



Islamabad POST

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Ankara ready to continue dialogue with Greece: FM

Detailed News On Page-07

RECP to romote Pakistan-ASEAN trade ties: Envoy

Detailed News On Page-08



Alexander outduels Siner at US Open

Detailed News On Page-06



'Short and sweet'

Judgment on NAB law soon, says CJ Bandial

Can crimes be eliminated by retroactive application of NAB amendments?" CJP asked



COURT REPORTER

ISLAMABAD: Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Umar Ata Bandial said Tuesday that a three-member apex court bench hearing the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan's petition against the National Accountability

Continued on Page 06

Pervaiz Elahi rearrested

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

ISLAMABAD: PTI President Parvez Elahi was rearrested on Tuesday once again hours after the Islamabad High Court (IHC) suspended his detention under Section 3 of the Maintenance of Public Order (MPO) and directed his release. He has now been arrested at least 11 times in various cases since the start of June and after a statewide crackdown was launched against the PTI in the aftermath of the May 9 violence. Following his latest arrest today, the Islamabad police said that Elahi was detained in a case registered at the Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) police station.

The PTI shared footage of Elahi's arrest and criticised the authorities for his latest arrest. "Absolutely shameful how courts orders keeps getting disrespected by the fascist regime. Parvez Elahi's crime is standing for Pakistan, crime is not leaving PTI despite massive pressure," the PTI posted on social media platform X in its condemnation of the arrest. Reacting to the development during a media talk in Islamabad, Elahi's lawyer Sardar Abdul Raziq Khan said: "I think all limits have been crossed. This is injustice with the country and its institutions and equivalent to making a mockery of the law and Constitution."

Continued on Page 06

INDEPENDENCE DAY OF UZBEKISTAN



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Commerce Gohar Ijaz, former DG ISI Lt. Gen Ihsan ul Haq @, Ambassador of Uzbekistan Aybek Osmanov and other cutting cake to celebrate the 32nd Independence Day of Uzbekistan. - DNA

Pakistan greatly values relations with Uzbekistan: Gohar

Ambassador Usmanov says the new constitution the Ambassador said, the New Constitution adopted this year in Uzbekistan reflected the changes and reforms implemented by Uzbek Government the check and balances between Public-State-Parliament

ANSAR M BHATTI

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Commerce and Industries Dr. Gohar Ijaz has said Pakistan greatly values its relations with Uzbekistan adding the brotherly ties have given new dimensions. He said Uzbekistan is making progress by leaps and bounds under the visionary leadership of President Shavkat Mirziyoyev. He expressed these views while speaking on the occasion of the 32nd Independence Day of Uzbekistan. The minister further said Uzbekistan is gifted with natural resources. The country has expertise in the agriculture sector as well therefore both Pakistan and Uzbekistan can cooperate in this particular sector as well. Gohar Ijaz said he had visited Uzbekistan many times and therefore can say it on authority that there is a genuine and strong will among the Uzbek people and the government officials to further solidify relations with Pakistan.

Continued on Page 06

COAS Gen Asim in Uzbekistan

RAWALPINDI: General Syed Asim Munir, COAS is on a two days official visit to the Republic of Uzbekistan. The visit is aimed at enhancing Military to Military cooperation and Defence collaboration. During the visit, COAS called on H.E Mr Shavkat Mirziyoyev, President of Uzbekistan, Defense Minister and the Chairman and Secretary of the State Security Service of Uzbekistan. During the meetings COAS also emphasized upon enhancing mutual training cooperation and intelligence sharing. COAS appreciated the standard of training and readiness of the Uzbekistan Military Forces and their understanding about regional security issues. - DNA

Briefs

Shehbaz, Dar should return Pak

FAISAL SHEIKH

ISLAMABAD: PML-N senior leader Khawaja Asif has said that although former premier Nawaz Sharif's homecoming has been delayed until October, party president Shehbaz Sharif and stalwart Ishaq Dar should return to the country immediately amid growing public anger over the rising cost of living and runaway inflation. "There is no doubt there are countless [causes of unrest] for the people, and there is only one solution to this. We must constantly... constantly stay in touch with the people, so they can see us," Asif said, adding that keeping a distance from people was not a solution. The former defence minister's remarks came while speaking to a private news channel. During the show, he said that even if Nawaz delays his return to Pakistan in October owing to the fact that no election dates had been announced, the former premier and former-FM should return immediately.

Blome visits CPO Lahore

BUREAU REPORT

LAHORE: US Ambassador to Pakistan Donald Blome on Tuesday visited the Central Police Office (CPO). According to the Punjab Police spokesperson, on the occasion of the visit to the CPO office, the American ambassador, along with a delegation, met Punjab IGP Dr Usman Anwar. The delegation included American Consul General Kristen Hawkins, Security Attaché Mike Diamond and Security Adviser Saifdar Ali Rao. The police spokesman said it was the first visit of any American ambassador to the CPO. In the meeting, it was agreed to further promote liaison between the Punjab police and the United States in bilateral security matters.

PM Kakar eyes Gulf countries' investment

PM emphasizes utilization of country's immense natural resources

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwarul Haq Kakar has said Saudi Arabia, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates have committed to "clear" and "tangible" investment projects in Pakistan. Speaking in an interview with a private news channel, the prime minister said the members and stakeholders of the Special Investment Facilitation Council had worked on identifying various sectors ripe for investment. "There is a clear tangible plan with a timeline [on] where to do interventions ... and what would be the potential partners," he said, adding that the possible partners were identified as well and engaged in communication. "We are in the process where probably in the next few months,

Continued on Page 06

SIFC meets with traders

NAZIR SIYAL

KARACHI: A meeting was held between the Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC) and the trader community of Karachi on Tuesday to discuss potential investments and the current economic situation. Representing the SIFC were Dr Jahanzeb Khan and the body's director-general. They informed the traders' community of various areas of potential investment

Continued on Page 06



ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Morocco, Mohamed Karmoune, calls on FM Jilil Abbas Jilani. They noted with satisfaction the state of bilateral relations and discussed potential opportunities of trade, investment. - DNA

Pakistan, Turkiye reiterate resolve to strengthen coop

KHAYAM ABBASI

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan and Turkiye on Tuesday reiterated their resolve to further strengthen bilateral cooperation in diverse areas for the mutual benefit of the two brotherly countries. This bilateral ties were discussed in a meeting between President Dr Arif Alvi and the visiting Commander of the Turkish Naval Forces, Admiral Ercu-

ment Tatlioglu, who along with his delegation called on the president at Aiwan-e-Sadr. The meeting was also attended by Pakistan's Chief of Naval Staff, Admiral Muhammad Amjad Khan Niazi, Ambassador of Turkiye in Pakistan, Dr Mehmet Pacaci, and government officials of both sides. Welcoming the Commander of Turkish Naval Forces, the president said that both countries enjoyed excellent relations which were based on common religion, historical bonds, besides having similar stance on various issues. He emphasised the need to further improve bilateral cooperation in diverse areas, including the maritime and defence cooperation. President Alvi recalled his visit to Turkiye in August 2021 to participate in the launching ceremony of the first of the four MILGEM corvettes for Pakistan Navy. He lauded the regular participation of the navies of the two brotherly countries in bilateral and multilateral exercises, adding that the close naval cooperation was a



Continued on Page 06

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ISLAMABAD SERENA HOTEL

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KMU reserves seats for Afghan students

PESHAWAR : Khyber Medical University (KMU) Peshawar has decided to offer admission in all BS programs to Afghan students and charge the same fees as Pakistani students. The purpose of this decision is to provide assistance in the availability of trained medical personnel to deal with the health problems of war-torn Afghanistan. This decision was taken in a high-level meeting held at KMU in which vice-chancellor KMU Professor Dr. Zia ul Haq, Director of ORIC Dr. Zohaib Khan, Director IPMR Dr. Irfanullah, Director Finance Waseem Riaz, Afghan Consulate Deputy Consul General Mufti Noorullah Hotak, Maulana Muhammad Tahir Nafis, Shahidullah Zaheer and other relevant officials participated.

The meeting was told that the Afghan people have been living in a state of war for the last four decades, as a result of which a large population is crippled and disabled apart from lack of health facilities.

Due to the war, Afghanistan's infrastructure has been destroyed and people are facing enormous problems in the availability of health facilities.

The vice-chancellor of KMU assured the delegation of the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan that KMU would welcome the admission of Afghan students in all its BS programs including Physiotherapy and Pharmaceutical Sciences and in this context Afghan students will be provided with all facilities. He said that since the last academic year, KMU has decided to charge Afghan students the same fee as Pakistani students in all programs including medical and dental.

VC KMU said that despite financial difficulties, the aim of this decision is to provide medical education opportunities to more Afghan students. He said that the aim of providing quality medical education to Afghan students is to help Afghanistan overcome the health problems it is facing for the last 40 years.

Mufti Noorullah Hotak said that the ban on women's education by the Islamic Emirate is just propaganda.

Int'l Youth Day observed

KARACHI : International Youth Day was marked in an event organised at the Iqra University North Campus by the Imagine Institute of Future Studies here on Tuesday. Speaking on the occasion, Dean of Social Sciences at Iqra University North Campus Dr. Shams Hamid emphasized, "When we nurture hope, young people shape the future." He said that on this global day, young individuals, who were catalysts for positive change in society, gathered to collectively seek concrete solutions to Pakistan's most pressing issues. The event witnessed the participation of students pursuing courses in Future Studies, Ethics and Social Responsibilities, Philosophy, and Critical Thinking. Assistant Professor Dr. Salman Ahmed Khatani of Iqra University North Campus stated that the IMAGINE Institute's International Youth Day event made it evident that youth were voicing their concerns and collaborating with like-minded fellow students on significant social matters, providing a platform for practical solutions. During the event, the students showcased their poetry, singing, and musical talents. —APP



RAWALPINDI: Families are taking interest in the models of the armor tanks and vehicles (Used in September War 1965) at Ayub National Park, on the eve of the "Defense Day" in City.—Online

SCAT Airlines and Hashoo group boost Pak-Kazak tourism

MUHAMMAD ADIL

ISLAMABAD : In a momentous partnership, SCAT Airlines, a Kazakhstan-based air carrier known for its European safety standards and a fleet of over 35 aircraft, and Hashoo Group, Pakistan's largest hospitality conglomerate, renowned for its iconic hotels and resorts including Pearl-Continental Hotels, PC Legacy, and Hotel One, have joined forces to facilitate direct flight operations between Lahore and Almaty with two weekly frequencies. In this regard, Hashoo Group hosted an interactive and informative conference at Pearl-Continental Hotel Lahore. Present at the event were Yazhan Kistafin, Ambassador of Kazakhstan, His Excellency, Mr. Noman Bashir Bhatti, Ambassador of Pakistan (via Zoom from Kazakhstan), Mr. Haseeb Gardezi, COO, Hospitality and Education Division, Hashoo Group, Mr. Rizwan Qaiser, CEO, Nexus

Global (SCAT Airlines Pakistan's JV Partner), and representatives from the Pakistan Tourism Development Corporation (PTDC) and Kazakh Tourism.

At the press conference, Mr. Haseeb Gardezi said, "The primary goal of this groundbreaking air connectivity initiative was the

promotion of tourism, cultural exchange, and business synergies between the two nations." He further added, "This event has not only showcased tourism products from Pakistan and Kazakhstan. The interactions between reputable tour operators from Kazakhstan and potential travel business

partners in Pakistan have facilitated discussions on ways to amplify collaboration between the two nations." Mr. Rizwan Qaiser expressed his gratitude to Hashoo Group for their partnership, foreseeing a fruitful journey towards mutual success and a vibrant role in advancing tour-

ism and hospitality ventures between Pakistan and Kazakhstan. He also emphasized that despite abundant cultural and religious affinities and immense trade and investment potential, the business and tourism exchange between the two countries had remained disappointingly low due to a lack of connectivity, insufficient awareness, and limited communication among business entities. He highlighted the substantial reduction in travel time from 15-20 hours to 2-3 hours, thanks to collaborative efforts, support from diplomatic channels, and the business community.

This conference marked a significant milestone in fortifying the ties between Pakistan and Kazakhstan, opening new vistas for tourism and business opportunities. Additionally, it aimed to enlighten corporate guests about both countries' attractions and essential information, ultimately bringing the nations closer through tourism.



