



# Islamabad POST

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**Korea defers Pakistan loan worth \$19.91mn**

Detailed News On Page-08



**Lukaku back to best eyeing UCL Final**

Detailed News On Page-06



## May 9 riots

# All responsible to face justice under Army act

Armed Forces are well aware of the planners, instigators, abettors, and perpetrators of these attacks, observe Corps Commanders

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

RAWALPINDI: Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Syed Asim Munir on Monday presided over a "special" Corps Commanders Conference (CCC) which resolved that "restraint will no longer be exercised against perpetrators, spoilers, and violators who attack military installations and setups under any circumstances," the military's media wing said. According to the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), the forum expressed the firm resolve that those involved in these heinous crimes against the military

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## Prime Minister Shehbaz convenes NSC meeting today

KHAYAM ABBASI

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Monday summoned a meeting of the National Security Committee (NSC) on May 16 (Tuesday). The meeting, called at 3pm at the PM House under the chairmanship of PM Shehbaz, will deliberate the country's law and order situation amid a prevailing deadlock between the PTI and the PDM-led government. The participants will be briefed about the country-wide violent protests, especially attacks on security installations, carried out by the PTI after PTI chief Imran Khan's arrest in the Al-Qadir Trust corruption case. Earlier, in the wake of the ongoing turmoil in the country, PM Shehbaz had postponed the NSC and called a meeting of the federal cabinet instead.



RAWALPINDI: Chief of Army Staff General Asim Munir chairing the Corps Commanders conference, at the GHQ. – DNA



ISLAMABAD: Chief organizer PML-N Maryam Nawaz addressing Public Rally and Sit in at Constitution Avenue along with Chairman PDM, Maulana Fazal Ur Rehman. – Online

## Elections after completion of tenure: Marriyum

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Information and Broadcasting Marriyum Aurangzeb has said that the elections will take place in the country on completion of constitutional tenure of assemblies as per the law. In an interview with Al-Jazeera TV, she said the coalition government is holding a peaceful protest today against the constitutional violations taking place in the country. She said our workers are disgruntled over some of the recent decisions of the Supreme Court of Pakistan. "We have dealt with such economic conditions always, when Nawaz Sharif came to power and we dealt with it recently in 2013 also," she remarked. "We have the experience; the intention and we have the will to put the country on an economic and development path and we are busy doing that."

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## Anti-CJP sit-in called off PDM leadership comes down hard on CJP

Maryam says free and fair elections not possible until Bandial is CJP and Arif Ali is the President

STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: PML-N chief organiser Maryam Nawaz said on Monday the crisis the country had been grappling with in recent times brewed less from PTI chief Imran Khan's residence in Zaman Park and more from Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Umar Ata Bandial's chair. Addressing the PDM's sit-in outside the Supreme Court (SC), she said it all started when an irrelevant suo-motu notice was taken, constitution was rewritten, and [Article] 63-A was misinterpreted. "The building [of the SC] is meant to strengthen the democracy and bring 'terrorists' to accountability," she added. "It indicted former PM Nawaz Sharif but when a culprit of Rs60 billion [Imran Khan] appeared, he was welcomed," she cried. Did they [SC judges]

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## Won't accept 'engineered' verdicts: Fazl

STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) Chief Maulana Fazlur Rehman has asserted that his party would at no cost accept the "engineered verdicts" given by the courts. Addressing supporters during a sit-in outside the Supreme Court, he said that all institutions should fulfil their responsibilities "within their

Continued on Page 06

## Briefs

### PTI must condemn violence

STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari has warned the opposition PTI that it has one last chance to "clarify whether it wants to become a political party or not". Speaking during a joint session of parliament Monday, he said that if the PTI is a political party, then it should first condemn the arson attacks and violence – perpetrated during widespread protests following the arrest of party chairman Imran Khan – and apologise. "If it does not apologise, then we will not negotiate with a 'militant party', whether on the instructions of the chief justice or anyone else," he asserted.

### Pakistan may boycott World Cup

SPORTS DESK

LAHORE: There is a "very real possibility" that Pakistan will boycott this year's World Cup in India if they lose hosting rights to the Asia Cup, Pakistan Cricket Board Chairman Naji Sethi told Reuters. While BCCI has yet to deliver a formal response to the offer, Sethi said India wanted the entire tournament moved out of Pakistan. That could have serious ramifications for the 50-overs World Cup in India this year as well as the 2025 Champions Trophy in Pakistan, he added.

## Imran Khan alleges PDM's 'London Plan' ready to imprison him

PTI Chairman releases videos evidence about May 9 riots

BUREAU REPORT

LAHORE: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan has accused the PDM government of arresting him again, expressing apprehensions that they will "use some sedition law to keep me inside for next ten years under the London Plan." Imran took to twitter on Monday to reveal the "London plan" to remove him from political scene. "So now the complete London plan is out. Using pretext of violence while I was inside the jail, they have assumed the role of judge, jury and executioner," he wrote in a series of tweets.

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### LHC grants Bushra Bibi protective bail

AGENCIES

LAHORE: The Lahore High Court (LHC) on Monday granted protective bail to Bushra Bibi, wife of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan, in Al Qadir Trust case, till May 23. A division bench, comprising Justice Syed Shahbaz Ali Rizvi and Justice Shakil Ahmad, heard the petition, filed by Bushra Bibi for protective bail.

