



Islamabad POST

Saturday, December 03, 2022

Pakistan's Credible Daily Newspaper

Price Rs. 25

Europe is 'not strong enough' without US: Finland PM Marin

Detailed News On Page-07

Russia must withdraw troops from Ukraine

Detailed News On Page-08



Pakistan's pitches from 'dark ages'

Detailed News On Page-06



Briefs

No talks on elections, will be held on time

KHAYAM ABBASI

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Information and Broadcasting Mariyum Aurangzeb has categorically said that next general elections will be held on time in October next year. She said this on Friday while answering PTI Chief Imran Khan's statement. Meanwhile, the government rejected the latest offer for talks by the PTI, saying that the two sides lacked common agenda to initiate dialogue as the latter wants snap polls while we would not budge from our stance of holding the elections on time. Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Mariyum Aurangzeb, while talking to media, also clarified that neither overt nor covert negotiations were being held with the former ruling party and any speculations about such talks were mere speculations.

Assemblies will not be dissolved

NAZIR SIYAL

KARACHI: Former PTI leader Faisal Vawda has said that the Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) assemblies won't be dissolved as per former prime minister Imran Khan's wish. In a tweet, Vawda voiced his opinion and stressed that the "system" in the country would remain unchanged. Khan, although called off the long march, has announced dissolving the assemblies in both provinces if the PDM-led government does not issue a date for early elections. Without naming Khan, Vawda also urged the PTI chief to avoid being trapped in dead ends and sit at the table for dialogue. He added that the negative politics that the people around the ex-premier are practising would bring no good. It is these "snakes", he said without naming anyone, that have already sunk the party.

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

Inside...

KP PPP panel accords feasibility for Yarik-Bannu Road
- Page 02

Polish Independence Day event features JAZZ performances
- Page 03

UNODC commemorates day of persons with disabilities
- Page 04

Coop beyond security: SCO emphasizes need for materialism
- Page 05

Imam, Abdullah lead Pakistan's fightback against England
- Page 06

Europe is 'not strong enough' without US, says Finland PM
- Page 07

Biden 'prepared to sit down if Putin' wants to end war
- Page 08

Afghan Charge d Affaires summoned

Pak envoy in Kabul attacked

The head of mission was targeted; Afghan foreign ministry says it will "seriously investigate" incident and identify, punish culprits

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT



KABUL: Pakistan's Head of Mission to Kabul Ubaid-ur-Rehman Nizamani Friday escaped an assassination bid, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) confirmed. In a statement sharing details of the attack, the Foreign Office stated that the embassy's compound in Kabul came under attack targeting the head of mission and informed about his safety. "By the grace of Allah Almighty, the Head of Mission is safe. However, a Pakistani security guard Sepoy Israr Mohammad has been critically injured in the attack while protecting the Head of Mission," the FO said.

The ministry further added that Pakistan's government strongly condemns the assassination attempt and attack on the embassy demanding the Afghan government conduct an immediate investigation into the incident. "The Interim Government of Afghanistan must immediately hold thorough investigations in this attack, apprehend the culprits, hold them to account, and take urgent measures to ensure the safety and security of

Continued on Page 06

Gen Bajwa told us to support Imran: Moonis

Says former COAS went 'all out in support' of PTI

STAFF REPORT

LAHORE: Pakistan Muslim League-Quaid (PML-Q) leader and Punjab chief minister's son Moonis Elahi has claimed that his party had been advised by former army chief General (ret'd) Qamar Javed Bajwa to support Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) in the no-confidence motion that ultimately led to former premier Imran Khan's ouster. Grueling political uncertainty had ended around midnight when the daylong session of the lower house of parliament convened on April 9 to vote on the no-confidence motion culminated with the dismissal of Imran Khan, the 22nd prime minister of Pakistan, who became the first chief executive to be removed from office after losing majority in the National Assembly. Speaking on a private TV channel, Moonis Elahi revealed that "there has not been any contact with the new military leadership" however, he added that the former COAS



"had turned the tides in favour of PTI". "This is my point of contention with PTI and anyone who calls him a traitor," he continued, "he was seen as perfectly fine when he was going in their support and now he is called a turncoat". "I have offered the PTI to come on TV and prove to me that he [Bajwa] is a traitor and I will show you just how much the man did for you." He went on to claim that there was "no doubt" about it that "the man had gone all out for you [PTI]"; but the minute he "removed himself then he became the bad guy". "If he was the bad guy, he would have never told me to support Imran Khan," Moonis said.

MAHNOOR ANSAR

ISLAMABAD: The Government of Japan has provided USD 4.196 million to the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), for its humanitarian services in the flood affected areas and to improve water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) infrastructure in refugee settlements and host communities in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) and Balochistan provinces. An event was held here today to acknowledge and thank the Government and people of Japan for their usual and generous support for the children in Pakistan. The Chairman National Disaster Management Authority, Lt. Gen. Inam Haider Malik, Ambassador of Japan to Pakistan, H.E WADA Mitsuhiro, UNICEF Representative in Pakistan, Mr. Abdullah Fadil, and senior officials of the Government of Pakistan were present on the occasion. Speaking on the occasion, Chairman NDMA, Lt. Gen. Inam Haider Malik said, "Government of Pakistan stands committed in maximizing support to its flood affected people with continued involvement of



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif in a meeting with delegation of China Construction Third Engineering Bureau. - DNA

PM invites Chinese companies to invest in energy

SHUJAAT HAMZA

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Friday invited Chinese companies to invest heavily in renewable energy projects in Pakistan, particularly solar energy. He was talking to a delegation of China Construction; Third Engineering Bureau headed by Tan Guofu, Vice Chairman of the company. The Prime Minister appreciated the company's Vice Chairman Tan Guofu's commitment to invest more in infrastructure and energy projects in Pakistan. Prime Minister Sharif said the relations between Pakistan and China were exemplary in all areas and mentioned his recent meeting with the company's president during his visit to China. He also appreciated the company for its donations to the flood-affected people of Pakistan. Special Assistants Tariq Fatemi, Zafaruddin Mehmood and other senior government officials also attended the meeting.

