the beginning of the path toward reconciliation and peace. Unfortunately, the elections have shown that the Israeli electorate is more driven by ideology than rational thought. According to a peace activist, those "crazy fascists" hate liberals as much as they hate Palestinians. We will now have to see how this belligerent narrative will affect social cohesion inside Israel.

Netanyahu would want to deliver on his promises to please his allies and stay in power. This will mean putting in place discriminatory policies against the Palestinian citizens of Israel. This will not only marginalize these citizens but also the liberals who do not want to be part

of such a project. Netanyahu will be mistaken if he thinks he can bank on the support of Arab countries, because normalization can be revoked as has happened with Mauritania.

This Arab country normalized relations with Israel in 1999 but cut diplomatic ties 10 years later following the assault on Gaza. So Netanyahu cannot take Arab acquiescence for granted and think he has a free hand with the Palestinians. This would be a very perilous policy to follow. However, for Netanyahu and his ilk, social cohesion and creating a sustainable system is never going to be an overriding concern. He will remain a fearmonger that wants to collect as many votes as possible to remain in power.

It should be said that Netanyahu's win and the extreme right's rise to power has not come as a surprise. This current situation is part of a trend that has been taking shape over the past 10 years.

It is also a consequence of the failure of the left to find a solution to the Israeli/Palestinian impasse. Despite Lapid's "conciliatory" narrative no real attention nor effort was made to reach a solution. In actual fact, the past year has seen the most violent clashes since 2015. It is obviously another disappointment for those who want to see a two-state solution and peace in the region.

Courtesy: Arab News

Briefs

Khan wants resignation...

FROM PAGE 01
PTI chairman Imran Khan has said that PTI tried to register a first information report (FIR) over the assassination bid on him but contended that everyone was "afraid because many institutions are above the law". Narrating the events of the attack on him, Imran said he would have been fatally hurt if "two heroes" were not present during the long march. "I salute martyr Muazzam [...] and Ibtisam, the way he caught the attacker [...] if it wasn't for his bravery the attacker would have fired more bullets," he said. PTI chief Imran Khan has vowed to take to the streets once again after recovering from the attack on his life. He asserted that he did not care about his life and refused to remain under the "slavery of these thieves". "As soon as I get well, I will give the call for the Islamabad and come out onto the streets," he said, adding that Pakistan "wasn't made for slavery". PTI Chairman Imran Khan urged Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Qamar Javed Bajwa to act now to prevent the country from heading down the path of destruction. "If you don't take action against black sheep, the nation [...] will start breaking apart," he said, urging him to put the country first.

"A nation isn't free until it gets justice. All the three people involved [in the attack] should resign. Otherwise, the investigation won't be able to proceed. You all have to come out," he added. PTI chief Imran Khan has claimed that if there was one party in Pakistan that could unite the country it was PTI. "If the military could unite the country then east Pakistan would not have broken away. Only political parties unite countries, the military helps." In an address to the nation from Shaukat Khanum hospital, he said that "we didn't learn from history". "When I first set out for the march, I was told that they will kill me. At first, I wondered if they would really hurt the nation for their petty interests. "I ask the nation today, do we have to stay like this, or do we have to change our fate and become free? Sacrifices are needed for this," PTI Chief Imran Khan has said that the nation has finally stood up and now has two paths before it: a peaceful or a bloody revolution. "There is no third way. I have seen this nation wake up and this genie of awareness won't go back in the bottle. "Now decide if we can bring change in a peaceful way through the ballot box and fair and free elections or through chaos," the former premier asked. PTI chief, during an address to the nation, called on Chief Justice of Pakistan Umar Ata Bandial, saying that the leader of the country's biggest party was "not getting justice". "CJP, whatever was done to me in the last six months, I can assure you it has never been done by the country even with an enemy. "I won the highest civil awards [...] I raised the respect of Pakistan in cricket [...]" the Shaukat Khanum hospital is internationally renowned. I made two universities. And then I created the biggest party in the country," he said. Concluding his address, PTI chief Imran Khan again vowed to take to the streets once he has recovered from his injuries. "As soon as I get well, I have decided to take to the streets and will give the call for Islamabad," he said, urging the nation to not compromise on their freedom. "An enslaved nation is not respected in the world. It can never progress." He called on the people to take part in his protest and to demand the resignation of the three people he held responsible for the plot to kill him.

United into playoff round

LONDON: Manchester United reserved their place in the UEFA Europa League knockout round playoff with a 1-0 win against Real Sociedad on Thursday. Argentine forward Alejandro Garnacho scored the winning goal for Man United in the 17th minute at Reale Arena in San Sebastian, Spain. Real Sociedad won Group E on goal difference, despite losing to Manchester United. Both the Spanish club and United had 15 points after the sixth matches. Real Sociedad qualified for the Round of 16 in the Europa League. However, group runners-up United will play a playoff stage prior to the last 16. – APP

Maxwell keeps Australia alive in hunt for World Cup semis

Naveen-ul-Haq rocked Australia's top order with the wickets of David Warner, for 28, and the returning Steve Smith, for four, in one over. He returned impressive figures of 3-21

DNA

ADELAIDE: Glenn Maxwell hit an unbeaten half-century to keep Australia in the hunt for the semi-finals of the Twenty20 World Cup with a tense four-run win over Afghanistan on Friday. The result ensured New Zealand, who outplayed Ireland in the first match of the day in Adelaide, booked their final-four spot from Group 1. The hosts and defending champions Australia now need arch-rivals England to lose their final Super 12 match against Sri Lanka on Saturday to make the semis. Maxwell's 32-ball 54 lifted Australia to 168-8, a total their bowlers defended by restricting the Afghans to 164-7 at the Adelaide Oval. Rashid Khan hit an unbeaten 48 off 23 balls to make a fist of the chase and he smashed 16 runs off the final over from Marcus Stoinis to keep the home crowd on edge almost right to the end. Australia lost skipper Aaron Finch and Tim David to hamstringing injuries and dropped pace bowler Mitchell Starc before being invited to bat first. Naveen-ul-Haq rocked Australia's top order with the wickets of David Warner, for 28, and the returning Steve Smith, for four, in one over. He returned impressive figures of 3-21. The left-handed Warner came out firing to smash spinner Mujeeb Ur Rahman



for three straight boundaries in the second over of the match. He lost fellow opener Cameron Green off Fazalhaq Farooqi, who took two wickets, in the next over but kept up the attack with Mitchell Marsh, who

