

remained low while there were reports of clashes and allegations of rigging and mismanagement at various polling stations. Several acts of violence, clashes and set-Jamiat Ulting elections camps on fire were reported in differents distcricts of Sindh the ongoing ema-e-Islocal government elections on Sunday. Unlam-Fazal identified people set seven election camps (JUI-F) Chief of different political parties on fire during Maulana Fazl-ur-Rehman ongoing local government elections in different areas of the provincial capital. Police 📕 has said the said first incident was reported in Saudabad people who intended to

back from forming and running governments besides rejecting today's local government (LG) polls in Karachi, Hyderabad and other districts of Sindh. While addressing a press conference with MQM-P central leaders, Dr Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui said that MQM is stepping back from facilitating others to form and run governments. He categorically rejected the recent phase of LG polls. The political party also compiled a report regarding its decision to boycott the LG polls and alleged mismanage-

DNA ISLAMABAD: The PTI in consultation with Punjab Chief Minister Ch. Parvez Elahi has proposed three names for the caretaker chief minister. These names include former bureaucrat Ahmed Nawaz Sukhera, Naseer Khan and Nasir Khosa. Sukhera is presently serving

as the Cabinet Secretary.

Imran Khan has urged COAS General Asim Munir to ensure transparent polling

ALI HAMZA

LAHORE: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chairman and former prime minister Imran Khan said on Sunday that the establishParvez Elahi calls for 'patience' on merger

BUREAU REPORT

stan have been removed. Addressing a public rally in Peshawar on Sunday, PDM chief MaulanaFazl-ur-Reh man claimed that the government has succeeded to fail all conspiracies of Imran Khan aiming to destroy the country. "We have defeated not a person, but an ideology." He said that Imran wanted to fulfill the agenda of external forces.

wipe out Islam from Paki-

DNA

PESHAWAR:

No change in fuel prices, says Dar

STAFF REPORT



for the next fortnight which ends on January 31. "We are not changing the prices. The price of petrol will remain at Rs214.80, diesel will remain at Rs227.80, price of kerosene oil to remain at Rs171.83 while light diesel oil will remain at Rs169," he said during a televised address. Earlier this month, the government announced to maintain the prices of petroleum products at current levels to provide some relief to the masses.

Inside.

Nazriya Pakistan trust launches

Quaid e Azam leadership lecture

Rs150.560 million

for 'National Minerals

Data Centre' project - Page 03

Sanjrani hosts

farewell dinner for

Chinese envoy

Tajikistan is

flourishing

PSG could leave

stadium after mayor

turns down sale

Nursing union

warns next strike

will be doubled

PM Shehbaz hopes to

crush resurfacing

of polio cases

– Page 02

- Page 04

- Page 05

– Page 06

– Page 07

- Page 08

area where fire was brought under control in no time. The suspects fled the scene. ment in the recent elections. Siddiqui The Korangi SSP said the investigation is

Continued on Page 06

said that the citizens of Karachi and **Continued on Page 06**

At least 68 killed in Nepal plane crash

Sudarshan Bartaula told media that among those on board - 68 passengers and four crew - were 15 foreigners including five Indians, four Russians and two Koreans

AGENCIES

POKHARA: At least 68 people were confirmed dead Sunday when a plane with 72 onboard crashed in Nepal, police said, in the Himalayan country's deadliest aviation disaster in three decades. "Thirty-one (bodies) bodies were still in the 300-metre (600-foot) gorge the aircraft plunged into.

on board - 68 passengers and four crew - before catching fire, the reports said.

Continued on Page 06

Pakistan condoles over loss of lives

SAIFULLAH

have been taken to hospitals," police official ISLAMABAD: The Government and the AK Chhetri told AFP, adding that 36 other people of Pakistan on Sunday offered their deepest condolences over the loss of precious lives in an air crash in This was partially confirmed by the army, Pokhara, Nepal. "We are saddened at with a spokesman saying 29 bodies had been this tragic accident and our thoughts retrieved and that there were 33 more at and prayers are with the families of the site in Pokhara in central Nepal. "The the victims. We stand with the people aircraft crashed into a gorge so it is difficult of Nepal in their hour of grief," the to bring the bodies Search and rescue is on-Foreign Office Spokesperson said in going. No survivors have been found yet," a press release. According to media army spokesman Krishna Prasad Bhandari reports, dozens of people were killed told AFP. One local official said that some after a plane with 72 people on board survivors had been taken to hospital - but crashed near an airport in central this was not confirmed by either the airline Nepal on Sunday. The Yeti Airlines Yeti Airlines or others. Yeti spokesman Su-flight from Kathmandu to the tourist darshanBartaula told AFP that among those town of Pokhara crashed on landing

While Nasir Saeed Khosa be longs to the civil service and has served in key positions. He is considered an upright officer. He is the brother of former Chief Justice of Pakistan Asif Saeed Khosa and former DG FIA Tariq Khosa.

KP Assembly dissolution summary on Tuesday: CM



PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Mahmood Khan said on Sunday that the summary for the dissolution of the provincial assembly would be sent to the governor on January 17 (Tuesday). The move comes after the

dissolution of the Punjab Assembly as PTI Chairman Imran Khan inches closer to fulfilling his promise of disassociating from the "current corrupt political system" by quitting the provincial legislatures where he is in power. In a tweet, the KP CM said that according to the directives issued by Imran, the summary for dissolving the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Assembly would be sent to the governor on Tuesday. "Inshallah the PTI will return with a twothirds majority," he said.

Continued on Page 06

Joe Biden's classified docs crisis deepens with more discoveries

News Desk

WASHINGTON: The crisis surrounding U.S. President Joe Biden's handling of classified documents has deepened after five additional pages were found at his family home in Delaware, the White House said Saturday. It was the latest in a series of revelations about the apparently improper storage of papers dating from Biden's time as Barack Obama's vice president.

Biden has said he had no intention of keeping any classified documents.White House lawyer Richard Sauber said the latest papers were found after he visited the home Thursday to oversee the transfer to the Justice Department of a first batch of documents found a day earlier in a room next to the home's garage.

Biden's personal lawyers searching the garage at the home in Wilmington, Delaware - where the 80-year-old president often spends weekends - had found a document marked classified in the ga-

rage itself. As these attorneys lacked the necessary security clearance to read it, they notified the Justice Depart-

ment, Sauber said in a statement. A 1978 law obliges U.S. presidents and vice presidents to hand over their emails, letters and other official documents to the National Archives. Sauber said he does have the necessary security clearance, so he then went to the Delaware house to check out the situation for himself. That is when he

found the other five pages, he said. He said all documents were "immediately and voluntarily" handed to the Justice Department. Critics of Biden have seized on the steady series of revelations to argue that he has not been transparent and forthcoming. Others papers had been found on Nov. 2 at Biden's former office at a Washington think tank, where he had offices after leaving the Obama White House.

The president's attorneys had also found "a small number of documents," potentially confidential, on Dec. 20 in the Wilmington garage, and alerted the Justice Department. Amid a rising furor over the discoveries in Washington, U.S. Attorney General Merrick Garland on Thursday named Robert Hur as an independent prosecutor to investigate Biden's handling of classified documents. The issue is an unwelcome distraction for Biden as he prepares to announce whether he will seek a second term.

The disclosures have prompted comparisons to the case of former President Donald Trump, who is also being investigated by a special counsel for storing hundreds of classified materials at his Mar-a-Lago estate in Florida and allegedly obstructing government efforts to retrieve them. In contrast, Sauber emphasized that Biden had returned documents "immediately and voluntarily" when they turned up. "I take classified documents and classified material seriously. We're cooperating fully (and) completely with

Continued on Page 06

ment is a reality and is above the law but country's situation will improve when the establishment works for the rule of law. In a meeting with the producers of TV channels, he said that if there is an attempt to reduce our mandate in Punjab, we will resist. "Our people from South Punjab are being forced to join Pakistan Peoples' Party (PPP) and Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) and also told that Imran Khan has no future," the PTI chairman said. The former PM further said that no other institution has as much power as the army, adding that if the army plays a positive role, no one can stop the country from moving forward.

Continued on Page 06

LAHORE: In a fresh development, Punjab Chief Minister Parvez Elahi has hinted at the possibility of a merger between the Pakistan Muslim League-Quaid (PML-Q) and its ally the Pakistan Tekreek-e-Insaf (PTI). Elahi - while answering a journalist's question during a media talk at the inauguration ceremony of the Khatam UlNabiyeen University in Lahore Sunday-implied that the possibility of the PTI-PML-Q merger might be a possibility. On the question of whether the provincial chief executive would contest in

Continued on Page 06



TA

House # 6-A. Ismail Zabeeh Road, (Service Road Parallel to Faisal Avenue) F-8/3, Islamabad.

e-mail: abrar_associates@ yahoo.com | www.drabrarassociates.com

Ph: +92 51 228 7691 / +92 51 228 7692 | Fax: +92 51 228 7693

U R C

02

NATIONAL

Islamabad **POST** Monday, January 16, 2023

Police arrests 3 drug peddlers

DNA

ATTOCK: Attock Police intercepted three drugs peddlers along with recovery of hashish and opium worth rupees lacs from their possession here on Sunday. Police said, on tip off, a drugs supplier Mohammad Ilyas was searched and arrested by Hazro Police on the charge of possessing 2 kilograms hashish of international quality. Meanwhile, Pindigheb police taken in to custody two criminals identified as Waseem Akram with hashish of 530 grams and Zahid Zafar with opium of 530 grams. Later on, case under Narcotics Act have been registered against these outlaws and further investigation are underway. During preliminary investigation, the criminals also disclosed their network and told that the recovered narcotics was to be delivered to their addicts.

SCCI holds consultative session on enhancement of export to China

PESHAWAR: Sarhad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI) conducted a consultative session titled "How to increase export to China" at the Chamber House here on Sunday.

The meeting was presided over by SCCI's Senior Vice President Shahid Hussain, while the Chamber's Vice President Ejaz Khan Afridi, member of executive committee Ms Qurtul Ain, former executive member Zahoor Khan, Vice Chairman, SCCI Standing Committee on Land Route Naeem ur Rehman, Coordinator of SCCI Research and Development Cell Ishtiaq Ali and Research Officer Ms Sumaira attended the session, said in a press release. The main purpose of the meeting was to hold discussions on several proposals regarding the increase of exports to the People's Re-

Nazriya Pak trust launches Quaid e Azam leadership lecture

Ex, Air Chief Marshal Sohail Aman says 'we could have taught India even a bigger lesson during Pulwama crisis', speakers say 'Quaid's leaders based on character, courage & commitment key to Pakistan's turnaround in the future'



STAFF REPORT

LAHORE: Pakistan's premier organisation devoted to promoting the vision and philosophy of the Founding Fathers, the Nazriya Pakistan Trust, launched the Quaid e Azam Leadership Lecture with the first talk by former PAF head, Air Chief Marshal Sohail Aman. Terming ACM Aman 'authentic Pakistani an hero', Senator Mushahid Hussain, Vice Chairman of Nazriya Pakistan Trust stan. He said the 'people of

(NPT), said the Quaid e Pakistan have guts and the Azam through his leaderspirit but they are let down ship based on 'character, by weak leadership'.

courage and commitment' Senator Mushahid Hussain had set a unique example lauded Air Chief Marshal which inspired the Muslim Sohail Aman for building masses and led to the struga modern fighting force in gle which created Pakistan. the form of the Pakistan Air 'Thanks to the Quaid e Force, which gave a befit-Azam and the founding fating reply to Indian aggresthers, we are today living sion against Pakistan in as free citizens of a free Balakot in February 2019, country', Mushahid Huswhich was 'Pakistan's finsain said, underlining that est hour, along with the Nuclear Tests in May 1998'. 'the Nation must honour its In his speech, Air Chief heroes who are role models' for the people of Paki-Marshal Sohail Aman

termination' as key elements of leadership and added that the Quaid e Azam proved through creation of Pakistan that 'nothing is impossible'. He also mentioned that Pakistan's superior strategy and decisive leadership had humbled India during 'Post-Pulwama Crisis' in February 2019, when 'we had 8 Indian aircraft within our grip, with electronic warfare tracking their every move and we have could have taught them a bigger lesson, but we didn't spoke of 'passion and dewant to escalate'

Presiding over the meeting, NPT Senior Vice Chairman, Mian Farooq Altaf, talked about various attributes of the Quaid e Azam's leadership, his impeccable integrity and his honesty, and his uncompromising stand on Pakistan, adding 'the Quaid gave all his property to educational institutions and his family derived no benefit from the creation of Pakistan'. Conversely, today he warned against 'worshipping power and money', as character was more important than these worldly material

possessions. The meeting began with an Introduction to Nazriya Pakistan Trust by its Secretary, Naheed Gill, while the Trust Additional Secretary Saifullah Chaudhry conducted the proceedings, which in-cluded Tilawat from Holy Quran, Naat, National Anthem and a popular anthem acclaiming the leadership of Quaid e Azam, 'Millat ka Pasban hai Muhammad Ali Jinnah'. A packed audience of 200 plus persons heard the speeches with rapt attention

Firdous Naqvi expelled from polling station

KARACHI: The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) on Sunday took notice of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader Firdous Shamim Naqvi for allegedly breaking the seal of ballot boxes. The ECP has issued directives to expel Firdous Shamim Naqvi from the polling station. A video of Naqvi opening the seal of a ballot box amid voting in Karachi LG polls went viral on social media. The incident took place in the polling station of UC ward 4 of the Soldier Bazar area of the city.

Reacting to the matter, PPP wrote a letter to the ECP to lodge a complaint against Naqvi for violation of election rules. PPP leader Taj Haider urged the ECP for immediate notice and action against the PTI leader. Chief Election Commissioner Sikandar Sultan Raja has urged the people of Karachi and Hyderabad to take part in the electoral exercise and express their confidence in democracy. In his message, he assured the voters that the ECP will ensure elections without any interference and that any attempt at orchestrating violence will be tackled with full force. He also said that local governments were inevitable for democracy and progress. ECP, polling staff and law enforcement agencies will live up to the expectations of the voters in ensuring free, fair and peaceful elections in Karachi and Hyderabad, CEC Raja added.-DNA

Belgium parliamentary delegation to visit Pakistan

ISLAMABAD: On the special invitation of National Assembly Speaker Raja Pervaiz Ashraf, Belgium parliamentary delegation led by Senator and Chairperson of Pakistan-Belgium Parliamentary Friendship Group, Allessia Clots is officially visiting Pakistan from 16 to 21 January. This visit will serve as a tool to strengthen bilateral ties between both nations and further strengthen parliamentary cooperation between the two countries. Furthermore, new avenues of cooperation in trade and business would be also explored during this visit. Belgium parliamentary delegation comprises of Allessia Claes, Karl Vanlourve, State Senator Philippe Courard, PS, State Senator Georges magne, Les Engages, Member of the Belgian Chamber of Representatives and Senior officers of Belgium Parliament. Beside having call on with National Assembly Speaker Raja Pervaiz Ashraf, the Belgium parliamentary delegation would also held meeting with Senate Chairman Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani. The delegation would also held meetings with Convener of Parliamentary Task Force on Sustainable Development Goals and chairperson of Women Parliamentary Caucus in the Parliament House.-APP

Arrangements finalized for antipolio drive in district Attock

STAFF REPORT ATTOCK: All arrangements have been of under five years age throughout the district. He said that the Polio campaign

minister polio vaccine drops to children As per details, Dr. Sheikh Inam Rabbani reported to the local police that some unknown outlaws removed live wire of more than 100 meters of Rs.20 thousand connected with the electricity meter of his hospital near HazroGondal Road in mid night. Earlier, iron windows, agricultural tools and silver plates worth Rupees lacs were also stolen by some criminals. In an other incidence, some unknown burglars have also made away with food items include rice, sugar, tea, soaps, pulses, wheat flour having price of rupees more than one lac after cutting the iron grills of the general store owned by Mr. Abdul Jabbar at DhokJangal during the same night. The police registered the cases and started investigation as usual. However, police could not find the clue of the gangsters till filing of this story. While, the business community have expressed their profound concerns over the increasing rate of street crimes in the locality causing severe sense of insecurity among the people since long.

