

Wednesday, February 15, 2023

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Nikki Haley launches 2024 Republican presidential bid

Detailed News On Page-08

Malaysian PM to visit quakehit Turkiye

Detailed News On Page-07



Salah sees fresh start for Liverpool **Detailed News On Page-06**



Briefs

DG IAEA due in Pak today

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Rafael Mariano Grossi, Director General, International Atomic En-

ergy Agency (IAEA) will visit Pakistan from 15 - 16 February 2023. During his two-day visit, DG IAEA will hold high level meetings and undertake visits to different institutions employing nuclear technology in the fields of health, agriculture, industry and power generation. The visit will provide an opportunity to Pakistan and the IAEA to explore avenues for further strengthening their ongoing cooperation in the area of peaceful applications of nuclear technology.

Imran role crucial to end crises

ALI HAMZA



Minister Chaudhry Parvez Elahi said on

PTI Chairman Imran Khan had the ability to take the country out of the vortex. Expressing his thoughts, Mr Elahi berated the Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM), saying, "The country is facing difficulties due to inept rulers. The country's economy is witnessing woes because of so called experienced politicians." Speaking about the relief provided to the masses, Mr Elahi said, "The rulers are exposed in terms of providing relief to the masses."

Pakistan condemns Israeli acts

DNA ISLAMABAD:Pakistan

strongly con-



in the Occupied Palestinian Territory of West Bank. It is a clear and flagrant violation of International law and relevant United Nations resolutions. It further encroaches upon the rights of the people of Palestine. The illegal and unjust Israeli action would further aggravate the tense situation and undermine the prospect of peace in the region.

Inside.

Pakistan, Ivory Coast reiterate to enhance

bilateral cooperation

Sri Lankan senior

civil servants

meet HEC chief

ICCI, PBBC sign

MoU to promote

Pak-UK trade

A day of flowers,

chocolates and

sentimental cards

Army wins National

Men's Netball

Championship crown

NATO countries

weigh more arms for Ukraine

Turkiye quake Europe's

worst natural disaster

in 'a century'

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AFTER PRESIDENT'S REFUSAL

Govt to seek mini-budget nod from NA

Rs 170 billion new taxes proposed; austerity drive being launched

Ansar M Bhatti

ISLAMABAD: After President Dr Arif Alvi's refusal to issue an Ordinance regarding the mini-budget, the government has decided to get it approved from the Parliament, for which the special session of the National Assembly is being held today. The decision was made during the cabinet meeting which ended late night. The Finance Minister Ishaq Dar shall lay the bill before the House for LONDON: Fitch Ratings has downapproval and the government intends to get it approved the same day i.e. today.

It may be mentioned here that the mini-budget is being introduced as per the directions of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) that wants Pakistan to increase its revenue and broaden the tax net. To meet yet another demand of the IMF , the government on February 13 had already increased prices of gas and electricity thus putting extra burden on ordinary people. Pakistan and the IMF will resume talks virtually after 10 days of face-to-face discussions in Islamabad on how to keep the country afloat ended without a deal. President Dr Arif Alvi has raised objections on the government's bid to impose the 'mini-budget' recommendations through an ordinance, citing sources, media reported on Tuesday. Sources said that the federal government decided to impose an ordinance for implementing the budgetary recommendations.

Continued on Page 06

BUREAU REPORT

LAHORE: Punjab Governor Baligh Ur Re-

hman decided on Tuesday to approach the

Lahore High Court (LHC) to seek clarity

Fitch Ratings downgrades Pak rating

A sister publication of CENTRELINE & DNA News Agency

News Desk

graded Pakistan's Long-Term Foreign-Currency Issuer Default Rating (IDR) to "CCC-" from "CCC+", a statement from the agency said Tuesday. The downgrade reflects further sharp deterioration in external liquidity and funding conditions and the decline of foreign exchange reserves to critically low levels. Falling reserves reflect large, albeit declining, current account deficits (CADs), external debt servicing, and earlier FX intervention by the central bank, particularly in 4Q22, when an informal exchange-rate cap appears to have been in place, the statement mentioned. "We expect reserves to remain at low levels, though we do forecast a modest recovery during the remainder of FY23, due to anticipated inflows and the recent re-

tactics

is looking at how the govt is escaping elections

LAHORE:Pakistan Tehreeke-Insaf (PTI) Secretary General Asad Umar reiterated on Tuesday the demand of holding snap polls. Speaking to media flanked by fellow leaders Fawad Chaudhry and Hammad Azhar, Mr Úmar talked about the "Jail Bharo Movement," saying, "Besides the workers, the bigwigs of the party are also ready to court arrest." Mr Umar stated, citing the Lahore High Court's (LHC) decision, "It has been over four days since the LHC gave a ruling on holding elections in Punjab.""But the governor has not announced the elections in the province." Taking a jibe at the incumbent government, Mr Umar said, "The entire mass is looking at how the coalition government is escaping the elections." Reminding his opponents of the supremacy of the constitution, Mr. Umar said, "There is no bigger crime than to violate the constitution." He cited the opinions of the legal experts, saying, "The act of violation of the constitution is equivalent to sedition as per the legal community." Meanwhile, former federal minister Fawad Chaudhry said that the officers involved in violence on party supporters during May 25 long march have been again restored to their positions. He said that a constitutional crisis in the country has

Continued on Page 06



Entire mass

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Ishaq Dar calls on President Dr Arif Alvi at Aiwan-e-Sadr. - DNA **PTI slams** Maryam slams govt over

Imran over Gen. Bajwa remarks

PML-N chief organizer says Khan lacked economic plan

ABID RAZA LAHORE: Pakistan League-Nawaz Muslim (PML-N) Chief organiser Maryam Nawaz slammed Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf

(PTI) Chairman Imran Khan for his "super king" remarks about ex-chief of army staff General (retd) Qamar Javed Bajwa. "If General Bajwa was the 'super king' at that time, what were you, his servant?" said Marvam during her address to party leaders in Lahore on Tuesday. Criticising Khan, Maryam said that the PTI chief kept holding meetings with the former army chief even after his government was toppled. "You earlier

'Imran's real face being exposed

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Information and Broadcasting Marriyum Aurangzeb says cases like Israr Saeed are exposing Imran Khan's reality every passing day. Talking to media in Islamabad on Tuesday, she said LDA Chief Engineer Israr Saeed has submitted an affidavit in the court revealing the agenda of fake cases against Shehbaz Sharif by PTI government. The Minister said Shehzad Akbar and his team were hired for fake cases against

Continued on Page 06

said that no one helped me as much as

Continued on Page 06



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Polls date: Governor to move LHC for clarity

over his role in the consultative process for the election date in the province. The Election Commission of Pakistan has called an important meeting today to discuss situation arising after Governor refusal to give a date. In a statement, issued after a meeting was held on the LHC's directives to finalise the date for the election, Baligh Ur Rehman's spokesperson said that there were some issues in the high court's order that required "clarification and interpretation". "After consultation with legal and constitutional experts, the matter will be referred to the court," said the spokesperson after meeting an Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) delegation. A three-member ECP delegation, headed by the secretary of the commission, had called on the governor on the orders of Chief Election

POLLS IN PUNJAB

Election Commission

crucial meeting today

Continued on Page 06

Commissioner Sikander Sultan Raja. The

commission would now brief the elector-

al body on its meeting with the governor.

PPP decides not to contest NA by-polls

KHAYAM ABBASI

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan People's Party (PPP) has decided against contesting the upcoming by-elections on the National Assembly (NA) seats, accepting the proposal tabled by Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM), media reported on Tuesday, citing sources. According to details, the decision to boycott the upcoming by-elections was taken during PPP's parliamentary board meeting, chaired by PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari. Sources told media that the meeting was attended by Yousuf Raza Gilani, Raja Pervez Ashraf, Nair Bukhari, Farhatullah Babar, Makhdoom Ahmed Mehmood, Faryal Talpur and candidates of the by-elections. The participants of the meeting were divided over the Pakistan Democratic Movement's

proposal, sources claimed.

(PDM) Continued on Page 06

PM attends ceremony of AMAN-23

Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Muhammad Amjad Khan Niazi welcomed the prime minister

NAZIR SIYAL

KARACHI: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday attended the concluding ceremony of the multinational Maritime Exercise AMAN-23 of the Pakistan Navy.



The prime minister was chief guest of the ceremony held in the Arabian Sea. Federal Minister for Education and Professional Training Rana Tanveer, defence secretary, governor and chief minister of Sindh also attended the ceremony. Pakistan Navy's spokesperson said in a press release. The Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee and services chiefs were also present. Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Muhammad Amjad Khan Niazi welcomed the prime minister on his arrival at Pakistan Navy's ship in the Arabian Sea. The prime minister was also given a briefing on the AMAN exercise who also witnessed exercise and responded to the gestures of respect paid by the passing ships and aircraft at the time of witnessing the International Fleet Review (IFR) Exercise.

The ships and aircraft taking part in the exercise saluted the chief guest. Participated by over 50 countries, the eighth Maritime Exercise AMAN continued for six days. Last week, a remarkable and vibrant Flags Hoisting Ceremony was held at Pakistan Navy Dockyard, Karachi, to formally commence the proceedings of 8th Multinational Maritime Exercise AMAN-23. A large number of senior military representatives from participating countries, observers, diplomats and Pakistan Navy officials attended the ceremony. The opening of the Exercise was marked with

Continued on Page 06

DNA PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Revenue Authority (KPRA) on Tues day organized a capacity ouilding workshop for the officials of government departments and representatives of private entities of Kohat, Karak and Hangu withholding agents to promote tax culture and also increase tax compliance in the KPRA in conducting the workshop. The participants included officials of District Administration Accounts Offices, Tehsil of the three Districts, and Education Department Local Government Depart-

Kohat Board. KPRA Additional Collector South Aftab Ahmad in his tending the workshop. He shed light on the history of sales tax on services in the province, importance of taxes for the development of the country and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. He assured complete support to the participants. "We need your assistance to ensure tax compliance. We have to work in collaboration to generate revenue for the government to be spent on public uplift schemes and my team will be available for your assistance, collector KPRA awarded certificates to the participants of the training. Deputy Collector KPRA South briefed the participants on the KP Sales Tax on Services Withholding Regulations 2020, in his pres the whole process of how to calculate, and withhold sales tax from the service providers and how to sub-

tions of the participants. Court Notice

Ishaq and Inspector Abdul

Khaliq answered the ques-

mit their sales tax returns.

YAQOOB ALI SHEHZAD CIVIL JUDGE GUJAR session and Permanent Injtection. Muhammad shabir Versus Tariq Shabir etc Notice To No.02 Waseem son of Tariq Mehmood Badhal Ward No 1 Mohal lah Babu Gulab Khan Near Kass Tehsil Gujar Khan District Rawalpindi. The service through ordinary means is difficult, so you are informed to attend the court personally, through counsel or attorney on 16

Court Notice

02-2023 at 9 am avoid ex-

YAQOOB ALI SHEHZAD CIVIL JUDGE GUJAR Suit For Declaration etc. Baber Qayyum etc Notice To No.01 Baber Qayyum son of Abdul Qayyum Resident of Jand Najar Tehsil Gujar Khan District Rawalpindi. The service through ordinary means is difficult,

through counsel or attorney

Pak, Ivory Coast reiterate to enhance bilateral coop

STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan and Ivory Coast (Cote D'Ivore) on Tuesday reiterated the resolve to promote bilateral cooperation in the fields of economy, trade, and culture. Both sides emphasized the need to encourage exchanges at high levels to boost bilateral reduring a meeting of the visiting Parliamentary delegation of Ivory Coast. led by the President of the National Assembly of Ivory Coast Adama Bictogo that called on President Dr Arif Alvi at the Aiwan-e-Sadr, President Secretariat Press Wing said Speaker of the National Assembly, Raja Pervez Ashraf,

tries under its "Engage Afwas also present on the occasion. Welcoming the delegation, the president said that Pakistan considered Ivory Coast an important country and wanted to proprocess. The president said

SMEDA's

support helping

transgenders

for livelihood

inkhwa chapter of Small and Medium Entrepreneur De-

opment Authority (SMEDA) helped transgender com-

ity in Peshawar in switching from routine practices of

ging and dancing towards honorable livelihood of gar-

MEDA for establishment of a stitching unit at Peshawar

was transformed into a vocational training center offering

skill learning techniques in fields of stitching, embroi

dery, fashion design to the highly neglected and vulner-

success story of our project of establishing 1000 Indus-

rial Stitching Units all across Pakistan including Khyber

Pakhtunkhwa, AJK, Gilgit Baltistan and merged districts"

nformed Rashid Aman, Provincial Chief SMEDA KP

while talking to APP on Tuesday. Rashid apprised that

the project was launched with a financial budget of Rs.