hit 45 off 30 balls. Naveen bowled Warner and four balls later the fast bowler trapped Smith lbw. Marsh attempted to hit back with a six and two fours off Gulbadin Naib but failed to build on it and he fell caught

behind to Mujeeb's mystery spin. Maxwell and Stoinis, who hit Australia's fastest T20 50 – in 17 balls – in the win over Sri Lanka, then got going against the Afghan bowlers, only for Rashid Khan to break through. Stoinis smashed Rashid for a six over mid-wicket but soon departed for 25 as Afghanistan kept chipping away. Rahmanullah Gurbaz began the reply by dominating the Australian bowlers. He hit Josh Hazlewood for a four and six in the opening over of the chase. Hazlewood took out Usman Ghani for two and then Gurbaz departed in the third over off Kane Richardson, who replaced Starc for the key clash. Gulbadin Naib, who hit 39 off 23 balls, attempted to put the chase back on track with a few good hits including a six off Green as Afghanistan reached 72-2 in 10 overs and threatened an upset. Naib put on a threatening 58-run stand with Ibrahim Zadran, who made 26, but a direct throw from Maxwell in the deep ran out the dangerman at the non-striker's run. The wheels then came off the chase with Adam Zampa getting out Ibrahim, for 26, and then Najibullah Zadran in the next three balls. Rashid, coming in at number eight, fought until the end with three fours and four sixes. Afghanistan bowed out of the tournament without a win and two washouts.

Pakistan's third clash against Japan ends in a draw

DNA

IPOH: Pakistan's second match of the ongoing Sultan Azlan Shah Cup 2022 against Japan ended in a 2-2 draw on Friday. Sufyan Khan's brace in a span of three minutes gave Pakistan a two-goal lead inside the first 20 minutes of the game. Both goals came via a penalty corner. However, Japan fought back and reduced the two-goal deficit to one through a goal from Fukudo Kentaro in the 42nd minute. 12 minutes later Kawabe Kosei levelled the score with another goal,

helping his side earn a draw. Earlier on Wednesday, Pakistan's second match of the event against hosts Malaysia ended in a 1-1 draw. Shello Silverius gave Malaysia the lead in the 25th minute of the match, which was cancelled out 10 minutes later by Pakistan's Arbaz Ahmad. The Umar Bhutta-led unit kicked off their tournament campaign against South Africa, but the inexperienced Pakistan side, which included nine debutant players, lost by a margin of four goals to one. With two draws and a loss, Pakistan are placed fifth in

the six-team tournament. The Pakistan Hockey Federation (PHF) was forced to send a young squad for the tournament after nine players, which included star players like Ammad Butt, Hammad Anjum, Moeen Shakeel, and Rizwan Ali, decided against joining the training camp last month. According to sources, lucrative contracts in England league hockey, as compared to those offered by the PHF, and reservations with the Pakistan team coaching staff were among the reasons behind players' decision to move abroad.

"Our team will give their 100 per cent on the field in order to get some points and improve our rankings. It won't be easy since around ten players will debut for us in the tournament but it will give the youngsters international exposure," Bhutta told geosuper.tv from Malaysia on Monday. "We will miss our senior players because we had been playing together for around one year. If we had continued with the same squad, it would have been beneficial for us, not only in this tournament, but in Asian Games as well," he added.

is now the team's highest in WODIs and also the highest total in Pakistan by any team. Pakistan's star with the bat, Sidra, who played a marathon knock of 176* in just 151 balls, registered herself in the records book as she became the batter to score the highest individual score for Pakistan in WODIs. Her 176-run knock is also the fifth-highest individual score in WODIs history. New Zealand's batter Amelia Kerr tops the list with an unbeaten 232 against the same opposition in 2018, while India's Deepti Sharma holds the third spot with 188-run against Ireland as well. It is pertinent to mention that Ireland are currently in pursuit of a mammoth 336-run target set by Pakistan and have scored 48/3 in 14 Overs. – DNA

Sidra, Muneeba Ali topple various records for Pakistan



LAHORE: Pakistan opening batters Sidra Ameen and Muneeba Ali tumbled numerous records with their respective centuries against Ireland in the first

Women's ODI of the three-match series. Sidra and Muneeba charged on the Irish bowling attack and took them for plenty in their first wicket stand that

added an astounding 221 runs to the team's total. The duo's magnificent 221-run partnership is the highest by Pakistan for any wicket in Women's ODIs, whereas, stands at the 16th spot overall in the international circuit. Specifically, for the first wicket, the astounding partnership between Sidra and Muneeba is now the sixth-highest partnership in ODIs. Following a solid foundation laid by the astonishing opening partnership, Pakistan managed to amass a mammoth 335/3 in their quota of 50 overs. The total, posted by Pakistan against Ireland

HEC women team clinches 2 medals

ISLAMABAD: Dr. Mukhtar Ahmed, Chairman, Higher Education Commission (HEC) Pakistan has congratulated the HEC Taekwondo women team on winning two medals, including a silver and a bronze medal, in the Combaxx 4th Asian Open Taekwondo Women Championship. Over 500 male and female athletes from 23 countries are competing in 16 senior and five junior weight categories in the championship being organised by Pakistan Taekwondo Federation held at Liaquat Gymnasium, Pakistan Sports Complex, a press release on Friday said. A total of six players are representing HEC in the championship. Maliha Ali of Lahore Garrison University won the silver medal in the under 67 KG category and Alma Shfan Alizai of National University of Modern Languages, Islamabad clinched the bronze medal in the under 62 KG category. "Through organising such international events, sports ecosystem can be developed in the country along with enhancing avenues of sports tourism in the country," the Chairman said. – APP



DAMASCUS: Federal Minister for Education Rana Tanveer Hussain met Hussein Arnous, Prime Minister of Syria during his visit to Syria. – DNA

Iranians mark US embassy takeover with nationwide rallies

Demonstrators also voiced their strong support for Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei by chanting slogans such as "Labaik ya Khamenei" [I respond to your call O Khamenei], "down with America" and "down with Israel"