UNDP delegation meets KP CM for welfare

PESHAWAR : A delegation of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), led by UNDP Resident Representative Samuel Rizk, called on the Caretaker Chief Minister of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Muhammad Azam Khan, on Tuesday to discuss matters related to public welfare programs supported by UNDP in the province. During the meeting, discussions centered on enhancing

cooperation between UNDP and the provincial government and furthering collaboration on matters related to development in the region, especially in the merged tribal areas. The Chief Minister emphasized the need for special attention from donor agencies, including UNDP, given the ongoing security challenges in the area, particularly due to long-standing instability. He said that

the integration of former tribal areas into Khyber Pakhtunkhwa was recognized as a positive step, but rapid development efforts are required to accelerate progress in these areas. The Chief Minister also highlighted the construction of basic infrastructure in the merged areas as a crucial area where government cooperation with donor agencies is necessary. He emphasized the need

to strengthen the police force to ensure peace and security in the region. The Chief Minister recommended working with community organizations in rural development to achieve better results for the development of rural areas, emphasizing that collaboration with local communities in development projects can ensure that the benefits reach the people more effectively. —APP

Teachers enrolled to improve English

LAHORE : English as a Subject for Teachers and Educators (EaSTE), an initiative of the Government of Punjab and the British Council, has achieved a significant milestone by enrolling a commendable cohort of 144,191 educators for the 'Oral Communication' module and 141,948 educators for the 'Reading and Critical Thinking Skills' module. According to a spokesman for PITB, the initiative was launched on October 14, 2022, and is being executed in collaboration with the Punjab Information Technology Board (PITB) and Quaide-Azam Academy for Educational Development (QAED). The EaSTE training has been successfully deployed at scale through the PITB-developed Training Management System (TMS). It has empowered over 140,000 dedicated Primary School Teachers (PSTs) from more than 32,000 Primary Schools to improve their English language teaching competencies. —APP

Envoy: Iraq to consider recognizing AIOU degrees

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Third Secretary of Iraq Embassy, Dr. Abdullah, on Tuesday met with the Vice Chancellor of Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU), Prof. Dr. Nasir Mahmood and discussed the recognition of its degrees in the Iraqi Ministry of Higher Education, as well as potential collaborations between the AIOU and universities in Iraq. Dr. Abdullah said the degrees from 31 universities in Pakistan were recognized in Iraq, and they were interested in recognizing the degrees from AIOU as well. After observing the infrastructure, international student enrollment,

and the use of both open distance learning and face-to-face learning modes at the AIOU, the secretary expressed hope that Iraqi students would also enroll in it. Additionally, he assured that he would recommend the recognition of AIOU's credentials and degrees to the Ministry of Education in Iraq. The Directorate of International Collaboration and Exchange (ICE) at AIOU would send an official letter to the third secretary requesting the recognition of degrees and recommend and forward it to the Iraqi Ministry of Higher Education Commission. AIOU Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr. Nasir Mahmood said the university was focused on building relationships with

international universities and it offered all possible facilities to international and overseas students. Director of ICE Dr. Zahid Majeed explained to the third secretary that there were deep religious, historical, and cultural ties between Iraq and Pakistan. He hoped to strengthen these ties through educational linkages. He said the AIOU was the only university in Pakistan that offered education from the school level to PhD and promoted education through distance learning, face-to-face, and online modes of learning. As of June 2023, over 4.6 million students had graduated from the AIOU and after digitization, the university was teaching 100,000 students online every day.

AC inspects polythene bag use, petrol pumps

ISLAMABAD: The Assistant Commissioner (AC) Secretariat Aneel Saeed on Tuesday conducted a surprise inspection of petrol pumps, markets and other areas in the Secretariat subdivision Islamabad. The Assistant Commissioner fined the violators of price control regulations and those using polythene bags, and ensured the implementation of Dengue SOPs, ICT spokesman Dr. Abdullah Tabasum said. The Assistant Commissioner's team checked the prices of essential commodities, including food items, vegetables, and fruits. They also checked the weight and measurement of petrol pumps and sealed the faulty machines. The team also raided illegal petrol/LPG filling stations and registered an FIR against two unauthorized agencies. The managers of the agencies were arrested and taken to the police station. The AC also ensured the implementation of Dengue SOPs at various locations. He directed the shopkeepers to keep their premises clean and free of stagnant water. He also asked them to use mosquito nets and repellents. The Assistant Commissioner's inspection was aimed at ensuring the provision of essential commodities at affordable prices and preventing the spread of dengue, adding said the actions were appreciated by the residents of the Secretariat subdivision. The Assistant Commissioner Secretariat has appealed to the citizens to cooperate. —DNA



LAHORE: U.S. Ambassador Donald Blome, accompanied by U.S. Consul General to Lahore Kristin Hawkins, called on caretaker Chief Minister Punjab Mohsin Naqvi here on Tuesday.—DNA

32nd Kyrgyz independence anniversary celebrated

LAHORE: Coordinator to Federal Tax Ombudsman (FTO) and Chairman Kyrgyzstan Trade House Kashif Younis Meher said on Tuesday that 32nd Independence Anniversary of Kyrgyzstan would herald a new era of opportunities for the promotion of bilateral trade and collaboration between two Muslim countries. Sharing his views at a cake cutting ceremony to celebrate Kyrgyzstan independence anniversary here, he added that this significant milestone not only marked the resilience and progress of Kyrgyzstan but also served as a testament to the enduring friendship between two brotherly countries. He said over the years, Pakistan and Kyrgyzstan had enjoyed a strong relationship, built on mutual respect and shared goals. As Chairman Kyrgyzstan Trade House, he expressed the resolve to continue his efforts for enhancing bilateral ties between private sectors of either sides.

Kashif Younis Meher was optimistic about the Pak-Kyrgyz enhanced trade, increased cultural exchange, and more robust collaboration in various fields of mutual interests. "The dynamic nature of our economies, combined with strategic geographical locations, position us favorably to forge stronger partnerships in various sectors," he said, asserting that he was fully committed to play an active role in fostering these relations and looking forward to explore avenues of cooperation which would create a win-win situation for both the nations, create economic opportunities, and strengthen the bonds of friendship that had characterized the history. —APP

14 Kilns sealed for environmental pollution

MULTAN : In a determined effort to combat environmental pollution, the Divisional administration, led by Commissioner Aamir Khattak, has initiated stringent measures by sealing 14 kilns for environmental pollution across the region, here on Tuesday. Deputy Director Environment Maher Shamsad is at the forefront of this crackdown, with a notable focus on kilns and industrial units. In a single day, 29 kilns were inspected, resulting in the sealing of 14 of them. Additionally, 17 industrial units were also underwent inspection, leading to notices being issued and one unit sealed. —APP

GOVERNMENT OF THE PUNJAB
IRRIGATION DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
SMALL DAMS DIVISION, ISLAMABAD
INVITATION TO BIDS

- Sealed tenders under PFR Rules 2014, on the basis of MRS / Estimate are invited from the approved contractors of Irrigation Department who have got their names enlisted / renewed in the appropriate Category for the financial year 2023-24 in PEC and Irrigation Department. No tenders will be issued to the contractors / firms not registered / enlisted for year 2023-24 in PEC & Irrigation Department.
- The contractors / firms who desire to obtain blank tender forms shall have to furnish original documents to the Executive Engineer, Small Dams Division, Islamabad regarding enlistment / renewal of their names with Irrigation Department official G.R. for payment of professional fee, enlistment / renewal fee and renewal of license from Pakistan Engineering Council for the calendar year 2023-24 etc. and enlisted with Irrigation Department. The tender issuance committee constituted by the Executive Engineer, Small Dams Division, Islamabad will only issue the tenders after verification of all documents of interested contractors / firms.
- The blank tender forms / bidding documents can be purchased immediately from the date of publication of this invitation up to 22.09.2023 during office hours from the office of the Executive Engineer, Small Dams Division, Islamabad on payment of non-refundable tender fee mentioned against each work as printing charges. No tender form shall be sold on the date of receipt of tenders. Further, the tenders will be sold only to the proprietors of the firms or their authorized agents. No firm shall be allowed to receive / purchase tender forms in the name of any other firms.
- Earnest money as mentioned against each work in shape of deposit at call drawn in favour of the Executive Engineer, Small Dams Division, Islamabad from the scheduled bank must be accompanied with the tenders, failing which tender will not be entertained.
- The tenders will be received by the tender opening committee on 23.09.2023 up to 02:00 PM and opened on the same date at 02:30 PM in the office of the undersigned.
- The tenders must be delivered in person or by the authorized agents of intending bidders to the tender opening committee in sealed envelopes. No tender shall be accepted which are received by post or through other means.
- In pursuance of the Government of the Punjab FO No.RO(Tech) FDI-2/83(VI/JP) dated 24.01.2006 and No.RO(Tech) FD-1-2/83 (VI/JP) dated 06.04.2006 if the total tender amount is less than the approved estimate (DNT) amount, the lowest bidders will have to deposit an additional Performance Security from the scheduled bank equal to quoted below rates from the technical sanctioned amount within 15 days of issuance of notice / letter of award / acceptance of tender rate of within expiry period of bid whichever is earlier.
- The Irrigation Department will not be responsible for any cost or expenses incurred by Bidders in connection with the preparation of delivery of bids.
- All the detail can be seen in the office of the undersigned during working day and all rights are reserved.
- The potential Bidders can lodge their complaints regarding transparency and fairness of all bidding process on toll free helpline 0800-11333 by email pnujod@pnujod.com or by direct application to PNIU Irrigation Secretariat, Old Anarkali Lahore.
- In case of any dispute between the contractors and the department, decision of the Project Director Small Dams Circle, Islamabad will be final and binding on all parties. The successful contractor will be bound to complete the whole work according to entire satisfaction of the department after issuance of acceptance letter by this office.

Sr. #	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (Rs.)	Earnest Money (Rs.)	Time Limit	Tender Cost (Rs.)	T.S.No.
1	Repairing Of Servant Room At Rain Gauge Station Murree	4,150,866/-	166255/-	30-Days	5000/-	CE/HR/P18/2023/S/07-01/1-W, dated 10-08-2023
2	Renovation of Rain Gauge Station Murree	11,116,338/-	444653/-	45-Days	5000/-	CE/HR/P18/2023/S/09-1/2/1-W, dated 10-08-2023

IPL No 7270

EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
Small Dams Division
Islamabad

National Days and Armed Forces Days

August

Aug 01/China
Armed Forces Day

Aug 01/Switzerland
National Day

Aug 01/Lebanon
Armed Forces Day

Aug 01/Syria
Armed Forces Day

Aug 4/Bukino Faso
National Day

Aug 09 /Singapore

Aug 15/DPR Korea
Independence Day

Aug 15/India
Independence Day

Aug 15/Poland
Armed Forces Day

Aug 17 /Indonesia
Independence Day

Aug 24/Ukraine
Independence Day

Aug 25/Uruguay
Independence Day

Aug 30 /Turkey
Armed Forces Day

Aug 31/Kyrgyz
Republic
Independence Day

Aug 31/Malaysia
National Day

Hotels & Restaurants



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



Turkish Airlines.....8494949



Emergency

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



Enquiry

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

Water Tank

Islamabad.....0321-5744480

Pak Sub-National food system Dashboard is crucial

Pakistan Agricultural Research Council will contribute its Role in making Pakistan "A Food Secure State". Chairman PARC

Faisal Sheikh

ISLAMABAD: (PR&P, PARC) the 4th September 2023. PARC launched Pakistan Sub-National Food System Dashboard formally during an august gathering where high level govt officials, heads of development partners including FAO, WFP, IFAD, CABI, ADB, CIMMYT, CABI, and other international organization, media personnel, and agricultural scientists participated. This Dashboard has been developed in collaboration of PARC, FAO, WFP, IFAD, Johns Hopkins University, and the Columbia Climate School at Columbia University with the leading

role of GAIN-Pakistan. Federal Secretary M/o National Food Security and Research, Capt. (R) Muhammad Mahmood inaugurated the dashboard in front of all development partners and agricultural scientists and took keen interest in various sections of the dashboard. He appreciated efforts of all stake holders for their role in developing this dashboard and advised the scientists to maintain it on sustainable bases and to draw meaningful inferences from available data. He also advised PARC scientists to develop Pakistan Food Outlook biannually using data of the dashboard. He emphasized that data and information is vital in decision making and this

dashboard will help policy makers in right decision making. Chairman, PARC highlighted PARC contribution in strengthening Pakistan Food System. He appraised the efforts of all stakeholders and development partners especially GAIN, FAO and WFP for their contribution in developing this prototype Sub-national Food System Dashboard. Country heads GAIN, FAO, IFAD, WFP and others ensured their technical and financial support to PARC for maintaining and updating this dashboard. Representative from Pakistan Bureau of Statistics also endorsed their role in provision of relevant data timely for further strengthening the Dashboard. Dr. Ghulam Sadiq Afridi, Member Incharge, Social

Sciences, PARC ensured to expand scope of the dashboard horizontally and vertically to bring this dashboard at par with other developed countries. A diverse range of participants from government, academia, research, civil society organizations, and the development sector participated in the event. Key representatives highlighted the importance of the Pakistan Sub-national Food Systems Dashboard in bridging the evidence gap in the country by collecting national and local (city/district) data across a range of key food systems indicators to support stakeholders with the data they need to better understand and take actions for national, provincial, and local food systems.

Leading partners from the federal government and development partners agreed that the way forward is a commitment to using data and evidence for decision-making, policy formulation and multi-sectoral collaboration to transform Pakistan's food systems. The Pakistan Sub-national Food Systems Dashboard holds the potential to track the progress and accountability of action plans that support food systems transformation, support policymakers in strengthening the country's policy landscape, and ultimately benefit people at risk of hunger, malnutrition, economic and climate shocks, and environmental degradation.

ICCI demands a healthy ecosystem for women entrepreneurs

Staff Report

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan needs to promote women entrepreneurs to jump-start the revival of its economy and put it on the path of sustainable growth. This was said by Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari, President, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry while addressing a US Speakers Series event organized by ICCI in collaboration with Islamabad Women Chamber of Commerce & Industry (IWCCI) under the title "Challenges and Opportunities for Women Entrepreneurs in venture capital industry". Ahsan Bakhtawari said that women are 51 percent of Pakistan's total population and their increased participation in economic activity is important to spur



the growth of the economy. He said that when women get economic power, they reinvest it in their families, their communities and bring prosperity to the country. He said evidence shows that women-owned SMEs make a significant contribution to the devel-

opment of economy as they generate employment, create wealth and improve the social wellbeing of society. He emphasized that the government should take policy measures to develop a strong venture capital industry with focus to provide easy financing to women entrepreneurs

as the current gender-wise distribution of gross loan portfolio of the State Bank of Pakistan shows that a small percentage of SME loans are given to women entrepreneurs. Similarly, the percentage of the microfinance loan to women is also insignificant.