350.545 million and so far, around 93 Industrial Stitching

Units have been established in the country, benefiting

hundreds of thousands of people by imparting training

The objective of the project is to promote the public private

partnership to boost value addition in the field of textile gain

ments by establishing industrial stitching units by strength

ening small and medium entrepreneurs, he said and added

that an amount of Rs. 1.5 million was provided to an institute

REST (Rehabilitation, Education, Skill Development, Train-

ing Awareness) led by a trans person. There is a number

of hitches in awarding of the contract to a transgender, but

the management decided for going ahead with the objective

of providing opportunity to the neglected community of our

society, Rashid remarked. He told that around eight Juki

Sewing machines were purchased and installed at REST and

the arrangements were made for training of the staff by Na-

tional Textile University Faisalabad. "The center is perform-

ing well and successfully imparting training to transgenders

who are now starting up their own business or getting jobs

at different tailoring shops," Rashid said with feeling of com-

placency clearly visible on his face. . - APP

s stitching. A financial grant of Rupees 1.5 million by

community of transgenders. "The training center is

and needed to help each invest in Pakistan.

relations in various fields of Ivory Coast to visit and

cooperation, and urged the supported each other at other in the development He expressed satisfaction part in UN Peacekeeping

great prospects for promot- tries had unanimity of views to 2017, adding that Pakiing political and economic on different issues and stan had always supported The president said that Pa- of Ivory Coast. President kistan played an important Dr Alvi also asked the Pres- also thanked the president ident of National Assembly over the current level of operations in Ivory Coast of Ivory Coast to open their

greetings to the leadership elegation would prove to be significant step in expandng bilateral relations. Adama Bictogo said that the with Pakistan in all areas of mutual interest and briefed hospitality extended by the

help to further improve bi-

Election should be held as per

Haidar Hoti on National Assembly NAto the Constitution and law of and whims of a single party. The minister, in a statement issued here in reaction to a press conference of PTI ruption especially on Mohammad Atif general secretary Asad Umar party in the district. Sources said considered politics, Constitution and law as a game and Sources added that grouping in the the law as they bulldozed it many times during their ten to listen that PTI was runshould start its 'Jail Bhard that how the workers dare to start the movement when

Park residence. The minister said that PT was plotting to spread disorincompetent group in four

PUBLIC NOTICE

PTI workers unhappy with decisions of local leaders tary is appointed from an urban area. against ANP central vice president Amir

logical workers are unhappy with the undesirable decisions of former prorincial minister Mohammad Atif Khan and said that he limited the party to his hujra. Sources in the PTI said that dent of Peshawar region has made undesirable decisions and due to these and ideological workers are unhappy. Sources added that Atif Khan wanted o allot tickets to his blue eyed people who support him in the run for Chief Minister in the future. Sources added that Atif Khan made Mujahid Khan District president and Ayaz Safi as general secretary. Sources added

an MoU with

"Knowledge

Platform"

ISLAMABAD: In order to partnered with Knowledge

tration, campaign analytics, the penetration of a hi-tech

and the generation of dig- Learning Management Sys-

Sources added that actually, Mujahid Khan is the district president and 21 seat of the urban area. Sources added that Jawad Khan's brother of Mujahid Khan's name was allegedly given to full participation in any kind of protest at Mohammad Atif Khan who is presite the party for the ticket of provincial the district level. Sources added that alconstituency PK-53. Sources added that Jawad Khan is currently working on the seat of Assistant Advocate General in Peshawar High Court. the district also badly damaged the Sources added that in the selection of district president and general secretary and other office bearers Atif Khan didn't the party is able to give the clarificonsult with the lawmakers and other senior party leaders due to which majority of the former lawmakers and senior leaders does not want to continue with that both the office bearers belong to the current district cabinet. Sources party also badly damaged the party. rural area and the same union coun- added that Atif Khan wants to contest Sources added that everyone is trycil. Sources added that in the district the upcoming general election from the ing to gain a party ticket for the uporganization if the President is from national assembly NA-20 seat of Muja-coming election.—Online

address the rising demand Platform, a top EdTech for organizational adminis- company, to help speed up

PUBLIC NOTICE

headquarters in Singapore, Hassan (Assistant Man-Knowledge Platform was es- ager Growth Manufacturtablished in 2000.As a chaning & amp; Education). nel partner, Knowledge Representing Knowledge Platform will help Zong 4G Platform was their CEO, develop an online learning Mr. Mahboob Mahmood, and management solution along with Mr. Omer Iqbal for its corporate clients (COO), and Mr. Umair Ali that will help them improve (Director Outreach and their business operations. Engagement). This part-The ceremony took place in nership is another step in Islamabad where both Zong Zong 4G's efforts to pro-4G management and rep- vide businesses with effecresentatives from Knowl- tive solutions and services edge Platform were presthathelp them digitize their ent. Representing Zong operations and improve per-4G were Mr. Farooq Raza formance.-APP

tem (LMS). One of the top (Director GCSS), Shehryar Zong 4G signs

| Telli (Livis). One of the top providers of "next-generation" learning solutionsforthe Asia-Pacific, with-

Envoy urges rice exporters to join in trade delegation to Ethiopia

ISLAMABAD: Ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan Jemal Beker Abdula on Tuesday urged the Pakistani rice exporters to ket by joining in a five-day trade delegation flying to his country on March 05. "The rice exporters of Pakistan will get an opportunity to connect with the right people in Ethiopia by taking part in the trade delegation which includes subsidized airfares and accommodation



industrial sites and above all Lahore. According to a news technology to Ethiopia. How- at affordable rates.

ership of his country," he exporters could penetrate develop a strategic framesaid during a meeting with in the markets of Africa by work to better compete with the Rice Exporters Associ- investing in the agriculture the other competitors which on 21-02-2023 at 9 am avoid at five-star hotel, visits to the ation of Pakistan (REAP) at sector and transferring their were selling the quality rice

IWMI organizes capacity building workshop on GPS data, GIS Mapping

DNA

tional Water Management

organized a two-day ca- technologies for enhanced departments, Irrigation Department, On academia and students."

source GPS data collection Dr Sajid Rashid offered full ly designed to enhance the to Dr Ansir Ilyas, Researchdecision-making in gov- er - Water Resources Man- edge needed to stay ahead (OFWM), academia and note was given by Prof Dr tion of Differential Global

"The workshop was aimed oration among academia through practical demon- find the accurate location (RS) and GIS mapping.

"Our training program pro- world of surveying."

and understanding of open- for knowledge sharing. Prof scenarios. It was specifical- tial application. tools and provide in-depth support to IWMI for capac- capacity of government of Director, OFWM Reinsight of various applica- ity building initiatives and ficials and other stakehold- search Farm (Renala Institute (IWMI) Pakistan tions and benefits of these research efforts. According ers by equipping them with Khurd), OFWM, in his agement, IWMI Pakistan, in the constantly evolving and GIS in agriculture Farm Water Management Hafsa said. The welcome vided hands-on demonstra- The IWMI team demon- crop growth and take strated the actual setup of timely decisions for imstudents. According to a Sajid Rashid Ahmed, Vice Navigation Satellite System Differential Global Position- proved crop productivity. press release issued here Chancellor, University of (DGNSS) and its applica- ing System (DGPS) to help The workshop was useful on Tuesday, Hafsa Aeman, Okara, who stressed upon tion in survey techniques. participants understand the for OFWM officials and we Senior Research Officer - adopting GIS technology in The participants gained use of DGPS for increased hope that IWMI will organ-Geoinformatics, IWMI Pa- agriculture sector for inno- deeper understanding of accuracy and for identifying ize such trainings to further vation. He also highlighted how DGNSS can revoluthe mean sea level. The capacitate our staff on the the need to foster collab- tionize surveying projects participants were tasked to use of Remote Sensing

| Ruqia Batool (Daughter) Z-Tahira Kanwal (Daughter) 3-Hajira Bibi (Spouse)4-Tahir Abbas (Son)5-Farman Ali (Son) 6-Shujat Ali (Son) On the above application the objections of public at large are invited. Any aggrieved person may approach in person the undersigned for submission of objection (if any) within fourteen (14) days after publication of this notice. | are declared 1. Junaid Aziz (: On the above objections of p invited. Any a may approach undersigned frobjection (if an (14) days after notice. | seived. Following as legal heirs. Son) application the ublic at large are aggrieved person in person the prosubmission of you within fourteen publication of this | 1.Kausain Qi 2.Noshaba Si 3.Muhammad (Son)4.Muhan Quraishi On the abov objections of invited. Any may approacundersigned objection (if ar (14) days afternotice. | (Son) we application the public at large are aggrieved person h in person the for submission of ny) within fourteen r publication of this |
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| INCHARGE SFU, NADRA ISLAMABAD-DSFU PUBLIC NOTICE | PUBLIC NOTICE | | INCHARGE SFU, NADRA ISLAMABAD-DSFU PUBLIC NOTICE | |
| Application for issuance of Letter of Administration / Succession Certificate by Mr. Junaid Aziz with regards to moveable assets of deceased Mr. Noor UI Hassan Qureshi citizen number 3740504464053 has been received. Following are declared as legal heirs. 1. Junaid Aziz (Son) On the above application the objections of public at large are invited. Any aggrieved person may approach in person the undersigned for submission of objection (if any) within fourteen | Application for Letter of A Succession C Syed Aamir regards to simmoveable to see the syed A | or issuance of deministration / ertificate by Mr. Ali Shah with moveable 8 moveable 8 moveable 4220152542299 elved. Following as legal heirs. and (Daughter) fraq (Daughter) fraq (Daughter) thiuq Ahmed Aamir Ali papplication the public at large are aggrieved person in person the or submission of | Application Letter of Succession (Muhammad regards to Immoveable a Ms. both are all been receive declared as 1.Ameer 86 2.Kauser B 3.Muhammad 4.Waris 5.Muhammad 0n the abov objections of invited. Any may approac undersigned | for issuance of Administration / Certificate by Mr. Banaras with moveable & second of the control of the contro |
| (14) days after publication of this notice. INCHARGE SEU, NADRA | objection (if any) within fourteen (14) days after publication of this notice. INCHARGE SFU, NADRA ISLAMABAD-DSFU | | objection (if any) within fourteen (14) days after publication of this notice. INCHARGE SFU, NADRA ISLAMABAD-DSFU | |
| PUBLIC NOTICE | | NOTICE | | C NOTICE |
| Application for issuance of Administration / Succession Certificate by Mr. Abbas Khan with regards to moveable & immoveable assets of deceased Mr. Hashim Khan citizen number 3710320665459 has been received. Following are declared as legal heirs. 1.Munazza Khan (Daughter) 2.Tahira Jabeen (Spouse) 3.Abbas Khan (Son)4.Mouzzam Khan (Son) On the above application the objections of public at large are invited. Any aggrieved person may approach in person the undersigned for submission of objection (if any) within fourteen (14) days after publication of this notice. INCHARGE SFU, NADRA ISLAMABAD DSFU | Application for issuance of Letter of Administration / Succession Certificate by Mr. Muhammad Armaghan Khan with regards to moveable & immoveable assets of deceased Mr. Muhammad Khurshid Khan citizen number 1730146520291 has been received. Following are declared as legal heirs. 1.Akhtar Nagina (Spouse) 2.Muhammad Armaghan Khan (Son)3.Muhammad Behram Khan (Son)4.Zargham Gee Khurshid (Son) On the above application the objections of public at large are invited. Any aggreved person may approach in person the undersigned for submission of objection (if any) within fourteen (14) days after publication of this notice. | | Application for issuance of Letter of Administration / Succession Certificate by Mr. Zohaib Munawar with regards to moveable & immoveable assets of deceased Mr. Munawar Ahmad citizen number 331006828055 has been received. Following are declared as legal heirs. 1.Mobeen Munawar (Daughter) 2.Kubra Bibi (Spouse)3.Ghulam Hassan (Father)4.Muhammad Sohaib (Son)5.Zohaib Munawar (Son) On the above application the objections of public at large are invited. Any aggreved person may approach in person the undersigned for submission of objection (if any) within fourteen (14) days after publication of this notice. INCHARGE SFU. NADRA ISLAMABAO-OSFU | |
| Application for issuance of Letter of Administration / Succession Cortificate by Mr. Attl Majeed with regards to moveable & immoveable assets of deceased Mr. Abdul Majeed citizen number 4220106530455 has been received. Following are declared as legal heirs. 1. Maleeha Durrani (Daughter) 2. Erum Khalid (Daughter)3. Attl Majeed (Son)4. Wasif Majeed (Son) On the above application the objections of public at large are invited. Any aggrieved person may approach in person the undersigned for submission of objection (if any) within fourteen (14) days after publication of this notice. INCHARGE SFU, NADRA ISLAMABAD-DSEU | | PUBLIC NOTICE Application for issuance of Letter of Administration / Succession Certificate by Ms. Tahira Parveen with regards to moveable & immoveable assets of deceased Mr. Fazal E Rasul citizen number 6110180681177 has been received, Following are declared as legal heirs. 1.Faiz E Rasul (Brother)2.Tahira Parveen (Sister)3.Zahida Parveen (Sister)4.Salma Bibi (Sister) On the above application the objections of public at large are invited. Any aggreved person may approach in person the undersigned for submission of objection (if any) within fourteen (14) days after publication of this notice. INCHARGE SEU, NADRA SEU MANPACK ISB | | (I) No. 5066/22 |

Security of foreigners beefed up across Punjab

agencies to give high security to Chinese peo-

constitution

possible attack, security of foreign nationals including lateral cooperation. nThe Chinese citizens has been president further said that Faisalabad, security will be and Chinese nationals. The demic. The president asked Home Department and alabad. The security of Chinese nationals working and residing in industrial units ened. The Chinese people curity at KLM China Camp

Imran Khan himself was not

Islanabal POST EXTENSION OF THE STATE OF TH 03

Sri Lankan senior civil National Days and Armed servants meet HEC chief Forces Days **F**EBRUARY

cils, Police, and Prime Minister's Office.

retaries, Director Generals, CFOs, Con-

sultants, and Directors. During their stay

in Pakistan, they are engaged in multiple

interactive workshops on International Re-

lations, Planning, Geopolitics, Bureaucracy

Chairman HEC, Dr. Mukhtar Ahmed, briefed the delegation about the evolution of the Higher Education Commission of Pakistan and the formulation of policies for long-term impacts on higher education in Pak

ISLAMABAD: Chairman Higher Education Commission (HEC), Dr. Mukhtar Ahmed held a meeting with a group of 19 senior civil servants from Sri Lanka who are in Pakistan for two weeks of executive training at the National Defense University (NDU), Islamabad. The delegation was accompanied by Dean, Faculty of Contemporary Studies (FCS), National Defense University, Islama bad. This endeavor is being undertaken as a vital part of the "Pak-Sri Lanka Higher Education Cooperation Programme," executed by HEC Pakistan. HEC has already conducted two other cohorts of executive training for senior civil servants of Sri Lanka with the collaboration of the National School of Public Policy (NSPP), Lahore. The group comprises senior delegates rep-

resenting different departments of the Sri Lankan Government, including Public Administration, Home Affairs, Local Government, Sri Lanka Institute of Development

Mentoring Scheme" for budding journal-

ists from across Pakistan. The mentorship

programme, which was launched in 2022,

is designed to provide capacity-building

opportunities to young female and male

urnalists by engaging senior journal-

ts from the flagship Chevening South

sia Journalism Programme Fellowship

SAJP is aimed at mid-career iournalists

from South Asian countries including Af-

Riaz Hussain

Pirzada to meet

APPG delegation

Riaz Hussain Pirzada held a meeting with the parliamenta-

ry delegation of the All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG)

on Freedom of Religion or Belief from the United Kingdom

Minister welcomed the delegates and said that Pakistan

has traditionally strong and strategically significant and

In response to a question posed by one of the delegates on

the steps taken by the state for the protection of minori-

ties, the minister said that there was a strong constitutional

and structural framework present in the country for the

He quoted articles 20, 21, 22, 25, 26, 27, 28, 33, and 36

of Pakistan's Constitution which provide guarantees to

the minorities regarding freedom of religion, equal par-

ticipation as well as the right to preserve and promote

Whenever any international monitory or human rights

organizations visit the country, an untoward incident

happens, he said adding that these incidents are orches-

trated by foreign spy agencies of hostile neighbors for

The minister condemned the incident of mob lynch-

ing a man accused of blasphemy in Nankana Sahib and

termed it a tragic incident. "No one should be allowed

to take the law into their own hands. Blasphemy laws

are framed for deterrence and punishment is rigorous

in such offenses but the misuse of these laws can only

be averted by taking strict actions under the law against

the culprits," he said, adding, the police had taken into

custody many people involved in this heinous crime and

they would certainly be punished by the courts after due

freedom and protection of the rights of minorities.

their cultural identity, value, and practices.

fake propaganda and to defame Pakistan.

initiative in this regard.

