



Islamabad POST

Tuesday, October 03, 2023

Pakistan's Credible Daily Newspaper

Price Rs. 25

Sirbaz becomes 1st Pakistani to ascend 13 8-thousanders

Detailed News On Page-06

Serbia tried to annex Northern Kosovo: Albin

Detailed News On Page-07



JI will make Pakistan green and clean: Siraj

Detailed News On Page-08



Army Chief assurance

Officials involved in smuggling to be court martialled

Interior Minister says every effort shall be made to overcome artificial disparity between PKR and Dollar

ANSAR MAHMOOD BHATTI

ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Interior Minister Sarfraz Bugti has said the Chief of the Army Staff General Asim Munir has made it clear that those officials involved in any kind of smuggling shall be court martialled. Addressing a press conference in Islamabad together with Information Minister Murtaza Solangi, the interior minister further said every effort shall be made to overcome artificial disparity between the PKR and the Dollar. Bugti presented a one-month performance review of the Interior Ministry and shared details related to sugar and fertiliser smuggling. He mentioned the establishment of joint checkpoints to prevent smuggling and the deployment of joint security force teams at the provincial borders. Pakistan has intensified its crackdown on smugglers involved in transporting commodities and US dollars to Afghanistan under the guise of trade. This effort has yielded positive results, with reduced speculation and a significant recovery of the Pakistani rupee against the US dollar. Analysts however remain skeptical about the long-term impact of these administrative measures and fear further currency depreciation. Bugti expressed the government's determination to combat hawala, hundi, and other illegal activities vigorously, commending law enforcement agencies for their role in cracking down on illicit trade and activities. According to Bugti, authorities have seized 2,200 metric tonnes of wheat, 8,000 metric tonnes of sugar, and 10,195 liters of petrol. Action was also being taken against filling stations selling sub-standard fuel and gasoline. The interior minister reported that the government strongly discouraged the use of hawala and hundi, leading to the recovery of Rs658 million and the registration of 168 FIRs against individuals involved in the illegal trade of US dollars. Efforts were underway to determine the actual value of the dollar, Bugti said, adding that a database to track trucks used in

Continued on Page 06

Govt to expel 1.1 mln illegal immigrants

MEHTAB PIRZADA

ISLAMABAD: Citing security concerns, Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar-led caretaker government on Monday announced its decision to expel 1.1 million foreigners illegally residing in Pakistan. According to details, the government will evict illegal "aliens" in the first phase along with those who do not renew their visas. In the second and third phases, those living in Pakistan with Afghan citizenship and possessing proof of residence cards will be deported respectively. "Illegally resident foreigners pose a serious threat to the security of Pakistan," said a source privy to the development adding that the plan for eviction of illegally residing Afghan citizens has also been approved as this lot is involved in funding, facilitating and smuggling terrorists whereas 700,000 Afghans have not renewed their proof of residence in Pakistan. It has been informed that in the first phase, illegal residents will be deported. The Ministry of Interior has prepared a plan in consultation with the stakeholders and the Afghan government. In the meantime, the ministry has also issued directives to the concerned to compile a record of

Continued on Page 06



ISLAMABAD: The Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar chairs a meeting of the Federal Cabinet. - DNA

No Earthquake PMD rejects scientist prediction

Frank Hoogerbeets predicted a powerful earthquake could be held in Chaman

STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: As social media is abuzz with rumours claiming that a strong earthquake is likely to hit Pakistan in the next 48 hours, the Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD) has denied the reports saying that it is impossible to accurately predict an earthquake. Netizens on social media quoted the Solar System Geometry Survey (SS-GEOS) and a Dutch scientist Frank Hoogerbeets as saying that a significant surge in electric activity along the fault lines in Balochistan's Chaman was recorded which could lead to a powerful earthquake in Pakistan. However, the Met Office rejected the speculations, asserting that

Continued on Page 06

Annual inflation rises to 31.4 pc

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's annual inflation rate rose to 31.4 per cent in September from 27.4pc in August, statistics bureau data showed on Monday, as the country reels from high fuel and energy prices. The country is embarking on a tricky path to economic recovery under a caretaker government after a \$3 billion loan programme approved by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in July averted a sovereign debt default, but with conditions that complicated efforts to rein in

Continued on Page 06

PM Kakar kicks off countrywide polio eradication campaign

PM Kakar urges every section of society to play role in complete polio eradication

KHAYAM ABBASI

ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Monday called upon every section of the society to play role in complete eradication of polio virus from the country. He said that everyone would have to participate in this sacred task to ensure safe and healthy future of children of the country. Chairing a meeting of the National Task Force for eradication of polio here, the prime minister directed the concerned authorities to engage religious scholars, teachers, parents and all stakeholders to become part of the polio awareness campaign in the country. He also directed to ensure security of the polio workers during the anti-polio campaign. Expressing satisfaction over the significant drop of polio cases in the country, the prime minister vowed to continue efforts till complete uprooting of this crippling disease from the country. The nation would celebrate the day when every child of the country would be completely safe from this disease, the prime minister said

Continued on Page 06

PTI seeks CJP intervention for sanctity of constitution

FAISAL SHEIKH

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Core Committee urged that the Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) should immediately intervene to safeguard the sanctity and respect of the Constitution, as the caretaker government, ECP and some political parties, which were part of the previous PDM coalition government, were hell-bent on depriving people of right to vote for an indefinite period. PTI Core Committee discussed important issues including prevailing political situation in

Continued on Page 06

Briefs

FM to embark 2-day China visit

MAHNOOR ANSAR

ISLAMABAD: At the special invitation of the Foreign Minister of China, Wang Yi, Foreign Minister Jilani is visiting China to participate in the 3rd Trans-Himalaya Forum for International Cooperation, being held in Nyingchi, Tibet Autonomous Region, from 4-5 October 2023. The Trans-Himalaya Forum was initiated in 2018 to deepen practical cooperation among regional countries on diverse subjects including geographical connectivity, environmental protection, ecological preservation, and enhancing cultural linkages.

Cipher case: Court orders to present Imran, Qureshi

The FIA, in its challan, stated that Imran and Qureshi were found guilty in the matter and requested the court to conduct their trial



COURT REPORTER

ISLAMABAD: A special court established under the Official Secrets Act has summoned jailed Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan and Vice-Chairman Shah Mahmood Qureshi on October 4 in the cipher case. The development came two days after the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) submitted the challan (charge sheet) in the cipher case against the PTI leaders. Special court judge AbulHasnatZulqarnain issued notices to respondents saying that statements of witnesses are sufficient to summon

Continued on Page 06

Police must produce Rashid within a week

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

RAWALPINDI: The Rawalpindi bench of the Lahore High Court has issued a seven-day ultimatum to the Rawalpindi police, asking them to produce former interior minister and Awami Muslim League (AML) chief Sheikh Rashid in court. This development occurred during a hearing related to a petition challenging the arrest of the politician, who was apprehended by "individuals in plain clothes" from a housing society in Rawalpindi on September 17. Rashid's attorney, Sardar Abdul Razzak, claimed that his client was taken into custody at a rented residence

Continued on Page 06

Nawaz 'books' ticket for Pakistan

DNA

LONDON: Pakistan Muslim League-N (PML-N) supreme and former prime minister Nawaz Sharif has got his flight ticket booked for Pakistan, a private news channel reported, quoting well-placed sources. The former premier is embattled in various cases, including the National Accountability Bureau's (NAB) Avenfield, Al-Azizia and Hill Metal and the Flagship references, had left for London in Dec 2019 on medical grounds after the Lahore High Court had granted him permission to travel abroad for four weeks.

Bilawal Bhutto announces legal battle against ECP

Says, PPP 'only' political party that wants timely elections

NAZIR SIYAL

KARACHI: Taking a dig at his allies in the erstwhile Pakistan Democratic Movement-led ruling coalition, PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari on Monday claimed the PPP was the "only" political party in the country that wanted timely elections. "PPP is the country's only party that wants elections to take place," he said in a press conference in Karachi, lamenting how "so-called" political leaders were coming up with excuses to delay polls. "You must have seen that sometimes a so-called leader comes on screen and says: 'Delimitation has to happen and until then [elections can be delayed]'. Okay let's accept delimitation [needs to be done] but that process has been completed so now there should be no issue in giving the date [for polls]. "If not delimitation, then sometimes someone begins talking about the weather that 'it is very cold in February and January so how will we contest elections,' while others talk about the law and order situation," Bilawal said. His statement appeared to be a criticism of JUI-F emir Maulana FazlurRehman's concerns over holding elections in Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtun-khwa at a time when they remain grip-ped by intense winter. In a media talk on Sunday, the JUI-F chief had said it

Continued on Page 06

ECP rejects Fafen report

ADIL SHAHEEN

ISLAMABAD: In a bid to address concerns raised by the monitoring group Free and Fair Election Network (Fafen), the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) on Monday clarified key aspects of its preliminary delimitations report. The electoral watchdog in an issued statement emphasised that Fafen's analysis of the initial constituencies was flawed and based on a misunderstanding of the criteria used for seat distribution. The ECP's preliminary delimitations, released on Wednesday, were formulated in light of the 2023 digital census, and they aimed to rationalize electoral districts across the nation. These changes included the consolidation of numerous districts to ensure equitable population representation and a reshuffling of the number of national and provincial assembly seats allocated to various districts. Addressing Fafen's concern, the ECP explained that it had distributed 266 seats in the

Continued on Page 06

For Sales & Supply Contact:

Rizi Abbas 03325599169	Kaiser Waheed 03325808422	Riaz Muhammad 0335 5111043
---------------------------	------------------------------	-------------------------------

UN-Habitat, AKAHP celebrate World Habitat Day 2023

ADIL SHAHEEN

ISLAMABAD: The United Nations Human Settlement Programme (UN-Habitat) and the Aga Khan Agency for Habitat Pakistan (AKAHP), commemorated World Habitat Day 2023 in accordance with United Nations General Assembly Resolution 40/202. This observance served as a moment of reflection on the condition of our towns and cities, as well as an opportunity to explore how urban areas can position their development to better serve their residents. The event was attended by partners and stakeholders from Government of Pakistan, United Nations, foreign dignitaries, INGOs, and academia.

World Habitat Day is observed on the first Monday of October every year, with a range of activities, events, and discussions happening globally on urban sustainability. Known as Urban October, this event provides an opportunity for people worldwide to engage in conversations about the challenges and opportunities arising from the rapid changes in our cities and towns, with the goal to emphasize on the responsibility in shaping the future of our habitats and addressing the impacts of climate change and its induced disasters. Abdullah Fadi, Acting Resident Coordinator and Country Director of UNICEF Pakistan emphasized in his keynote address a commitment to sustainable urban development. He underscored the im-

portance of urban strategies and policies that enhance cities' capacities as drivers of socio-economic progress, ultimately leading to the creation of resilient urban economies. Mr. Jawed Ali Khan, Habitat Programme Manager, highlighted that Pakistan is fortunate to have 30 percent of its population constituting as a "youth bulge." Harnessing the potential of this youth demographic is essential for advancing urban economic development. For economic growth and recovery to be sustainable, it is crucial to develop a green recovery framework that scales up private and public investments to finance the transition to a climate-neutral economy. Cities all over the world have already embarked on this journey through implementing various models.



Drive against adulteration in food planned: Secretary

PESHAWAR: The Food Department Khyber Pakhtunkhwa has planned a comprehensive drive against adulteration in edible commodities, especially milk. Zariful Maani, Secretary Food said that a comprehensive drive was planned utilizing geo-tagging to ensure the quality of milk and other food items. After a series of consultative meetings involving stakeholders and officials, the Secretary of Food has issued directives to prioritize food, especially milk. The Secretary, along with the Director General and all officers, will actively engage in the field to ensure transparent quality checks. Altaf Hussain, Director of Operations, along with mobile lab testing experts, provided a briefing to the Secretary and conducted real-time tests on milk and water, covering fresh milk (chemical and composition checks) and processed milk (composition check), as well as water tests. An overall briefing on the mobile test laboratory was also conducted. The Secretary of Food gave on-the-spot instructions to the mobile test laboratory, including displaying a standard chart showcasing the composition of milk, water, and other food items for public awareness, conducting daily visits to markets, and making efforts to halt adulteration while taking strict actions against violators. The Secretary emphasized the importance of not discriminating and maintaining a polite and professional demeanour during field activities to avoid discouraging businesses. Additionally, he proposed introducing a "ranking" system where businessmen will be ranked based on quality, and those with a good image will be publicized to encourage clean business practices. He sternly warned against any unwarranted victimization of vendors or businesses, stressing that prompt and strict actions would be taken against officials involved.—APP

KMU to introduce 4 year integrated dental curriculum

PESHAWAR: Khyber Medical University (KMU) Peshawar has decided to introduce a four-year integrated dental curriculum from the academic year 2023. This modern modular system will be implemented in all public and private dental colleges of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa from the next academic year. According to a press release issued here on Monday, the decision was taken in a high-level meeting held at KMU Peshawar, in which the principals of all the public and private dental colleges of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and experts from various disciplines participated. The meeting was chaired jointly by Adviser to Chief Minister for Health Prof. Dr. Riaz Anwar and Vice-Chancellor

KMU Prof. Dr. Zia ul Haq. On this occasion, Director IHPE&R Dr. Brekhna Jameel gave a detailed presentation about the plan for a four-year integrated dental curriculum in which various aspects of the modular curriculum were discussed. Addressing the meeting, Prof. Dr. Riaz Anwar appreciated the initiative, stressing the need for reforms in the dental curriculum to achieve global commitment and increase the quality of dental education. He said that after the successful experience of the modular system in MBBS, now with the implementation of this modern curriculum in dental education, where dental education will get an opportunity to develop on modern lines, it will also improve the treat-

ment of dentistry. Prof. Dr. Zia ul Haq while addressing the meeting said that the implementation of this modern curriculum will be very beneficial for the students. He said that this will not only enrich the learning experience but also equip the students with the required skills and knowledge to excel in their respective fields. He said that the modular system would open new avenues for faculty development and institutional collaboration while also helping to promote a more cohesive academic ecosystem. The integrated dental curriculum will commence in the academic year 2023 and will be implemented at all the public and private dental colleges of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, he added.