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## ECP's plea regarding polls CJP still hopeful of talks ending elections stalemate

Court issues notices to AGP, Punjab and KP AGs; hearing adjourned till May 23



MUHAMMAD UMAR

ISLAMABAD: Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Umar Ata Bandial on Monday remained hopeful that talks between the coalition government and the PTI could end the stalemate on holding elections in the country. The matter came under discussion as a three-member bench heard the Election Commission of Pakistan's (ECP) plea asking the top court to revisit its April 4 order of holding elections to the Punjab Assembly on May 14. The bench comprised

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## Govt to file reference against CJP

MAHNOOR ANSAR

ISLAMABAD: The National Assembly on Monday adopted a motion calling for filing a reference against Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Justice Umar Ata Bandial. The motion against the Chief Justice's behaviour was introduced by MNA Shazia Sobia. The National Assembly passed the motion unanimously which sought formation of a special committee to file a reference against the Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) in

Continued on Page 06

# Two-day training on documentaries opens at Lahore

This year, the centre will provide training to another 2,000 journalists and students of mass communication departments. In addition, the Pakistan Information Centre provides training to journalists in all major cities of country

LAHORE: A two-day training workshop on 'Short documentaries and new trends in reels' opened here at a local hotel on Monday. The workshop is being arranged by the Pakistan Information Centre (PIC) under the banner of the Press Information Department (PID), Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. Members of Lahore Press Club, journal-

ists associated with various TV channels and newspapers and media studies students participated in the training workshop, who were imparted training on documentary making. At the workshop, senior journalists and specialists in documentary-making delivered lectures to the participants about stages of documentary production

and tools for making short documentaries. International filmmaker Umar Saeed taught the participants about modern tools and techniques for making documentaries and short trending videos. He discussed creative, traditional and social contents, and asked the participants to focus on impactful films with great command of

communications. Director General Press Information Department Lahore Shafiqat Abbas, Deputy Director Admin Uzma Saleem, Coordinator PIC Awaiz Anwar also attended the workshop. Under this project of the Ministry of Information, the Pakistan Information Centre has so far provided training to more than 10,000 journalists, students and social media influencers across the country. This year, the centre will provide training to another 2,000 journalists and students of mass communication departments. In addition, the Pakistan Information Centre provides training to journalists in all major cities of country including Islamabad, Karachi, Quetta, Peshawar, Gilgit-Baltistan and Muzafarabad. - APP



ISLAMABAD: Faisal Karim Kundi, Minister of State Ministry of Poverty Alleviation along with other leaders of Pakistan Peoples Party participating in PDM sitting outside Supreme Court of Pakistan. -DNA

## 6 PTI workers remanded in police custody

LAHORE: An anti-terrorism court (ATC) on Monday handed over six Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) workers to police on 14-day physical remand in a case, registered under charges of damaging state property, terrorism and others. ATC Judge Abher Gul Khan conducted the case proceedings, wherein Kasur police produced the accused - Abdul Hameed, Waqar Tariq, Muhammad Abdullah, Sajjad Aziz, Naveed and Nazir. The police requested the court to grant 14-day physical remand of the accused for completing investigations. Kasur's Allahabad police had registered a case against the PTI workers for violence that took place after Imran Khan's arrest. Meanwhile, ATC Judge Ijaz Ahmad Buttar sought an investigation report from police on post-arrest bail petition of 46 PTI workers, involved in attacking the Jinnah House (the corps commander house) in Lahore Cantt, looting valuables worth over Rs150 million and setting it on fire, till May 20. The accused including Farhan Bukhari, Rais Ahmad, Muhammad Aslam, Muhammad Naeem, Khizar Abbas, Faisal Saeed, Hassan Aziz, Muhammad Yar had approached the court for post-arrest bail after they were sent to jail on 14-day judicial remand. The Sarwar Road police had registered a case against the PTI workers over attacking Jinnah House after Imran Khan's arrest.

## PHC CJ stresses for early disposal of cases of under trial prisoners

PESHAWAR: Chief Justice of Peshawar High Court, Justice Musarat Hilali on Monday stressed for early disposal of the cases of under-trial prisoners. The Chief Justice, Peshawar High Court visited District Bar Association Abbotabad to grace the occasion as a Chief Guest on the Eid Millan Party, says a press release. She was accompanied by Justice Abdul Shakoor, Justice Kamran Hayat Miankhalil and Justice Muhammad Ijaz Khan, Judges of the Peshawar High Court. She addressed the District Bar Association and sensitized the legal fraternity about their role in the administration of Justice. The lawyers were also sensitized to extend all-out cooperation to the family courts enabling them to dispose of family cases at the earliest within the statutory

period provided in law. Stress was made on the early disposal of cases of under-trial prisoners as the jails are overcrowded and there is an alarming increase in the pendency of such cases with each passing day. Her ladyship also sensitized the legal fraternity about the importance of liaison between the bench and the bar, so as to maintain the confidence of the public on the judicial system. These two wheels of the justice system should act coherently and collaboratively to manifestly establish the rule of law across the board. Her ladyship was pleased to stress for expeditious disposal of the under-trial prisoner cases. She while addressing the Family Court Judges, directed them to take genuine efforts for reconciliation in family cases

before passing of a decree for the dissolution of marriage. Her ladyship also directed the Judicial Officers and the members of the Bar to avoid unnecessary adjournments in all cases. Her ladyship also inaugurated the newly constructed 06 Courtrooms. She has undertaken the visit to the Copying/Scanning Branch and Bar Room and stated that its establishment will provide copies of the record to the litigants without any delay. The president DBA requested for extension of the Bar Room. Her ladyship said that the request would be considered favorably. Her ladyship also held a meeting with the Judicial Officers. During the interaction she stressed on strictly observing the court timings, dress code, sitting in the courtroom and

## WMDC celebrates vibrant cultural theme day

RAWALPINDI: Watim Medical & Dental College (WMDC) Rawat on Monday celebrated vibrant cultural theme day, showcasing diversity and talent. WMDC celebrated the cultural theme day, an extraordinary event that showcased the rich display of the cultures. The event was organized aimed at promoting the cultural diversity, foster cross-cultural understanding, and provide a platform to students to showcase their artistic talents. The annual theme day, was a resounding success, with an enthusiastic participation from students, faculty members, and staff. The college campus was transformed into a vibrant tapestry of colors, music, dance, and cuisine, reflecting the multicultural ethos of the institution. The event commenced with an enchanting march featuring students from different classes dressed in their colourful attire from various cultures. The captivating display highlighted the college's commitment to inclusivity and appreciation for different heritages. Throughout the day, the attendees were treated to a series of captivating performances that showcased the immense talent and creativity of the college community. The arena came alive with a diverse range of cultural performances, including traditional dances, music recitals, theatrical acts, and spoken word poetry. The mesmerizing performances captivated the audience and transported them on a journey of cultural exploration. An integral part of the cultural theme day was the cuisine festival, where the students set up food stalls offering delectable dishes from different corners of the country. Attendees savored an array of culinary delights, embracing the flavors and aromas of diverse cultures. - APP