FGEHA to launch residential projects in eight cities

ISLAMABAD: The Federal Government Employees Housing Authority (FGEHA) will shortly start new residential projects in eight major cities o

public of China In this study meeting, it was discussed in the light of a research of the possibility of enhancing export to China

both through sea and land routes, especially through those provinces and areas in proximity to Pakistan. During the discussion, it was identified that the

seaport was quite far away and instead through the seaport, export to China of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Punjab manufacturing products through Sost route is very feasible and appropriate. If a feasibility study is prepared of various cities of KP and Punjab province, a comparative analysis regarding freights and fares, duration and expenses could be made. Therefore export through seaport can also be enhanced besides land routes, the participants of the meeting said. In the meeting, it was also discussed about expenses, fares and freights and time consumption during export to China through seaport. - APP

WB to finance two 245 MW hydropower projects

PESHAWAR: The World Bank will provide financial assistance for the construction work on two hydropower projects of 245 megawatts in district Swat of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa this year which after completion, will generate an annual income of more than Rs.13 billion for the province. It was also decided to add a security package by making quick amendments in the documents before starting these energy projects. This decision was taken in a high-level meeting with the World Bank mission which was attended by Secretary Energy and Power Nisar Ahmad Khan. WB Senior Energy Specialist Muhammad Saqib, members of the World Bank mission, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Pakhtunkhwa Energy Development Organization (PEDO), Engineer Naeem Khan, Chief Engineer of KHRE Program Shah Hussain and respective project directors. said a press release issued here on Sunday. - APP

made in inter provincial bordering district Attock to administer Polio drops to more than three lacs children of under five years of age from January 16 to 20 in District Attock amid tight security cover. This was decided in a meeting held under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner AttockDr.Hassan Waqar Cheema. Among others, the meeting was also attended by the CEO Health Attock Dr. Mohsin Ashraf, World Health Organization representative, relevant officers of all provincial departments. The Deputy Commissioner also appealed all the citizen of the district to extend their cooperation with the polio team of health department to make the district a polio free territory.During the briefing session, the Chief Executive Officer Health Department Dr. Mohsin Ashraf highlighted the salient features of the polio move and said that polio teams have been deployed at all entry and exist points of the district Attock to adhas been launched from lanuary 16. 2023 which will be continued till January 20,2023 without any break. In addition, visiting teams have also been constituted to provide the polio drops at door to door levels besides imparting necessary training to the polio teams in addition to their normal assignments. He said a full fledged control room has also been established at district level to monitor the entire exercise till its successful conclusion. The Chief Executive Officer Health Department Attock Dr. Mohsin Ashraf also warned all the officials on duty to face disciplinary proceedings in case ofany irresponsibility or negligence is reported from any corner of the district, CEO Health added.

Gangsters looted grocery store

Some unknown gangsters took away grocery food items along with live power wire worth of rupees lacs from the outskirts business hub Gondal Mandi of police station Attock Khurd.

provide housing to government employees and general public. "The authority has already received several applications from land owners, companies and firms interested in the mega projects," sources in the FGEHA told APP. They said the applications were invited from land owners, developers, firms and eligible individuals for the supply of land for housing schemes (plots, houses and apartments) projects in major cities of the country. The procedure for applications and selection was being followed as per Joint Venture Regulations 2020, they added. They said the authority was planning to launch new residential projects in eight major cities of the country, including the twin cities Rawalpindi and Islamabad. Other cities are Lahore, Peshawar, Quetta, Multan, Faisalabad and Karachi. "The new housing projects will be started for federal government employees and the general public on the basis of a joint venture," they added.-APP

زير دفعه سيكشِّن (2) 15 فنانشل انسٽي ٿيوشن ريكوري آف فنانس آرڏيننس 2001ء ينام: عبام يلام كحر، تذرو يلى، بالقائل عالم CNG، كرى رود، راولينذى، بذر يعة مجاداحمه لينفا ME Bank Limiter واقعه جنيد پازه،اقبال روز کم می چار مرسور می اج شان کا حال ادایش دیو کر در موجو پر مدی بود پر موجو مید مند مناطق کا مان دس پازه،اقبال روز کم شی چک راد لپذکری سے قرض کی احال ادایش نہ تو کی ہے۔ SME Bank Limited نے ادایش قرض کے لیے درج ذیل فیر مقولہ جائمیا دلی نیا می زیرد فعہ سیکشن (2)15 فناخل اکسٹی ٹیوژن ریکوری آف یانی آریڈیٹنم 2001 کانیا کی م

اشتهار نيلام عام

		ما ل[ارد» () 002،6 يصله ليا ہے۔
قابلي وصولى رقم	تفصيل جائئدادم بونه	تغصيل ذرربتن
1,462,282.00 _{دور}	مكان ثمبرBI-239، تعداد ك1/2-3، مركد	مور ٹی کی 1,462,282.00 روپیہ
(کاسٹ آف فنڈ اور دیگر قانونی اخراجات کانعین بعد	(ساڑھے تین مرلہ)خسرہ نمبر1/2002،	اکیس لاکھ، چودہ بزار، نوسو ہاسٹھر دیے
یں کیا جائے گا۔)	كلى نمبر01، مسلم نادّن ،راولېندى	مي <i>سر</i> ز
		RSM Avais Hyder Liaqua
		Nauman
		چارثرڈا کاونٹٹس اسلام آباد
		(بمطابق قانون طےشدہ ہے)
۳۔ نیلامِ عام پراپرٹی جائیداد برموقع	۲_پراپرٹی چیپاندگی اشتہار نیلام	شیڈول نیلام عام
۱۰ جوری ۲۰۲۳,	۲- برایر کی چهپاندگی اشتهار نیلام برموقع-۵ جنوری ۲۰۲۳,	ا ـ پراپر ٹی چسپاندگی اشتہار نیلام از بنگٹ کورٹ،
بوت منا10 بجے 4 بجرشام		رادلپنڈی۔۳ جنوری ۲۰۲۳ء

شرائط نيلام

- سیسیس جائیراد کی مرکز کا یو طور Price Price کے مرکز یونی قاملی تیون نہ ہوگی۔ نیلام عام میں شولیت سے قتل ہر یونی دہندہ /50,000 دوپیہ یلو دز دھانت آسٹسر کے پائی جنع کرداد کا بیوکر دہندہ کودا پس کردی جائے گی۔
- سب نے زیادہ اول دہندہ کا میاب قرار پائے گا۔ کا میاب اول دہند banker cheque/bank draft/pay orde کی صورت میں آسٹنر کو موقع پرادا کرنے کا یا بند ہوگا۔ عدم ادائیگی کی صورت میں ذرمنیات مذیط کر کی جائے گی اور دوبار دوائی نیلام کے اخراجات اس میں ہے ادا کیے جائیں گے۔
 - كأمياب بولى دبنده بقيدةم زرنيلام اعدره اليوم واروبذاش تمع كرواف كايابند وقار
- ۴۵ پ دون بعده مید اردید اجمعت با محسب کی منطق کی مسل به منطق زیرد تلقی ایند وجه مال بی مالای منبوع کرنے کا افتیار رکھا ہے۔ کا میاب یولی دہندہ کے من SME دیک برطابق قانون جائداد مردید بنتی کا میاب یولی دہند د ٹرانسفرکرائے کا۔ نیز ٹرانسفر کے قمام اخراجات کا میاب یولی دہندہ ادا كرف كابابند بولاً- (نوث : مركاري ليكن بحى بذمه كامياب بولى دينده بولاً)
 - ر میں بہ مصدر میں الروس میں جد معنوب بری دوروں کا زیرد فعدہ افکانٹل انس ٹیوش آرڈینٹس 2001، SME دیک کیونڈ ندکورہ نیا م بغیر مداخلت عدالت حضور کرنے کا تعتیار رکھتا ہے۔ آسٹش پٹی مرض سے ہولی بڑھائے گل کسی تازیہ کی صورت میں نیا ہم عام دوبارہ کیا جا سکتا ہے۔ مسیف جائیداد بالا برطابق اطلال درست ہیں نیز دیگر شرائط ہو تقع پر سابق جا تم کی گی۔
 - - آستشر هفرات منجاب SME بينك ليديد كي مجاز افسران إلى-

PID (I) No. 4369/22

فحد شفيرغل براغ فيجرSME يتك لين الذووكيث اقبال رود برائى بخيبر ياز و، اقبال رود ، تميش يوك ، راوليند ي 0321-5383583 051-5551861

KARACHI: Chief Minister Sindh, Syed Murad Ali Shah visiting control room during Sindh local bodies election. -DNA

Malik Fakharzad elected new president of Attock bar

urday. As per details, Malik

Fakharzad Advocate elevat-

ed as new President of the

District Bar Association At-

tockon obtaining 249 votes

while his opponents Syed

Faisal Bokhari, Advocate

163 votes and Sufi Ashfaq

Ahmed Advocate 35 votes

in their favour respective-

ly. Such as, Mr. Waseem

Imtiaz Advocate has been

elected as General Secre-

tary on securing 254 votes

QAZI SHOAIB KHAN

ATTOCK(JAN-14): The new office bearers for the slots of President and General Secretary of the District Bar Association Attock elected by the lawyers community after completing their polling process in a free and transparent manner amid a peaceful environment here on Satwhile Mr. Mohammad Adil Advocate remained second for getting 195 votes. 534Therewere total registered votes of the District Bar Association Attock out of which 460

Meanwhile, PPP's candidate for MNA Attock Syed Azmat Bokhari Advocate Supreme Court of Pakistan, Member Punjab Bar Council Malik Israr Advocate and Malik Saeed voters used their right of Akhter Vice President franchise while 07 votes PML(N) Lawyers Forum were rejected by the elec-Rawalpindi Division also tion board constituted to expressed their profound conduct the elections as felicitation to the newly per policy guide lines of body of the District Bar the Punjab Bar Council. Association Attock.

عبيباحمر

SAM

0332-5676051

051-5553922





National Days and Armed **Forces Days**

JANUARY

Jan 01 / CUBA **Revolution Day**

Jan 01 / Palestine Palestine Revolution Day

Jan 01 / Sudan National Day

Jan 04 / Myanmar Independence Day

Jan 06 / Iraq Armed Forces Day

Jan 12 / Tanzania Armed Forces Day

Jan 14 / Uzbekistan Armed Forces Day

Jan 15 / Nigeria Armed Forces Day

Jan 20 / Mali Armed Forces Day

Jan 20 / Laos Armed Forces Day

Jan 25 / Thailand Armed Forces Day

Jan 26 / Australia National Day

Jan 26 / India Republic Day



Hotels & Restaurants

Serena Hotel.....111 133 133 Marriott.....051-28261210334-5421812



Airlines Turkish Airlines......8494949

Rs150.560 million for 'National **Minerals Data Centre' project**

The project, initiated last year, is aimed at compiling data of available minerals for the facilitation of investors and future projects planning in the country

ISLAMABAD: The government planning in the country. The has allocated funds amounting two-year project is being jointly to Rs 150.560 million in the carried out by the Petroleum and Public Sector Development Planning Divisions in consulta-Programme (PSDP 2022-23) to tion with all Provincial Mines & advance an ongoing project of Minerals Departments including that of Gilgit-Baltistan, Azad establishing a modern National Minerals Data Centre (NDMC). Jammu and Kashmir and the Geological Survey of Pakistan. The project, initiated last year, is aimed at compiling data of avail-"Pakistan has world-class minerable minerals for the facilitation

als' resource potential but contribution in the national GDP is of investors and future projects

1pc which is considerably below the global average of 2-8% of GDP primarily due to non-availability of integrated geological, regulatory and other relevant data that is the basic requirement for investment facilitation and projects' planning," according to an official document available with APP. Under the project, Geographic Information System (GIS)- based integrated solutions and application development would be established to ensure the availability of online geospatial data and maps for investment facilitation and benefit of the stakeholders in the minerals sector.

The NMDC would contain information such as geological and geochemical maps, minerals sample analysis reports, airborne geophysical maps, areas granted and applied for mineral titles, roads and rails layers, geographical borderlines (province, district and town), reserves areas like 'strategic, forest and religious places.' The compiled data would be categorized for publication through a web portal as per guidelines issued by the government. "The exercise will be a regular activity and information will be updated accordingly," the document said. - APP

Police conducts search operation

ISLAMABAD: Islamabad Capital police conducted a joint search and combing operation in the jurisdiction of Sabzi Mandi police station, a police public relations officer said. He said that, following the special directives of IGP Islamabad Dr. Akbar Nasir Khan, search and combing operations are being conducted in different areas of the city, to ensure the safety and security of the Islamabad citizens. Following these orders, a joint search operation was conducted in the jurisdiction PS Sabzi Mandi areas. - DNA

Huge crowd throng hilly areas to enjoy snowfall

ISLAMABAD: With the onset of the snowy season, a number of tourists from across the country have started visiting the hilly areas to enjoy the beauty of nature during snowfall. According to a private news channel, a great rush of tourists was witnessed in popular tourism destinations including Murree, Malam Jabba, Kalam, Naran, Kaghan, Swat, Hunza, Ziarat, Chitral, and Kashmir. Reportedly, local as well as international tourists are increasing significantly after the first snowfall of the season but visitors are facing issues related to lodging and increased rates as several hotels and other businesses had already been closed before the start of the current snowfall spell. As Naran-Kaghan Road is closed since November 2022, the only available route to these destinations is the Karakoram Highway. Visitors are advised to check weather advisories, road situations, and routes before leaving for these destinations. Pakistan is a very beautiful country with diverse weather conditions and locations. A large number of visitors in Swat also witnessed that many hotels were already booked and requested the authorities concerned to take serious action against the profiteers who are taking advantage of the situation.