Appreciating Radio Pakistan's social

at the Ministry of Human Rights in Islamabad.

long-lasting relations with the UK.

their knowledge and experience with their intake from 6% in 2013. – DNA

elease issued here on Tuesday.

British HC awards "Chevening



Feb 04 / Sri Lanka

National Day

Feb 06 / New Zealand

National Day

Feb 06 / Uganda

Defece Forces Day

Feb 11 / DPR Korea

National Day

National Day

Feb 18 / Gambia

National Day

Democracy Day

Feb 23 / Brunei

National Day

Feb 23 / Guyana

National Day

Feb 23 / Russian

Federation

National Army Day

Armed Forces Day

Feb 25 / Kuwait

National Day

Feb 27 / Dominican

Independence Day

Hotels & Restaurants



Emergency

Rescue (Police)..... Bomb Disposal.. Fire Services Rawalpindi/ Islamabad......1122 & 16 Emergency Ambulance.1122 & Rescue Services.4451122 Motorway Police...9266044 Motorway Police.9270601-20 ..9222596

Railway Exchange9270831-5 WASA Rawalpindi..5555489



Cantt Hospital...9270907-11 ...9290301-7 Holy Family......9290322-79261170-79 Polyclinic.....9218300-09 Shifa International 4603666



..5770886 Cantonment Board 9270151-3

Islamabad Metropolitan

Mentoring" certificates bars for The British High Commission is actively malpractice encouraging more women to apply SLAMABAD:Islamabad for Chevening scholarships

sion hosted a reception to award certifi- and group discussions. cates to the participants of the "Chevening Zoe Ware, Acting Deputy High Commis to host such inspiring Chevening mentors and mentees at the High Commissio The Chevening mentorship programme for journalists is a fantastic addition to our internationally renowned scholarship unlocks talent, which will inevitably lead SAIP) to act as mentors, said a news to a more diverse media landscape in Pakistan." Chevening scholarships are cornerstone of the UK's public diplomacy efforts in Pakistan which is an important ghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Ne-member of the Commonwealth commupal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, and the Maldives. nity. The British High Commission is actively encouraging more women to apply enced journalists two male and two female for Chevening scholarships. This focus has

Shashbaz Gill

challenges

trial court

decision

while rejecting Shahbaz

Gill plea decided to in-

dict him. – Online

Commissioners developed bespoke training modules that resulted in the female intake of Chevening selected young journalists and then shared scholars rising to around 60% of the 2021

ics and two sheesha cafes were also sealed for corrupt activities. The Assistant ed 141 different areas and ous shopkeepers for overcharging. During the visit. 12 kilograms of polythene bags were also confiscated, said ICT press release.

are numerous cultural visits in between

the training sessions, Chairman HEC, Dr.

Mukhtar Ahmed, briefed the delegation

about the evolution of the Higher Educa-

tion Commission of Pakistan and the for-

ICT admin

mulation of policies for the long-term im-

Sajal Aly stuns at sealed sheesha 'What's Love Got To Do With It'

He also highlighted the rapid transitional

changes that are taking place in the current

academic arena keeping in view the techno-

logical implication in every walk of life. He

also shed light on the pros and cons of the

brain drain and discussed the ways coun-

tries can adopt to benefit from the brain

drain that is taking place in almost every

The Chairman HEC emphasized that bu

country across the globe.

Capital Territory (ICT) adheld a crackdown against ed film What's Love Got to Do with It? at the Odeon Luxe profiteers, sealed two Leicester Square on Monday 13. Dressed to the nines, the shops, and arrested five, 'Ishq E Laa' sensation dazzled her way through the red whereas three illegal clincarpet donning navy blue sparkling attire paired up with matching earrings. While Jemima Khan along with the other cast and crew members present at the screening amped up the glamour quotient for the night. The star-studded premiere started with traditional drum beats, and also cap-Instagram handle, Aly shared a reel grooving with Thompson along with the caption "She is amazing" South Asian girls, and she is going to give a lot of strength During the visit, the teams | and courage to all of them". Soon after the premier, the ensured adherence to gov- showbiz fraternity as well as the starlet's fans started singernment notified rate list | ing praises for the diva, to which Aly responded with gratnine professional beggars | vital direction of Shekhar Kapur, stars Lily James, Shazad were also apprehended Latif, Shabana Azmi, Sajal Aly, Emma Thompson, Asim during the raid. – APP

Spilling the beans on her role, the diva told StudioCanal "I believe that she is the face of thousands of Pakistani and

No, dark chocolate Is not a health food

enged in Islamabad High Court (IHC) the trial court al of his acquittal plea in sedition case. Shahbaz Gill has also requested the IHC the delicious treat can be. in his petition to halt the oceedings in trial court. He has taken plea in the petition no such material has been given by the prosecution due to which he could be indicted. Trial urt order is in violation of article 10-A of the conitution. Shahbaz Gill reuested the court that his plea be accepted and he should be acquitted in the ase. The proceedings of till the final decision on his cquittal plea. District and Sessions Judge court Isamabad had rejected acuittal plea of PTI leader bad Tahir Abbas Sipra What's the good news?

Cocoa is full of flavanols,

chemical compounds found

ple Google search and you'll to have health benefits, infind multiple articles high- cluding antioxidant proper- Belluz quotes New York lighting the health benefits ties that can benefit heart University Paulette Goddard

of dark chocolate. Headlines health. Flavanols have been Professor of Nutrition, Food shown to encourage the Studies, and Public Health, cy (WASA) Rawalpindi from media outlets – both creation nitric oxide within emerita, Marion Nestle, obscure and mainstream expound upon how healthy vessels, which can improve But just how much of this "healthy" push is the product of somewhat deceiving campaigns to boost chocolate's image as something more than an indulgence? The reality behind benefits of dark chocolate Indeed, dark chocolate isn't all bad. The Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health reports that dark chocolate contains 50 to 90 percent cocoa solids, cocoa butter and sug- to a heart attack. However, much of as a child and repack- to 3 million gallons from 6 mil ar. It doesn't look that great that image is deceiving. when measured up to its competitors. Those percentages are significantly greater compared to the 10 to 50 percent of cocoa solids, cocoa butter, sugar, and some form of milk that comprise milk chocolate.

of diabetes risk. If you're to believe the hype It's something of a market-Vox recently published a

the inner cell lining of blood PhD, MPH, as saying that companies like Mars "made blood flow and lead to lower a conscious decision to invest blood pressure. Beyond this, in science" in order to make the Harvard Chan School their product seem less like ter supply to Cantt and city says that flavanols have a tasty snack and more like a areas from Khanpur dar been shown to increase peo- "health food." "You can now | would be decreased during ple's insulin sensitivity, sug- sit there with your (chocolate | the de-silting project. gesting a possible reduction bar) and say, I'm getting my flavanoids," Belluz told Vox. out there, you'd be ready to ing masterstroke that candy desilting project would star accept dark chocolate as a companies were able to take feel-good way to fight off a treat your parents might've Feb 25. He informed that the everything from diabetes scolded you for having too aged it as a fail-safe preventive | lion gallons per day during the ailment for serious health period. He said WASA would detailed article interrogat- problems. Vox traces Mars' try to meet water demand ing the prevailing notion of efforts back to 1982, when dark chocolate as a miracle the company behind Snickers "safe food." In the article, and M&M's set up the Mars iournalist Iulia Belluz took Center for Cocoa Health Scia look at 100 Mars-fund- ence, a research arm of the of the locals and the citizens ed (yes, the makers of the candy company to examine popular chocolate bars) and disseminate, in part, in- ber 1334 or register a com health studies that hinted formation on the health ben- plaint near the complain

G-13 & 14 residents to get water from Shah Allah Ditta Government Employees Housing Authority (FGE

HA) is planning to start construction of the missing ply line from the Shah Allah Ditta reservoir for a sustain able water supply system in sectors G-13 and G-14. "The authority has alread plete a missing link of the main water conduction line from Shah Allah Ditta Res nent water supply system

reaucrats are the decision-makers and They said that the main wa change agents in any civil structure. He ter line is about 14 km long termed bureaucracy to be responsive to with the majority of it already people's needs, improve the system's efficiency, and their intellect for ensuring fast-paced development. While answering The PC-I for the two kmlong missing links has now importance of regional cooperation among been approved by FGEHA The sources said the project would be completed in a year reflected on the improvisation of teaching methodologies such as online education, regions now lack 2.5 MGD o especially in the Post-Covid era. Chairwater, and the authority plan man HEC gave souvenirs to the delegation ning to use this line to get ar members from the Sri Lankan bureaucracy. additional 1 MGD of water hese two sectors have been aling with a severe shortage of drinking water for

nany years due to the lack of here that despite the passage of more than two dec ades, the sectors have been supply, and residents were ter and a few tube wells. According to the plan, th sectors would now formal ly be integrated into the CDA water supply network Khanpur Dam is estab lished, while at the momen the CDA provides water tankers to the residents at

Citizens urged to use water

judiciously RAWALPINDI: The citizens have been urged to use water scarcely as the supply of water from Khanpur dam to Rawalpindi city and cantor lead to a shortage of water in many localities. The Khanpu dam canal de-silting projec

Rawalpindi, and Chaklala Cantonment boards urged Khanpur dam annual cana sure supply from bowsers and

Info Secy vows to take Radio Pakistan to new heights

The Secretary said it was welcoming that Radio Pakistan was evolving with the passage of time ISLAMABAD: Secretary Information dia of the state broadcaster is per- isting transmitters with a digital set

and Broadcasting Shahera Shahid forming well, and "we are proud of up will further extend the outreach expressed commitment to take the it." She said the plan to replace ex- of the national broadcaster. state broadcaster to new heights of development through digital transformation, modernization of equipment and capacity enhancement of human resources. Speaking in an exclusive podcast with Radio Pakistan, she said radio is a public medium whose importance cannot be denied, said a press release issued here on Tuesday. The Secretary of Information said it was welcoming that Radio Pakistan was evolving with the passage of time. and the video podcast was a positive

Highlighting the glorious historic role of the institution, the Secretary said Radio Pakistan served as an academy for talent since the creation of Pakistan and became the voice of all legendary artists. Recalling Radio Pakistan's classic productions of music dramas, and other programs, she said the quality content always leaves an impact. She said: "We still remember the ball-to-ball commentary of cricket matches aired by Radio Pakistan." Responding to a question, the Secre tary Information said they believed in freedom of media, but this freedom

Now Available in

at the health benefits of efits of cocoa. - **Online**



PESHAWER

smuggling wheat impounded with 1240 flour bags

RAWALPINDI: The Food Department Rawalpindi and district police have caught five vehicles with 1240 ISLAMABAD: The Islamwheat flour bags while five

abad Chamber of Comaccused were sent behind According to a spokesadministration man, the food Department Rawalpindi and Potohar Division Police conducted raids in Saddar Wah and Pakistan and the United Taxila police station areas Kingdom. Ahsan Zafar and rounded up Saddam, Haseeb, Aftab, Adil, and ICCI and Rashid Iqbal, thorities of the food department along with Potohar Division Police conducted

raids in their respective ju- Honorary Consul Generrisdiction and rounded up al of Pakistan in UK said the wheat flour smugglers. I that the bilateral trade of He said that the accused around 3 billion pounds bewere trying to illegally ship out wheat flour and wheat out of the Rawalpindi division. The Food Department Rawalpindi and district police on the directives of the authorities concerned were strictly monitoring all the exit points of Rawalpindi district to foil wheat and flour smuggling bids,

NDMA dispatches 20-member rescue team, relief items for Syria

impairments. Talking to the white cane to detect ob- abilities and improve their use of the white cane can APP here on Tuesday, an stacles and changes in ter- use of the cane". Independence Training the cane to detect obstanot be viewed as a sign ISLAMABAD, Feb 14 (AP-Center Muhammad Jabbar Khan said that the white as those at waist and head ity, but rather as a tool cane tool allows individuals Tuesday dispatched emerto navigate through their gency relief goods alongsurroundings by utilizing with a 20-member medical a range of techniques, inand rescue team for recluding foot counting, land- added. marks, speed breakers, the The expert went on to

structions of the Prime Minister has dispatched the 20-member medical and rescue teams for the earth-The relief team for Syria

consists of 10 doctors from Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences (PIMS) and a 10-member rescue team from the Capital Development Authority (CDA) whereas relief items were also sent alongwith the teams for Damascus. The supplies included 131 winterized family tents and 3,966 kilogrammes of medicine. Federal Minister for States and Frontier Region (SAFRON) Talha Mehmood and Special Assistant Hamid Hameed sent the teams off for Syria. The rescue team will participate in urban search and rescue operations in the affected areas of Syria that will reach Damascus by PIA chartered aircraft Boeing 777.-APP

NHMP takes initiative to protect lives of citizens

ISLAMABAD: Nationa Highway and Motorway Police (NHMP) has launched an extensive awareness campaign on various high ways and motorways across the country to promote road safety and prevent traffic road crashes.