Regional literature at risk

ISLAMABAD: Renowned poetess, fiction writer and lecturer at National University of Modern Languages (NUML) Dr. Snober Altaf has expressed concern that regional literature is under threat due to the homogenizing effect of artificial intelligence (AI) on literature worldwide. Talking to APP here on Tuesday, Dr. Snober said that Urdu literature is not yet available in the Unicode format and therefore not integrated into machine learning systems. She called for urgent efforts to document and preserve regional literature before it diminishes like some local languages. She said that while AI is generating fictional plots, stories and poems, it cannot match the creativity and emotional depth of human writers. She argued that the unique perspective and experiences of human authors remain invaluable despite advanced algorithms. Dr. Snober was confident that genuine writers with their unique expression and understanding of stylistic elegance will always have an unreplaceable place. She observed that people may become more sensitive while sharing emotions with empathetic AI, but ultimately it is designed not to upset users. She said that advance technologies are introduced by the developed countries and third world countries find it difficult to match pace and adoption. She called for awareness in developing countries like Pakistan about both the utility and potential risks of rapidly emerging AI technologies. Dr. Snober concluded on a hopeful note, saying that growing participation in literary festivals demonstrates that reading habits remain strong despite digital disruption. —DNA

Court Notice

In the court of Mr. Mo-hsin Ali Sahib Civil Judge Gujrat. Case Title Javed Iqbal. V/S Muhammad Ilyas etc. Notice to, Muhammad Ilyas, Faisal, Ijaz, Muhammad Yousaf S/O Muhammad Sadiq, Aqsa W/O Muhammad Yousaf R/O Mohallah Mehmda Sharqi Tehsil & Distt. Gujrat. Suit For, Permanent Injunction. The above mentioned defendents are not served in ordinary way. It is therefore proclaimed that If the said defendents with not appear personally or through a duly authorized agent or pleader in court at 8 AM on 11-09-2023 the proceedings will be taken ex-part against you

Rs 77.8 bln projects for remote areas connectivity

ISLAMABAD: To provide connectivity to remote and unserved areas across the country 83 projects worth Rs 77.8 billion would be completed by December 2023 under the Universal Service Fund (USF). The official of the IT ministry said the primary objective of the USF was to connect all citizens of the country, as digitalization had become a crucial priority for both businesses and communities. Under the Next Generation Optic Fiber (NG-OF) Network and Services programme, he said, the USF had made significant strides, contracting over 16,000 km of Optic Fiber Cable (OFC), which was expected to benefit approximately 31.5 million people nationwide. To achieve the milestone, the USF had diligently laid fibre optic cables and installed 4G and 3G towers in remote and previously unserved areas, he added. —APP

NCB urges attention to depleting marine resources

ISLAMABAD: The 22nd meeting of the National Coordinating Body (NCB) of the coast was organized on Tuesday by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN-Pakistan) to discuss issues and depleting coastal resources, especially in the wake of climatic impacts, calling for the need to create more marine protected areas in Pakistan. The NCB meeting was a key feature of one of IUCN's long-running Mangroves for the Future Programme that ended 2018, and has thereafter been supported by IUCN in partnership with organizations such as Engro Foundation, Monaco Foundation and other funding sources, a news release said. Distinguished experts at the meeting included representatives from the government line departments, coastal agencies, Pakistan Navy, as well as from civil society organizations and academia. Stakeholders emphasized the urgent necessity of designating marine and coastal areas as Protected Areas. "Presently, less than 1% of the coast enjoys protection, and Pakistan, as a dedicated CBD signatory, needs to declare at least 30% of its coast as Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) under the 30x30 agenda," said Country Representative of IUCN, Mahmood Akhtar Cheema. In pursuit of this urgent need for MPA declaration, the NCB platform, through its IUCN-MFF-programme, established a dedicated sub-committee. This sub-committee identified coastal and marine areas suitable for MPA designation which include Ras Malan, off Pasni, Kalamat Hor, Charna Island, Miani Hor, and Jewani, explained the Inspector General of Forests, Ghulam Qadir Shah. In his remarks Inspector General of Forest (IGF)/ Secretary NCB, Ministry of Climate Change and Environmental Coordination, Ghulam Qadir Shah praised NCB as a prime example of collective achievements in the domain of coastal preservation. He further said that NCB was the only forum that has not only persevered but thrived, remaining active even after the culmination of the IUCN-MFF programme across the region. Further enhancing this commitment, the 22nd meeting has taken a significant step forward by officially reviving the subcommittee responsible for MPA designation. The NCB meeting also launched Building Resilience of Coastal Ecological and Social Systems of Pakistan project generously funded by the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation. —DNA

Dr Rubaba hails Anti-Rape cell

ISLAMABAD: Former Parliamentary Secretary and Chairperson Women Parliamentary Caucus Dr. Rubaba Khan Buledi Tuesday hailed the establishment of Anti-Rape Crises cell in hospitals of 34 districts in Balochistan. She expressed the hope that concrete steps would be taken to complete the construction of forensic lab project proposed in the previous regime. Ex Parliamentary Secretary Law and Parliamentary Affairs made these remarks here on Tuesday. Dr. Rubaba Khan said that the establishment of an Anti-Rape Crises cell in the district headquarters hospitals of Balochistan would provide medical assistance to the rape victims more effectively. Through functioning of this cell, she hoped carrying out legal affairs will be easier, ensuring the victims to get speedy justice at the local level. She noted that the government had agreed to set up a forensic lab under a public-private partnership during the visit of Syed Kaleem Imam, a former senior police officer who served prominently in the police department and anti-crime academic at Quaid-e-Azam University. She also hailed that active role of other organizations for protecting women rights, including Shirkat Gah, Forum for Dignity Initiatives Pakistan, Commission on Status of Women, Aurat Foundation. —DNA



RAWALPINDI: Street vendor selling roasted Corn cob at roadside. —APP



Defence Day of Pakistan symbolises the exemplary courage, consummate professionalism and matchless spirit of sacrifice of the Armed Forces of Pakistan. The day holds a special significance in our history, as it revives the memory of our nation's resolve in the face of aggression. On this historic occasion, the aggressor challenged the very existence of a peaceful country, little knowing about our indomitable will to fight. Alhamdulillah, in a remarkable show of unity, the people of Pakistan and its Armed Forces took up the gauntlet and routed the enemy. Undoubtedly, Pakistan Air Force, in unison with sister services, delivered a knock-out punch to the enemy and set a legacy of fighting outnumbered.

While commemorating this great day of national pride, we salute and pay homage to all those who laid down their lives for motherland. Certainly, they added a new chapter to history through glorious deeds of heroism and set a supreme example of sacrifice for posterity to emulate. Indeed, we owe our heroes an eternal debt of gratitude for what they have done for us. We also salute those veterans who returned home to tell their sagas of courage from which we continue to draw strength and inspiration.

My Dear Countrymen! Our glorious history is witness to the fact that, as a nation, we have always displayed great solidarity, especially in times of crises and as such always emerged triumphant. I am sure that on the strength of our national cohesion, we can surmount every challenge, however daunting. On this occasion, let us solemnly pledge that we will make every effort for the progress and development of our country. I assure you that Pakistan Air Force is fully capable to defend the aerial frontiers of our sacred motherland.

On this special day, we must not forget our Kashmiri brethren who have been fighting against occupation for over seven decades. We renew our resolve to support their just struggle for self-determination.

May Allah Almighty give us the strength, courage and vision to prove equal to our nation's expectations (Aameen).

Pakistan Air Force Zindabad!
Pakistan Paidabad!

Air Chief Marshal
Zaheer Ahmed Baber Sidhu, NI (M)
Chief of the Air Staff, Pakistan Air Force



PAKISTAN AIR FORCE
A SYMBOL OF PRIDE FOR THE NATION



Briefs

Three bike lifters arrested

RAWALPINDI: Police have arrested three bike lifters and robbers, members of a gang besides recovering 13 stolen motorcycles and other items from their possession. According to a police spokesman, a team under the supervision of SHO, Saddar Baroni Police Station managed to net three bike lifters and robbers namely Mohsin, Waseem and Saleem and recovered 13 stolen motorcycles and other items from their possession. A case has been registered against the accused while further investigation is underway. Superintendent of Police, Saddar, Muhammad Nabeel Khokhar said the accomplices and facilitators of the accused would also be rounded up and sent behind bars. He said that the operations against the lawbreakers would be accelerated further.—APP

APHC decries worsening HR situation, drug menace in Kashmir

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Senior APHC leader Shabbir Ahmed Shah has voiced grave concern over the continued bloodshed and human rights violations at the hands of Indian occupation forces in Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir. In his message from New Delhi's Tihar jail, the detained leader, while referring to the recent acts of state terrorism in which innocent youth were killed in the Kashmir valley, said that during so-called operations innocent civilians particularly youth were deliberately targeted after being labelled "militants". "On the one hand, the Indian government has let loose its forces to kill Kashmiris while NIA has been given a free hand to target and silence political activists and members of civil society who have refused to accept the government dictates, on the other", Shah said, adding that attachment and confiscation of properties of Hurriyat leaders was part of the apartheid regime's clampdown campaign to silence legitimate political voices in Kashmir. Shabbir Shah said that in pursuit of the Israeli settler colonialism model the Modi regime continues to confiscate the Kashmiris' lands and properties. Houses, lands, offices of the Kashmiri people are seized to create an environment of fear and force them to subjugation", he said, adding that government employees were being terminated on flimsy grounds. He, however, maintained that such mean tactics by New Delhi won't deter Kashmiris from pursuing their collective cause of freedom. The Hurriyat leader urged the world human rights organizations to take effective notice of the bloodshed violence, persecution and victimization of political leaders and activists in the territory.

NHA awarded development leadership award

ISLAMABAD: The National Highway Authority (NHA) has been awarded the Development Leadership Award for outstanding national service. The award was presented by the Ministry of Planning, Development and Reforms in recognition of the NHA's achievements in the road network, NHA Spokesman said on Tuesday. Over the years, the NHA has completed many major highway projects, including the Lahore-Multan Motorway, the Karachi-Hyderabad Motorway, and the Peshawar-Islamabad Motorway. These projects have had a positive impact on Pakistan's socio-economic development, by improving connectivity and reducing travel times. The NHA has also been praised for its visionary leadership and its commitment to quality. The authority has a strong focus on safety and sustainability, and it is committed to providing world-class infrastructure to the people of Pakistan.—APP

Pakistan wants to increase trade volume with Italy

Italian Ambassador to Pakistan, H E Andreas Ferrarese, called on Dr. Gohar Ejaz, the Caretaker Federal Minister for Commerce and Industries and Production

STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: Italian Ambassador to Pakistan, H E Andreas Ferrarese, called on Dr. Gohar Ejaz, the Caretaker Federal Minister for Commerce and Industries and Production. The high-level discussion focused on exploring fresh avenues to bolster trade relations between Italy and Pakistan. During the meeting, Minister Gohar Ejaz emphasized the need to open new avenues for business, highlighting the importance of expanding economic cooperation between the two nations. Both sides agreed on the potential for collaboration in various sectors, with particular attention given to technology transfer, and the steel industry. The minister discussed his vision to significantly increase the trade volume between Italy and Pakistan, aiming for mutual economic growth. Ambassador Ferrarese expressed his appreciation for Minister Ejaz's vision and the dedication to strengthening bilateral ties.



China-Pak science, tech innovation conference

MEHTAB PIRZADA

ISLAMABAD: China-Pakistan Technology and Innovation Conference, aimed at developing science & technology bilateral cooperation between China and Pakistan, was held in Beijing on Tuesday. Addressing a sideline forum titled "China-Pakistan Science, Technology and Innovation Cooperation- Shared Journey to a Digital Era" at the China International Fair for Trade in Services (CIFTIS), Pakistan Ambassador to China, Moin ul Haque said that China has become a global leader in science and technology and IT fields through strategic investments in AI, 5G, EVs, biotechnology, renewable energy, robotics, big data and e-commerce, adding that Pakistan would enhance technology cooperation. "Pakistan itself is committed to its 'Digital Pakistan' vision, tapping into its young and enterprising population. We are fostering startup culture and have established the Special Technology Zone Authority to attract tech companies to set up R&D centers and manufacturing units in Pakistan. By offering lucrative tax incentives, we have seen a surge in our IT sector in recent years", he added. The ambassador further said

that China and Pakistan had identified IT and science and technology cooperation blueprint under the CPEC framework. It was a conscious choice to organize this event on the sidelines of CIFTIS which has now become a world-renowned forum for services trade. As part of our broader economic partnership, we are focusing on fintech, IT, e-commerce and logistics. Pakistan's largest logistics company NLC is participating in this conference today, CEN reported. "We have also launched China-Pakistan Digital, Green, and Health Corridors to harness the potential of our two countries in these fields. We are establishing linkages between our academic institutions, research organizations and IT companies for the practical implementation of our vision and for going forward on a shared journey of the digital era. In major milestone, we have recently set up China-Pakistan Joint Research Center on Earth Sciences", he added. Ghulam Qadir, Commercial Councillor of Pakistan embassy Beijing briefed the audience about current business opportunities between two countries. "I invited all Chinese businessmen in IT sector to join us and enhance bilateral cooperation, and facilitate technology transfer

to enable the development of Special Technology Zones across Pakistan", he added. Xiaodong Zhang, President, ZBRA China said we should jointly write a New Chapter in China-Pakistan Science and Technology Cooperation. He further said that Pakistan and China are committed to developing a community with shared knowledge and Chinese expertise would enhance cooperation in future. Khan Muhammad, Science Counselor at Pakistan Embassy in Beijing said that today event we signed different MOUs to support science and technology development. "Signing of Strategic Cooperation Agreement on establishing China Pakistan STI Center in China between ZBRA and China Construction Huaxia (Beijing) Industrial Operation Company and Strategic Cooperation Agreement between ZBRA Beijing Time-Honored Brands Association are signed to promote cooperation between China and Pakistan", he added. It is to be noted that the top Pakistani firms participating in CIFTIS, Special Technology Zone Authority (STZA), Pakistan International Airlines (PIA), NETSOL, ISBEL, National Bank of Pakistan, National Logistic Corporation (NLC), Fb Enterprises.