Pakistani music on a journey of progress

ISLAMABAD: Naveed Naushad, known as King of OST, a creator of popular tunes, music director, singer and composer has said that Pakistani music has been on a journey of progress since its inception, it has never declined. In an exclusive interview with APP, he said that the future looks good to me. "Yes, I would definitely like to say that new creators have God gifted talent and they should not be afraid of difficulties", he said, adding that "I enjoyed working with Rahat Fateh Ali Khan, Shafqat Amanat, Nabil Shaukat, Ali Zafar, Ameer Ali, Amanat Ali and Humira Channa". Replying a question, he said, until the song goes on air, I keep making some changes to it. - APP

during his visit to Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry. - DNA

Police issued

Police bulldoze

CTO Islamabad said that, the





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
PIAFlightInfo	114
PIACargo9	280979
Railway Inquiry	117
Railway Exchange927	70831-5
WASA Rawalpindi5	555489
CAA9	281092
	A



Hospitals

СМН	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

CDA9221334-43		
CDA9208301-04		
Met Office9250360-6		
RDA5555864		
TMA5770886		
Cantonment Board 9270151-3		

Islamabad Metropolitan

Corporation......9209224 Potohar Town......9209224 RawalTown......5773343

Water Tank Islamabad.....0321-5744480

character certificates

DNA

relations officer said.

RCCI to

formulate

the business

community

perspective

RAWALPINDI: The 15th edition of "All Paki-

stan Chambers Presidents' Conference (AP-

CPC) under the banner of the International

Chamber Summit (ICS 2023) will be held in

Islamabad from January 17 to 18. According

to a statement, the conference's purpose

was to formulate the business community's

perspective on the ongoing uncertainty in

the country and suggestions to deal with the

Khan is taking all possible steps to provide maximum ISLAMABAD: Police khfacilities to the citizens of idmat markaz of Islama-Islamabad adding that sevbad capital police have eral steps have been taken facilitated citizens with by the police in this regard. different services like He further said that poissuance of character lice khidmat markaz has certificate, foreigners' received a total of 18,271 registration, registration applications of characof tenants and domestic ter certificates so far. On which 18,117 character servants, a police public certificates were issued to He said that the Inspector the citizens after complete General of Police (IGP) verification by concerned

Islamabad Dr Akbar Nasir police stations while work on the remaining applications were under process. For character certificates, applicants must bring his/ her original CNIC and passport. In case, the Islamabad address is not mentioned on applicant's CNIC, he must bring residential proof or rental agreement. If the applicant is abroad, he/she will have to authorize his relatives on a specified authority letter duly attested by a gazetted officer.

economic crisis. Saqib Rafiq, President of the

Chamber, said that the Summit was being held when Pakistan was passing through a

difficult period in its history, with meagre for-

eign exchange reserves, depreciating rupee, and delay in letters of credit to exporters and

importers. He informed that interest rates and inflation were at record highs while investor confidence was low. Saqib added that

the conference's main objective was to gather feedback and recommendations from key business community stakeholders and pres-

ent it to the govt. Through this conference, RCCI had also prepared a joint declaration which will be presented to all concerned gov-

ernment agencies and stakeholders and will

serve as policy guidelines for budget, fiscal

and export policy etc., he added. President

RCCI said the critical agenda points include

taxes and their impact on the national econo-

my, cost of doing business, free trade agree-

ments and preferential trade agreements,

Climate Change, national economy and E-commerce business in Pakistan. – DNA

4,000 horns, fancy number plates

DNA

ISLAMABAD: In a bid to curb noise pollution and ensure public safety, the Islamabad Capital Police bulldozed over 4,000 pressure horns and fancy number plates, a police public relations officer said. He said that, Chief Traffic Officer Islamabad, SP (Traffic) and other senior police

officials witnessed the bulldozing process at Traffic Police Office (Faizabad). Following the directions of Inspector General of Police (IGP) Islamabad Dr. Akbar Nasir Khan, efforts are underway to ensure a safe road environment and disciplined traffic system in the city. Chief Traffic Officer Islamabad said that, the traffic

police was striving to make the capital "noise-free". Is-

traffic police was striving to make the capital "noise-free"

lamabad capital police has constituted special squads to check the noise pollution, which takes action against installation of pressure horn in Public Service Transport and small as well as on heavy vehicles. The Chief Traffic Officer

said that to make Islamabad a noise free city, strict action is being taken against pressure horn users while special directions have been issued to transporters in this regard. He appealed to transporters to cooperate with Islamabad capital police to

use of fancy number plates is also a security risk and prohibited, he added. CTO Islamabad urged the citizens to display authorized number plates issued by the excise and taxation office and cooperate with police for a safe road environment. He further said that, the citizens can lodge complaints about vehicles using pressure horns at Islamabad capital police helpline "Pukar-15" as strict action would be ensured against such vehi-

check noise pollution. The



"May Allah grant her highest ranks of Jannat. Her presence will be truly missed. A beautiful, kind, witty, humorous and truly nurturing and caring soul. A true disciplinarian like there exist no more. A strong, fiercely independent lady. One who enjoyed all things classy and beautiful. A class apart."

> Zaib-un-Nisa, sister, with daughters Adila, Yasmin, and Amna and her children Mariam, Shahryar and Mustafa.

Reforms a must for climate resilient Pakistan' Tauqeer Sheikh was the

keynote speaker. Other

guest speakers included

Devcom-Pakistan Executive

Director Munir Ahmed, La-

hore Garrison University

assistant professor Interna-

tional Relations Dr. Zainab

Ahmed, Economist at Pa-

kistan Institute of Devel-

opment Economics (PIDE)

Dr. Khalid Mahmood, and

climate advocacy specialist

Devcom-Pakistan Executive

Director and a well-known

climate advocacy expert

Munir Ahmed introduced

the subject of the webinar. He said the UN and

Pakistan cohosted the 'In-

ternational Conference on

Climate Resilient Pakistan'

on January 9 at Geneva to

present a \$31.2 billion "Re-

silient Recovery, Rehabili-

Zahra Khalid Haque.

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Speakers at

a webinar on "the Geneva roadmap for a climate resilient Pakistan" said that it is unlikely to mature all the \$10 billion commitments for Pakistan's post-flood recovery and rehabilitation. So, Pakistan needs to go for institutional and governance reforms to combat the challenges of climate change in the long-run. A country-wide efficient adaptation plan shall be worked out on a bottom-up approach alongside religiously implementation

of conservation strategies. Development Communications Network (Devcom-Pakistan) organized the webinar on Saturday. The climate change expert Ali tation, and Reconstruction Framework (4RF)", which lays out a multisectoral strategy for rehabilitation and reconstruction in a climate-resilient and inclusive manner. The other key objective was to secure international support and forge long-term partnerships for building Pakistan's climate resilience and adaptation.

Munir Ahmed said it was the first ever UN donor conference at Geneva to raise funds for any country. Pakistan needs to act wisely to safeguard its climate vulnerable communities with a stronger local governance system. The inclusive bottom-up approach, and multi-stakeholder mon itoring for transparency will support sustainable recovery and rehabilitation.

Sajjad Ul Hassan

04

TWIN CITIES

Islamabad **POST** Monday, January 16, 2023

mad Sadiq Sanjrani said that

the China-Pakistan Economic

Briefs

Musical show held at PAC

RAWALPINDI: A variety musical show was organized to nurture talent in Punjab Arts Council (PAC), in which singers from across the province participated. Director of Arts Council Waqar Ahmed was the special guest of the musical show. Speaking on the occasion, Wagar Ahmad said that songs have their unique place in the country's culture in which the traditions, simplicity and sincere love of the people of Punjab were hidden. "We are lucky that our culture has its example which is loved all over the world," adding, "our culture is our identity; the nations that do not have any recognition, history forgets them." He said that the artists of Punjab had preserved their folk songs, tunes and unique expressions in a rich way and today"s young generation was also benefiting from this. Assistant Director Muhammad Suleman said that artists were considered to be messengers of peace around the world.

In the atmosphere of depression, the arrangement of musical nights was welcome. There was no talent short-

age among Pakistani artists, adding Pakistani singers in classical music have performed worldwide.

Tahir Nayar, Gulab, Asma Lata, Saqleen Musa Khelvi, Amira Mir, Sharafat Baloch, Sagar Khan, and Jahangir Khan created the magic of their voices in the musical program and received applause from the audience. Hamid Babar, Shahid Bhola and Saeed Anwar entertained the audience in the one-man comedy show. Many people from the twin cities attended the musical night.-APP

Musical show held at PAC

RAWALPINDI: A variety musical show was organized to nurture talent in Punjab Arts Council (PAC), in which singers from across the province participated. Director of Arts Council Waqar Ahmed was the speshow. Speaking on the occasion, Waqar Ahmad said that songs have their unique place in the country's culture in which the traditions. simplicity and sincere love of the people of Punjab were hidden. "We are lucky that our culture has its example which is loved all over the world," adding, "our culture is our identity; the nations that do not have any recognition, history forgets them." He said that the artists of Punjab had preserved their folk songs, tunes and unique expressions in a rich way and today"s young generation was

Sanjrani hosts farewell dinner for Chinese envoy

Ambassador H.E Nong Rong appreciated the comments of the Senate Chairman and said that the government and people of China are also proud of their everlasting friendship with Pakistan

ISLAMABAD : Chairman Senate Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani today hosted a farewell dinner in honor of outgoing Chinese Ambassador H.E Nong Rong. During the meeting important regional and international issues including bilateral relations were discussed. Chairman Senate appreciated the services of Chinese Ambassador H.E Nong Rong in taking Pak-China relations to new heights. Chairman Senate said that Pakistan-China friendship is an example for the whole world and this time tested friendship has always met challanges together. He said that the relations between the two friendly countries are based on mutual respect and trust and China has supported Pakistan in every difficult time. Chairman Senate Muham-

Corridor project is a gift from China to the people of Pakistan and acknowledged the active contribution of China to the relief and rehabilitation during the recent floods in Pakistan. He said that the Pakistani Nation is grateful to the people and government of China for this generous assistance. On this occasion, Chinese Ambassador H.E Nong Rong appreciated the comments of the Senate Chairman and said that the government and people of China are also proud of their everlasting friendship with Pakistan. He said that China will continue to cooperate in the development of Pakistan and both the countries will continue to support each other's position at regional and global forums

New land for "Gwadar modern Shipyard" on cards Japan

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Since CPEC is catalyzing saga of developments in Gwadar, fresh efforts are afoot for the allotment of the most suitable land for the establishment of "New Modern Shipyard" in Gwadar, with an objective to incentivize commercial shipbuilding and repair industry, create new jobs and spur economic growth.

PMC Project Manager Dadullah told Gwadar Pro that the Balochistan government allotted 750 acres of land in Moza Kappar Gwadar which lies at a high altitude against sea level.

ISLAMABAD:

patent medicine are being

listed in Pakistan promoting

intensive collaboration, China

Economic Net (CEN) reported.

Lianhua Qingwen capsules, a

Chinese patent medicine owned

by Shijiazhuang Yiling Pharma-

ceutical Co., Ltd. has obtained

permission to be listed in Paki-

stan. This is the third Chinese

patent medicine to be marketed

in Pakistan after Tai Ji Huoxiang

Zhengqi oral liquid and Jian Zhi

syrup were licensed for sale and

use in Pakistan. As a represent-

ative drug for the treatment of

infectious diseases of respiratory

system viruses, Lianhua Qingw-

en capsules have been included

in the diagnosis and treatment

protocols or guidelines for infec-

tious public health events such

as influenza A, influenza B and

COVID-19 issued by China's

National Health Commission

and the State Administration of

Traditional Chinese Medicine

for more than 30 times, and

has shown unique value in the

prevention and control of the

The launch of Lianhua Qingwen

in Pakistan is another overseas

marketing license, following

registration approval or import

licenses in nearly 30 countries

and regions including Canada,

Thailand and Singapore. Lian-

epidemic worldwide

oLD

hua Qingwen capsules distribu-

tor, Pakistan Huazhilong Inter-

national Trading Company and

Tai He Tai Law Firm worked

together for 31 months to apply

for the listing approval number

from the Drug Regulatory Au-

thority of Pakistan. The appli-

cation process was a major suc-

cess for the company team and

the Chinese law firm. Cao Wei.

CEO of Huazhilong Internation-

al, said in a recent interview with

China Economic Net (CEN) that

"listing in Pakistan is of great

significance to the international-

ization of Lianhua Qingwen and

other Chinese patent medicine.

Even the sale and use of Lianhua

Qingwen in Pakistan has played

a role in the country's fight

against the pandemic. In the

future. China-Pakistan medicine

collaboration can be expanded to

the treatment of common cold,

"The allocated land does not fit to basic formalities and merits required for the construction of Gwadar Modern Shipyard. Technically shipyard needs land that lies at zero elevation," he added. With taking on ing es board all stakeholders, he facilities to the cargo ships said, cutting edge insights visiting Gwadar port, the and astuteness were brain-Gwadar Shipyard would

stormed. "Feasibilities were also hashed out to make the project cost-effective, productive and result-oriented. In the final proposal, instead of Moza Kappar, we proposed the area of Surbandar as the most appropriate land for the construction of Modern Shipyard. Surbandar has zero elevation. Secondly it is incorporated in Gwadar Master Plan

2050. Thirdly it has natural shelter with ecological advantages. Lastly many allied facilities are easily available around the Surbandar land," he added. GDA official said that GDA had demarcated 750 acres of land for the new shipyard project at Moza Kappar which is around 60 kilometers away industry that is closely from Gwadar Port. While linked with several other new proposed land at Surbandar is just 24 kilometers industries," maritime anaaway from Gwadar Port, he lyst Shabir Jalil said. This added. "Apart from offerindustry plays an imporntial cking tant n

also offer services for buildsecurity. China. ing new ships," he added. and South Korea are cur-"Pakistan's federal and prorently the three countries that dominate the global vincial governments have shipbuilding industry. At present, Pakistan's shipannounced a collaboration by signing an MoU for the establishment of Gwadar building, repair and mainshipyard in February 2021. tenance work is undertaken The project in the strategiat the state-owned Karachi Shipyard & Engineering Works (KSEW). Since the cally located Gwadar city is of 'great regional impormid-1950s, KSEW has built tance' and also significant for the socio-economic deover 500 commercial and velopment of Balochistan naval vessels of different and overall Pakistan as it types for both local and will 'create employment for international customers. the locals' and boost reve-The biggest vessel built by Karachi Shipyard was nue generation for the province," he mentioned. merchant ship Al Abbas, "Shipbuilding industry is important for a country's economy, prosperity and social development as it's a job multiplier and a key

a 28,000 deadweight tonnage (DWT) carrier. DWT is a measure of how much weight a ship can carry. The new proposed shipyard at the deep seaport of Gwadar with "improved capacity and state-of-theart facilities" will fulfill the modern shipbuilding and airing requirements of Pakistan and also address the emerging demands of the regional countries.