NEWS DESK

TEHRAN: Iranians from all walks of life have taken to the streets across the country to mark the anniversary of the US embassy takeover, better known as Den of Espionage, which is named the National Day against the Global Arrogance. The rallies were held in 900 cities on Friday, including in the capital Tehran where demonstrators gathered outside the former US embassy. Demonstrators chanted slogans as they carried banners against the US and the Israeli regime, strongly condemning the hostile policies of the Global Arrogance against Iran. Some 3,500 Iranian and for-

eign reporters covered the demonstrations. The demonstrations turned into a venue to put the unity of Iranians on display. Young people sang a number of songs written in the early years of the Islamic Revolution, bringing to life the air of the Revolution days of 1979 when Iranians put end to the US-backed Pahlavi regime. People also held placards in support of the security forces who have been confronting foreign-backed violent riots in the past few weeks. "Police is the main pillar of security," read one of the placards amid a media war to undermine police forces and turn people against them. Demon-

strators also voiced their strong support for Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei by chanting slogans such as "Labaik ya Khamenei" [I respond to your call O Khamenei], "down with America" and "down with Israel". A group of women held placards that read "Hijab is the rule of God not government," signaling that the propaganda waged by Western media will not harm the Iranian women's adherence to Islamic rules. Demonstrators also walked over and set on fire the US and Israeli flags during the rallies which marked President Ebrahim Raisi addressing the rally in Tehran. Other programs such as

conferences, forums, and art festivals were organized with the main theme of fighting global arrogance. Less than a year after the victory of the Islamic Revolution that toppled a US-backed monarchy, Iranian university students seized the US embassy in Tehran, which had become a center of espionage, planning to overthrow the newly established Islamic system in Iran. The students who seized the embassy later published documents proving that the compound was indeed engaged in plans and measures to overthrow the Islamic republic. Every year on the 13th day of the Iranian month of Aban, the Iranian nation, particularly the students,

holds rallies across the country to mark the day. This year's Nov. 4 rallies came amid violent foreign-backed riots in the country which have claimed the lives of dozens of people and security forces. Iran's Intelligence Ministry and the Intelligence Organization of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) issued a joint statement on October 28, pointing to the major role of foreign spy agencies, especially the CIA, in orchestrating the violent riots in Iran in the past weeks. In a resolution issued at the end of the rallies, the participants renew allegiance to the ideals of Imam Khomeini, founder of the Islamic Revolution, as well as Ayatollah Khamenei.

They also denounced last week's deadly terrorist attack at Shah Cheragh shrine in the city of Shiraz, calling on authorities to "promptly detect and punish perpetrators of this heinous crime as well as the origins of tragedies in the past month." The latest "sedition" devised by the US, UK, Israel, and Saudi spying agencies has failed, however, they "will not leave the youths of this nation alone," reads the resolution, calling on families and teachers to "explain realities" to the younger generation and "foil enemies' plot." Participants also called on authorities to address people's livelihood problems and differentiate their "rightful protests" from rioters.

PTI workers, police clash during...

FROM PAGE 01

PTI MPA Raja Azhar Khan sustained injuries due to the police's baton-charge and stampede on Shahrahe-Faisal. He vowed to move court against SSP South. "Shelling and rubber bullets cannot bring down our morale," he added. Police, however, said that around 300 to 500 protesters were heading toward Metropole from the Gora Qabaristan (Christian's cemetery). The protesters did not stop despite several warnings. Finally, the police used tear gas near Jinnah Hospital Mor to disperse the protestors. Two hours after the clashes, the police finally managed to disperse the protesters and fully restore the vehicular traffic on Shahrah-e-Faisal. The PTI's supporters were staging protests against the assassination attempt on Khan near Jinnah Hospital Mor. The police also took several protestors, including women into custody.

Due to the clashes, the lane between Jinnah Hospital Mor to Metropole signal has been blocked for all kinds of traffic. Another track leading from Saddar police station to the Metropole signal has also been blocked. In Peshawar, protestors gathered at and blocked the Motorway Interchange. They are raising slogans against the federal government and in favour of Khan. In Quetta, party workers are protesting at the Mannan Chowk where provincial leaders are also present. In Hyderabad, supporters are protesting at the Haider intersection, while protesters are also gathered in Tharparkar's Kashmir intersection. Traffic has also been closed due to protests at the Milad intersection in Lodhran.

Punjab responsible for the...

FROM PAGE 01

case because they wanted to register a "first information report (FIR) of their choice." "They are fighting over whom to name in the FIR," Asif said on PTT's reluctance on registering a complaint. Khawaja said that three video statements of the accused have been released in which he spoke about missing the target. He added that shells of not just the pistol but those of a sub-machine gun (SMG) have also been found at the place of the incident.

"Imran Khan is worried the most about the decision to be taken at the end of this month. He wished to appoint an army chief of his choice," he said, adding that the army chief's appointment is a decision to be taken by PM Shehbaz.

"Constitutional procedure will be followed to appoint the army chief," Khawaja added while speaking on the crucial matter. Speaking about the general elections, the minister said: "Assemblies' time will end in August 2023 and election will be held in 90 days."

Khawaja said that the PML-N would need to restructure in the present times, adding that "Khan misses the PM house and cannot sleep as a result." He criticised that not a single promise has been fulfilled in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa despite the PTI having a government in the province for the last nine years. "Khan claimed to end corruption and was disqualified because of it," Khawaja said adding that the party has gathered a lot of wealth and is now working hard to protect it.

Sana advises PTI to 'change...

FROM PAGE 01

continuing his protests. Sana, on behalf of the federal government and the interior ministry, asked Imran and other PTI leaders to change their behaviour to avoid such incidents. "We are not scared, nor do we want their long march to stop. However, these things must be brought to their notice. We hope our cautioning is not tossed to the wind but taken seriously," he said. He further said that it was "very saddening" that after the incident, the PTI leadership blamed "three people" for the attack, forcing their supporters to come out of their homes, riling up crowds and "waving weapons around".

Briefs

Kashmiri diaspora urged to highlight Kashmir issue

ISLAMABAD: President Azad Jammu and Kashmir Barrister Sultan Mehmood Chaudhry has expressed the optimism that Kashmiri community settled in the US would fulfill its obligations towards Kashmir issue, play its pivotal role to promote Kashmir cause and galvanize support in favour of Kashmiris' right to self-determination.

The AJK president said this while addressing a large number of Kashmiris who had gathered to bid him farewell at the John F. Kennedy Airport on Friday.

