

Supreme Court against SJC notice

This is second petition filed by Justice Naqvi against SJC proceedings initiated against him on complaints

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

ISLAMABAD: Justice Sayyed Mazahar Ali Akbar Naqvi Thursday approached the Supreme Court challenging the revised show cause notices issued to him by the Supreme Judicial Council (SJC), which he contends, are "politically motivated complaints". The judge, through his legal team, has filed a petition against the revised show cause notice and the SJC proceedings being pursued against him. In the plea, he has also responded to the 10 allegations put forward against him. In the petition, Justice Naqvi contends that the complaints against him are politically motivated due to the verdict on the Punjab elections taken after the suomotu proceedings initiated by former chief justice Umar Ata Bandial during the hearing of the Ghulam MehmoodDogar case.

The judge further contends that the Shehbaz Sharif-led federal government wanted to delay the polls and his cabinet later started a "malicious campaign" against him. He also contended that the Pakistan Bar Council and other organisations or lawyers met with then-PM and after that, they started "targeting" him. "It is evident that the so-called complaints filed against the Petitioner before the Supreme Judicial Council (SJC) are politically motivated. These were filed simply because the Petitioner in performance of his solemn duty to protect and safeguard the Constitution highlighted the constitutional violation in delaying general election to the Punjab Provincial Assembly," said the plea.

In the petition, the SC judge has contended that the revised notice was sent to him by the SJC "without first determining the veracity of the so-called complaints and/or bona fide of the so-called complainants" contrary to the rules. Justice Naqvi, further contends, that by issuing the revised notice the SJC admitted that the first show cause was neither

Imran asks CJP to ensure levelplaying field

ADIL SHAHEEN

ISLAMABAD: Incarcerated Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan on Thursday raised several concerns regarding the "discrimination" his party is facing, in a letter to Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) QaziFaez Isa seeking equal opportunities for his party to lead its political cam-paign. The letter, a copy of which is available with Geo.tv, calls on the top judge to direct the federal and provincial governments as well as the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) to allow PTI, like all other political parties, to hold political meetings and gatherings without "discrimination". The deposed prime minister, who was removed from power via a no-trust motion in April last year, stated in the letter that the PTI leaders and activists were being targeted through the registration of multiple and successive criminal cases to keep them behind bars. He termed this a "tactic of abuse and oppression", which he said is being used all over the country. "Those bailed out by the courts in one or more cases are immediately booked in further case that purport to pertain to events several months in

Continued on Page 06

Afghan Taliban say killed

12 ISKP leaders in 2023'

The operation by the Afghan Taliban commenced

during Pakistan and Afghanistan's negotiations

regarding the tackling of the threats



ISLAMABAD: Renowned singer Hadiqa Kayani performs at a music performance titled "Mystic Melodies" at Islamabad Serena Hotel. She dedicated her performance to the innocent people of Gaza. She earnestly wished that their miseries come to and end soon. - DNA

COP28 climate 'loss & damage' fund launched Pak applauds Loss and Damage Fund

WEB DESK

DUBAI: The UN's COP28 climate conference formally launched on Thursday "loss and damage" fund

long sought by vulnera-

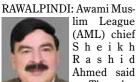


make his son Bilawal youngest PM of country

Continued on Page 06

Briefs **'Unable to** bear another ordeal

DNA



on Thursday he did not want to utter anything which could force him to undergo another chilla - a reference to the recent trial he had to face Speaking to media outside the Lahore High Court's Rawalpindi bench after attending hearing of a case, the former interior minister said the court had given one week to the Punjab government to submit details of cases against him. He said he did not participate in May 9 demonstrations. Rashid said no one had seen him from April 12 to May 12.

Ahsan upbeats about winning polls

FAISAL SHEIKH

ISLAMABAD: PML-N senior leader Ahsan Iqbal expressed optimism on Tuesday that

his party wil win the upcoming elections. The former planning min-ister said: "The PML-N can say this simply that it will develop the entire country the way it uplifted Lahore. We have built three mass transit projects". He recalled the tenure of the Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM), saying, "The biggest of all the challenges faced by the PDM was to save the country from default." Igbal slammed Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Chairman Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari, saying, "What wonders the young leadership had done in Sindh.

SHAMIM SHAHID Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan (IEA), since

the beginning of this year, has eliminated 12 top Islamic State Khorasan Province (ISKP) leaders in Afghanistan in their war against the terrorist group. The General Directorate administration's special forces killed ISKP's

Continued on Page 06

French embassy PESHAWAR: The intelligence agency of the launches Gender **Climate Award**

MEHTAB PIRZADA

of Intelligence (GDI) launched an operation ISLAMABAD: The Embassy of France earlier this year to eradicate the ISKP, a mil- in Pakistan and Agence Française de itant group. In February, the Afghan Taliban dévelopement (AFD), in collaboration with The European Union Delegation intelligence and military chief, commonly to Pakistan, United Nations Developknown as Kotar in Kabul, while arresting ment Program, and L'Oreal Pakistan another high-ranking leader of the terrorist has announced the commencement of group in a separate operation. According to the second edition of the Gender Clithe details shared by IEA, the GDI has so far mate Award (GCA). The applications neutralised the leader of Islamic State Hind for the 2024 edition are now open Province (ISHP), the Justice and Media head and will be accepted until December of ISKP, an ISKP leadership council member, 31st, 2023. The Civil Society Coalithe ISKP's head of operations for Kabul city, tion for Climate Change will serve as the ISKP's head of military for Herat prov- the implementing partner for managince, the ISKP head of guerilla operations ing all the GCA-related activities. The for Kabul province, the deputy of the current Gender Climate Award 2024 aims to

Continued on Page 06

ble nations devastated by natural disasters linked to global warming. "We have delivered history today," the UAE's COP28 president Sultan Al Jaber told delegates, adding that his country was committing \$100 million to the fund. After years of dragging their feet on the issue, wealthy nations backed the fund in a landmark agreement at the COP27 summit in Sharm el-Sheikh last year. Its launch on the first day of COP28 in Dubai follows fraught nego-

housed at the World Bank on an interim basis. "This sends a positive signal of momentum to the world and to our work," Jaber said. Jaber said it was "the first time a decision has been adopted on day one of any COP and the speed in which we have done so is also unique, phenomenal and historic." "This is evidence that we can deliver. COP28 can and will deliver," he added. World leaders, Britain's King Charles III and activists and lobbyists are among more than 97,000 people jetting into the flashy Gulf city,

Continued on Page 06

Gaza: Intense diplomatic efforts as mediators push for truce extension

"We are ready to deliver the bodies of Israeli prisoners but Israeli authorities refused to take their bodies," Hamas said

News Desk

GAZA CITY: Egyptian and Qatari negotiators are pressing for a new two-day extension to the pause in fighting between Hamas and Israel. Palestinians who fled northern Gaza to the south say the temporary halt in Israeli bombing is not enough and a permanent end of the war must happen immediately."Regarding the truce, we displaced people do not benefit from it at all. We are unable to obtain even basic materials, for example, flour," says Samir Yaghi from Gaza City."All people here want the war to stop so we can return to our homes, to see what happened to our families. We have relatives who did not leave Gaza, they were under bombardment. And there is no communication and the net-media, two settlers were killed on the scene, while works are down. Are they dead or still alive? Are our homes still standing?" Suha Lubbad, another displaced person, said, "We demand there be a complete ceasefire and a complete stop of war so everyone can return to his place, to his work agreed that temporary "pauses" in Israel's bombardment are not enough. "We do not want a truce for one or two days. a bus station near the settlement and were subse-We want to return to our homes in northern Gaza. We do quently shot dead by security forces and an armed setnot want to stay in the south displaced, sitting in schools.

2 Palestinians martyred in Jerusalem operation

FOREIGN DESK

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM: Two Palestinian resistance fighters were shot dead on Thursday morning after they carried out a shooting operation that killed three Jewish settlers and injured at least six others, some of them seriously, near the illegal settlement of Ramot in Occupied Jerusalem. According to the Hebrew another was in critical condition, three others were seriously wounded, and three others were in light to moderate condition. One of the wounded settlers was pronounced dead later. Two resistance fighters reand to our normal life that we have lost." Salem Abu Qumbuz portedly arrived at the scene in a vehicle armed with firearms. They opened fire at settlers and one car at tler. In this regard, senior Hamas official Mahmoud

Continued on Page 06





for "burying" politics of hatred and division in line with the vision of his father Asif Ali Zardari's reconciliatory politics. "We have to do politics wherein we should think about unity and not of division. The PPP wants to start a new kind of politics in the country," Bilawal said while

DNA

Continued on Page 06

PTI left Pakistan on brink of default

ABID RAZA

LAHORE: Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) senior vice president and chief organizer Maryam Nawaz on Thursday convened with Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Youth Coordinators, underlining the urgent need for progress and development within the province. During the meeting, she highlighted the dire state of affairs in

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NATIONAL

Olive farming potential in Pakistan highlighted

DNA

02

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan can become self-sufficient in edible oil within a decade if the immense potential of olive farming and millions of wild olive trees across Pakistan is realized. If harnessed to its full potential, indigenous olive oil production in the country can help save a staggering \$4.5 billion spent annually on importing edible oil and lead to a thriving olive export market. This was observed during a discussion at the Institute of Policy Studies (IPS), Islamabad, organized to shed light on Pakistan's expanding potential in olive cultivation. The discussion, moderated by Naufil Shahrukh, GM Operations, IPS, was addressed by Khalid Rahman, chairman, IPS, Dr Faiyaz Alam, general secretary Dua Foundation, Shabbir Soomro, author and journalist, and Dr Ghufran Saeed, Assistant Professor, Department of Food Science and Technology, University of Karachi. Dr Faiyaz Alam and Shabbir Soomro have also recently co-authored a book on the history, status and potential of olive farming in Pakistan. While introducing the work, Pakistan Main Zaitooon Ki Kashat Tareekh, Tajurbat, Aur Imkanaat, Soomro highlighted that despite Pakistan having around 85 million wild olive trees, their full potential remains

inexplored even by local people due to a lack of awareness and knowledge about the resource. The book, the culmination of extensive research. interviews, and expertise, addresses this gap in understanding and aims to bridge the awareness deficit that has hindered the exploration of this rich resource. He said that with an emphasis on nationwide awareness, the book endeavors to enlighten readers about the immense possibilities and benefits hidden within Pakistan's olive trees. Dr Faiyaz Alam emphasized the transformative impact of arid agriculture. He deplored the mainstream media's lack of interest in giving space and time to such issues, as well as the reluctance of governments to acknowledge and reward agricultural scientists and enterprising farmers who have contributed immensely in introducing valuable olive varieties and necessary food processing technologies. Dr Faiyaz said that the efforts in the last few years, spanning areas of Sindh, Balochistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, and Punjab, have seen the seeding of 5.6 million new olive trees across 50,000 acres of land. Two million of these plants are already yielding fruit and producing several tons of olive oil for local consumption and export. He highlighted that around 75 percent of Pakistan's edible oil is imported, and the \$4.5

billion that the country spends on this can be saved through olive cultivation, making Pakistan self-sufficient in edible oil. "Research for the sake of research leads nowhere," emphasized Dr Ghufran. He highlighted that the lack of cohesion between academia, industry, and government is a dilemma obstructing the exploitation of agricultural assets like olives. He stressed that a massive potential of wild olive trees is wasted every year because of the lack of awareness, and initiative at all levels. In his concluding remarks, Khalid Rahman underscored that harnessing the potential of olive cultivation is not just about agriculture: it is a health and national economic imperative as well. It is time that "Pakistan must redefine its strengths and weaknesses," he said while stressing the need for comprehensive awareness initiatives based on indigenous assessment of strengths and weaknesses. In this regard, he highlighted that success stories in olive cultivation should be incorporated into educational curricula, and community institutions like madrassahs should be urged to motivate people with these prospects. He underscored the need for an indigenous framework that connects research, local efforts, and societal motivation. He said these efforts would produce not just agricultural growth but a holistic transformation of the national socio-economic fabric



blankets

First snowfall | Business community is united under businessmen panel



ISLAMABAD: The outgoing Country Director of World Health Organization, Dr Palitha Mahipala, called on President Dr Arif Alvi, at Aiwan-e-Sadr.-DNA

Naval Chief chairs command and Staff conference

APP

ISLAMABAD : The Command & Staff Conference of Pakistan Navy concluded here on Thursday which was chaired by Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral Naveed Ashraf. During the conference, matters related to national security, geo strategic affairs, combat readiness and training of troops were discussed, a Pakistan Navy news release said. The conference assessed the evolving maritime situation in the region due to ongoing conflict in Middle East. Under the prevailing maritime situation in the Middle East, deployment of Pakistan Navy Ship for the protection of Pakistan's merchant ships was discussed. Progress on Pakistan Navy projects including future plans was also reviewed and way forward was deliberated. The Naval Chief emphasized maintaining perpeton ual combat readiness to effectively thwart any ag-

DNA

QUETTA : The European Union (EU) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNO-DC) proudly announce the inauguration of Police Khidmat Markaz in Kuchlak, Quetta. This collaborative venture with Balochistan Police marks a pioneering era in community-focused law enforcement, embodying a transformative approach that places a premium on accessibility, responsiveness, and community engagement. Funded through the EU's Deliver Justice Project, a pivotal component of the broader Rule of Law Roadmap (RoLR) in Balochistan, this initiative supports reforms aimed at ensuring people-centered justice, equitable access

policing access through inaugural Cente to justice, particularly for women and marginalized groups, and enhancing the service delivery of the security sector in alignment with constitutional safeguards and international standards. The establishment of the Police Khidmat Markaz underscores the joint commitment of the EU, UNODC, and Balochistan Police to empower local communities through improved policing services, offering facilitation for all citizens through a unified service point. The inauguration ceremony of the Police Khidmat Markaz was presided over by Mr. Abdul Khalique Sheikh, PSP, Inspector General of Police, Balochistan, in the esteemed presence of Mr. Jeroen Willems, Head of Cooperation, European Union Delegation to Pakistan, and Dr. Jeremy Milsom, Representative,

Police Khidmat Markaz

Baluchistan enhances

UNODC Pakistan. The primary objective of the Police Khidmat Markaz is to alleviate the workload on conventional police stations, enabling them to concentrate resources on the fundamental responsibility of crime prevention while simultaneously bridging the gap between law enforcement and the community. It is meticulously designed to provide seamless processes, guarantee prompt service for citizens, uphold respectful treatment of the public, and introduce a citizen feedback mechanism along with an online tracking system. Distinctive features include a gender desk, integrated IT software solutions, and CCTV cameras, differentiating it significantly from regular police stations in terms of structure, environment, and public interactions.