FIA arrests suspect over human trafficking

MULTAN: A sub-agent who was reportedly involved in people trafficking to Saudi Arabia for beggary reasons on an Umrah visa was caught during a raid by the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA). The arrested accused nominated in the case FIR No 167/23 has been identified

as Rab Nawaz s/o Sarfraz. The accused instigated two persons Mujahid Iqbal and Tanveer Abbas for begging on Umrah visa. FIA Multan circle was conducting raids to arrest the other accused. It's worth mentioning here that the FIA teams have conducted two separate raids at

Multan International airport recently and took passengers into custody who were travelling to KSA for begging purposes on Umrah visa. During immigration, they revealed that they would beg there and half of the begged amount would be handed over to the sub agents.—APP



ISLAMABAD: A delegation of Asian Development Bank led by Senior Director, Human & Social Development Sector Office, Sectors Group (SG-HSD), Ayako Inagaki, met with Deputy Chairman Planning Commission, Muhammad Jehanzeb Khan at his office. —APP

CM visits Govt School, reviews condition

During inspection, he personally assessed the classrooms, interacted with the students, and scrutinized the adherence to Conjunctivitis Standard Operating Procedures

MEHTAB PIERZAD

LAHORE: Punjab Caretaker Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi paid a visit to Government Higher Secondary School Wahdat Road, here on Monday. During inspection, he personally assessed the classrooms, interacted with the students, and scrutinized the adherence to Conjunctivitis Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). Expressing his concern, the CM emphatically directed for the rigorous enforcement of these SOPs. Inquiring about the

school's staffing, Naqvi was dismayed to learn that for the past seven years, there had been no teachers assigned to instruct students in the 11th and 12th grades. The school, with a total enrollment of 1,650 students, only had 60 teachers available. Out of these, 35 were on election commission duty, 10 were on deputation, abroad, or on leave, leaving a mere 15 teachers to cater to the educational needs of the children. Further inspecting the water filter plant, he expressed his dissatisfaction upon finding it encrust-

ed with rust. He firmly rebuked the Secretary School Education and the CEO of Education, remarking that it was unacceptable for children to be exposed to contaminated water. Perturbed by the situation, he posed the question of accountability for such a serious lapse. The students themselves conveyed their grievances to the CM, detailing how, when present, teachers were often preoccupied with their mobile phones or even dozed off during class. They lamented that despite an impending Islamiat examination, they

had received no instruction in the subject. Responding to this, Chief Minister Naqvi insisted that the students must first receive adequate teaching in Islamiat before sitting for the exam. In light of these glaring deficiencies, Chief Minister Naqvi promptly summoned Provincial Education Minister Mansoor Qadir, as well as the Secretary School and CEO Education to the school. He questioned why, in the face of a glaring teacher shortage, no efforts had been made to hire instructors on a contractual ba-



RAWALPINDI: Provincial Minister Primary and Secondary Healthcare Dr. Jamal Nasir along with Commissioner Rawalpindi Liaquat Ali Chhatta visiting a patient after inaugurating a Dialysis Center at Tehsil Headquarters Hospital Murree.—DNA

88 gas pilferers caught, 4.9m fine imposed

LAHORE: The Sui Northern Gas Pipelines Limited (SNGPL), during its ongoing crackdown, disconnected another 88 connections over violations in Punjab, KP and Islamabad, imposing a fine of Rs 4.982 million to gas pilferers. According to a spokesman for the SNGPL, teams continued raids in Punjab, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Islamabad, disconnecting another 88 connections and 82 under billing cases processed. In Lahore, the regional team disconnected six connections on illegal use of gas while another six connections on the use of compressor. In Bahawalpur, the regional team disconnected five connections on the use of compressor while another one against illegal use, 16 under billing cases processed. The company disconnected two connections on illegal use of gas, five connections on the use of compressor and four under billing cases have been processed in Multan. The team also lodged one FIR against gas thieves. In Sheikhupura, 15 connections were disconnected by the region and 62 under billing cases processed, the team also booked Rs 3.432M against under billing cases. In Peshawar, the company disconnected 26 connections on account of direct use of gas and illegal connections, the regional team also booked Rs 1.55M against gas theft. In Sialkot, the company disconnected one connection on use of compressor. The regional team in Sargodha disconnected one connection on use of compressor. The regional team in Sargodha disconnected one connection on use of compressor. —APP

Social media campaign against Governor KP baseless

DNA

PESHAWAR: The personal assistant (PA) to the governor, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Maaz Fida, said on Monday that the campaign of corruption made against the governor, Haji Ghulam Ali, and the mayor of Peshawar, Haji Zubair Ali, on social media is unfounded. She added that the opponents, despite using all of their resources, would be unable to prove any evidence of corruption against either of the two individuals. The Governor's PA responded to several allegations made on social media by stating that the Governor and Mayor of Peshawar had provided unparalleled services to their citizens and that any rumors spread

on social media were completely untrue. He asserted that the governor and the mayor of Peshawar deserved praise for their devoted work and approachable demeanor. The opponents tried to discredit the mayor's and governor's positions, but they countered the misinformation with their steadfast He reported that numerous uplift projects, including the installation of street lights, the donation of sewing machines to needy women, the replacement of faulty electricity transformers, the encouragement of youth through cash prizes and sport equipment, and the promotion of sporting events, were ongoing in the province. The governor has committed to doing everything in his power to

improve the province and its residents. He said that both of them should be commended for spending the majority of their time addressing the concerns of the populace, the PA continued. The governor, he said, remains available for the people every time at his office, and anyone who has some doubt could meet him at his office without any hesitation. He said scores of uplift works were going on as street lights were being installed, needy women were being given sewing machines, faulty electricity transformers were being replaced, and promotion of sports activities and encouragement of youth through cash prizes and sport kits were underway in the province. The governor has pledged to do his best for the betterment of the province and its people.

Secretary health conducts visit to assess polio, dengue campaigns

DNA

PESHAWAR: Secretary Health Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Mahmood Aslam Wazir on Monday conducted surprise visit to various areas in Peshawar to inspect the ongoing efforts in combating polio and dengue within the province. Accompanied by the District Health Officer of Peshawar and Dengue Focal Person Dr Ikram Ullah Khan, Secretary Mahmood Aslam Wazir visited medical centres established within Union Council Khailisa 1 and






areas, with Secretary Mahmood Aslam Wazir personally educating residents about how stagnant water can become breeding grounds for disease-carrying mosquitoes. Underlining the government's unwavering commitment to eradicating polio from the region, Secretary of Health Mahmood Aslam Wazir officially launched the polio vaccination campaign by personally administering polio drops to a child. The polio vaccination campaign commenced on October 2, with coordinated efforts spanning five divisions, including Peshawar, Kohat, Mardan, Malakand, and Hazara.

During the visit, Secretary Mahmood Aslam Wazir interacted with the polio vaccination teams and assessed the arrangements in place to combat the looming threat of dengue. In addition to these inspections, the Secretary of Health and a team of epidemiologists engaged with the local community to amplify awareness about the critical importance of preventing the spread of dengue, with a special emphasis on mosquito control measures. This outreach initiative involved evaluating tire shops and standing water in vari-

The Smooth Moving Connection


freeline MOVERS

PACKING, SHIPPING & FREIGHT FORWARDING

Our Services

- Packing
- Shipping
- Freight Forwarding
- Land, Sea & Air Freight
- Custom Clearance
- Relocations
- Office Removals
- Fine Art Handling
- Project Management
- Pet Relocation
- Warehousing
- Storage



Head Office
3rd Floor, Yasin Plaza, 74-West, Blue Area, Islamabad.
Tel: (+92-51) 2822471, 2274221, 2878029, 2272273, 2822711, 2874289 - Fax: (+92-51) 2825132, 2274227.
E-mail: moving@freelinemovers.com - Website: www.freelinemovers.com

Karachi
Room No. 14 & 15, 3rd Floor, Nadeem Mall,
Main Tariq Road, 17-1 Block-2, P.E.C.S.
Karachi. Tel: (+92-21) 3432025, 3432079
Fax: (+92-21) 3432147
E-mail: karachi@freelinemovers.com

Lahore
F-4, Gulberg Centre,
Main Boulevard, Lahore.
Tel: (+92-42) 3578888, 3578785
Fax: (+92-42) 3571423
E-mail: lahore@freelinemovers.com

Peshawar
Office No. C4, 3rd Floor, Zameer Plaza,
Lafiq Road, Ring Road, Peshawar.
Tel: (+92-91) 2522779
Fax: (+92-91) 2522558
E-mail: peshawar@freelinemovers.com

Kabul
House # 4, Street # 4,
Chahar Anzar Road, Shahr-e-Naw,
Kabul - Afghanistan.
Tel: +93 79921 773, 53 79788 808, 83 77948 283
E-mail: kabul@freelinemovers.com

National Days and Armed Forces Days

OCTOBER

- Oct 01/China National Day
- Oct 01/Cyprus National Day
- Oct 01/Republic of Korea Armed Forces Day
- Oct 01/Nigeria Armed Forces Day
- Oct 02/Guinea National Day
- Oct 03/Germany Unification Day
- Oct 03/Republic of Korea National Foundation Day
- Oct 05/Indonesia Armed Forces Day
- Oct 06/Egypt Armed Forces Day
- Oct 09/Uganda Independence Day
- Oct 12/Spain National Day
- Oct 23/Hungary National Day
- October 24/United Nations United Nations Day
- Oct 25/Romania Armed Forces Day
- Oct 26/Austria National Day
- Oct 27/Turkmenistan Independence Day
- Oct 28/Czech Republic National Day
- Oct 29/Turkey Republic 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 Exchange 9270831-5
WASA Rawalpindi. 5555489
CAA.....9281092



Hospitals

CMH.....5611111
MH.....5611116
Cantt Hospital...9270907-11
DHQ.....5556311-4
RGH.....9290301-7
Holy Family.....9290322-7
PIMS.....9261170-89
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

Japanese envoy's wife WADA Naoko celebrates autumn

Madam WADA highlighted the spirit of celebrating change of seasons while she is in Pakistan where it is currently transiting from a very hot summer to cooler autumn

DNA

ISLAMABAD: The spirit of valuing each season as well as seasonal transitions are deeply rooted in Japanese culture. During transition from summer to winter, and from winter to summer, people in Japan especially respect the significance of nature. Fruitful autumn is just as festive as beautiful blooming spring in Japan. To keep this spirit alive, Madam WADA Naoko, spouse of Ambassador of Japan hosted an event at the Ambassador's residence titled "How Beautiful the Moon is" to welcome the autumn season together with friends from diplomatic community in Islamabad. The event started with an informative lecture regarding the significance of autumn to the Japanese people. The



main theme was Tsukimi (Japan's Moon-Viewing tradition). This autumn tradition has been uniquely expanded into various

scenes such as festival, art and Japanese cuisine. Madam WADA highlighted the spirit of celebrating change of seasons while

she is in Pakistan where it is currently transiting from a very hot summer to cooler autumn. She said that celebration of



full moon is a very old tradition and is widely practiced in Japan even to this day. After the lecture,

participants experienced autumn through traditional Japanese cuisine curated by the Japanese chef.

Participants also enjoyed the beautiful photos of the Moon taken in Pakistan on the screen.

County cannot afford bad decisions

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Chairman of National Business Group Pakistan, President Pakistan Businessmen and Intellectuals Forum, and All Karachi Industrial Alliance, and former provincial minister Mian Zahid Hussain said on Monday that important economic decisions have remained subject to political interests for the past several decades. Politically motivated economic choices have put the country's economy at stake, and now the economy is no longer able to bear the burden of wrong decisions, he said. Mian Zahid Hussain said that the recent decision to reduce the price of petrol is correct, but further reduction is needed. Talking to the business community, the veteran business leader said that even the most important decisions in the country

have always been made under political pressure due to which now the entire nation is suffering.

Recruitments in the important national institutions were done under political interests, as a result of which 80 institutions, including PIA, Steel Mills, WAPDA, Railways, and others, are losing rupees one trillion annually, for which taxpayers are punished, he added.

The business leader said that lack of governance has put the country's survival at stake and the majority of the people have become dependent about poverty and a better future.