Talking to APP here Tuesday, an official of NHMP said that the drive structions of the Inspector Mahmood and during this drive, NHMP officials are seat belts, avoiding lane iumping, and refraining from using mobile phones while driving. He informed includes special persons who are actively involved holding placards with messages related to road safety. The official highlighted that former test crickethas also joined the NHMP awareness campaign to encourage travelers to follow being widely appreciated by commuters", he added. Moreover, he said that the NHMP has recorded testi-

platforms to expand the scope

Briefs ICCI, PBBC sign MoU to promote Pak-UK trade

PBBC eyes 10 billion pounds bilateral trade potential between Pakistan and UK

merce & Industry (ICCI) and Pakistan-Britain Business Council (PBBC) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to enhance cooperation for promoting bilateral trade between Bakhtawari, CEO PBBC signed the MoU during the visit of a PBBC delegation to ICCI. Speaking at the occasion. Iulian Hamilton Barns. Chairman PBBC and tween UK and Pakistan is not in commensurate with

mobility and independence



to take the bilateral trade tial of its blue economy. He as they have potential for it. to promote networking and economy has tremendous ness of billions of dollars and emphasized that the

that can greatly enhance for navigation. Jabbar in- the white cane should also

rain, while the three-touch

level. "The dots technique

cations and landmarks", he

THE RESIDENCE OF THE PARTY OF T

importance of white cane direction, while landmarks

vate sectors of Britain and business and investment

concentration to use effec-

He emphasized that the use

that enables individuals

bility and Independence

it comes to using the white for the individuals with potential of individuals with

technique involves using of the white cane should He said as a society, it is

White cane helpful in empowering

individuals with visual impairments

and mental optimization counting the number of ity and it requires a certain said the training center experts have weighed the steps taken in a particular level of mental focus and provides various facilities

and speed breakers serve tively. Jabbar said, "This

as points of reference is why individuals who use

formed that the two-touch engage in mental exercises

for individuals with visual technique involves using to enhance their cognitive pairments, noting that the

cles on the ground, as well of weakness or incapabil-

involves using a raised dot to navigate through their

system to mark specific lo- surroundings with greater

highlight the importance of Training Center organizes

He said that the foot count- cane saying that the tool visual impairments and for visual impairments.-APP

nity should reach out to in- stressed for more interaccommunity of both counternational counterparts to tion and events between tries should work together exploit the untapped poten- ICCI and PBBC to increase hilateral trade ties. He said to at least 10 billion pounds said that PBBC is working that the business community of both countries should and exhibitions in each potential to generate busi- Pakistan to further improve other country to introduce their products that would help in boosting trade be-

emphasized the importance

of empathy and support for

individuals with visual im-

greatly enhance their mo-

important to create an in-

offer assistance to those

who may need it in order

to uplift and empower indi-

ments. He said that society

towards creating a more

He said that National Mo- as a one unit should work

Pakistan and UK. Rizwana Asif, President Islamabad Women Champromoting close cooperation between the women entrepreneurs of Pakistan Industry said that Pakistan Zafar Bakhtawar, former President ICCI, stressed for promoting a common should diversify trade to wealth market that would achieve better results. He stressed that the investors of Britain should explore

cluding CPEC and assured

right partners in Pakistan.

He hoped that close coop-

eration between ICCI and

ANF seize 741.693 kg drugs worth

US\$ 17.827 mln Kg of drugs, 6020 litres of Hydrochloric Acid (HCL) worth US\$ 17.827 million internationally, arrested 19 drug peddlers including 3 women impounded 4 vehicles while conducting 30 counter-narcotics operations throughout the country. According to a spokesperson of ANF, the seized drugs comprised 5.338 Kg Heroin, 689.741 Kg Hashish, 14 Kg Opium, 11.556 Kg Methamphetamine (Ice), 20.430 Kg Amphetamine and 3376 x Diazepam Tabs (0.628 Kgs). ANF Balochistan in recovered 239.200 Kg of Drugs and 6020 Liters of Hydrochloric Acid (HCL) in 5 operations and impounded a vehicle. The seized drugs comprised 3 Kg Heroin, 227 Kg Hashish and 9.200 Kg Methamphe amine (Ice). ANF Punjab recovered 202.580 Kg of Drugs in 4 operations while arresting 2 persons involved in drug smuggling and impounded a vehicle. The seized drugs comprised 1.080 Kg of Heroin, 14 Kg of Opium and 187.500 Kg of Hashish. ANF Khyber Pakhtunkhwa recovered 221.767 Kg of Drugs in 11 operations while arresting 4 persons involved in drug smuggling. The seized drugs comprised 199.841 Kg Hashish, 1.496 Kg Methamphetamine (Ice) and 20.430 Kg Amphetamine ANF Sindh recovered 73.980 Kg of Drugs in 4 operations while arresting 7 persons including 3 women involved in drug smuggling and impounded 2 vehicles. The seized drugs comprised 1.180 Kg Heroin, 72 Kg Hashish and 0.800 Kg Methamphetamine (Ice). ANF North recovered 4.166 Kg of drugs in 6 operations and arrested 6 persons including a foreigner in drug smuggling. The seized drugs comprised 0.078 Kg Heroin, 3.400 Kg Hashish, 0.060 Kg Methamphetamine (Ice) and 3376 x Diazepan Tablets (weighing 0.628 Kg). Cases have been registered at respective ANF Police Stations under CNS Act 1997 (Amended 2022) and further investigations are under

CDA to plant saplings on retrieved land for increased green cover

SLAMABAD: The Capital Development Authority (CDA) as decided to increase the city's green cover by planting aplings on billions of rupees of land it recovered from illegal occupants under the anti-encroachment drive. The authority has recently launched a massive drive in

he federal capital against the land grabbers to recover its

recious land that had been unlawfully occupied by the maia," an official told APP. He said the tree-plantation decision was taken on the direction of CDA Chairman Noor ul Amin Mengal, and the authority would carry out a comprehensive drive aimed at preventing re-encroachment of retrieved land and increasing green spaces across the capital. The official said the CDA had recovered encroached land in several locations of Islamabad including the Kuri Area, F-7, F-10, F-11, E-12 sectors, C-12 sector, Sarai Kharboza along the Grand Trunk Road, and the Margalla Hills National Park. He said the authority also launched an awareness campaign to educate people from all segments of society particularly students about the importance of tree plantation so that green cover could be increased in the city by planting more trees. "On directions of the Chairman, the CDA is taking all possible steps to maintain the natural beauty of the capital city in collaboration with the citizens, particularly educational institutions," he added. He said Isamabad was the only city in the world that had been developed on the concept of green city and " the CDA is taking

Police decide to enhance security at entrance of NA

police have decided to introduce an entry and exit system at the entrance of the National Assembly Secretariat and maintain a complete database of its employees. The decision to this effect was made by Inspector General of Police (IGP) Islamabad, Dr. Akbar Nasir Khan in a meeting held at the Central Police Office to discuss the foolproof security arrangements for foreign nationals and the law and order situation in the federal capital. All the divisional Capital

National Assembly Secretariat. A complete database of all employees working in the National Assembly and Secretariat will be maintained while special cards will be also issued to employees in this regard. IGP Islamabad directed the police officers to ensure foolproof security for foreigners. He said that police teams should visit nationals, ensure the installation of security cameras and connect these cameras with the centralized system

that the party's Senior Vice structure of youth will be rement, and business will be considered, she said add ing that the role of youth in social media and perfor-Marvam Nawaz would party's youth development said in the organization al meeting suggestions would be taken on the preparation of the vouth charter and there would be

Ivory Coast delegation head plants saplings in **Parliament**

dent Adama Bictogo, the head of visiting parliamentary delegation on Tuesday planted a sapling of grandiflora in the lawn of the Par-National Assembly Speak onnecting them with er Raja Pervaiz Ashraf, members of visiting delegation, top officials of retariat welcomed the ther improving trade and delegation on arrival at Parliament House.—APP

> PTA Launches NTSOC to Strengthen Cyber security

> > in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Teltional Telecom Security Operations Center (NTSOC) centralized platform for the management of cyber ecom sector. The NTSOC kistan National Cybersecurity Policy 2021 and Prevention of Electronic Crimes Act (PECA 2016), with the goal of securing Pakistan's critical telecom data and infrastructure against cyber-attacks. The NTSOC is the first ever sectoral Se curity Operations Center in Pakistan, after issuance of Cyber Security Policy It is comprised of three key components: Security Incident and Event Man-Intelligence, and Security Orchestration and Automat ed Response (SOAR) which have been indigenously customized to improve the country's cybersecurity rank ing. The NTSOC will have integration with telecom operators' SOCs and the national Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT), en-

Senate session prorogued sine die

suring quick and effective in-

cident response. Six telecom

operators have been integrat-

ISLAMABAD: The Senate session was prorogued sine die by the Chairman Senate on Tuesday without taking any of its business amid heated arguments between Federal Minister for Law and Justice Senator Azam

"In exercise of the powers conferred by Clause (1) of tion, the president has been pleased to prorogue the Senate session on the conclusion of its overall busi Sanirani, who chaired the

Maryam Nawaz to chair PML-N young leaders meeting

ISLAMABAD: Spokesper

son of Pakistan Muslim

League (Nawaz) Marriyum

Aurangzeb said on Tues-

day that a meeting of the

party's young leaders from

across the Punjab will be

held today in Model Town,

Marriyum Aurangzeb, who

Certainly many lives would have been saved situation in rebel-held areas. On Saturday, after visiting the abandoned.

he human toll of the devastating earthquake that hit southwestern Turkiye and northwestern Syria last week continues to unfold. By Monday noon the death toll in both regions had reached a horrific 36,000 deaths with more than 100,000 injured. An unknown number of victims are still trapped under the rubble. The extraction period will take time and effort. Millions have been affected by the disaster and hundreds of thousands of survivors are now in desperate need of shelter, food and medicines. This is a humanitarian catastrophe whose full dimensions will take many years to understand as both countries move from salvaging operations to reconstruction. While almost 100 countries stepped in to help Turkiye deal with the disaster, by sending searchand-rescue teams, medical supplies and sophisticated sensor equipment, less than 20 states, most of them Arab, responded to the calamity in Syria. The situation there remains uncertain, complicated by years of civil war, economic sanctions against the Syrian government and logistical hurdles. It took four to five days before aid convoys began trickling through the border crossing between southern Turkiye and the be-

leaguered rebel-held province of Idlib. No one knows how many lives were lost there because of delays resulting from cautious political calculations and internal squabbling. Certainly many lives would have been saved if it wasn't for Western-imposed sanctions against

Damascus and the complex situation in rebel-held areas. On Saturday, Martin Griffiths, the under-secretary-general for humanitarian affairs at the United Nations and emergency relief coordinator, tweeted after visiting the Turkiye-Syria border: "We have so far failed the people in northwest Syria. They rightly feel abandoned. Looking for international help that hasn't arrived.'

The failure by the international community in

objectives, whether it is altering regime behavior or effecting regime change. They never worked

China-Iran ties not subject to the West

he attention Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi's visit to China from Tuesday to Thursday has drawn from Western countries exposes their reluctance to observe normal interstate exchange es as what they are. China has always viewed its traditional friendship with the Islamic Republic from strategic heights. And consolidating and developing relations is the strategic choice made by both sides. Both experience and the increasingly volatile international situation indicate that maintaining the sound growth momentum of bilateral ties serves the interests of not only the two nations but also global peace and stability, as President Xi Jinping said, they are both stalwart supporters of multilateralism and steadfast opposers of unilateralism and hegemony That lays a solid foundation for them to consistently deepen their polit ical mutual trust, advance steady progress in practical cooperation in various fields, and strengthen their communication and coordination in international and regional affairs in defense of the principle of non-interference in internal affairs and the common interest of developing countries. The Iranian president's visit creates a valuable opportunity for the two countries to advance their comprehensive strategic part nership and play a constructive role in enhancing solidarity and strategic coordination between countries in the Middle East, which will help promote regional security and stability. The complementarity between the two sides in economy, industrial structure, development stage and culture means there is huge potential and broad space in their pragmat ic cooperation to tap, as Raisi acknowledged. The unilateral sanctions that the West imposes on the Islamic Republic without the authorization of the United Nations are devoid of legitimacy and they should not and will not hinder the economic and trade cooperation between China and Iran, which brings tangible benefits to the two peoples and contributes to the development of the two countries. As Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Wang Wenbin stressed on Tuesday while taking a question on whether the development of Sino-Iranian relations will hin der the development of Sino-US relations, the advancement of the China-Iran relationship serves the interests of both parties as well as the overall stability of the Middle East, and does not target any third party It is suggested that those viewing the normal exchanges between Bei jing and Teheran with prejudice should bear the bigger picture in mind and value the positive and responsible role China has been playing by helping to ease the tensions between the West and Iran as well as re gional tensions in the Middle East by promoting common development through pragmatic cooperation and reconciliation through dialogue. The West should realize that maximum pressure and playing off one power against another will only turn the situation from bad to worse

Aid for northern Syria: the UN must step up week on, amid the tears of the bereaved and the abandoned, the unbearable scale of the death and destruction has become horrifyingly clear. At least 35,000 people have died as a result of the

05

earthquakes in Turkey and Syria, making this one of the worst natural disasters of the century. Hundreds of thousands of people remain trapped under rubble, as relatives pray for their miraculous survival. The final death toll may never be known. Many millions are displaced and some communities have been almost razed from the face of the earth. In such appalling circumstances, it seems inconceivable that whole areas in the disaster zone should be left to their fate. But as the United Nations' top humanitarian relief official, Martin Griffiths, said on Sunday, this is in effect what has been allowed to happen in north-west Syria, which is controlled by groups opposed to President Bashar al-Assad. A negligible amount of humanitarian aid has reached Idlib province, through the only open border crossing from Turkey. As anger grows, Mr Griffiths described this as a "failure" on the part of the UN, which was both honest and an understatement. The earthquakes in this region have compounded the inordinate suffering of a population already blighted by civil war, airstrikes, absolute levels of poverty, collapsed infrastructure and a cholera epidemic. Basic resources to cope with any of these multiple crises are lacking. It is the duty of the international community to find a way to provide them. The realpolitik of an adequate aid operation thus requires the reopening of all closed cross-border routes from Turkey. This has hitherto been vetoed by Mr Assad's principal backer, Russia, at the UN security council. Vladimir Putin's justification for this powerplay has been the protection of the principle of national sovereignty – a professed cause that will provoke mirthless laughter in Kyiv. If Moscow cannot be persuaded to revise its cynical position in light of events, the UN and western states should explore legal ways of circumventing the security council. But given Mr Assad's brutal track record, without consent this route would come with risks attached.