## ISSI signs Cooperation Protocol with Balkan Studies Centre (BSC)

DNA

ISLAMABAD: In a virtual (on-line) ceremony today, the Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI) and the Balkan Studies Centre (BSC) of the International University of Sarajevo (IUS) concluded a 'Cooperation Protocol' today. Signed by Director General ISSI Ambassador Sohail Mahmood and Rector of IUS Prof. Dr. Ahmet Yildirim, this is the first Cooperation Protocol of its kind between the think-tanks of Pakistan and Bosnia & Herzegovina. Dr. Shakaib Rafique, Deputy Head of Mission at the Embassy of Pakistan in Sarajevo, was also present on the occasion. Director of ISSI's Center for Strategic Perspectives (CSP), Dr. Neelum Nigar, briefed the IUS participants about the working of the Institute

and its outreach program with various think-tanks and research and educational institutions around the world. Welcoming the signing of the Cooperation Protocol, DG Amb. Sohail Mahmood stated that it will help establish a long-term institutional relationship between ISSI and BSC and enable the two sides to fruitfully collaborate in producing quality research and fostering policy dialogue on issues of common interest. He also highlighted the cordial relations between Pakistan and Bosnia & Herzegovina and stated that the signing of this Protocol was consistent with the vision of the leadership of both countries in terms of forging closer linkages at the people-to-people level. He also thanked the Pakistan Embassy in Sarajevo for facilitating this initiative.

Rector IUS Prof. Dr. Ahmet Yildirim, in his remarks, highlighted the scope of work of BSC, appreciated all those who had facilitated the present initiative, and stated that BSC looked forward to a fruitful partnership and joint activities within the framework of the Cooperation Protocol. He also alluded to the close, cordial ties between Bosnia & Herzegovina and Pakistan. Dr. Shakaib Rafique, speaking on the occasion, congratulated the two Institutes on signing the Cooperation Protocol, stressing that it was the first of its kind between think-tanks of Pakistan and Bosnia & Herzegovina and would lead to more to come in the future. He underscored that this collaboration would be part of the growing fruitful bilateral relationship between the two countries.



ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Kazakhstan to Pakistan Yerzhan Kistafin calls on Chairman Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) Asim Ahmad. -DNA

## Ambassador of Kazakhstan calls on Chairman FBR

DNA

Both countries would continue to explore more avenues to further enhance cooperation

ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Kazakhstan to Pakistan Yerzhan Kistafin Monday called on Chairman Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) Asim Ahmad and discussed matters of mutual interest pertaining to cooperation in Customs. According to the FBR statement issued here, the meeting also discussed the matters of trade facilitation and regional connectivity. Mutual satisfaction was expressed over the Pakistan-Kazakhstan Mutual Administrative Assistance Agreement in Customs matters, which is in final stages of execution. Asim Ahmad assured that maximum facilitation will be extended to Kazakhstani businessmen intending to invest in Pakistan. During the meeting, it was agreed that both countries would continue to explore more avenues to further enhance cooperation in various areas of mutual concern.

## NAB announces cross-regional transfers

ISLAMABAD: The National Accountability Bureau (NAB) has announced a series of transfers for several of its officials across different regional offices aimed at facilitating the sharing of expertise and experience among NAB officials to better combat corruption. Director Mohammad Rizwan Khan has been moved from NAB Rawalpindi to NAB Karachi, while Director Mohammad Obaidullah Azam has been transferred from NAB Rawalpindi to NAB Sukkur. Additional Director Asghar Khan has been relocated to NAB Khyber Pakhtunkhwa from NAB Rawalpindi, and Additional Director Sheikh Muhammad Shoaib has been moved from NAB Rawalpindi to NAB Multan. Additional Director Zahid Shah has been transferred from NAB Multan to NAB Rawalpindi. Additional Director Haroon Rashid from NAB Khyber Pakhtunkhwa to NAB Rawalpindi. Additionally, Deputy Director Eric Pal, Deputy Director Errol Philip Wingson, and Deputy Director Muhammad Shahid Mahmood have been transferred to NAB Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, NAB Multan, and NAB Sukkur respectively, from NAB Rawalpindi. Furthermore, Deputy Director Mohsin Haroon has moved to NAB Rawalpindi from NAB Multan, and Deputy Director Dayyam Baloch has been relocated from NAB Khyber Pakhtunkhwa to NAB Rawalpindi. Deputy Director Mohammad Asif Munir has been transferred from NAB Karachi to NAB Rawalpindi, while Deputy Director Waqar ul Hasan Khan has been moved to NAB Rawalpindi from NAB Headquarters Islamabad. Finally, Assistant Director Mastanasir Imam Shah has been relocated to NAB Rawalpindi from NAB Multan. -APP

### CAREER OPPORTUNITY

#### GENERAL MANAGER (SALES AND MARKETING)

Pakistan Mineral Development Corporation is one of the largest public sector companies working in mineral sector under the Ministry of Energy (Petroleum Division). The company is looking for a dedicated, experienced and high-caliber skilled professional for the post of General Manager (Sales and Marketing) based in Islamabad. The prescribed qualification, experience and age limit for the candidate and other terms of appointment are as follows:-

Qualification:	MBA (Marketing) from the universities recognized by Higher Education Commission (HEC)
Experience:	Minimum fifteen (15) years post-qualification work experience in relevant professional area.
Age Limit	Up to fifty (50) years as on the last date for submission of applications.
Pay & Perks	Market based negotiable salary.
Period of Contract	The selected candidate will be appointed on contract basis for a term of three (3) years extendable.

Applications should be sent by post not later than fifteen (15) days of the date of publication. The envelope containing the application may be marked 'APPLICATION FOR GENERAL MANAGER (SALES & MARKETING)' on the top right corner.

Only short-listed candidates will be called for interview. No TA/DA will be admissible for interview. Candidates already employed in Government/Semi-Government organizations must send their applications through their employers.