55 % work at New Gwadar Int'l Airport, completed, test flight in 60 days

ISLAMABAD: New Gwadar International Airport (NGIA) has met its fresh completion benchmark as more than 55 percent multi-tier works have finally been accomplished in stipulated time promising its first test flight within 60 days, Gwadar Pro reported it on Sunday. Gwadar Development Authority (GDA) official told Gwadar Pro that the construction of NGIA costing Rs. 51.284 billion is going to be further expedited in the backdrop of the fresh push of government as well as harmonization of all stakeholders including Civil Aviation Authority, Pakistan and China Communications Construction Company (CCCC. Meanwhile progression on the installation of state-of-the-art security features, an integral part of NGIA is moving into high gear with the installation of 39 hold or hand baggage scanning machines. The scope of work includes procurement/installation of Dual View/Computed Tomography (CT) Hold & Hand Baggage Scanning Machines at NGIA by CAA. Additionally, NGIA will also be regularly inspected by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and other security agencies like European Citizen Action Service (ECAS), and Transportation Security Administration (TSA) to ensure that required security standards are being implemented. The reliability factor regarding screening of passengers will enhance after the installation of new machines. This will increase the confidence of airline operators regarding the security of passengers & baggage handling systems. Safe airport will encourage foreign airlines to start operations to/from Gwadar and would generate economic activity to benefit CAA and Gwadar. Besides, the pace of the entire scope of work of NGIA involves civil work, structural work, mechanical work, engineering work, and communication. As per detail, with the joint effort of professional teams of CCCC and CAA, the fencing around NGIA was completed. The rest of work regarding construction of ATC tower, runway, apron, taxiway, operational building, complex registration office, water supply system, PTCL fiber optic, desalination plant, grid station and security system have picked maximum acceleration. Primarily NGIA spreading over across an area of 4,300 acres will welcome the entire load of national and international passengers. In the second phase, after the cargo complex is built, it will come up with a new capacity to handle multiple cargo stuff.

Social media influencers banned from entering parliament's premises

ISLAMABAD: Due to the rise of misconduct by social media journalists with the members of parliament, the National Assembly

Secretariat on had decided to stop the entry of social media anchors within the limits of parliament.

Henceforth, YouTubers, Tiktokers and influencers on other social media sites would not be allowed to cover the parliamentary proceedings. As per the notification, an unauthorized "social media influencer misbehaved with lawmakers at Gate No 1 of Parliament House on Dec 23 last year." After that incident, the issue was raised with Press Reporters Association (PRA) which said it was not responsible for the actions of social media anchors. However. PRA secretary general Asif Bashir Chaudhry went against the ban and said," we believe not only journalists but every citizen of Pakistan enjoy equal freedom of expression.'

ECP directs Pemra to put a stop on govt ads

ISLAMABAD: The Election Committee of Pakistan (ECP) on Sunday directed Pakistan Electronic Media Regulatory Authority (Pemra) to take concrete steps to stop airing govt ads on television channels.

Taking notice of the advertisements being aired on different TV channels including the development schemes being run by the provincial government, the ECP spokesman said that the polling for the second phase of the LG polls in the province is underway in the province and running of advertisements during the polling is a violation of the code of conduct. The Commission has asked the provincial government to immediately stop airing advertisement campaigns.

Meanwhile, the polling is going smoothly in seven districts of Karachi and nine

also benefiting from this. Assistant Director Muhammad Suleman said that artists were considered to be messengers of peace around the world.

In the atmosphere of depression, the arrangement of musical nights was welcome. There was no talent shortage among Pakistani artists, adding Pakistani singers in classical music have performed worldwide. Tahir Nayar, Gulab, Asma Lata, Saqleen Musa Khelvi, Amira Mir, Sharafat Baloch, Sagar Khan, and Jahangir Khan created the magic of their voices in the musical program and received applause from the audience. -APP

'Sufficient fuel stocks available in country'

ISLAMABAD: A spokesman for Oil and Gas Regulatory Authority (OGRA) on Sunday strongly rejected speculative reports circulating in a section of the media about the shortage of petrol and diesel in the country.

"Sufficient stocks of petrol and diesel are available across the country," OGRS spokesman Imran Ghaznavi said in a press statement. He clarified that useable stocks of petrol and diesel were good enough for 17 and 32 days respectively, while more cargoes carrying 80,000 MT (Metric Ton) of petrol-(Motor Spirit Oil) and 90,000 MT HSD (High-Speed Diesel) were at berth/outer anchorage.

He said local refineries were also operational and playing their due role in meeting the demand for petroleum products.-APP

sector thus contributing to economic security and strengthening national

NO PER

115346

various pathogens, hyperglyce-

mia, hypertension, etc." Tang

Yunxia(also known as Donna

Tang) from TAHOTA Law firm

in China highlighted that "we

can use these similar cases

to help Chinese investors in

the pharmaceutical industry

invest in Pakistan, improve

the local capacity to produce

medicines, and also export to

Middle Eastern countries."

The China-Pakistan Economic

Corridor (CPEC) has entered

its second phase of high-qual-

ity development, with a focus

on enhancing cooperation in

industries, science and tech-

nology, agriculture and peo-

ple's livelihood. The health

corridor construction is a key

part of this process. Cao Wei

believes that Pakistan is Chi-

na's all-weather strategic co-

operative partner

Chinese patent medicines Four wanted criminals get registered in Pakistan held; weapons recovered

ISLAMABAD: Islamabad capital police Shahzad Town police station team arrested four wanted criminals and recovered weapons from their possession, a police public relations officer said. He said that, following the

special directions of Inspector General of Police (IGP) Islamabad Dr. Akbar Nasir Khan, the Islamabad capital police has intensified crackdown against the criminal elements in order to eliminate the crime from the city. Following these directives, the Shahzad Town police used the latest technology and human resources and succeeded in apprehending four wanted criminals. The accused were identified as Nadeem Qureshi, Shoaib Rafique, Nabeel and Usman Ali. The accused have previous criminal records also. Police team also recovered two 30 bore pistols and 12 bore gun from their possession. Cases have been registered against the nabbed accused and further investigation is underway. IGP Islamabad directed all senior officials for effective crackdown against the accused involved in drug peddling possessing illegal weapons.-DNA

Politics destroying economy beyond recovery

Former President of the Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI) Dr. Shahid Rasheed Butt on Sunday said Punjab Chief Minister has sent a summary to the governor to dissolve the assembly, which has aggravated the ongoing political crisis in the country. Hopes of improving the economy have also died amid a political storm as all the attention of the rulers will be focused on politics, he said. The political struggle will damage the economy and make the life of the people more difficult, he added.

Shahid Rashid Butt said that the move of CM Punjab has created a constitutional crisis in the country, while the new election will cost billions of rupees. He said that the previous government tried four finance ministers, but the economic situation worsened instead of improving; the current government is also trying a second finance minister but to no avail as the situation is getting worse day by day. The situation of food grains in the country is also continuously deteriorating and people are running after flour which is a glaring example of the incompetence of the authorities, he said, adding that policymakers are trying to calm masses with the an outdated method of statistics, he added. The business leader said that the government is trying to keep the value of the dollar artificially low which is damaging the domestic economy. It has contributed to the volatility and the illegal business of Handi is thriving in the current uncertain situation. Increased political tensions have made it impossible for the government to take tough decisions which are necessary for the revival of the IMF program. -DNA

districts of the Hyderabad division. Strict security measures have been taken to ensure fair and transparent elections in both divisions. Nearly 8,000 polling stations have been declared 'sensitive' or 'highly sensitive' in 16 districts of Karachi and Hyderabad. $-\!APP$

46,402 Corona patients discharged after recovery

RAWALPINDI: As many as 46,402 Coronavirus patients had been discharged after getting treatment from the district's health facilities, out of which 42,769 were Rawalpindi residents and 3,633 were from other districts.

According to data shared by the district health authority, 47,746 patients have tested positive since the pandemic, 44,113 belonging to Rawalpindi and 3,633 from the outside district. The report further updated that one more patient was reported during the last 24 hours from the federal capital area, adding 7,006,011 people, including 44,790 health workers, had jabbed themselves against the lethal coronavirus so far. -APP

No shortage of subsidized flour in Islamabad

ISLAMABAD, Jan 15 (AP-P):Deputy Commissioner of the Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) Irfan Nawaz Memon on Sunday refuted rumors regarding supply disruption of subsidized flour saying sufficient stock of the edible was available at different 82 sale points and 27 utility stores of the city. "Nine hundred flour sacks are available with every sale point and it is very easy for the public to purchase 10kg wheat flour bag for Rs 648," he said in a news statement. However, he added that one person only can buy a bag of 10 kilograms (kg) at one time. He further said that the ICT administration had increased the number of sale points to 109. - APP

ICT Admin ensures J. Salik

ISLAMABAD: Former Federal Minister and renowned human rights defender Julius Salik famously known as J. Salik has proposed the Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) Administration to initiate a special campaign on promoting humanitarian norms and ethics among the youth through special lectures by the rights defender whereas the Capital administration welcomed his idea for positive youth engagement. Additional Deputy Commissioner General (ADCG) Shehryar Arif Khan and Former Federal Minister J. Salik discussed the various aspects and options for the youth drive in a meeting held here at the Chief Commissioner's office. Talking to APP, Former Federal Minister J. Salik said he had a long journey of over four decades on fight for defending human rights without any discrimination of faith, cast and region in the country. Salik said he was disappointed to see that the country's massive population bulge of youth was not guided in the right direction to use their potential for making the society full of rights, tolerance, mutual coexistence and equality for all. There was urgent need to mobilise students from juvenile to adult level to educate, exhort and groom them for respecting each other's rights, protecting the vulnerable, weak and marginalised segments of the society, he added._DNA



ISLAMABAD: Student from The Pakistan Institute of Engineering and Applied Sciences (PIEAS) with his final year engineering design projects at 3rd engineering capstone expo-2022 stall organisied by Pakistan Engineering Council. -DNA

European migration policy: a myopic shambles

n the Greek island of Lesbos this week, 24 NGO volunteers went on trial in a case condemned by a European parliament report as a "criminalisation of solidarity". All faced charges relating to assistance given to migrants fleeing the Syrian civil war in 2015-16. Accused of accessing Greek coastguard radio channels and illicitly entering restricted zones on Lesbos, the volunteers risked years in prison before most charges were dropped on procedural grounds. But their draconian treatment, increasingly replicated elsewhere in Europe, had already achieved its central purpose: the organisation they worked for no longer dares to operate off Lesbos, where at least 22 migrants died in October attempting the crossing from Turkey. As idealistic young Europeans and former refugees are hauled into the dock for attempting to save lives at sea, Europe's governments are pondering what more can be done to shore up the defences of a rich continent against the poor and the desperate. In the Arctic town of Kiruna, the first meeting convened by the six-month Swedish presidency of the European Union has just taken place. This precedes a February summit in which reducing irregular migration numbers will be a central theme. The ongoing absence of a refugee-sharing mechanism among member states is leading to ever harsher treatment of migrants at borders and the continuing rise of illegal pushbacks. Along the borders of Hungary, Croatia and Romania, EU law and UN conventions are being openly defied as migrants languish in a freezing no man's land. As the number of irregular migrants continues to rise, history will judge this approach as a practical and moral failure. The 21st-century challenges posed by global migration and demographic change will not be met by brutally battening down the hatches. A recent long-term forecast by Frontex, the EU's border agency - itself accused this year of complicity in illegal pushbacks - identified the climate emergency, food insecurity, growing inequality and rapid demographic change as future drivers of increased migration from the global south. Africa's population is predicted to increase by half by 2050. As poorer countries grow younger, Europe will continue to age, and its need for migrant labour will become ever more pressing. The Swedish ambassador to the EU, Lars Danielsson, said this week that "migration is an issue where you can win or lose elections in virtually every member state". Post-crash, as politicians such as the Sweden Democrats leader, Immie kesson, have linked the issues of blue-collar economic insecurity to immigration, that has become true. But mainstream European leaders must address the bigger picture. In coming decades, the case for proper legal routes for migration, and far greater economic assistance delivered beyond Europe's borders, will become overwhelming. Sadly, the chances of that kind of conversation taking place during Sweden's six-month EU presidency are vanishingly small.

Islamabad POST

Pakistan's First And Only Diplomatic Daily

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

Member APNS / ABC Certified

Vol: 03 Issue: 143 Email: dailyisbpost@gmail.com Phone: 051-2266165 / 051-2261960 Off: Awan Plaza, Block 18-A, G-8 Markaz Islamabad



Monday, January 16, 2023

Regaining trade momentum vital for Australia, China

banese on boosting relations with China are a welcome signal that Canberra is willing to join hands with Beijing to continuously inject positive energy into bilateral ties so that Sino-Australian cooperation can regain steam and bring greater benefits to both sides. In an interview with the Australian media on Saturday, Albanese said China is a major trading partner of Australia and "We believe that it is in both our countries' interests to continue to develop more positive relations". Indeed, trade between the two countries, buttressed by a free trade agreement in 2015, was developing on a fast track before 2020. In the past three years bilateral trade has regrettably nosedived after encountering some severe difficulties, largely stemming from the previous Australian government's anti-China policies. Since Albanese's Labor government took power in May, it has abandoned its predecessor's China-bashing stance and opted for a more pragmatic approach toward ties with Beijing. A series of high-ranking interactions, including President Xi Jinping's meeting with Albanese on the sidelines of the G20 Summit in Bali, Indonesia, and Australian Foreign Minister Penny Wong's visit to Beijing in December, have built rapport and stabilized bilateral ties. Prior to Albanese's well-intended remarks on promoting bilateral trade, Chinese Ambassador to Australia Xiao Qian has also struck an upbeat tone, saying that "the relationship between China and Australia is at a critical stage of turnaround", and that "we will be sending more positive messages to build up more confidence for people in both countries to come back to normal trade relations". There are signs that Beijing and Canberra are translating their messages of goodwill into real action as media reports said four Chinese companies have been granted approval to buy Australian coal, with the first batch expected to arrive in late February. Though he stopped short of confirming it, Ambassador Xiao said he welcomed moves in that direction. Latest statistics show China-Australia trade reached \$220.91 billion in 2022, down 3.9 percent year-on-year, with Australian exports to China reaching \$142.09 billion, a drop of 13.1 percent year-on-year. But the rapidly thawing relations between Beijing and Canberra foretell that such a gloomy picture for bilateral trade will not continue this year. As two countries with different social and political backgrounds, it is natural that Beijing and Canberra may not see eye to eye with each other on some issues. But farsighted politicians will find ways to bridge the gaps and navigate the differences, rather than choose to harm the mutual interests of the two countries. However, it needs more wisdom for Canberra to put Australia-China ties fully back on the right trajectory again, given the arduous task of balancing its relations with China and the US.