Apart from developed nations and countries in the region, the African countries also do not allow political interference in economic decisions, but this has never been done in Pakistan, which has made a prosperous country a beggar, he observed. Dozens of countries have made great progress by en-

trusting economic matters to experts instead of politicians, but unfortunately, this has never happened in Pakistan, he said.

He added that systems have been developed in developed countries to protect experts who make important economic decisions from political pressure, which is needed more than ever before in Pakistan. Mian Zahid Hussain said that we should stop making decisions on a political basis in important sectors like health, education, and revenue so that instead of producing labourers, we can produce experts in different fields and stop tax evasion of four thousand billion rupees annually.

By giving priority to politics in every sector, the country has become bankrupt, and interest payments on debts have exceeded revenue receipts. Even the most important expenses are being met by taking out loans. In these circumstances, the Chief of Army Staff has

decided to help the government save the country and put the economy back on track, which is being fully supported across the country. Along with anti-terrorism operations, the Army is also working hard against corruption, smuggling, profiteering, hoarding, and speculation. It has discouraged wrongdoers, due to which the value of the rupee is improving and inflation is coming down.

The establishment of SIFC also has good prospects, and foreign investment of 100 billion dollars is expected. If the government and the army chief succeed in their intentions and save the country from disaster by correcting its economic direction, then the services of the army chief will be remembered for a long time as the benefactor of the country, he observed.

People are looking at him as their last hope, and the business community also has high expectations of him.

Law Ministry Concludes Six-day Training

DNA

ISLAMABAD: After the landmark success of initiatives on Alternative Dispute Resolution system in Islamabad aimed at reducing the burden on courts, to promote and expand the use of Alternative Dispute Resolution and Mediation throughout Pakistan, the Ministry of Law & Justice organized a six-day Accredited Civil/ Commercial Mediation training course from 23rd to 28th September 2023. This initiative brought together a diverse group of participants, including judges from Islamabad and Balochistan, eminent lawyers of Supreme Court of Pakistan, professionals from PIMS, FBR, Law, and many others, highlighting that ADR is not confined solely to the legal sector. The concluding session was graced by Justice Mohsin Akhtar Kayani, Senior Puisne Judge, Islamabad High Court while opening sessions was chaired by Minister for Law & Justice Ahmed Irfan Aslam and the Secretary, Ministry of Law & Justice Raja Naeem Akbar who expressed their heartfelt appreciation for the collaborative efforts of all stakeholders involved in advancing mediation in Pakistan. They emphasized the importance of such training initiatives in furthering the cause of justice in Pakistan. The training was conducted under the expert guidance of Mr. Rahim Shamji, chief executive of ADR-ODR International UK and Ms. Sarah Tarar Resident Representative of ADR ODR International who shared his invaluable insights and knowledge with the participants. This training program showcased the potential of Mediation as powerful tools for resolving disputes swiftly and efficiently. The ceremony was informed about the resounding success of the Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) system in Islamabad. It was shared that the journey towards efficient and affordable justice took a significant stride in 2017 when the Alternate Dispute Resolution Act was enacted (ADR Act). The purpose of the Act was that the state is required to ensure inexpensive and expeditious justice and an alternative dispute resolution system can facilitate settlement of disputes expeditiously without resort to formal litigation. The traditional formal litigation processes often lead to delays and increased costs, thereby impeding access to justice. In response, the ADR Act paved the way for an alternative dispute resolution system designed to facilitate the expeditious settlement of disputes without resorting to formal litigation. This landmark legislation set the stage for a transformative approach to dispute resolution in Pakistan. In a momentous development in 2023, under the supervision of the Islamabad High Court, the Ministry of Law & Justice enacted the ADR Mediation Accreditation (Eligibility) Rules, 2023, and the ADR (Accreditation) Rules, 2023. These rules have opened doors to a network of 69 accredited mediators and the establishment of three arbitration centers, each contributing to the continued success of ADR in Islamabad. The cases are successfully being referred and the results have been nothing short of remarkable, with a success rate exceeding 80%. This achievement underscores the effectiveness of ADR in providing swift.

President condemns terrorist attack in Turkiye

ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi on Monday strongly condemned the terrorist attack on a Turkey's government building in Ankara. The president expressed hope that Turkey would overcome terrorism under the leadership of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan. "I am sure that Turkey will eliminate the threat of terrorism under the dynamic leadership of President Erdogan," the president posted on social media platform X, formerly known as Twitter. One of the two terrorists blew himself up in front of the General Directorate of Security in Turkey's capital Ankara on Sunday.—APP

Jamal Shah deposits valuable gift in Toshakhana

ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Federal Minister for National Heritage and Culture Jamal Shah has deposited a valuable gift in Toshakhana which was received by him during his recent visit to Qatar. The gift was a valuable bronzes sculpture of falcon, said a press release here on Monday. The gift was given by the Minister of Culture State of Qatar Sheikh Abdulrahman bin Hamad bin Jassim Al Thani as a gesture of goodwill. Jamal Shah emphasized that this gift rightfully belongs to the nation, which is why he chose to place it in Toshakhana. He clarified that he has no intention of keeping any gift items presented to him during meetings with diplomats or on future foreign visits.—APP

Edu minister directs FDE to accommodate disabled employees

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Education and Professional Training Madad Ali Sindhi has ordered FDE to accommodate all its disabled employees and adjust them against permanent positions. In a statement on Monday, he said that we need to make sure that we cater to every strata of the society. He directed the Federal Directorate of Education (FDE) to ensure that all current disabled employees are adjusted and further seats are created to accommodate more disabled candidates. Madad was briefed that 50 new seats will be created only for disabled people from grade 1-15. Meanwhile, the minister said that it is a positive step and that such steps ensure that all members of the society are catered for.—APP

Islamabad witnesses a flourishing trend of coffee cafes

ISLAMABAD: The coffee culture is experiencing a remarkable surge with an increasing number of cafes popping up across Islamabad. Many independent coffee cafes have sprung up, showcasing local entrepreneurship. Not to be left behind, international coffee chains have also recognized the potential of the market as several renowned brands have opened outlets in the federal capital, providing a familiar experience to global coffee enthusiasts. The Islamabad's coffee cafes boast diverse coffee menus, offering everything from classic espresso and cappuccinos to specialty brews like pour-over, cold brew, and unique flavored concoctions. According to coffee enthusiasts, this trend reflects the evolving tastes and lifestyles of the city's residents, as well as a growing appreciation for the coffee experience. They said this phenomenon highlights not only the changing preferences of the city's residents but also the economic and social impacts of the coffee culture boom. "The traditional tea culture that has long been dominant in the federal capital is seeing a formidable challenger in coffee. This shift is evident in the increasing number of cafes, each offering its own unique blend of flavors, ambience, and experiences," they opined. In a talk with APP, Dr. Naif Al-Otaibi, the Saudi Press Attaché, shared that when he feels fatigued from his official duties, he enjoyed unwinding with a cup of coffee at one of the upscale cafes situated in Islamabad's affluent districts. He was of the view that coffee cafes had become more than just places to enjoy a cup of joe as they served as meeting spots for professionals, cozy corners for students, and social hubs for friends and families. Dr. Naif said Islamabad's coffee culture was on the rise, reshaping the city's social and economic landscape with every passing day and had created numerous job opportunities in the service industry, from baristas and waitstaff to managers and chefs. He said the future looked promising for coffee culture in Islamabad as more people develop a taste for it adding that the trend was not just limited to the city center.—

HEC announces commonwealth scholarships for Masters, PhD

ISLAMABAD : The Higher Education Commission (HEC) has announced Commonwealth Scholarships for Masters and Ph.D for the years 2023-24. According to HEC, out of total 56 scholarships, 26 nominations are available for Masters and 30 nominations are available for Ph.D. The CSC portal is open for applications up till October 17, 2023. It is worth mentioning here that the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission in the UK (CSC) provides the UK government's Commonwealth scholarship scheme led by international development objectives. Since 1960, the CSC has funded over 30,000 individuals to study in the UK and gain skills, acquire knowledge and build networks to tackle global development challenges. As per eligibility criteria, to apply for these scholarships, a candidate must meet HEC eligibility in addition to CSC requirements mentioned below. Be a Pakistani/AJ&K national and permanent resident of Pakistan /AJ&K. Dual nationals are not eligible. For Master scholarship, an applicant must hold a first division in 16 years Bachelors/master's degree in the relevant field of study, while for PhD scholarship, an applicant must hold a first division in 17/18 years Masters/MS/MPhil degree in the relevant field of study. Similarly, candidate must not have Second/Third division in the terminal/last degree. Result-awaiting candidates are eligible to apply. All applicants are required to provide HAT test score. Applicant must have obtained a minimum score of 60 out of 100 in HAT test. Those applicants who have taken HAT test on or after January 01, 2022 may upload the test result on HEC portal for consideration and enter their score while filling online HEC application.—APP



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Law Minister Ahmad Irfan Aslam calls on Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar.—DNA

Briefs

LHC adjourns hearing of Lal Haveli's de-sealing case till Oct 11

RAWALPINDI: The Lahore High Court bench here on Monday adjourned the hearing of Lal Haveli's de-sealing case till October 11. According to details, as hearing started Sardar Abdul Razaq, the petitioner's lawyer argued before the Court that the Lal Haveli was sealed by the Evacuee Trust Property Board (ETPB) without notice. On which the Additional Attorney General told the Court that Lal Haveli properties were sealed on orders of Chairman ETPB and will file a detail reply on the next hearing. LHC Justice Mirza Waqas Rauf after hearing the arguments from both sides adjourned the hearing till October 11 and directed the Additional Attorney General to submit the reply on next hearing. Earlier, Sheikh Siddique, the elder brother of the former interior minister Sheikh Rasheed had challenged the sealing of Awami Muslim League (AML) chief Sheikh Rashid Ahmed's Lal Haveli, by the ETPB on September 21.

CPI inflation recorded at 31.4% in September

ISLAMABAD: The Consumer Price Index (CPI) based inflation increased to 31.4 percent during the month of September 2023 as compared to the same month of last year, Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS) reported on Monday. The inflation had increased to 27.4 percent during last month (August) whereas it was recorded at 23.2 percent during September, 2022, according to the PBS data. On month-on-month basis, the inflation increased to 2.0 percent in September 2023 as compared to an increase of 1.7 percent in the previous month and a decrease of 1.2 percent in September 2022. The urban CPI inflation increased to 29.7 percent on year-on-year (YoY) basis in September 2023 as compared to an increase of 25.0 percent in the previous month and 21.2 percent in September 2022. On month-on-month (MoM) basis, it increased to 1.7 percent in September 2023 as compared to an increase of 1.6 percent in the previous month and a decrease of 2.1 percent in September 2022. On the other hand, the rural CPI increased to 33.9 percent on year-on-year basis in September 2023 as compared to an increase of 30.9 percent in the previous month and 26.1 percent in September 2022. On month-on-month basis, it increased to 2.5 percent in September 2023 as compared to an increase of 1.9 percent in the previous month and an increase of 0.2 percent in September 2022. The Sensitive Price Indicator (SPI) based inflation on YoY increased to 32.0 percent in September 2023 as compared to an increase of 27.9 percent a month earlier and 28.6 percent in September 2022. On MoM basis, it increased by 1.7 percent in September 2023 as compared to an increase of 4.1 percent a month earlier and a decrease of 1.4 percent in September 2022.—APP

COMSTECH and Pasteur Institute of Iran sign MoU

COMSTECH was established by the third summit of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation in 1981, with the mission of strengthening cooperation between member countries in science and technology.

DNA

ISLAMABAD: The Pasteur Institute of Iran and the Ministerial Standing Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (COMSTECH) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) at Pasteur Institute in Tehran, Iran. The agreement entails the development and implementation of joint educational programs, research, technology, and innovation initiatives, as well as the organization of national and international events such as conferences, workshops, exhibitions, and courses. The MoU aims to facilitate the exchange of students, experts, and academic staff for professional development and enhancing scientific activities. The Pasteur Institute of Iran will also become member of COMSTECH Consortium of Excellence as per the agreement. During the meeting, Prof. Iqbal Chaudhary acknowledged the Pasteur Institute of Iran as a valuable opportunity for expanding COMSTECH's cooperation. He recognized the institute's distinguished reputation in Iran and worldwide



in the field of infectious diseases and vaccines. Prof. Chaudhary suggested close collaboration of COMSTECH with the Pasteur Institute. Dr. Rahim Sorouri, the director of Pasteur Institute of Iran, presented the institute's activities and capabilities and expressed the

willingness to establish comprehensive scientific collaboration with COMSTECH. During the meeting, several managers from different divisions of Pasteur Institute of Iran highlighted the institute's capabilities and proposed ideas for collaborative efforts. It was agreed that regu-

lar coordination meetings would be called to solidify future agreements. The Pasteur Institute of Iran was established in 1920 through an agreement between the Iranian government and the Pasteur Institute of Paris. The Pasteur Institute of Iran is a renowned re-

search and public health center in Iran and the Middle East. COMSTECH was established by the third summit of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation in 1981, with the mission of strengthening cooperation between member countries in science and technology.