Ultimately, skilful diplomacy and international pressure will be needed if entrenched divisions are to be overcome in the name of alleviating human misery. Disasters of this magnitude necessitate an appeal to universal values of human solidarity and cooperation that, at times, can transcend traditional enmities. The west bears a particular responsibility to make this case, having put Syria's ongoing tragedy out of sight and out of mind in recent years. Among the desperate survivors in Idlib and elsewhere are those who have been turned back at European borders, met with barriers and barbed wire. Victims of war, dictatorship, extremism and now natural disaster, they require our belated support and will continue to need it for years to come

A day of flowers, chocolates and sentimental cards

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Dr. Muhammad Akram Zaheer



A bouquet with yellow acacias (meaning "hidden love"), jonquils ("I want love back") and snowdrops ("hope") sends the message that you are secretly in love with the recipient. Like and hope that these feelings will be reciprocated. Nelson notes that sending these bouquets in the 19th century "depended on who you were and what kind of flowers you had access to, which I would say in the middle of winter in the United States of America. It's a very small group of people." "In the late 19th

alentine's Day in the United States comes with a variety of ways to celebrate. On this day bouquet of red was opening a section of finishing the puzbought with a heartfelt message and shar- small gift waited at the center.

Valentine's Day, she explains, "the idea was message encoded in the flowers.

snowdrops ("hope") sends the message that been historically attacked. What happened chocolate, is offered to male colleagues or you are secretly in love with the recipient. is really important." She adds, "Looking at classmates. However, the desire to distribute Like and hope that these feelings will be rethe history of black love in this country, if responsibility chocolates is decreasing. In a ciprocated. Nelson notes that sending these we go back to slavery, it's something that's 2017 survey, less than 40 percent of women bouquets in the 19th century "depended on been weaponized against African Americans. planned to give Gary Chowk. Tomo choco who you were and what kind of flowers you It's something that African Americans wer- chocolate can go to friends of any gender. had access to, which I would say in the mid- en't seen because African Americans wer- Japanese women who follow a gender-spedle of winter in the United States of Ameri- en't even considered human. Parker added, cific tradition have their own day to receive ca. It's a very small group of people." "In the "Young people in the 1950s and '60s undergifts from the men in their lives when White late 19th century, "you get more commer- stood how to politicize their love and to use Day falls on March 14. cial florists and therefore more availability it in a revolution to end white supremacy, to Flowers, chocolates, sentimental cards, even of flowers at a more affordable price. In the end Jim Crow. So it is conceived that the holpig-themed gifts can all be wonderful. But 18th and 19th centuries, puzzle purses were iday allows us to take a moment and remem-sometimes a relationship just doesn't work popular Valentine's gifts in England and the ber that history. And serve to remind us how out, which can make Valentine's Day diffi-United States. Since a puzzle wallet is intend- central and integral love, even romantic love, cult. However, if your heartbroken ex is still ed to be read in a specific order, the layers has been in the black community."

roses are presenting to lovers. Cards are zle and the sections of the text. Sometimes a put their own spin on the day. One is to include pigs, symbols of good luck in Germany, ing a candlelit meal with partners. Heart Eve Handycandy, founder of the African in Valentine's gifts. Germans also give heartshaped box of delicious chocolates are giv- American Holiday Association, was inspired shaped gingerbread cookies for Valentine's en. However, different times, places and to start Black Day after seeing the depiction Day, called lebkuchen. They may also include cultures are celebrated in other ways on of the assassination of Malcolm X in the 1993 a personal message. In parts of Latin Amerithe day of February 14. Here are sever- biopic Malcolm X. She stated that she want- ca, including Ecuador, El Salvador and Mexial of these lesser-known traditions. Roses ed a holiday to "focus on promoting peace" co, February 14 is not just for lovers, but for weren't always Valentine's flowers. In the and preventing violence." For Black Day, friends. Known as El Día del Amor y Amistad 19th century, bouquets could consist of a Handy-Kendi established "a Kwanzaa-like (Day of Love and Friendship), it aims to recvariety of flowers, each chosen to convey a principles-based value system." "The five ognize and honor friendship. In El Salvador, specific meaning. Elizabeth White Nelson, principles were expressing love for the Cre-people draw names and exchange gifts on an associate professor of history at the Uni- ator, love for self, love for the black family, this day in a tradition known as amigo secret versity of Nevada, Las Vegas, and author of black community, and love for the race," and secret friend. Market Sentiments: Middle Class Market she says. Black Day is not celebrated on In Japan, women traditionally offer Val-Culture in 19th-Century America witnessed 14th February but on 13th February. "Most entine's chocolates to men. Its origin story that 19th-century flower dictionaries clas- holidays in the United States evolved from is a chocolate maker's 1958 suggestion that sified each flower and gave meanings. For European culture," Handycandy explains. women use Valentine's chocolate to express "You're celebrating someone else's culture romantic feelings. Another says that Japathat you could give a bouquet that wasn't on a regular basis." Tracy Parker, an associ- nese department stores promoted the pracjust a bouquet of flowers. There was a whole at e professor of Afro-American studies at the tice in the 1970s. Women give different kinds University of Massachusetts, Amherst, says of chocolates. Honmei choco, which means A bouquet with yellow acacias (meaning "hid- of Black Day, "Having a place to celebrate true feelings chocolate, goes to men's roden love"), jonquils ("I want love back") and love, especially in a community where it's mantic interests. Giri Chokoo, the obligatory

West must reconsider sanctions that only hurt civilians

Osama Al-Sharif

century, "you get

if it wasn't for Westernimposed sanctions against Damascus and the complex Martin Griffiths, the under-secretary-general for humanitarian affairs at the United Nations and emergency relief coordinator, tweeted Turkiye-Syria border: "We have so far failed the people in northwest Syria. They rightly feel

It took until Thursday for the US embassy in in Cuba, North Korea, Venezuela and Iran. They Damascus to announce that "Our sanctions pro- never worked in Iraq, even though then US amgrams do not target humanitarian assistance and bassador to the UN, Madeleine Albright, told an permit activities in support of humanitarian as-interviewer in 1996 that "the price is worth it" hindered the flow of aid convoys to rebel-held ar- Saddam Hussein. Sanctions never hurt the lead eas. The Syrian government is hesitant to allow ers of the targeted country. But they do harm aid to move from its territory to that of the opposition. Likewise, Hayat Tahrir Al-Sham, which is in control of most of Idlib, said that allowing aid to come from the regime-held areas would be tantamount to recognition of its legitimacy. der. but then that also raised objections from outside parties. Moscow and Damascus want border point, while the US demanded that all or rid the country of foreign intervention. border crossings between southern Turkiye and northern Syria be open for aid convoys. By late Monday, Griffiths announced that some of ern sanctions that banned reconstruction of any these objections had been resolved. The UN $\,$ sort, including of power plants and pulverized Security Council was to meet on Monday to cities, certainly exacerbated Syrians' miseries discuss the situation in northwestern Syria, and eliminated any chance of recovery." while EU officials were debating ways to over- The catastrophic event that hit Syria's popu

humanitarian help to Damascus. exposed the serious shortcomings of sanctions as an economic weapon deployed to achieve po-Sanctions almost never work in achieving their

sistance, including in regime-held areas. The US $\,$ when asked about the death of half a million Iraqi is committed to providing immediate, life-saving children as a result of her country's sanctions umanitarian assistance to help all affected com- In the end the US invaded Iraq in 2003, after munities recover." Still political squabbling has falsifying evidence, and toppled the regime of vilian infrastructure, as is the case of Syria Iran and Afghanistan. The earthquake disaster has exposed how the government in Syria was ill-prepared to deal with the humanitarian cri It would only accept aid moving through the borsis there. The US Caesar Act of 2019, ironi cally titled the Syria Civilian Protection Act, has failed the Syrian people and did nothing to aid from Turkiye to go through one recognized advance a political process to end the civil war Writing in Foreign Policy in January of last year

geopolitical expert, Anchal Vohra, said: "West-

ride some of the sanctions in order to deliver lation must present an opportunity to revisit sanctions as a blunt tool that hurts the very people it claims to support, while pushing delivering life-saving aid to the Syrian people has state actors to revive efforts to kick-start a political process that would end the unpardonable suffering of millions of Syrians. The litical goals. The debate has renewed over the shameful response by the international comefficacy of sanctions and whether they do deliver. munity to the humanitarian catastrophe in Syria is a stain on humanity.

-Courtesy: Arab News

ISLAMABAD-Feb14: Girls are buying red roses bouquet at flower ahead of Valentine's Day market

in sector F-10, in Federal Capital.—Online Govt disburses Rs 371.88

Likewise, the government also disbursed Rs 511 million to Finance Division, Rs 710 million to Establishment Division, Rs 2.4 billion to Federal Education and Professional Training Division, and Rs 14.2 billion to Housing and Works Division ISLAMABAD: The Federal Rs225 million for the projects of the cabinet di-

and new social sector uplift projects of the federal 2022-23 under its Public Sector Development Pro-Out of the total authorized/ tal amount spent so far on of Rs 563.3 billion. the development projects period stood at Rs 203.11 billion. According to the

the development funds allo-

the Ministry of Planning, Development, and Reform. For National Highway Authority (NHA), the government has disbursed Rs 46.5

bn under PSDP 2022-23

ministries and division in The detail shows that Rs of the Planning Division, whereas for NTDC/PEP-CO, the government has cated in the federal budget disbursed Rs 48.6 billion. are released at the rate of The federal government remaining 20% in the last ment projects of the cabi-

Government has author- Earthquake Reconstruction vision so far. Similarly, the | Tuesday continued special ized the utilization of develand Rehabilitation Authordata shows that Rs 2.47 | crackdown against kite sellopment funds amounting ity (ERRA) out of which billion have been disbursed ers and flyers and arrested to Rs 371.88 billion out of Rs 207 million have been to Aviation Division, and four accused besides recova total allocation of Rs727 spent so far, according to Rs 282 million have been | ering 6200 kites and kite billion for various ongoing the latest data released by disbursed to the Board of | flying string rolls from their the first seven months (Ju- 95.1 billion out of a total al- billion for Climate Change | lice rounded up a kite seller ly-January) of the fiscal year located amount of Rs 160.2 Division out of which only | namely Akash with 6000 billion have been disbursed Rs 854 million have been kites. R.A.Bazar police held to corporations while Rs spent during the period Abdul Ahad and Mazhar for 276.6 billion have been dis- under review. For Highbursed to the federal minis- er Education Commission | flying string rolls. disbursed amount, the to- tries out of a total allocation (HEC), the government has | Airport police also arrested billion out of a total allo- for Commerce Division, Rs | of Police had also directed disbursement mechanism cation of Rs 117.2 billion, 63 million for Communica- the police teams to accel-

the Investment. The government also authorized

the utilization of Rs 3.3 spokesman, New Town Poauthorized release of Rs | an accused identified as Sa-18.4 billion, and Rs 41.8 bil- | bih for possessing 50 kites lion for provinces and spe- and string rolls. cial areas, Rs 550.6 million | Divisional Superintendents

tion Division (other than | erate operations against NHA), and Rs 1.35 billion | kite sellers and flyers, he for Defense Division. Like- | said and informed that on wise, the government also the special instructions of 20% in the first quarter has also disbursed/author- disbursed Rs 511 million to | Senior Superintendent of (Iuly-September), followed ized Rs 87 billion out of a Finance Division, Rs 710 Police, Operations Rawalby 30% each in the second total allocation of Rs 87.01 million to Establishment Di- pindi, strict action in acand third quarters, and the billion for various develop- vision, Rs 2.4 billion to Fed cordance with the law was eral Education and Profes- | being taken against the quarter (April-June) of a net division, however, only sional Training Division, and kite flying ban violators fiscal year. The government Rs 30.7 billion have been Rs 14.2 billion to Housing | and they were being sent also authorized/disbursed spent on the development and Works Division.—APP behind the bars.

Police continue crackdown on kite sellers; recover 6200 kites DNA RAWALPIND: Rawalpin-

having 180 kites and kite

Police Officers, SSPs and of Safe City Islamabad. He other senior police officers further stated that trained attended the meeting. It was staff should be deployed for decided during the meeting their security and their data

is also minister for information and broadcasting, said

more arms for Ukraine

Wagner head Yevgeniy Prigozhin said Russian forces would not be able to capture the town anytime soon. In a

post on the Telegram channel, Prigozhin said Ukraine was reinforcing with up to 500 new fighters a day.

versary of Russia's invasion Kharkiy region, which bor- on two bigger cities in

headed the Russian assault

on Bakhmut, had made

small gains in the northern

to evacuate the wounded,

keeping contingent is tem- Azerbaijan's mineral de- From December 12, 2022

porarily deployed, have posits in the areas where to February 5, 2023, a total

the Russian peacekeep-

ing contingent has been

temporarily deployed.

The unimpeded passage

continue to chant vari- of the various types of vehi- Peacekeeping Contingent

ous slogans in English cles, including ambulances 220 vehicles belonged to

and Russian calling for and humanitarian convoys the International Commit-

an end to ecocide against are being ensured and the tee of the Red Cross, and

Azerbaijan, as well as de- road is open for humanitari-

manding monitoring of an purposes.