Tajikistan is flourishing

Dr. Muhammad Akram Zaheer



Tajikistan can attract and connect people to jobs through empowering the population through a set of quality nutrition, good health, valuable education and trained and skilled labor. It seems that Tajikistan will soon overcome the challenges of human development uman development is defined as the process of enlarging people's opportunities and improving their Q well-being. The concept of human development was developed by MehboobulHaq, a famous economist of Pakistan. He argued that the current measures for human progress have failed to account for the purpose of development to improve human lives. The basic capabilities valued virtually by everyone include good health, easy access to knowledge, and a decent standard of living, which many people believe are the basic blocks of well-being and opportunity. These core capabilities are largely valued around the globe. According to the CIA World Factbook, Tajikistan is a landlocked state in Central Asia with an economy dependent on "mineral extraction, metal processing, agriculture", and labor migrants. The positive dynamics of economic growth are fundamental to its socio-economic sta-

tus. Its mid-term macroeconomic policy focused on reducing inflation and maintaining a decent living standard. In order to give impetus to economic growth and sustainable human development, the government of Tajikistan has consistently made efforts to organize sectorial and regional programs and then shape the National Development Strategy in 2015. In many respects, the people and the government of Tajikistan have attained remarkable achievement in meeting the challenges of human development. A few decades ago, the people the Tajikistan were not only substantially less healthy but also less educated. The newly independent states of the region had blamed the USSR for the decline of health, education, nutrition, and jobs. The main growth of the economy is based on education, health, opportunities for the business, and quality labor provision. Research shows that the investment in human development programs is more effective for a country's progress and prosperity. Therefore, the developing countries have to ensure that all children are nourishing better and are going to school to become a productive citizen in an increasingly competitive and integrative global economy. For this, Tajikistan also has made effort to alleviate the poverty rate from 80% to 30% of the population between 2000 to 2017. According to a report from the World Bank, seventeen percent of under-five children are stunted and only one in ten children aged three to six years benefits from a early learning program. Today, the human capital index of the World Bank shows that a child born in Tajikistan is expected to be 53% as productive as they are growing up with full health and complete education. The country manager of the World Bank for Tajikistan has said, "Improving school readiness, educational outcome and physical and mental health will lead to more productive and healthy adolescents and adults". Further, he appreciated, "we are satisfied by Tajikistan's effort to take a holistic approach to Early Childhood Development, benefitting today's children and tomorrow's workforce." According to a report from the World Health Organization, the pace of health reforms in many aspects of the health system of Tajikistan has been slow because the country has spent little expenditure per capita on health. The public financing depends upon local and regional establishments, thus the regional inequalities undermine the range of health system goals, financial protection, equity, efficiency and quality. Quality of care is another challenge, due to insufficient and inadequate training, lack of clinical guideline, under use of generic medicine, poor equipment and infrastructure and preserves financial encouragement for doctors in the form of pocket payment. The primary objective of health reforms is to strengthen the health care but it is suffering from low priority and underinvestment in Tajikistan. Although a package for primary healthcare has been introduced, it does not rollout all over the country. The National Health Strategy (2010-2020) envisages reforms in the health financing, capitation-based payment for primary health and doubling expenditure on health. The strategy intended to facilitate and support the healthcare sector of Tajikistan. The government has begun modernizing its re-

sources, financing system, and clinical base as well the organization of healthcare and services. Due to economic growth and constant attention of the government positive impact has been witnessed in the development of health sector. Therefore, the rate of maternal and child mortality has decreased since the last decade. The strategy and efforts for healthcare development resulted in a reduction of the rate of morbidity of communicable diseases, especially in the vaccine-preventable disease. The training of doctors and nurses has become a priority in the medical education. More effective measures have been taken to provide healthcare and services, facilities of network, and increasing of capacity of places and beds. The supervision of pharmaceutical and medical performance has been improved since the last decade. Today, provision of health facilities to the population has become a strategic turn towards a primary healthcare model. The healthcare system of Tajikistan is influenced by the former Soviet legacy. Its rank is 129 as the human development index of 188 countries in 2016. In the post-Soviet regime, the healthcare facilities have decreased due to poor quality of nutrition, insufficient water supply, and a weak healthcare system. The healthcare system deteriorated badly due to insufficient funds, poor sanitation, and lack of water systems. The efficiency of the healthcare system and mechanisms are also weak. The reforms are made to strengthen the healthcare system but it is still running at a slow pace. In post-Soviet, life expectancy fell to 66 for men and 73 for women in Tajikistan. The fertility rate, which was 6.9 children per women during 1960-1980, now has decreased to 3.4 children per woman by 2016. The mortality rate in children is falling fast and significant improvement in nutrition of children is rising in Tajikistan and undernutrition in health has become a challenge in rural and remote areas. Unbalanced nutrition leads to poor mental health. Poor maternal nutrition during pregnancy threatens the chance of safe delivery and healthy babies. Malnutrition, dietary factors, and lack of awareness about healthcare cause high prevalence of diseases and directly impact the economy of the country. The lack of healthcare of the masses is a key bottleneck on the way of a country's development and progress. According to a health survey from 2017, eighteen percent of under-five children are suffering from stunning and nutritional deprivation, six percent children are wasted, and more than eight percent children are underweight in Tajikistan. Children less than two years of age are lost in wasting and underweight while stunning is prevalent among children aged 24-35 months. Forty percent of children are anemic and only thirty-six percent mother breastfeed their babies for the first six month. That's why 37 percent of children are suffering from Vitamin A deficiency and twelve percent are vitamin D deficient in Tajikistan. According to a project report funded by the EU, the country has shown excitement to move towards the education space. Tajikistan's institutional diversity along with several dimensions fuels the creation of new programs and reflects the needs of an emerging knowledge-based economy to meet market needs. The special focus given to structures of education in Tajikistan is initiated by a global program related to industries and technology. The government has set education as a tool for human capital formation to economic growth. The National Strategy for Education Development 2020 of Tajikistan aims at modernizing education with profession and skill to satisfy the needs of labor and to build the capacity of the country. The government has aimed at reforming educational standards with the curricula through modernization and with the participation of employers.

Since the post-disintegration of the USSR, deurbanization and deindustrialization remained the key provisions of Tajikistan's economy. The structural changes in the economy took place since 1991 and small industry lost its ground. Deindustrialization reduced the job opportunities and increased the unemployment rate particularly in rural areas. Today, the state has taken some measures to develop the economy but there are still many rooms for further improvement in the national strategy for economic development with maximum space capacity of productive employment. The low level of aluminum processing and agricultural production has hampered the growth of employment in these sectors. An ill-conceived privatization of certain industries and companies liquidated jobs. No comprehensive policy for labor productivity and security is present in the rural areas, which produce two-thirds of labor force of the country. According to a report by the World Bank, Women are least represented in the labor force and the trend is not encouraging. Employed women like to work in the public sector but are also involved in unpaid family business. Another World Bank report said that although Tajikistan's economy has not produced sufficient jobs for its rapid growing work force, particularly its burgeoning youth population, the government has set out new National Development Strategy. The strategy aims to create new jobs in the formal and private sectors, improving the quality of existing jobs, access to better opportunities, including low to higher quality jobs, with a focus on vulnerable workers. With the promotion of the private sector, and with the help of entrepreneurs and investment, new opportunities for business and sustainable jobs are expanding. According to The Diplomat, "Tajikistan is experiencing dynamic grassroots digital development". The National Development Strategy of the country is also improving the productivity, earning, and access to formal jobs by strengthening local value, small producers, and rural SMEs. Therefore, Tajikistan can attract and connect people to jobs through empowering the population through a set of quality nutrition, good health, valuable education and trained and skilled labor. It seems that Tajikistan will soon overcome the challenges of human development and will create innovation through improvisation and will be a startup nation.

- The writer is PhD Political Science

New Israeli government wastes no time in provoking Palestinians

Yossi Mekelberg

One can only hope that one day the Israeli and Palestinian flags will flutter in the Jerusalem breeze above each other's embassies on the west and east sides of the city respectively, representing two nations living in peace with one another. For now, this dream remains a mirage, and in a government in which Ben-Gvir and his allies are the most powerful political force, provocations and punitive measures that treat Palestinians as inferior and abuse them

n the two weeks since it came to power, the new Israeli government has been in a rush to execute an extremely busy agenda, as if it either believes it will not last for long, or it is a government possessed with the urge to irreparably divide the country, destroy its democratic system and lead to confrontation with the Palestinians. Its relentless attacks on the democratic system, and especially the High Court of Justice, to say nothing of the constant attacks on opposition politicians and civil society organizations that disagree with the government, and on minorities, might leave Israel a democracy in name only. Last week, a member of the coalition suggested that opposition leaders Yair Lapid and Benny Gantz be arrested for crimes that were the figment of his vivid, anti-democratic imagination. Part of the grand design behind this is to spread fear among those who oppose the policies of this Israeli government, and enshrine in law the idea that Palestinians are at best second-class citizens. As for those Palestinians living in the occupied territories, the aim is to instill in them a fear of showing any signs of their national aspirations, never mind resistance to an illegal occupying force. The new government's measures to impose oppressive and punitive policies against Palestinians are coming thick and fast. In a short-sighted, punitive move, last week, Israeli authorities decided to revoke Palestinian Authority Foreign Minister Riyad Al-Maliki's travel permit, in retaliation against a PA request to the UN asking the International Court of Justice to give its opinion on the legal consequences of Israel's occupation of Palestinian territories.

I wonder if those behind this foolish decision stopped for a split second and asked themselves whether their actions to deprive Al-Maliki of his right to freedom of movement, even though he obviously poses no security threat, is just another piece of evidence of the illegal consequences of the occupation, never mind a violation of agreements with the Palestinians. Moreover, the decision to refer the question of the occupation to the ICJ was not made by the PA but supported by 87 member states of the General Assembly. Only 26 opposed it. Surely, even the current Israeli government would not suggest banning the foreign ministers of those countries that supported this decision, or their citizens, from visiting the Jewish state. But this was not the only recent temper tantrum displayed by Netanyahu's fledgling administration in retaliation for the role the PA played in the UN decision. The Israeli security Cabinet also decided to freeze a Palestinian construction plan in Area C of the occupied West Bank, where Israel maintains complete security and civilian authority. Additionally, it blocked the transfer of about \$40 million to the PA – which is Palestinian money raised through taxation Israeli authorities collect on behalf of the PA- to offset the payments made by the PA to militants and their families. Short of complete capitulation by the Palestinians to all Israeli whims, it is impossible to understand what Israel expects them to do in relation to the occupation - an occupation that, according to most members of the current coalition, does not exist in the first place, even though it is regarded by almost the entire international community as illegal. A peace process does not exist, and there is no prospect of it being revived, that might end the current stalemate and enable the Palestinians to fulfill their aspirations for self-determination. And if their representatives dare to approach the international community in an attempt to shake up this impasse, they face punitive measures.

Worse still, if Palestinians were to resort to an armed struggle – and there is growing support among them for a return to resisting Israeli occupation by force – then Israeli security forces would use ever more draconian measures not only against militants but also against innocent civilians. As a sign of the times, an Israeli Jewish journalist was summoned by police for questioning after expressing sympathy for Palestinians who take up arms against members of the Israeli security forces. This might be a controversial opinion but, under the circumstances, it is one that is not illegitimate to express in a democracy, nor is it one that encourages violence but which soberly understands that without a political horizon, the outbreak of violence is highly probable. Unfortunately, in this conflict the heroes in both camps are those who inflict death and misery on one another, while those who seek peace are labeled traitors. Israel might not like the PA providing support for the families of prisoners, or celebrating those who have killed or maimed Israeli citizens. This is painful to watch, especially for the families of the victims.

However it is just as painful for Palestinians to see the Israeli security forces who killed many of their fellow civilians also lauded as heroes, sometimes decorated, and their salaries and other benefits paid for by the Israeli state. Instead of sanctifying peace, coexistence and reconciliation, in this conflict between the two peoples spilling each other's blood has become sacred. The actions of the new Israeli government will only perpetuate this situation. A similar folly is the Israeli attitude to the Palestinian flag. Itamar Ben-Gvir, the new, ultranationalist national security minister, demonstrated this in one of his very first acts in government when he ordered the removal of any Palestinian flag flying in public. In bigotry and ignorance, he argued that displaying it reflects "identification with terrorism." Someone should tell Ben-Gvir, who lives in the occupied territories - and admittedly understands something about supporting a terrorist organization, given he was convicted of such a crime in 2007 - that the Palestinian flag, like any other flag, including Israel's, is an expression and a symbol of the Palestinian people as a distinct nation, and their right to self-determination, albeit, alas, one that has not been fulfilled. Moreover, since the signing of the Oslo Accords in 1993, leaders from the Israeli right, including Netanyahu, have been pictured on many occasions alongside a Palestinian flag. One can only hope that one day the Israeli and Palestinian flags will flutter in the Jerusalem breeze above each other's embassies on the west and east sides of the city respectively, representing two nations living in peace with one another. For now, this dream remains a mirage, and in a government in which Ben-Gvir and his allies are the most powerful political force, provocations and punitive measures that treat Palestinians as inferior and abuse them with complete impunity, and without any human decency, will remain the norm.

06

WORLD / SPORTS

Islamabad **POST** Monday, January 16, 2023

Briefs

PPP ahead in 2nd phase of elections

FROM PAGE 01 underway to determine the elements behind the incident. As many as 6774 candidates were contesting for 1675 seats of chairmen, vice chairmen of union councils/ union committees, and the general wards.

Low turnout mirrors...

FROM PAGE 01 Hyderabad have rejected to conspiracy against their cities by not participating in the LG polls. He added that the low turnout of votes has proved the LG polls wrong. The MQM-P convener said that the withdrawal of citizens from the LG elections was a referendum regarding MQM-P's popularity as the people foiled a bid to snatch the local government elections and seizure of their cities. He questioned, "Can these representatives truly represent Karachi and Hyderabad people with such a low turnout of voters? We salute to the citizens' political maturity and pro-democratic approach."

Siddiqui said that MQM's electoral politics is not dependent on the Houses. He reminded that his political party had not participated in the elections in 1993 and people supported the decision. He criticised Jamaat-e-Islami (JI) for failing to serve Karachiites despite getting a chance after MQM withdrew the elections in 2001.

Joe Biden's classified...

FROM PAGE 01

the Justice Department's review," Biden told reporters Thursday. "As part of that process, my lawyers reviewed other places where documents from my time as vice president were stored, and they finished the review last night." The first cache of Biden documents was discovered in November, a week before last year's midterm elections, but only acknowledged by the White House on Monday, prompttions from Repub licans that it was kept secret for political reasons. Republicans, newly in control of the House of Representatives, have vowed to launch an inquiry to be headed by James Comer, a conservative from Kentucky who chairs an oversight committee. "The Biden White House's secrecy in this matter is alarming. Equally alarming is the fact that Biden aides were combing through documents knowing there would be a Special Counsel appointed,' Comer said in a statement. "Many questions need to be answered but one thing is certain: oversight is coming," he said, condemning what he called "President Biden's three strikes against transparency."

Parc des Princes **PSG could leave stadium** after mayor turns down sale

"The mayor is forcing PSG to leave its home," the spokesperson said. "Everyone loses in the position taken by the mayor. PSG is now forced to find alternative options to relocate the club. This is not the outcome the club, nor its supporters, were hoping for"

PARIS: French football champions Paris Saint-Germain have threatened to quit the Parc des Princes ground which has been their home for nearly 50 years after city officials refused to sell the stadium to the club. On Sunday, Paris Mayor Anne Hidalgo said the stadium "is not for sale" and "will not be sold" to Qatari-owned PSG.