PM greets UAE President

SAIFULLAH

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif held a telephonic conversation with His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the United Arab Emirates, to convey warm greetings on 51st National Day of the United Arab Emirates. Reaffirming the fraternal relations between Pakistan and the UAE, the two leaders reiterated their mutual commitment to further expand and diversify special bilateral relations.

Imran Khan invites govt to hold talks over election date

"Give us a date for elections or we will dissolve the KP and Punjab assemblies"

ALI HAMZA

LAHORE: PTI Chairman Imran Khan Friday invited the PDM-led government to talk over the possibility of early general elections and warned that if they dissolved the assemblies in two provinces, around 66% of Pakistan would have to vote for by-polls. "Give us a date for elections or we will dissolve the KP and Punjab assemblies," Khan said in a video address to the PTI's Punjab parliamentary party from his Lahore residence in Zaman Park. "We have the full backing of PML-Q. CM Punjab Chaudhry Pervaiz Elahi will disband the provincial assembly on my call." He said PTI's demand for early general elections was the part and parcel of the PTI's resolve to shore up the country's economy as the party was totally focused on bringing Pakistan back to its feet.

Continued on Page 06

'It is up to PM Shehbaz to call for election'

STAFF REPORT

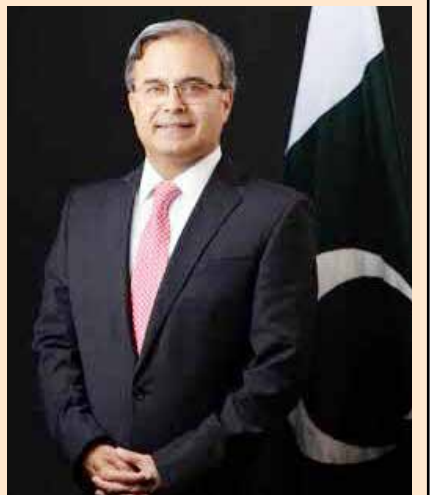
LAHORE: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) senior leader Fawad Chaudhry on Friday said that it is up to Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to call for elections since his party also has the option of dissolving the assemblies of Punjab and KP. Speaking to the media in the provincial capital of Punjab while being flanked by PTI leader Farrukh Habib, Fawad said that all of the lawmakers, who were present at

Continued on Page 06

Asad appointed new Foreign Secretary

ANSAR BHATTI

ISLAMABAD: Dr. Asad Majeed Khan, presently posted as Pakistan's Ambassador to Belgium, the European Union and Luxembourg has been appointed as the new Foreign Secretary. He was previously posted in USA and during his time the controversy of Cipher had cropped up. After that controversy, he was shifted to Belgium from Washington and it was believed that due to this controversy he may not be considered for the post of the Foreign Secretary. Pakistan ambassador to Turkey Syrus Qazi was supposed to be the new Foreign Secretary subject to his elevation to the Grade 22. However so far he has not been elevated to the Grade 22 because the Board for the promotion to Grade 22 had not been held hitherto. Asad Majeed is already in Grade 22. Since the post was vacant for quite some time therefore it was necessary to fill it up in order to run the foreign affairs smoothly. Asad Majeed



being the senior most diplomat has finally been appointed as the foreign secretary. He carries immense experience in the diplomacy and has served as the Pakistan ambassador in various countries.

Japan provides USD 4.196 million to Pakistan UNICEF to use funds for assisting children and families affected by floods and improving WASH infrastructure in communities hosting refugees

MAHNOOR ANSAR

ISLAMABAD: The Government of Japan has provided USD 4.196 million to the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), for its humanitarian services in the flood affected areas and to improve water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) infrastructure in refugee settlements and host communities in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) and Balochistan provinces. An event was held here today to acknowledge and thank the Government and people of Japan for their usual and generous support for the children in Pakistan. The Chairman National Disaster Management Authority, Lt. Gen. Inam Haider Malik, Ambassador of Japan to Pakistan, H.E WADA Mitsuhiro, UNICEF Representative in Pakistan, Mr. Abdullah Fadil, and senior officials of the Government of Pakistan were present on the occasion. Speaking on the occasion, Chairman NDMA, Lt. Gen. Inam Haider Malik said, "Government of Pakistan stands committed in maximizing support to its flood affected people with continued involvement of



international community." "Japan has always been a lead in such assistance role for Pakistan and it is gratefully acknowledged at people-to-people tiers. UNICEF Pakistan is also at the forefront of such initiatives and has enabled swift delivery of key relief aid articles to people in distress." "National Disaster Management Authority, the national Coordinating authority for all emergencies mitigation and Control, engages all stakeholders and donor agencies, to help investment in capacity building and developing sound robust national preparedness regime. We endorse the high value of UNICEF donations and Thank Government of Japan for helping minimize the impact of the damage in flood affected areas of Pakistan," he added. Using Japanese funds and working in coordination with the National and Provincial Disaster Management Authorities and other relevant departments, UNICEF is working to ensure that host and refugee communities in the two provinces have access to improved WASH services.

Continued on Page 06

KP PPP panel accords feasibility for Yarik-Bannu Road

Chief Minister said that the development of Malakand region is directly associated with Swat Motorway Phase 2, which will prove to be a game-changer

OUR CORRESPONDENT

PESHAWAR: Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Mahmood Khan has termed the construction of Yarik-Bannu Link Road of vital importance for the development of the southern districts of the province.