Islamabad **POST**

Friday, December 01, 2023

French embassy launches

hilly areas, transforming landscape into winter wonderland

DNA

ABBOTTABAD: Snowfall started in different tourists' attractive hilly areas of Abbottabad including Nithia Gali, Changla Gali, Ayobia, Donga Gali, and Thandviani on Thursday. The weather in Abbottabad turned cold as the first snowfall of the winter season continued in the area.

DNA KARACHI: Rafiq Sulaiman, the vice president candidate in the Federation of Pakistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI) elections from the Businessmen's Panel (BMP) has said that the business community is united under the Busi-

Business Group on the night of December 30. Rafiq Sulaiman said that the business community can solve its problems only by being united within BMP, it has been our mission since day one that FPCCI should be strengthened so that the voice of the business community across the country can be heard effectively. Rafiq Sulaiman said that the businessmen's Panel and the Federation elections. For nessman panel worked for 2023, the candidates nomthe stability of the federinated by the businessman ation for 4 years and the panel will be elected with officials of the federation a huge majority and will talked with the eyes of the give the gift of defeat in government and we also the swing of the United elected our presidential

candidate Muhammad Ali and senior vice president candidate Haji. Under the leadership of Ghani Usman, he will give suggestions to the government in the best interests of the business community. He said that the leadership of the businessmen panel has been successful in representing businessmen and industrialists and now again there is a need for the representatives of the business community of Pakistan to unanimously cast their panel votes in favor of BMP candidates so that His strong voice could once again reach the halls.

gression against Pakistan. He lauded the initiatives undertaken towards capability development through acquisition of state of the art platforms and emerging technologies. The Admiral expressed full confidence over high state of operational preparedness of Pakistan Navy to meet maritime challenges while safeguarding the maritime frontiers of Pakistan. The Command & Staff Conference is the apex decision making body of Pakistan Navy in which Chief of the Naval Staff along with all Principal Staff Officers and Field Commanders review the policies and plans of

2nd edition of GCA

ISLAMABAD: The Embassy of France in Pakistan and Agence Française de Developpement (AFD), in collaboration with The European Union Delegation to Pakistan, United Nations Development Program, and L'Oreal Pakistan has announced the commencement of the second edition of the Gender Climate Award (GCA). Applications for the 2024 edition are now open and will be accepted until December 31st. 2023. The Civil Society Coalition for Climate Change will serve as the implementing partner for managing all the

GCA related activities. The Gender Climate Award 2024 aims to champion and support climate actions led by women, elevating their work and acknowledging their dedication. This award represents a significant stride towards fostering ambition, ownership, and advancement opportunities for women in the climate action space. The call for submissions is open nationwide across three categories: Climate Action, Young Climate Journalism, and Green Enterprise. Following a rigorous screening and interview process, one winner

will be selected by the jury from each category. The recipients will be granted financial support to further their initiatives, driving positive change and expanding their impact on gender-inclusive climate action. Eligibility is extended to all women contributing to climate change efforts, whether as individuals, activists, or members of civil society, community-based organizations, academia, research, science, enterprise, media, or advocacy. Notably, the Young Climate Journalism category is exclusively open to women aged 35 or younger.-DNA

SPL#1907

Middle eastern allies support Pakistan's economic growth

DNA

ISLAMABAD : Prime Minister's Special Representative on Religious Harmony and Pakistani Diaspora in Middle East and Muslim Countries, Hafiz Muhammad Tahir Mahmood Ashrafi Thursday said the Pakistani nation had expressed gratitude to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA), the UAE, and Kuwait for substantial support for Pakistan's economic development, providing a much-needed boost during challenging times. Talking to national and international media, he said Saudi Arabia, a longstanding ally, had not only reaffirmed its commitment to bilateral ties but had also extended the period of its deposits worth \$3 billion for another year as it would help contribute significantly to Pakistan's foreign exchange reserves, strengthening its economic foundation amid global uncertainties. Ashrafi said the UAE, recognizing the shared economic interests, had engaged in groundbreaking multi-billion dollar deals across diverse sectors. He said these agreements, facilitated under the SIFC, marked a strategic collaboration to foster economic stability and growth in Pakistan. He said the UAE's

commitment to these initiatives underscored its confidence in Pakistan's potential as a key partner in the region. Ashrafi said Kuwait, another key player in the Middle East, had joined the collective effort to support Pakistan's economic uplift. He said the SIFC, under the transformative leadership of COAS General Asim Munir and, Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar had played a pivotal role in attracting both local and foreign investments. He said this innovative initiative would streamline processes, create a conducive business environment, and promote sustainable economic growth in the country.

He said the recent multi-billion dollar deals with the UAE and Kuwait were a testament to the success of the SIFC in fostering economic stability. Ashrafi lauded army chief's steadfast commitment to maintaining law and order within the country. The national security institutions, in a resolute response to orchestrated attempts aimed at sowing discord between the Pakistan Army and the nation, had proactively thwarted negative propaganda, reinforcing the unbreakable bonds between the military and the people, he added.



مبين على خاب اسستنت دائريكتر (ويلفيتر) بنجاب وركرز ويلفيتر فنذ لابور



National Days and Armed Forces Dav

DECEMBER

Dec 01/Romania National Day

Dec 02/United Arab Emirates **National Day**

Dec 02/Laos Republic **National Day**

Dec 05/Thailand National Day

Dec 06/Finland **Independence** Day

Dec 07/India **Armed Forces Flag** Day

Dec 09/Tanzania National Day

Dec 11/Oman **Armed Forces Day**

Dec 12/Kenya **Independence** Day

Dec12/Turkmenistan **Neutrality Day**

Dec 16/Bahrain National Day

Dec 16/Kazakhstan **Independence** Day

> Dec 18/Qatar **National Day**

Dec 18/Niger National Day

Dec 23/Philippines **Armed Forces Day** Dec 23/Japan

National Day



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





ISLAMABAD: First lady Mrs Samina Alvi posing for a picture with members of the Floral Art Society on the occasion of the Workshop Demo by Asma Ansari, held at the Islamabad Serena Hotel.-DNA

President asks traders to adopt honesty, fairness

Group Chairman ICSTSI Qazi Muhammad Ilyas said the trader community was positively contributing to the national economy by following the tax system

MEHTAB PIRZADA

DNA

ber 30. 2023 The Health

Minister, Dr Nadeem Jan,

demonstrated a hands-on

approach to the ongoing po-

lio campaign by visiting the

nomadic population in the

district of Mianwali. The

visit aimed to ensure that

every child, including those

from the nomadic commu-

nity, receives the essential

polio vaccinations to safe-

guard their health. During

the visit. the Health Minis-

ter personally checked the

polio vaccination status of

children and engaged with

the nomadic community

to understand their unique

healthcare needs. The no-

madic population, predom-

inantly from Wana, travels

back seasonally, presenting

Novem-

ISLAMABAD:

standards which you show to your ISLAMABAD: President Dr target audience while marketing," Arif Alvi on Thursday urged the he told the gathering of traders, traders and businessmen in the here at the Aiwan-e-Sadr. Besides country to strictly adhere to the adopting a profit-based approach, principles of honesty and fairness he said, it was equally important to capture a space in the competfor companies to ensure an enitive global economy. Addressing vironment of empathy and compassion in society. "Honesty in the achievement recognition ceremony of the Islamabad Chamber public dealing and developing of Small Traders and Small Intrust between supplier and condustries (ICSTSI), the president sumers can lead to an accomsaid it was difficult to have a sucmodating atmosphere in the cessful business if the customers society," he said. The president did not trust a brand or considemphasized inculcating the valered it dishonest. President Alvi ues of honesty in the society in

extinct. "Sell your products with ings. He also noted that it was the responsibility of society to provide a harassment-free environment to women at workplaces to ensure their inclusion in all fields of life. Dr Alvi said the promotion of small industries in the country could stimulate economic growth. The president highlighted the need for skill development through vocational courses to help the population earn the dividends of a skillbased economy. "There is no dearth of talent and skills in the country, however, the situation needs provision of better opportunities to people," he said.

come its financial and economic challenges. "The key to ensuring betterment of the society is through bringing improvement in the lives of the people," he said. The president said the world needed to enforce the ideals of morality and pointed out that the current Gaza situation demanded serious attention in this regard. He regretted that the world pursued its vested interests while a large population of Palestinians faced ethnic cleansing. "Amid the 'might is right' scenario, a human life should be valued regardless of any religion, ethnicity or creed," he said. The president gave away

Sarwar said the Chamber was taking steps to encourage foreign companies to invest in Pakistan. He also mentioned the provision of a platform for women to promote their vocational skills. Vice President ICSTSI Syeda Wajida Saleem said small enterprises play an important role in a country's economy and stressed the need for long-term policies in this regard. She lauded President Alvi for his continued support to women to actively participate in all fields of life with the objective of attaining financial empowerment. Group Chairman ICSTSI Qazi Muhammad Ilyas said the trader community was

11 drug peddlers, bootleggers netted

RAWALPINDI: Rawalpindi police in an action against suspected drug peddlers and bootleggers here on Thursday arrested 11 accused besides recovering over four kg charras, 130 grams of Ice, 20 litres of liquor and 22 bottles of liquor from their possession. A police spokesperson said that Mandra police arrested Fakhar Abbas for having 1350 grams of charras and Atta Shah with 510 grams of charras. Dhamial police rounded up Shahid for possessing 1100 grams of charras and Amir with 35 grams of charras. Airport police in their raid netted an accused namely Hamza for having 560 grams charras and Chontra police nabbed Mudasir for having 560 grams charras. Race Course police recovered 130 grams of Ice drug from the possession of a female drug peddler namely Robab. Kalar Syedan, Bani, Cantt, and Naseerabad police also rounded up Saif, Kanwal Amanat, Rizwan and Adeel and recovered 20 litres of liquor and 22 bottles of liquor. Separate cases have been registered against all accused while further investigations are underway.–APP

Indian military involved in genocide of Kashmiris :Mushaal

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister's Special Assistant on Human Rights Mushaal Hussein Mullick on Thursday said Indian military was involved in the genocide of Muslims in Illegally Indian Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK). Addressing a seminar titled "Repression on minorities in India and atrocities in Kashmir," she expressed deep concerns over the human rights violations in the held territory. She said people of the occupied valley could never be defeated through oppression and negative tactics like jailing the political leadership. The seminar, was jointly organized by Kashmir International and Kashmir Media Service (KMS). Caretaker Federal Minister for Human Rights, Khalil George deplored that India had adopted the same policy in the occupied territory which Israel was following in the Palestine. He said that the main objective of the Bharatiya Janata Party government was to turn the majority of Muslims in IIO-JK into a minority but the people of the occupied territory would foil all such nefarious designs of the Modi

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 Ambulance115
PIA Flight Info114
PIA Cargo9280979
Railway Inquiry117
Railway Exchange9270831-5
WASA Rawalpindi5555489
CAA9281092



Hospitals

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СМН5611111
MH561116
Cantt Hospital9270907-11
DHQ5556311-4
RGH9290301-7
Holy Family9290322-7
PIMS9261170-79
Polyclinic9218300-09
Shifa International 4603666



Departments

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CDA	9221334-43
CDA	9208301-04
Met Office	9250360-6
RDA	5555864
ТМА	5770886
Cantonment Bo	oard 9270151-3

Water Tank Islamabad.....0321-5744480



said in a competitive economy, of Islam which called for maintaining integrity in public deal-

takes steps in polio campaign

a distinctive challenge in

reaching and vaccinating

every child. In addition to

overseeing the vaccination

efforts, the health minister

provided valuable insights

on maintaining health

and hygiene, particularly

among children and moth-

ers within the nomadic

community. Recognizing

the importance of preven-

tive measures, he advised

the District Commissioner

of the area to distribute

bed nets to protect against

vector-borne diseases. The

health minister empha-

sized the significance of

in the success of the polio

campaign and commended

the nomadic population

for their cooperation. The

visit aimed not only to ad-

dress immediate healthcare

needs but also to foster a

long-term commitment to

engagement

community

fairness by maintaining the same

line with the glorious teachings

health and well-being with-

in the nomadic community.

received guidance from the

health minister on imple-

menting health and hygiene

initiatives, with a focus on

creating sustainable prac-

tices tailored to the nomad-

of bed nets aligns with the

broader goal of ensuring a

healthier environment for

the risk of diseases trans-

mitted through vectors.