Malaysian

PM to visit

According to informatio

received from the embass

Ibrahim is also planning to

Govt to seek

From Page 01

The federal government seeking approval from the president to sign an ordi nance for the imposition o a mini-budget ordinance Following President Dr Arit Alvi's objections, the govern ment team mulled over the next strategy. Sources said that the president wants to approve the mini-budget-rebefore the parliament. On the other hand, th federal government wants to immediately impose the legislation via an ordinance instead of passing a bill from the parliament to avoid spending more time. ernment would contact Presgate the ordinance after its approval from the federal cabinet. It was learnt that the budget-related ordinance cannot be tabled in the joint The federal government would be bound to seek the president's order again for summoning another joint

sitting with new agenda items after concluding the ongoing session. The federal government thinks the president would not summon the parliament's joint session again if the ongoing sitting is concluded. Federal Minister for F nance and Revenue Senator Ishaq Dar called on President Dr Arif Alvi at Aiwan-e-Sadr. During the meeting, the finance minister briefed the president on the overall economic and fi nancial outlook of the country. The finance czar also briefed the president on International Monetary Fund The meeting also discussed the imposition of Rs170 billion in additional taxes through a mini-budget. The czar to take the parliament in confidence regarding the earliest. The incumbent govset by International Monetary Fund (IMF) to revive \$7 billion Extended Fund Facility (EFF) stalled for months.

PM attends ceremony...

From Page 01 simultaneous hoisting flags of all the participating nations of AMAN-23. The Message of Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral Muham mad Amjad Khan Niazi was read during the ceremony. In his message, the Naval Chief warmly welcomed the participants of Exercise AMAN-23. The Admiral underscored that the AMAN Exercise is a regular feature that involves regional and extra-regional navies to create a secure and favorable maritime environment for smooth and unhindered maritime activities in the region. The Naval Chief in his message further underlined that Pakistan Navy has been a forerunner in its quest for promoting collaborative maritime security in the region besides generating the camaraderie as highlighted under the Exercise motto "Together for Peace". The Admiral emphasized that this bond will continue to grow and bring us even closer to the cherished goals of realizing regional peace and shared prosperity.

PTI slams govt over...

From Page 01 emerged and on the other hand, Maryam Nawaz and CEC Sikander Sultan Raja are running a campaign against the judiciary. It seems like Maryam Nawaz is heading this campaign, he said. The PTI leader said that an NRO of Rs1100 billion was given by the previous regime change. Mr Chaudhry went on to say that the Lahore High Court's (LHC) order is not being implemented, adding that the validity of court decisions is being nullified under an organised campaign. Regarding missing Mohammad Khan Bhatti, the former federthe responsibility of the judiciary to protect the citizens, adding that the judiciary shouldn't reof missing persons.

Army wins National Men's Netball Championship crown

The last two quarters Wapda had a chance to defend his title but they missed two opportunities in the last minute of last quarter to give chance to Army players to equalise the match with 25-25 points

AFZAL JAVED ISLAMABAD: A narrow margin

Pakistan Sports Complex Islama-Pakistan Netball Federation (PNF) Chairman Capt (R) Zafar Iqbal Awan was the chief guest at the closing ceremony of the championship who distributed trophies, medals and certificates to the winning players while PNF President Mudassar Arain, PNF Vice President Shah Inam and other dignities were also present In the men's final match played

da a seesaw match was witnessed from the starting of the final en- to net to level the match at the

GENOA: Inter Milan al-

lowed Napoli to pull 15

Serie A after being held to a

goalless draw at struggling

Simone Inzaghi's side al-

ready had little hope of re-

capturing the league title

conceded to local rivals

AC Milan last season and

them and Napoli widened

ing display in Genoa. Napo-

li cruised past Cremonese

3-0 on Sunday and look with

each passing week more

lanta. Roma and Milan in

the race for next season's

Champions League.

Sampdoria on Monday.



banners which read "close

to Turkey and Syria, Calha

with the message "Pray for

Turkive" during the pre-

match warm-up. "I thank

my teammates, fans and

said to Sky after the match.

"We're trying to help our

country in any way we can...

of that situation as soon as

possible." Monday's draw is

a good result for troubled

Samp but a point does little

collected 11 points from

eight behind Spezia, who

sit just outside the drop

zone and drew at Empoli on

time and put pressure on wapda players to win the final by 30-27 ints in extra time. points and Muhammad Iqbal

side along with skipper Muhammad Shamriaz, Nisar Khan, Fakhar Akram, Muhammad Gul riaz played vital roles for Army scored 27 points for WAPDA in the final. Pakistan Air Force defeated Navy by 23-13 points in the men's third place match. On the other hand Pakistan Wapda thrashed Sindh in the final by onship title in the women's category. Nisha Sultan scored 11 points for Pakistan Wapda while

while Zain Hussain

The ECP had said that the meeting discussed the LHC judgment on the gencourt's order, the election ed the Puniab governor to hold a meeting on Feb ruary 14 to consult on the date for the general elechad said. The ECP meet ing was held following the verdict that was issued by

From Page 01 During the meeting, the opined against contesting the elections. However, sources claimed the meeting decided in principle to boycott the by-Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) fight against no one. The candidates - who were nomi nated to contest the polls mention here that by-polls on 33 NA seats would be held on March 16. Earlier on February 10, it contest by-elections due to

Maryam slams

General (retd) Baiwa and today you say Qamar government," she said According to Maryam, Khan lacked a national economic plan, and "violence, bloodshed and turmoil" was his agenda. I had already mentioned earlier that the cypher issue was nothing more than a mere fraud," she added, Continuing her criticism of the former premier, the PML-N leader asked him how he could sleep well at night after lying so much. She said that everyone knew how PTI used religion for their po-Maryam said that taking a U-turn meant lying. "Others were termed foreign agents under the false narrative, and relations with the US and West were severed," she added. She said that the youth of Pakistan wasn't incompetent like Khan. An organised campaign was ed against the opposing political powers under a planned conspiracy, the PML-N leader claimed.

face being exposed

From Page 01 Shehbaz Sharif during unconstitutionally employed only to make cases against Shehbaz Sharif were also created to justify false cases. She said at the same pattern, LDA chief engineer Israr Saeed was ing to the courts while Imran Khan says he is not answerable to court in Billion Tree Tsunami Tosha Khana and other





Election Commission crucial...

From Page 01 day earlier, ECP, in meeting chaired by the CEC, had decided to conover the date for the gen sembly," the statement

PPP decides not to contest...

outposts

Imran...

From Page 01

lmran's real

Briefs NATO countries weigh

and towns along front lines

peared to be early salvoes

of a new offensive as West-

ern allies met in Brussels to

province and a principal tar-

get for Russian President

Vladimir Putin's invading

army, was in a precarious

Bakhmut that is safe or that

is not in range of enemy fire

nor Pavlo Kyrylenko told

caster. He said Russian ar-

tillery was hitting targets

Donetsk, which along with

BAKU: The peaceful pro-

tests of Azerbaijani ecolo-

gists and young volunteers

on the Lachin-Khankendi

road over the illegal ex-

ploitation of mineral depos-

its, especially the Gizilbulag

and Damirli ones located in

the Azerbaijani territories

where the Russian peace-

barded Ukrainian troops nearing, the Kremlin has in- ders Russia in northeast

in the eastern Donetsk re- a broad swathe of southern Britain said on Tuesday

Before a meeting of NATO

defence ministers in Brus-

berg said Western countries

needed to increase ammu-

"We see no signs that Pres-

ident Putin is preparing for

peace. What we see is the

opposite, he is preparing

sives and new attacks," he

told reporters. Ukraine has

also appealed to the West

for fighter jets. Ukraine's

military said on Tuesday its

forces had repelled attacks

hansk and six in Donetsk,

including around Bakhmut,

over the past 24 hours.

an attack on a town in the

been going on for the 65th

weather, the protestors

nition supplies to Kyiv.

widely anticipated.

tensified operations across Ukraine, it said.

and eastern Ukraine, and a mercenaries from the Wag-

big new offensive has been ner group, who have spear-

Peaceful protests of Azerbaijani

eco-activists enter 65th day

Ukrainian **Leopard 2** tanks

ATHENS: Poland has start-

ed training the Ukrainian crew who will operate the Leopard 2 tanks, local media reported on Monday. Visiting the army barracks in the southwestern province of Swietoszow where Polish instructors train erations. Defense Minister lead the efforts for building a coalition of countries that will provide Ukraine with A4 models of the Leopcy. Germany, on the other hand, will provide the coalition with more advanced A6 models of the tanks, he ered the Leopard 2 tanks to Poland for Ukraine, and talks are underway with Spain. "We expect Nor-

EU rejects Israel's decision to legalize 9 West Bank

the biggest challenge for

us is the spare parts. This

is the task we set for the

German defense industry.

Blaszczak explained.—APP

LONDON: The European Union on Monday rejected Israel's decision to legalize nine illegal outposts in the occupied West Bank and turn them into new settlements. The decision by Israeli authorities was not accepted by the EU, according to a statement from the office of EU foreign policy chief Josep Borrell. The statement said the Iewish settlements are illegal under international law and reiterated that the EU will not recognize any changes borders. It also made a call to Israeli authorities to stop the construction of these settlements and to immediately reverse the recent legalization decision. An Israeli ministerial committee on Sunday approved a plan to cancel legislation on disengagement from the northern West Bank that was enacted in 2005. The plan would allow the construction of four settlements that were dismantled

in 2005 by former Prime Minister Ariel Sharon. Estimates indicate that around 650,000 settlers are living in 164 settlements and 116 outposts in the occupied West Bank. Under international law, all Iewish set tlements in the occupied territories are considered

illegal.-DNA

OPEC raises world oil demand

forecast PARIS: OPEC raised its world oil demand forecast for 2023 on Tuesday after top consumer China lifted its zero-Covid policy. The Saudi-led oil cartel expects demand to grow day to an average of 101.87 million barrels per day this year. This is 100,000 a day more than the previous estimate, which was already above pre-Covid levels. "Key to oil demand growth in 2023 will be the return of China from its mandated mobility restrictions and the effect this will have on the country, the region and the world, OPEC said in its monthly market report. After almost three years of stringent health restrictions, Beijing in December abruptly ended the

zero-Covid policy that had battered the economy and caused widespread protests. World oil demand jumped to 101.17 million barrels per day in the last three months of 2022, compared to 100.79 mbd in the same period before the pandemic in 2019. Despite growing demand, 13-nation OPEC and its a 10-country group of producers led by Russia, together known as OPEC+, agreed in October to reduce output by two million barrels per day until 🏿 able Development Policy Insti- He added that, "industrial de- distribution and transmission the end of this year. - APP | tute (SDPI) in a recent intervelopment is imperative for in Pakistan for a long time. es locally is also a good intervelopment.

days but an advance to the Russian forces were making south seemed to have made headway. "We understand little progress. A regional very well that there is no road and rail transport and prospect that the enemy will logistics hub, Bakhmut has endured months of shelljust give up there and leave in ruins. Only about 5,000 fight," Pushilin said on Rusfor more war, for new offen- civilians are left there out sia's state-run Channel 1. "We don't see that yet, and of a pre-war population of our guys really have to do the about 70,000, Governor Kyto dislodge the enemy from pation of street fighting. their entrenched positions, in five settlements in Lu- the number of people there

but we see progress never-Prigozhin said Russian major objective for the Rus- They had also beaten back would provide a stepping capture the town anytime over half of Donetsk, includ-sels to discuss more military

Donetsk - Kramatorsk and

Sloviansk - and give Mos-

cow new momentum after

months of setbacks follow-

ing its invasion last Feb. 24.

The acting head of the Rus-

sian-installed administration

in Donetsk, Denis Pushilin,

encircling the enemy in the northern areas." Ukraini- and Kharkiy he said. an officials also said the Russians had suffered (90 miles) southwest of takes because experience Bakhmut, including tanks—has shown that stretching independently verify battlefield reports. Russia now controls swathes of the southern regions of Kherson and Zaporizhzhia,

"Bakhmut will not be taken

is heavy resistance. The

meat grinder is working."

Prigozhin said, "The heavi-

est battles are taking place

to the north (of Bakhmut).

There are no grounds for

including its nuclear plant, nearly all of Luhansk and

Cyclone-battered New

Zealand declares

national emergency

dated homes and left 225,000 people without power in

New Zealand Tuesday, as a national state of emergency

was declared. High winds and driving rain lashed the coun-

Chris Hipkins called the "most significant weather

spread," he said. "The severity and the

lamage that we are seeing has not been experienced

in a generation." Daylight Tuesday revealed the

severity of the disaster: roads eaten away by landslips

and collapsed homes buried in mud, silt and a slew o

storm detritus. Falling trees smashed power lines and

loodwaters blocked several major roads, leaving com-

nunities stranded. Local media reported some people

were forced to swim from their homes to safety. Others

waded through stormwaters on foot. Some were forced

o shelter in place. "During the night a huge tree

t blocked the road and we couldn't get out,"

53-year-old Whangamata resident Brendon Pugh told

AFP. ":It':s been scary. I am an ex-coastguard

to my shins, then waist deep in places. We were without

power from 10:00 pm last night until about 3:00 pm to-

day and we had no internet. & guot; An estimated 2.500

people have been displaced from their homes, but that

number looks certain to rise. More than three-quarters

of New Zealand's five million residents live on

the North Island, where the brunt of the storm is be-

ing felt. Some areas are still inaccessible by road and

without power or telecommunications. The main road

between the capital Wellington and the country's

largest city Auckland is closed. New Zealand's

three main mobile phone networks said a total of 455

cell sites were offline.—APP

try':s populous North Island, in what Prime Ministe

event New Zealand has seen in this century".