It may be recalled here that the president Barrister Sultan Mehmood Chaudhry has concluded his weeks-long visit to America. During his visit the president held a series of important meetings with top officials of the OIC, UN and US administration including, OIC Secretary General Hussain Ibrahim Taha, the US Deputy Secretary of State Elizabeth Hurst, American congressmen, senators and other dignitaries. During his meeting the president while highlighting the Kashmiris' life struggle for right to self-determination stressed the need for resolving the Kashmir dispute peacefully in accordance with the UNSC resolutions.

The AJK president led a massive protest demonstration in front of the United Nations office in New York and in front of the Indian Embassy in Washington held on Kashmir Black Day on October 27.—APP

G7 calls on Russia to extend grain deal

MÜNSTER: The G7 wants Russia to prolong a deal allowing safe passage of grain shipments from Ukraine, a senior US State Department official said on Friday at talks in Germany.

"Everyone agreed on the need to extend the Black Sea grain initiative," the official said. The G7's top diplomats are in the western German city of Münster for two days of talks, with the war in Ukraine at the top of the agenda.

The club of nations is "appreciative of the UN's efforts to convince Russia to extend" the grain deal, the official said. Grain shipments from Ukraine resumed on Thursday after Russia returned to a deal allowing their safe passage following international pressure. But Moscow said it had yet to decide whether to extend the grain deal beyond November 19 – the renewal date written into the original agreement brokered by the UN and Turkey to stave off a global food emergency.

German Chancellor Olaf Scholz, on a visit to China, also urged an extension to the deal.—APP

Pope calls for global unity

AWALI, Bahrain: Pope Francis warned Friday the world is on the edge of a "delicate precipice" buffeted by "winds of war", during a trip aimed at building dialogue between faiths.

The 85-year-old Argentine decried the "opposing blocs" of East and West, a veiled reference to the standoff over Russia's invasion of Ukraine. His comments came during a speech to religious leaders at the Bahrain Forum for Dialogue in the tiny Gulf state. "We continue to find ourselves on the brink of a delicate precipice and we do not want to fall," he told an audience including Bahrain's king and Sheikh Ahmed al-Tayeb, the grand imam of Cairo's prestigious Al-Azhar mosque, a centre of Sunni learning. Francis was to meet later with Tayeb. In his speech, the pope said that "a few potentates are caught up in a resolute struggle for partisan interests, reviving obsolete rhetoric, redesigning spheres of influence and opposing blocs."—APP

Scholz, President Xi vow to work for global peace

China and Germany should take care of each other's core interests, insist on dialogue and negotiation, and jointly reject bloc-driven confrontation and ideology-driven interference," Xi informed Scholz

AGENCIES

BEIJING: German Chancellor Olaf Scholz and Chinese President Xi Jinping in a meeting on Friday vowed to work together in times of change and instability, and to contribute more to global peace and development.

Scholz is the first European leader to visit Beijing since Xi was proclaimed secretary general of the Communist Party of China for the historic third time at the party's 20th National Congress last month. This is also his first trip to China as chancellor.

According to a statement issued by the State Council of Information Office, the visit will further enhance mutual understanding and trust between the two sides and deepen cooperation in various fields, as well as provide an opportunity for the two sides to plan for the future growth of bilateral ties.

"The five-decade journey (between two countries) shows that as long as the two sides follow the principles of respecting each other,



seeking common ground while reserving differences, maintaining exchanges and mutual learning, and pursuing mutually-beneficial cooperation, bilateral ties will keep going in the right direction on the whole and making steady progress,"

Xi said. Noting the complex and fluid international landscape, Xi emphasized the importance of China and Germany, two major countries with significant influence, working together to contribute more to global peace and development

in times of change and instability, according to the statement.

For his part, the German chancellor opposed the bloc-driven confrontation and said he is willing to play its due role in advancing EU-China relations.

"Germany hopes to maintain communication & coordination with China to safeguard regional and global peace and security. China is an important trading partner of Germany & Europe, and Germany firmly supports free trade, economic

globalization & opposes decoupling," Scholz told Xi, according to the state-run Global Times. "The world needs a multipolar pattern, and the role & influence of emerging countries need to be valued. Germany opposes bloc-driven confrontation, and politicians need to take responsibilities. Germany is willing to play its due role in advancing EU-China ties," he added.

While Xi also reaffirmed that China has always regarded Europe as a comprehensive strategic partner and has supported the EU's strategic autonomy. He wished for a prosperous and stable Europe and insisted that China-Europe relations are not aimed at, subjugated to, or controlled by any third party. "The political mutual trust needs to be safeguarded by both sides. China and Germany should take care of each other's core interests, insist on dialogue and negotiation, and jointly reject bloc-driven confrontation and ideology-driven interference," Xi informed Scholz.

Experts say hard to avoid recession in US next year

WASHINGTON: It will be hard for the US to avoid a recession next year with the Federal Reserve's rate hikes and Chair Jerome Powell's latest comments, according to experts. The Fed on Wednesday raised its benchmark interest rate by 75 basis points for the fourth consecutive time to fight record inflation, carrying the target range for the federal funds rate to between 3.75% and 4% – its highest since January 2008. Although investors were waiting for a more dovish stance from the Fed, Powell adopted an unexpectedly hawkish tone in his post-meeting news conference when he said there are "some ways to go" with rate hikes and the "ultimate level" of increases will be higher than previously expected. "Just as investors believed they'd secured the dovish pivot they so craved,

Chair Powell stepped up to deliver another crushing blow to the markets," Craig Erlam, London-based senior market analyst for UK & EMEA at trading platform OANDA, said in an email note. "Well, that's how it's been perceived initially but that could change once the dust settles." Erlam said investors did not want to hear that interest rates could go higher than they previously thought and they still have some way to go. The Fed will watch for improvement in incoming macroeconomic data and try to ease off the brake ensuring the least economic cost. But that does not mean a recession will be avoided, according to Erlam. "There are two jobs and inflation reports to come before the December meeting. By that time, things may look a little more promising and less uncertain," he said. Mark Zandi,

chief economist at Moody's Analytics, told Anadolu Agency via email that Powell made a point to say rates are going higher and will stay higher for longer than investors were anticipating. "Powell is appropriately sending a tough message to ensure inflation expectation remain anchored and convince businesses to be more cautious in managing their payrolls and investment and consumers to be more cautious in their spending," said Zandi.