PID No. 6935-2022

MANAGER (P)  
Pakistan Mineral Development Corporation  
Head Office: Plot No.13, Sector H-9, Islamabad  
Tel: 92-51-9265132, Fax: 92-51-9265127-29

## No one be allowed to disrespect Parliament, Constitution

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Communications Maulana Asad Mehmood on Monday alleged that the "superior judiciary is making 'Imrandarana' decisions, apparently under the influence of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan". "However, the public has given its verdict as evident from the massive sit-in outside in front of the apex court. No one will be allowed to disrespect the Parliament and the Constitution," he said while speaking in the National Assembly. Maulana Asad expressed his concern over the targeting of sensitive buildings by Imran Khan's supporters, which was equally condemned by the nation. The agenda of Imran Khan,

he said, was to create chaos in the country and the JUL-F had pointed it out well before time. His party believed in the supremacy of Constitution and that was why it joined hands with other parties to oust Imran Khan from the Prime Minister's House in a constitutional manner. He claimed that the Constitution (Article 63-A) was re-written, which was the reason for the current constitutional crisis. However, the Parliament had passed legislative proposals and resolutions defining the role of every institution, which could not be ignored. The Parliament would uphold the supremacy of the Constitution, he reaffirmed. Parliamentary Leader of Balochistan Awami Party (BAP) Khalid Hus-

sain Magsi said a rational approach was required to handle the current political crisis and challenges being faced by the country. The law should take its due course against those who had created anarchy and unrest after the arrest of Imran Khan, he added. Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Prof Ahsan Iqbal alleged that partial decisions by the superior judiciary had caused the constitutional crisis. He accused Imran Khan of embezzling Rs 60 billion for personal gains, who, he alleged, was "given undue favour by the courts" and such an attitude was not acceptable as it would promote an unjust system. "The Parliament should file a reference against the top

judge in the Supreme Judicial Council", he added. Minister for Climate Change Sherry Rehman accused Imran Khan of inciting the PTI workers to violence and arson after his arrest. She recalled that the Pakistan Peoples Party workers did not resort to violence over the 'judicial murder' of the party's founder and former prime minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto. On the contrary, the PTI workers went on rampage across the country and set the state buildings on fire though their leader were arrested legally. The minister stressed that elections should be held simultaneously throughout the country. Muhammad Akhtar Jan Mengal of the BNP said the current situation had not

emerged in a day. Had the institutions worked in their constitutional domains then there would not have been any political and constitutional turmoil in country. He called for "public execution of the corrupt elements" to purge the system of all its ills. Abdul Akbar Chitrali of the Jamaat Islami said the country was passing through a tumultuous and critical situation with a severe economic crisis, and the common people were its worst victims as the inflation had made their lives miserable and they could not afford to buy even daily essential items. Chitrali strongly condemned attacks on the Jinnah House (Lahore) and Radio Pakistan's building in Peshawar, besides desecrating the statue of Sha-

heed Captain Colonel Sher Khan, who was a national hero. He said the politicians should be allowed to resolve political matters through dialogue instead of by any institution. He also called for an across the board accountability and all those should be taken to task who were involved in damaging public and private properties. Shahida Rehmani of the PPP said the political parties would never compromise on the sovereignty of the parliament. I She said it was a conspiracy to roll back China Pakistan Economic Corridor. Qaisar Sheikh of the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz said arsenal attacks on public and private properties was a pre-planned acts of terrorism. -APP

### National Days and Armed Forces Days

<b>MAY</b>
May 03/Poland
<b>National Day</b>
May 06/Bulgaria
<b>Armed Forces Day</b>
May 06/UAE
<b>Armed Forces Day</b>
May 07/Kazakhstan
<b>Armed Forces Day</b>
May 08/Czech Republic
<b>National Day</b>
May 09/European Union
<b>National Day</b>
May 17/Norway
<b>Constitution Day</b>
May 21/Hungary
<b>Armed Forced Day</b>
May 22/Yemen Republic
<b>Re-unification Day (National Day)</b>
May 24/Eritrea
<b>National Day</b>
May 25/Argentina
<b>National Day</b>
May 25/Lebanon
<b>Liberation and Resistance Day</b>
May 28/Azerbaijan
<b>Republic Day</b>
May 28/Ethiopia
<b>National Day</b>



#### Hotels & Restaurants

Serena Hotel.....111 133 133
Marriott.....051- 2826121
Monal.....0334-5421812



#### Airlines

Turkish Airlines.....8494949
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#### Emergency

Rescue (Police).....15
Bomb Disposal.....15
Fire Services Rawalpindi/ Islamabad.....1122 & 16
Emergency Ambulance.1122 & Rescue Services.4451122
Motorway Police.....9266044
Motorway Police.9270601-20
Women Police Stations Islamabad.....9222596
Rawalpindi.....9270601-20



#### Enquiry

Edhi Ambulance.....115
PIA Flight Info.....114
PIA Cargo.....9280979
Railway Inquiry.....117
Railway Exchange9270831-5
WASA Rawalpindi..5555489
CAA.....9281092

#### Hospitals

CMH.....5611111
MH.....5611116
Cantt Hospital.....9270907-11
DHQ.....5556311-4
RGH.....9290301-7
Holy Family.....9290322-7
PIMS.....9261170-79
Polyclinic.....9218300-09
Shifa International 4603666

#### Departments

CDA.....9221334-43
CDA.....9208301-04
Met Office.....9250360-6
RDA.....5555864
TMA.....5770886
Cantonment Board 9270151-3

#### Islamabad Metropolitan

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

#### Water Tank

Islamabad.....0321-5744480
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## CDA Board Members assure to start development works

**DNA**  
 ISLAMABAD: Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari, President, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry leading a delegation held a meeting with CDA Board Members and discussed with them the matters of starting development work in markets in Islamabad. CDA Member Planning & Design Waseem Hayat Bajwa presided over the meeting. CDA Member Finance Syed Mazhar Hussain Shah, Member Engineering Syed Munawar Shah, Member Environment Captain (Retd) Anwaar Haq, Deputy Director General Enforcement Shah Jahan, Director Municipal Administration Yasir Farhad and Head Finance Mian Tariq Latif were present in the meeting. Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari, President, ICCI lauded Noorul Amin Mengal, Chairman, CDA for focusing on the development works in markets under the instructions of Prime Minister Mian Muhammad Shabbaz