It will incur an estimated cost of Rs 15.6 Billion including the land acquisition cost. Other features of the two-lane link road include construction of two flyovers, three RCC bridges, and two interchanges.

completion will usher in a new era of development in the area. According to details, the 80 kilometers long Swat Motorway Phase 2 is being constructed from Chakdara Interchange to Fatehpur.



ISLAMABAD: Shazia Marri, Federal Minister and Chairperson Benazir Income Support Programme meeting with delegation of Social Action Fund of Tanzania in Islamabad. - DNA

Faisalabad to be change into planned industrial hub

FAISALABAD: Faisalabad Division Regional Plan, under the Regional Planning in Punjab, is a futuristic vision to transform Faisalabad into a scientifically planned industrial hub, according to Dr Khurram Tariq, president Faisalabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry (FCCI).

OIC-15 senior officials Meeting concludes with agreement

STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: The first meeting of the senior officials representing seventeen more developed OIC member countries concluded on Friday with the adoption of the Terms of Reference and programme of the newly formed OIC-15 Dialogue Platform.

The OIC-15 is being structured as a Ministerial level body that will be assisted by COMSTECH, and its Expert Groups specializing in different fields of science and technology.



Ashrafi thanks Saudi leadership for extending term of \$3bn deposit

he said, expressing the hope that there would be good news from the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Turkey and Saudi Arabia in the near future

cooperation in this critical situation as it is an explicit expression of love and trust with the leadership and people of Pakistan," he added.

ISLAMABAD: Special Representative of the Prime Minister on Interfaith Harmony and Middle East Hafiz Muhammad Tahir Mehmood Ashrafi on Friday thanked the Saudi leadership for extending the term of deposit in the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) from the Saudi Fund for Development.

Society must focus on attitude towards PWDs

ISLAMABAD: Life of the people with disabilities is a constant struggle as they have to not only cope with their shortcomings, but also endure hardship, economic, psychological and social barriers that are a major hindrance in empowering them.

CCP penalises paint firm for marketing covid related deceptive claims

ISLAMABAD: The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) has passed an order and keeping in view the commitment and cooperative behaviour, penalised M/s. Nelson Paint Pakistan (Private) Limited with a token penalty in the sum of PKR one (1) million for violation of Section 10 of the Competition Act, 2010.

plainant cited two major claims that were allegedly violative of Section 10, i.e. "Nelson Extra Stainless (COVID-19 Protection)" and "Nelson Extra Klick Special Matt Enamel (COVID-19 Protection)." M/s. Nelson Paint was alleged to have taken undue advantage of the prevalent health concerns at the time of the COVID-19 pandemic.



ISLAMABAD: Minister of Federal Education and Professional Training, Rana Tanveer Hussain attended the closing Session on "International Summit on Higher Education and Workforce Development in 21st Century" organized by USAID and HEC on Friday, Honorable US Senator of Utah State Mr. Keith Grover also attended the event. - APP

COURT NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF HONORABLE MEHRUN NINSA CIVIL JUDGE RAWALPINDI AQEELA NASREEN TO ALL AND SUNDRY

COURT NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF HONOURABLE SIDRA BANO CHAUDHRY CIVIL JUDGE/FAMILY COURT RAWALPINDI

CGPA, SMEDA organize dialogue on entrepreneurship, infrastructure

DNA PESHAWAR: The Centre for Governance and Public Accountability (CGPA) in collaboration with the Small and Medium Enterprise Development Authority (SMEDA) organized a Public Private Dialogue on Entrepreneurship and Infrastructure here the other day, said a press release issued here on Friday.

via inclusive approach, having all the stakeholder on board from the private and government sector. This was the 11th Public Private Dialogue event of the series as planned by the CGPA.

CGPA which brought the concerned stake holders on the same table to identify and develop solution of the business issues. In order to develop an improvised business echo system, all the pertaining components need to consider in order to bring improvement in the overall system.

Advertisement for Freeline Movers, featuring logo, services list (Packing, Shipping, Freight Forwarding, etc.), and contact information for head office and branch offices.

National Days and Armed Forces Days

December

Dec 01 / Romania National Day

Dec 02 / UAE National Day

Nov 07 / Russian Federation Socialist Revolution

Dec 02 / Laos Republic National Day

Dec 05 / Thailand National Day

Dec 06 / Finland Independence Day

Dec 07 / India Armed Forces Flag Day

Dec 09 / Tanzania National Day

Dec 11 / Oman Armed Forces Day

Dec 12 / Kenya Independence Day

Dec 12 / Turkmenistan Neutrality Day

Dec 16 / Bahrain National Day

Dec 16 / Kazakhstan Independence Day

Dec 18 / Qatar National Day

Dec 18 / Niger National Day

Dec 23 / Philippines Armed Forces Day

Dec 23 / Japan National Day

Hotels & Restaurants

Serena Hotel.....111 133 133

Marriott.....051-2826121

Monal.....0334-5421812

Airlines

Turkish Airlines.....8494949

Emergency

Rescue (Police).....15

Bomb Disposal.....15

Fire Services Rawalpindi/ Islamabad.....1122 & 16

Emergency Ambulance.....1122

& Rescue Services.4451122

Motorway Police.....9266044

Motorway Police.....9270601-20

Women Police Stations Islamabad.....9222596

Rawalpindi.....9270601-20

Enquiry

Edhi Ambulance.....115

PIA Flight Info.....114

PIA Cargo.....9280979

Railway Inquiry.....117

Railway Exchange 9270831-5

WASA Rawalpindi.....5555489

CAA.....9281092

Hospitals

CMH.....5611111

MH.....5611116

Cantt Hospital.....9270907-11

DHQ.....5556311-4

RGH.....9290301-7

Holy Family.....9290322-7

PIMS.....9261170-79

Polyclinic.....9218300-09

Shifa International.4603666

Departments

CDA.....9221334-43

CDA.....9208301-04

Met Office.....9250360-6

RDA.....5555864

TMA.....5770886

Cantonment Board 9270151-3

Islamabad Metropolitan

Corporation.....9209224

Potohar Town.....9209224

Rawal Town.....5773343

Water Tank

Islamabad.....0321-5744480

Polish Independence Day event features JAZZ performances

Ambassador of Poland Maciej Pisarski says , Poland is grateful to Pakistan for facilitation of our evacuation efforts from Afghanistan last year

STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Poland Maciej Pisarski has said In November 1918, Poland regained its independence after 123 years of partition. It took several years of fighting to secure the borders of the reborn state. The Polish Armed forces withstood every challenge and delivered the final victory over the Bolshevik Russia in 1920. The ambassador expressed these views on the occasion of Poland's Independence Day and Polish Armed Forces Day. A simple but impressive ceremony was held at the Polish residence in this regard featuring exclusive JAZZ performance by renowned artists. Minister of State of Finance and Revenue, Dr Aisha Ghaust Pasha was the chief guest. The ambassador further said, even though 20 years later Poland lost its freedom again, there was not a question whether Poles deserved their independence after the second world war. However, it took another 45 years of struggle to achieve true sovereignty after the collapse of communism and the Soviet empire. While talking about Ukraine, Ambassador Pisarski said, Poland's neighbor, Ukraine, has been fighting for its freedom and sovereignty against a brutal and unprovoked Russian aggression. "We salute the brave Ukrainian people for their unwavering stance", he added.

He said Poland together with its allies has wholeheartedly supported this fight. Poles opened their homes to millions of Ukrainians who have sought shelter in our country. There are many reasons why this fight is important. Let me limit myself to just a couple. "First, sovereign Ukraine is an indispensable part of united, peaceful and prosperous Europe. To put it bluntly, without exerting a full control over Ukraine, Russia cannot be empire which projects authoritarian model of government at home and throughout its sphere of influence. Second, abattle of Ukraine is a fight for upholding the universality of fundamental rights and principles enshrined in the UN Charter. Freedom, sovereignty, territorial integrity, rejection of military aggression constitute a backbone of the international order which provides for peaceful co-existence of all nations - big and small". He said, civilians have been victims of this conflict since the day one. Indiscriminate bombings, death, war crimes, rapes and all sorts of violations of human rights have been an ugly face of the this aggression. Recent targeting of electricity, water supplies and other elements of civilian critical



infrastructure pushes the definition of barbarity into new lows. To shed some light on human sufferings the Embassy had prepared a special exhibition. It was titled "Mom, I don't want the war" and depicted drawings made by children: Polish children who lived through the traumas of the Second World war. And Ukrainian children who have been terrorized by the ongoing war. The Ambassador also talked about bilateral relations between Poland and Pakistan and said, this year Poland and Pakistan celebrate 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between our countries. As Zbigniew Brzezinski put it.

"Anniversaries are like birthdays: occasions to celebrate and to think ahead, usually among friends with whom one shares not only the past but also the future." Throughout this time our relationship has matured and solidified. We are close friends and effective international partners. We are driven by the same values and principles. We have worked together to increase regional stability and international peace. We have put people in the center of our cooperation. For example, Poland is grateful to Pakistan for facilitation of our evacuation efforts from Afghanistan last year. This year, we worked together to allow Pakistani citizens, most-

ly students, who were affected by the Russian aggression to reunite with their loved ones at home. We also cooperated in delivering humanitarian Pakistani assistance to Ukraine. Our bilateral trade stands over eight hundred million euros. Mostly due to a preferential system of trade with the European Union, GSP plus, Poland has been one of the fastest growing markets for Pakistani products. "Our ambition is not only to increase the volume of our trade. We would like to expand and enrich our trade and economic exchange to make it more a two way street, with more Polish business operate in Pakistan". He said, Poland looked forward

to expand presence in areas involving new innovative technologies, addressing the needs of digital economy and green transition. Regarding the defence cooperation the Ambassador said, defense cooperation remains a potential area of growth. The jewel in the crown of our economic cooperation is contribution of Polish companies: Polish Oil and Gas Company - PGNIG and Ex-allo Drilling to the strengthening of Pakistan's energy security. PGNIG has invested more than three hundred million dollars in developing gas extraction projects in Sindh province. The company has brought in an innovative technology and unique know

how to deliver to the Pakistani consumers Pakistani gas. "The catastrophic FLOODS brought a lot of human suffering and destruction to the Pakistani people. Poland has expressed heartfelt condolences. We have joined European effort to bring in much needed humanitarian aid. We supported international organizations in their actions in Pakistan. Polish non-governmental entities joined the relief effort". A special JAZZ performance was also arranged on the occasion. Jazz music has occupied a special place in Polish culture. It has always been an expression of boundless creativity and freedom, the ambassador concluded.