"By so doing, it makes it less likely he will actually need to follow through on this interest rate outlook, thus raising the odds the economy can make its way through the next year without a recession. Avoiding a recession next year will be difficult, but ironically Powell's tough talk makes it more likely that it will," he added. Powell said the latest

consumer inflation figures since the Fed's Sept. 21 meeting "suggest to me that we may move to higher (interest rate) levels than we thought at the time during the September meeting." US annual consumer inflation came in at 8.2% in September, slightly down from the 8.3% yearly gain in August. Producer inflation rose 8.5%, slowing from August's 8.7% increase. The numbers, however, are a sharp decline from record figures earlier this year.

While annual consumer prices posted a 9.1% gain in June, the largest 12-month increase since November 1981, producer prices saw their largest annual jump since a record 11.6% gain in March. Zandi said prior to the meeting Wednesday, investors were expecting the federal funds rate to peak at 4.75%–5%, and to begin falling this time next year. —APP

US, UK strengthening Daesh foothold in Afghanistan

MOSCOW: Russian Special Presidential Representative for Afghanistan Zamir Kabulov has held the United States and Britain responsible for the growth of the notorious Daesh Takfiri terrorist group in Afghanistan and the uptick in violence across the South-Central Asian country.

Kabulov made the comments in an opinion piece published in the Russian daily newspaper Nezavisimaya Gazeta, stating that Washington and London are helping the Daesh affiliate, commonly known as Daesh in Khorasan Province, to cement its foothold in the crisis-stricken nation.

He added that the US and Britain are also exerting considerable pressure on high-profile Taliban figures to distance themselves from Russia and China, before they are targeted in assassination strikes carried out by unmanned aerial vehicles. "Americans, together with their British collaborators, are putting their frantic efforts into strengthening the positions and the destructive potential of the Afghan offshoot of Daesh, and are seeking to avail themselves of the extremists to alienate Afghanistan's neighboring states from Moscow," Kabulov pointed out.

"While the United States, as part of a political blackmail, is placing the Taliban leaders under pressure to disassociate themselves from Russia and China, it is demanding Afghanistan's ruling authorities not to take any action against Uyghur insurgents, who form the militant organization Turkistan Islamic Party," the Russian diplomat noted. Daesh has a foothold in eastern and northern Afghanistan, particularly in Nangarhar, which is regarded as its base in the war-torn country. It has recently claimed responsibility for several attacks across Afghanistan.—APP

Israeli warplanes attack Gaza Strip in fresh act of aggression

GAZA: The Israeli military has carried out a round of airstrikes against the Gaza Strip, as the Tel Aviv regime continues with its acts of aggression on the besieged Palestinian coastal enclave. The military alleged in a statement that it targeted in the early hours of Friday morning a Hamas underground facility, which the resistance movement used for the production of rocket materials in the central Gaza Strip. It published a satellite photo of what it said was the site, showing an area near several buildings and agricultural plots on the northwest edge of the al-Maghazi refugee camp. It said it was the third such facility hit since April. The Palestinian Shehab news agency said a "resistance site" in al-Maghazi had been hit. There were no immediate reports of injuries. Pictures shared on social media showed fireballs and smoke in Gaza from the airstrikes. Successive strikes could be seen hitting the same area repeatedly in unverified video footage as jets were heard screaming overhead. The attacks came after four rockets were launched from the Gaza Strip toward the Israeli-occupied territories on Thursday. The Israeli military asserted that one rocket was intercepted by its so-called Iron Dome missile system over a border town, and the other three fell short in the Strip. There were no reports of injuries or damage following the rocket attacks.—APP

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KUALA LUMPUR: A donation cheque for the flood-affectedees in Pakistan was presented by Tan Sri Prof. Emeritus, Chairman Yayasan Prihatin Nasional & Datuk Abdul Malik, Chairman Federation of Malaysian Business Association (FMBA), to HC Amna Baloch. - DNA

No snap polls in Northern Ireland in December

LONDON: Britain's Northern Ireland secretary on Friday confirmed that there will be no election in December, ahead of the holiday season, but pledged an announcement of unspecified "next steps."

Chris Heaton-Harris said in a statement that he would "lay out" these steps next week, ending speculation that a snap vote would be held in mid-December, just before Christmas. Last week Heaton-Harris had announced that a snap election would be held in Northern Ireland after Northern Irish politicians failed to form a devolved government before a deadline. "At midnight on 28 October, I came under a duty to call an Assembly election," he said in a statement. "Since then, my engagement with the political parties has continued." He said: "I have had valuable conversations with people across Northern Ireland, including

business and community representatives. I have listened to their sincere concerns about the impact and cost of an election at this time."

"I can now confirm that no Assembly election will take place in December, or ahead of the festive season. Current legislation requires me to name a date for an election to take place within 12 weeks of 28 October and next week, I will make a statement in Parliament to lay out my next steps. "My objective, what the people of Northern Ireland deserve, is the restoration of a strong devolved government. My duty is to create the right environment for the parties in Northern Ireland to work together to restore the devolved institutions and deliver on crucial issues impacting Northern Ireland's people."

"I do not take this duty lightly, nor do I overlook the very real concerns people have around their cost of living."

The nationalist and unionist parties, Sinn Fein and the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP), failed to reach an agreement on forming a new devolved government within six months after the May 5 election. The DUP last week blocked efforts to form a new Executive due to their ongoing stance on the Northern Ireland Protocol – an addendum to the UK's EU Withdrawal Agreement which keeps Northern Ireland aligned with EU trade rules to avoid a hard border with Ireland. The Northern Ireland Assembly held a last-minute sitting to see if a deal could be struck between nationalist Sinn Fein and the DUP to form the new devolved government six months after the election, but it was unsuccessful. Sinn Fein secured a historic victory in May, winning a majority of 27 seats in Stormont, making it the first nationalist party to take control of the assembly in its

century of existence.

According to the Northern Ireland-specific law and the latest election result, a power-sharing devolved government can only be formed under an agreement between Sinn Fein and the DUP. Sinn Fein nominated the party's Vice President Michelle O'Neill as the new first minister, but the DUP repeatedly refused to nominate a deputy and said it would not change its stance unless the Northern Ireland Protocol is scrapped. The thorny issue of the Northern Ireland Protocol has played a huge part in the making of the new Executive since the election. The DUP has consistently said it will not enter the Executive unless there is "substantial reform" to the protocol, which they believe creates a customs border between Northern Ireland and the rest of the UK. Goods entering Northern Ireland from the rest of the UK are subject to checks to protect

the European free market.