A spokesperson for the club said it was "disappointed and surprised" that Paris wanted to "turn Paris Saint-Germain and their supporters out of the Parc des Princes". "The mayor is forcing PSG to leave its home," the spokesperson said. "Everyone loses in the position taken by the mayor. PSG is now forced to find alternative options to relocate the club. This is

not the outcome the club, nor its supporters, were hoping for." PSG reportedly made an offer last year to buy the club. The club has also made the acquisition of the ground in the city's leafy western suburbs a condition for carrying out modernisation and expansion works to the tune of 500 million euros (\$542m). The spokesperson added that PSG's proposed investment would only be made if they owned the stadium. "It is regrettable the Mayor is

now suddenly foreclosing - definitively - the sale discussions we've been having for a long time, with the club now sadly forced to advance alternative options for our home, which is not the outcome the club or our fans

were hoping for," the spokesperson said. In November last year, club president Nasser Al-Khelaifi told Spanish sports daily Marca that PSG was "no longer welcome" at the Parc des Princes, adding that they were looking at "other alternatives". "They are pressuring us to leave," he said, highlighting that the Qataris had "invested 80 million euros" before Euro 2016 in a stadium that "is not ours". The club has already put in one offer to buy the ground but according to Hidalgo's deputy Emmanuel Gregoire, it only amounted to 40 million euros (\$43m).

"It's cheaper than Paredes," he joked in reference to the Argentinian midfielder Leandro Paredes

who cost PSG 47 million euros (\$50.9m) when he joined in 2019. The mayor's team has said it is ready to discuss the ground issue, even if the sale is not her "priority option". "We must support PSG in its desire and its need for renovation, for increasing capacity, for modernising the Parc," she said, adding that "part of the stadium is on the ring road so we cannot dig". Inaugurated in 1897, then remodelled in 1972, the former velodrome, with its 48,000 capacity, has been home to the Parisian club since 1974. In 2013, PSG reached an agreement with the Paris City Council to extend their lease until 2043, after which they completed a 75 million euro (\$81.2m) upgrade of the stadium

over the course of three years. PSG has been the most successful football club in France since Qatar Sports Investments took over in 2011, winning the league eight times. It has also had success in France's domestic cup competitions but has failed to win the Champions League.

Last year, Paris banned showing Qatar World Cup matches on giant screens in public fan zones, citing concerns over violations of migrant worker rights and the environmental impact of the tournament. Qatar has repeatedly denied the accusations. The final of the tournament - which France lost to Argentina on penalties - was attended by French President Emmanuel Macron. - Agencies

Parvez Elahi calls for *'patience'* on merger

FROM PAGE 01 the upcoming general elections on the symbol of a bat (the election symbol of PTI) or on the symbol of a tractor (PML-Q's poll symbol), Elahi said: "You will have to be a little patient to hear the

answer to this question". The proposal for the merger of the two parties was shared with journalists by Imran Khan in a meeting at his Zaman Town residence in Lahore Friday, where he looked quite relaxed and confident after ParvezElahi's successful vote of confidence.

At least 68 killed in Nepal plane crash

FROM PAGE 01 were 15 foreigners including five Indians, four Russians and two Koreans. The rest were Nepalis. The flight from Kathmandu slammed into the gorge and smashed to pieces between Pokhara's domestic and brand new international airport on Sunday shortly before 11:00 am (0515 GMT).After the crash, rescue workers were hosing down parts of the wreckage of the ATR 72 twin-engine turboprop while smoke drifted out of a ravine as hundreds of people watched. The area was strewn with what appeared to be parts of the aircraft, including seats. Footage shared on social media, which appeared to be shot just after the crash, showed raging flames on the ground and black smoke billowing into the sky from debris strewn across the crash site. AFP was unable to immediately verify the footage. Another unverified clip shared online showed a plane flying at a low altitude over a residential area banking sharply to the left, followed by a loud explosion. Pokhara's international airport, which opened on January 1 is meant to gradually replace the old one, established in 1958.

Nadal, Iga facing tough test in Australian Open

MELBOURNE: Rafael Nadal opens his Australian Open title defence Monday feeling vulnerable and against a dangerous young opponent, with women's top seed Iga Swiatek also facing a tricky encounter as she targets a maiden crown. The first Grand Slam of the year kicks off at Melbourne Park with the men's world number one ranking at stake and a new women's champion set to be crowned after Ashleigh Barty's shock retirement following her win last year. Spanish great Nadal, 36, has lost six of his past seven matches, including his opening two this year, ahead of a difficult afternoon clash on Rod Laver Arena against Britain's in-form Jack Draper.

"Probably one of the toughest first-round (games) possible, being seeded," said the 22-time Grand Slam winner and top seed. "Young, powerful, growing very, very fast on the ranking, playing well." The fast-improving Draper, 21, made the semi-finals of the Adelaide International this week and said he would not be overawed, despite Nadal being an idol.

"I want to go and compete hard and really play well and I want to go and win the match, of course. So that will be the plan," he said. Nadal surged to the title last year with a thrilling five-



tion stance. The 35-year-old Serbian begins on Tuesday against Spain's Roberto Carballes Baena, bidding not iust for a 10th title and to equal Nadal's 22 Slams, but to reclaim the top world ranking. "I like my chances," said Djokovic, who is in form, winning at Adelaide last week after ending 2022 with Alcaraz, who is not playing in Melbourne due to injury, will continue. Tsitsipas opens his campaign against France's Quentin Halys on Margaret Court Arena, with Ruud in action on Tuesday. Top seed Swiatek is clear favourite having dominated women's tennis following the retirement in March

Pakistan beat Rwanda in U19 Women's **T20 World Cup**

SPORTS DESK

POTCHEFSTROOM: Pakistan defeated Rwanda by eight wickets in their opening match of the U19 Women's T20 World Cup in Potchefstroom, South Africa, on Sunday. Chasing a target of 107 runs, the Green Shirts reached home in 17.5 overs for the loss of two wickets. Opener Eyman Fatima was the star of the show as she scored a match-winning fifty. The right-hander remained unbeaten on 65 runs in 60 balls with the help of 11 fours. Syeda Aroob Shah also chipped in with 20 runs in 21 balls. Eyman and Aroob added 72 unbeaten runs for the third wicket to help Pakistan get over the line. Gisele Ishimwe and Henriette Ishimwe bagged one wicket each for Rwanda. Earlier, after winning the toss and deciding to bat first, Rwanda posted 106-8 in their allotted 20 overs. Skipper Gisele Ishimwe top-scored with 40 runs in 49 balls, with the help of four boundaries. Meanwhile, Cynthia Tuyizere and Henriette Ishimwe scored 20 and 14 runs respectively. Areesha Noor was the pick of the bowlers for Pakistan after bagging figures of 2-19 in four overs. Anosha Nasir, Zamina Tahir and captain Syeda Aroob Shah claimed one wicket each.

PAKISTAN SQUAD

Syeda Aroob Shah (c), Aliza Khan, Anosha Nasir, Areesha Noor, Eyman Fatima, Haleema Azeem Dar, Haniah Ahmer, Laiba Nasir, Mahnoor Aftab, Quratulain Ahsen, Rida Aslam, Shawaal Zulfiqar, Warda Yousaf, Zaib-un-Nisa, Zamina Tahir **R**ESERVES:

Aqsa Yousaf, Dina Razvi, Maham Anees, Muskan Abid, Tahzeeb Shah

PAKISTAN'S REMAINING GROUP MATCHES

Army role crucial for...

FROM PAGE 01

Mr. Khan went on to say that the country is at the verge of default and instead of going bankrupt, it would be better off going to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in this situation.

Reiterating his stance on the free and fair election in the country, Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf Chairman Imran Khan has urged Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General AsimMunir to ensure transparent polling. "[I] hope the serving army chief would ensure transparent [general] elections. The amount of power that the military has is not possessed by any other institution," the PTI chief said.

Pakistan condoles...

FROM PAGE 01 Meanwhile, President DrArifAlvi has expressed his deepest condolences over the sad loss of precious lives in an air crash in Pokhra, Nepal. The President conveyed his prayers for the families of the victims who lost their lives in the tragic incident and prayed to Allah Almighty to grant them the strength and the courage to bear this loss with patience and fortitude. The President in his message said that "at this moment of most profound grief, our thoughts and prayers are with the affected families and grieving people of Nepal".

set win over Russia's Daniil Medvedev, who faces American Marcos Giron on centre court in an evening match. His run to a first Australian crown since 2009 came in the absence of ninetime champion Novak Djokovic, who is back this year and heavy favourite after missing the 2022 event when he was deported over his Covid vaccina-

FOREIGN DESK

RABAT: Morocco has decried "provocative" acts and

"transgressions" at the opening of a regional football tour-

nament in Algeria, a new episode in an ongoing political

crisis between the North African neighbours. Rabat and

Algiers are locked in a bitter rivalry partly over the disput-

ed territory of Western Sahara, where the Algerian-backed

Polisario movement seeks an independence referendum.

In a statement on Saturday, Morocco's football federa-

tion slammed a "provocative and surreal speech" at the

African Nations Championship (CHAN) opening ceremo-

ny on Friday in which the grandson of Nelson Mandela

called to "free" the disputed territory. Rabat sees West-

ern Sahara as an integral part of the kingdom and a high-

"Let us fight to free Western Sahara from oppression,"

Mandla Mandela told the crowd at the stadium named

in honour of his grandfather, South Africa's first demo-

cratically elected president after the fall of apartheid, in

ly sensitive issue of security and national pride.

another ATP Finals triumph. He can return to the top by lifting the trophy. So can Norway's Casper Ruud and Greek Stefanos Tsitsipas, according to the governing body ATP. World number three Ruud can also become world number one by reaching the final, as long neither Djokovic nor Tsitsipas win the title. If none of those scenarios play out, the reign of Carlos

last year of Barty. The Pole secured eight WTA titles in 2022 and became the first woman in six years to win two Grand Slams in the same season - at Roland Garros and New York. With retired great Serena Williams and two-time Melbourne winner Naomi Osaka also missing, it is almost certain that there will be a new name on the Daphne Akhurst trophy. - APP

January 17 v England in Potchefstroom 4:45pm January 18 v Zimbabwe in Potchefstroom 4:45pm



The city is a gateway to religious pilgrims and international trekkers.

Nepal's air industry has boomed in recent years, carrying goods and people between hard-to-reach areas as well as foreign trekkers and climbers. But it has been plagued by poor safety due to insufficient training and maintenance.The European Union has banned all Nepali carriers from its airspace over safety concerns.The Himalayan country also has some of the world's most remote and tricky runways, flanked by snow-capped peaks with approaches that pose a challenge even for accomplished pilots.Aircraft operators have said Nepal lacks infrastructure for accurate weather forecasts, especially in remote areas with challenging mountainous terrain where deadly crashes have taken place in the past. The weather can also change quickly in the mountains, creating treacherous flying conditions.In May 2022, all 22 people on board a plane operated by Nepali carrier Tara Air -- 16 Nepalis, four Indians and two Germans -- died when it crashed.Air traffic control lost contact with the twin-propeller Twin Otter shortly after it took off from Pokhara and headed for Jomsom, a popular trekking destination.Its wreckage was found a day later, strewn across a mountainside at around 14,500 feet (4,400 metres) above level.After sea that crash authorities tightened regulations, including that planes would only be cleared to fly only if there was favourable weather forecast throughout the route.In March 2018, a US-Bangla Airlines plane crash-landed near Kathmandu's notoriously difficult international airport, killing 51 people.That accident was Nepal's deadliest since 1992, when all 167 people aboard a Pakistan International Airlines plane died when it crashed on approach to Kathmandu. Just two months earlier, a Thai Airways aircraft had crashed near the same air-

Morocco condemns Qatar's Nasser al-Attiyah wins 'provocative' Dakar Rally for the fifth time acts at Algeria DOHA: Qatar's Nasser al-Attiyah

won his fifth Dakar Rally driver's title and second in a row after the iconic test of endurance finished in Dammam, Saudi Arabia. The 52-year-old won three stages and had more than an hour's advantage in the overall standings on Sunday over Frenchman Sebastien Loeb, who was also runner-up last year. Al-Attiyah's Toyota teammate Lucas Moraes of Brazil finished third. Al-Attivah took the overall lead after the third stage, having built up a commanding advantage in the first week and deployed a safety-first strategy in the second half of the race.

Loeb gave it all he could as he won a record six successive stages in the second week for the Bahrain Raid Xtreme team. But the 48-year-old Frenchman had lost so much time on the first part of the race that it was a

lost cause. The Qatari, who led from 35-year-old rival. Benavides's win stage three as rivals hit trouble, now ranks second in the list of all-time winners in the car category behind eight-time champion Stephane Peterhansel of France. Peterhansel, the "Mr Dakar" who retired from this year's edition after crashing his electric hybrid Audi, has also won the motorcycle crown six times.

The motorbike title race had plenty of thrills and spills. Kevin Benavides - the 2021 champion - edged out Australian Toby Price by 43 seconds with Skyler Howes of the United States finishing third. Benavides who celebrated his 34th birthday during the race - trailed two-time champion Price by 12 seconds entering Sunday's 14th and final stage. He produced a sterling ride to win the stage, however, and post a time 55 seconds faster than his

will be a popular one as he selflessly stopped to aid stricken rival Matthias Walkner in Saturday's penultimate stage. "It's incredible to pull off the win at the end of this completely crazy Dakar, and with such a small gap," Benavides said. "I'm also the first to win with two different motorbike brands, and that makes me very proud,' he added. It brought to an end a fascinating battle for supremacy in the motorbike section which had seen Howes lead for six days. Price could not hide his disappointment despite praising Benavides for doing a "great job". Yeah, hard to take at the moment, but at the end of the day I'm going home in one piece and we got a Dakar trophy," he said. "It hurts a little bit." - DNA

Cas Open Golf Championship Concludes

The Chief Guest congratulated the winners and appreciated the management committee & officials of Airmen Golf Course for making the event a huge success. He further said that Pakistan Air Force would continue to promote golf along with other sports

DNA

KARACHI: Closing Ceremony of 42nd CAS Open Golf Championship was held at Airmen Golf Club & Recreational Park, Korangi Creek, Karachi. Air Marshal Hamid Rashid Randhawa, Deputy Chief of the Air Staff (Administration), PAF was the Chief Guest at the occasion. Ace Golfer Muhammad Shabbir won the title on the final day of 42nd CAS Open Golf Championship with a gross score of 278 (10 Under par). 2nd position was clinched by Muhammad Alam 285 (3 under par) while third position was achieved by

Hamza Taimur Amin & Mu-

hammad Zubair with the gross score of 288 (0 under par). Speaking at the occasion, the Chief Guest congratulated the winners and appreciated the management committee & officials of Airmen Golf Course for making the event a huge success. He further said that Pakistan Air Force would continue to promote golf along with other sports.