The health minister ex-

leaving no child behind in

the fight against polio, irre-

spective of their geograph-

ical or seasonal mobility.

The visit to the nomadic

population underscores the

government's dedication to

reaching every corner of

a polio-free Pakistan.

President Alvi said an effective implementation of tax culture could help the country over-

shields to traders to honour their achievements in their respective fields. President ICSTSI Sajjad

positively contributing to the national economy by following the tax system.

Sheikh **Rashid says** he ill-affords another ordeal DNA

RAWALPINDI: Awami Muslim League (AML) The District Commissioner chief Sheikh Rashid Ahmed said on Thursday he did not want to utter anything which could force him to undergo another chilla - a reference to the recent trial he had to face. Speaking to meic lifestyle. The provision dia outside the Lahore High Court's Rawalpindi bench after attending hearing of a case, the former interior the community, reducing minister said the court had given one week to the Punjab government to submit details of cases against him. pressed his commitment to He said he did not participate in May 9 demonstrations. Rashid said no one had seen him from April 12 to May 12. He further stated that he was not seen on any camera, in video, speech or picture however, cases were registered against him. He the country in the quest for said he was falsely implicated in May 9 events

DNA ISLAMABAD: At the 2023 China International Supply Chain Expo (CISCE), the products we display cover multiple scenarios such as zero-carbon homes, industrial parks, and energy bases, including the string ground PV system solution SOFAR PowerMega. Besides, the overseas star product smart household storage system SOFAR Power-All and new released industrial and commercial energy storage system SOFAR PowerMagic, centralized energy storage system SOFAR PowerMaster, covering zero-carbon homes, parks, and energy bases." This was stated by Zhu genhao, Domestic Solution Director, Centralized Energy Storage Business Line of SOFAR, in an interview with China Economic Net during the CISCE. SOFAR is a global leading supplier of solar PV and energy storage solutions and committed to be the leader of digital energy solutions. In March, SOFAR presents its wide product portfolio at Solar Pakistan, furthering its commitment to renewable energy and fueling the national transition to a low carbon economy. Jesse Lau, Regional Director, APAC&MEA, sees Pakistan as a vibrant solar market, and promises to boost efforts to prop up local decarbonization ambitions and surging demands. "As a pivotal player in Pakistan, we will keep bringing forth innovations that address diverse applications with a considerably lower LCOE typically for local market." Pakistan's practical solar potential, measured at 4.713 kWh/kWp, places the country at 49th globally. This metric showcases the efficiency of solar power generation systems in Pakistan and highlights its ability to convert sunlight into usable energy.

China helping

Pak transition to

solar power

Low income groups urged to apply in "BISP Savings Scheme"

regime.-APP

ISLAMABAD: The Benazir Income Support Program (BISP) has urged the people belonging to the low-income groups to submit applications for becoming a part of the recently launched "BISP Saving Scheme", taking a step towards making them self-reliant. According to an official source, the BISP has started receiving applications under this scheme from those applicants both men and women living in Islamabad, Muzaffarabad, Neelam, Peshawar, Lucky Marwat, Quetta, Qila Saifullah, Lahore, Multan, Karachi, Sukkur, Gilgit and Astore. The applicants, having a PMT score below 40, are required to apply through a web portal: savings.bisp. gov.pk to become a part of this scheme without paying any fee. The applicants will open a savings account in the bank to participate in the scheme. Those who will participate in the scheme will deposit money from 500 to 1000 rupees monthly in their bank account. The beneficiaries will get an additional 40 per cent of their savings from the BISP. The duration of the scheme is two years at the end of which the beneficiaries will be able to withdraw their

entire amount.-APP

ECP adjourns contempt case hearing until December 6

ISLAMABAD: The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) has adjourned the hearing of a case linked to contempt of the commission until December 6. Nisar Durrani, an ECP member, chaired a four-member bench that resumed the hearing of a case, where Chairman PTI Asad Umer and Fawad Chaudhry face accusations of contempt of the Chief Election Commissioner and the commission. The bench again deferred the indictment of PTI chairman in the contempt until next hearing. Faisal Chaudhry, representing Fawad Chaudhry, and Shoaib Shaheen, counsel for Chairman PTI Asad Umer, appeared before the bench. PTI counsel Shoaib Shaheen stated that they haven't received copies of the election commission's orders pertaining to PTI chairman. A member of the ECP said, the Law Ministry has cited security concerns, stating that the PTI chairman cannot be brought before the commission. Shoaib Shaheen expressed his desire to present arguments, stressing the importance of transparency by making the report public. Alternatively, if public disclosure isn't possible, he requested the commission to share the report with the accused's counsel, especially as it is being used against PTI. In the event of a jail trial, he insisted that the entire proceedings should be conducted within the prison. Despite submitting an application, they are yet to receive a copy. A commission member mentioned that over a year has passed, and charges can be framed at any time. The critical matter revolves around framing charges for the case.-APP

Speakers pay tribute to Late S.M.Munir

DNA

ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI) held a condolence reference for the Late S.M.Munir, renowned industrialist, former President FPCCI, former Chief Executive TDAP and former Patron-in-Chief of United Business Group on the occasion of his first anniversary. A large number of businessmen and industrialists of the city attended the condolence reference and paid tribute to SM Munir for his great services to the business community of the country. In his telephonic address, SM Tanveer, son of late S.M. Munir and Punjab Minister for Industries and Commerce, thanked Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari President ICCI and his team for holding the condolence reference for his father. He said that late SM Munir had dedicated his life to serve the business community of the entire country and always struggled for the promotion of their business inter-

ests. He said that the life of late SM Munir is a beacon of light for the business community and hoped that they would always remember his services. He vowed to continue serving the business community of the country through the platform of United Business Group in pursuance of the mission of late SM Munir. Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari, President, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry said that late SM Munir was a role model for the business community and in recognition of his services, the auditorium of ICCI will be named after him. He said that he learnt a lot from late SM Munir who always worked for the welfare of the business community. He said that late SM Munir always played on the front foot for resolving the issues of the business community. Late SM Munir has set good precedents for the business community through his hard work and honesty and we have to adopt his principles to excel in the business field to make the country's economy stronger. Engr. Azharul Islam Zafar, Vice President ICCI

paid tribute to SM Munir's great personality and services to the business community. He resolved that we all together should play a role to advance the mission of late SM Muneer for the welfare of the business community. Zafar Bakhtawari, former President ICCI and Secretary General UBG Pakistan said that late SM Munir Bhaijaan was a towering business leader whose services to the business community will always be written in golden words. The void created in the leadership of the business community by the death of the late SM Munir will never be filled. He said that heroes like the late SM Munir should be made role models for the society. His greatest achievement is that instead of creating followers, he created business leaders for this country. Former President ICCI and FPCCI, Zu-

bair Ahmad Malik highlighted the services of late SM Munir to the business community and hoped that the UBG would achieve a landslide victory in the forthcoming elections of FPCCI to continue the mission of late S.M.Munir.

04

TWIN CITIES

Islamabad **POST** Friday, December 01, 2023

Briefs

Parents urged to cooperate with polio vaccination teams

ISLAMABAD: Deputy Commissioner Islamabad Irfan Nawaz Memon on Thursday urged parents to cooperate with the polio vaccination teams and ensure that their children receive the necessary two doses of polio drops. Addressing a review meeting on the fourth day of the campaign, Memon emphasized the importance of achieving the target of vaccinating all children under the age of five in Islamabad. He expressed concern that some children were not present for vaccination on the third day and instructed officials to prioritize them for the remaining days of the campaign. The meeting was also attended by the Additional Deputy Commissioner General, DHOs, Assistant Commissioners, representatives from the Health Department, and other stakeholders. The participants discussed the performance of the campaign so far and identified areas for improvement. Memon reiterated the government's commitment to eradicating polio from Pakistan and called upon parents to play their part by ensuring that their children are vaccinated. He also commended the efforts of polio workers and other stakeholders involved in the campaign. The ongoing polio vaccination campaign in Islamabad is part of a nationwide effort to eliminate the crippling disease.-APP

PTDC to organise 'Salam Pakistan' photography competition

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Tourism Development Corporation (PTDC) will organise Salam Pakistan photography and short tourism documentary film competitions on Decem-



ISLAMABAD: Indonesian artists presenting a traditional Indonesia martial arts performance at the National Library of Pakistan. -DNA

Pakistan, Kuwait relations getting stronger: Ambassador

The two country leadership had a good follow-up conversation where they discussed the prospect of greater investments from Kuwait amid the growing Pakistan' economy, he added

FAISAL SHEIKH

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Ambassador to Kuwait Malik Muhammad Farooq Thursday underlined the importance of the strategic relationship between Pakistan and Kuwait that both countries' leadership was keen to strengthen bilateral relationship in different domains such as food security, trade, investments and people-to-people engagement. In an exclusive talk with PTV news channel, he elaborated that Pakistan and Kuwait had share a cherished relationship that only

year. "We are seeing greater interest from Kuwaiti to invest,' he added.

He also expressed his satisfaction at close cooperation between the two countries at multilateral fora. Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar was on a two-day official visit to Kuwait with the primary objective of signing of MoUs in multiple areas geared to transforming the six decades' long bilateral relations into mutually beneficial economic ties, he said. The two country leadership had a good follow-up conversation where

grew stronger with each passing they discussed the prospect of and Gaza." "Kuwait has called greater investments from Kuwait amid the growing Pakistan' economy, he added. "Both countries enjoying friendly relations, which are rooted in history," he said. "Pakistan and Kuwait are celebrating the 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries," he added. "Both nations have also maintained regular high-level contacts in future," he mentioned. He further highlighted, "Kuwait leadership has serious concerned over redressal of the dire humanitarian situation in Kashmir

on the international community to prevent the use of starvation as a military and political weapon against Palestinians in the Gaza." He said two nation leaders also witnessed the signing of seven agreements concluded to attract multi-billion dollars investment from the State of Kuwait in various sectors of Pakistan including Food Security/ Agriculture, Hydel Power, Water Supplies (safe drinking water and supporting mining activities), establishment of Mining Fund to support mineral industry, Technology Zones Development and Mangrove Preservation. He added, "Upcoming Conference of the Parties to the Convention (COP) would also be a 'great opportunity' for Pakistan and Kuwait to discuss ideas on how to support countries most affected by climate change and Kuwait is being focused on the issue of climate change." In concluding remarks, Am-

bassador stressed that the two nations' mutual commitment to building up bilateral trade and economic cooperation and regular interaction on regional and international issues were need of hour.