Jawad Sohrab visits WWF

ISLAMABAD: Muhammad Jawad Sohrab Malik, the Special Assistant to the Prime Minister (SAPM) of the Ministry of Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development recently visited the Workers Welfare Fund (WWF) to review the initiatives and programs of the WWF to enhance workers' welfare in the country. An official source told APP here on Tuesday, during his visit to the WWF Muhammad Jawad Sohrab Malik SAPM has received a comprehensive briefing from Zulfikar Ahmad, Secretary WWF. The briefing covered a range of ongoing projects and initiatives being undertaken by WWF to improve the welfare of workers in the country. The Secretary WWF highlighted the positive impact of these projects on the lives of workers and their families. Additionally, the Secretary WWF also highlighted the challenges that WWF faces that could potentially affect the successful implementation of workers' welfare programs, he added. He said that during the visit, Muhammad Jawad Sohrab Malik held meetings with the WWF officials and visited different sections of WWF to get a better understanding of the organization's schemes and to look for potential areas for development.—APP

Dengue cases significantly declines in 2023

ISLAMABAD: The Health Department of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) on Tuesday said that the dengue cases were significantly controlled and declined in 2023 as compared to 2022. In its report issued here, the spokesman of the Health Department said that due to pragmatic measures coupled with awareness drives across the province a total of 97 cases were reported until August 2023, while in 2022, a total of 1838 cases were reported in eight months. In August 2022, 1611 cases of dengue were reported, while in August 2023, it was only 51, the spokesman said, adding that last July 118 cases were reported against five in July 2023. Similarly, in June 2022, the number of dengue cases was 40 against 12 in June 2023. 52 cases were reported in May 2022, against 12 cases in May this year. He said that in last April and March, a total of 14 and three cases were reported respectively while this year the number of cases remained at four and three. There were no dengue cases in January and February 2022, but in 2023, eight and two cases were reported, respectively. The spokesman said that a considerable decline in dengue cases during the current year was an example of the best performance of the health and other departments. Advisor to the KP CM on Health, Dr. Riaz Anwar, appreciated the secretary, DG Health, and their teams for the achievement.—DNA

Chief Commissioner vows to control dengue outbreak

ISLAMABAD: The Chief Commissioner of Islamabad, Captain (ret'd) Anwarul Haq on Tuesday said that all possible resources will be utilized to control the dengue outbreak in the city. He expressed these views while chairing a meeting to review dengue control arrangements. He was briefed by the Deputy Commissioner Islamabad, Irfan Nawaz Memon, on the measures that are being taken to control the outbreak. The Deputy Commissioner said that surveillance teams were in the field and visiting different places to detect and destroy mosquito breeding sites. He said that strict action was being taken against those who violate the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for dengue prevention. The Chief Commissioner directed that sanitation arrangements should be improved in different areas of the city to prevent dengue.—APP

2023 CIFTIS highlights China's action for carbon neutrality

DNA

ISLAMABAD: As China is stepping up actions to achieve its carbon peak and neutrality targets, the latest achievements and technological development in the environmental services sector unveiled at the ongoing 2023 China International Fair for Trade in Services (2023 CIFTIS) catch the eyes of visitors from home and abroad, China Economic Net (CEN) reported on Tuesday. Chinese authorities in 2021 unveiled a guiding document on the country's work to achieve carbon peaking and carbon neutrality goals under the new development philosophy, laying out key specific targets and measures for the coming decades. According to the document, by 2030, China's carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions will peak, stabilize and then decline, and by 2060, China will be carbon neutral and have fully established a green, low-carbon and circular economy. Being one

of the nine thematic exhibitions of the fair, the Section of Environmental Services, encompassing exhibitions and forums, among other activities, showcases China's unremitting efforts to achieve its carbon peak and carbon neutrality goals, and to encourage companies worldwide to innovate and cooperate. One of the highlights of the exhibition is NewLink and its subsidiary NaaS Technology Inc., a leading EV charging service provider. Highlights include the automatic charging robot, which was wholly designed in-house to streamline the charging process for the future EV ecosystem, and prototype testing and certification services provided for new energy enterprises aiming to be delivered overseas. In addition, the country's first Level 4 auto-driving truck produced by Chinese automobile manufacturer Jiangling Motor also wows visitors on site. Wu Xiaojun, Vice President of the company, noted that thanks to favourable factors such

as supportive policy, welcoming society and fast-developing technology, the new energy light commercial vehicle (LCV) market has ushered in a period of rapid development. "This year we specially set up a theme exhibition area on carbon peak and neutrality, aiming to build a platform for enterprises worldwide to display advanced technology, exchange ideas, and tap potential in trade and investment," said the organizer. China's three biggest oil companies - China National Petroleum Corporation, China Petrochemical Corporation, and China National Offshore Oil Corporation - also showcase their efforts for lower emissions via green transformation. To achieve carbon peak and carbon neutrality calls for a broad and profound economic and social systemic change. Besides exhibits, experts from different countries are invited to share ideas on hot topics such as "carbon peak & carbon neutrality", carbon trade, and green city.

Govt committed for uniform, quality education

ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Minister for Education and Professional Training Madad Ali Sindhi Tuesday assured that his government would ensure a uniform and quality educational system in the country and vowed to improve the ability of public sector teachers to modernize the education system. "Quality education was the highest priority of the present government and assured the students of resolving their problems on immediate basis and that they would be assisted in every possible way", he said while talking to a Private news channel. "Our main focus is to pay special attention to the higher education as well as character building of the students at school level so that they could use their leadership abilities for the betterment.—DNA

IRS launches its E library

DNA

ISLAMABAD: The Institute of Regional Studies launched its E-library with a collection of over eight thousand books here on Tuesday. The digitized framework for operation of the new library was founded by Mr Ammad Farooq, Research Officer at Cybersecurity Desk IRS, who while elaborating the various nuances of the new digital space commented that it was high time to pace up with the electronic world and digitising the existing resources at the Institute could play a significant role in a much wider distribution of the available literature resources. Ambassador Khalid Mehmood said that libraries played a vital role in research organisations and it was commendable for IRS to realise the significance of transforming from physical to digital spaces. He lauded the efforts of team at IRS for developing a sophisticated system of library management.

Dewatering teams mobilized in Islamabad

DNA

ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) administration mobilized its teams after heavy rain and thunderstorms last night to clear waterlogged roads and drains in Islamabad. Assistant Commissioners and Magistrates assessed the situation to ensure that all necessary measures were taken to mitigate the impact of the flooding, ICT spokesman said on Tuesday. The dewatering process was carried out by CDA, MCI, and Emergency and Disaster Management teams. They were using pumps and water tankers to remove the water from the roads and drains, adding said the teams were also clearing fallen trees and debris from the roads, he added. Deputy Commissioner Islamabad Irfan Nawaz Memon said that the dewatering process was underway and that all necessary measures were being taken to ensure the safety of the residents.

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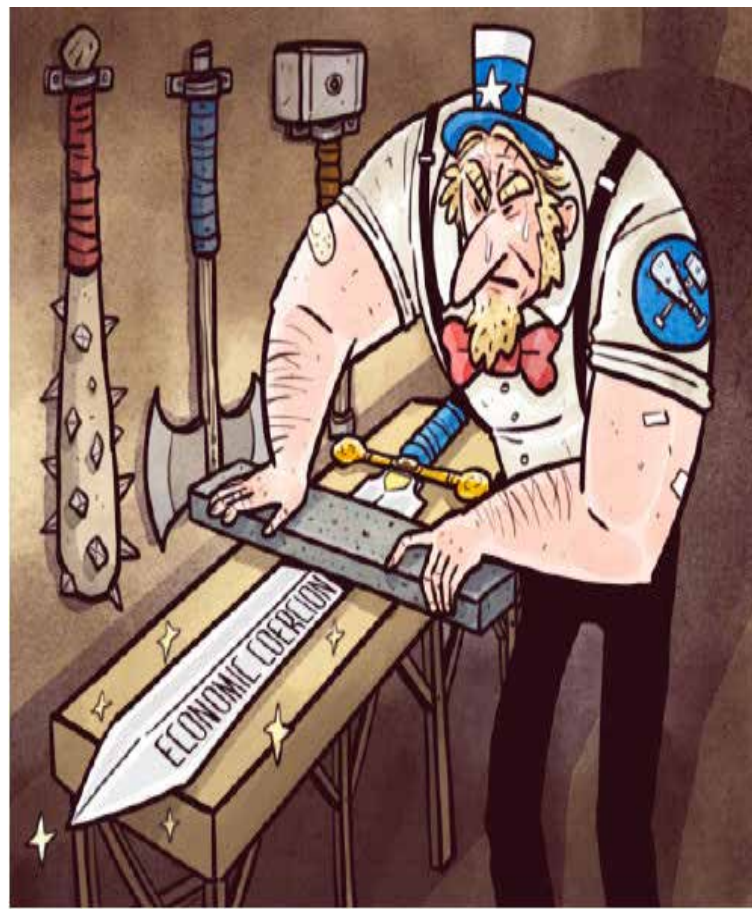
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Hanoi should be wary of ploy

US President Joe Biden's scheduled visit to Vietnam on Sept 10 immediately after attending the G20 Summit in New Delhi is expected, according to reports, to upgrade Washington-Hanoi relations to a comprehensive strategic partnership after 10 years of comprehensive partnership. There's nothing wrong with the two countries upgrading their bilateral ties. But the fact that Biden has decided to skip the Association of Southeast Nations Leaders' Meeting in Jakarta from Sept 5 to 7 to focus on his Vietnam visit gives rise to concerns about the role Washington wants Hanoi to play in its geopolitical strategy. Vietnam and China established a comprehensive strategic partnership in 2008, but the two countries have territorial disputes in the South China Sea. Given that Washington has been trying to exploit China's territorial disputes with the Philippines to its advantage, it could use the same playbook to further complicate the dispute between Vietnam and China. After all, exploiting disputes between other countries is how Washington gets its strategic bread and butter from. It is normal for the US to develop bilateral ties with other countries, including Vietnam. But developing ties with a country with the ill intent of driving a wedge between it and another country is a threat to regional peace and stability. As far as China's territorial disputes with its neighboring countries are concerned, China has reiterated time and again that they should be settled through talks. China has also pledged to continue talks on the Code of Conduct for the South China Sea, which could help resolve the disputes. Vietnam knows how important its relations with China are, and what role Sino-Vietnamese relations play in its development. Of course, it should expand economic and trade cooperation with the US. But it should not allow the US to poison China-Vietnam relations. When it comes to economic and trade cooperation, no country should be forced to take sides between the US and China. If some countries find it difficult to balance their relations with the world's largest and second-largest economies, it is because Washington exerts pressure on them to become pawns in its geopolitical game against China. With more and more countries, including those in Southeast Asia, becoming wary of Washington's strategic intentions, it will be very difficult or even impossible for the US to force ASEAN member states to take sides in its geopolitical game against China. It's high time Washington realized it can no longer fool countries and began developing normal ties with Southeast Asian countries without disrupting regional peace and stability.



Huawei thumbs nose at US sanctions

SELDOM, if ever, has the launch of a Chinese product triggered as much global interest as the launch of the latest smartphone from Huawei Technologies Co, the Mate 60 Pro. Many are wondering how the Chinese telecommunications giant managed to come up with what looks like a 5G-capable handset despite the crippling sanctions imposed on it by the United States since 2019 to choke off its supply of chips. Domestic social networking sites are full of posts with netizens trying to guess how Huawei managed the latest breakthrough. Some assume domestic chipmaker Semiconductor Manufacturing International Corp, which, too, faces US sanctions, used existing materials to make the Kirin 9000s processor that powers the Mate 60 Pro. Others believe Huawei used stock-piled chips to make the Mate 60 Pro, meaning the chips are actually Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co Ltd products. With Huawei keeping mum on the core technology used, many say the Mate 60 Pro shows how ineffective Washington's tech sanctions have been and by imposing the sanctions on Chinese enterprises and other entities, the United States is actually hurting its own enterprises. The low-profile manner in which Huawei unveiled its latest product has left many proponents of the sanctions against China wondering about the effectiveness of the sanctions in checking China's progress in the high-tech sector. There is no denying that Huawei remains a major force in the telecom consumer market in spite of the sanctions. If the company continues launching products with cutting-edge technologies, the Mate 60 series will become a "milestone" for homegrown technologies, for it would not be just Huawei's success but that of the entire indigenous semiconductor industry. It may be too early to project the Mate 60 series as proof of China's ability to continue to produce high-end, high-tech products despite the US sanctions. But the timing of the Mate 60 Pro's launch, which coincided with US Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo's visit to China and predated Apple's launch of iPhone 15, shows the innovation capability of Chinese enterprises. On returning home, Raimondo told NBC's Meet the Press that US enterprises were "not going to sell the most sophisticated American chips to China" under her watch. She was hinting at choking the supply of chips to China to prevent the modernization of China's military. But she certainly didn't expect Huawei to overcome hurdles, and break new ground. If that is the case, Washington's sanctions regime has not only proved to be ineffective but also self-harming.

Pak economic dilemma: smuggling and solutions

Qamar Bashir



The Army Chief's active engagement in tackling smuggling was striking, as this issue predominantly falls within the realm of civilian institutions such as Customs and Excise and FIA. However, it was pointed out by the business community that the military, with its auxiliary units like the FC (Frontier Corps), Border Security Forces, and Coast Guard, plays a significant role in maintaining control over the routes that connect Balochistan, Punjab, and KP provinces with neighboring countries such as Iran, Afghanistan, and India. Moreover, Pakistan's border areas with Iran, Afghanistan, and India...