Sharif. He said that markets need many development works including construction of parking lots, carpeting of roads, replacement of old sewage & drainage systems, repair of footpaths, filtration plants and construction of public toilets and hoped that the CDA in consultation with ICCI and the concerned market associations, will address these issues. He said that in the first phase, the development works should be started in F-6 Markaz, F-7 Markaz, G-9 Makaz, Appara Market, Melody Market, Blue Area, F-10 Markaz and I-8 Markaz and this process should be gradually extended to other markets. He assured that ICCI and Market Associations will cooperate with CDA in this regard. Addressing the delegation, CDA Member Planning & Design Waseem Hayat Bajwa said that development works will be started in the markets as proposed by the ICCI. He said

that each market should nominate a focal person for CDA to finalize the development works. He also discussed the issue of removal of encroachments from markets with the delegation and said that this issue will also be resolved with mutual consensus. Khalid Iqbal Malik, former President ICCI, said that the approach of the current Chairman CDA is very positive as has indicated to resolve many long-standing demands of the business community during recent visit to ICCI. He hoped that the CDA will speed up the upgradation of markets to make Islamabad a hub of business and investment activities. Muhammad Ijaz Abbasi former President ICCI said that CDA had constructed an underground parking lot in Jinnah Super Market with huge funds, but due to lack of lights, it has not been made functional as yet. He stressed that CDA should take urgent steps to make the said parking lot functional. Shazad Shabbir Abbasi President Super Market, Asad Aziz President and Abdul Rahman Siddiqui Secretary General Jinnah Super Market, Ahmed Khan President F-10 Markaz, Raja Hasan Akhtar President Blue Area, Zahid Qureshi Secretary General I-8 Markaz, Akhtar Abbasi Secretary General Aabpara Market, Rana Zafar Secretary General G-9 Markaz, Khalid Chaudhry, former SVP ICCI and others were in ICCI delegation and they gave useful suggestions to the CDA Board Members about the development works in their respective markets.

### Del refunds its dealers penalty

ISLAMABAD: On 11 March 2022, the Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) passed an order holding that RPM arrangements, including those that limit discounts, fix the price, and/or set a minimum or maximum price floor or ceiling, fall under the purview of Section 4(2)(a) of the Competition Act, 2010 (the Act), constitute a fixation of the selling price of a good or service, and should be regarded as anti-competitive because they harm both intra-brand and inter-brand competition. Del Electronics and Haier Pakistan were both found to have violated Section 4 of the Act by imposing pricing and other restrictions through RPM (resale price maintenance) agreements, and any agreements or arrangements that these firms had in place were deemed null and void. The matter concerned a CCP's enquiry into the price control circulars released by Del Electronics (Private) Limited and Haier Pakistan (Private) Limited. Four Haier Pakistan circulars dealt with the implementation of a fixed price list for products and the levying of fines against select dealers for disregarding the fixed price lists.—APP

## 1st Int'l seminar on China-Pakistan Science & technology cooperation held

BEIJING: The first International Seminar on the theme of "China-Pakistan Science and Technology Enterprises Cooperation" was held at the China-Pakistan Science and Technology Cooperation Center in Beijing.

The Zhongguancun Belt and Road Industrial Promotion Association (ZBRA) and the Embassy of Pakistan in China co-hosted the seminar where more than 30 renowned science and technology organizations, both public and private, participated. Gwadar reported on Monday. Khan Muhammad Wazir, Science and Technology Counsellor at the Pakistan Embassy in Beijing, presented Pakistan's need for scientific and technological cooperation through the modernization of industry by using technology and innovation, biodiversity and climate change, and disaster mitigation and prevention. He pointed out that there is great potential for scientific and technological cooperation between China and Pakistan in diverse fields such as emerging technologies, advanced and new materials, green energy technologies, digital economy, smart cities, minerals

and natural resources, and modernization of agriculture through technology. He further stated that Pakistan needs food processing technologies, herbal medicines, ocean sciences, transport and highway technologies, space sciences, aeronautics and aerospace, medical technologies, drug discovery, and vaccine development on the fast track. "The Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) are focusing on promoting innovation and entrepreneurship, encouraging people-to-people exchanges, establishing joint research laboratories, cooperating on the establishment of technology and hi-tech parks, facilitating technology transfer initiatives, promoting quality scientific research in new and high-tech, enhancing innovation capacity through joint R&D, establishing institutional linkages, initiating cooperation on STEM education and science popularization, and establishing an international think tank for S&T and economic development," he added. Khan Muhammad proposed that a coordination committee comprising representatives from ZBRA, the Pakistan Embassy in Beijing, MOST China, MoST Pakistan, the Chinese Academy of Sciences, and STZA, etc. needs to be jointly constituted to operate the China-Pakistan Science and Technology Cooperation Center located in Beijing. Zhang Xiaodong, the President of ZBRA, introduced the construction of the China-Pakistan Science and Technology Cooperation Center. He shared that the objectives of the Center are to build a bridge between China-Pakistan youth innovation and entrepreneurship.—DNA

## PMI's strategy takes centre stage in report

ISLAMABAD: 15th May, 2023 - Philip Morris International (PMI) has published its 2022 Integrated Annual Report, highlighting progress against its sustainability targets and commitments. The report outlines PMI's continued evolution into a science- and technology-driven company that aims to replace cigarettes with better alternatives for adult smokers who would otherwise continue to smoke. "As the world grapples with the COVID-19 pandemic and the global climate crisis, PMI remains committed to delivering a smoke-free future and driving positive impact in society and the environment," said Jacek Olczak, Chief Executive Officer of PMI. "Our latest Integrated Report highlights our progress toward our ambitious goals, particularly in expanding the availability of our smoke-free products, investing in product and operational sustainability, and promoting diversity and inclusion within our company. We remain laser-focused on advancing our ESG agenda.—DNA

## Stakeholders urged to end political crisis

RAWALPINDI: The Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI) has urged stakeholders to put joint efforts to end the current political and economic crisis. The business community is deeply worried about the current political uncertainty and economic crisis. RCCI President Saqib Rafiq while addressing an important meeting at chamber house said, "We strongly believe that the economic situation of the country will improve only when there is political stability". During the meeting deep concern was expressed about the current situation. Group Leader Sohail Altaf, Senior Vice President Muhammad Hamza Sarosh, Vice President Faisal Shahzad and Executive Committee members were also present in the meeting. President Saqib Rafiq said that the vandalism of public properties and violent incidents have badly distorted the image of Pakistan. The internet shutdown not only affected online business, but citizens and businessmen had to face serious difficulties in communication and banking payments. Group leader Sohail Altaf said that Pakistan is everything, it is the responsibility of all stakeholders to protect the rights and interests of the 230 million people of Pakistan. The stakeholders should come forward in the national interest and play their role, because 23 crore people are now eyeing at them, he added.—APP