PPP: everloving, ever-living political party: Pervez

ISLAMABAD: Speaker National Assembly of Pakistan Raja Pervaiz Ashraf has said that the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) is the only political party which has strong roots in common people's hearts and minds. In a message on the 56th Foundation day of PPP, "It is PPP which reflects the true aspirations of the poor, farmers, farm workers and the middle class living across Pakistan and imparts them the confidence to raise their voices for their rights, he added. The Speaker also underscored that PPP continued its struggle under the leadership of Ms. Nusrat Bhutto and Ms. Benazir Bhutto after the martyrdom of Quaide-Awam Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto (ZAB). "Benazir Bhutto Shaheed's sacrifices for the restoration of democracy in Pakistan will always be written in golden words in history," he said. He said that PPP is the most popular party from Karachi to Kashmir and there are a large number of workers of the party who are working hard to achieve the mission of Quaid-e-Awam and Shaheed Benazir Bhutto. "PPP always leads the country on the path of development and raises the standard of living of the downtrodden sections of the society whenever it forms governance,' he added. Raja Pervez also paid tribute to the unforgettable sacrifices of the leaders and workers of PPP for the restoration of democracy and the promotion of democratic values in the country. He said that the PPP conferred this nation and country with a unanimous constitution and laid the foundations of the nuclear program, besides establishing a network of universities, educational institutions, and hospitals. The Speaker said that the PPP believes in expediency and the power of the people and the party also remained successful in enactment of the 18th Amendment with the support of other political

parties.-APP

ber 11 in connection with International Mountain Day. Talking to APP, the PTDC official said that "Salam Pakistan" is the official tourism brand of the country that was recently launched by the Prime Minister. He urged filmmakers and storytellers to capture the essence of our diverse and stunning landscapes as Pakistan was amazing and rich with tourism potential. He said that four to five-minute documentaries and photography competitions on the topic of culture and mountain heritage. mountain people and their lifestyle, fascinating mountain scenery, mountain adventure and sports will be part of the event. The winners of these competitions will be awarded with cash prizes and awards at the sustainable tourism conference, the official added. He said more information can be obtained from PTDC's official webhttps://tourism.gov. site pk while photography and short tourism documentary films can be submitted till December 4 at https:// bit.ly/47Lhvug.-APP

ANF busts inter-provincial drug-trafficking gang; arrests seven

RAWALPIND: Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) while conducting a major operation managed to bust an inter-provincial drug-trafficking gang and arrested its seven members including the ringleader, said an ANF Headquarters spokesman here on Thursday. He informed that ANF arrested an accused namely Allah Noor who was the ringleader of a drug smuggling gang which was involved in inter-provincial drug trafficking through the motorway. He said that the operation was launched after comprehensive planning. Earlier, six members of the gang were also arrested. ANF also recovered 419 kg of drugs including charras and opium from their possession. He informed that ANF during an operation conducted a raid on November 18 and succeeded in arresting the leader of the group, Allah Noor.-APP

agriculture coop shines at the 2023 CISCE

China-Pak sustainable

DNA

ISLAMABAD: China-Pak cultivation in Pakistan has sustainable agriculture tripled in the past 5 years. cooperation shines at the In the South Asia country, ongoing 2023 China Intersesame is grown on roughnational Supply Chain Expo ly 600,000 acres with a per acre vield of 0.5 tons. As (CISCE), China Economic Net (CEN) reported on most Pakistan sesame is Thursday. The report says, for export, with more than Plump rice grains, sweet 1/3 goes to China, Syngenmelons, fragrant sesames ... ta global AVC aims to link the quality sesame from an endless stream of visitors were full of praise for Pakistani growers served the dazzling array of agby Syngenta with internaricultural products at the tional value chain partners expo. "From the single gerespecially in China. In May mplasm resource cooper-2023, APAC's first Centrigo ation and product trade to Flagship Center of Syngenta launched in Okara, Puncurrent Agriculture Value Chain (AVC) comprehenjab, serving more than 500 sive business, the cooperfarmers on exceed 10,000 ation between Syngenta acres of farming on potato, Group and Pakistan in the corn, rice, vegetables and agricultural field has great sesame. All of them get potential, undoubtedly,' top-quality agronomy inputs a staff at Syngenta Group including seeds, fertilizer, China told CEN. "By supcrop protection, services plying inputs and producsuch as drones spraying tion services to growers, and farm mechanization. bartering with entities in Such a farming ecosystem core producing areas in exis helping local farmers change for key agricultural achieve better yield and products, while linking Chi-ROI. Mian Bashir Ahmad, na's agricultural product one of Centrigo growers market demand and openwho benefits from the proing up the global upstream tocols, smiled with satis-

faction. "I have 150 acres and downstream chains, the AVC model has brought of farmland, among which practical benefits to farmsesame occupies 20 acres. ers in Pakistan." Sesame My guidance from planting to harvesting was done by a team of Centrigo Flagship Center. By using drones to spray insecticides they provided, my sesame yields increased by 10 percent. Owe to the improved quality of exported sesame, I received a price 30 percent higher than the average market While increasing price." production and income for local farmers, AVC serves China's domestic edible grain and oil import diversification, which is a win-win situation under the global supply chain system. In order to promote agricultural cooperation along the Belt and Road, Jianghuai Technology Horticulture Co., Ltd., a subsidiary of Syngenta Group China, has established cooperative relationships with scientific research institutions, enterprises and farmers in 18 Asian, African and Latin American countries and regions. These include Pakistan, Bangladesh, Vietnam, Costa Rica, Egypt, and so on.

mountain day to be observed on Dec 11

Int'l

ISLAMABAD: International Mountain Day, themed "Restoring mountain ecosystems", will be observed on December 11 across the world to highlight the significance of the mountains and their peoples' lifestyles. According to details, the United Nations General Assembly nominated December 11 as "International Mountain Day" in 2002. However, beyond their aesthetics, mountains play a crucial role in our planet's well-being, impacting global ecosystems, climate, and communities. This theme was selected to fully include mountains in the UN decade on ecosystem restoration 2021-2030, co-led by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN and the UN Environment Programme. The Decade is an opportunity to draw together political support, scientific research and financial resources to significantly scale up restoration and prevent further degradation of mountain ecosystems. It is pertinent to mention here, that mountains cover around 27 percent of the Earth's land surface and host about half of the world's biodiversity hotspots. -APP

Closure of shops wrong way to control smog, pollution countries, the focus must

DNA

of large vehicles which use ISLAMABAD: The official low quality fuel and emit trade body of the retail black smoke; cracking sector in the country has down on burning of waste opposed the closure of marand stopping factories that kets and shops in view of are polluting by burning controlling the rising smog, wood, tyres, etc. due to the as the government is trying absence of natural gas.", he to control mitigate air polpointed out. "Since the past lution by reducing commerone year, the retail timings cial activity. The Chairman are already restricted to 10 of the CAP Tariq Mehboob, PM as per the orders of addressing a ceremony the Court. For the past few observed that heavy transweeks, additional restrictions have been applied port, burning of waste and crop residue and non-comincluding late opening and pliant factories contribute full day closures which are to smog the most, not the resulting in huge losses to retail sector. No other counretail businesses and altry or region is shutting lied sectors, employment down markets to control air and tax generation", said pollution. As is the case in Tariq Mehboob, Chairman China and our neighboring CAP whilst speaking with

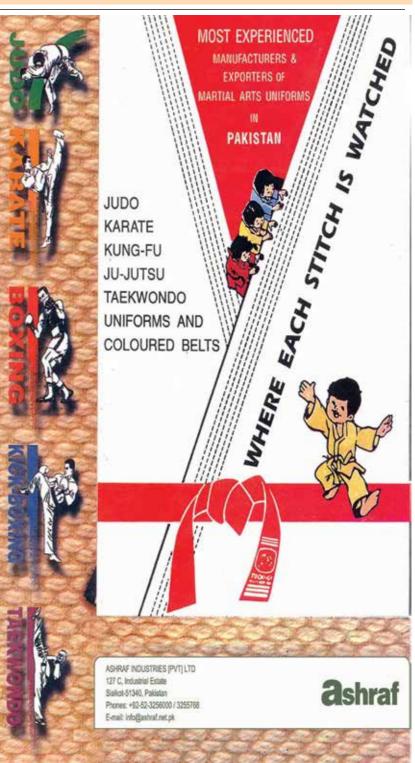
the media. Since the Covbe on controlling movement id-19 pandemic, shutting down retail has become the norm whenever any crisis emerges and it only has a superficial impact on the problem. Retailers have experienced over 30 prolonged bouts of restrictions on operating timings and days over the past four years, with compliant retailers being the worst affected every time. Less prominent markets seldom follow any restrictions imposed by government due to limited enforcement capacity, as per CAP. "Recently, ad-hoc changes to notifications have resulted in confusion and abrupt disruptions for our businesses and employees. Moreover, restaurants and other service

sectors have been allowed to remain open while shops must close, so movement of small vehicles still continues during closed period. We cannot support the closure of any commercial activity because it does not addressing the root causes of smog. Shutting down only one sector repeatedly will not create the desired results in smog reduction or electricity saving," stated Asad Shafi, Vice Chairman CAP. On this issue, Tariq Mehboob explained "implementation of that, full retail shutdown in 6 major divisions of Punjab on last Sunday has resulted in an extraordinary loss of Rs. 10 billion for retail businesses, the domestic supply chain and tax revenues.

center doorstep

IED to deploy facilitation

ISLAMABAD: In a bid to streamline vehicle registration processes and provide enhanced convenience to citizens, the Islamabad Excise Department (IED), will be deploying its Facilitation Center Doorstep ICT Vehicle at the Trail 3 parking lot today, from 3 pm-5 pm. The Director Excise and Taxation Islamabad Bilal Azam talking to APP said, "This initiative marks a significant step towards bringing essential services closer to the public, eliminating the need for lengthy commutes to the excise office." "The Doorstep ICT Vehicle will offer a comprehensive range of services, including vehicle registration, transfer, and token tax payment, along with the issuance of Domicile Certificates, Birth Certificates, Power of Attorney, International Driving Permits, and Fuel Permits (Domestic/Commercial)." "This move underscores the Islamabad Excise Department's commitment to facilitating citizens and promoting efficient service delivery. By bringing these services to the doorstep, the department aims to alleviate the burden on vehicle owners and streamline administrative processes," he added. According to Excise and Taxation authorities, "We encourage all citizens to take advantage of this convenient opportunity to register their vehicles, transfer ownership, pay token taxes, and avail other essential services at the Trail 3 parking lot today, from 3 pm-5 pm."



Gaza ceasefire: Sustain glimmer of hope

MID the horror of the last seven weeks, recent days have brought some de-gree of relief for many in Israel and Gaza. Hostages released by Hamas are deeply traumatised by their ordeal; many will face fresh despair as they learn that their friends and loved ones are dead, or as they attempt to come to terms with leaving fathers and husbands in captivity. Inhabitants of Gaza remain homeless, hungry, desperate, grieving and terrified by the prospect of death soon raining down upon them once more. And yet the ceasefire and releases have brought a faint glimmer of limited hope when previously there has seemed to be none. Qatar said on Wednesday afternoon that it was "very optimistic" that the ceasefire will be lengthened further. Hamas said it was willing to back a four-day extension, and Israeli officials indicated that it had enough hostages to cover two to three days more of releases, with an estimated total of 161 hostages held captive in Gaza. For Hamas, this time has allowed it to regroup, while the release of jailed Palestinians has boosted its support. However, almost as many Palestinians have been arrested as freed since the truce went into effect, including children, according to the Palestinian Prisoners Club. For Benjamin Netanyahu, the pause has indicated recognition of US concerns and addressed the fury of those lambasting the Israeli prime minister for not prioritising hostages. Prospects of extending the ceasefire beyond the weekend look a great deal bleaker. Future releases will be harder to negotiate. Hamas will seek to extract a far higher price for those remaining, overwhelmingly men, than it did for women and children, particularly when it comes to soldiers. The Palestinian prisoners proposed for release will not only be women and children, but men, some of whom may have committed serious crimes. Mr Netanyahu, knowing that his political survival is tied to continuance of this conflict, said in a video statement on Wednesday that he was "unequivocal" that the country would return to fighting, adding: "There is no situation in which we do not go back to fighting until the end.

No one suggests that it is easy for Israel to remove those who wreaked the horrors of 7 October. But its tactics to date have shown very limited success against Hamas, at unbearable civilian cost. The Israel Defense Forces estimate that they have killed between 1,000 and 2,000 Hamas fighters in the assault on Gaza. That is a fraction of its 30,000 or so total, and a tiny number set beside the total Palestinian death toll of about 15,000, almost half of them children, according to Gaza's health ministry, under Hamas control. With domestic political pressure growing, the Biden administration has made it clear that it opposes Israel extending that kind of campaign to the south, targeting people in the place it ordered them to flee to. With almost 2 million people packed into a smaller area, an even higher death toll might well result. Yet it is not hard to conceive of an Israeli offensive which, if not the all-out assault waged on northern Gaza, is still far from being a carefully targeted surgical strategy. Without an enduring ceasefire materialising, violence might fade only slowly and uncertainly. But there may be a few precious days left in which to advance towards a meaningful political process to end these hostilities. The last few days have shown that progress is possible. The last few weeks have shown that the alternative should be unthinkable.