Police arrest 10 for possessing illegal weapons

RAWALPINDI: The district police on the directives of Senior Superintendent of Police, Operations Rawalpindi have conducted raids in different areas and netted 10 outlaws for possessing 45 liters liquor, five 30 bore pistols and ammunition. According to a police spokesman, R.A.Bazar, Race Course, and Saddar Wah police held Aqeel, Shahid, Tahir, Naqash and Yasir and recovered 45 liters liquor from their possession. The spokesman informed that Waris Khan, Sadiqabad, Westridge, Gujar Khan and Dharmial police conducted raids in their respective jurisdiction and rounded up Numan, Zia ul Haq, Usman and others on recovery of five 30 bore pistols and ammunition. The SSP said that strict action in accordance with the law was being taken against the lawbreakers and operations against aerial firing and illegal weapon holders would continue.—APP

Solangi for civilised debate on problems being faced by Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, Oct 2 (APP):- Caretaker Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Murtaza Solangi on Monday stressed the need for open but civilised debate and discussion over the problems being faced by the country. Delivering his speech at the launching ceremony of renowned author Dr. Farooq Adil's book "Humne Jo Bhula Diya: Tareekh Ke Gumshuda Awaraz", here he said that open but civilised discussion on national issues was prerequisite for finding a way to resolve problems being faced by the country. Such ceremonies, he opined, helped in resolving the country's problems, especially at a time when the country was going to elections soon. He said that forums of Pakistan Television and Radio Pakistan were available for open but civilised debate. He said that the 437-page book by Dr. Farooq Adil had highlighted various aspects of national history. Congratulating Dr. Farooq Adil, Murtaza Solangi said that the nations that did not learn from history suffered. He said that responsible journalism was need of the hour and determination of responsible journalism was essential. The country will have to go on the path of development, not destruction, he added.—APP

President directs CDNS to reimburse Rs 1.2m to female fraud victim

FAISAL SHEIKH

ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi has directed the Central Directorate of National Savings (CDNS) to reimburse an amount of Rs 1.2 million with profit to a female citizen whose money was fraudulently withdrawn from her account by issuing a fictitious cheque book and affixing her fake signatures on the withdrawal slip. He also asked CDNS to refer the matter to FIA for proper investigation so that the delinquent officials of CDNS involved in the scam may be brought to book and punished. The President issued these directions while deciding on a representation filed by CDNS (the Agency) against the decision of the Wafaqi Mohtasib directing CDNS to refer the matter to FIA for thorough investigation. As per details, Mst Abida Riffat (the complainant)

had alleged that she was maintaining a Pensioners Benefit Account with CDNS in Rawalpindi. She found out in 2021 that an amount of Rs 1.2 million had been fraudulently withdrawn from her account in 2019 through another cheque book which was never issued to her. She lodged a complaint with CDNS for investigation and recovery of her defrauded amount, but the matter was investigated in a superfluous manner and she was informed that she could not produce any evidence in support of her claim. Feeling aggrieved, she approached the Wafaqi Mohtasib which asked CDNS to investigate the matter through FIA. CDNS then filed a representation with the President against the Mohtasib's decision. The President in his decision observed that CDNS in its letter dated 28.12.2021 had admitted that Rs 1.2 million were withdrawn from her account through

fake transaction on 23.05.2019 by affixing fake signature on withdrawal slip. He further noted that during an internal inquiry conducted by CDNS, an officer had given a statement in which he alleged that the disputed amount was fraudulently misappropriated by gunman and the cashier and the Agency had not associated the said officials in the inquiry proceedings. This, he added, depicted that the process of inquiry was not transparent and CDNS was opposing the entrustment of the matter to FIA without any justification. The President concluded that the Wafaqi Mohtasib had rightly observed that the matter of fraudulent withdrawal of amount had not been properly investigated and directed it to refer the matter to FIA. He upheld the Mohtasib's decision with the direction to CDNS to submit compliance report to Mohtasib within 30 days.

IRSA releases 161,600 cusecs water

ISLAMABAD: Indus River System Authority (IRSA) on Monday released 161,600 cusecs water from various rim stations with inflow of 96,000 cusecs. According to the data released by IRSA, water level in River Indus at Tarbela Dam was 1539.13 feet and was 141.13 feet higher than its dead level of 1,398 feet. Water inflow and outflow in the dam was recorded as 49,100 cusecs and 85,000 cusecs respectively. The water level in River Jhelum at Mangla Dam was 1224.85 feet, which was 174.85 feet higher than its dead level of 1,050 feet. The inflow and outflow of water was recorded 10,300 cusecs and 40,000 cusecs respectively. The release of water at Kalabagh, Taunsa, Guddu and Sukkur was recorded as 90,600, 90,000, 94,100 and 47,100 cusecs respectively. Similarly, from River Kabul, a total of 16,100 cusecs of water released at Nowshera and 8,500 cusecs released from River Chenab at Marala.—APP

More 88 gas pilferers caught, 4.9m fine imposed

ISLAMABAD: The Sui Northern Gas Pipelines Limited (SNGPL), during its ongoing crackdown, disconnected another 88 connections over violations in Punjab, KP and Islamabad, imposing a fine of Rs 4.982 million to gas pilferers. According to a spokesman for the SNGPL, teams continued raids in Punjab, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Islamabad, disconnecting another 88 connections and 82 under billing cases processed. In Lahore, the regional team disconnected six connections on illegal use of gas while another six connections on the use of compressor. In Bahawalpur, the regional team disconnected five connections on the use of compressor while another one against illegal use, 16 under billing cases processed. The company disconnected two connections on illegal use of gas, five connections on the use of compressor and four under billing cases have been processed in Multan. The team also lodged one FIR against gas thieves. In Sheikhupura, 15 connections were disconnected by the region and 62 under billing cases processed, the team also booked Rs 3.432M against under billing cases. In Peshawar, the company disconnected 26 connections on account of direct use of gas and illegal connections, the regional team also booked Rs 1.55M against gas theft. In Sialkot, the company disconnected one connection on use of compressor. The regional team in Sargodha disconnected one connection on use of compressor. The team in Gujranwala, four meters were disconnected on the use of compressor while another one on illegal use of gas.—DNA

ANF crackdown against drug smuggling continues

ISLAMABAD: Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) continues its operations against drug trafficking and recovers more than 139 kg of drugs in 7 operations different operations while arresting 8 accused. According to the spokesperson of ANF on Tuesday, 45 kg 600 grams of hashish and 12 kg of opium were recovered from the vehicle near Motorway Toll Plaza Khanewal on. Meanwhile a resident of Islamabad was smuggling drugs by hiding them in the trunk of a car but was apprehended by the

ANF. During operation at Allama Iqbal International Airport, 53 capsules filled with cocaine were recovered from the stomach of a passenger. The accused had reached Lahore from Muscat via flight number PK-230. The spokesperson further said that 4 suspects arrested in a joint operation with Pakistan Rangers Punjab in Kasur and 7 kg of heroin was recovered from their possession. At Sialkot International Airport, 50 ice and 50 hashish filled capsules were recovered from the passenger's stomach.

The accused was a resident of Pakpattan and leaving for Doha via flight number QR-631. Meanwhile 9 kg hashish was recovered from a local resident near Ghazar Taos Bala Bazaar in a joint operation with FC Balochistan at Luck Pass Check Post. During the operation, 40 kg of ice was recovered from 5 parcels in the bus. Drugs were being smuggled to Karachi under the guise of vehicle spare parts. 5 kg hashish concealed for smuggling recovered near Padrak, Pisin area.—APP



ISLAMABAD: Youngsters nomads are searching customers at Faizabad area to sell camel milk and earn daily wages for the livelihood of their families.—Online



10 Minutes Drive From The Monal



☎ 051 8770065 / 66 / 67 📞 0300 8881811 / 0300 5221018 / 0345 5555335
UAN: 051 111 777 778 📱 @dinovalleypk 🌐 dinovalley.pk

Pakistan's First And Only Diplomatic Daily

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

Member APNS / ABC Certified

Vol: 03 Issue: 358

Email: dailyisbpost@gmail.com

Phone: 051-2266165 / 051-2261960

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

Argentina's Presidential election raises democracy concerns

WITH poverty rising, a recession approaching and annual inflation topping 120% in Argentina, it is unsurprising that voters are fed up. They would be forgiven for wanting change in the upcoming presidential election. However, voting for a far-right candidate, Javier Milei, would be a serious mistake. Mr Milei admires Donald Trump, trades in misogyny and says the outrageous to get noticed. Despite what Mr Milei claims, the Pope is not an emissary of the "evil one" nor is the climate crisis "a socialist lie". After winning Argentina's primary election this summer, Mr Milei is, depressingly, in pole position to clinch the presidency. His pitch is that Argentina's interventionist, welfarist economic model has failed. Mr Milei is a fan of the free market missionary Milton Friedman. He thinks inflation results from too much of the Argentinian currency, the peso, being in circulation. Mr Milei's solution is to shrink the state and replace the peso with the dollar. Friedman's ideas have been debunked. But they are held with religious fervour by adherents such as Mr Milei. Argentina's problems are not fiscal, caused by excessive government spending, but external, caused by excessive borrowing in US currency. This came to a head in July when the country found itself on the brink of a dollar default, until the International Monetary Fund agreed to a bailout. The economy minister Sergio Massa, who convinced the IMF that a freak drought had wiped out Argentina's dollar export earnings, will probably end up in the presidential runoff with Mr Milei. Mr Massa's greatest strength – and biggest weakness – is the economy. He was brought in last August with the peso in freefall. Since then he has seen the economy grow after months of shrinking. Mr Massa took the IMF money, but seems to be paying lip service to the lender's conditions. Instead of reining in spending, he has turned on the taps. His strategy rests on high interest rates to make the peso more attractive than the dollar, cutting taxes for the poor and raising public spending. This should be popular – and could work. The plan seems to mirror an argument made by the economist Matias Vernengo, who criticised the IMF for pushing ideas that benefited the international creditors it represented: "What they want is a fiscal adjustment to shrink the economy, import less and accumulate dollars. Let people die while you accumulate reserves." The academic is right that Argentinians instead need to desire "pesos and not dollars". Such insights might have come too late for Mr Massa. Argentina's traditional two-party system is coming undone. The basis for that division was laid when Néstor and Cristina Kirchner governed Argentina from 2003 to 2015. Today the differences between Kirchnerism (represented by the technocratic Mr Massa) and anti-Kirchnerism (represented by a rightwing politician, Patricia Bullrich) seem irrelevant to many struggling to make ends meet and experiencing poor public services.



Challenges persist, Dhaka strives for improvement

IT is disheartening to learn of a study by the US-based National Bureau of Economic Research that has ranked Dhaka as the slowest city in the world. This "accolade" is yet another testament to the city's failure overall – among the worst globally in terms of pollution, air quality, road safety, liveability, and now speed of vehicular movement. We cannot help but wonder why, despite transportation being one of the sectors that attracted massive government financing, Dhaka is still "excelling" in all the wrong areas, and why the investments in Dhaka are still focused on easy and visible solutions disregarding core issues of development. The US study found that Dhaka is not only the slowest overall, but also ranks second-slowest in uncongested speed. This means that even with minimal traffic load, movement remains generally slow. Dhaka does not have a coordinated or technologically aided traffic regulation system in place. Its authorities have largely failed to enforce traffic rules, and find a solution for how vehicles of different speeds and pedestrians can move through this densely populated area. Roads are flooded even after moderate rainfall, bringing the entire city to a standstill. Political processions, VIP movements and simultaneous construction/development works in multiple areas frequently combine to block major roads, even during peak hours. The study underscores that the worst-ranked cities have failed to accommodate the rapid rise in population. Being the centre of almost all administrative and economic activities, as well as the hub of education, employment, and basic amenities, Dhaka has naturally seen a surge in its own population. Experts, therefore, have repeatedly pointed out that without comprehensive efforts to decentralise Dhaka, its conditions will not be improved. Unfortunately, we have yet to see any visible efforts in that regard. In this connection, one may recall that a recent study by the Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD) has revealed that, on average, 23 minutes are lost per hour due to traffic jams in the city. This not only wastes productive hours; it is also a major contributor to increased fuel consumption, carbon emission, air pollution, temperature rise and deterioration in public health. Internationally, this state has brought nothing but disgrace for Bangladesh, and likely has detrimental effects on our tourism aspirations and even chances of attracting foreign investments. Therefore, we urge the authorities to acknowledge the dire condition of Dhaka, understand the complexity of its developmental issues, and look beyond extravagant, visible solutions to make this city liveable for the residents.

Ukraine's dilemma and NATO's role

Dr. Muhammad Akram Zaheer



Ukraine didn't get any strong security promises from NATO back then, and this made Putin go after big goals. The only thing that clearly stopped Russia's aggressive actions in the region was NATO's Article V, which is a rule that says if one NATO member is attacked, it's like all of them are attacked. Even though Putin has made threats and been aggressive, he hasn't crossed the line that would trigger Article V. Russia has also warned...