IN an unprecedented move, Pakistan's Army Chief recently took the lead in addressing the nation's pressing economic challenges. The meetings with Karachi and Lahore's top businessmen marked a departure from the norm, as key civilian authorities usually handle such matters. During these extensive dialogues, the business community voiced their concerns and presented a litany of suggestions and demands aimed at rescuing the nation's sinking financial ship. These conversations shed light on the dire economic situation in Pakistan and underscored the central issue: rampant smuggling of essential commodities and currency out of the country through land routes to Afghanistan and Iran. The Army Chief's active engagement in tackling smuggling was striking, as this issue predominantly falls within the realm of civilian institutions such as Customs and Excise and FIA. However, it was pointed out by the business community that the military, with its auxiliary units like the FC (Frontier Corps), Border Security Forces, and Coast Guard, plays a significant role in maintaining control over the routes that connect Balochistan, Punjab, and KP provinces with neighboring countries such as Iran, Afghanistan, and India. Moreover, Pakistan's border areas with Iran, Afghanistan, and India are patrolled and secured by the Border Security Forces, exclusively manned by the army. The Coast Guard, established to combat illegal smuggling of goods through sea and maritime routes, also falls under military purview. Border checkpoints, controlled by the army and ISI, ensure that nothing passes through without their knowledge, information, and consent. The National Logistics Cell (NLC) conducts bulk trade primarily unchecked between Pakistan, Afghanistan, China, Iran, and Central Asia. Additionally, the Narcotic Control Forces are led by the army, while Rangers focus on curbing illegal activities within urban centers. The Army Chief, during these meetings, lent a patient ear to the business community's grievances. He maintained a friendly demeanor, emanating hope and determination in his eyes, while his voice exuded passion and resolve. His gestures conveyed grit and tenacity as he promised to establish a task force on smuggling to recommend a comprehensive plan of action. As discussions continued, it became evident that meaningful steps were needed to hold those complicit in smuggling accountable. Smugglers have been bleeding the

country's economy, siphoning off essential resources, and undermining the nation's prosperity. A unique perspective on smuggling emerged from an individual with firsthand knowledge. This smuggler revealed that he regularly loaded his vehicle with cash and traveled along smuggling routes, distributing sizable sums to checkpoints based on the number of trucks that had passed through. This system allowed for the unhindered movement of goods, with commodities flowing into Iran and Afghanistan, while contraband such as petroleum products, plastic kitchenware, dry fruits, electronics, and fruits came back into Pakistan. Former FBR Chief Mr. Shabbar Zaidi shared an illuminating anecdote in an interview. As he tightened the noose around smuggling during his tenure, he received a phone call from a southern army commander instructing him to halt these efforts. The fear was that clamping down on smuggling would provoke a law and order situation in Balochistan, a province heavily reliant on smuggling for income. The economic consequences of smuggling are profound. Afghanistan heavily depends on Pakistani exports, with a substantial portion of its daily requirements coming from Pakistan. This translates to billions of dollars annually, desperately needed at home. Alarming, a significant chunk of these profits ends up lining the pockets of security agencies tasked with preventing currency smuggling. Similarly, Pakistan's economy has been hit hard by the smuggling of petroleum products from Iran, leading to a staggering loss of revenue. Diesel sales have plummeted by over 40%, while overall oil product sales have seen a 46% drop, amounting to 8.8 million barrels in April compared to the previous year. Oil & Gas Regulatory Authority (OGRA) reports that around 4,000 tonnes of smuggled fuel per day result in a monthly revenue loss of approximately 10.2 billion rupees, with an annual loss of Rs. 122 billion. Sadly, a significant portion of these losses directly benefits anti-smuggling security forces. Amid these economic challenges, hopes were raised with promising figures of foreign direct investment (FDI) totaling over \$100 billion from countries like Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Kuwait, and Qatar. These pledges aimed to boost morale within the business community. However, Mr. Shabbar Zaidi cautioned that FDI alone cannot alleviate the immediate foreign currency shortage. To bridge the current account deficit, Pakistan

requires hard cash, a resource that is difficult to come by given the nation's fiscal and economic state. Zaidi emphasized that investors, whether from Saudi Arabia or elsewhere, seek safe and profitable returns on their investments. With volatile exchange rates and economic instability, predicting returns on investment becomes challenging, discouraging significant inflows of FDI. In light of these challenges, Zaidi proposed a series of crucial interventions:

- **Zero Tolerance for Smuggling:** The foremost priority should be eradicating smuggling and holding those responsible accountable.
 - **Early Business Closures:** Enforcing business closures by 6 pm could lead to substantial foreign exchange savings by reducing imports of expensive LNG, furnace oil, diesel, and imported coal necessary for power plants.
 - **Cessation of Rs. 5000 Notes:** Phasing out Rs. 5000 notes would help reduce dollarization of the economy.
 - **Currency Exchange Control:** Restricting currency exchange activities to regular banks would curb hoarding of dollars and unauthorized sales to foreign currency dealers, effectively stemming smuggling.
 - **Limits on Vehicle Imports:** Implementing restrictions on manufacturing and importing vehicles with engine capacities exceeding 2000cc would reduce petroleum product consumption, preserving valuable foreign exchange.
- In conclusion, while meetings between the Army Chief and the business community offer a glimmer of hope, it's essential to remember that previous discussions failed to yield substantive results. The challenge is immense, and addressing Pakistan's economic woes requires concerted effort and accountability at all levels. Rather than conducting extensive economic surveys, the revival of information technology-based systems like the track and trace software may provide more precise insights into tax collection and business operations. As the Army Chief has consistently emphasized, hope, not despair, is the solution, and action in the right direction is the way forward. With his exemplary track record and dedication, he represents a beacon of hope in a country grappling with inflation, soaring commodity prices, and burdensome utility bills. The path ahead may be challenging, but it is the collective responsibility of all stakeholders to steer Pakistan towards a more stable and prosperous future.

Attributes Of Indo-Pak war 1965

AVM Pirzada (Retd)

The war of 1965 was fought by the entire nation spiritually infused with divine aid, that still resonates in the minds of the people. This incorporeal aspect, while inherently vague in war planning, played a crucial role. An element of strong civil-military relationship based on national conviction is essential to comprehensive war strategy. Currently, the gap between public and governing body is not as it was in 1965, which needs to be worked upon

REFLECTING on important attributes of the Indo-Pak War of 1965, certainly strengthens our ability to contemplate future challenges. The war marked the first full-scale conflict between India and Pakistan. As per the famous dictum, War, is an extension of national policy, only by other means. While narratives regarding the outcomes of 1965 war is blurred, this article aims to shed light on lesser-known facets. Positive mental attitude inspires us to try finding the goodness in subjects, while recognizing inadequacies to improve upon. Indian armed forces initiated this war with a funny dream, in that, they planned taking evening coffee and dinner in Lahore Gymkhana, that was not to be fulfilled. The war of 1965 was fought by the entire nation spiritually infused with divine aid, that still resonates in the minds of the people. This incorporeal aspect, while inherently vague in war planning, played a crucial role. An element of strong civil-military relationship based on national conviction is essential to comprehensive war strategy. Currently, the gap between public and governing body is not as it was in 1965, which needs to be worked upon. The need of time is to reconcile within the various segments of our society to become a formidable nation. Pakistan's strategy during this war was centered on preemption. Although this policy was employed by land forces in terms of early offensives, but Pakistan Air Force (PAF) had formulated a wide-ranging preemptive air strategy. This strategic approach enabled PAF to achieve a degree of air superiority in the

desired sectors, which significantly tilted the war's outcome in our favor. Even in a feeble state of inter-services coordination, the PAF conducted excellent tactical operations that aptly supported the land forces. The PAF's preemptive air strategy was globally appreciated and even influenced the Israel Defense Forces during the Arab-Israel wars. Shortly before this war Air Marshal Nur Khan had assumed leadership of the PAF from Air Marshal Asghar Khan, the first Pakistani Air Chief after a lineage of Air Chiefs from the Royal Air Force. Notably, Nur Khan's leadership extended beyond the PAF; he led Pakistan International Airlines to make it the world leading airline and same way he led Pakistan Hockey Team that made us proud. His influence elevated the PAF's performance and professionalism, earning him the honor of a true strategic leader duly acknowledged by the old soldiers' group. Nur Khan's greatness was attested when Gen Ezer Weizman, ex-Commander of Israeli Air Force and IDF, commented that "thanks God that Nur Khan did not belong to Arab-World". The world was hugely impressed by the professional acumen, that PAF displayed and the Pakistani Armed Forces showed in general. Despite numerical disadvantage, Pakistan sustained an edge over India, according to final war results. The professionalism exhibited by the Pakistan armed forces in general and PAF in particular, actually enhanced our conventional deterrence, instilling lasting fear in adversaries' hearts. Assurance of this nation-

al security element was recently refreshed by the PAF in February 2019 in Pulwama episode, perpetuating its established legacy. Fighting a war requires political and diplomatic resolution, highlighting the importance of knowing adversaries' intentions during times of peace. Vigilance against the potential traitors and conspirators within our society is crucial. Strengthening policies and legal frameworks against hybrid attacks is imperative. The evolving nature of warfare necessitates maintaining a degree of air superiority, placing the PAF as a linchpin in any future conflict. Upholding Quaid-e-Azam's vision, the PAF's commitment to excellence remains unwavering. Our learnings from war of 1965 may be intelligently applied in present era, after due incorporation of higher technological advantage. Currently, the world is more transparent than ever, all vulnerabilities are being exposed under the effects of extremely large social media. Currently, conventional war is less likely because of nuclear deterrence, but we need to protect ourselves from the effects of hybrid war. This is a doable task, let's make whole-hearted efforts to identify enemies and know their aspirations, develop all-inclusive national policies and develop robust and very capable human resource on war footings. May Allah SWT bless Pakistan wherewithal to lead the world to peace.

– Article is written by AVM Pirzada (Retd), who has served on instructional assignments in NDU and Airforce War College. Presently working as Director ORIC at AWCI.

Briefs

Judgment on
NAB law...

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(Amendment) Act, 2022 would announce a "short and sweet" verdict soon. The three-member bench, headed by CJP Bandial, and comprising Justice Mansoor and Justice Ijazul Ahsan, heard Khan's petition and reserved the judgment on the case, saying that the date of the verdict would be announced later. "My retirement is near, [we] will give a decision before retirement," said the CJP, who is set to retire later this month on September 16 and will be replaced by Justice Qazi Faez Issa. The additional attorney general, who appeared before the bench to represent AGP Mansoor Usman Awan, apologised to the court on behalf of the AGP for skipping the court hearing owing to an important foreign visit. At the start of the hearing today, the PTI legal counsel, Khawaja Haris presented his final arguments before the bench.

Pervaiz
Elahi...

FORM PAGE 01
The lawyer said as soon as he and Elahi sat inside their car outside the jail, "some people present there blocked our way, forcefully opened our car's door and made me, my driver and associate step out". Meanwhile, Elahi was "abducted" and taken away, he added. The first information report (FIR) against Elahi was registered at the CTD police station on March 18 on the complaint of Ramna police Station House Officer Malik Rasheed.

PM Kakar
eyes Gulf...

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we will be realising one, two or three projects in different areas on the ground," he added. Questioned on which countries had expressed serious interest in the venture, the premier said: "Saudi Arabia, UAE and Qatar ... have shown a lot of interest. It's not just that they have shown interest, they have assured and they have commitments that they would come for some tangible projects in Pakistan." The prime minister's remarks come on the heels of his saying, while speaking to journalists at his official residence on Monday, that Saudi Arabia will invest up to \$25 billion in Pakistan over the next two to five years in various sectors. He had said Saudi Arabia's investment would come in the mining, agriculture and information technology sectors, and was part of a push to increase foreign direct investment in Pakistan.

SIFC meets
with traders

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including agriculture, information technology and mining sectors. The SIFC's policies were met with enthusiasm by the traders. A panel discussion was also held afterward. Earlier, caretaker Prime Minister Anwaarul Haq Kakar said that the recently-instituted SIFC would continue to work as before in laying the foundations for fast-track foreign investments - particularly from Saudi Arabia. Last month, the SIFC had approved 28 projects worth billions of dollars that would be offered to Gulf countries for investment, including construction of Diamer-Basha dam and mining operations at Reko Diq in Balochistan's Chagai district.

Pakistan,
Turkiye...

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manifestation of strong relations between Pakistan and Turkiye. During the meeting, the president highlighted the atrocities being committed by the Indian security forces against the Muslims in IOJK, besides expressing concern over persecution of minorities in India. He stressed that the international community should take notice of the human rights abuses in IOJK as well as the persecution of minorities in India. The president appreciated the Turkish support to Pakistan's principled stance on the Jammu and Kashmir dispute. Speaking on the occasion, Commander of the Turkish Naval Forces said that coop between the two countries would grow further.

BCCI, PCB on path to mend cricket ties

Rajiv Shukla has said that cricket strengthens bond between the people and brings nations together

OUR CORRESPONDENTS

LAHORE : Vice President Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) Rajiv Shukla has said that cricket strengthens bond between the people and brings nations together.

Speaking at the grand gala dinner by the PCB in honor of BCCI delegation and Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Pakistan cricket teams at the Governor's House the other night, he hinted at the magical power of cricket to bring people and states closer with desire to mend relations between the boards like the past. The trio from the BCCI and PCB including Roger Binny, Rajiv Shukla and Zaka Ashraf expressed the positive intent mend relations for the fans on both sides of the border. Reminiscing on successful tours by the Indian team in the past despite concerns on players' security, the BCCI vice president said there were security concerns prior to the Indian team's Pakistan tour in 2004 but we went ahead with the tour through the backing of the BCCI President Jagmohan Dalmiya and it was followed by a tour in 2006. "2004-06 was the golden era in Pakistan-India relations while cricket served as the track II diplomacy," Shukla said, adding that it helped promote people to people ties. Shukla spoke freely of

his fondness of Lahore and how he enjoyed coming back to the historic city. He reminisced of a similar day at the Governor's House when former Indian Prime Minister addressed the audience at the sprawling lawns of Governor's House. He also made a special mention of the warmth and hospitality extended to him every time he had visited Lahore, adding he was enamoured by the personal care he received every time he was here in Lahore. Shukla promised enviable hospitality to the visiting Pakistan team during the

ICC Men's ODI World Cup 2023 in India from October 5, adding he looked forward to welcome all the team there. The BCCI vice president congratulated PCB on the successful conduct of the Asia Cup 2023.