The Championship which featured over 300 golfers was played over 18 holes for five days at one of the most challenging golf courses of the country. Chief of the Air Staff Open Golf Championship was introduced in 1977 and ever since has been a regular feature in PGF and PAF annual sports calendars.



KARACHI: Chief Minister Sindh, Syed Murad Ali Shah visiting control room during Sindh local bodies election. - DNA

the Algerian city of Constantine. "Don't forget the last colony of Africa, Western Sahara," he added.

port, killing 113 people.

BUSINESS / WORLD

Briefs

07

Crime in Paris falls: police

PARIS: Crime in the French capital has fallen in recent months, but remains "structurally high", according to the prefect of police in Paris, Laurent Nu ez.

Speaking in the Journal of Sunday, Nu ez noted that criminality in Paris and the surrounding suburbs had dropped over the last six months, though he added the situation was still not "positive". Burglaries and incidents of domestic violence actually rose during the same period. Nuez, who was appointed in July 2022. reported that property damage fell by 2% in the suburbs and 5% in the centre of the city, while violent thefts in Paris's surroundings dropped by 20% and 25% in the centre.

He attributed these falls to his deployment of more officers to high-crime areas and busier parts of the capital, such as metro stations or tourist hot spots.

However, the perfect said that a "structurally high level of crime in the Paris region did not allow us to speak of a generally positive situation." Break-ins were a particular "black spot", increasing by 5.3% in the area of Paris beyond the notori ous circular motorway and 8.8% in the centre. Other concerns such as domestic violence and violent crime continue to rise, added the prefect. According to Secretary of State Christophe Castaner, police in the French capital had "slowed down the rise" of crime under his tenure. "We were at [an increase of] +30% when I arrived", he said.

Tunisians demonstrate to demand Saied's departure

TUNIS: Thousands demonstrated in Tunisia on Saturday to demand the departure of President Kais Saied amid a months-long political crisis in the North African country. The protest was organized by the opposition National Salva-



MINSK: Pakistan's Federal Minister for power, Khuram Dastagir Khan along with ambassador Sajjad Haider and delegation visits control rooms of Belarusian Energy Ministry. – DNA

UK cost-of-living crisis Nursing union warns next strike will be doubled

News Desk

LONDON: Double the number of England nurses will be asked to strike in early February to mount pressure on the government, union leaders have threatened as they blame Prime Minister Rishi Sunak for his approach towards pay disputes across the country's health service. The Royal College of Nursing (RCN) union said that new walkouts would be announced if the negotiations over pay remain stalled by the end of January, making it the RCN's biggest strike in history. Accordingly, the next set of strikes will include all eligible members in England for the first time. RCN general secretary Pat Cullen insisted

that the public backed the nurses in their pay dispute with the government, blaming the prime minister for his "baffling, reckless and politically ill-considered" approach to the negotiations. "The prime minister gave nursing staff a little optimism that he was beginning to move, but seven days later he appears entirely uninterested in finding a way to stop this," Cullen said. She added that "nursing staff just wanted to be valued and recognized. The nurse shortage costs lives - Sunak cannot put a price on a safe NHS." The UK prime minister has been under fire for his inaction regarding the chaos across the country's healthcare system, with doctors saying the NHS is in a very precarious situation as units are struggling with demand

and health trusts and ambulance services declaring critical incidents. A Department for Health and Social Care spokesperson showed no sign of a change in approach in a statement on Saturday night, which said more than one million NHS workers had received a minimum £1,400 pay rise this year. "We have accepted the recommendations of the independent NHS Pay Review Body in full and have given over one million NHS workers a pay rise of at least £1,400 this year. This is on top of a 3% pay increase last year when public sector pay was frozen and wider government support with the cost of living," the spokesman said. Nursing staff from more than 50 NHS trusts in England are set to take industrial action on Wednesday

and Thursday. Moreover, the RCN has announced that the next strike is likely to be on 6 February, to coincide with the 10th anniversary of the Robert Francis inquiry into Mid Staffordshire NHS trust and the impact of nurse shortages on patient mortality. The Robert Francis inquiry, which was focused on Mid Staffordshire NHS Trust, uncovered the neglect of hundreds of patients at Stafford Hospital between 2005 and 2009, with accounts of some elderly people being left lying in their own urine, unable to eat, drink or take essential. The union initially demanded a pay rise of 19 percent, though has indicated it may accept 10 percent. Downing Street is instead considering a "one-off" payment to health workers, possibly in the form of a hardship payment to get them through this winter. Rishi Sunak last week refused to confirm or deny if the government accepted the one-off payment but said the most important thing is that "talks are happening."

This comes as ministers push for new anti-strike laws forcing the staff to maintain a basic level of service during strike time or face dismissal. During the past months, the UK has been grappling with its biggest strike wave for decades, with airport baggage handlers, border staff, driving instructors, bus drivers, and postal workers walking off their jobs to demand higher pay, to be able to cope with the soaring inflation and worsening cost-of-living crisis.

Türkiye aims to boost domestic missile's range

Islamabad **POST**

Monday, January 16, 2023

ANKARA: Citing ongoing crises across the globe, Türkiye's president said his country not only survived troubling times but is also moving forward as it aims to increase the range of its domestic missile from 565 kilometers to 1,000 kilometers (351 to 621 miles).

During a visit to the southwestern Mugla province, Recep Tayyip Erdogan said since he took office in the early 2000s domestic defense industry production of the nation's arsenal rose 20% to 80%. "National matters are above politics, and should remain so. If we have achieved gains in the Mediterranean, the Aegean, and the Black Seas, we must protect this together, without exception," he said. Saying that Türkiye now produces its own unmanned drones and combat drones, Erdogan underlined the aerial combat vehicle Bayraktar Kizilelma "will carry the bomb carried by the F-16 after it starts mass production. What do the Greeks say now? They say, 'What are those Crazy Turks up to?" In December, Turkish defense firm Baykar held the maiden flight of the Bayraktar Kizilelma, or Red Apple. Featuring a low-radar signature thanks to its design, the Kizilelma will be able to perform the most challenging missions. It will also be capable of flying with a payload of up to 1,500 kilograms (3,300 pounds), equipped with Turkish-made munitions, and a high situational awareness with the active electronically scanned array (AESA) radar, also developed domestically. Erdogan said the testing of domestic missiles is continuing, and added that such tests are "scaring" Greece, underlining tests from the coastal city of Izmir, near Greek islands in the Aegean.-DNA

German police clash with anti-coal activists

BERLIN: German police clashed with anti-coal activists at a protest camp in the abandoned western village of Lutzerath as demon-

strators tried to prevent it

from being mined for coal,

according to private broad-

caster n-tv.

tion Front (NSF) on the 12th anniversary of the 2011 popular uprising that ousted Pres ident Zine al-Abidine Ben Ali. Protesters in the capital Tunis chanted slogans demanding Saied step down, according to an Anadolu reporter on the ground. Addressing protesters, NSF Chairman Ahmed Najib Chebbi called for putting an end to what he called a "coup" staged by the Tunisian president. "This coup has destroyed the economy, and persecuted Tunisians," he said blaming Saied for the soaring cost of living across the country. "Saied must go and end his rule," Chebbi said. Seifeddine Makhlouf, head of the Dignity coalition, said Saied's "coup" has undermined all Tunisian institutions. "The coup has destroyed the state and its institutions and manipulated the state Treasury.' Makhlouf told Anadolu. "We will continue to oppose these measures until the end of the coup and the return of democracy," he added. There was no comment from Tunisian authorities on the protest. Tunisia has been in the throes of a deep political crisis that aggravated the country's economy since 2021.-Agencies

Pak delegation leaves for Morocco

MULTAN: A 30-member delegation of industrialists and investors under Pakistan-Morocco Business Forum left for Morocco to participate in International Business Conference on Sunday. business-Renowned man Shahbaz Mahmood Sheikh while talking to media before departure said that the purpose of the visit was to give investors and industrialists access to the international market for their domestic agriculture products, textile, surgical instruments, sports equipment, auto parts and other domestic products to enhance the country's export. The Conference would continue by January 19. Pakistani delegation would take steps to promote foreign investment in Pakistan and to increase domestic exports, he concluded. - DNA

following frequent volcano eruptions

Indonesia on alert

JAKARTA: Indonesia has recently raised its alert as the country's volcanology authorities have reported hundreds of volcanic activities during the past week.

As of Saturday, 17 volcanoes across the Southeast Asian country have been on level II alert status, according to the latest report from Indonesia's Center for Volcanology and Geological Hazard Mitigation (PVMBG).

Marapi volcano in West Sumatera, located on the island of Sumatra, erupted 191 times on Saturday, spewing 300-meter to 600-meter-high ash columns, the Marapi Volcano Observation Post (PGA) reported.

He volcano has erupted for eight days," Coordinator of the observation post Ahmad Rifandi said in a written statement. Java Island, the Semeru volcano erupted once on Saturday and twice on Friday. It spewed out 700 meters to one-kilometer-high white and gray ash columns with thick intensity, Mount Semeru Monitoring Post reported.

He recommend all people who live surrounding the volcano not to do any activities around and stay away at least 13 kilometers from the eruption range, because the volcano has the potential to throw hot stones and pour hot clouds and lava," Head of the monitoring post Mukdas Sofian said in a release. The highest mountain in Java, the Semeru volcano erupted in December 2021, ejecting volcanic ash into the sky and raining hot mud on villages, killing at least 51 people and injuring 169 others. Also on Saturday, The Ili Lewotolok volcano in East Nusa Tenggara (NTT) erupted and brought a potential threat of lava. according to the PVMBG. Theauthority also reported on Thursday that three volcanoes in the country - Marapi, Kerinci on Sumatra Island, and Anak Krakatau in Sunda Strait - erupted at almost the same time on that day. Anak Krakatau, which means the Child of Krakatau, has been sporadically active since it emerged from the sea at the beginning of the last century. The volcano is located far from the densely populated Java Island and Sumatra Island. However, it is near the busy shipping line connecting the islands. The volcano has erupted four times since Wednesday. In all areas near each erupted volcano, regional authorities have banned all hiking and climbing activities and the PVMBG has issued an early warning for flights passing through those regions. With 142 volcanoes, Indonesia has the largest population globally living in close range to a volcano. Around 8.6 million people live within a radius of 10 kilometers from the volcanoes, according to data from Statistics Indonesia (BPS). As of Saturday, there have been no emergency measures and evacuation processes yet, but the PVMBG has strongly advised people living near the active volcanoes to always wear masks when doing activities to avoid any respiratory infections caused by exposure to volcanic ash.-DNA

Ukraine will escalate war

UK's tanks supply to

Foreign Desk

MOSCOW: Russia has warned that the UK's plan to supply Ukraine with tanks and other heavy weaponry will only escalate the war and generate more casualties among civilians. In a statement on Sunday, the Russian embassy in the UK warned that "bringing tanks to the conflict zone, far from drawing the hostilities to a close, will only serve to intensify combat operations, generating more casualties, including among the civilian population."

The warning came after British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak guaranteed to supply Ukraine with a squadron of Challenger 2 tanks and additional artillery systems, with the first units of armored vehicles to be delivered immediately. The tanks are expected to arrive in Ukraine in the coming weeks, a statement from Sunak's Downing Street office said later Saturday, adding that the UK will also begin training the Ukrainian Armed Forces to use the tanks and guns in the coming days. The move makes the UK the first Western power to supply

the tanks. The Challenger 2, designed and built by the British company, Vickers Defense Systems, is a battle tank that has been in service with the UK army since 1994. The tank has previously been deployed in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, and Iraq. The UK's new decision also draw another swift reaction from Russia, when it sanctioned 36 top British politicians, including Foreign Secretary James Cleverly, over London's "continued anti-Russian activities". Among those added to

Among those added to Moscow's blacklist are Chief of the General Staff

Ukrainians with ks. The Challenger 2, gned and built by the ish company, Vickers ense Systems, is a battank that has been in rice with the UK army e 1994. The tank has iously been deployed osnia and Herzegovina, ovo, and Iraq. The UK's

from Russia that the arms and warfare equipment support from the West to Ukraine has been the prime reason the Ukraine conflict is still stretching on, the west has kept on supplying it with billions of dollars of equipment for countering Russia on the battlefield, thus extending the war to

an undefined period.

Baton-wielding police used pepper spray and water guns to disperse the mainly masked protesters, who braved rain and strong winds. There were no immediate reports of arrests or injuries, as the situation did calm down later in the evening, according to police. Anti-coal activists expressed dismay at the crackdown in Lutzerath. "What we are experiencing today and the last few days is pure police violence. We are shocked at how the police are proceeding and condemn this behavior. We remain steadfast because we know what we are fighting for: climate justice!" tweeted one activist of the anti-coal group Lutzerath bleibt. More than 10,000 people took part in the anti-coal protest as police were completing the evic-

Peru declares state of emergency amid protests

LIMA: The Peruvian government has declared a state of emergency in the capital Lima and three other regions due to anti-government protests that have claimed the lives of at least 42 people in recent weeks.

The state of emergency, announced late Saturday, will initially be in force for 30 days, authorizing the army to take necessary measures such as restricting movements to maintain law and order across the cities.