The hard border between Ireland and Northern Ireland had ceased to exist with the 1998 Belfast (Good Friday) Agreement, an international treaty that ended decades of sectarian violence in the region. The central UK government in London has said the protocol, which was signed by Britain and the EU to be able to reach a Brexit deal, was causing problems a few months after and requested from the bloc a renegotiation on the specific deal. The EU has repeatedly said it would not renegotiate it and that the UK must observe the rules of the agreement. Last week new UK Prime Minister Rishi Sunak "reiterated his preference for exploring a negotiated solution to the current issues" of the protocol in a phone call with European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen, reiterating the point of his predecessors Boris Johnson and Liz Truss.—APP

Australia lifts cash rate to 2.85 pct

SYDNEY: Australia's central bank announced on Friday a back-to-back interest rate hike for seven months in a row, by 25 basis points to 2.85 percent in a bid to rein in the country's "too high" inflation.

Philip Lowe, governor of the Reserve Bank of Australia, noted in a statement that over the year to September, the CPI inflation rate of Australia was 7.3 percent, the highest it has been in more than three decades. The central bank's move to increase interest rates materially since May "has been necessary to establish a more sustainable balance of demand and supply in the Australian economy to help return inflation to target," said the governor.

As a further rise in inflation is possible over the coming months, with inflation now forecast to peak at around 8 percent later this year, the central bank's board expects more rate hikes to follow.

The board's priority is to return inflation to the 2-3 percent range over time, Lowe added.—APP

Pilot strike adds to Kenya Airways woes

NAIROBI: Pilots at Kenya Airways plan to go on strike from Saturday to seek better working conditions in defiance of a court order, adding to woes facing the troubled national carrier.

The airline, part owned by the government and Air France-KLM, is one of the biggest in Africa, connecting multiple countries to Europe and Asia, but it is facing turbulent times, including years of losses.

The Kenya Airlines Pilots Association (KALPA) said a series of meetings with airline management had failed to resolve grievances.

No Kenya Airways flight flown by KALPA pilots will depart Nairobi's Jomo Kenyatta International Airport from 6:00 am (0300 GMT) on Saturday, said union secretary general Murithi Nyaga, without specifying how long the strike would last.

"Kenya Airways management's actions have left us with no other option," Nyaga said, adding that a 14-day notice on the industrial action had ended without a solution.

"We had hoped that the management of the airline would soften its stance and engage in negotiation on the issues raised."

The pilots, who have had a particularly fraught relationship with management, are pressing for the reinstatement of contributions to a provident fund.—APP

Pelosi's husband released from hospital

WASHINGTON: US House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's husband has been released from the hospital after a hammer attack last week.

Paul Pelosi, 82, was attacked in the couple's San Francisco home last Friday and was transported to Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital. He underwent surgery to treat a skull fracture and has been at the hospital for six days.

Following his release, Speaker Pelosi said her family "is thankful for the beautiful outpouring of love, support and prayers from around the world."

"Paul is grateful to the 911 operator, emergency responders, trauma care team, ICU staff, and the entire ZSFGH medical staff for their excellent and compassionate life-saving treatment he received after the violent assault in our home," said the statement.

"Paul remains under doctors' care as he continues to progress on a long recovery process and convalescence. He is now home surrounded by his family who request privacy," it added.

The attacker, 42-year-old Canadian national David DePape, pleaded not guilty to several charges, including attempted murder. DePape said he was looking for Nancy Pelosi to hold her hostage, but later a brawl ensued, after which DePape injured Paul with a hammer.—APP

Briefs

Ambassador
Tugio meets
chairperson
of NDMA

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Indonesian Ambassador Adam Tugio met chairperson of NDMA Lieutenant General Inam Haider Malik. The envoy thanked the Chair of NDMA for facilitating the deployment of Indonesian Medical Team to deliver health services for flood victims in Mirpur Khas District and Tent City Bin Qasim. The Chair of NDMA expressed his appreciation to the Indonesia government for its continued support to help Pakistani Government to address challenges posed by severe floods. The meeting also discussed ways to strengthen cooperation on disaster relief management between NDAM of the two countries.

Arshad's
mother
moves IHC
over report

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Riffat Ara Alvi, mother of slain journalist Arshad Sharif, on Friday approached the Islamabad High Court seeking the copy of autopsy report of her son. In a petition filed by Riffat Ara, she plead that she is not being provided with the copy of autopsy report of her son despite of paying several visits to administration offices and police station. As per petition filed by Riffat Ara, on November 3, the focal person of the family of slain journalist Arshad Sharif asked the administration to provide the copy of autopsy report of Arshad. Upon which the administration said that they don't have autopsy report and advised the focal person to contact police station. When the family focal person approached the police they suggested him to contact the administration. The petitioner expressed fear that facts could be distorted in the autopsy report. In a petition, the family plead the court that the autopsy report should not be made public with the family's consent.

Twitter mass
layoffs begin as
Musk launches
overhaul

SAN FRANCISCO: Thousands of Twitter employees were ordered to stay home Friday to await a bracing round of layoffs that could see half of the payroll axed as new owner Elon Musk launches his major overhaul of the company. A company-wide email seen by AFP said Twitter employees will receive word on their future at the company via email at the start of business Friday, California time. The cull is part of Musk's push to find ways to pay for the mammoth \$44 billion deal for which he took on billions of dollars in debt and sold \$15.5 billion worth of Tesla shares, his electric car company. Musk, the owner of Tesla and SpaceX, has been scrambling to find new ways for Twitter to make money after his mammoth buyout, including charging users \$8 a month for verified accounts. This would help overcome the potential loss of advertisers, Twitter's main source of revenue, with many of the world's top brands putting their ad buys on hold, spooked by Musk's well-known disdain for content moderation. To mitigate concerns, Musk has vowed that the site would not become a "free-for-all hellscape" though this was quickly followed by a Musk retweet that relayed a conspiracy theory about the assault on the husband of the US House Speaker. Though extremely influential with opinion-makers and celebrities, the California company has long struggled to generate profit and has failed to keep pace with Meta-owned Facebook and TikTok in gaining new users. – APP

Unconditional dialogue
only option left: Kaira

Qamar Zaman Kaira said changing the government was purely an undemocratic and unconstitutional demand of the PTI