Ukraine was reinforcing with of the four regions, Moscow up to 500 new fighters a day. claims to have annexed them

visit the quake-hit Gazianter province and look into the works ongoing in the proince. A total of 75 member of the Malaysian Specia ter. The Malaysian premier extended condolences t quake last week, saying: " huge loss of lives, injuries "On behalf of the gover ment and the people my deepest sympathies and condolences to the victims and families as well as to all

earthquakes, centered in the affected over 13 million peo ple across 10 provinces, also ncluding Adana, Ad yaman Diyarbak r, Gaziantep, Hata Kilis, Malatya, Osmaniye and Şanl urfa. Aerial footage from over the earthquake zone in Türkiye revealed entire neighborhoods of highrises reduced to twisted metal pulverized concrete and ex oosed wires.-DNA

countries affected by the

disaster. May Allah the All

Mighty grant the victims and

bereaved quick recovery and

The magnitude 7.7 and 7.6

solace," he added

Bus and armoured truck crash kills 20 in South Africa

etween an armored truck and a bus has killed 20 people and injured another 60 in South Africa' northern province of Lim popo, the regional transpor department said on Tues day. "Twenty people were tragically killed in an and collided head-on with an oncoming bus" on a highway on Monday, the department said in a state ment. Ten of the injured were in serious condition and have been transport ed to the hospital. Police divers were searching a river that runs along the who might have been swept away.&guot; The cause of the accident is under in vestigation, but heavy rains have been drenching the region in recent days, a spoke man for the department Tidimalo Chuene, told AFP Downpours have caused flooding in several regions of South Africa in recent days, killing at least seven peopl and leading the government to declare a national disas ter.–Agencies

US warns its citizens in Russia to get out immediately

United States has told

its citizens to leave Rus-

sia immediately, due to

the war in Ukraine and

the risk of arbitrary ar

rest or harassment by

Russian law enforcemen

agencies. "US citizens

residing or travelling

WASHINGTON:

n Russia should depar immediately," the Amer ican embassy in Moscov said. "Exercise increased caution due to the risk of wrongful detentions. "Do not travel to Russia. the statement added. The United States has repeatleave Russia. The last such public warning was in September after President Vladimir Putin ordered a partial mobilisation. "Russian security services

plan to solarise government journey to renewable energy Pakistan amid the crisis situa-

claims it plans to destabilize Moldova MOSCOW: Russia on Tuesday angrily rejected the Moldo

of 1795 different vehicles

moved in both directions.

Of these, 1572 vehicles

belonged to the Russian

3 vehicles belonged to local

Armenian residents

van president's claims about an alleged plot by Moscow to overthrow her government and accused Moldovan authorities of trying to distract public attention away from the country's own domestic problems. Moldova's President Maia Sandu said Monday that the purported Russian plot envisioned attacks on government buildings, hostage-takings and other violent actions by groups of saboteurs in order to put the nation "at the disposal of Russia" and derail its hopes to join the European Union, Responding Tuesday. Russia's Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Maria Zakharova dismissed Sandu's claims as "absolutely unfounded and unsubstantiated." "They are built in the spirit of classical techniques that are often used by the United States, other Western countries and Ukraine," Zakharova said. "First, accusations are made with reference to purportedly classified intelligence information that cannot be verified, and then they are used to justify their own illegal actions." Sandu's claim came a week after neighboring Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said his country had intercepted plans by Russian secret services to destroy Moldova. Moldovan intelligence officials later said that they confirmed the allegations. Zakharova charged that Ukrainian authorities made up the claim about a purported Russian plan to destabilize Moldova in order to draw it into a confrontation with Russia. She argued that Moldovan authorities used "the myth about a Russian threat to distract Moldovan citizens' attention from internal problems resulting from a disastrous social-economic course of the current administration.—APP

Russia denies



RIYADH: Leannobots and Classera sign partnership agreement. The joint venture will deliver nost advanced tools for STEAM education in Saudi and Pakistani schools. Ambassador of Pakistan Khurram Amir Rathor was also present on the occasion. -DNA

China-Pakistan coop on renewable energy vital

Dr. Khalid Waheed, Research Consultant, SDPI disclosed that Pakistan imports transportation fuel worth \$ 3 billion, which is a huge amount for Pakistan amid the crisis situation

in transition, Pakistan faces various challenges and needs to quickly find solutions to energy supply and cost issues n order to achieve stable de-China-Pakistan cooperation on power grid uptechnology is offering green solutions for sustainable development in Pakistan. pressed by Dr. Hassan Duad

During the SDPI roundtable Butt, Senior Advisor, Sustain-

view with Gwadar Pro.

held recently, he stated that renewable energy including wind, solar and hydropowdustrial development in Paki-

nities and enabling industries frastructure systems in the discussion on "Wheeling Re- for power access, and initiaform for Offtake of Renewable tives such as power wheeling Energy" option and challenges are a must. To address the grading and renewable energy er provides high-quality and velopment system suiting local cost-effective impetus for in- cultures and environments." stan. However, novel energy Private Sector engagement, initiatives and projects are SDPI, highlighted that little complex, risky and time-con- attention has been paid to re- should now be to manufacture

headwinds, an integrated and synergistic approach needs to be taken by introducing a de-Ahad Nazir, Head of Centre for equipment locally," Ahad added, ducing losses in electricity "building towers and warehous-

world and has partnered with Pakistan on the Matiari-Lahore HVDC project. In the long run, Pakistan should move from being a technology user to a technology developer. "It is necessary to improve the products. Pakistan. So far, we have installation capacity, and the main focus with respect to wind energy

future employment opportu- China has one of the best in- vention to reduce import and

logistics costs."

Under the revised RE policy, the buildings by April 2023 and government of Pakistan aims to introduced incentives accordfrom renewable sources, including hydro, by 2030, which will

sources." The Prime Ministion.—DNA

derive 60 percent of its energy ingly. To attract Chinese comrenewable energy sector, wean Pakistan off imported fuel Ahad suggested them to set up joint ventures with large manufacturing technique in Ahad explained that "we need to local groups in Pakistan. Dr. adopt energy storage technolo- Khalid Waheed, Research gy and hydrogen fuel and eth- Consultant, SDPI disclosed anol. These are the things that that Pakistan imports transare less damaging than fossil portation fuel worth \$ 3 billion fuel and still they can ease our . which is a huge amount for

have arrested US citizens on spurious charges, sin gled out US citizens in Rus sia for detention and harass ment, denied them fair and transparent treatment, and convicted them in secre trials or without present ing credible evidence "the embassy said. "Russian authorities arbitrarily en US citizen religious workers and have opened questionable criminal invesw."–**Agencies**

mini-budget nod from NA

bad on Tuesday.

of win for Pakistan Army in the decisive final against defending champion Pakistan Wapda by 30-27 points to win the 22nd National Men's Netball Championship title here at Liaquat Gymnasium, between Pakistan Army and Wap-



tacking games and got points net The last two quarters Wapda had in the last minute of last quarter a chance to defend his title but to give chance to Army players

Inter fall further

behind leaders Napoli

we can only look at our- Edin Dzeko midway through

selves". "We're not satisfied the second half having made

with the result, in fact we're little impact. Turkey mid-

very disappointed as we fielder Hakan Calhanoglu

Inzaghi said "I keep saying forward was replaced by appeared to be in tears nitana earlier on Monday.

in-form Lautaro Martinez.

the powerful strike part-

nership which won Inter

But Lukaku is nowhere near

the 2021 Scudetto.

sixth after being beaten by the form which led to Chel-

should be." Inzaghi picked went close with distance team firmly ensconced in

in the stands at the Stadio

victims of the devastating

recent earthquake which hit

his country and Syria.

Luigi Ferraris honoured the their 22 matches and are

Romelu Lukaku alongside efforts in either half on a the relegation zone.

Liverpool welcome UEFA report on Champions **League final chaos** IVERPOOL welcomed a review into the 2022 Cham-

pions League final which said organisers UEFA were responsible for the chaos before the game, calling on the European soccer governing body to "take positive and transparent action" to ensure the safety of fans. UEFA apologised to Liverpool for initially blaming the Mer seyside club's fans for the mayhem following the release of the independent review on Monday. The final was delayed by 36 minutes after thousands of Liverpool supporters were unable to get into the Stade de France in Paris for the match on May 28, which Real won 1-0, while French police were filmed using tear gas on fans including women and children. "(The report) fully vindicates Liverpool fans while finding UEFA primarily responsible for organisational failings, absence of overall control or oversight of safety

and security, poor planning and lack of contingency plans,

Liverpool said in a statement on Tuesday. The evidence-based panel report also found that there was 'a clear and immediate danger of a fatal crush' and 220-page review followed an investigation chaired by Tiago Brandao Rodrigues, a member of Portugal's parliament, and had a panel including legal, policing and event-management consultants as well as representatives from fan groups, which outlined 21 recommendations. we call on UEFA and others at the top of the football tion pyramid to come together and take positive and transparent action to ensure there are no more 'near misses'." Liverpool said, "We implore UEFA to fully enact the recommendations as outlined by the panel, no matter how difficult, to ensure supporter safety is the number one priority at the heart of every UEFA football fixture." Atalanta in Rome on Satur- sea paying a club-record fee Over 35,000 people have Saturday. Verona are two | The report added that the parallels between last year's day night. When asked if the for his services the following been killed by the earth-points behind Spezia follow- | Champions League final and the 1989 Hillsborough soctitle was beyond his team, summer and the Belgium quake and Calhanoglu ing their 1-0 win over Saler- | cer stadium disaster - in which 97 Liverpool supporters

lost their lives - were "palpable". - Agencies



ISLAMABAD: Aziz Boolani, CEO Serena Hotels, hosted a dinner in the honour of 21st Asian Junior Squash Champions at Islamabad Serena Hotel. - DNA

Salah sees fresh start for Liverpool in derby win

"It's a huge win for us," said Salah. "We had a perfect week to train and the players were so excited and we couldn't wait for the game to turn everything around

LIVERPOOL: Mohamed Salah said Liverpool's 2-0 win us for what we have to do," said Klopp. "The performance optimism has to be put in the context of facing an Everton over Everton in the Merseyside derby on Monday is for the full 96 minutes was the best for a while." Liverpool's just the start of a revival for the Reds. Salah scored for the first time in the Premier League since Boxing Day as Jurgen Klopp's men snapped a four-game winless streak. Cody Gakpo then grabbed his first goal for the club in the second half. A positive night for Liverpool was rounded off by the return of Diogo Jota and Roberto Firmino from injury, while Virgil van Dijk made the bench after six weeks on the sidelines. "It's a huge win for us," said Salah. "We had a perfect week to train and the players were so excited and we couldn't wait for the game to turn everything around.

Hopefully it was a start." Liverpool are still nine points off the top four in ninth. But that gap to fourthplaced Newcastle could be cut to six points when they travel to St. James' Park next weekend. That clash comes just days before Real Madrid's trip to Anfield in the Champions League last 16 and Klopp will be hoping he has finally stumbled upon a solution to some of his side's woes in time for another tilt at the European Cup.

"Tonight we were there and that has to be the sign now for



side with just one win in 12 games. That victory came last weekend in Sean Dyche's first match in charge as league | PTI government. She leaders Arsenal were shocked 1-0 at Goodison Park. But Dyche was given a better understanding of the problems he has inherited with the Toffees languishing in the relegation zone. Everton were still left to rue what might have been had James Tarkowski's header gone in rath- and political opponents. er than come off the post just seconds before Liverpool took the lead. Instead, the hosts collected the loose ball and freed Nunez down the left, who squared for Salah to prod into an unguarded net with Jordan Pickford caught in no man's land. Everton were undone by another swift counter-attack at the start of the second period. Andy Robertson charged through midfield and found Trent Al- | The Minister said we deexander-Arnold, whose inviting ball across the face of the goal just required a simple finish from Gakpo. The Dutch international will hope a derby goal proves the turning point after a difficult start to life in the Premier League following his January move from PSV Eindhoven. "It was a great game from our side," said Gakpo. "We really needed this." - Agencies



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Briefs

LHC orders to deseal the office of Sheikh Rashid

RAWALPINDI: Lahore High Court (LHC) Rawalpindi bench has ordered Evacuee Trust Property (ETP) to deseal former interior minister Shekh Rashid office in Lal Haveli. The petition filed by Abida Shamim sister of Sheikh Rashid came up for hearing before single bench of LHC led by Justice Waqas Rauf Tuesday.

Sardar Abdul Razzaq counsel for the petitioner appeared in the court.

The petitioner took the plea property 156-D too is part of Lal Haveli. The political office of Sheikh Rashid is located therein. The ETP had sealed Lal Haveli and adjacent properties illegally on January 30.

Sardar Abdul Razzaq counsel for the petitioner said the department had not desealed the property due to ill intention. Deputy administrator had de-sealed the property after we had resorted to the court. But Sheikh Rashid office still stands sealed. The court while ordering ETP to deseal the office of Sheikh Rashid wrapped up the petition. - Online

At least 3 dead in shooting at Michigan University

WEB DESK

MICHIGAN: At least three people were killed and five injured after a gunman opened fire at Michigan State University on Monday night, as law enforcement swarmed the main campus in East Lansing searching for a lone suspect, police said.

Few official details about the gun violence were immediately available, but Chris Rozman, interim deputy chief of the university police, said shots were fired in two locations - at an academic building called Berkey Hall and the Michigan State University Union building.

Police responding to the shooting, which began shortly after 8pm Eastern time, found victims at both locations, Rozman told reporters at a televised late-night briefing about three hours later. He confirmed that at least five victims were transported to the hospital, some of them with life-threatening injuries, and MSU police issued an update by Twitter a short time later saying that

at least three additional people had been killed. Hours after the first gunfire erupted, several campus buildings had been cleared and secured by police as officers swept the campus in search of possible additional victims and a single suspect, MSU police said. Students, faculty and residents in surrounding off-campus neighborhoods of East Lansing, about 90 miles northwest of Detroit, were urged by authorities to "shelter in place," while

Nikki Haley launches Republican presidential bid 2024

the manhunt continued.

WASHINGTON: Former UN Ambassador Nikki Haley said on Tuesday that she will seek the Republican presidential nomination in 2024, putting her at odds with one-time boss Donald Trump, the ex-president also seeking to win

back the White House. "I'm Nikki Haley and I'm running for president," Haley said in a video that her team sent out by email. Haley, a former South Car-

olina governor who served as U.S. ambassador to the United Nations under Trump, will lay out her campaign plans in a speech in Charleston, South Carolina, on Wednesday.