THE Ukrainian government is increasingly looking for concrete promises of safety to make sure there is lasting peace and protection from Russia's aggression until Ukraine becomes a member of NATO. Ukraine learned a tough lesson from Russia, which didn't keep its promises in the Budapest Memorandum. This memorandum was a big international deal meant to protect Ukraine's territory and independence. Back in 1994, Russia, Britain, and the United States promised to respect Ukraine's borders and not use force. In return, Ukraine agreed not to keep any nuclear weapons from the Soviet era. This would have made Ukraine one of the world's largest nuclear powers. But since then, Russia has done things to weaken Ukraine's military power, both openly and in sneaky ways. This all led to a big invasion that started in February 2022. Now, Ukraine is talking to the United States and the United Kingdom to get security guarantees. They're also getting support for their military. At a recent NATO meeting in Vilnius, there was no formal invite for Ukraine to join NATO or a clear timetable for it. The wording of the meeting's final statement

was unclear, but it seems like everyone agrees that Ukraine can only join NATO once the war with Russia is over. The U.S. National Security Adviser, Jack Sullivan, said that if Ukraine joined NATO while the war was still going on, it would mean NATO would be at war with Russia. NATO has said many times that it's not directly fighting Russia. So, the main condition for Ukraine joining NATO is that the war has to end first. The way this was said reminds us of the 2008 NATO summit where they said Ukraine (and Georgia) could join someday but didn't say when. After that, Russia invaded Georgia in 2008 and took over Crimea in 2014. Ukraine didn't get any strong security promises from NATO back then, and this made Putin go after big goals. The only thing that clearly stopped Russia's aggressive actions in the region was NATO's Article V, which is a rule that says if one NATO member is attacked, it's like all of them are attacked. Even though Putin has made threats and been aggressive, he hasn't crossed the line that would trigger Article V. Russia has also warned Finland and Sweden against joining NATO, saying there would be serious

military and political consequences. But the best way for these countries to defend themselves against a possible Russian threat is to join NATO and get the protection of Article V. So, Finland is on its way to joining, and Sweden will join once Turkey gives the green light. The Vilnius summit made it easier for Ukraine to join NATO without needing a formal plan. NATO and Ukraine agreed to work closely together, and there were promises of military and financial help. But, for Ukraine, the only real way to be safe from Russia in the long run is to become a full member of NATO. So, even though Ukraine didn't get a clear answer about joining NATO at the Vilnius summit, they did make some progress. However, NATO officials' unclear statements don't help. Russia also makes jokes and threats, but as long as they think NATO membership for Ukraine is far off, they'll keep causing problems until Ukraine gives up, and Western countries lose their patience. Security guarantees and cooperation with Western allies are important, but the best way to make sure Ukraine is safe in the long term is for them to become a full member of NATO.

The role of diet and lifestyle in modern health crisis

Seerat Fatima



Adopt healthy cooking methods and use natural herbs and spices instead of salt in your food. Choose poultry and fish over processed meats, as they generally have lower sodium content. In contrast to sodium, potassium plays a vital role in regulating and lowering blood pressure. Potassium-rich foods are beneficial in a hypertensive patient's diet. Bananas are well-known for their high potassium content and can be included as a snack in a patient's diet. Oranges, a citrus fruit, also contain high levels of potassium and vitamin C. Besides fruits, some vegetables...

HYPERTENSION, formally known as high blood pressure, is a commonly faced medical issue among people across the globe. Hypertension is caused by an increasing force of blood against the arteries, leading to serious health issues. Both systolic (when the heart beats or contracts) and diastolic (when the heart is at rest) numbers need to be monitored. Regular check-ups are the best way to diagnose hypertension; otherwise, no significant symptoms are observed in hypertensive patients. The risk of hypertension has been found to increase with old age. Many factors can contribute to this, but as the body ages, arteries can become constricted and less flexible, hindering blood flow. An unhealthy lifestyle throughout life can cause serious health issues later in life, prominently including hypertension. Several other diseases such as obesity and diabetes can exacerbate hypertension. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), among adults aged 30 to 70, 1.28 billion are living with hypertension. Approximately 46% of adults have hypertension but are unaware and untreated, while 42% of adults are receiving treatment for hypertension. This means that one in three adults is suffering from hypertension, and almost 18% of adults in Pakistan are coping with hypertension. Although hypertension can be aggravated by several factors, an unhealthy lifestyle and diet are worth mentioning. A low-sodium diet should be preferred by hypertensive patients because sodium directly influences blood pressure, and its intake must be limited. Patients should avoid foods that contain salt either directly or indirectly. Processed foods, salty snacks, and seasonal dishes often contain high levels of sodium. It's better to cook food at home rather than purchasing processed food and to add salt carefully. Adopt healthy cooking methods and use natural herbs and spices instead of salt in your food. Choose poultry and fish over processed meats, as they generally have lower sodium content. In contrast to sodium, potassium plays a vital role in regulating and lowering blood pressure. Potassium-rich foods are beneficial in a hypertensive patient's diet. Bananas are well-known for their high potassium content and can be included as a snack in a patient's diet. Oranges, a citrus fruit, also contain high levels of potassium and vitamin C. Besides fruits, some vegetables are significant sources of potassium. Potatoes with their skin on are a rich source of potassium. Green leafy vegetables, particularly spinach, contain high potassium content. Tomatoes, which are rich in potassium, are widely used as a food ingredient. Additionally, protein sources like kidney beans, black beans, and lentils are good choices for hypertensive patients as they also contain potassium. Fish not only contain potassium but also healthy fats that support heart health. Unlike potassium-rich foods, extremely fatty foods have adverse effects on human health and are a primary cause of several diseases, particularly hypertension. A diet rich in saturated fats increases cho-

lesterol levels in our bodies, specifically LDL (low-density lipoprotein), which is considered bad cholesterol. LDL accumulates in arteries, causing blockages and increasing the risk of heart attacks and strokes. This buildup narrows and hardens blood vessels, making it difficult for them to dilate and contract, ultimately leading to increased blood pressure. Fatty foods also increase blood viscosity, making it harder for blood to flow easily through arteries, causing complications. Obesity is one of the major causes of hypertension, and the increasing rate of obesity, not only in older individuals but also among younger people, is concerning. It's worth mentioning that not all fats contribute to health hazards. Some monounsaturated and polyunsaturated fats play a crucial role in human health. Foods like avocados, nuts, and fish are rich in unsaturated fats and are essential for maintaining good health, reducing the risk of heart attacks, and managing hypertension. On the other hand, saturated fats have a detrimental effect on human health. Cheese, in particular, should be avoided by hypertensive patients, as it contains high levels of saturated fat. Additionally, coconut oil and palm oil should be restricted in the diet. Alcohol is detrimental to human health, as high alcohol consumption increases the risk of various fatal diseases, including hypertension. Alcohol constricts blood vessels, leading to high blood pressure. It also acts as a diuretic, increasing urine production and potentially causing dehydration, which leads to a decrease in blood volume and an increase in blood pressure. Alcohol triggers stress hormones, such as adrenaline, which can affect blood pressure. Moreover, alcohol can lead to weight gain, and individuals with higher body weights are more vulnerable to hypertension. It's advisable to replace alcoholic beverages with healthier options like herbal teas, including green tea. Smoking is a harmful practice that humans engage in, jeopardizing their health. Smoke contains nicotine, which explicitly releases stress hormones, including adrenaline, and has a significant impact on heart rate and blood pressure. Smoking also adversely affects the internal lining of arteries (endothelium), reducing its elasticity and size. Narrowed arteries fail to allow blood to flow with normal pressure, leading to hypertension. Smoke contains devastating elements that restrict oxygen access to body tissues and cells. Almost every aspect of alcohol and smoking has proven to be harmful. Hypertensive patients should abstain from such activities because they prevent the complete recovery from these fatal diseases. Moreover, if these activities persist, they become chronic. Unfortunately, approximately 13% of people in Pakistan are tobacco users, with a usage ratio of 11% in rural areas and a comparatively higher 16% in urban areas. This situation is alarming. Hypertension in young adults is not surprising. While the exact reasons for hypertension in youngsters are not known, an unhealthy lifestyle, poor dietary choices, excessive salt intake, alcohol consumption, and smok-

ing are likely causes. People aged 18 to 30 are suffering significantly from hypertension. If hypertension occurs early in life, there is a prominent risk of uncontrolled high blood pressure later, which can adversely affect body organs, leading to issues such as kidney and heart failure. Stress is a significant cause of hypertension in our society. Under stress, our nervous system stimulates hormones that constrict blood vessels, leading to hypertension. Factors such as unemployment, job-related stress, emotional disturbances, financial instability, and the social environment impose significant mental stress on young minds. However, scientific studies have shown that stress may affect a person's mental health temporarily, but it does not cause long-term hypertension. Stress elevates blood pressure temporarily, manifesting hypertension symptoms, but the effect does not persist. Such aggravated diseases are typically treated with highly effective medicines and drugs. These drugs are essential and become necessary for effective and rapid recovery. However, alternative medical systems offer therapeutic diets that effectively treat adverse conditions. What's more beneficial for humans is to recover from diseases with less pain. Many successful research studies have been conducted in the field of medical science to introduce better and easier ways to combat highly adverse diseases. Regular exercise, a healthy diet, low mental stress, and an active lifestyle have long-term positive effects on human health. Humans need to abandon sedentary lifestyles and adopt healthier ones by making dietary changes. Nature has provided us with a bounty of blessings. Humans are fortunate to have found goodness in nature. Natural foods are available for humans, and nothing is more beneficial to human health than the fruits and vegetables found naturally. Humans should prefer non-harming and non-invasive therapeutic techniques to maintain a disease-free and healthy life. A healthy diet recommended by nutritionists or dietitians plays a primary role in the well-being of the body and mind. It not only has the power to heal but also provides long-lasting preventive effects on the body. Without external interference, the body can heal itself without suffering from side effects. An effective healing process is observed in patients who opt for a healthy diet and avoid restricted foods as advised by health consultants. As diet plays a pivotal role in recovering and maintaining health, a little carelessness regarding food consumption can lead to highly adverse conditions. A balanced diet can bless you with a healthy body and mind, while an unbalanced or inadequate dietary regimen can have severe effects on health. In short, diet can be the cause of good health and can also be the cause of illness. It all depends on the choices made by individuals in adopting a healthy and controlled diet.

– The writer is Student of BS Human Nutrition and Dietetics University of Okara. Email: fatimaseerat916@gmail.com

Briefs

Officials involved...

FROM PAGE 01
smuggling was also being drawn up. Bugti emphasised that the value of the dollar had decreased with some effort, preventing further drain of foreign exchange. The interior minister also highlighted the challenge of narcotics in Pakistan, revealing that 43 metric tonnes of drugs had been seized in an ongoing crackdown on drug trafficking. Furthermore, Bugti reiterated allegations of Indian spy agency RAW's involvement in recent terrorist attacks in Balochistan, and added that the government had announced a zero-tolerance approach towards terrorism.

Govt to expel 1.1...

FROM PAGE 01
Afghans living without permits and prepare a transportation plan to bring them to the Afghan border. Apart from checking the records of all the Afghans residing in the country, officials concerned were directed to quickly deal with the applications filed regarding the registration of Afghans. Last week media reported that the government would "soon" announce a one-month deadline for all illegal foreign immigrants, including Afghans, to leave the country or face the music.

Bilawal Bhutto...

FROM PAGE 01
was not possible to hold general elections in KP and Balochistan in January. "In January, weather would be harsh in Chitral, Khuzdar, and other parts of KP and Balochistan," he had said. The Election Commission of Pakistan earlier this month announced that general elections would be held in January next year but did not provide a date. In the run-up to polls, political parties have begun preparation for their electoral campaigns. In another significant step toward polls, the ECP last week issued a report of preliminary delimitation of constituencies in light of the 2023 digital census.

ECP rejects Fafen report

FROM PAGE 01
National Assembly among the provinces based on population. However, Fafen mistakenly considered the province as the unit for determining seats instead of the district unit, leading to confusion. The Elections Act 2017, Section 20, outlines various rules for constituencies beyond population, and the reasons for changes in constituencies were detailed in the preliminary constituency report. The Election Commission highlighted that recent amendments to the Elections Act, 2017, including the introduction of a new provision to Section 20(3), no longer mandate the ECP to "strictly adhere" to existing district boundaries if doing so would result in a population variance of more than 10 percent, in order to ensure fairer elections.

Annual inflation...

FROM PAGE 01
inflation. On a month-on-month basis, inflation climbed 2pc in September, compared to an increase of 1.7pc in August. Reforms required by the IMF bailout, including an easing of import restrictions and a demand that subsidies be removed, have already fuelled annual inflation, which rose to a record 38pc in May. Interest rates have also risen to their highest at 22pc, and the rupee hit all-time lows in August before recovering in September to become the best performing currency following a clampdown by authorities on unregulated FX trade. On Friday, ministry of finance said in its monthly report that it anticipated inflation remaining high in coming month, hovering around 29-31pc due to an upward adjustment in energy tariffs and a major increase in fuel prices. The report added that inflation was, however, expected to ease, especially from second half of the current fiscal year that starts on Jan 1.