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Friday, December 01, 2023

Opportunity for Tokyo to reflect on its actions

N the morning of August 6, 1945, a Boeing B-29 Superfortress bomber of the United States Army Air Forces dropped an atomic bomb on the Japanese city of Hiroshima. Three days later, the US dropped another atomic bomb on the city of Nagasaki. These were the first, and so far only, times nuclear weapons have been used in warfare. To those who defend the US' actions, the bombs were instrumental to securing Japan's unconditional surrender and the subsequent ending of World War II. Those who decry their use point to the immeasurable human suffering they caused. In Hiroshima, an estimated 80,000 people were killed as a direct result of the blast, and at least another 60,000 died by the end of the year from the effects of the fallout. At least, 70,000 are believed to have been killed in the Nagasaki bombing. For decades, the Genbaku Dome, or Hiroshima Peace Memorial, and the hibakusha, the surviving victims of the atomic bombings, have been reminders of the devastating potentials of nuclear weapons. Japan's Education Ministry on Tuesday announced it would recommend over 1,500 photographs and two videos taken after the bombing of Hiroshima for inclusion in UNESCO's Memory of the World Register. In a joint statement, the institutions that submitted the application said they "expect primary documents that transmit the horrors of war and the use of atomic weapons will be recognized throughout the world and used by various governments and citizens as they work toward never repeating such a mistake". It is up to the UNESCO Executive Board to decide whether these documents should be admitted into the Memory of the World Register in 2025, which would mark the 80th anniversary of the bombing of the two Japanese cities. Our collective memory needs such a reminder. With talk of the use of nuclear weapons tossed about recently in a seeming game of bluff and dare and some countries trying to neuter the nuclear nonproliferation regime, such a record testifying to the pressing need for nuclear arms control, if not complete elimination of such weapons of mass destruction, seems especially timely. But the Japanese government's push for the UNESCO Memory of the World Register to include those documents, worthwhile though it is, rings with suspicions of virtue signaling, at least to its neighbors, in light of some of its own actions. After all, while urging the rest of the world to remember the Japanese people's suffering as victims of the nuclear attacks, the Japanese government has generally been mute about the ordeals Japanese aggressors imposed on their victims during the same war. Until now, the Japanese government has yet to offer a formal apology to the victims, and Japanese politicians have made constant efforts to whitewash their country's WWII atrocities. More recently, the Japanese move to release nuclear-contaminated water into the ocean in open disregard of neighboring countries' concerns has raised further questions about the sanitized impression they want future generations to have of the country. With the horrific experiences of Hiroshima and Nagasaki to reflect on, Japanese politicians should be as aware as anyone of the damaging potential of nuclear contamination. Instead, they have turned a deaf ear to neighboring countries' pleas for prudence.

A complex alignment in the middle east

Dr. Muhammad Akram Zaheer



Both Turkey and Iran have ties to Hamas, but of different natures. Turkey does not consider Hamas a terrorist organization and supports it as part of its policy to defend the Palestinian cause. However, since 2020, Turkey has distanced itself from Arab Islamists, including Hamas, to improve relations with Arab states and Israel. On the other hand, Iran provides political, economic, and military support to Hamas. Besides their relationship with Hamas, Turkey and Iran share concerns about the American presence in Syria. Ankara opposes continued U.S. support for the Kurds in northern Syria, considering it an obstacle to curbing Kurdish autonomy

NHE unexpected attack on Israel by Hamas caused concern about a potential escalation of the Gaza conflict into a regional war. The U.S. commitment to the Middle East has raised worries in Turkey and Iran. Turkey's ruling Justice and Development Party (AKP) views unconditional U.S. support for Israel as an obstacle to de-escalation efforts, while Iran sees the United States as Israel's partner in the Gaza civilian massacre. Both countries fear that increased U.S. presence in the Middle East could harm their regional interests. Despite differing approaches to Hamas, both Ankara and Tehran have connections to the group. Turkey, unlike its Western allies, does not label Hamas as a terrorist organization. President Tayyab Erdogan sees Hamas as part of the Palestinian resistance, aligning with Turkey's policy to defend the Palestinian cause. However, Turkey has distanced itself from Arab Islamists, including Hamas, since 2020, aiming to improve relations with Arab states and Israel. In contrast, Iran provides political, economic, and military support to Hamas. Tehran seeks to capitalize on the changing regional dynamics and growing anti-Israel sentiment in the Muslim world. Iranian Foreign Minister Hussein Amir expressed Iran's readiness to play a role in the release of civilian hostages held by Hamas, aligning with Turkey and Qatar. Amid the Gaza conflict, Iranian and Turkish leaders held talks for dialogue and coordination. However, the limits of Turkey's influence on Israel and its ineffective attempts to mediate hostage negotiations with Hamas have become apparent. Hamas carried out a violent and unexpected attack on Israel on October 7, causing disruption in the Middle East. The United States responded by sending two aircraft carriers to the eastern Mediterranean, fearing an escalation of the Gaza conflict into a regional war. To reinforce defenses, 900 additional U.S. troops were deployed to the U.S. Central Command area of operations due to increased attacks by Iran-linked militias in the region. The renewed U.S. commitment to the Middle East has raised concerns in Turkey and Iran. Turkey's leadership sees unconditional U.S. support for Israel as a hindrance to de-escalation efforts, while Iran views the United States as Israel's "undeniable partner" in the Gaza civilian casualties. Both Ankara and Teh-

ran fear that a strong American presence in the Middle East will negatively impact their regional interests. The Gaza conflict has the potential to bring Turkey and Iran closer due to their shared objections to the U.S.-led regional and global order. However, there are limits to a lasting alliance between the two countries.

Both Turkey and Iran have ties to Hamas, but of different natures. Turkey does not consider Hamas a terrorist organization and supports it as part of its policy to defend the Palestinian cause. However, since 2020, Turkey has distanced itself from Arab Islamists, including Hamas, to improve relations with Arab states and Israel. On the other hand, Iran provides political, economic, and military support to Hamas. Besides their relationship with Hamas, Turkey and Iran share concerns about the American presence in Syria. Ankara opposes continued U.S. support for the Kurds in northern Syria, considering it an obstacle to curbing Kurdish autonomy. Iran aims to challenge the U.S. presence in Syria to remove American forces from the region. There are attempts by Iran and Russia to mediate between Damascus and Ankara regarding Syria, although no concrete results have been achieved. Additionally, in the South Caucasus, despite differences between Iran and Turkey, there are signs of potential collaboration, such as Iran's acceptance of the 3+3 initiative proposed by Turkey. Ankara and Tehran also coincide in their perceptions of the changing world order. Both question the coherence and effectiveness of Western institutions and advocate for a more equal international order. Turkey criticizes the structure of the UN Security Council and has disrupted NATO, while Iran seeks to strengthen ties with emerging powers, such as its strategic partnership with China and membership in the SCO and BRICS. Both countries aim to break away from Western-dominated international structures. For Tehran and Ankara, the events following October 7 seem to have created an opportunity that supports their assumptions and revisionist efforts. The belief in Israel's invincible military and intelligence has been shattered. This has also impacted the U.S. government's attempts to restore regional order by promoting normalization between Arab countries and Israel, at least in the short term. Many in the Global South are frustrated with the strong and unconditional support that the U.S. and the EU offer to Israel. Israel's refusal to issue visas to UN offi-

cials, despite indirect criticism from the UN chief, reinforces the view of Ankara and Tehran that the international body is dysfunctional. This situation could lead to closer cooperation among different reformist actors. For instance, on October 26, Hamas leaders visited Moscow, and Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister Ali Bagheri met with a Hamas delegation on the same day. Turkish Foreign Minister, mentioning Turkey's proposed "guarantee formula," urged China and Russia, as members of the United Nations Security Council, to contribute to a peaceful solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. However, there are limits to the emergence of a "reform axis." Firstly, Turkey is a NATO member. Despite events in Gaza, President Erdogan surprised many by approving Sweden's NATO membership and sending the bill to the Turkish parliament for ratification. NATO membership allows Turkey flexibility in balancing its relations between Western allies and Russia. Unlike Iran's revolutionary stance, Turkey's revisionism is more reformists. Ankara also sees Tehran's nonstate allies as potential threats in Syria and Iraq. As the Gaza conflict continues, the shared concern about the United States' return to the Middle East might overshadow the competing interests of Tehran and Ankara, potentially preventing a clash between their regional policies. Both actors aim to reshape their common neighborhood, capitalizing on the current state of world politics after the conflicts in Ukraine and Gaza. However, once a new order emerges, their historical competition for strategic dominance in areas like Iraq and Syria may resurface. Furthermore, the commitment of other revisionist actors is uncertain. Russia may benefit from increased cooperation between Turkey and Iran, seeking to sideline Western actors, but the sustainability of this remains unclear. Despite Russia's current controversial stance against Israel, there's no evidence yet that Moscow intends to completely change its long-term policy towards Israel. China may find Iran-Turkey relationship useful but will likely proceed cautiously, considering its relations with the Gulf States. Iranian and Turkish interests seem increasingly aligned against Israel's actions and the resurgence of a U.S.-led regional order, their historical competition and various forms of global revisionism suggest that any emerging alliance between them may be weak and potentially stressful in the medium to long term.

World needs to come up with key climate roadmap at COP28

Andrew Hammond

The EU has doubled down on its hugely ambitious European Green Deal and is still cutting its emissions overall The EU's "State of the Energy Union Report 2023" highlights how the REPowerEU plan and emergency legislative measures have also helped to promote renewable energies. Moreover, EU-

wide greenhouse gas emissions are estimated to have fallen by about

3 percent last year. At COP28, the EU is encouraging all parties to agree on global energy goals to deliver on three objectives HE high-profile COP28 climate summit opened in Dubai on Thursday, although key leaders like US President Joe Biden and China's Xi Jinping will not be attending. One of the other world powers that will help fill this vacuum is Europe, which sees the Middle Eastern event as critical for meeting the goals of the 2015 Paris Agreement. EU leaders, including European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and European Council President Charles Michel, will be out in force at the big event. This reflects the fact that Europe has a huge stake in the summit. Firstly, the EU has become one of the big three players in climate negotiations, partly through the power of example, as the bloc has slashed its greenhouse gas emissions by about a third compared to 1990.

Secondly, the EU has been an early and influential mover on green innovation, including developing the world's first carbon market in 2005. One of the key announcements that it is expected to make at COP28 is a new international "Critical Raw Materials Club," following the finalization of the EU Critical Raw Materials Act. Thirdly, Europe is feeling the effects of existing climate trends. The continent has warmed more than twice as much as the rest of the world over the past three decades and has experienced the greatest temperature increase of any continent, according to the World Meteorological Organization. From 1991 to 2021, Europe warmed at an average of 0.5 degrees Celsius per decade, the organization reported, while the global average was 0.2 C.

One reason Europe is warming so fast is that a significant part of the continent is sub-Arctic and Arctic, Earth's fastest-warming region. It is also experiencing changes in so-called climate feedbacks. For example, fewer clouds over Europe during summers means more sunlight and heat.

While Europe has long been a leader on tackling climate change, many had speculated that its ambition might be tempered by the twin shocks it has suffered since 2020: Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the COV-ID-19 pandemic. The impact of these has been huge, elevating the urgency of the EU's energy security. This has seen a big effort put into the striking of about 120 energy deals with other powers, mainly in the Middle East. These agreements have mainly focused on new gas and liquefied natural gas supplies as a transitional source in the movement toward clean energies. Given this new investment in gas, Europe's decarbonization pathway will be complicated in the coming years. However, the EU has nonetheless doubled down on its hugely ambitious European Green Deal and is still cutting its emissions overall.

The EU has doubled down on its hugely ambitious European Green Deal and is still cutting its emissions overall The EU's "State of the Energy Union Report 2023" highlights how the REPowerEU plan and emergency legislative measures have also helped to promote renewable energies. Moreover, EU-wide greenhouse gas emissions are estimated to have fallen by about 3 percent last year.

At COP28, the EU is encouraging all parties to agree on global energy goals to deliver on three objectives. Firstly, tackling the unabated use of fossil fuels globally by making sure that consumption peaks before 2030 and phasing out subsidies that do not help achieve a just transition. Secondly, moving toward a fully or predominantly decarbonized global power system in the 2030s, leaving no room for new coal power. Finally, tripling global installed renewable energy capacity by 2030 and doubling the rate of energy efficiency improvements by 2030.

Europe is encouraging such lofty ambitions because of the current challenges facing climate diplomacy. This includes the dark geopolitical context following the pandemic and Russia's invasion of Ukraine. There are also the strains between the Global North and Global South on climate issues. This has shifted mindsets, at least temporarily, in much of the world, making it more difficult to envision a repeat of the kind of broad international agreement that was sealed at the Paris summit in 2015.

And this is despite the warnings from the UN in a major report in September that the world is way off track in its efforts to tackle climate change. This study asserted that the planet remains headed for a temperature rise of up to 2.6 C and must take urgent action. In this context, Dubai is unlikely to see a series of big new national climate pledges being made. In what may be a challenging conference, one key goal is to create a roadmap for the second half of the 2020s, which Biden has called the "decisive decade" for humanity to tackle global warming.

While there are many short-term challenges, there is some room for longer-term optimism. For instance, a September International Energy Agency report found that a small "window of opportunity" remains for keeping the landmark Paris Agreement alive because of a remarkable growth in clean power. However, as positive as this may be, the IEA highlighted that stronger measures will be required in the second half of the 2020s if the world is to have any chance of delivering on the 1.5 C target. If the international community fails to grow clean energy fast enough, the world body warned that measures such as carbon capture and storage will be required at scale, despite so far being unproven for use in this vast way. Key climate stakeholders are therefore seeking to develop a post-COP28 roadmap into the second half of the 2020s, including stronger climate deal implementation through national laws to make delivery most effective. As Europe has shown, these frameworks could then be replicated in more countries and progressively ratcheted up as climate ambition increases, helping to create what could yet be a key foundation for sustainable development in future decades.