Chairman Management Committee PCB Zaka Ashraf urged the need to revive love and develop brotherly relations among the cricketing nations of the world.

Welcoming the BCCI President Roger Binny, Vice President Rajiv Shukla, Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka cricket teams, office-bearers and officials to Lahore, he underlined the need of unity among the cricketing nations as cricket brings countries and nations together. He expressed the hope that the Asia Cup will promote brotherly ties.

Referring to the recent Pak-India tie in the Asia Cup 2023 in Kandy, Sri Lanka, Zaka Ashraf said it was great sight cricket from both the teams hugging each other at the end of the match, adding that cricket is a binding force. BCCI President Roger Binny also reiterated his desire to strengthen the ties between the cricket boards and promote cricket. Later, Governor Punjab Muhammad Balighur Rehman and Chairman PCB Management Committee Zaka Ashraf presented mementoes to the visiting cricket teams and office bearers of other boards.

Alexander Zverev outduels Sinner at US Open

12th seed German wins late night match 6-4, 3-6, 6-2, 4-6, 6-3 against sixth seed Italian to reach quarter-finals

SPORTS DESK

NEW YORK: Alexander Zverev defeated Jannik Sinner in a late-night five-set US Open marathon to line up a quarter-final with defending champion Carlos Alcaraz. German 12th seed Zverev outlasted Sinner 6-4, 3-6, 6-2, 4-6, 6-3 in a gruelling 4hr 41min match which finished at 1.39am local time Tuesday on a muggy night in New York. Zverev claimed his second win over the sixth-seeded Italian in three years at Flushing Meadows and advanced to a third quarter-final here after the longest US Open match



of his career. "I guess I can say I'm back. This is what I live for, this is what I absolutely love to do," Zverev said in an on-court interview. "Last year when I wasn't able to play this is exact-

ly the kind of moments I missed." Zverev, the 2020 US Open runner-up, missed last year's tournament after suffering a horror ankle injury at Roland Garros. "I actually don't know how I managed that. I was com-

pletely done in the fourth set. I was extremely tired. In the fifth set I somehow found it again," said Zverev. "This is one of the best moments of my career, after my comeback and everything. I'm looking forward to what comes next." The 26-year-old Zverev has a 3-2 record against world number one Alcaraz, winning their only Grand Slam meeting in the 2022 French Open quarter-finals, and is regaining his best form. "I'm here to play. That's what I love doing. I don't know how it'll end up but I'll give it my absolute best like I always do," he said. "I'll fight till the last moment. I'll be ready."

Sri Lanka beat Afghanistan by 2 runs

LAHORE: Sri Lanka defeated Afghanistan after a thrilling clash by two runs to qualify for the Super 4 of the ongoing Asia Cup on Tuesday in Lahore. Afghanistan were dismissed for 289 runs in 37.4 overs while chasing a target of 291 runs. Afghanistan needed to chase down the target in 37.1 overs or less in order to qualify, which they couldn't achieve. Earlier, Sri Lanka set a target of 292 runs after winning the toss and deciding to bat first against Afghanistan in the crucial Group B clash. Sri Lanka finished on 291.8 in 50 overs. Kusal Mendis was the top run-scorer for Sri Lanka with 92 runs in 84 balls with the help of six fours and three sixes. He was unfortunate to miss out on a well-deserved hundred after he was run-out at the bowler's end. Sri Lanka got off to a solid start with Pathum Nissanka and Dimuth Karunaratne scoring 63 runs in 10.2 overs. However, both failed to kick on after getting a start and were dismissed for 41 and 32 runs, respectively. Charith Asalanka scored 36 runs in 43 balls. Dumith Wellalage (33 not out) and Maheesh Theekshana (28) added 64 runs in 63 balls for the eighth wicket to provide impetus at the backend of the innings. Seamer Gulbadin Naib claimed 4-60 in 10 overs, meanwhile Rashid Khan bagged figures of 2-63. Both teams didn't make any changes to their playing XI for this contest. Bangladesh have already booked their spot in the Super 4 round of the Asia Cup 2023 after their 89-run win over Afghanistan in Group B. - DNA

SA announce ICC ODI World Cup squad

CAPE TOWN :Cricket South Africa (CSA) has announced their 15-member squad for the upcoming ICC Men's ODI World Cup 2023 in India, commencing on October 5. The South Africa squad features eight players who will be playing their first ODI World Cup, including captain Temba Bavuma. The other seven players are Aiden Markram, Tabraiz Shamsi, Keshav Maharaj, Anrich Nortje, Marco Jansen, Sisanda Magala, and Reeza Hendricks. It must be noted that South Africa's opening batter and wicketkeeper Quinton de Kock has announced his retirement from ODI cricket after the conclusion of the World Cup 2023 in India. The Protea Men's white-ball head coach, Rob Walter, reflected on the thinking behind the squad selection for the World Cup. "It's great having a mix of experienced players and players who will be competing in their first 50-over World Cup - you get that sort of exuberance of excitement to be doing something for the first time," Walter said. "Similar to the level of experience, we have endeavoured to curate a well-balanced group of players and skill that will allow us to effectively adapt to the conditions in India," he added. CSA's Director of Cricket, Enoch Nkwe, also shared his thoughts on the squad announcement: "The World Cup is the pinnacle for every player, no matter what the sport is. As a boy it is something you dream of and I'm sure these players will be all feeling extremely proud today. "I would like to congratulate all of them on their selection and I am sure they will represent the Proteas badge with distinction and honour. We have no doubt they will give everything in India and do their best to try and bring the trophy home." - Agencies

Pakistan women's team creates history against SA

LAHORE : Pakistan women's team on Monday achieved a historic feat against South Africa when they defeated the visitors in the third T20I, effectively becoming the first Asian nation to complete a whitewash over South Africa at home. Skipper Nida Dar, Sadia Iqbal and Nashra Sandhu were phenomenal on the field helping Pakistan secure a thrilling win in Karachi. Earlier, Pakistan were put

into bat first by South African captain Laura Wolvaardt. After completing two chases thus far, Pakistan was put into bat first for the first time this series. Pakistan had a steady start, scoring 41 in the powerplay, with both Shawaal Zulfiqar and Sidra Amin contributing to the scorecard. Even after the partnership was broken by Nonkululeko Mlaba, who got Shawaal out, the Pakistani scorecard did not stutter for



Swimming sets 'strict' rules for individual Russians

Russian swimmers will be allowed to compete in international events, including the Paris Olympics, if they meet a set of "strict criteria" that include not talking to the media

SPORTS DESK

GENEVA: Individual Russian swimmers will be allowed to compete in international events, including the Paris Olympics, if they meet a set of "strict criteria" that include not talking to the media, the sport's governing body. The World Aquatics governing body published its criteria Monday for Russian and Belarusian athletes, coaches and officials to return to competition as neutrals after being banned because of their countries' war in Ukraine. The criteria follow the International Olympic Committee's guidelines that only individual athletes from Russia and Belarus - no teams - can be allowed to compete in Paris, and that they must not have shown any public support for the war. World Aquatics said only one Russian and Belarusian athlete will be allowed to enter in each swimming and diving event. They cannot take part in any relays, artistic swimming, synchronized diving, or water polo. World Aquatics has appointed a panel to vet athletes, coaches and officials to make sure they have not shown any support for the war - such as statements, social media posts or taking part in pro-war demonstrations - since the invasion started in February 2022. That could bar swimmer Evgeny

Rylov, a two-time gold medalist at the Tokyo Olympics, who was suspended last year for wearing a "Z" symbol at a pro-war rally in Luzhniki Stadium in Moscow. World Aquatics said the rules took effect Monday though it is unclear how long vetting will take after athletes apply for neutral status. Individual athletes still have to qualify for the Olympics in order to compete in Paris next summer. Main events on the swim calendar before then include three World Cup meets in October in Berlin, Athens and Budapest and the 2024

aquatics world championships next February in Doha, Qatar. Russian and Belarusian flags and anthems will not be allowed and approved athletes and support staff must wear all-white uniforms and equipment, World Aquatics said. "They will also not be allowed to give any interviews to media during such competitions," the world swim body said, also barring athletes from news conferences and post-race mixed zones where journalists can ask questions. World Aquatics is the latest Olympic sports body to detail

its response to the International Olympic Committee's advice to find a way for neutral Russian and Belarusian athletes to return to competition. The IOC initially urged sports to exclude Russia from world sports within days of the war starting, but that advice changed in December despite Ukraine's president Volodymyr Zelensky urging a full exclusion of Russia. Track and field's World Athletics has taken the strongest stance in continuing to ban Russians, while the country's athletes are unlikely to return in other Olympic sports until next year. World Aquatics also put limits on how Russians and Belarusians can try to qualify for the main competitions, including undergoing four doping controls by recognized anti-doping agencies in the year prior to applying for neutral status. Any qualifying time or performance also must be achieved at a competition held outside Russia and Belarus. "Despite the challenges we face on the international stage, we acknowledge our responsibility to foster a competitive, fair, and inclusive environment for every competitor," World Aquatics president Husain al Musallam said in a statement. Swimmers and divers who show "discriminatory behavior" toward their Russian and Belarusian opponents will face disciplinary action, World Aquatics said.

Pakistan
greatly...

FROM PAGE 01

He hoped that both countries would benefit from each other's experiences in all fields. Ambassador of Uzbekistan Aybek Osmanov in his speech said Uzbekistan and Pakistan enjoy excellent brotherly relations adding these relations shall further be strengthened in the days to come. He said, What an honor and exceptional privilege for me to be posted for the third time in this great country Pakistan and to be a humble servant of the re-connectivity between our two regions and nations. 'I'm extremely grateful to the President of Islamic Republic of Pakistan Hon Dr. Arif Alvi, the Government of Pakistan, Pakistan army Navy and Air force for great achievements we gained in our connectivity'. The ambassador further said in recent years our brotherly cooperation has been elevated to a level of the strategic partnership due to confident political dialogue, strengthening the trade and industrial, technological projects as well as the active military cooperation between our armed forces. The ambassador said, only in the last 2 years

we together have increased nearly half billion of bilateral trade via brotherly Afghanistan based on Transit and Preferential trade agreements. No doubt that our teams along with our colleagues will reach the goals of the recently signed 1 bln Trade and Industrial cooperation Road Map. He thanked Dr. Gohar Ijaz for gracing this occasion as official Chief Guest! 'Let me tell to this audience the secret as there are no businessmen or bureaucrats from Pakistan like Dr. Gohar Ijaz who so frequently have visited so many Uzbek regions (Fergana, Andijan, Samarqand, Bukhara, Tashkent, Termez and Jizzak etc.)'. 'During his fruitful meetings with my President, Prime Minister and Uzbek entrepreneurs Dr. Gohar Ijaz has in detail devised the longtime and mutually beneficial Strategy for further increasing the trade investment and industrial cooperation between our countries and businesses'. Only this year after successful high-level summits of my President and PM of Pakistan we had conducted the 8th Joint ministerial commission in Tashkent. And nowadays we are implementing new connectivity projects with the help of Chambers of Commerce's and industrial associations in Islamabad and all provinces of Pakistan, the ambassador added While talking about the new constitution the Ambassador said, the New Constitution adopted this year in Uzbekistan reflected the changes and reforms implemented by the Uzbek Government and the check and balances between Public-State-Parliament. 'New structure of the government with effective, compact and public administration - 1) will be serving the people under the new disposition Human-Society-State; 2) will provide the political stability, strengthen the economic development, further strengthening of social protection of the nation; 3) will implement the cooperation with foreign partners, increase the internal and external integrity and region to region connectivities'. The Hon President of Uzbekistan H.E. Shavkat Mirziyoyev in his address on the 32nd Anniversary of the Independence of the Republic of Uzbekistan has stressed that large-scale work carried out in recent years and the results achieved serve as a solid foundation for strengthening. A clear confirmation is that over the past six years, the gross domestic product in the country has grown by more than 1.5 times, and the number of business entities - by 2 times, industrial growth has exceeded 40%. "We must never forget that natural resources are wealth that belongs to future generations. Only united - we are one nation, only together - a strong country!", Shavkat Mirziyoyev said. He said, particular attention of our nations and brotherly neighbor nations is the construction project of the Uzbekistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan railway. Last month in Tashkent new project office was established and in Islamabad trilateral recent meeting of the project office (Uzb-Pak-Afg) hosted by the Government of Pakistan (Ministry of Railways) three countries have signed the Protocol upon feasibility studies, financing and construction of this Game changer project. 'Let me express my belief that every next year meetings will be resulted with new significant inputs for the further cementing of brotherly relations and re-connectivity between Pakistan and Uzbekistan.'