ISLAMABAD: Olympian Khawaja Junaid, Ajmal Lodhi and others posing for a picture with the players of Nishtar and Rising Stars Hockey Clubs, at the Naseer Bunda Hockey Stadium. – DNA

19th Asian Games 2023

Pakistan hockey team out of semis race

Japan hockey team's 3-2 win over Pakistan knocked the Green Shirts out of the semis race of the Asian Games in Hangzhou

SPORTS DESK

KARACHI: Japan hockey team's 3-2 win over Pakistan knocked the Green Shirts out of the semis race of the Asian Games in Hangzhou, China, on Monday. Pakistan needed to win their final group stage match against Japan to remain in the semis race, but they fell short. The Men In Green took the lead in the fifth minute after a goal from Arshad Liaquat, but Japan hit back with two quick goals in the sixth and 17th minute through Tanaka Kaito and Fukuda Kentaro, respectively, to take control of the match. Fujishima Raiki extended Japan's lead to 3-1 in the 28th minute. However, Pakistan came back into the match soon after with a goal from Arbaz Ahmad. Despite both teams threatening to score more goals in the final quarter, the match ended 3-2 in Japan's favour. Pakistan will now face the team in third place in Pool B for the fifth and sixth po-



sition on October 6. Earlier, Pakistan head coach and team manager Saeed Khan apologised to the nation for the embarrassing 10-2

against India on Saturday. "I apologise to the nation for this huge defeat against India. We have never lost with such a big margin

against India," Saeed said. "I was a team member when we defeated India 7-1 in the Asian Games held in New Delhi in 1982.

Though we were expecting defeat against a powerful Indian team ranked 3rd in the world, we never thought of losing with such a huge margin." According to Saeed, the second major cause of such a poor show against India was the absence of quality support staff with the team. "We don't even have the required support staff with us. Other teams have eight to ten-member staff and we hardly have two to three," he said. "You cannot make your player utilise their talent in the best possible way. These players don't have any financial security which haunts their progress," he said. "There should be a set amount for hockey development in Pakistan with every penny to be made accountable. India invests over Rs2 billion on hockey alone each year and we don't have any set amount for hockey development or for players' financial security." It must be noted that Pakistan started the Asian Games with three convincing wins against Singapore, Bangladesh, and Uzbekistan.



BAKU: Caretake Planning Minister for Development and Special Initiatives, M. Sami Saeed meets Chairman State Committee on Urban Planning and Architecture, Azerbaijan Anar Guliyev. – DNA

China shines in track, football disappoints

HANGZHOU: China swept four gold medals in track and field at the Asian Games on Sunday to celebrate national day, but their men's football team failed to read the script and were dumped out by South Korea. The hosts are running away at the top of the overall medals table in Hangzhou with 132 golds and still seven days of competition to go. China is enjoying a long holiday for national day and patriotic fervour filled the 80,000-seater Olympic stadium in the eastern city for the evening's athletics. Waving mini flags and roaring on the home competitors, they were not to be disappointed. Wang Jianan, nicknamed Eddie, leapt an impressive 8.22m on his first attempt in the long jump. It proved enough to defend his title. Discuss thrower Feng Bin, who like Wang was dethroned as world champion in August, also bounced back in style to claim gold with a throw of 67.93m, a Games record. "I'm really happy. After all, today is national day, a very special day for every Chinese person," the 29-year-old Feng said. "To win my first Asian Games medal on this day makes me extremely happy and excited." There was more home success through Lin Yuwei in the 100m hurdles and Zheng Ninali in the women's heptathlon. China's men's football team is often derided at home and they once again failed to get in the holiday mood. They were outclassed and soundly beaten 2-0 by South Korea in the last eight to disappoint a bumper crowd of nearly 40,000. The Koreans, who are chasing a third gold medal in a row in the under-23 competition, face Uzbekistan in the semi-finals. Japan beat North Korea 2-1 and will play Hong Kong, surprise 1-0 victors over Iran, in the last four. The North Koreans rounded on the Uzbek match officials at the final whistle and at least one furious player had to be held back by his teammates. – Agencies

Pakistani mountaineers accomplishes stunning feat

Sirbaz and Naila accomplished a stunning feat, when they summited 8,188 metres Cho Oyu, the world's sixth highest peak located in China

OUR CORRESPONDENTS

ISLAMABAD: Pakistani climbers Sirbaz Khan and Naila Kiani accomplished a stunning feat on Monday when they summited 8,188 metres Cho Oyu, the world's sixth highest peak located in China. "Sirbaz has accomplished an amazing accomplishment by ascending Cho Oyu, in over 28 hours via a marathon alpine style climb," Secretary Alpine Club of Pakistan, Karrar Haidri said in a statement. "He achieved this feat without additional oxygen, which makes it even more amazing. There is still one summit left on his trek, this being the thirteenth successful one. "Many congratulations to Sirbaz on this incredible feat, and best wishes for a safe return. Pakistan is proud of its accomplishment, and it is a time to celebrate. We salute his tenacity and skill as a mountaineer," Haidri added. In another message, Haidri congratulated Pakistani woman climber Naila Kiani on summiting Cho Oyu. "Her determination is truly awe-inspiring, as she conquered the peak in incredibly challenging conditions with very poor visibility and hostile weather. This marathon climb that took over 28 hours is a testament to her strength and mountaineering skills. "We all hope and pray for Naila's safe return from this extraordinary adventure," he said. Additionally, it's worth acknowledging that this marks Sirbaz's 13th successful 8,000-meter peak ascent, while Naila has now reached her 10th 8,000-meter summit. Their dedication to mountaineering is truly commendable, and their achievements are a source of inspiration to all. Sirbaz's team, too, confirmed the expedition. "We had been waiting for this day for so long. Finally, the green

Shaheens to take on Hong Kong in quarterfinal

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Shaheens will take on Hong Kong in the quarterfinal of Asian Games at Zhejiang University of Technology Cricket Field, Hangzhou on Tuesday. Pakistan Shaheens have directly advanced to the quarterfinals for being one of the top four ICC ranked sides in the continent. According to the fixtures of the quarter draw issued by Asian Cricket Council, if Pakistan win the match, they will meet the winner of the match between Afghanistan and Sri Lanka in the semifinal. The Shaheens, who underwent a five-day camp at the National Cricket Academy in Lahore, on Monday also took part in training session in Hangzhou. Squad: Qasim Akram (captain), Omair Bin Yousuf (vice-captain), Aamir Jamal, Arafat Minhas, Arshad Iqbal, Asif Ali, Haider Ali, Khushdil Shah, Mirza Tahir Baig, Mubasir Khan, Muhammad Akhlaq (wk), Rohail Nazir (wk), Shah Nawaz Dahani, Sufiyan Muqeem and Usman Qadir Player Support Personnel: Shahid Aslam (head coach-cum-manager), Umar Rasheed (bowling coach), Hanif Malik (batting and fielding coach) and Hafiz Naeem ul Rasool (physiotherapist). – APP

Cipher case: Court...

FROM PAGE 01
The judge directed the superintendent of Adiala jail to present the PTI leaders before the court on October 4 (Wednesday). The FIA, in its challan, stated that the former prime minister and the former foreign minister were found guilty in the matter and requested the court to conduct their trial and sentence them in the case. According to sources, former PTI secretary-general Asad Umar's name was not added to the list of accused. Meanwhile, Imran Khan's former principal secretary Azam Khan was named as a "strong witness" in the case.

Police must produce...

FROM PAGE 01
within the housing society, and his nephew was also detained. Following Rashid's arrest, his lawyer said no case was registered against the AML chief in the limits of Punjab. He added that the politician was nominated in a case lodged at Kohsar police station in connection with a protest rally held on May 10 by PTI against the detention of its Chairman Imran Khan.

Caretaker PM kicks...

FROM PAGE 01
adding that it was a fact that all the religious scholars, including Imam-e-Kaaba, had declared the polio vaccine absolutely safe and very necessary for the future of children without disabilities. PM Kakar expressing concern over reports of polio virus in the three districts of the country, directed to run a special anti-polio campaign in areas where the polio virus had been reported. "We are grateful to the international partners for their active participation and key support in Pakistan's National Polio Program," he added.

PTI seeks CJP...

FROM PAGE 01
the country, courts' proceedings of the cases against the Chairman PTI Imran Khan and the organizational strategy threadbare. During the meeting, the party leadership requested the CJP to take special measures to protect the sanctity of the Constitution as holding elections within 90 days limit was a mandatory constitutional requirement in the case of premature dissolution of the National Assembly.

PMD rejects scientist...

FROM PAGE 01
the time and place of an earthquake cannot be predicted. The boundaries of two major tectonic plates inside the Earth pass through Pakistan which are extended from Sonmiani to the northern region of the country Pakistan, the PMD said. The Met Office said earthquakes can occur at any point in these boundary lines. PMD said an earthquake of magnitude 9 to 10 had struck the Chaman fault line in 1892, while an earthquake that hit Chiltan range in 1935 killed several thousand people.



Briefs

Fire engulfs
Egypt's
Ismailia police
facility, 38
injured

CAIRO : At least 38 people were injured after a horrifying fire broke out and quickly engulfed a police headquarters in the Egyptian city of Ismailia on Monday, according to security sources. So far, no deaths have been reported, but soldiers are always present at the building, and hospitals are on alert due to smoke rising from the blackened multi-story building of the Ismailia Security Directorate. According to AFP, the cause of the blaze, which broke out at the headquarters of the Directorate of Security before dawn, is not yet known. The flames were contained after multiple fire trucks rushed to the scene, the report said. Of 26 wounded who were transferred to a local hospital, 24 had suffered from "asphyxiation" and two from burns, the health ministry reported, while 12 more were treated at the scene. —APP

10 migrants
killed in
Mexico truck
accident

TUXTLA GUTIÉRREZ : At least 10 Cuban migrants were killed and 25 injured, when a cargo truck carrying them overturned in southern Mexico, the latest fatal crash involving US-bound migrants, local officials reported. The accident took place in southern Chiapas state, near the border with Guatemala, the report said. A source in the prosecutor's office who spoke on grounds of anonymity told AFP the victims were apparently from Cuba and all were women, including one minor. The accident occurred on a highway along the Pacific coast between the towns of Pijijiapan and Tonala, where migrants often travel as they attempt to reach the United States — part of a flow drawing increasingly urgent attention in Washington. The truck, its body built partly of wood, was destroyed, with the migrants' clothes, bags and backpacks strewn around it. On Thursday, two migrants died when a truck overturned in the Chiapas municipality of Mezcalapa. Thousands of migrants from different countries have been traveling across Mexico in cramped buses, trailers and freight trains — or on foot — in an attempt to reach the United States. In early August, at least 18 people died and another 23 were injured after a bus with local passengers and migrants from countries such as India, the Dominican Republic and some African nations plunged into a ravine in the state of Nayarit. This weekend, in the northern states of Chihuahua and Zacatecas, nearly 3,000 migrants were stranded in isolated areas when the freight trains they were traveling on inexplicably stopped. Mexican authorities said they had detained more than 189,000 migrants last month, while the US border patrol has reported 1.8 million apprehensions between October 2022 and August 2023. —Agencies

Canada left
battered
by wildfire
season

NORMÉTAL : When scientists started pouring over data to assess Canada's fire season this year, they struggled to find the right superlatives. "Never before seen," was thrown around, as was "exceptional in scale, duration" and "huge long-term consequences." "We have shattered all the records on a Canadian scale," says a shaken Yan Boulanger, a researcher for the country's natural resources ministry. There had never been so many areas burned — 18 million hectares (70,000 square miles), by 6,400 fires — or so many people evacuated, at more than 200,000. "It's an impressive wake-up call because we didn't necessarily expect it so quickly, even if the potential was there," Boulanger, a forest fire specialist at Natural Resources Canada, told AFP. In Quebec, hard hit and less accustomed than the west. —APP

Rmazi Khouri greets cardinal
Pizzaballa in Vatican ceremony

Dr. Khouri extended his heartfelt congratulations to Cardinal Pizzaballa on assuming his role as the Cardinal of Jerusalem

DNA

VATICAN: Member of the PLO Executive Committee and Head of the Presidential Committee for Churches Affairs in Palestine, Dr. Rmazi Khouri led the official delegation of Palestine on behalf of President Mahmoud Abbas to the elevation ceremony of the Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem, Archbishop Pierbattista Pizzaballa to the rank of cardinal, in a religious ceremony presided by Pope Francis in the Vatican. Dr. Khouri joined by member of the PLO executive committee, Dr. Faisal Aranki, ambassador of Palestine to the Holy See, Mr. Issa Qassisseh, and Abeer Odeh, ambassador of Palestine to Italy, in addition to patriarchs and representatives of Churches in the Holy Land, alongside delega-



tions from Palestine and the Palestinian diaspora. Dr. Khouri extended his heartfelt congratulations to Cardinal Pizzaballa on assuming his role as the Cardinal of Jerusalem. This appointment reflects the Holy See's unwavering commitment to peace and

justice for the Palestinian people. He stressed the paramount importance of maintaining bilateral co-operation between Palestine and the Holy See in safeguarding the Palestinian Christian presence in the region. Furthermore,

Dr. Khouri raised the important matter of the Holy See's historical ties and solidarity with the Palestinians, highlighting the principal stance of the Holy See in supporting the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and addressing their enduring 2/6



suffering in the face of egregious Israeli crimes and violations. On the sidelines of the ceremony, Dr. Ramzi Khouri met and engaged in discussions with prominent figures, including the Eastern Orthodox Patriarch of Jerusalem Theophilos

III, Maronite Patriarch, Bechara Boutros al-Rahi, Patriarch of Antioch and the East of the Syriac Orthodox Church, Ignatius Aphrem II, Patriarch of the Melkite Catholic Church, Yusef I Absi, and The Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby.