\$500 million loan by China-led AIIB to help Pakistan

AIIB is co-financing the program under its Covid-19 crisis recovery facility



ISLAMABAD: The \$500 million loan to Pakistan will provide critical countercyclical financing to strengthen social protection, food security, and support for businesses. This was stated by the China-led Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), a multilateral lender, in a post, according to Gwadar Pro. Pakistan's government said on Tuesday that it had received the funds from AIIB. The funds were provided under the Building Resilience with Active Countercyclical Expenditures (BRACE) Program of the Asian Development Bank (ADB). AIIB is co-financing the program under its COVID-19 Crisis Recovery Facility. According to AIIB, the program will finance expenditures for strengthening the social safety net and fiscal measures to support the Pakistani government's response to deal with the triple crises of COVID-19 pandemic, conflict and flood disaster. The Program will specifically support measures for social protection to increase the number of beneficiaries for cash transfer under the national social protection program from 8 million to 9 million households, and fuel subsidies for the vulnerable, it said. It will also support food security measures to provide grants for food security including food transportation and subsidization for the urban poor, subsidy for fertilizers, subsidy on imported urea; and agriculture relief initiative (for seeds and tractors). This component will also support Kamyab Jawan Program (a youth vocational training, entrepreneurship, and employment initiative) as well as provide support for exporters, AIIB said.—APP

Security beefed up for Pak-England cricket match

RAWALPINDI :Rawalpindi District Police on the directives of Regional Police Officer, Rawalpindi Nasir Mehmood Satti on Friday beefed up security for the Pak-England cricket match. According to a police spokesman, the RPO and City Police Officer, Rawalpindi Syed Shehzad Nadeem Bukhari on Friday visited the cricket stadium and checked all the security arrangements. The RPO had directed the police officers to ensure foolproof security arrangements for the match, he said. The RPO while reviewing the security ordered high-quality arrangements, he added. He said that shuttle buses were providing pick and drop facility and both the teams were being provided box security. "All-out arrangements were made for peaceful holding of matches," he added. The CPO also directed to make the best arrangements inside and outside of the stadium. He directed to follow the traffic plan in letter and spirit and said that citizens should not face any difficulty in this regard. Syed Shehzad Nadeem Bukhari during his visit checked point-to-point duties of cops and other arrangements. He directed the police officials to ensure foolproof security for the match. On the occasion, Senior Superintendent of Police, Operations Waseem Riaz Khan, SP Rawal, SP Saddar, SP Security and other senior officers were present. They also briefed the CPO about all the arrangements including the flow of traffic during the match. He informed that 7000 cops had been deployed to ensure foolproof security arrangements. The RPO had instructed the police officers to utilize all available resources for foolproof security at Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium, its surroundings, and cricket teams during Pak-England cricket match. The spokesman informed that 432 Traffic Wardens were performing duties in the circle to regulate traffic and facilitate the road users. Traffic Police on the directives of the RPO were making all-out efforts to regulate traffic in adjacent areas of the Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium. The road from 9th Avenue Chowk to Double Road would remain closed for all kind of vehicular traffic during the match, he said adding, special parking areas have also been provided at two places, Civil Aviation Ground Shaheen Chowk Rawal Road and Government Degree College for Boys 5th Road to facilitate the citizens. He urged the road users to cooperate with the police performing duties during the cricket match. The citizens have been advised to use alternative routes to avoid inconvenience.—APP

Pak rice exports to China increase

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's rice export to China in the first 10 months of 2022 surpassed \$425.90 million with a volume of 1,121,592.571 tons, China Economic Net (CEN) reported it on Friday quoting the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China (GACC). Data showed that during the first 10 months of 2022, bilateral trade in agriculture products increased significantly and China imported more than one million tons of different types of rice, increasing 41% y-o-y. Last year in the same period it was more than 705,931.676 tons by volume and \$301.21 million by worth. This year has witnessed an increase of \$124.69 million. According to GACC, the import of Broken Rice (Commodity Code 10063020) from Pakistan increased by 3.65% by worth from \$192.57 million to \$199.62 million and 20.50% by volume from 408,194.590 tons last year to 491,878.156 tons. The Commercial Counselor at Consulate General in Guangzhou, Muhammad Irfan told China Economic Net that Pakistan is striving to increase its exports to China, particularly in the agriculture sector. Pakistani rice is getting popular in the Chinese market due to its good taste and quality. "China is the largest importer of the world and Pakistani products are getting a place in this market while Chinese hybrid seeds and technology helped Pakistani farmers increase their yield. Good prices here also helped rice exporters to export rice to China", Irfan added. Zaheer Ahmad, A Pakistani rice exporter to China told CEN that Pakistan needs to import Chinese technology to further enhance rice exports to China because much rice has been wasted while polishing and shifting. He further said that Pakistan has high-quality land that is suitable to cultivate diverse varieties of rice, ample young labor, and good environment for agriculture. But due to a lack of technologies previously, the low average yield and degraded seeds were the main reason for less export to China. "Due to the floods, more than 45% of crops have vanished, which would impact our export to the world. Pakistani farmers face frequent natural disasters but we can learn from China to solve these issues through the latest technologies and techniques", he stated.

Resurgence of terrorism is a threat to investment

ISLAMABAD: Chairman of National Business Group Pakistan, President Pakistan Businessmen and Intellectuals Forum, and All Karachi Industrial Alliance, and former provincial minister Mian Zahid Hussain on Friday said terrorism is resurfacing in the country, which has posed threat to local and foreign investment. The terrorism has restarted soon after China's plan to heavily invest in Pakistan and Saudi Arabia's decision to set up a multi-billion dollar refinery which is pointing towards a neighboring country, he said. Mian Zahid Hussain said that the government and the new army chief should make the elimination of terrorism their first priority so as to reduce the threats to the people and the country's economy. Talking to the business community, the veteran business leader said that all the peace agreements made with terrorists have failed. Now instead of talking, strict action should be taken and the country should be freed from this problem forever so that the people and the business community can breathe a sigh of relief. This time, a new strategy should be adopted to defeat the terrorists because in the past despite the heavy loss of lives and money this disease has not been cured and terrorism resurfaces after some time.