## WMDC celebrates vibrant cultural theme day

RAWALPINDI: Watim Medical & Dental College (WMDC) Rawat on Monday celebrated vibrant cultural theme day, showcasing diversity and talent. WMDC celebrated the cultural theme day, an extraordinary event that showcased the rich display of the cultures. The event was organized aimed at promoting the cultural diversity, foster cross-cultural understanding, and provide a platform to students to showcase their artistic talents. The annual theme day, was a resounding success, with an enthusiastic participation

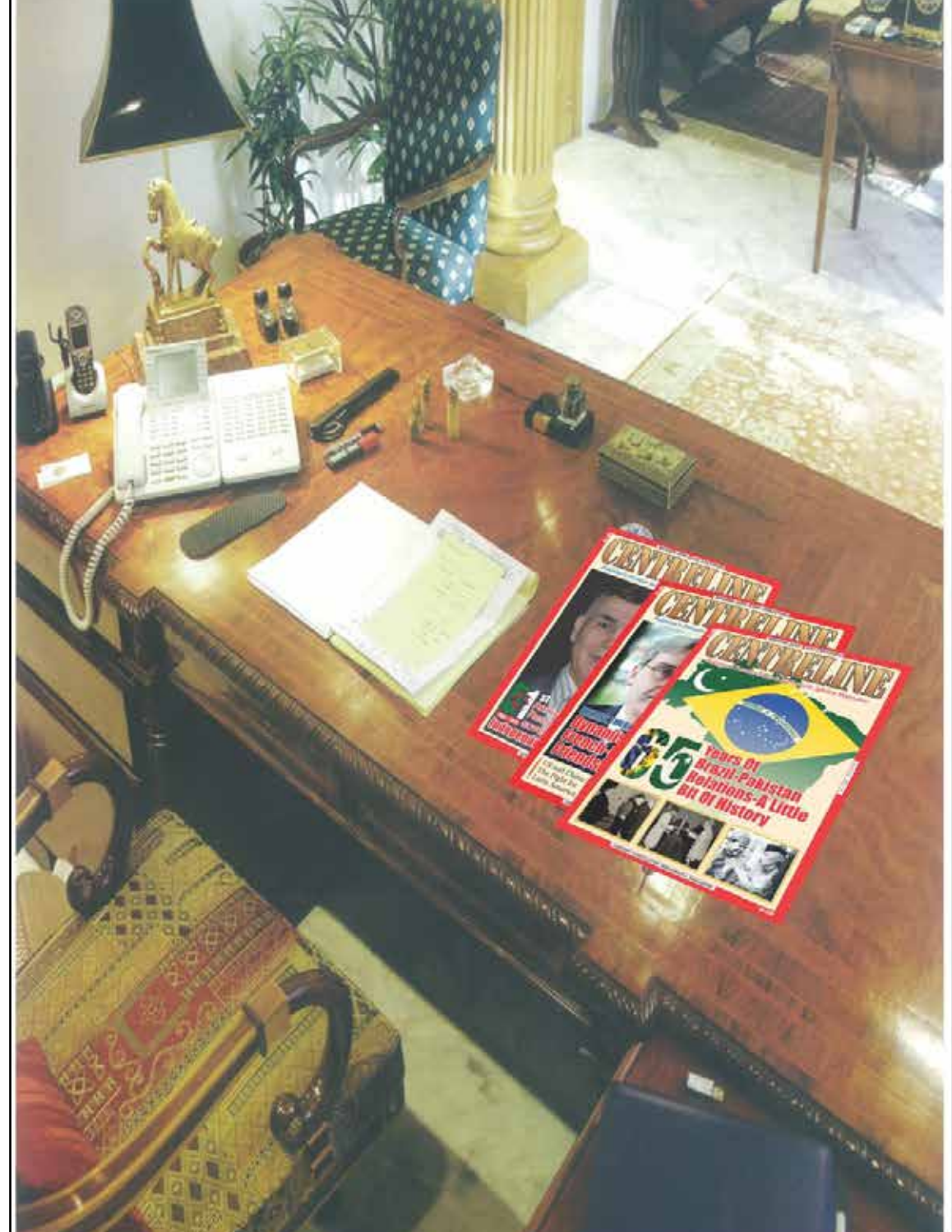
from students, faculty members, and staff. The college campus was transformed into a vibrant tapestry of colors, music, dance, and cuisine, reflecting the multicultural ethos of the institution. The event commenced with an enchanting march featuring students from different classes dressed in their colorful attire from various cultures. The captivating display highlighted the college's commitment to inclusivity and appreciation for different heritages. Throughout the day, the attendees were treated to a series of captivating performances that showcased the immense talent and creativity of the college community. The arena came alive with a diverse range of cultural performances, including traditional dances, music recitals, theatrical acts, and spoken word poetry. The mesmerizing performances captivated the audience and transported them on a journey of cultural exploration. An integral part of the cultural theme day was the cuisine festival, where the students set up food stalls offering delectable dishes from different corners of the country.—APP

## SBP extends date for prize bonds' encashment

ISLAMABAD: The State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) on Monday extended the last date of redemption/encashment of prize bonds of Rs7500/Rs15,000/Rs25,000 and Rs40,000 by June 30. The date has been extended keeping in view the hardship of those prize bond holders who could not get their bonds redeemed by the previous deadline of June 30, 2022. So "a final opportunity has been given for encashment of prize bonds till 30th June 2023," the SBP said in a news release. The investors of aforesaid prize bonds have options of encashment or exchange including encashment at Face Value, conversion to Premium Prize Bonds of Rs 25,000 and/or Rs 40,000 (Registered), replacement with Special Savings Certificates (SSC) or Defense Savings Certificates (DSC). The prize bonds can be redeemed from SBP Banking Services Corporation office and branches of commercial banks across the country till June 30, 2023. The SBP has issued necessary instructions to commercial banks to accept requests from general public for encashment or exchange of the prize bonds till the extended date.—DNA