Indonesia launches Southeast
Asia's 1st high-speed train

DNA

ISTANBUL : Indonesia launched South Asia's first high-speed train on Monday. "I declare 'Whoosh' is ready to be operated," President Joko Widodo said about the Jakarta-Bandung High-Speed Railway (HSR) train at a ceremony. "Whoosh" signifies the sound of a fast train and stands for "time-saving, optimal operation, reliable system" in the Indonesian language. It can reach a speed limit of 320 kilometers (199 miles) per hour. The Chinese-built bullet train connects the capital Jakarta to Bandung in West Java province, covering a distance of 142 kilometers (90 miles) in about 45 minutes. It reduces travel time between two cities by at least two hours. Part of China's mul-



ti-trillion-dollar Belt and Road Initiative, the train is the first of its kind in Southeast Asia and will ferry more than 600 people to and from Jakarta and Bandung. China's Premier Li Qiang rode the train during

a trial last month when he visited Jakarta for a regional summit. The train route has 13 tunnels and stops at four stations, including Halim, Karawang, Padalarang, and Tegalluar. Originally to be launched in 2019,

the project cost escalated to around \$7 billion due to delays exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Four Indonesian state companies and China Railway International Co. jointly built the train.

Manila and US join
forces to boost
territorial defense

MANILA: Philippine and US navies on Wednesday launched their joint exercise and were joined by seven partner countries, as Manila seeks to boost its naval warfare capabilities and readiness to confront security challenges in the region.

Exercise Sama Sama started off as Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training in 1994 between the Philippines and America but changed into its current form in 2017. It seeks to increase interoperability, foster regional cooperation, and tackle non-traditional challenges. This year, more than 1,800 navy personnel are taking part in the drills from Oct. 2 to 13, including from Japan, Canada, the UK, Australia, and France, while New Zealand and Indonesia are sending observers. Philippine Navy Chief Vice Admiral Toribio Adaci Jr. noted that Sama Sama equips participating nations to "face an array of threats together," from territorial defense to countering transnational crimes. "For us in the Philippine Navy this activity serves as a vital platform for capacity building and empowers us to refine our naval warfare capabilities. "This exercise enhances our readiness to confront a wide spectrum of security challenges," Adaci said during his speech at the opening ceremony. "This year, our interoperability exercises with the US Navy will center on warfighting serials, reinforcing our readiness for joint operations in the face of evolving threats. "With this show of force and active engagement of our allies and partners, Sama Sama transcends (mere) military exercises. It is a symbol of our enduring partnerships and our shared commitment to security and stability in the Asia-Pacific region," he added. —APP

Tokyo stocks
open higher

TOKYO : Tokyo stocks opened higher on Monday, as investors digested the Bank of Japan's key business confidence survey released before the opening bell. The benchmark Nikkei 225 index was up 0.69 percent, or 220.51 points, at 32,078.13 in early trade, while the broader Topix index was up 0.41 percent, or 9.60 points, at 2,332.99. The Japanese market gains come "as a partial US government shutdown was averted thanks to the Congress passing a bridge funding bill," Monex senior market analyst Toshiyuki Kanayama said. Investors' "attention is on the Bank of Japan's Tankan" business confidence survey, that was released 10 minutes before the opening bell, he added. Confidence among Japan's largest manufacturers rose as business conditions improved for the second-straight quarter, the central bank's survey showed. Among major manufacturers, business confidence rose to plus nine from plus five three months earlier, beating market expectations of plus six. The survey reports the difference between the percentage of firms that are upbeat and those that see conditions as unfavorable. Optimism also grew among non-manufacturers, from plus 23 to plus 27, against market expectations of plus 24. The dollar fetched 149.48 yen in early Asian trade, against 149.40 yen in New York late Friday. Among major shares in Tokyo, Sony Group was up 1.67 percent at 12,445 yen, Toyota was up 1.90 percent at 2,728.5 yen, and SoftBank Group was up 0.96 percent at 6,396 yen. —APP

Court rules
against Italian
PM in migrant
detention

LONDON: Italy's detention of three Tunisian migrants awaiting asylum decisions has been ruled illegal under domestic and EU law by a Sicilian court, The Times reported on Monday. The ruling is viewed as a rebuke to Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni, who is seeking to tighten controls on refugee intake. The Interior Ministry said it will appeal the court's decision. The three Tunisian asylum-seekers entered Italy on Sept. 20 and applied for international protection but were sent to a detention center in Sicily, in a move that a Catania court has deemed illegal. A fourth Tunisian who withdrew his asylum request was not included in the court order, which called for the "immediate release" of the trio. Meloni's Brothers of Italy party recently launched measures to stem the flow of migrants from the Mediterranean, with 133,171 people reaching Italian shores since the start of the year. The detention of the three migrants, given their pending asylum applications, was determined to be in breach of Italy's constitution and EU law. Matteo Salvini, Italy's deputy prime minister, accused the Catania court of political bias. —APP

Asian
markets
mixed after
US avoids
government
shutdown

HONG KONG : Asian markets were mixed Monday after the US Congress passed a last-minute deal at the weekend to avoid a costly government shutdown. With that distraction out of the way, temporarily at least, investor attention is now likely to turn back to the outlook for US rates, with Federal Reserve boss Jerome Powell due to give a speech later Monday and key jobs data out later in the week. US stocks ended Friday mostly lower as a government shutdown appeared likely after hard-line Republicans had tanked an earlier plan to keep the lights on, with the Dow and S&P 500 down 0.5 percent and 0.3 percent, respectively, while the Nasdaq managed a small gain. In Asian trade Monday, Tokyo led the gainers, jumping 1.4 percent after the Bank of Japan's Tankan survey showed increasing optimism among the country's largest manufacturers as business confidence improved for a second-straight. —Agencies

Dengue death
toll in Bangla-
desh tops 1,000

Dhaka : More than 1,000 people in Bangladesh have died of dengue fever since the start of the year, official figures showed, in the country's worst recorded outbreak of the mosquito-borne disease. Dengue is a disease endemic to tropical areas that causes high fevers, headaches, nausea, vomiting, muscle pain and, in the most serious cases, bleeding that can lead to death. The World Health Organization has warned that dengue — and other diseases caused by mosquito-borne viruses such as chikungunya, yellow fever and Zika — are spreading faster and further due to climate change. Figures from the country's Directorate General of Health Services published on Sunday night said 1,006 people had died, among more than 200,000 confirmed cases. The agency's former director Be-Nazir Ahmed told AFP Monday that the number of deaths so far this year was higher than every previous year combined since 2000. "It's a massive health event, both in Bangladesh and in the world," he added. Among the dead are 112 children aged 15 and under, including infants, according to the official data. This year's figures dwarf the previous highest total from 2022, when 281 deaths were recorded. Scientists have attributed this year's outbreak to irregular rainfall and hotter temperatures during the annual monsoon season that have created ideal breeding conditions for mosquitoes. Bangladesh has recorded cases of dengue from the 1960s but documented its first outbreak of dengue haemorrhagic fever, a severe and sometimes fatal symptom of the disease, in 2000. —Agencies

Nobel prize goes to mRNA
Covid vaccine researchers

STOCKHOLM: Katalin Kariko and Drew Weissman won the Nobel Medicine Prize on Monday for work on messenger RNA (mRNA) technology that paved the way for groundbreaking COVID-19 vaccines. The pair, who had been tipped as favourites, "contributed to the unprecedented rate of vaccine development during one of the greatest threats to human health in modern times," the jury said. In honouring the pair this year, the Nobel committee in Stockholm broke with its usual practice of honouring decades-old research. While the prize-winning science dates back to 2005, the first vaccines to use the mRNA technology were those made by Pfizer/BioNTech and Moderna against Covid-19. Kariko of Hungary and Weissman of the United States, long-standing colleagues at the University of Pennsylvania,

have won a slew of awards for their research, including the prestigious Lasker Award in 2021, often seen as a precursor to the Nobel. Unlike traditional vaccines which use a weakened virus or a key piece of the virus' protein, mRNA vaccines provide the genetic molecules that tell cells what proteins to make, which simulates an infection and trains the immune system for when it encounters the real virus. The idea was first demonstrated in 1990, but it wasn't until the mid-2000s that Weissman and Kariko developed a technique to control a dangerous inflammatory response seen in animals exposed to these molecules, opening the way to develop safe human vaccines. Kariko's and Weissman's mRNA technology is now being used to develop other treatments for diseases and illnesses such as cancer, influenza and heart failure. The pair will receive

their Nobel prize, consisting of a diploma, a gold medal and a \$1 million cheque, from King Carl XVI Gustaf at a formal ceremony in Stockholm on December 10, the anniversary of the 1896 death of scientist Alfred Nobel who created the prizes in his last will and testament. Last year, the Medicine Prize went to Swedish paleo-geneticist Svante Paabo, who sequenced the genome of the Neanderthal and discovered the previously unknown hominid Denisova. - Peace Prize to Iranian women? - The Nobel season continues this week with the announcement of the winners of the Physics Prize on Tuesday and the Chemistry Prize on Wednesday. They will be followed by the much-anticipated prizes for Literature on Thursday and Peace on Friday. The Economics Prize winds things up on Monday, October 9. The awards, first handed out in 1901, were created by Swedish inventor and

philanthropist Alfred Nobel in his will to celebrate those who have "conferred the greatest benefit on mankind." Criticism over a lack of gender and geographical diversity has plagued the Nobels over the years. US-based men have dominated the science fields, while women account for just six per cent of overall laureates — something the various award committees insist they are addressing. Among the names making the rounds for Thursday's Literature Prize are Russian author and outspoken Putin critic Lyudmila Ulitskaya, Chinese avant-garde writer Can Xue, British author Salman Rushdie, Caribbean-American writer Jamaica Kincaid and Norwegian playwright Jon Fosse. But for the Peace Prize, experts have been scratching their heads over possible winners, as conflicts rage around the globe. —Agencies

Serbia tried to annex northern Kosovo : PM Albin

Prime Minister Albin Kurti has accused Serbia of plotting to annex the country's northern territories, citing a recent deadly attack by a Serbian armed group on Kosovar police as part of that plot

NEWS DESK



BELGRADE : Kosovo Prime Minister Albin Kurti has accused Serbia of plotting to annex the country's northern territories, citing a recent deadly attack by a Serbian armed group on Kosovar police as part of that plot.

"Based on confiscated documentation, Kosovo police have confirmed that the terrorist attack was part of a larger plan to annex the north of Kosovo via a coordinated attack on 37 distinct positions. Establishing a corridor to Serbia would follow, to enable the supply of arms and troops," Kurti said on Monday on the X platform, previously known as Twitter. Kurti's allegations came a day after Interior Minister Xhelal Svecla made similar accusations. Kosovo on Sunday posted footage and photos showing the armed group trained in Pasuljanske Livade, one of the Serbian Army's key bases. Four days prior to the attacks, exercises were held at the Kopaonik base. The attacks were fully supported and planned by the

Serbian state, Kurti alleged. According to Svecla, Serbian President Aleksandar Vucic, Defence Minister Milos Vučević, and Army Chief of Staff Milan Mojsilovic were all directly involved in the attempt. Vučević and Mojsilovic will hold a press conference in the Serbian capital Belgrade to respond to the Kosovo allegations. On Sept. 24, a clash broke out in the village of Banjska in northern Kosovo near the Serbian border when a group of armed Serbs blocked a bridge with two trucks. A shootout erupted after the group opened fire on police, leaving one police officer dead and another injured. A large number of security forces were dispatched to the region, and the Brnjak border crossing between Kosovo and

Serbia was closed. The area has been the scene of unrest since April, when local ethnic Serbs boycotted elections in northern Kosovo, followed by protests against the election of ethnic Albanian mayors. Albanians are by far the largest ethnic group in Kosovo, followed by Serbs, with about half living in the country's north. Amid the unrest over the elections, NATO peacekeepers were deployed, including a group of extra Turkish reinforcements. The last week has seen a "large Serbian military deployment along the border with Kosovo," according to the US National Security Council, whose spokesman called the deployment "a very destabilising development". Kosovo on Saturday called on Serbia to pull

back its troops. NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg wrote Friday on X that "NATO Allies met today & expressed deep concern about tensions in northern Kosovo." Vucic later denied that Serbia was engaging in a military build-up along the border with Kosovo. "A campaign of lies...has been launched against our Serbia," he said in a video posted on Instagram on Sunday. "They have lied a lot about the presence of our military forces...In fact, they are bothered that Serbia has what they describe as sophisticated weapons," he added. Kosovo declared independence from Serbia in 2008 and gained recognition from many countries, including Türkiye. But Belgrade has never recognised Kosovo and claims that its territory is still part of Serbia.