06

WORLD / SPORTS

Islamabad POST Friday, December 01, 2023

Briefs Justice Naqvi moves Supreme...

FROM PAGE 01

the notice, the SJC did not consider his request for the reconstitution of the forum as he had appealed in an earlier petition. "The Revised showcause notice is also contrary to the consistent practice followed by the SJC. When proceedings of the SJC are challenged before the Supreme Court of Pakistan, the SJC has not proceeded with the matter further till the matter is decided by the Supreme Court of Pakistan. This procedure was followed in the case of Hon'ble Mr. Justice Shaukat Aziz Siddiqui and Hon'ble Mr. Justice Qazi-Faez Isa, now Chief Justice of Pakistan. In view of this practice, the Petitioner sought stay of the proceedings of SJC vide application dated 22.11.2023. No order has been passed on this application," said the petition.

Imran asks CJP to ensure...

FROM PAGE 01 the past. Often several FIRs are registered against persons affiliated with the PTI with respect to the same event. The same persons are also implicated in successive FIRs with respect to different and unrelated events all across the country," the letter read. The former premier, who is incarcerated in Adiala jail in cipher and corruption case, said that several women arrested in the light of the May 9 events have remained imprisoned for nearly six months. The letter drew the CJP's attention towards the PTI's petitions that moved the provincial high courts against such arrests and registration of cases in "undisclosed" FIRs but "the unfavourable observations of a bench of the apex court" disabled the high courts from preserving the PTI leaders and activists' right to liberty.

Gaza:

PCB reveals schedule of National T20 super 8

Super eight stage of National T20 Cup 2023-24 to commence today

OUR CORRESPONDENTS

KARACHI: The Super Eight stage of the National T20 Cup 2023-24 is scheduled to be played from 1 to 8 December 2023 at three venues across Karachi - National Bank Stadium, UBL Sports Complex and NBP Sports Complex. All matches played at National Bank Stadium will be broadcasted on PTV Sports and ARY ZAP in Pakistan and live-streamed on YouTube in overseas territories. The eight teams progressing from the group stage will be facing each other in a round-robin format, playing seven games each. The top four teams will then play the semi-finals, scheduled for 9 December at National Bank Stadium. The final will also be played at the same venue on 10 December. Pakistan Cricket Board has also announced free entry for spectators for the matches scheduled at National Bank Stadium. Three enclosures - Hanif Mohammad, Javed Miandad and Fazal Mahmood - will be accessible to the spectators. The teams that have qualified for the Super Eight include: Peshawar and Lahore Whites from Group A, Lahore Blues and Karachi Whites from Group B, Rawalpindi and Abbottabad from Group C, and



D.Lahore Whites' right-handed batter Ahmed Shehzad has been the leading run-scorer in the tournament thus far. The 32-year-old produced three consecutive half-centuries and accumulated 213 runs from three matches. Rawalpindi's Zeeshan Malik and Peshawar's Sahibzada Farhan are the two centurions of the tournament up till now. Umair Afridi, Islamabad's leftarm pacer, has the most wickets in the tournament so far. In four matches, the 26-year-old has taken 12 wickets. However, Is-

lamabad failed to qualify for the Super Eight stage.

Amongst the teams that have progressed ahead, Karachi Whites' leg spinner Arif Yaqoob has the most wickets with a tally of nine scalps at 10.44, including a four-wicket haul. His fellow teammate, right-arm pacer Sohail Khan has the best bowling figures of the tournament so far with 5-10, which came against Hyderabad. Hyderabad's Akbar Khan has been the most successful wicket-keeper in the tournament till now, bagging a total of seven dismissals including four catches and three stumpings.

Karachi Whites' Asad Shafiq has been the most successful fielder with six catches in four matches. Four matches have been scheduled for each day of the Super Eight stage, while there will be no play on 5 December. The afternoon games that are being broadcast will start at 1500 PKT, with the toss conducted at 1430 PKT.

Toss for evening games will take place at 1930 PKT and the first ball will be bowled at 2000 PKT.

Director - Domestic Cricket Operations, Nadeem Khan: "The National T20 Cup has seen multiple close games so far which reflects the competitive cricket on display in our revised domestic structure. We hope that the quality of cricket will only improve as we head into the Super Eight stage. "All eight teams that have qualified ahead are exciting to watch. We are looking forward to seeing how the rest of the tournament pans out, with the title at stake, which all eight captains must be eying. The fight for the trophy will be very interesting

as each team has a solid chance at

getting to and winning the final."

which boasts the world's tallest skyscraper, one of its busiest airports, and an indoor ski slope. Double the size of last year's conference, COP28 is billed as the largest-ever climate gathering and the UN and hosts the UAE say they will be the most important since Paris 2015. There, nations agreed to limit global warming to well below 2 degrees Celsius since the pre-industrial era, and preferably to a safer limit of 1.5C. But scientists say the world is off-track, and the nearly 200 nations gathering for COP28 must commit to accelerating climate action or risk the worst impacts of a warming planet. UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres said leaders should aim for a complete "phaseout" of fossil fuels, a proposal opposed by some

climate 'loss

& damage' fund...

FROM PAGE 01

dogged past negotiations. Bilawal Bhutto toes father's...

powerful nations that has

FROM PAGE 01 addressing a public rally held to mark the PPP's 56th foundation day in Quetta. Bilawal said his party wanted to promote a style of politics under which there is no rival party of the PPP. "PPP is fighting against inflation and poverty due to which people are suffering. The old style of politics is based on hatred, division, and revenge. The country's youth needs to bury such politics," the PPP chief added. The PPP chief apparently lowered his rhetoric against his rivals in his first public interaction since his father Asif Ali Zardari's interview wherein the top PPP leader termed his son "inexperienced" while expressing displeasure over his tirade against the elder politicians.

PTI left Pakistan on brink...

FROM PAGE 01 vber Pakhtunkhwa, un derscoring the pressing requirements and advocating for radical reforms. While expressing concern over the province's economic situation, Ms Nawaz deplored the decline of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa over the past decade, attributing it to alleged mismanagement and corruption. She denounced projects like the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) and Billion Tree Tsunami, labeling them as emblematic of corruption and a plundering of resources.





MS trade Rilee to snap Iftikhar Ahmed from QG

"By virtue of this player trade, Karachi Kings have received Islamabad United's first-round silver pick in exchange for their second-round silver pick," the PSL had confirmed in a statement

LAHORE: In a surprising move, the Quetta Gladiators have traded Iftikhar Ahmed in replacement of Rilee Rossouw from the Multan Sultans for the upcoming Pakistan Super League season 9. The Sultans in a statement, while confirming the trade, shared that under the deal they also get

the first pick in the platinum round and the first Silver category

pick. "Sultans, #IftiMania aapki team mein araha hay!" said Ift-

ikhar while referring to the moniker adopted by him. He added

that he was delighted to become a Sultan and represent the

fans of Multan whose "passion for this game is second to none".

"Multan Sultans have evolved into a strong team and their re-

cord in the last three seasons speak for itself. Now, it is my ambi-

Intense diplomatic...

FROM PAGE 01 We have no clothes or blankets, sitting in the rain." Hamas member Mohammad Nazzal has told media that Israeli authorities refused to take back three bodies of captives who were killed in Israeli air raids. "We are ready to deliver the bodies of Israeli prisoners but the Israeli authorities refused to take their bodies," he said. He added that Hamas has been trying to reach a permanent ceasefire, but Israeli authorities have so far refused. "I think there are divisions inside the leadership of Israel - political and military establishments. Until this moment, they haven't decided whether they are ready to stop the war or continue the war," Nazzal added.

2 Palestinians martyred in Jerusalem...

FROM PAGE 01 Mirdawi has applauded the shooting operation in Jerusalem as a "heroic act" and a "natural response to the Israeli war crimes in Gaza and the killing of two children in Jerusalem on Wednesday.' "This response is a clear message to the occupation that its crimes will not go unpunished and that our people do not forget their martyrs' blood and the agonies of the wounded, the prisoners and the displaced," Mirdawi said in press remarks. A Palestinian young man was killed and four others were injured at dawn Thursday during clashes between local youths and IOF near the Ofer jail in Beitunia town, west of Ramallah. Medical sources said that 21-year-old FadiBadran died of a bullet injury in his chest and four others were injured during skirmishes with Israeli forces outside the Ofer iail. Local sources said that the clashes started after the IOF embarked on dispersing the citizens who were waiting for the release of Palestinian prisoners from the jail as part of the humanitarian truce deal in Gaza, adding that the clashes escalated after Israeli forces stormed nearby neigh borhoods in Beitunia town.

KAMPALA : Uganda is set During the qualifiers, Uganto become just the fifth Afda began by comfortably rican nation to participate defeating Tanzania with an in an ICC Men's T20 World eight-wicket margin in their Cup.With a tally of five opening match. However, a victories from six matchremarkable performance by es. Uganda has secured a Namibian all-rounder David top-two placement in the Wiese, claiming 4/17, led to ICC Men's T20 World Cup Uganda's six-wicket loss in Africa Region Qualifier, the subsequent game. The securing their passage to African team bounced back the T20 World Cup 2024 impressively by triumphing in the West Indies and the over Test-playing Zimbabwe USA. This marks Uganda's by five wickets. While captain Sikandar Raza's unbeaten 48 inaugural appearance in any ICC World Cup event. shone for his team, Ugan-

da's bowling, spearheaded by Dinesh Nakrani (3/14), restricted the Chevrons to 136/7. In their pursuit, Riazat Ali Shah (42) and Alpesh Ramjani (40) guided the Cricket Cranes to a surprising victory, clinching it with five wickets in hand. Buoyed by this success, Uganda easily conquered Nigeria, following it up with a 33-run win over Kenya, positioning themselves strongly for the T20 World Cup. They sealed their

spot with a comfortable nine-wicket win over Rwanda, showcasing exceptional bowling that dismissed Rwanda for a mere 65. The target was chased down by the ninth over. Conversely, Zimbabwe, experiencing defeats against Namibia and Uganda, missed out on qualifying for the T20 event. The team had participated in the prior edition of the tournament, securing a memorable one-run win over Pakistan.-Agencies

tion to help them bag the prestigious PSL trophy," said Iftikhar. Multan skipper Mohammad Rizwan expressed his excitement to welcome the player who he believes brings "outstanding allround skills". "It was not only his on-field skills that made us finalise this trade, but he is also a brilliant team player who uplifts dressing rooms with his presence. We are eager to put together a set of players whose skills are in sync with our positive, bold and aggressive brand of cricket," said Rizwan. Rossouw's trade to Quetta also means that the player is returning back to the franchise from which he made his PSL debut. This is the second trade confirmed in PSL ahead of the draft scheduled to take place on December 13. A day earlier, Imad Wasim was traded by the Karachi Kings for Hassan Ali from Islamabad United. Wasim, who guided Karachi to their maiden PSL title in the fifth edition, has been taken by United under the Platinum category. While, Hassan, who represented Islamabad in the last season, will play for the Karachi Kings under the Diamond category. "By virtue of this player trade, Karachi Kings have received Islamabad United's first-round silver pick in exchange for their second-round silver pick," the PSL had confirmed in a statement.-DNA

Afghan Taliban say killed...

FROM PAGE 01

ISKP leader and ISKP head for Central Zone, the ISKP's governor for Laghman province, ISKP's head for Nimroz province as well as the ISKP head for migration department. The operation by the Afghan Taliban commenced during Pakistan and Afghanistan's negotiations regarding the tackling of the threats posed by the banned Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) after a high-level delegation led by the country's former defence minister, Khawaja Asif visited Kabul on February 2023. The visit had come after terrorist attacks in Peshawar Police Lines and Karachi Police Office earlier this year compelled Pakistani authorities to reach out to the Afghan Taliban.

French embassy launches...

FROM PAGE 01 champion and support climate actions led by women, elevating their work and acknowledging their dedication. This award represents a significant stride towards fostering ambition, ownership, and advancement opportunities for women in the climate action space. The call for submissions is open nationwide across three categories: Climate Action, Young Climate Journalism. and Green Enterprise, Following a rigorous screening and interview process, one winner will be selected by the jury from each category.

Sevilla crash out of Champions League The Dutch side silenced Sevilla's Ramon Sanchez-Piziuan stadium as Ismael Saibari volleve

The Dutch side silenced Sevilla's Ramon Sanchez-Pizjuan stadium as Ismael Saibari volleyed home for the visitors and then Nemanja Gudelj bundled into his own net

SPORTS DESK

SEVILLE : Sevilla crashed out of the Champions League , throwing away a two-goal lead in a 3-2 defeat by PSV Eindhoven. Leading through goals from Sergio Ramos and Youssef En-Nesyri, Sevilla winger Lucas Ocampos was sent off for two bookings in four minutes and it opened the door for PSV's fightback.

The Dutch side silenced Sevilla's Ramon Sanchez-Pizjuan stadium as Ismael Saibari volleyed home for the visitors and then Nemanja Gudelj bundled into his own net. United States forward Ricardo Pepi headed home the winner in stoppage time to end Sevilla's hopes of reaching the last 16.