## Prize distribution ceremony

ISLAMABAD: Model College for Boys F-10/4 organized its much-awaited annual prize distribution ceremony, honoring students who excelled in various fields and acknowledging the contributions of dedicated teachers and non-teaching staff. The event was graced by the esteemed presence of retired principals, Professor Javid Mohsin Malik and Professor Iqbal Ahmed Afafi. The presence of both the retired principals added a touch of memories and honor to the proceedings, as they witnessed firsthand the progress and achievements of the institution they once led.—APP



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## Briefs

**Thai voters deliver stunning blow to army-backed rule**

DNA

BANGKOK: Thai voters have delivered a stunning verdict in favour of an opposition party that is calling for radical reform of the country's institutions. Early results show Move Forward exceeding every prediction to win 151 of the 500 seats in the lower house. It's now 10 seats ahead of what was the frontrunner, Pheu Thai, led by ex-prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra's daughter. Analysts are calling this a political earthquake that represents a significant shift in public opinion. It is also a clear repudiation of the two military-aligned parties of the current government, and Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha, who led a coup that ousted an elected government in 2014. The governing coalition won only 15% of the seats. "We didn't leave any stones unturned," Move Forward's 42-year-old leader Pita Limjaroenrat told media. "People have had enough in the last decade."

**US dollar on the back foot against rupee**

DNA

KARACHI: As the political temperature is hard to go down, the local currency has become the worst target of volatility in the money market, as the Pakistani rupee shed 67 paisas in its value as the trading started in the interbank on Monday. However, within hours the rupee was able to turn the tide against the US dollar. According to data received from the money dealers, the Pakistani rupee depreciated during early trading session today, making the US dollar to gain 67 paisas in its value. Later, the local currency rebounded and recovered the early morning's loss and then went up by 28 paisas against the greenback. The rupee was now being traded at Rs284.80. On Friday, the last working day of the previous week, the rupee made a robust comeback.

**EU chiefs felicitate Turks on 'massive' turnout**

WEB DESK

BRUSSELS: EU chiefs Ursula von der Leyen and Charles Michel congratulated Turkish voters on their large turnout in the first round of national elections, hailing this as a win for democracy. "It's a very clear sign that the Turkish people are committed to exercising their democratic rights to go and vote and that they value the democratic institutions," von der Leyen said. Michel also congratulated "Turkish citizens" on their turnout, but neither of Brussels top two officials would be drawn on Turkey's long moribund bid for eventual EU membership. Turkey now faces its first presidential runoff vote after President Recep Tayyip Erdogan failed to secure a first round re-election in Sunday's national polls.

# South Korea defers Pak loan worth \$19.91 million

The World Bank is committed to providing \$450 million RISE-II after fulfilment of four prior conditions and \$250 million by the AIIB

STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: In a sigh of relief, the Republic of Korea deferred Pakistan's loan worth \$19.91 million, under the G-20 Debt Service Suspension Initiative (DSSI) framework on Monday. The cash-strapped country inked a Debt Service Suspension Agreement with Korea on Monday. This amount, initially had to be repaid between July and December 2021, will now be repaid over a period of six years (including a one-year grace period) in semi-annual instalments, said a statement issued by the Economic Affairs Division (EAD). Due to the support extended by the development partners of Pakistan, the G-20 DSSI has provided the fiscal space which was necessary to deal with the urgent health and economic needs of the country. The total amount of debt, that is to be suspended under the DSSI framework, covering the period of repayment from May 2020 to December 2021, stands at \$3,686 million. Pakistan has already concluded and signed 104 agreements with



ISLAMABAD: Government official and Korean Ambassador exchanging MOUs under the G-20 Debt Service Suspension initiative. – DNA

21 bilateral creditors for the deferment of its debt repayments under the G-20 DSSI, amounting to \$3,633 million. The signing of the above-mentioned

agreement brings this total to \$3,653 million. Negotiations for the remaining agreements to be signed under the G-20 DSSI are ongoing. The Pakistani authori-

ties are hopeful that the current account deficit would remain surplus for April 2023 when the numbers would come out in the next few days. The financing gap of \$4 billion was fulfilled by getting confirmation as the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia conveyed to the IMF that they were ready to provide an additional \$2 billion in deposits and UAE \$1 billion. The World Bank is committed to providing \$450 million RISE-II after fulfilment of four prior conditions and \$250 million by the AIIB. Pakistan also received firm commitments for getting \$350 million out of total Geneva pledges for flood-affected areas. The only remaining amount is \$1 billion from commercial banks and they are waiting for IMF's deal. The Pakistani officials argue that the external financing requirements had been fulfilled, so there was no justification for using delaying tactics to avoid signing the agreement. Keeping in view this situation, the Ministry of Finance is all set to share the Budget Strategy Paper (BSP) with the federal cabinet without sharing it with the IMF in its meeting scheduled to be held today (Monday).

## Ukraine leader targets 'jets coalition' on UK visit

LONDON: Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky on a visit to Britain Monday won the promise of "hundreds" more missiles and drones - and said his coveted goal of enlisting Western fighter jets was drawing nearer. The visit came as a Russian missile strike killed four people and hit a hospital in eastern Ukraine, but also as Zelensky's army readies a long-awaited counter-offensive against the Russian invaders with claimed gains around the flashpoint town of Bakhmut. After meeting UK Prime Minister Rishi Sunak, Zelensky said he was "very positive" about creating a "jets coalition" in the war against Russia, with a decision expected "in the closest time". Western nations have balked so far at providing advanced jets to help Ukraine take command of the skies against Russia, although Sunak said the UK was readying to open a flight school to train its pilots. And while Russia's ally China vies to act as peace broker, sending an envoy to Kyiv this week, Zelensky drummed up hefty new packages of military aid on weekend visits to France and Germany. He proceeded Monday to the UK prime minister's country estate of Chequers outside London. Sunak pledged air-defence missiles and long-range attack drones for Ukraine, both numbering in the hundreds. Russia said the new UK weapons would only cause "further destruction", and claimed to have downed a Storm Shadow cruise missile that Britain said last week it was providing, in the West's first deployment of long-range rocketry for Ukraine.