Briefs

Lt Gen Munir Afsar made Nadra Chairman



ADIL SHAHEEN

ISLAMABAD: The interim federal government on Monday appointed Lt Gen Muhammad Munir as National Database and Registration Authority (Nadra) Chairman. The interim cabinet gave the approval of the appointment. Before his appointment as Nadra chairman, Lt Gen Munir, who is also recipient of Hilal-e-Imtiaz (Military), was serving as Inspector General Communication & Information Technology (IG C&IT). He belongs to 16 Punjab Regiment and 81 PMA Long Course. Earlier, Asad Rehman had assumed the role of acting chairman of the National Database and Registration Authority (Nadra) following the resignation of Tariq Malik on June 13.

Turkiye strikes suspected Kurdish militant targets

NEWS DESK

ANKARA: Turkish warplanes carried out airstrikes on suspected Kurdish militant targets in northern Iraq on Sunday following a suicide attack on a government building in the Turkish capital, Turkiye's defense ministry announced. Some 20 targets of the Kurdistan Workers' Party, or PKK, were "destroyed" in the latest aerial operation, including caves, shelters and depots, the ministry said, adding that a large number of PKK operatives were "neutralized" in the strikes. Earlier on Sunday, a suicide bomber detonated an explosive device near an entrance of the Interior Ministry, wounding two police officers. A second assailant was killed in a shootout with police. The PKK, which maintains bases in northern Iraq, claimed responsibility for the suicide bombing, according to a news agency close to the rebel group. Turkiye's Interior Ministry also identified one of the assailants as a member of the outlawed group. It said efforts were still underway to identify the second attacker. The attack happened hours before Turkiye's Parliament reopened after its three-month summer recess with an address by President Recep Tayyip Erdogan.

Pakistan-Russia energy talk to begin next week

MEHTAB PIRZADA

ISLAMABAD: Talks between Pakistan and Russia will begin next week on the matter of importing cheap oil from Russia. Sources from the Ministry of Energy said Pakistan delegation would arrive in Russia on October 9. Pakistan would negotiate a long-term agreement to purchase oil and gas from Russia, they said. They sources said Pakistan would propose to buy oil from Russia at 60 dollars per barrel. Pakistan would sign the agreement keeping in mind the international sanctions, they maintained. They said from sixty dollars per barrel, oil will be cheaper by 10,000 rupees per barrel. A long-term LNG import deal from 2026 was also on the agenda, they added. "LPG import and gas pipeline are also included in the negotiation agenda. Pakistan will also discuss abolition of transportation charges with Russia," the sources said.

JI will make Pakistan green, clean and prosperous: Siraj

President Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari said in his address that seats should be reserved for the business community in parliament and provincial assemblies



STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: Amir Jamaat-e-Islami Siraj-ul-Haq expressed his determination that if the people voted him to power, he would make Pakistan green, clean and prosperous without usury. He said that usurious economy is the biggest problem of Pakistan and if he gets power, his first attack will be against the usurious system because the main mission of his party is to make Pakistan's economy free from usury. He

said that due to usurious system, Pakistan has to give 7.3 trillion rupees in loan and interest payments, so unless the economy of Pakistan is freed from interest, our country cannot develop. He said that in 2008 each of our people owed 500 rupees and today every person of our nation owes 300,000 rupees and all this is due to usury system. He said that Jamaat-e-Islami has eleven hundred PhD experts who are working on the planning of various sectors of the economy. He said that only 22% of the total area of Pakistan is under cultivation. If his party

gets power, agriculturally educated youths will be contracted and leased land for cultivation so that more area can be brought under cultivation. He said that the state is responsible for providing education to every citizen. Providing better health and education facilities to the people will be their main priority. He said that small industries will be encouraged in rural areas so that people get employment in rural areas and they do not have to go to cities. He said that his party will present a fifty-year economic plan and make it a part

of the school curriculum so that the economic policies do not change with the change of government. He said that chambers of commerce have an important role in policy making and the government should formulate economic policies in consultation with them. He said that the business community has a key role in strengthening the economy of Pakistan. He demanded that free electricity supply should be terminated immediately. Mismanagement, bad governance and corruption are the main problems of Pakistan and if his party gets power, all these problems will be eradicated. President Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari said in his address that seats should be reserved for the business community in parliament and provincial assemblies. So that economic policies can be formulated in consultation with the business community which will strengthen the economy. He said that technocrats should be brought in the Senate to play the role of a think tank and provide better support to the government in policy making. Pakistan's economy is currently going through a difficult period, it is necessary for the government to present a ten-year economic plan for the recovery of the economy. He said that the Amir of Jamaat-e-Islami, SirajulHaq, should play his role in getting all political parties to agree on an economic pact so that long-term economic policies can be formed. And despite the change of government, the continuity continues because the business class and investors have to face a lot of problems due to the lack of continuity in the policies.

Govt prepares to notify 45% hike in gas tariff

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Caretaker government will announce to hike gas price on the demand of the International Monetary Fund (IMF). Former PDM government had deferred the decision of the gas price hike. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has demanded to enhance the gas prices in the country by 45 percent. The IMF has demanded to generate 435 billion rupees revenue with increase in gas rates, sources said. The lender has not been prepared to show flexibility in its demand for hike in the gas tariff, sources said. Sources shared that the government has prepared a strategy to save small consumers of gas from the rate hike by avoiding increase for them. "Caretaker government will save 64 percent gas consumers from the price hike," according to sources. The government is expected to announce 45 pct hike in gas rate with an official notification soon, sources said. Gas tariff hike will come into force from back date of July 1st, sources said. "The gas consumers will clear their arrears from July to September bills. The gas tariff hike will also be enforced over domestic consumers having increased gas consumption", sources said. According to sources, commercial consumers, bread-makers and hotels will likely to consume gas at enhanced rate.

Faizabad sit-in case: SC issues written order

ISLAMABAD: The Supreme Court of Pakistan Monday issued a written order in the Faizabad sit-in review case, saying all parties involved in the matter was being given another opportunity to present facts. The four-page order inked by Chief Justice Faez Isa says that they could submit their replies through affidavits by Oct 27 while the next hearing is scheduled for Nov 1. According to the court order, the attorney general said during the hearing that the defence ministry did not want to pursue the review plea it had filed. The Intelligence Bureau (IB), Pemra (Pakistan Electronic Media Regulatory Authority) and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) too requested to withdraw the review petitions. However, Sheikh Rashid - who is also among the petitioners - sought more time to hire the service of a new counsel while IjazulHaq objected to the paragraph 4 of the judgment and raised four more questions during the hearing. The order mentions that some of the parties is given more time due to their absence. Moreover, some people stated in public that they knew what had actually happened during the Faizabad sit-in episode and that the court did not take into account their viewpoint. The stance under paragraph 17 of the Faizabad sit-in case judgment is surprising for the court, Chief Justice Isa notes in the written order. In this regard, the order recalls that the court had mentioned in the Faizabad sit-in verdict that any party could submit its perspective in written form. Meanwhile, the chief justice also observed that the attorney general had argued that the Faizabad sit-in was for limited period and the judgment should not cover a wider scope. It is important to note that the then prime minister Shahid Khaqan Abbasi had again stated during a recent TV talk show that he was ready to share the facts about the episode if the court provided a chance to him. - DNA

CM Naqvi deplors pathetic condition of govt school in Lahore

DNA



LAHORE: Punjab Chief Minister Syed Mohsin Naqvi on Monday paid a surprise visit to Government Pilot School for Boys on Wahdat Road, Lahore and was shocked to see that not a single teacher was available to teach class 11 and class 12 for the last seven years. The chief minister also took notice of the water filtration plant which had not been cleaned for months, and convened the meeting of Provincial Minister for Education Mansoor Qadir, Secretary Schools Education Ahsan Waheed and other concerned officials to discuss the issue. He said it was a matter of grave concern that students were being made to drink toxic water. He was also greatly perturbed to learn that of total 60 schoolteachers, 35 were on election duty and only 12 were available to teach 1,650 students as 13 others were absent. CM Naqvi made it clear that such state of affairs would not be tolerated at any cost.

IMF team to visit Pakistan in October end week

ISLAMABAD: An International Monetary Fund (IMF) mission will arrive in the last week of October for economic review of the standby arrangement agreement. The Federal Board of Revenue (FBR), Ministry of Energy, State Bank of Pakistan, National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (NEPRA) and Oil and Gas Regulatory Authority (OGRA), have been instructed to prepare their implementation reports on the IMF conditions. The IMF mission will hold talks on the review with the economic managers for over one week. The energy sector's circular debt, FBR revenue generation and market-based currency exchange rate will be key points of the economic review. The visiting IMF officials will also review external financing, circular debt management plan, and issuance of bonds. The team of global lender will review the adjustment and re-basing in the prices of electricity and gas as per the conditions of the standby agreement. The Ministry of Finance has assured the IMF, a reduction of 180 bln rupees in circular debt of the power sector by June 2024. The mission during its stay in Pakistan will also hold meetings with various political parties and discuss the next general elections in the country. - DNA

IHC reserves verdict for in-camera hearing

Fearing that Imran could be "poisoned" in Adiala Jail, Bushra Bibi, has approached IHC to seek enhanced security for her husband in prison

COURT REPORTER

ISLAMABAD: Islamabad High Court has reserved its decision on FIA's request for conducting an in-camera hearing on the bail plea of former premier and PTI Chairman Imran Khan in the cipher case. At the outset of the court proceedings today, IHC Chief Justice Aamer Farooq remarked that it had to be decided whether the hearing would be in-camera or in open court. He said that the court would fix a date for rehearing the case. At this juncture, lawyer Salman Safdar requested the court to fix the next hearing in a couple of days, on which the Chief Justice said that the office would schedule the case for hearing. FIA Prosecutor Shah Khawar Advocate appeared in the court and said that the trial could not be made public under the Official Secrets Act.

He said today we were going to file an application in the trial court. The Chief Justice raised the question that the matter of the trial was different, could the bail hearing be held in-camera? Speaking to the lawyers, the CJ said that he did not know about this. He asked the lawyers to see to it. He said the statement was to be made in the trial court, it was the trial court's jurisdiction whether it allowed an in-camera hearing or the open court. Shah Khawar Advocate said that the cipher was a secret document and who would decode this document. The court inquired whether there was any code of conduct or SOP related to the cipher. The special prosecutor said that during the hearing of the bail application, some important documents and statements were to be kept before the court, the statements of some countries were also to be brought on record, if this process was public, relations with some countries might be affected.

Aukus: UK BAE Systems wins £3.95bn submarine contract

The agreement will provide decades of work at the Barrow-in-Furness shipyard, where it employs more than 10,000 people

LONDON: Britain's biggest defence firm, BAE Systems, has won a £3.95bn (\$4.82bn) contract to build a new generation of submarines as the security pact between the US, UK and Australia moves ahead. In March, the three countries announced details of the so-called Aukus pact to provide Australia with nuclear-powered attack submarines by the late 2030s. The pact aims to counter China's ambitions in the Indo-Pacific region. Beijing has strongly criticised the three countries over the deal. "We're incredibly proud of our role in the delivery of this vitally important, tri-nation submarine programme," BAE Systems Chief Executive Charles Woodburn said. BAE said the funding will pay for development work to 2028, with manufacturing of the vessels expected to start towards the end of this decade. The first SSN-Aukus submarine is scheduled to be delivered in the late 2030s. Both the UK and Australia will use the SSN-Aukus submarines, which will be based on a British design. "This multi-billion-pound investment in the Aukus submarine programme will help deliver the long term hunter-killer submarine capabilities the UK needs to maintain our strategic advantage and secure our leading place in a contested global order," UK defence minister Grant Shapps said as the Conservative party conference got underway in Manchester. BAE said the SSN-Aukus will be the biggest, most

powerful and advanced attack submarine ever operated by the Royal Navy and will eventually replace the Astute class, which it builds at its site in Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria. The agreement will provide decades of work at the Barrow-in-Furness shipyard, where it employs more than 10,000 people. The company said the deal will also fund significant investment at the site, investment in its supply chain and recruitment of more than 5,000 workers. BAE employs 39,600 people in the UK and has a global workforce totalling more than 93,000, according to the company's website. Other major UK defence contractors are also getting a boost from the Aukus deal. In March, it was confirmed that Rolls-Royce Submarines would provide all the nuclear reactor plants that will power the SSN-Aukus vessels. In June, Rolls-Royce said it would almost double the size of its Raynesway facility in Derby as a result of the deal. On Sunday, Babcock International, which maintains and supports the UK's submarines, said it had signed a five-year deal with the Ministry of Defence to work on the SSN-Aukus design. The Aukus security alliance - which was first announced in September 2021 - has repeatedly drawn criticism from China. However, the three Western countries say the deal is aimed at shoring up stability in the Indo-Pacific. - Agencies

TURKISH AIRLINES

BEST PART OF THE JOURNEY

Stopover IN ISTANBUL

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT TURKISHAIRLINES.COM

PERMITTED AIRBORNE ALLIANCE PASSENGERS

EASY VISA

PERMITTED AIRBORNE ALLIANCE PASSENGERS

A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER

Economy BUSINESS CLASS PASSENGERS CAN STAY 1 NIGHT FOR FREE IN A 4-STAR HOTEL. BUSINESS CLASS PASSENGERS CAN STAY 2 NIGHTS FOR FREE IN A 5-STAR HOTEL.

FREE ACCOMMODATION FOR UNITED KINGDOM, IRELAND, USA, SWITZERLAND PASSENGERS