Pakistan's First And Only Diplomatic Daily

Editor-in-Chief: Ansar Mahmood Bhatti
Deputy Editor: Abid Raza

Member APNS / ABC Certified

Vol: 03 Issue: 107

Email: dailyisbpost@gmail.com

Phone: 051-2266165 / 051-2261960

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



China-EU relations

On December 1, President of the European Council Charles Michel visited China, and it was the first official meeting between the leaders of China and the European Union (EU) institution after the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China. Public opinion has generally noticed that Michel is the second important European leader to visit China over the past month after German Chancellor Olaf Scholz. Recently, the high-level interaction between China and the EU has accelerated significantly, and the EU's good intentions for relations with China have been increasing. This has released stability and positive energy not only for the development of China-EU relations, which have encountered some setbacks, but also for the current complex and turbulent international situation. Chinese President Xi Jinping pointed out in the talks with Michel on Thursday that the more turbulent the international situation becomes and the more prominent the global challenges become, the greater the global significance of China-EU relations will be. China hopes that the EU will become an important partner in China's pursuit of the Chinese path to modernization and share the opportunities offered by China's market, institutional opening-up and deepening international cooperation. Michel said that the EU is ready to become a reliable and predictable partner for China. The EU upholds the one-China policy and respects China's sovereignty and territorial integrity, and will not interfere in China's internal affairs. After face-to-face in-depth communication, it can always be found that there are many common interests and consensus between the two sides, and the foundation of China-EU comprehensive strategic partnership has not changed. China always attaches great importance to developing relations with the EU, and we can also feel the EU's good will to develop relations with China. However, in the past few years, there have been some challenges in China-EU relations, the impact of which has continued till now. It requires the two sides to meet each other half way to resolve them. For ordinary Chinese, the most annoying thing is that some European politicians point fingers at China's internal affairs with a sense of moral superiority. They also dislike and are wary of some people in Europe acting as Washington's accomplice to contain and suppress China. They expect the EU to strengthen coordination with China in promoting multilateralism and building a fairer and more reasonable international political and economic order. It is hoped that the EU will pay adequate attention to these aspects. Statistics show that in the first 10 months of this year, the bilateral trade volume between China and the EU reached \$711.4 billion, a year-on-year increase of 6.3 percent. In the first eight months, the EU's foreign direct investment into China surged by 123.7 percent year-on-year. At a time when China-EU relations are facing some ups and downs, it is encouraging that such a large increase can still be achieved. It also reflects the huge potential of China-EU mutually beneficial cooperation in economy and trade. As the spokesperson of the Chinese Ministry of Commerce said, under the political guidance of the high-level leaders of both sides, China and the EU have formed a strong economic symbiotic relationship. Taking the opportunity of the interaction between the leaders of China and the EU, and adhering to the principles of mutual respect, mutual benefit and win-win, we should further tap the trade and investment potential of the two sides and carry out higher-level cooperation. This is beneficial to China, the EU and the world.

KSA extends deposit term

The State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) announced on Friday that Saudi Arabia has extended its term for a \$3 billion deposit in the central bank through the Saudi Fund for Development (SFD) in support of the country's economy. According to a press release, the decision was an implementation of King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud's royal directives. In November last year, the SBP had signed an agreement with the SFD to receive \$3bn, which would be placed in the central bank's account with an aim to improve its foreign exchange reserves. The SBP's statement today added that the extension in the term "contributed to meet external sector challenges and achieve sustainable economic growth for the country." "The extension of the term of the deposit is a continuation of the support provided by the Saudi Arabian government to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan," the statement concluded. "The deposit aimed to shore up the foreign currency reserves in the SBP and help Pakistan in facing the economic repercussions of the Covid-19 pandemic." In September, the SFD had confirmed the rollover of a \$3bn deposit for one more year. The deposit was set to mature on December 5. In the last week of October 2021, Saudi Arabia had agreed to revive its financial support to Pakistan, including about \$3bn in safe deposits and \$1.2bn worth of oil supplies on deferred payments. The agreement was reached during the visit of former prime minister Imran Khan to the kingdom the same month. The rollover of the deposits has reduced the size of total foreign debt repayment and debt serving to \$23.3 billion over the next 12 months i.e. November 2022 to October 2023. The SBP had reported earlier this week that the country was scheduled to repay a total of \$26.3 billion on accounts of foreign debt and debt services over the next 12 months. Moreover, Finance Minister Ishaq Dar has written a letter to the central bank of China to roll over \$6.3 billion. Pakistan has made arrangements of \$32-34 billion to repay foreign debt and finance the current account deficit during the current fiscal year 2023 i.e. July 2022 to June 2023. SBP's foreign exchange reserves stand at \$7.5 billion at present. They stood at \$20 billion in August 2021. The depletion in the reserves has created a perception that the country may default on international payments. Finance Minister Ishaq Dar and SBP Governor Jameel Ahmad, however, have reiterated the country would not default and continue to make all payments on time.

Coop beyond security: SCO emphasizes need for multilateralism

Musaib Manzoor

Since its inception in 2001, the SCO has preserved the Shanghai Spirit and succeeded in charting a new course for the development of international organizations. At a time when geopolitical instability and non-traditional security concerns like extremism and terrorism are on the increase, the SCO plays a critical role in ensuring regional security and development. However, its function extends beyond security. In particular, in his address to the 22nd SCO summit, Chinese leader Xi Jinping warned against the West's "obsession with forming a small circle" emphasizing the need for effective multilateralism.