Sunak noted that the Chequers meeting was taking place in the buildup to a Council of Europe leaders' meeting in Iceland and a G7 summit in Japan, as he hit out at Russian President Vladimir Putin. "The front lines of Putin's war of aggression may be in Ukraine but the fault lines stretch all over the world," Sunak said, vowing: "We must not let them down." Sunak hosted Zelensky in the same Chequers room used by Britain's World War II leader Winston Churchill to broadcast defiant speeches vowing victory over the Nazis. "And the same way today, your leadership, your country's bravery and fortitude are an inspiration to us all," he told Zelensky. Dressed in his trademark fatigues, Zelensky gave a bear hug to Sunak after disembarking from a Royal Air Force Chinook helicopter, and thanked him for the latest UK aid. He said the crisis was a matter of "security not only for Ukraine, it is important for all of Europe". The timing and focus of Ukraine's high-stakes counter-offensive are unclear, but Zelensky's tour of European capitals underscored the importance of securing Western heavy weapons and ammunition to press the fight. France offered dozens more light tanks and armoured vehicles, while Germany said it was preparing a new military package worth 2.7 billion euros (\$3 billion) - its biggest yet for Ukraine. The British attack drones have a reach of more than 200 kilometres (125 miles), according to the UK government, complementing the long-range Storm Shadow missiles.

## US challenger leads battle for top UN migration job

GENEVA: US candidate Amy Pope looked poised to become the first woman to lead the UN migration agency, after Monday's first round of voting put her squarely in the lead - ahead of her own boss. After an unusually acrimonious leadership battle that pitted the United States against its European allies, the International Organization for Migration's 175 member states kicked off the secret ballot in Geneva early Monday. They faced a choice between backing Antonio Vitorino for a second term, or supporting his US deputy Amy Pope to steer the organisation for the next five years. All but 10 of IOM's members took part in the first round of voting, and after all the light green ballot papers had been tallied, Pope had raked in 98 votes against Vitorino's 67. That was 12 short of the 110 needed to reach the two-thirds majority required to declare victory. "I am confident," Pope told AFP after the first round ended, voicing hope that no more than one more round of voting would be needed to get her across the finish line. The IOM was founded in 1951 to handle the displacements in Europe following World War II but only joined the UN fold seven years ago. The race for the top job at the organisation comes at a critical time, as global numbers of migrants soar. The Geneva-based body is the leading international agency addressing the needs of some 281 million migrants throughout the world, according to a 2020 estimate. – Agencies

## Air strikes pound Khartoum as conflict enters second month

WEB DESK

KHARTOUM: The Sudanese army carried out air strikes in the north of the capital Khartoum on Monday, attacking its paramilitary rivals around a hospital that witnesses said was damaged in the bombardment. Intense battles in Khartoum and its sister cities of Bahri and Omdurman have raged despite Saudi and US-brokered talks between the army and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF) in Jeddah aimed at securing humanitarian access and a ceasefire. The fighting has spread to the western

region of Darfur, but has been concentrated in the capital, where RSF fighters have taken up positions across neighborhoods and the army has used air strikes and heavy artillery fire to target them. "We're under heavy bombardment now in Sharq el-Nil and Rapid Support are responding with anti-aircraft guns," said 55-year-old Awatef Saleh, referring to the area she lives in along the Nile in Bahri. "All this is happening near our homes, we're in a state of terror and fear." In a voice message released by the RSF, its leader Mohamed Hamdan Dagalo, known as Hemedti, dismissed rumors that he had been killed or injured in the battles.

## Macron, Musk meet in Paris on investing in France

"We talked about the attractiveness of France and the significant progress in the electric vehicle and energy sectors," Macron wrote on Twitter afterwards.

PARIS: President Emmanuel Macron met billionaire businessman Elon Musk on Monday to discuss future investment projects, as the French leader hosts a conference aimed at persuading business leaders to put their money in France. Macron hosted the world's second richest man, who is the chief executive of electric car firm Tesla, social media company Twitter and cosmic exploration outfit SpaceX, six months after their last encounter in the United States, his office said. They met at the Elysee Palace before heading to Versailles for the latest edition of

the president's Choose France conference where Macron seeks to drum up investment in the country. "We talked about the attractiveness of France and the significant progress in the electric vehicle and energy sectors," Macron wrote on Twitter afterwards. "We have so much to do together," he added. Musk smiled and waved at reporters as the meeting got underway but made no comment. Finance Minister Bruno Le Maire told the BFMTV broadcaster that "negotiations are ongoing" with the magnate. Le Maire gave no details of Monday's talks with Musk, saying simply that "all of today's investments are the fruit of months or even years of negotiations". Macron said in another tweet that some 13 billion euros of investment would be announced at the summit, equating to the creation of some 8,000 jobs. "When a foreign investor chooses France, it's good for jobs and for our regions," he said. Some 200 foreign business bosses are expected at the summit, including Sunil Bharti Mittal of Indian conglomerate Bharti Enterprises, ArcelorMittal chief Lakshmi Mittal and Nokia chief executive Pekka Lundmark. – Agencies

## Parliament passes NAB amendment bill

DNA

ISLAMABAD: A joint sitting of parliament Monday passed the National Accountability (Amendment) Bill, 2023, after President Arif Alvi refused to give his assent, as the government seeks to "empower" the body's chairman. Both houses - the National Assembly and the Senate - passed the bill in April, but the president - in the same month - returned the bill to the parliament and advised the lawmakers to "reconsider" the amendments. The president sent the bill back to the parliament under Article 75(1)(b) of the Constitution, saying that earlier amendments to the accountability laws were already pending before the Supreme Court - after Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan challenged earlier amendments. "This aspect has not been addressed in the bill and the prime minister's advice," the president had noted.



## Pakistan's population tops 240m, reveals data

DNA


ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS) has informed the provinces that no further extension will be granted to the field operations for the 7th Population and Housing Census ending today (Monday). During the 13th meeting of Census Monitoring Committee, it was decided that the census field operations, of the country's first-ever digital census, will not be extended beyond this date due to its link with delimitation for upcoming general elections. The PBS conveyed all provincial census commissioners and chief commissioner ICT through a letter. As per the available data, till May 12 Pakistan's Population excluding AJK and GB was 240,602,348. As many as 121,215,805 individuals have been counted in Punjab so far, 56,566,804 in Sindh, 39,651,697 in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, 20,865,742 in Balochistan and 2,302,307 in ICT.

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