ISLAMABAD: Advisor to Prime Minister on Kashmir Affairs and Gilgit Baltistan Qamar Zaman Kaira on Friday said unconditional dialogue was the only option to address all political issues and reaching to a consensus on all outstanding matters. "We are ready to talk to them [PTI leadership] on their demands but unconditional. Consensus should be acceptable for all democratic forces in the country for strengthening of the democracy and the supremacy of law and constitution," he said while addressing a press conference. Kaira said, "We never denied holding of dialogue with them but they have to justify their demands as here is a constitution and democratic institutions, which should be respected and obeyed." He said there should be no deadlock in political dialogues because it's a negative thing in the democratic system and all political issues could be resolved through dialogue and discussions. "Deadlocks in dialogue create problems while discussions pave the way for positive outcomes." He suggested that the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leadership should avoid issuing controversial statements which may harm the peace and stability of the country. "Unfortunately, PTI leaders have been issuing irresponsible statements soon after the firing incident, which should be avoided." Kaira said changing the government was purely an undemocratic and unconstitutional demand of the PTI. He said, "We are a strong believer in peaceful dialogue with political parties." Unlike PTI leadership, the government's representatives never issued any irresponsible statements and they only

Lawmakers condemn
firing on PTI Chief

ISLAMABAD: The parliamentarians Friday unanimously condemned the gun attack on Chairman Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Imran Khan in Wazirabad during his Long March in strong words, and called for a transparent probe to unveil the facts behind the incident. While addressing the National Assembly session, the members National Assembly termed the untoward incident as a conspiracy against the security forces and the country to sabotage peace and stability in the country. Federal Minister for Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety, Shazia Marri condemning the incident at National Assembly floor said that the protest was the right of every political party in democratic countries. She stressed that peaceful protests should not be turned into violence and bloodshed as it was the responsibility of the political leaders to make sensible decisions in such situations. She urged the leaderships of all political parties and especially the PTI to be careful while passing statements about the incident as they should abstain from blaming the national institutions. She demanded a full-fledged investigation of the incident sans any external influence to ensure transparency. "We get this country with lots of sacrifices and bloodshed. The political leadership played vital role in that regard. It is incumbent upon all of us to safeguard our motherland," she added. She requested PTI Chairman Imran Khan to observe patience over the incident and avoid making any irresponsible statement till the investigation was completed, adding, "You have been the prime minister of Pakistan and now you are also making all-out efforts to regain power through illegal means." She took exception to the PTI chair and said, "When you [Imran Khan] are in the government you behave like a proud man but when you are not the prime minister then you desecrate every institution not extending favours to you." She said that PPPP Chairman Asif Ali Zardari had showed patience over the Shahadat (martyrdom) of Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto for the sake of the country. "Moreover, Bilalwal Bhutto has also strongly condemned the firing incident," she added. On the occasion, MNA Syed Ali Musa Gillani requested the members to also pray for the PTI worker who died in the incident and said that workers were the real asset of political parties. MNA Mohammad Aslam Bhootani also condemned the incident and requested the federal government to help the provincial government in a transparent investigation. – APP



ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Türkiye Dr. Mehmet Pacaci calls on Federal Minister for Law and Justice and Economic Affairs, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq. – DNA

EU delegation, AJK PM
discuss situation of IIOJK

MUZAFFARABAD: A two-member delegation of European Parliament visited Muzaffarabad and met the Prime Minister of Azad Jammu and Kashmir, Sardar Tanveer Ilyas Khan. According to Kashmir Media Service, the EU members Juvén Herve and Virginie Joron discussed with the AJK Prime Minister the latest situation of Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir. The AJK Prime Minister on the occasion said that India was constantly involved in grave human rights violation in IIOJK. He said after scraping the special status of the occupied territory on August 5, 2019, the Modi-led fascist Indian government has snatched all the basic human rights of the Kashmiri people. He denounced India's attempt to change the demography of IIOJK by issuing domiciles to Indian residents to convert the Muslim majority into a minority. Sardar Tanveer Ilyas said that Indian forces' personnel were martyring the Kashmiri people and destroying their residential houses and properties on a daily bases. He also said that Modi regime was hell-bent to cripple the economy of the territory by targeting various business outlets. The AJK Prime Minister deplored the silence of the international community on the Indian brutalities in IIOJK. He maintained that Pakistan wanted peace in the region and the peaceful settlement of issues between India and Pakistan, particularly the Kashmir dispute which was lingering from over seven decades. A two-member European Parliament delegation visited the AJK capital and called on Prime Minister of Azad Jammu and Kashmir Sardar Tanveer Ilyas Khan, here, on Thursday. The members were Juvén Herve and Virginie Joron, who held the meeting with AJK PM, in his office, and discussed the latest situation of Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir. The senior Minister Khawaja Farooq Ahmed, Finance Minister Abdul Majid Khan, Minister for Forest Muhammad Akmal Sargala, Chairman Inspection Commission Raja Mansoor Khan, AJK Chief Secretary Dr. Muhammad Usman Chachar, Principal Secretary Ehsan Khalid Kiyani, Secretary Presidential Affairs Dr. Syed Asif Hussain and Secretary Services Raja Pervez were present on the occasion. The AJK PM also deplored Indian attempt to change the demography of occupied Kashmir, issuing domiciles and state to non-state residents belonging to India in a bid to convert the majority Muslim state into a minority. – DNA

Saudi envoy calls on Turi;
discuss opportunitiesSkill Verification Program
recently launched by both
countries will ensure
maximum export of skilled
workers and professionals

ISLAMABAD: Labor Attaché of Saudi Arabia to Pakistan, Majid Baker Friday called on Federal Minister for Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development Sajid Hussain Turi to discuss employment opportunities for Pakistani professionals in Saudi Arabia, welfare and problems of Pakistani citizens in Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) in detail. During the meeting, both the dignitaries also discussed other matters of mutual interest, a news release said. The Labor Attaché apprised about the features of Saudi Arabia's new Labor Policy which was highly appreciated by the minister. The minister emphasized on increasing the quota of Pakistani manpower adding Pakistan had available skilled manpower in all sectors and was ready to meet the manpower requirements of Saudi Arabia. The Skill Verification Program recently launched by both countries will ensure

maximum export of skilled workers and professionals. Secretary Workers Welfare Board, Managing Director Pakistan Employment Corporation, Joint Secretary and other officers were also present in the meeting. The minister admired the decision of Saudi Arabia to appoint a Labor Attaché in Pakistan. "I am happy that Saudi Arabia has appointed for the first time a Labor Attaché to Pakistan. Pakistan has always been proud of its friendly and brotherly relations with Saudi Arabia," he added. Majid Bakr appreciated the efforts of the Ministry of Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development for labor's and said, "After ending the condition of the sponsor Pakistani labor will go to Saudi Arabia by signing a contract with the company. Under the new policy, labor will also be able to change companies. The Saudi government is providing maximum facilities to the labor." Turi commended the revolutionary reforms in Saudi Arabia's labor policy. He emphasized that Saudi Arabia should increase the quota of Pakistani workers. He further said that Pakistanis imprisoned in Saudi Arabia due to minor crimes and lack of documents must be released. – APP