PSV's win leaves them second, a point behind Group B leaders Arsenal, who face Lens, third, later Wednesday. Seven-time Europa League winners Sevilla could still qualify for that competition, if Arsenal beat Lens and then Sevilla do the same in the final group match. Sevilla have not won a single game under coach Diego Alonso in the Champions League or La Liga they have suffered four defeats and four draws since he took over in October. "The Champions League is different, it's decided by small details," Ramos told Movistar. "We dominated, we had the result in our favour and ending up with

one man less killed us." Sevilla fans were left furious at full-time after their team snatched defeat from the jaws of victory. "It's hard to talk in this moment, the best way is by getting results and we're not doing that," added Ramos. "I

ninth in the all-time list. The veteran centre-back, 37, celebrated with a goal to break the deadlock, converting from close range after Ivan Rakitic's free-kick found its way through to him at the back post. It was Ramos's first goal for ed against the bar before half-time as Alonso's side played with a confidence they have not displayed in recent weeks. The Moroccan striker netted Sevilla's second early in the second half with a neat flicked finish over goalkeeper Walter Benitez

tacular volley from Sergino Dest's cross, putting the hosts against the ropes. Vertessen forced the equaliser with his cross turned clumsily into his own net by Gudelj, leaving Sevilla clinging on for a point as the clock ticked



understand the anger of the fans, we have to keep looking forward and thinking about the next game." The night had begun so positively for Sevilla. Ramos started his 141st Champions League match, equalling Manchester United legend Ryan Giggs in

Sevilla after rejoining his former club from Paris Saint-Germain this summer. The lead was just reward for a strong start by Sevilla and they continued to dominate the match, with Djibril Sow netting a second, but it was disallowed for a handball earlier in the move. En-Nesyri head-

after running on to Marcos Acuna's long ball. Sevilla were cruising, but winger Ocampos was sent off for two bookings in four minutes, the second for crashing into Yorbe Vertessen, giving PSV hope. Two minutes later Saibari pulled them back into the game with a spec-

down. They could not even claim that, with 20-year-old striker Pepi's header from Vertessen's cross sealing their fate. "It's such a shame because you get to enjoy this competition on so few occasions," added Ramos. "The team loses out on a lot today."

07

BUSINESS / WORLD

Briefs TRT World Forum 2023 launches countdown

ANKARA :TRT World Fo rum 2023, to be held in Istanbul on December 8-9 this year, is preparing to bring together academics. journalists, politicians, and civil society organizations from around the world for the 7th time under the theme Growing Together: Responsibilities. Actions. and Solutions. The countdown has begun for the TRT World Forum 2023, with preparations underway for approximately one year. The grand event, scheduled to take place in Istanbul on Dec. 8-9, will bring together significant figures from around the world. The forum, which has brought together more than 8,500 guests and 651 speakers from many countries so far, will shed light on the world's agenda this year as well. With the participation of 153 speakers consisting of academics, politicians civil society workers, think tank experts, bureaucrats, and journalists from different parts of the world, the event will address global priorities and agendas, defining both global and regional issues. This year's 7th edition, themed Growing Together: Responsibilities. Actions. and Solutions. aims to be an international conference that discusses and proposes solutions to global problems, defining global and regional priorities and agendas. President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, who has been making impactful statements on the agenda of Türkiye and the world by participating in all TRT World Forums held since 2017, will also attend this year's forum. The event, starting with President Erdogan's opening speech, will feature Vice President Cevdet Yilmaz and ministers making significant statements on various top-

Russian missile strikes injure ten in east

ics.-Agencies

US charges Indian man in foiled hit on Sikh activist The allegations echo a similar claim made by Canada over the June killing of a different



IslamabadPOST

DNA BAMAKO : Mali's mili-

News Desk

WASHINGTON :The US Justice Department unveiled charges on Wednesday against a man they say planned to assassinate a Sikh separatist leader on American soil earlier this year under the direction of an Indian official.

The allegations echo a similar claim made by Canada over the June killing of a different Sikh separatist leader near Vancouver which led to a major diplomatic flareup between Ottawa and New Delhi According to the Justice Department, Indian national Nikhil Gupta was arrested on June 30 – just over a week after Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's state visit to Washington. Gupta, 52, has been charged "in connection with his participation in a foiled

of Indian origin in New York, the Justice Department said. The statement further described his target as "a vocal critic of the Indian government" who "leads a US-based organization that advocates for the secession of Punjab," a northern Indian state with a large population of Sikhs. The Financial Times, which reported the alleged assassination plot last week, identified Gupta's target as US-Canadian citizen Gurpatwant Singh Pannun. He is a leader of Sikhs for Justice, a US-based group that is part of a movement calling for an independent Sikh state called Khalistan. After the Financial Times report, the White House said last week it was treating the alleged plot with "utmost seriousness" and had raised the issue with the Indian government. The Justice Department further

plot to assassinate a US citizen"

alleged on Wednesday that an unidentified "Indian government agency employee who has variously described himself as a 'Senior Field Officer' with responsibilities in 'Security Management' and 'Intelligence'" hired Gupta to orchestrate the killing. Gupta, who lives in India, was arrested by authorities in the Czech Republic under US extradition orders

Sikh separatist leader near Vancouver which led to a major diplomatic flare up

Pannun's organization is banned in India, and he is designated as a "terrorist" by New Delhi. The Justice Department said Gupta had been recruited into the assassination effort in May 2023 and that his June 30 arrest came after he sought to hire a hitman who was actually an undercover US agent. The unnamed Indian government employee "agreed in dealings brokered by Gupta" to pay the undercover agent \$100,000 for the killing, accord-

ing to US authorities. Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau in September linked New Delhi to the killing of Canadian citizen Hardeep Singh Nijjar, also a Sikh separatist, on June 18. The allegations sparked a fierce diplomatic row in the following weeks, with dozens of Canadian diplomats leaving India and New Delhi temporarily suspending visa issuances to Canadians.

Nijjar was also wanted by Indian authorities for alleged terrorism offenses and conspiracy to commit murder, which he had denied to Canadian media.

The Justice Department said that after Nijjar's killing, Gupta told undercover US agents that there was "now no need to wait" on killing the New York City target. In addition, Gupta allegedly said that Nijjar "was also the target," and that they were just two of "many targets." Gupta had earlier that month cautioned the hitman not to commit the murder around the time of "scheduled to occur in the ensuing weeks between high-level US and Indian government officials," the Justice Department said.

Modi was hosted by President Joe Biden for a state visit at the White House on June 22.

An Indian government spokesman on Wednesday said that the United States has "shared some inputs pertaining to nexus between organized criminals, gun runners, terrorists and others." "We had also indicated that India takes such inputs seriously since they impinge on our national security interests," the statement said, adding that a "high-level Enquiry Committee" was established on November 18 "to look into all the relevant aspects of the matter.

tary government has announced an investigation into the Tuareg rebel leaders who signed a peace agreement in 2015 and now accuse the government of failing to comply with it, as experts worry that the deal crucial to establishing a measure of stability in the country's north is collapsing. The public prosecutor at the Bamako Court of Appeal on Tuesday ordered the

probe into the rebel leaders who at times have sought to create the independent state of Azawad and have attacked Mali's security forces in recent months. The government of the West African nation has referred to the rebels as a "terrorist group." The developments could mean more violence in a region already under threat from fighters linked to al Qaeda and where both UN peacekeepers and French forces have withdrawn in recent months. The Tuareg rebellion in Mali's north has been a source of conflict

Somalia floods displace over a million

for decades.

MOGADISHU : More than a million people have been displaced in Somalia after the country was hit by severe flooding caused by torrential rains, the Somali president said. Somalia and its Horn of Africa neighbours Kenya and Ethiopia are battling flash floods caused by heavy rainfall linked to the El Nino weather pattern. The floods are exacerbating the humanitarian crisis in the region just as it emerges from the worst drought in four decades that left millions of people hungry. "My brothers, our country is in a critical state and our people have been affected by

Cyprus question could block progress for Brussels, Ankara

geopolitical realities, sanc-

WEB DESKS added to the report. With ANKARA : The European accession talks stalled for Union published a critical vears. this report explores report on the state of bilathow ties can be advanced in eral political, economic and different areas - most imtrade relations with Türkiportantly in visa liberalizaye. The report is important tion, updating the customs in stating a political will for union and the migration isthe continuation of a posisue. Moreover, it suggests tive agenda after ties have a further engagement with been locked in a stalemate Ankara in areas of mutufor years. However, issues al interest, such as trade, such as the Cyprus quesinvestments, connectivity, tion may render the progreen and digital transition cess fragile. Ties between and energy. On the other Ankara and Brussels have hand, it also underlined had their ups and downs that this engagement is "reever since they signed an versible." Now it remains association agreement in to be seen whether the 1964. Areas of disagreecommission's recommenment include the Eastern dations in the report will Mediterranean, the Cyprus be accepted by the council, question, Türkiye's role in which is to meet in mid-De-Syria, the migrant crisis cember. The commission and the stalemate in the hailed the constructive accession process. More stance in the Eastern Medrecently as a result of new

tension with EU member tions against Russia, as well as the Israeli-Palestin-Greece; yet the language concerning the issue was ian conflict have also been clearly pro-Greece, ignoring Türkiye's theses on rights in the common seas between the two neighbors. In terms of alignment in the broader region, the report highlighted that Ankara's policies are at odds with EU security and foreign policies, and that alignment was about 10%. Ankara's efforts for the grain initiative and mediation between Ukraine and Russia were an issue of praise whereas trade ties with Moscow, Sweden's halted NATO bid and contact with the Bashar Assad regime in Syria were deemed negative aspects. The issue of visa obtainments by Turkish citizens has frustrated Ankara in recent years. The lengthy processing times and a significant increase in rejection rates of Turks' iterranean after years of applications for visas to the

live peacefully side by side.

27 Schengen countries have

disrupted travel and business plans. The message of the report here is that visa liberalization, which is linked to the remaining chapters, is to remain a long-term goal while it suggested promoting "visa facilitation" in the meantime to address the current bothers. On the modernization of the customs union, the report urges "addressing trade irritants, to cooperate with us on preventing circumvention of sanctions against Russia and creating a climate conducive to the resumption of Cyprus settlement talks." Here, and in the greater EU-Türkiye process, the Cyprus question constitutes a continuing impediment. The two sides have strong disagreements and views on the issue. While Ankara is advocating a two-

state system in which the island's two communities can

Turkish parliamentary speaker decries rise of fascism in Europe

STOCKHOLM : As the Turkish Parliament weighs ratification of Sweden's NATO membership bid, an opposition party leader in the Nordic country drew ire for his call for the closure of mosques. Parliament Speaker Numan Kurtulmuş denounced the call on Thursday and lamented the rise of fascism in the continent. Europe is distancing itself from its founding values," he told the media reporters "We see too many cases of racism, anti-Muslim sentiment and xenophobia," he said. Sweden Democrats (SD) leader Jimmie Akesson called for some mosques to be seized and leveled during a speech at his annual party conference on Saturday. "We need to start confiscating and tearing down mosques where anti-democratic, anti-Swedish, homophobic, anti-Semitic propaganda or general disinformation is being spread," Akesson said. Akesson's speech sparked anger both in Sweden and abroad, and forced Prime Minister Ulf Kristersson to issue a statement on X, formerly Twitter, reiterating Sweden's "constitutional right to freedom of religion." "You brag about the multicultural basis of Europe, but then you call for the closure of mosques. This is ridiculous and none of your business," Kurtulmuş said. "I am worried for Europe for the rise of this fascist, racist policy. One day, Europe will have to turn to Türkiye for humanitarian values. This fascist, autocratic mindset currently targets Muslims and those they deem 'others' but maybe some time in the future, it will attack Europeans advocating for more democratic values, too. This is an alarming situation for Europe," Kristersson said. On Parliament's ratification of Sweden's NATO membership, Kurtulmuş said Türkiye expected Sweden to fulfill its responsibilities and noted some "positive steps taken."-APP

Ukraine

MOSCOW : Ukraine has said that 10 people including a toddler were injured by simultaneous Russian strikes on three towns in the eastern Donetsk region, with five more missing under rubble. Ukraine's Interior Minister Igor Klymenko said Russian forces fired six S-300 rockets on Pokrovsk, Novogrodivka and Myrnograd. "As a result of shelling, 10 people were injured, including four children. Five more people are being searched (for) under the rubble," he said on social media. In Pokrovsk, Klymenko said the six-month-old baby was wounded alongside boys of 13 and 16. "One of the shells exploded in the yard of a house where a family with two children lived. As a result of the shelling, the roof and walls of the house were destroyed, and the family was buried under the rubble," he added. Ukraine air defence shot down 14 out of 20 drones in a Russian overnight strike, the nation's air force said.-APP

Google commits \$73.6m annually to Canadian publishers

OTTAWA: Canada and Google have reached an agreement for the internet giant to pay 100 million Canadian dollars (\$73.6 million) annually to news publishers in the country and to maintain news content in search results, Canadian official. The deal resolves Alphabet-owned Google's concerns over Canada's online news law that seeks to make large internet companies share advertising revenue with news publishers in the country. "Following weeks of productive discussions, I am happy to announce that we have found a path forward with Google for the implementation of the Online News Act," Heritage Minister Pascale St-Onge said in a statement. Canada's Online News Act, part of a global trend to make internet giants pay for news, passed in June and the government is finalizing rules that are expected to be released by a Dec. 19 deadline. Google confirmed that Ottawa had committed to addressing its core issues and that news will continue to be available on its platforms in Canada. Google had previously said it would block news on its platform, saying Canada's law was more stringent than the ones in Europe and Australia, and raised concerns about the company being exposed to potentially uncapped liability. Meta Platforms, the other internet giant that is a target of the law, has already blocked news sharing on Facebook and Instagram over its concerns about the law. St-Onge said the deal with Google shows that the new law works, and called on Facebook to explain its decision to block news sharing in Canada. She added Canada would be able to reopen the agreement with Google in the future if there are better agreements reached anywhere else in the world. Last month, Google reached an agreement to pay a group of German publishers 3.2 million euros (\$3.5 million) a year for its publication of their news content. - Agencies



TASHKENT: Uzbekistan's former Ambassador of Pakistan Furqat Sidikov posing for a family picture on the occasion of wedding of his daughter. Furgat is currently Uzbek ambassador to the United States.-DNA

A catchy eye of Pehli Kiran school

DUA FATIMA



Unprivileged communities are defined to state the society of its original form of undeveloped columns. Inflations cause and effect are just interconnected with undeveloped literacy rate within these sectors, thus to ensure the fundamental right of education, a private organization named "Pehli Kiran School" (PKS) is serving its best.