At a time when the world order is subject to change and the principles of multilateral cooperation between states are taking on a new character based on honest and reciprocal development of countries, mutual understanding and equality of rights, taking into account the views of each side, regional international platforms are becoming especially relevant. An example is the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO). This is evidenced by the fact that the summit of SCO heads of state in the Uzbek city of Samarkand was attended by leaders of the new world centers of gravity, creating a "Great Asia". Since its inception in 2001, the SCO has preserved the Shanghai Spirit and succeeded in charting a new course for the development of international organizations. At a time when geopolitical instability and non-traditional security concerns like extremism and terrorism are on the increase, the SCO plays a critical role in ensuring regional security and development. However, its function extends beyond security. In particular, in his address to the 22nd SCO summit, Chinese leader Xi Jinping warned against the West's "obsession with forming a small circle" emphasizing the need for effective multilateralism in improving global governance and ensuring a more just and equitable international order. The SCO, as a political, economic, and security organization, may serve as a useful asset for China in promoting an alternative to the Western-led world order. Iran's admission to the SCO has the potential to increase the organization's strategic importance. Iran became the SCO's ninth member during the 21st Summit of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) in the Tajik city of Dushanbe in September 2021. This Sunday (November 27), Iranian legislators approved legislation that allows Iran to become a full member of the Shanghai Cooperation Organi-

zation (SCO). The bill was approved by a majority of parliamentarians (203), with only three parliamentarians voting against it. The measure that was enacted permits the Islamic Republic of Iran's government to sign and recognize dozens of SCO agreements and instruments. Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian praising the bill's adoption said, "Parliament's decisive vote in favour of the bill of the Islamic Republic of Iran's membership in the Shanghai Cooperation Organization is indicative of our country's seriousness and determination to develop regional, international and economic cooperation and enhance the pivot to Asia." The Council of Heads of Government (Prime Ministers) of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO CHG) convened its 21st meeting via videoconference on November 1, 2022. The chiefs of delegations from SCO member countries exchanged perspectives on critical global and regional development concerns, as well as priority actions to expand trade, economic, cultural, and humanitarian cooperation within the SCO. However, the necessity to speed the development of financial institutions geared to assure project operations, something that would allow the SCO's substantial investment potential to be fully used, was critical for reviving the old and developing new production and distribution chains. The first Putin-Xi meeting since the beginning of the Russia-Ukraine war took place at the 22nd SCO summit in Samarkand. The strengthening of Russian-Chinese relations was fostered by Western policies and actions, particularly after the Ukrainian crisis in 2014. In addition, when Europe was diversifying its energy supplies away from Russia after western sanctions were imposed on the country, the Kremlin shifted its focus towards Asia in an effort to diversify its activities. Currently, China is Russia's most important

partner in Asia. Nancy Pelosi, speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives visited China's Taiwan region in August in disregard of China's strong opposition and serious representations, and the Chinese government expressed its firm opposition to and stern condemnation of the visit. Zhang Ming, Secretary-General of the SCO commented on Pelosi's visit to China's Taiwan region saying the one-China principle is the universal consensus of the international community and the basic norms governing international relations. He vehemently rejected interference in the internal affairs of SCO member states by any outside force, and extended support to all member states in preserving national unity and defending their own sovereignty and territorial integrity. The current global trends show that the formation of a just multipolar world order based on internationally recognized norms of international law, multilateralism, and equitable, shared, indivisible, inclusive, and sustainable security cannot be withdrawn. The ministers during the 19th meeting of the Council of Defence Ministers of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) held in Tashkent, Uzbekistan agreed to undertake a combined military counter-terrorist command post exercise called Peaceful Mission 2023 in the Russian Federation to adapt to new methods employed by foreign terrorists. Russia advised that participants focus on fighting unmanned aerial vehicles, guaranteeing information security, and preventing terrorist attacks using chemical and biological weapons during this exercise. Security is the primary motivator for collaboration in the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO), and as cooperation has progressed, so has the SCO's security priority. The SCO emphasizes the 'three evil forces' - terrorism, separatism, and extremism - as the region's key security issues, but cooperation also includes organized crime and illegal drug trafficking. Despite the SCO's focus on non-state actors rather than interstate ri-

valry, the member states' leaders believe that, like conventional security alliances, the SCO will help to maintain the stability of existing governments. The SCO countries must re-evaluate their various policies and goals for the benefit of regional peace and prosperity and cooperate to deal with the Taliban using a single framework. Multilateral cooperation under the auspices of the SCO is the most successful approach to address the issues brought on by the situation in Afghanistan, particularly the resurgence of terrorist and extremist activities. The SCO has emerged as a platform for regional integration, which has reinforced its coherence. Using the SCO as a conduit for aid to Afghanistan is one strategy, which may also put pressure on the Taliban to live up to international expectations. In fact, it would be challenging to achieve peace in Afghanistan and the region if the SCO cannot come to a consensus on the Taliban issue and counterterrorism. Zhang Ming Secretary General of SCO has underscored that establishing an inclusive administration in Afghanistan with the participation of multiple tribes, faiths, and political groups is crucial, and the SCO's objective is to make Afghanistan a positive force for regional peace, security, and prosperity. To achieve integrated development, the SCO should stick to win-win collaboration to advance regional cooperation. Since its inception in 2001, Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) has emerged as a multilateral association to ensure security and stability in the Eurasian region. Targeting the region's transnational security concerns and promoting economic cooperation among its members to contribute to regional stability are the two main areas of agreement. The SCO's agenda has proven to be significant enough to its member nations' leaders for it to become an integral aspect of Central Asia's regional security and political architecture.

Time to Ponder

Afnan Wasif


Then, as a result, the eye of the beholder saw that the Mongols had built a tower of heads in Baghdad. One of the main reasons for this horrific catastrophe and defeat was inattention and lack of change in the field of defense. In light of this important natural principle, Pakistan today also needs full attention and change on its political, social, economic and especially on the defense front. The definition of security has changed over time.