She became Trump's first direct challenger in a Republican field expected to grow in coming weeks and months. Her announcement was a sign the Republican nomination race is picking up steam. - Agencies

Turkiye quake Europe's worst natural disaster in 'a century'

Turkiye's disaster agency says 31,974 people have died in the last week's earthquakes

DNA

COPENHAGEN: The World Health Organization said Tuesday that last week's massive earthquake, the epicentre of which was in Turkiye, constituted the "worst natural disaster" in 100 years in its Europe region. The 7.8-magnitude earthquake, followed by a major aftershock, on February 6 has now killed more than 35,000 people in Turkiye and neighbouring Syria.

"We are witnessing the worst natural disaster in the WHO European region for a century and we are still learning about its magnitude," Hans Kluge, WHO regional director for Europe, told a press conference. More than 7mn children affected by Turkiye-Syria quake: UN The WHO's European region comprises 53 countries, including Turkive. Svria is a member of the WHO's neighbouring Eastern Mediterranean region. Kluge also said the health body had "initiated the largest deployment of emergency medical teams" in the 75-year histo-

First UN team crosses into rebel-held Syria

week's earthquake crossed over from Turkiye Tuesday, an AFP correspondent reported, as anger simmers at the world body's slow response. More than 35,000 people were killed when the quake devastated swathes of Syria and neighbouring Turkiye on February 6, at least 3,600 of them in Syria, according to government officials and emergency services in rebel areas. "A multi-agency mission has gone this morning from the Turkiye side across the border crossing... It's largely an assessment mission," the World Food Programme's Syria director, Kenn Crossley, told AFP in Geneva. The delegation comprised deputy regional humanitarian coordinator David Carden and Sanjana Quazi, who heads the UN's Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) in Turkiye. They visited a WFP centre in Sarmada, near the Turkish border, and held a 40-minute meeting with officials at the Bab al-Hawa crossing - the only transit point on the Turkish border for UN aid deliveries to rebel-held areas. Activists and emergency teams in the northwest have decried the UN's slow response to the quake in rebel-held areas, contrasting it with the planeloads of humanitarian aid that have been delivered to government-controlled airports. On a visit to the Turkish side of the Bab al-Hawa crossing on Sunday, during which he met Syrian rescue teams, UN relief chief Martin Griffiths admitted that the world body had "so far failed the people in northwest Syria". - APP

ry of the WHO European region. 'Twenty-two emergency medical teams have arrived in Turkiye so far," Kluge noted, adding they would integrate into "Turkiye's ongoing health response".

The confirmed death toll following the earthquake stands at 35,331, as officials and medics said 31,643 people had died in Turkiye and at least 3,688 in Syria. The toll has barely changed in Syria for several days and is expected to rise. "The needs are huge, increasing by the hour. Some 26 million people across both countries need humanitarian assistance." Kluge said.

In Ankara, the Turkish government is facing accusations of failing to take precautions to minimise the damage from the earthquakes. Opposition politicians say the government did not act on advice from experts, who had warned of the impending danger. Turkey's disaster agency says 31,974 people have died in the last week's earthquakes. It added that nearly 195,962 victims were evacuated from the affected areas in southern Turkey.

Indian tax agents raid BBC offices in wake of Modi documentary

Monitoring Desk

NEW DELHI: Indian tax authorities have raided the offices of the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) in the country in the wake of a documentary that examined Prime Minister Narendra Modi's role in 2002 anti-Muslim riots, according to the BBC. In a tweet, the BBC news department's press office on Tuesday said the tax authorities were "currently at the BBC offices in New Delhi and Mumbai and we are fully cooperating". "We hope to have this situation resolved as soon as possible," the statement said. A source at the company told Al Jazeera that employees' laptops and mobile phones had been seized. Those in the offices at the time of the raid were not allowed to leave and employees scheduled for night shifts were told not to come in pending further advice, the source said. The tax department did not respond to emails, messages and calls seeking comment. India's foreign ministry on January 19 said the documentary was "propaganda". The BBC has stood by its reporting in the programme, saying it was "rigorously researched according to the highest editorial standards" and contained a wide array of voices and perspectives.



ISLAMABAD: Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari meets Ambassador of Syria Ramez Alraee

CTD 'repulses' militant attack in N Waziristan

DNA

PESHAWAR: Four militants and three detainees were killed in the exchange of fire when a Counter-Terrorism Department (CTD) squad came under attack in the North Waziristan tribal area, a spokesperson of the law enforcement agency said Tuesday. The official said that the CTD personnel were transporting three detainees from Miranshah to Bannu when they were ambushed by the terrorists near Mir Ali Bypass during which the captives and four of the attackers were killed. The spokesperson added that the attack-

ers wanted to free their accomplices.

"The eliminated terrorists were involved in grenade attacks on security forces and police as well as targeted killings, specifically the attack on the Cantt Police Station and martyring of constable Iftikhar." Four sub-machine guns, cartridges and other ammunition were recovered from the dead, the security agency's spokesperson stated. After the attack, the security forces and heavy police parties launched a search operation in the area to track down the terrorists who fled, the CTD added.

Insurgency is rearing its ugly head as terrorist attacks across Pakistan have increased lately - especially in the northern and north-western parts of the country since the end of the ceasefire by outlawed Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) last year.

FM Bilawal urges exploring emerging diplomacy tools

STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari on Tuesday called upon the country's young diplomats to explore new tools in foreign policy including communication technology to effectively highlight the country's narrative across the globe. Addressing the graduation ceremony of 42nd Specialized Diplomatic Course held at Foreign Service Academy, he said the rapid advancement of technological mediums defined new contours of diplomacy that necessitated an agile foreign service. The foreign minister emphasized that

new trends of diplomacy required a better capacity to cope with geo-political and geo-economic realities. He mentioned other emerging challenges such as climate change, food security, public health, and water issues, and stressed that Pakistani diplomats must remain cognizant of these subjects.

He expressed confidence that young Pakistani diplomats would continue to strengthen relations with the international community. Bilawal said Pakistan's foreign policy was guided by national interests, pragmatism, constructed engagement, and amicable management of diversities and maximizing commonalities of interests.

He mentioned the Resilient Pakistan conference held in Geneva last month was a proud achievement of the country that encouraged support from the world. He termed it a testament to Pakistan's effective foreign policy. Regarding the polarization of geopolitics, he pointed out that the international landscape continued to undergo profound changes underpinned by power dynamics and increasing complex interplay. The foreign minister mentioned that a process of foreign policy reforms was initiated aimed at better management and better skills. He highlighted the need for effective liaison with overseas Pakistanis be-

sides extending them maximum facilitation.

Norway to donate 8 Leopard two tanks to Ukraine

OSLO: Norway's government said Tuesday it would donate eight of its Leopard 2 tanks to Ukraine, fulfilling a previous commitment and joining a slew of Western countries to pledge heavier weapons to Ukraine. The Norwegian army currently has 36 Leopard 2 tanks in service. "Norway will donate eight tanks and up to four

Arild Gram said, telling Norwegian media it would happen soon. Gram said 250 million Norwegian kroner (\$24.8 million) would be put towards ammunition and spare parts for Leopard 2 tanks through the EU's Ukraine fund, the European Peace Facility. "The situation in Ukraine is approaching a critical phase and they need swift and comprehen-

tank crews in Poland, together with other allied countries". Germany recently gave the green light for the modern German-made tanks to be sent to Ukraine after a tireless campaign by Kyiv and other countries. It agreed to send 14 Leopard 2 units from its own military stocks and approved the re-export of the battle tanks to Ukraine by allies. Poland has also pledged 14 tanks and Canada will send four, with Finland, Spain and Portugal indicating they will take part but with no specific numbers. Last Wednesday, German Defence Minister Boris Pistorius

support vehicles to Ukraine. In addition, sive Western support," the minister said. said Berlin and its allies aim to deliver a Gram said Norway would "also contribute we are earmarking funds for ammunition first battalion of tanks by April, and others and spare parts," Defence Minister Bjorn to the education and training of Ukrainian would follow later this year and next. - APP

CJP's 'honest PM' remarks misconstrued: Tarar tells Senate The AGP said he was present in the court during the hearing and could confirm that the Chief Justice in his remarks did not say that only one prime minister was honest in the history of Pakistan

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Law and Justice, Senator Azam Nazir Tarar on Tuesday criticized social media for attributing Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Umer Atta Bandial's 'honest prime minster' remarks misconstrued and totally out of the context. Justice Bandial's remarks came during the hearing of former prime minister and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf Chairman Imran Khan's petition challenging amendments to the National Accountability (NAB) Ordi-

nance by the incumbent government. "Only one prime minister has come in Pakistan's history who was considered most honest. One honest prime minister's government was ended through 58 (2b). Article 58 (2b) was a draconian law. The court had said in 1993 that the government was [sent packing] in the wrong manner but only elections should be conducted now," the top Supreme Court judge was quoted as saying. The comments drew ire from senators in last week's session during which Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) Senator Irfan Ul Haque Sid-

diqui raised his concerns. "The chief justice called only one prime

Senator Rabbani flays AGP's 'clarification' of CJP's remarks

ISLAMABAD: Senator Raza Rabbani on Tuesday excoriated recently appointed Attorney-General for Pakistan (AGP) Barrister Shehzad Ata Elahi for "daring" to explain the actions of the House in a letter explaining the chief justice's "honest prime minister" remarks. Days after an uproar in the Senate over the purported remarks of Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Umar Ata Bandial, the government's top law officer had clarified that no adverse remarks were made by the CJP about the honesty of prime ministers in the country. "I (AGP) was personally present in the court during these proceedings and can confirm that no such observation was made," AGP Elahi had said in a two-page letter he wrote to Law Minister Azam Nazeer Tarar. The letter, which was released to the media, said: "In fact, [the] CJP had recalled the regret expressed by the then chief justice of Pakistan (Justice Nasim Hassan Shah) in the 1993 case of Muhammad Nawaz Sharif versus President of Pakistan, about the Supreme Court's proceedings ahead...[of] the general elections instead of restoring the National Assembly in 1988. "[The] CJP went on to comment on the then deposed prime minister (Muhammad Khan Junejo) being a very good and independent man who was removed through Article 58(2)(b) of the constitution," the letter explained. An incorrect version of certain observations by CJP Bandial was circulated on social media platforms, the letter emphasised. - DNA

minister honest, who is probably Muhammad Khan Junejo. Who gave him the merit to declare everyone from Liaquat Ali Khan

to Imran Khan dishonest," Siddiqui said. Speaking on a point of order in Senate, Tarar debunked the CJP's comments, say-

ing the remarks were misinterpreted. The Minister said Attorney General Barrister Shehzad Ata Elahi wrote a letter to him, stating that the remarks were reported out of the context.

The Attorney General of Pakistan (AGP) said he was present in the court during the hearing and could confirm that the Chief Justice in his remarks did not say that only one prime minister was honest in the history of Pakistan. Azam Nazir criticized Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) for deliberately leaving the assemblies and not participating in the law making process.

"An incorrect version of certain observations by the Chief Justice of Pakistan made that day during the proceedings of Constitution petition no. 21/2022 titled Imran Ahmad Khan Niazi vs Federation of Pakistan [is being] circulated on social media platforms," the AGP said in the letter.

Leader of the opposition in Senate, Dr Shahzad Waseem once again asked the government to announce election schedule for Punjab Assembly polls. He criticized the government for what he said using delaying tactics for announcing polls.- APP

KSA allows pilgrims to travel through all airports

DNA

ISLAMABAD: The government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) on Tuesday allowed pilgrims travelling to the Kingdom to perform Umrah to commute through the country's all international airports. KSA's General Authority of Civil Aviation (GACA) issued a notification later. The authority directed the

flights carrying passengers to the Kingdom to follow the guidelines. If violated, they will take stern action against them. Earlier, the pilgrims travelling under visas for Umrah were allowed to travel through Jeddah and Medina airports only.

Imran must apologise over fake narrative

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Climate Change, Senator Sherry Rehman on Tuesday said instead of creating a new narrative, Imran Khan should apologise for perpetrating a false foreign conspiracy narrative. In a series of tweets, the federal minister criticised the former prime minister on his recent statements. Senator Rehman said Imran Khan, who teaches morals to the youth, comes on TV every day and hurls accusations at others. "Everyone needs to create and follow a political code of conduct for the new generation," she added. Referring to Imran Khan's narrative, the Minister said

the country had already suffered the worst division due to the politics of accusations and abusive language. After the agreement with the American lobbying firm, now Imran Khan had taken complete U-turn from his 'external conspiracy" narrative, she added.

"Now, he sometimes blames his political opponents or the establishment. If there was an external conspiracy, then why Imran Khan retreated from his position," Sherry Rehman queried.

MNA Ali Wazir released from Karachi jail

DNA

KARACHI: Member of the National Assembly (MNA) and leader of the Pashtun Tahafuz Movement (PTM) Ali Wazir was released from Central Iail. Karachi after more than two years of imprisonment. The PTM leader was behind bars since December 2020 for allegedly delivering provocative speeches inciting hate against state institutions. He was arrested from Peshawar and shifted to Karachi. He and some other party leaders were booked in four identical cases registered at Karachi's Sohrab Goth, Shah Latif Town and Boat Basin police stations under sections of the Anti-Terrorism Act (ATA) pertaining to the said charges. Four cases had been registered against Wazir in different police stations in Karachi, according to police. He was charged with different counts, including sedition and rioting.

Moscow's decades-old gas ties with Europe lie in ruins

NOVY URENGOY: Meticulously crafted over decades as a major revenue stream for the Kremlin, Moscow's gas trade with Europe is unlikely to recover from the ravages of military conflict. After President Vladimir Putin's "special military operation" in Ukraine began almost a vear ago, a combination of Western sanctions and Russia's decision to cut supplies to Europe drastically reduced the country's energy exports. The latest sanctions, including price caps, are likely to disrupt oil trade further but it is easier to find new markets for crude and refined products than for gas. - Agencies