The move came after Peru's President Dina Boluarte made clear that she will not step down despite the protesters demanding her resignation. "Some voices coming from the violent and radical groups demand

is formed within its historical

boundaries, with al-Quds as its

capital," he stated. "The Unit-

ed States and its allies have un-

veiled various plans one after

another for many years, namely

the Oslo Accords, the Greater

Middle East, the [so-called]

Deal of the Century, and the

Abraham Accords. The Pales-

tinian nation and resistance

forces have, however, man-

aged to thwart all those plots

through exemplary unity, resil-

ience and perseverance," the

chief Iranian diplomat pointed

out. Amir-Abdollahian said that

the 11-day Operation Sword

of al-Quds between the Gaza-

my resignation, bringing people to chaos, disorder, and destruction. I say to them responsibly that I will not step down," Boluarte said. Boluarte blamed the recent deaths on bad influences that had pushed citizens into "confrontations" and that she requested authorities to investigate. Peru has been hit by back-to-back protests ever since former president Pedro Castillo was ousted and detained in early December amid his attempt to dissolve Congress and rule by decree. The protesters now want Boluarte, who replaced Castillo, to resign and make way for the former head of state to resume power. They are also calling for the dissolution of Congress, early

elections, and reforms in constitutional law. Castillo, an indigenous Peruvian and former school teacher, is the first president from outside the country's political elite. He first became known for leading the national teachers' strike in 2017. He then became a member of the Free Peru union and ran in the 2021 election to improve the lives of Peruvians contending with a recession worsened by the COVID-19 pandemic. While campaigning to redraft the constitution, Castillo promised to raise taxes on mining firms and use mining revenues to improve education and health services. Peru is the world's second-largest copper and zinc-producing country.-DNA

Major Myanmar-China border crossing partially reopens

tion of the remaining pro-

testers who retreated to un-

derground tunnels. –DNA

BEIJING: A Myanmar-China border crossing vital to trade has partially reopened after years of pandemic-prompted closure.Covid-19 shuttered the Muse-Ruili checkpoint among the Southeast Asian nation's busiest - in April 2020. One of Muse town's border gates opened on Saturday at 7:00 am (1230 GMT), according to an official in Myanmar's northern Shan state. Six trucks made the short relay trip at the Mang Wein crossing, said U Min Thein, vice-chairman of the Muse Rice Commodity Exchange. "China only allowed us to export food and drink at the moment,' U Min Thein told the AFP news agency on Sunday. But he said they were not permitted to send over economic mainstays - including rice, broken rice, beans and watermelons. For those, traders had to use the Kyinsankyawt border gate outside Muse, he said.-APP

Nothing can undermine Palestine issue Palestine and al-Quds City are the principal issues of the Muslim world

DAMASCUS: Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian has stressed that nothing can diminish the Palestinian issue, dismissing the normalization agreements signed between a number of Arab countries and the occupying Israeli regime as "worthless". Amir-Abdollahian made the remarks during a meeting with a number of high-ranking officials and representatives from Palestinian resistance groups in Damascus on Saturday night."Palestine and al-Quds City are the principal issues of the Muslim world. Palestine will remain the foremost issue of Muslims until a Palestinian state

based Palestinian resistance groups and the Israeli military in May 2021 proved that Axis of Resistance and Palestine are alive. "Even the World Cup [in Qatar] showed that Palestine is alive, and the normalization of



Arab-Israeli relations is worthless," he continued. The Iranian foreign minister also pointed to Israel's newly formed far-right cabinet headed by Benjamin Netanvahu as prime minister, stating that the change of names and faces doesn't make any difference in the regime's policies as its officials are all radical in nature and responsible for the ongoing problems and boiling security and social crises across the occupied territories. "Of course, we have witnessed greater cohesion between resistance forces and the Palestinian nation anytime that extremists ascended to power [in occupied territories],"

Amir-Abdollahian said. For their part, officials from Palestinian resistance groups briefed the Iranian foreign minister on the latest developments in occupied lands and lauded the Islamic Republic's untrammelled support for Palestinians and resistance fighters. They also paid tribute to top Iranian anti-terror commander General Qassem Soleimani, who was assassinated in a US drone strike near Baghdad airport three years ago, stating that he offered great support to the Palestinian cause and empowerment of the resistance front.-APP







Briefs South Korean president travels to UAE, seeks arms sales

ABU DHABI: South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol received an honor guard welcome Sunday on a trip to the United Arab Emirates as he hopes to expand its military sales here.

Yoon's visit comes as South Korea conducts business deals worth billions of dollars and stations special forces troops to defend the UAE, an arrangement that drew criticism under his liberal predecessor. Now, however, it appears the conservative leader wants to double down on those military links even as tensions with neighboring Iran have already seen Tehran seize a South Korean oil tanker in 2021.

"I think that the situation in the Middle East is changing very rapidly when it comes to geopolitics," said June Park, a fellow with the International Strategy Forum at Schmidt Futures. "So Korea wants to make sure some of the strategic partnerships and the components ... with the UAE." Yoon arrived at Qasr Al Watan palace in Abu Dhabi on Sunday. – **APP**

WHO appeals to China to release more Covid -19 information

BEIJING: The World Health Organization has appealed to China to keep releasing information about its wave of COVID-19 infections after the government announced nearly 60,000 deaths since early December following weeks of complaints it was failing to tell the world what was happening.

The announcement Saturday was the first official death toll since the ruling Communist Party abruptly dropped anti-virus restric-



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif administering polio vaccines to children to kickstart first anti polio campaign of the year. 15th of January, 2023. – DNA

PM Shehbaz hopes to crush resurfacing of polio cases

The resurfacing of the few cases had certainly raised concerns among the partners including Bill Gates Foundation, WHO and other stakeholders

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has expressed the hope that a new nationwide campaign was being launched to eliminate the resurfacing of the polio cases in Pakistan. Shehbaz Sharif said this on Sunday while inaugurated a three-day nationwide polio eradication drive by administering polio drops to the children. During his brief address on the occasion in Islamabad, the prime minister expressed the belief that all the provincial governments, along with the federal government, will actively

the epidemic, the Prime Minister said their sacrifices will be remembered in achieving the goal of a polio free Pakistan. He also thanked all stakeholders, including Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the World Health Organization for their cooperation and commitment to support Pakistan in eliminating the disease. Shehbaz Sharif said this nationwide drive was being started to overcome the resurfacing of the polio cases. He said floods in the summer season had disrupted the national drive, but despite all those difficulties, the polio workers carried out the onus with their hard work and commitment. He further observed that unfortunately, Paeradicated, he added. Shehbaz said about 20 cases of polio were reported from Waziristan, but due to consistent efforts, these were restricted and controlled and did not spread to other parts. The prime minister also lauded those frontline workers and law enforcement agencies personnel who had laid down their lives for achieving the objective and embraced shahadat. He said that their sacrifices would always be remembered. "I have the conviction that all the provincial governments, along with the federal government will continue collaborating to eradicate the disease forever," he added. The resurfacing of the few cases had cerminister said that during a telephonic conversation, Bill Gates had expressed his commitment to support the government's efforts to eliminate the disease. The prime minister also expressed his gratitude to the WHO, stakeholders, related departments, law enforcement personnel and the daughters of the nation for their continuing efforts and commitments. The prime minister mentioned that he had held meetings with the federal health ministry officials and others, whereas the federal and the provincial governments were all supporting these efforts. He expressed the confidence that they would

Govt decides to keep POL prices unchanged till Jan 31

DNA

ISLAMABAD: The government has decided to keep the existing prices of Petroleum products from Monday till Jan 31. This was announced by Finance Minister Ishaq Dar while addressing a news conference in Lahore on Sunday.

The minister maintained that the government has decided to keep the prices of petroleum products unchanged. This is the second time this month that the government has not revised the petroleum products' prices. In his televised address, Dar said: "The government has decided to maintain the price of petroleum products for the next 15 days". Next revision on the prices will be made on January 31, he added.

Accordingly, petrol would be sold at Rs214.80 per litre, high-speed diesel at Rs227.80 per litre, kerosene oil at Rs171.01 per litre and light diesel oil at Rs169 per litre. It is pertinent to mention here that the coalition government on December 15 decided to cut down the petrol price by Rs 10 and diesel by Rs 7.5 respectively.

President condemns Peshawar terrorist attack

ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi on Sunday condemned a terrorist attack on Sarband police station in Peshawar. The president expressed his deep grief and sorrow over shahadat of police officers and personnel, President Secretariat Press Wing said in a press release. Sharing grief with the bereaved families, the president reiterated that fight against terrorism would continue till its complete elimination He said the entire nation saluted the sacrifices of its martyrs. The president also prayed for the high ranks of the departed souls and for the families to bear the losses with fortitude. - DNA

tions in December despite a surge in infections that flooded hospitals. That left the WHO and other governments appealing for information, while the United States, South Korea and others imposed controls on visitors from China. – **APP**

UN: Afghan bank's cash remarks 'misleading

KABUL: The U.N. criticized Afghanistan's Taliban-controlled central bank for making "misleading and unhelpful" remarks about cash destined for humanitarian work. It comes amid growing tension between the global body and the country's rulers over bans on female education and omployment

cation and employment. The U.N. uses the money mostly to provide millions of Afghans with critical humanitarian assistance, flying in cash because of banking disruptions since the Taliban seized power in August 2021. Foreign aid stopped after the takeover. World governments imposed sanctions, halted bank transfers and froze billions more in Afghanistan's currency reserves, unwilling to work with the Taliban, given their rule in the late 1990s and their refusal to educate girls and allow women to work. - APP

participate in the drive for complete eradication of poliovirus from the country. Paying rich tribute to polio workers, who laid down their lives in this fight against kistan was among the few countries where polio cases had resurfaced. A few years back, during the government of Muhammad Nawaz Sharif, these cases were completely tainly raised concerns among the partners including Bill Gates Foundation, World Health Organization (WHO) and other stakeholders, he added. The prime control the disease with collective efforts. The Prime Minister, on the occasion, also distributed appreciation letters and gifts among polio workers and children.

Mihai Eminescu, Romania's most famous Poet

OR Romanians, January 15 marks the celebration of the National Day of Culture, which also coincides with the commemoration of the country's most famous poet, Mihai Eminescu(1850-1889). It is undeniable that to have an appreciation of Romanian culture one must become acquainted with the works of Mihai Eminescu. The leading cultural figure of nineteenth century Romania, Eminescu was not only a poet, but also a philosopher, prose writer, translator, and journalist.

Born on January 15, 1850, in Ipote ti, a small village from north-eastern part of the country, Mihai Eminescu was the most prolific and talented poet of his generation - he published his first poem at 16 - and is seen by many critics and readers as the Romania's national poet. He is considered to have changed both the form and the content of Romanian poetry, strongly influencing the following generations of poets. Moreover, one of the most famous Romanian historians, Nicolae Iorga, described Eminescu as "the godfather of the modern Romanian languagein the same way that Shakespeare is seen to have directly influenced the English language."

Eminescu started his education in Romania and after a few years in which he roamed the country with different theatre companies, working as a prompter and a copyist, he continued his studies in Berlin and Vienna, in Philosophy and Law. During his university years, Mihai Eminescu became involved in the Romanian literary scene and was a frequent collaborator of various literary magazines and publications, being strongly influenced by the German philosophy and western literature. However, his most notable connection was with the Romanian literary society Junimea, founded in Ia i in 1863, which is considered the most influential intellectual and political association of the 19th century, and which helped set up the basis of the modern Romanian culture.

After completing his education, he returned to Romania, having various jobs, from university librarian to journalist and editor-in-chief, while continuing to write and publish poetry, being perceived as one of the Europe's most illustrious poets of his generation.Eminescu's poems are often imbued with mythology and philosophy, from Heraclit and Platon to Schopenhauer, Kant and Hegel, but also with Asian philosophies. Eminescu's prose is considered strongly influenced by German Romanticism, most notably Novalis, Goethe or Lenau. But probably the strongest influence on Eminescu's work remains folklore and the spiritual ancestry of the Romanian people. He capitalised folkloric themes and motifs, giving them a new poetic dimension in poems like Luceafărul, Călin (File din



poveste), Strigoii, Scrisoarea III, Doina, Revedere, while turning simple, peasant speech into poetic language, using archaisms and regionalisms and masterfully handling rhyme and verse.

Although he is most known for his poetry and prose, Eminescu also wrote numerous political articles and essays published in many important newspapers and political leaflets. Eminescu also dedicated his life and work for the independence of Romania and most of his notable political pieces belong to this period, when Romania was fighting the Ottoman Empire (1877-1878) and throughout the diplomatic efforts that eventually brought the international recognition of Romanian independence.

Ukraine puts Dnipro toll at 21 after wave of Russian strikes

wave of strikes causing power outages and blackouts across the war-torn country. Ukrainian officials said more than 40 people were still missing after the Dnpiro strike Saturday, which came as Ukraine celebrated the Old New Year, a popular holiday, and as Britain became the first Western country to offer Kyiv the heavy tanks it has long sought. At least 21 people were killed and 73 others wounded in Saturday's attack on the Dnipro tower block, Ukraine's regional council head Mykola Lukashuk said. A 15-yearold girl was among the dead, officials said, after dozens of people were pulled from the rubble. "Rescue operations continue. The fate of more than 40 people remain unknown," regional governor Valentyn Reznichenko said Sunday. Rescuers battled through the night in a bid to free a woman trapped under the rubble after hearing her voice, the state emergency service said. The strike destroyed dozens of flats in the Dnipro apartment block leaving hundreds of people homeless, said Kyrylo Tymoshenko, a senior official at the presidency. The Ukrainian army said the block was hit by an X-22 Russian missile that it lacked the capacity to shoot down. "Only anti-aircraft missile systems, which in the future may be provided to Ukraine by Western partners... are capable of intercepting these air targets," it said. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky on Saturday pleaded for more Western military weapons, saying that Russian "terror" could be stopped only on the battlefield. "What is needed for this? Those weapons that are in the warehouses of our partners," Zelensky said. On Saturday, British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak pledged to provide Challenger 2 tanks to Ukraine, the first Western country to supply the heavy tanks Kyiv has been demanding. The tanks would arrive in Ukraine in the coming weeks, Downing Street said, adding that Britain would also train the Ukrainian Armed Forces on how to use them. Russia's embassy in Britain warned that "bringing tanks to the conflict zone, far from drawing the hostilities to a close, will only serve to intensify combat operations, generating more casualties, including among the civilian population". - APP

United States President Joe Biden declares disaster in California

DNA

WASHINGTON: United States President Joe Biden has declared a major disaster in the state of California, as the latest in a succession of storm systems brought heavy flooding to already waterlogged regions and threatened snowfalls of up to two metres (six feet). The latest system was expected to bring "heavy lower-elevation rain, significant mountain snow, and strong winds," with "another surge of Pacific moisture" expected on Monday, the National Weather Service (NWS) said. It predicted "disastrous flooding" across the lower Salinas River valley, a key agricultural region south of San Francisco Bay. Late on Saturday, Biden "declared that a major disaster exists in the State of California and ordered Federal aid to supplement State, tribal, and local recovery efforts in the areas affected by severe winter storms, flooding, landslides, and mudslides", the White House said in a statement. "Assistance can include grants for temporary housing and home repairs, low-cost loans to cover uninsured property losses, and other programmes to help individuals and business owners recover from the effects of the disaster," the statement said. "Federal funding also is available to State, tribal, and eligible local govern-

State, tribal, and eligible local governments and certain private nonprofit organizations on a cost-sharing basis for emergency work in the counties of Merced, Sacramento, and Santa Cruz." At least 19 people are known to have died from storm-related causes in the last three weeks. Among them were drivers found in submerged cars, people struck by falling trees, and a husband and wife killed in a rockfall. Rising waters and unsuitable conditions resulted in a halt in the search for five-year-old Kyle Doan, who was swept away in floodwaters as his mother tried to pull him to safety from their

car, the San Luis Obispo County Sheriff's office said on Saturday.

In Spreckels, a community a few hundred metres from the Salinas river, most residents had opted not to evacuate despite warnings from authorities. "It looks like we might have missed kind of the worst of it," Robert Zagajeski, out walking his dog under a light rain, told the AFP news agency.

A few kilometres away, 30-year-old farm worker Erick Diaz watched the flooded fields from his home near the river. Despite evacuation orders, he too had remained. "I have nowhere to go and, for the moment, everything is fine," he said.

Floodwaters from the rising San Lorenzo River, which cuts through the town in the Santa Cruz Mountains, inundated Felton Grove, triggering emergency evacuations. Rubbish bins were seen floating down streets, with water levels reaching stop signs and overtaking parked vehicles.

JANUARY 2023

Pakistan's Premier News & Diplomatic Affairs Magazine

Find us on: www.centreline.com.pk www.dnanews.com.pl www.islamabadpost.com.pk





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



Published by Ansar Mahmood Bhatti, Printed at Rohani Art Press, Islamabad Ph: 051-2266165, Email: newsroomisbpost@gmail.com