It is the law of nature to keep the flow of change constant. This series of expansions and transitions in the universe will continue forever. This universe was created for man. Just as variation is inherent in the nature of the universe, so also the human being living in the universe was told to vary. Mola Ali (May Allah blesses him and grants him peace) said: "Do not raise your children as your parents raised you. They (children) are born for different times." If a person does not follow this rule in every sphere of his life, he will be left behind. History has shown that when Hulagu Khan invaded Baghdad, Iraq, Muslims were engrossed in luxuries and engaged in vain debates. But no one was focused on building a strong defense system. Then, as a result, the eye of the beholder saw that the Mongols had built a tower of heads in Baghdad. One of the main reasons for this horrific catastrophe and defeat was inattention and lack of change in the field of defense. In light of this important natural principle, Pakistan today also needs full attention and change on its political, social, economic and especially on the defense front. The definition of security has changed over time. Before the Cold War, the horizon of security studies was only confined to state security. Before the Cold War, security depended on the state. After the Cold War and 9/11 episode, the subject of security expanded. The Copenhagen School of Thought and Barry Buzan (British Scholar) made a significant alteration in the subject of security and expanded it and made it free from state confinement. He said that along with the security of the state, the security of the people is as important as the former. At present, my country needs attention and change in the environmental, social, economic, defense and political spheres. The previous Government did a commendable job in the

domain of environmental security. In June 2022, 1.8 billion trees have been planted in different parts of the country, which is noteworthy. All brickkilns in Punjab are working on "zigzag" technology. Customs duty on the import of electric vehicles was reduced from 25% to 10%. All such measures are contributing to the strengthening of environmental security. Unfortunately, our society is at low ebb. Lack of quality education and relentless negative use of social media are the main reasons for this social degradation. Due to this standard educational crisis, high moral values are disappearing from our society. The misuse of social media has led to an increase in various social issues. John Kerry, a US (a country of human rights activists) politician and former Secretary of State said in 2008 during an announcement that 1.4 billion had been allocated to bring about ideological change in the minds of the Pakistani people. When such tactics are used, our social security is called into question. Niazi Regime's effort in this regard is commendable, such as the establishment of the Rehmat-ul-Alamin Authority for character building and the celebration of religious festivals at the official level with full zeal and zest. The PECA (Prevention of Electronic Crimes Act) Ordinance may also help to prevent electronic crimes after consensus with all stakeholders. The Western powers have used various maneuvers to keep small and developing countries in perpetual economic torture. Institutions such as the IMF and the World Bank paralyze national security, independence and sovereignty. In return for loans, these institutions influence the internal and external decisions of the country. In this regard, the National Security Policy for 2022-2026, formulated by the tireless efforts of the Khan's Government and the Pakistan Army, is an im-

portant milestone. In this policy, there is a consensus among all stakeholders that economic stability is the only guarantee of national security. According to this policy, economic stability will be the focus of present and future attention. Steps will be taken to increase exports and reduce imports. A policy of minimizing dependence on Western financial institutions will be adopted. All of these measures strengthen economic security. In the field of defense, Pakistan is trying its best to gain autarky according to its capacity and capability. Pakistan is building world-class fighter jets like JF-17 in Kamra, Attock in collaboration with China. Complete self-reliance in this field is associated with economic stability. So, now economic stability is indispensable. Our neighbor is ruled by Hindutva ideology. They are raising the slogan of "Akhanda Bharat". And he is striving hard to make that dream come true. The acquisition of the Russian-made S-400 missile system is another important link in this chain. The acquisition of such a modern and deadly defense system upsets the balance of power in the region. Pakistan will have to innovate and change its conventional weapons along with nuclear deterrence. In fact, we can no longer cope with nuclear deterrence against our neighbor, who is constantly on the brink of war. Because the use of nuclear weapons means "Mutually Assured Destruction (MAD)". This does not mean that we should abandon our nuclear program. Otherwise, our situation could be similar to that of Ukraine, Iraq, Palestine and Syria. Therefore, it is necessary to pay full attention to the field of conventional weapons and give them full importance. This is a discourse on the need for concrete steps to address external threats. The dear homeland is facing external threats as well as internal rifts. These internal threats also challenge the

state writ. These include insurgent movements such as the Baloch Liberation Army (BLA), the Pashtun Tahafuz Movement (PTM) and the SindhuDesh, which in one way or another try to tarnish the country's image and the law and order situation. What are the factors and motives that have forced these people to take up arms against the state and state institutions? The state must deal with such stimuli and factors. If the problem is to adopt an unequal attitude towards the provision of basic necessities, then the matter should be settled by mutual understanding. So that such movements do not become bait for our external enemy and do not seem to be fulfilling their own goals. Dozens of brave young soldiers and officers have been martyred in Balochistan, on which every eye sheds tears. The nation can no longer bear the trauma. Whoever has the right should be given it in full so that other people who are talking peacefully for their rights do not challenge the state writ and do not follow in the footsteps of others. Their legitimate demands must be heard and immediate actions must be taken. Every citizen of Pakistan should have equal rights and full protection of every kind by the state. The same thing has been reiterated in the 1994 United Nations Human Development Report on Human Security drafted by Mahbub-ul-Haq. In this way, political stability will come into the country. When there is peace and tranquility in the country, then the state institutions will be able to deal effectively with external threats. By following all of the above mentioned steps, the changing definition of security in this contemporary world can be met and stability can be achieved in five areas of security coined by Barry Buzan. —The author is a student of BS Strategic Studies at National Defence University, Islamabad.