Briefs

Muslim girl refused to remove their abaya

PARIS: More than 60 Muslim girl students refused to remove their abaya at schools, the French education minister said on Tuesday. Gabriel Attal said in an interview with RMC that the abaya, a loose full-length robe worn by Muslim women as a sign of modesty, was recently banned in schools due to the principle of secularism. The new school session began on Monday, and despite the new rule, 298 students arrived at schools in various regions of the country wearing an abaya, he said. "Sixty-seven of them refused to give up on their abaya," Attal said, adding, "I do not want to be able to identify students' religion in schools by looking at their outfit." The minister also stressed the importance of dialogue and explaining the purpose of this rule. President Emmanuel Macron, who backed last week's decision to ban abaya and qamis, a type of ankle-length shirt for men, also said in an interview on Monday that a unique attire could be adopted in schools, such as a pair of jeans, a tee shirt, and a jacket.—APP

Africans continue to facing challenges

GENEVA: People of African descent are still facing "immense challenges" in participating meaningfully in public affairs in many countries due to "systemic racism, marginalization and exclusion often rooted in the legacies of enslavement and colonialism," said a report released Tuesday by the UN Human Rights Office. The report states that "systemic racism continues to affect negatively people of African descent in all aspects of life," the OHCHR said in a statement. Deaths of individuals of African descent during or after interactions with law enforcement persist, it noted and indicated that minimal advancements have been achieved in dealing with impunity - regardless of prolonged battles by families demanding responsibility and competent resolution. "If systemic racism is to be overcome, states must accelerate action towards meaningful, inclusive and safe participation for people of African descent in every aspect of public affairs," UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Volker Turk said.—Agencies

NCB urges attention to depleting marine resources

DNA

ISLAMABAD: The 22nd meeting of the National Coordinating Body (NCB) of the coast was organized on Tuesday by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN-Pakistan) to discuss issues and depleting coastal resources, especially in the wake of climatic impacts, calling for the need to create more marine protected areas in Pakistan. The NCB meeting was a key feature of one of IUCN's long-running Mangroves for the Future Programme that ended 2018, and has thereafter been supported by IUCN in partnership with organizations such as Engro Foundation, Monaco Foundation and other funding sources, a news release said. Distinguished experts at the meeting included representatives from the government line departments, coastal agencies, Pakistan Navy, as well as from civil society organizations and academia. Stakeholders emphasized the urgent necessity of designating marine and coastal areas as Protected Areas. "Presently, less than 1% of the coast enjoys protection, and Pakistan, as a dedicated CBD signatory, needs to declare at least 30% of its coast as Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) under the 30x30 agenda," said Country Representative of IUCN, Mahmood Akhtar Cheema. In pursuit of this urgent need for MPA declaration, the NCB platform, through its IUCN-MFF programme, established a dedicated sub-committee. This sub-committee identified coastal

Myanmar won't be allowed to lead ASEAN in 2026

NEWS DESK

JAKARTA: Southeast Asian leaders met in Indonesia on Tuesday to seek a united voice on the years-long Myanmar crisis and tackle rifts over China's growing assertiveness in the South China Sea. Myanmar has been ravaged by deadly violence since a 2021 military coup deposed Aung San Suu Kyi's government and unleashed a bloody crackdown on dissent. The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) - long decried by critics as a toothless talking shop - has been left divided over how to deal with Myanmar's junta rulers and its own failed diplomatic attempts to resolve the crisis. "The future challenges are getting heavier and they cause competition for influ-

ence by the big powers," said Indonesian President Joko Widodo, opening one-day talks in the capital Jakarta. "However, ASEAN has agreed not to become a proxy for any power, and to cooperate with anyone for peace and prosperity," he said. "We must ensure that this ship continues to sail and that we have to be captains of our own ship to achieve peace." A draft joint communique seen by AFP left blank its Myanmar section, belying the lack of consensus in the 10-member bloc whose peace efforts have so far been fruitless. Leaders will try to hash out a united position on the conflict as Myanmar's junta ignores international criticism and refuses to engage with its opponents. Chair Indonesia has pushed for the junta - which is barred

from the bloc's high-level meetings - to enforce a five-point plan agreed two years ago to end the violence and restart negotiations. A Southeast Asian diplomat told AFP there was expected to be "an announcement that the Philippines will take over the chairmanship of ASEAN in 2026 from Myanmar". The diplomat called it "a pragmatic move" as ASEAN members "would be happy that our agenda would not be hijacked" by the crisis and questions over "whether our external partners would turn up" in Myanmar. A second official, who also declined to be named, said "leaders' assessment on the progress" of the five-point plan had caused them to discuss the change. "One of the impacts of their discussion is the rotation of

[the] ASEAN Chairman," the diplomat said, who did not confirm the Philippines would replace Myanmar. Another regional diplomat said some ASEAN members were pushing for the junta to be re-invited to the meetings. Thailand has held unilateral meetings with the junta and deposed democracy leader Suu Kyi in recent months, further dividing the bloc. The junta's main ally Cambodia will be represented by new Prime Minister Hun Manet on his first foreign visit. He addressed a business summit on Monday, saying Phnom Penh sought constructive dialogue to solve the crisis. Some in the bloc fear Bangkok's different track has undermined Indonesia's "quiet diplomacy" as the ASEAN chair, with Jakarta holding

meetings with a range of actors in the conflict over the past year. But experts said all efforts to speak with the junta over the crisis should be welcomed. "I think Indonesia and Thailand need to just get along on this and Indonesia needs to give space to others who may have access. It should not be a competition," former Indonesian ambassador to the United States Dino Patti Djalal told reporters. China's actions in the South China Sea - which it claims almost in its entirety - will also feature prominently, according to the draft communique. China released a new official map last week claiming sovereignty over the majority of the South China Sea, deepening the rift between Beijing and Southeast Asian countries over the waterway. The map sparked sharp re-

bukes from countries around the region, including Malaysia, Vietnam and the Philippines. Leaders will express concern about "land reclamations, activities, serious incidents" in the waterway, the draft communique said. Another Southeast Asian diplomatic source said leaders would aim for the "aspirational goal" of concluding talks with China over a code of conduct in the South China Sea by 2026. Later in the week, Indonesia will host the 18-nation East Asia Summit, which will include the United States, China, Japan, India and Russia. Representing Beijing and Moscow will be Premier Li Qiang and Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov. US Vice President Kamala Harris will attend in place of President Joe Biden, taking part in a roundtable with Moscow's top diplomat.

Tunisia detains former PM

TUNIS: Tunisian security forces detained former Prime Minister Hamadi Jebali on Tuesday, according to his family. "Security forces in civilian clothes raided our home at 8:00 am (7:00 GMT) and arrested him," Jebali's wife, Wahida Trabelsi, told Anadolu. She said no reason was provided for his detention. "Jebali was taken to the National Guard barracks in El-Aouina, in the northern suburbs of the capital, Tunis," she added. The local Mosaïque and Shams FM radio stations confirmed that the former prime minister was detained by security forces in Sousse province, south of Tunis. There was no comment from the Tunisian authorities on Jebali's arrest. "Jebali is in critical health condition after conducting a heart surgery," Trabelsi said. Jebali, a member of the opposition Ennahda movement, headed the government from December 2011 to February 2013. He also ran in the 2019 presidential elections. Last year, Jebali and his wife were arrested on charges of "possession of dangerous materials." They were later released after pressure from human rights groups. In June 2022, Jebali was also arrested on money laundering charges, according to the Interior Ministry at the time. Tunisia has been in the throes of a deep political crisis since President Kais Saied ousted the government and dissolved parliament in 2021. While Saied insists that his measures were meant to "save" the country, critics have accused him of orchestrating a coup.—APP

Wheat import reduces 100% in 1st month of FY2023-24

ISLAMABAD: The import of wheat into the country during the first month of the current financial year decreased by 100 percent as compared to the imports of the corresponding month of last year. During the month of July 2023, wheat import into the country remained zero as compared to the imports of 211,597 metric tons valuing \$107.142 million in the same month of last financial year, according to the data of Pakistan Bureau of Statistics. Meanwhile, the imports of edible oil including palm and soybean into the country during the first months of the current financial year decreased by 5.40 percent and 6.82 percent respectively as compared to the imports of the same month of the last year. During the month of July 2023 about 12,575 metric tons of soybean costing \$14.955 million were imported as against the import of 11,000 metric tons valuing 15.809 million of the period last year. On the other hand over 277,801 metric tons of palm oil worth \$278.939 million was also imported in the first month of the current financial year to fulfill the local requirements of coking oil and vegetable ghee as compared to the imports of 194,081 metric tons valuing \$299.395 million of the same month last year. However, during the period under review, imports of sugar into the country grew by 20.09 percent as 574 metric tons of sugar costing \$593,000 were imported as against the imports of 550 metric tons valuing \$449,000 of the same month last year.

Dr Rubaba hails Anti-Rape cell

ISLAMABAD: Former Parliamentary Secretary and Chairperson Women Parliamentary Caucus Dr. Rubaba Khan Buledi Tuesday hailed the establishment of Anti-Rape Crises cell in hospitals of 34 districts in Balochistan. She expressed the hope that concrete steps would be taken to complete the construction of forensic lab project proposed in the previous regime. Ex-Parliamentary Secretary Law and Parliamentary Affairs made these remarks here on Tuesday. Dr. Rubaba Khan said that the establishment of an Anti-Rape Crises cell in the district headquarters hospitals of Balochistan would provide medical assistance to the rape victims more effectively.—DNA



MOSCOW: Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Andrei Rudenko and Russian President Special Representative on Afghanistan Ambassador Zamir Kablov with Pakistan Ambassador to Russian Federation Shafqat Ali Khan on the occasion of farewell meeting on completion of his tenure.—DNA

Pak envoy meets GCSE achiever Mahnoor Cheema

Mahnoor Cheema's remarkable accomplishment in the GCSE examinations reinforces the educational ties between the United Kingdom and Pakistan

ISLAMABAD: High Commissioner Dr. Mohammad Faisal on Tuesday awarded a 'Certificate of Appreciation' to the outstanding British Pakistani student, Mahnoor Cheema, in recognition of her extraordinary accomplishments in the General Certificate of Secondary Education (GCSE) examinations. Mahnoor's exceptional achievement of passing 34 subjects with high grades has set an international benchmark for academic excellence. The high commissioner expressed his profound admiration for Mahnoor's commitment to academic excellence, hailing her as an inspiration for young girls across the globe, a press release issued by Pakistan High Commission in London said. He lauded Mahnoor for not only bringing honour to her family but also for shining a spotlight on Pakistan's exceptional educational talent on the global stage. Dr Faisal extended his best wishes to Mahnoor for her pursuit of excellence in academics. He also expressed appreciation for the invaluable support and guidance provided by Mahnoor's parents. He acknowledged their pivotal role in fostering an environment conducive to academic success, and underscored the significance of parental encouragement in nurturing the next generation of high achievers. Mahnoor Cheema's remarkable accomplishment in the GCSE examinations reinforces the educational ties between the United Kingdom and Pakistan.

Ankara ready to continue dialogue with Greece: FM

ANKARA: Türkiye has entered a new and positive era in its relations with Greece, Turkish Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan said Tuesday at a joint press conference with his Greek counterpart Giorgos Gerapetritis in Ankara. "Ankara and Athens have differences of opinion in the Aegean and Mediterranean. The sides now must bring a new approach to solving their problems," Fidan told reporters after talks with Gerapetritis addressing the string of decades-old disputes between their countries. The meeting between the pair took place in a friendly climate triggered by Greece sending assistance to Türkiye following two devastating earthquakes and Türkiye offering condolences after a deadly train crash in Greece earlier this year. It also followed a rare meeting between President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis on the sidelines of a NATO summit in Vilnius in July, which was hailed as

a positive milestone by both countries. Mitsotakis and Erdogan are also set to meet on the sidelines of the U.N. General Assembly in New York on Sept. 18, Gerapetritis confirmed Tuesday. "We have agreed to maintain dialogue with Greece without preconditions," Fidan said, stressing that Türkiye is prepared to develop ties "on the basis of common interests in all areas." According to Gerapetritis, the neighbors are expected to hold a high-level cooperation council meeting in Thessaloniki before the end of the year, which would be the first such meeting in seven years. "Starting talks at once is the most critical step and confidence-building measures and talks between Türkiye and Greece will start soon," Gerapetritis noted. The roadmap the pair discussed will be conducted in three phases, the first of which is political discussions that will be overseen by Greek Deputy Foreign Minister Alexandra Papadopoulou. He and Fidan discussed long-

standing disputes like the Cyprus issue, Türkiye's stalled EU membership process and irregular migration, as well as a "positive agenda" framework for boosting economic and commercial cooperation and expansion in other fields such as transportation, maritime, business cooperation, technology, environmental protection and tackling natural disasters. In the Eastern Mediterranean and ethnically divided Cyprus, Türkiye always advocates for the "fair share principle," Fidan said. "Our stance on the resolution of the Cyprus issue is clear," he noted, meaning Türkiye and Turkish Cypriote government's commitment to the two-state solution based on equal sovereignty against Greek side's insistence on a federal solution. As two guarantor countries, Türkiye and Greece will continue discussing the matter, he noted. As for illegal migration, a headache for both countries as they form a gateway to Europe for thousands of asylum-seekers from the greater Middle East

Dr Rubaba hails Anti-Rape cell

ISLAMABAD: Former Parliamentary Secretary and Chairperson Women Parliamentary Caucus Dr. Rubaba Khan Buledi Tuesday hailed the establishment of Anti-Rape Crises cell in hospitals of 34 districts in Balochistan. She expressed the hope that concrete steps would be taken to complete the construction of forensic lab project proposed in the previous regime. Ex-Parliamentary Secretary Law and Parliamentary Affairs made these remarks here on Tuesday. Dr. Rubaba Khan said that the establishment of an Anti-Rape Crises cell in the district headquarters hospitals of Balochistan would provide medical assistance to the rape victims more effectively.—DNA