Germany
warns
protesters
against
breaking law

BERLIN: The German government on Friday warned that escalating protests by activists ahead of the UN climate conference in Egypt must not break the law. Deputy government spokesman Wolfgang Buechner said that while Berlin shared the goal of climate protection with the demonstrators, their protests "must not take place outside the bounds of our laws". Climate activists in several European countries have targeted famous museum pieces to draw attention to their cause ahead of COP27, which will start this month in Sharm el-Sheikh. In Germany, protesters last week threw mashed potatoes over a Claude Monet painting in Potsdam and on Sunday glued themselves to an exhibition of a dinosaur skeleton at Berlin's Natural History Museum. But the issue gained urgency this week after a street protest in Berlin on Monday allegedly prevented emergency workers from getting to the scene of an accident. An emergency vehicle was delayed in reaching a cyclist who had been run over by a cement mixer as activists had glued themselves to a nearby street. The cyclist in hospital has since been declared braindead. – APP

Rain, snowfall
predicted in
several areas

DNA

ISLAMABAD: The Met Office informed that a westerly wave is likely to enter the country today and likely to persist till November 7. Under the influence of this weather system: Rain-wind-thunderstorm (snowfall over the mountains) with isolated hailstorms expected in Chitral, Dir, Swat, Kohistan, Shangla, Buner, Mansehra, Abbottabad, Haripur, Malakand, Kashmir, Gilgit-Baltistan from 4th (evening/night) to 7th November, while in Bajaur, Peshawar, Mardan, Charsadda, Swabi, Nowshera, Kurram, Kohat, Waziristan, Bannu, DI Khan, Islamabad, Rawalpindi, Murree, Attock, Chakwal, Jhelum, Sialkot, Narowal, Lahore, Gujranwala, Gujrat, Sheikhupura, Mianwali, Khushab, Sargodha, Hafizabad, Mandi Bahauddin, Jhang and Faisalabad from 05th to 07th November (Morning). Heavy rainfall is expected in Dir, Swat, Kohistan, Mansehra, Abbottabad, Murree, Galiyat, Kashmir, Islamabad, Pothohar region, Gujrat, Gujranwala and Sialkot on 5th and 6th November.

Sherry tops
list of leaders
to watch
at COP27

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Climate Change Senator Sherry Rehman has been placed at top of the list of people to watch at the upcoming Conference of Parties (COP27) in Egypt. In a list released by The Washington Post, five people are mentioned who could help determine the outcome of the negotiations, and the Federal Minister tops the list. The Washington Post said that Senator Rehman's leading role on the issue of climate justice will play a key role, as she will urge the developed and wealthy countries, who are among the major polluters, to compensate lower-income countries currently facing the loss and damage from climate induced events. Other names included in the list are Jennifer Morgan from Germany, John Kerry from United States, Xie Zhenhua from China, Vanessa Nakate from Uganda. Earlier last week, the Federal Minister was also on top of the list published by Climate Home News, which mentioned nine global leaders who are influencing and shaping the climate agenda on key issues, and the Federal Minister was identified as a 'Climate victim defender' among the list of global leaders. For being recognized as a leading voice on climate change, Senator Rehman said, "It is indeed an honor to be among such a distinguished list of global leaders."

North Korea flies jets, fires artillery near border

The Pentagon on Friday said the drills with South Korea were currently only being extended till November 5. "We remain in close coordination with our ROK ally on any additional changes and the security environment on the Korean Peninsula," a US military spokesman

AGENCIES

SEOUL: South Korea said it scrambled warplanes in response to 180 North Korean military flights near the countries' shared border on Friday, and Pyongyang again demanded that the United States and South Korea halt "provocative" air exercises. The North Korean manoeuvres follow the firing of more than 80 rounds of artillery overnight and the launch of multiple missiles into the sea on Thursday, including a possible failed intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM). North Korean aircraft were detected in multiple areas north of the "tactical action line" north of the Military Demarcation Line between the two Koreas, South Korea's Joint

Chiefs of Staff said. They flights occurred between 11 a.m. (0200 GMT) and 3 p.m. The virtual line is drawn north of the military border and is used as a basis for South Korean air defence operations, a South Korean official said. He declined to give the virtual line's distance from the Military Demarcation Line (MDL) but local news reports said it was 20 to 50 km (12 to 31 miles). South Korea scrambled 80 aircraft, including F-35A stealth fighters, in response, while about 240 jets participating in the Vigilant Storm air exercises with the United States continued their drills, the military said. North Korea fired at least 23 missiles on Wednesday - a record for a single day. The series of launches this week prompted the United States and South Korea to

extend the Vigilant Storm military drills, which have angered Pyongyang. North Korea's foreign ministry issued a statement saying the United States should stop its "provocative" air drills and warned that "sustained provocation is bound to be followed by sustained counteraction." The Pentagon on Friday said the drills with South Korea were currently only being extended till November 5. "We remain in close coordination with our ROK ally on any additional changes and the security environment on the Korean Peninsula," a U.S. military spokesman told Reuters. Earlier, Pak Jong Chon, secretary of the Central Committee of North Korea's ruling Workers' Party, said Washington and Seoul had made a very dangerous decision by ex-

tending the exercises, and were "shoving" the situation out of control. The United States called for a public U.N. Security Council meeting that is due to be held later on Friday to discuss North Korea, which has long been banned from conducting ballistic missile launches by U.N. resolutions. The North Korean foreign ministry statement referred to the U.N. meeting and said North Korea had been conducting "legitimate self-defensive" countermeasures. A flight of 10 North Korean warplanes made similar manoeuvres last month, prompting South Korea to scramble jets. The high tensions on the Korean Peninsula come amid concerns that North Korea may be about to resume nuclear bomb testing for the first time since 2017.