PFA's inspection strategies for safer food

MARYAM ISRAR



The Punjab Food Authority (PFA) in Pakistan plays a pivotal role in enhancing food safety and quality standards while fostering opportunities for food technologists. In a region where the food industry is a vital component of the economy, the PFA offers a multifaceted approach to address food safety concerns and promote professional growth within the field of food technology. Regulatory Compliance: Food technologists can rely on PFA regulations as a valuable resource for staying updated on safety and quality standards. This knowledge is indispensable for those involved in food production and processing. Quality Assurance: PFA inspections and guidelines serve as an impetus for food technologists to uphold

high-quality standards in food production. This ensures the safety and satisfaction of consumers, a cornerstone for any food-related business. Research Opportunities: The PFA may provide funding and support for research related to food safety and technology. Food technologists can leverage these opportunities to conduct studies that contribute to the development of safer and more efficient food processing methods. Career Opportunities: Professionals in food technology can explore promising career paths within the PFA, including roles as food inspectors, researchers, or advisors. Employment within a regulatory body such as the PFA offers invaluable experience and insights into food safety and compliance. Consumer Trust: Associating with a regulatory authority like the PFA enhances the credibility of food technologists and the companies they represent. Consumers are more likely to trust products and professionals affiliated with organizations dedicated to food safety. Training and Education: The PFA may offer training programs and educational resources for food technologists, enabling them to enhance their skills and knowledge in food safety and technology. PFA's Inspection Strategy The PFA employs a meticulous strategy for its inspections to

ensure the highest level of food safety and quality: Planning and Scheduling: Inspections begin with identifying food establishments for examination based on risk assessment. High-risk locations are prioritized, and an inspection schedule is created. A team of trained inspectors, well-versed in food safety regulations and practices, is assembled. Inspectors review relevant regulations, checklists, and documentation before visiting the establishment. A comprehensive inspection encompasses the assessment of food storage, preparation areas, hygiene practices, and equipment to verify compliance with food safety standards. Documentation and Reporting: Inspectors maintain meticulous records of their findings, highlighting any violations or issues in an inspection report. The inspection results are conveyed to the establishment's management, along with guidance on corrective actions if necessary. Establishments with violations are subject to follow-up inspections to ensure compliance and improvement. Public awareness campaigns, workshops, and online resources are employed to educate the public about food safety. The PFA takes legal action against establishments that consistently fail to meet food safety

standards, including imposing fines, closures, or legal proceedings. Inspection protocols and regulations are regularly reviewed and updated to adapt to changing food safety risks and standards. Maintaining transparency and accountability in their inspections is paramount to the PFA to ensure the safety of the public regarding food. Combating Food Adulteration The PFA deploys a range of methods to combat food adulteration and ensure food safety: PFA inspectors collect samples of food products from various sources for laboratory testing to detect adulteration or contamination. State-of-the-art laboratory equipment is utilized to analyse samples for adulterants, contaminants, and prohibited substances, aiding in the identification of food safety violations. Regular inspections of food establishments, including restaurants, processing units, and shops, are conducted to ensure compliance with food safety and hygiene standards. PFA conducts public awareness campaigns to educate consumers about food safety and the risks associated with consuming adulterated or contaminated food. PFA establishes and enforces food safety regulations and standards that businesses must ad-

here to, thereby preventing adulteration and ensuring food safety. PFA collaborates with law enforcement agencies to take legal action against those involved in food adulteration, which may include arrests and penalties. In some cases, PFA utilizes mobile testing units equipped with on-the-spot testing equipment to check food products quickly at various locations. PFA encourages individuals to report cases of food adulteration through whistle blower programs, facilitating swift action against wrongdoers. PFA possesses the authority to seize and confiscate adulterated or unsafe food products, preventing them from reaching consumers. The PFA's relentless commitment to these methods and strategies aims to ensure the safety and quality of food products in Punjab, safeguarding consumers from health risks associated with adulteration while upholding rigorous food safety standards. The Punjab Food Authority serves as a guardian of public health, ensuring that the food industry operates with integrity and upholds the highest standards of safety and quality. Moreover, it acts as a valuable resource and partner for food technologists, fostering professional growth and innovation in the field of food technology.

Briefs

Italian Navy ship visits Pakistan

NAZIR SIYAL

KARACHI: Italian Navy Ship MOROSINI visited Karachi and conducted bilateral exercise with Pakistan Navy. Upon arrival at Karachi Port, the Italian Navy Ship was warmly welcomed by the senior officials of Pakistan Navy and the Ambassador of Italy. On completion of the port visit, Pakistan Navy Ship SHAH JAHAN with embarked helicopter and PAF fighters carried out sea exercise with visiting Italian ship to enhance interoperability between both navies. The sea exercise is aimed at strengthening mutual professional skills through co-operation and learning from each other's experience. Concurrent to ship's visit, Director of Military Personnel of the Italian Navy Vice Admiral Andrea GUEGLIO visited Pakistan and called on Commander Pakistan Fleet Vice Admiral Muhammad Faisal Abbasi. During the meeting, matters of mutual interest and avenues for future collaboration to enhance regional maritime security were discussed. Meanwhile, an Italian Defence Industries delegation led by Chairman M/s Fincantieri, General (Retd) Claudio GRAZIANO (former Italian COAS) also visited Karachi to showcase capabilities of Italian defence industry and shipbuilding.

Climate change is eating away Africa's GDP

NAIROBI: Climate change is "relentlessly eating away" at Africa's economic progress and it's time to have a global conversation about a carbon tax on polluters, Kenya's president declared Tuesday as the first Africa Climate Summit got underway. "Those who produce the garbage refuse to pay their bills," President William Ruto said. The rapidly growing African continent of more than 1.3 billion people is losing 5% to 15% of its GDP growth every year to the widespread impacts of climate change, according to Ruto. It's a source of deep frustration in the resource-rich region that contributes by far the least to global warming. The summit's opening speeches included clear calls to reform the global financial structures that have left African nations paying about five times more to borrow money than others, worsening the debt crisis for many. Africa has more than 30 of the world's most indebted countries, Kenya's cabinet secretary for the environment, SoipanTuya, said. - Agencies

RECP affiliation to promote stronger Pak-ASEAN trade ties

Ambassador Tugio also highlighted the cultural charm, demography and bio diversity of ASEAN region that makes it popular tourism destination with tremendous investment and innovation opportunities in hospitality and food industry



BUREAU REPORT / DNA

LAHORE: The Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) trade agreement with additional five regional ASEAN partner countries would serve as an effective forum for stronger Pak-ASEAN trade relations if Pakistan would join RCEP that comprises 30 percent of the global GDP and 2.3bn World population. This was proposed by the Ambassador of Indonesia Mr. Adam M. Tugio while addressing a Conference on "Trade and Tourism Potential in ASEAN" organized by Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The Chief Guest of the event was Governor Punjab Mr. Baligh ur Rehman and also attended by High Commissioner of Malaysia Mr. Mohammad Azhar Mazlan, who is currently the Chairman of ASEAN Committee Islamabad (ACI). Elaborating the significance of RCEP, Ambassador Tugio suggested LCCI to conduct a research study on the prospects of joining the RCEP for Pakistan and its likely positive impact on mutual trade activities. Despite huge population and available resources, the 11bn dollar Pak-ASEAN trade is far below than the real economic potential of two sides, he added. Talking about Halal industry as one of the important area of trade cooperation, the Ambassador especially mentioned the growing size of Halal cosmetic industry in European countries and US. The presence of Muslims population globally in different continents offers good market opportunities for Muslim countries in the sector of Halal

cosmetics, he said. The envoy pointed out that out of around 1.8bn Muslim population, 1.3 bn lives in D-countries, which has its own structured mechanism of collaboration together with D-8 Preferential Trade Agreement to promote intra-trade among D-8 members. This structure is very beneficial to promote Halal trade activities and its related industries including tourism. Ambassador Tugio also highlighted the cultural charm, demography and bio diversity of ASEAN region that makes it popular tourism destination with tremendous investment and innovation opportunities in hospitality and food industry. The envoy said that 40 percent of Asean countries population is Muslim and 24 percent is Buddhist and ancient Gandhara civilization and Mughal Islamic architecture in Pakistan attract them a lot. The talented Pakistani IT students may create 3D versions of Taxila Buddhist sites and ancient Moenjodaro to promote foreign tourism, he added. Similarly, Pakistani tourists would also feel at home while visiting Indonesia as there are lot of similarities in culture and cuisines of both sides, he remarked. Highlighting the importance of strong people to contacts, Ambassador Adam informed that Pakistani students are the biggest recipients of Indonesian study scholarships this year and collaboration among universities of two countries is increasing positively. The Ambassador also warmly invited the members of LCCI and all business community to participate in the upcoming annual Trade Expo to be held in Indonesia in October 2023 and assured full facilitation from the Embassy. Earlier, the Ambassador of Indonesia was warmly received by President LCCI along with Executive members. During the discussion, the Ambassador appreciated the resilience of business community to move ahead despite challenges and reciprocated the desire to work together to promote trade connectivity. The envoy emphasized the importance of long-term consistent economic policies in attracting the potential investors to invest in Pakistan. The President LCCI referred to the recent meeting of businessmen with the Chief of Army Staff with optimism and expressed hope that economy would become stable very soon with the formation of Special Investment Facilitation Council and other initiatives.

Sino-Pak joint air exercise Shaheen-X commences



DNA

BEIJING: The Sino-Pak joint annual air exercise Shaheen-X has commenced in the Jiuquan and Yinchuan cities of Northwest China. PAF's lead fighter aircraft J-10 C and JF-17 are participating in the exercise along with air and ground crew. People's Liberation Army Air Force and Pakistan Air Force have been conducting Shaheen joint exercises since 2011 which are being hosted by both countries on an alternate basis. Shaheen exercise aims to enhance the aerial combat practices, operational readiness, promoting interoperability and creating synergy amongst the participating strategic & time-tested

allies in the region. Moreover, incorporation of features like hybrid warfare, cyberspace and computing in this air exercise would augment Pakistan Air Force's effectiveness in the dynamic and evolving landscape of modern warfare. The exercise would leverage the iron-brother countries to develop a comprehensive defence strategy to further consolidate their capacity of safeguarding their aerial boundaries in the face of shared challenges. The tenth joint aerial exercise between the venerable People's Liberation Army Air Force and Pakistan Air Force heralds a remarkable endeavour to strengthen the bonds of camaraderie and unity between the Air Forces of both the countries.

Pakistan, Iran agree to extend cooperation

KHAYAM ABBASI

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan and Iran have agreed to strengthen and expand bilateral cooperation in various fields including economic, commercial, cultural, tourism and public relations between the two countries. The agreement reached during a meeting between Caretaker Information Minister Murtaza Solangi and Iranian Ambassador Reza Amir Moghaddam in Islamabad on Tuesday. They discussed issues of mutual interest, fraternal relations between the two countries, promotion of cooperation in the field of media. On the occasion, Caretaker Information Minister Murtaza Solangi called for further expanding economic relations between Pakistan and Iran. He highlighted that Pakistan highly values its brotherly relations with Iran. Murtaza Solangi said Pakistan and Iran are tied in the bonds of deep religious, cultural and linguistic ties. The Minister said Pak-Iran collaboration in the field of media is need of the hour. He said Pakistan is keen to promote cooperation with Iran in film and drama sectors. Apprising the Ambassador about the steps taken for upcoming general elections in Pakistan, Murtaza Solangi said holding peaceful polls is government's foremost responsibility. Meanwhile, the Ambassador said Iranians hold the great poet of the subcontinent Allama Iqbal in high esteem.

Kim 'to visit Putin for weapons talks'

DNA

PYONGYANG: North Korea's leader Kim Jong Un plans to travel to Russia this month to meet President Vladimir Putin, British media reported. The two leaders will discuss the possibility of North Korea providing Moscow with weapons to support its war in Ukraine, the official said. Where talks would be held is not clear. The Kremlin spokesman had "nothing to say" on the reports, which were also carried by other US media. There was no immediate comment from North Korea. Sources told the New York Times that Mr Kim was most likely to travel by armoured train. The possible meeting comes after the White House said it had new information that arms negotiations between the two countries were "actively advancing". National Security Council spokesman John Kirby said Russia's Defence Minister, Sergei Shoigu, had tried to "convince Pyongyang to sell artillery ammunition" to Russia during a recent visit to North Korea. Weapons on display at the meeting included the Hwasong intercontinental ballistic missile, believed to be the country's first ICBM to use solid propellants. It was the first time Mr Kim had opened the country's doors to foreign guests since the Covid pandemic.

Cuba uncovers war trafficking ring

HAVANA: The Cuban foreign ministry says it has uncovered a human trafficking ring aimed at recruiting Cubans to fight for Russia in its war in Ukraine. It said that Cubans living in Russia and "even some in Cuba" had been "incorporated into the military forces taking part in the war in Ukraine". Cuba is a close ally of Russia, but it stressed in its statement "it does not form part of the conflict in Ukraine". There has not yet been a response from Russia. The Cuban foreign ministry did not specify who was behind the operation. Last August, President Vladimir Putin ordered the Russian military to increase its number of soldiers after its combat forces suffered heavy losses in Ukraine. - Agencies

BC calls for president to announce polls

ISLAMABAD: A meeting called by the Pakistan Bar Council (PBC) passed a resolution on Tuesday, urging President Arif Alvi to "fulfil your constitutional responsibility" and announce a date for general elections - which are to be pushed beyond the constitutionally mandated cutoff date of November 9 if the Election Commission of Pakistan sticks

to its timeline for fresh delimitation of constituencies. "The first resolution that we passed [at the meeting] was that the president of Pakistan should fulfil his constitutional responsibility and announce an election date as mandated under Article 48(5) of the Constitution. "He does not need to consult or take advice from anyone on the matter, as he is competent to announce the election

date under the Constitution of Pakistan, 1973," said PBC Chairman Hassan Raza Pasha after the meeting while speaking to the media outside the Supreme Court (SC) in Islamabad. The participants of the meeting - including chairmen and vice chairmen of the executive committees of bar councils of all four provinces and Islamabad, as well as the presidents of high court bar associations - also

agreed to go on a countrywide strike on September 9 for the fulfilment of this demand, Pasha said. "On September 9, lawyers will take out peaceful rallies, hold public meetings and wave black flags at all district and tehsil levels," he said. The PBC's announcement comes as the president, ECP, political parties and other stakeholders take differing stances on the time frame for holding general

elections and who has the authority to decide the final poll date. The ECP has ruled out elections this year, while the 90-day limit for holding polls following the dissolution of the National Assembly (NA), as mandated under Article 224 of the Constitution, ends on November 9. It reasons its decision to push elections beyond November 9 on the basis of the notification of results of the new 2023 census. - DNA

یوم دفاع پاکستان

ستمبر

بیرونی جارحیت، قدرتی آفات یادداشت گردی کا انتشار
پاک فوج، دفاع وطن کیلئے ہمیشہ تیار!

عظیم شہیدوں اور
غازیوں کو ہمارا سلام