Pehli Kiran School (PKS) picks up children's of any age from the street and sends them to school. More than 15,000 children have enrolled since the first school opened in 1995, and 90% have passed state

exams. Currently 4300 students are studying in their all schools. PKS changes perceptions and changes communities to understand the value of education. Sabira Qureshi, Founder and Managing Trustee is an international development expert with more than four decades of experience in gender equality and development issues, people and relationships. Her work also includes important volunteer work, from human rights that services to nonprofits. His passion for making a "change" led him to go to PKS.

Pehli Kiran School (PKS) is managed and operated by a special team under the supervision of the Board of Trustees. Pehli Kiran Schools is a project of JAQ Education Trust, a trust registered in Pakistan under the Pakistan Trust Act II of 1882. The Trust is managed by a seven-member Board of Directors composed of diverse Pakistani professionals, most of them with international experience. The total number of schools are 10 in which each school has its own principal, vice-principal and teacher who provide morning and afternoon classes for disadvantaged and needy children and they are sum up to 130 total staff members with 93 teachers.. Using a new approach, PKS brings schools to "katchi Abadi" (urban slum) communities and resettles with them when they are evacuated by local authorities. To respond to the needs of temporary nomadic communities. PKS established mobile schools in slum areas of Islamabad. These schools make big dreams come true even in the most modest homes like children born in these slums now want to be teachers, doctors, and engineer as usual. Wherever the children go, the school will follow. Ms Zainab Qureshi said, "Our schools are bustling. When the Development Bank started building a

site, the slum residents were

evacuated, we had to move

schools to places where com-

munities were returning." The

school also launched many extracurricular activities. Last year, the Pehli Kiran school launched a "civics" program that teaches students social and moral values through art, music, drama and sports. The iteration of the project was created for the Pehli K ran school system, a network of informal, open-air schools in Islamabad. Pakistan. The long-term goal here is to increase the motivation of students, teachers and parents and to develop the school as a good place for children. A second project is underway in Islamabad in collaboration with SPARC Street Children's Shelter. On both Hansti Basti projects we work with volunteers from the Community Support Program of Bahria University in Islamabad. Programs E.g. Women's Skill Development is another step up of PKS that includes Stitching Centers known as Silaee Centre in local language that guides the girls the art of fashion designing and a helpful knowledge to lead

with wealth. Also Girls are guided with beauty parlor courses Community Mobilizers are

available that surveys those respective slum communities for enrollment of their children's and later on, they visit weekly in case of absent students who were studying but not coming up for 3, 4 days. Other than educational program proceeded by PKS, they also guided that slum (Kachi Abadi) Community to the fundamental documentations within a state E.g. NADRA registration. For being a part of a state you obviously should have the CNIC registration but that issue also came up with that slum communities, 25% of them were alien to our whole population of Pakistan as they were sifted and settled there from a previous urban areas like provinces of Punjab, Kpk and Baluchistan and they didn't have their national ID from many years. With a helping hand of PKS, NADRA was able to locate them and provide them NADRA registration and B-Form for the children's studying there. Food drives also provoke student to be a part of school as they were needy community and were apart from basic right of food due to inflation. MS Naveed MUSARAAT quoted, " After each one month we follow the food drives within school thus if a student is coming without breakfast and lunch then he/she could be heal up by that and moreover we are working on it to measure at every month." To educate the children's, they use to have high efficient staff of teachers and their respective coordinators as counselors. In view to this PKS has established wide ranges of programs that deal with teacher training workshops and a continuous staff development. Alumnus of under discussed institute also use to serve back as teacher in PKS.

They are facilitated by tuition fees that can lead there life to suitable measure and they are surely provoked to keeps their studies continuous. Less amount of money is set as tuition fees that is about RS-30 to RS-120 according to the affordability of student family. This amount of money is set so to reduce that cure of a family that they are not sending their child as a free rather they put some interest in their child's development. The education foundation is mainly funded by donations from individual donors, some small organizations and religious people and these total sums up to 550+ donors. Program Manager Stated that few of them are leading with the donation for whole school as well. At first, the school was funded by trustee donations. This is a success story, but the lack of funds often makes it difficult for everything to go according to the founda-

tion's needs.

the flooding everywhere, President Hassan Sheikh Mohamoud said on Wednesday evening. He said that 101 people had died in the flooding. Authorities in Mogadishu declared a state of emergency this month over the disaster, and have warned against the proliferation of disease.-Agencies

France's justice minister acquitted of power abuse charges

DNA

PARIS : A court discharged France's justice minister of abuse of power charges. The Court of Justice of the Republic (CJR) announced its verdict on Wednesday, according to broadcaster TF1 Info, after the trial that was held between Nov. 6 and 16. Minister Eric Dupond-Moretti was accused of settling scores with four judges over issues dating back to when he was a lawyer himself. The minister did not express any "animosity, despise or will of vengeance" toward those judges, the CJR President Dominique Pauthe reportedly said. The court ruled that there were no "intentional elements" in his actions, and acquitted Moretti. The minister told broadcaster France 2 that he waited "three years to explain himself," and expressed his relief over the court ruling. "I want to turn the page and resume my ordinary course of work," Moretti said. Prime Minister Elisabeth Borne welcomed the announcement in a post on X, while left-wing party La France Insoumise, in a statement, called for the dissolution of the CJR. The party criticized the court's verdict "despite the trial showed his (Moretti's) inevitable guilt." In case of guilty verdict, Dupond-Moretti would have faced prohibition from public office, up to five years of imprisonment, and a fine of up to €500,000 (\$546,000). The CJR is an exceptional French court established to try sitting or former members of the government

for their official actions.







Briefs Henry Madam Meryam Pacaci, wife of the Turkiye ambassador hosts the show at the Turkiye residence

Henry Kissinger dies aged 100

DNA

WASHINGTON: Former US Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, who played a pivotal and polarising role in US foreign policy during the Cold War, has died at the age of 100. He served as America's top diplomat and national security adviser during the Nixon and Ford administrations. Despite leaving office in the mid-1970s, he continued to be consulted by generations of leaders for decades. The German-born former diplomat died at his home in Connecticut. Kissinger's Realpolitik style made him a controversial figure, with critics accusing him of war crimes when he and President Richard Nixon conducted a bombing campaign against Vietnamese communists in Cambodia.

And over the years, he was subject to scathing criticism from those who accused him of prioritising rivalry with the Soviet Union over human rights and supporting repressive regimes across the world, including that of Augusto Pinochet in Chile. Former US President George W Bush led tributes, saying the US had "lost one of the most dependable and distinctive voices on foreign affairs". Meanwhile, former UK Prime Minister Tony Blair described him as an artist of diplomacy, saying Kissinger was motivated by "a genuine love of the free world and the need to protect it". President Richard Nixon's daughters, Tricia Nixon Cox and Julie Nixon Eisenhower, said that Kissinger's life story was "so unique - and so thoroughly American".

EU should recognize Palestinian state: Sanchez MADRID: The European Union should recognize a Palestinian state since this

ISLAMABAD: Madam Meryam Pacaci, the wife of the Turkiye Ambassador to Pakistan Mehmet Pacaci hosted a rare fashion show titled "Ottoman Fashion Show", introducing famous Turkiye fashion designer Cemile Gul in Pakistan. Spouses of the diplomatic corps were invited to be part of the show and admire skills of Ms. Cemile Gul, had flown all the way from Turkiye to Pakistan to make her works known to Pakistanis and the international community living in Pakistan as well. The caftans designed and produced by Cemile Gül, a fashion designer from Kütahya, who sewed clothes from Ottoman motifs for the wives of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, Prime Minister and some

MAHNOOR ANSAR

ministers, reflect the magnificence of that period. Gül said that after working as an embroidery teacher at the Kütahya Public Education Center for about 20 years, she retired and epened a 12 servere meter workshep.

tired and opened a 12-square-meter workshop. Stating that she later expanded the concept of business and established and put into operation an art gallery, museum and showroom, Gül said, "We have a fashion house in Bursa. Here, too, we design and produce women's clothes from the Ottoman period, henna clothes that young people can wear, evening dresses and wedding dresses. In addition, we are trying to keep Ottoman embroidery alive in home textiles." Cemile GÜL's entrepreneurial story began in 1978 when she enrolled in the "Ready-to-Wear" department of Kütahya Girls' Vocational High School. She adorns her dreams with her passion for dressing up as much as she loves to dress, Ottoman clothing culture and hand-embroidered patterns.

"You can't get enough of success. Once you have achieved success, you cannot stop there, you need to be able to set an example for the next generations", GÜL, who also graduated from Dumlupinar University, Department of "Leather and Apparel", has also pioneered creating added value for the economy by training many colleagues with more than 20 years of Public Education Center Teaching in the field of embroidery. She has set goal in the education process that starts with studentship, continues with apprenticeship, and ends with journeyman and mastery. One day, she will have a business and introduce the Ottoman culture first to Turkey and then to the world; It will ensure that the art of embroidery reaches where it should be with its clothes decorated with traditional motifs and home textile decoration products. In addition, the art gallery in Kütahya, which she decorated as the "Kütahya House" and exhibited products, has become one of the important places visited by local and foreign tourists.





PIA accounts restored by FBR

Faisal Sheikh

ISLAMABAD: The Federal Board of Revenue on Thursday withdrew its orders to freeze the Pakistan International Airlines' bank accounts but at the same time clarified that these directives did not bar it from pursuing recovery proceedings. The national carrier has been lately embroiled in a financial crisis. On Wednesday, the FBR had frozen 28 PIA accounts. Additionally, Pakistan State Oil had threatened to stop the airline's oil supply if outstanding dues were not settled. These actions came at a time when a team from the European Union's Avi-ation Safety Agency (EAS-A) was in Pakistan to assess issues related to flight safety. The EASA had barred PIA from operating flights to Europe after a plane crashed in Karachi on May 22, 2020.

ECP again defers PTI chief's indictment in contempt case

Fawad Chaudhry's lawyer Faisal Chaudhry and PTI chief and Asad Umar's lawyer Shoaib Shaheen appeared before the commission

Mehtab Pirzada

PTI chief, Asad Umar and Fawad Chaudhry. The PTI chief was not presented to the Election Commission of Pakistan from Adiala Jail due to security concerns.

Fawad Chaudhry's lawyer Faisal Chaudhry and PTI chief and Asad Umar's lawyer Shoaib Shaheen appeared before the commission. Member Commission Nisar Durrani said the security situation was not appreciable, so they did not want to take risk for the PTI chief to be presented before the commission. He said one and half years had passed but charges could not be now quit politics. The commission member said they would issue an order in this regard. Fawad Chaudhry's lawyer requested the commission to issue production order for his client. He said there was no security issue for his client. A day earlier, an accountability court had extended bail of the PTI chairman and his wife Bushra Bibi till Dec 6 in Toshakhana and Al-Qadir Trust cases. Judge Muhammad Bashir heard the pleas in the Adial Jail where the PTI chief and Bushra Bibi were present. NAB prosecutor MuzzafarAbbasi and PTI chief's coun-

sel Latif Khosa appeared before the court.

The PTI chief was convicted on Aug 5 in

the case filed by the Election Commission

Khosa, Bushra private conversation leaked

DNA

ISLAMABAD:A recent audio leak has emerged, Bushra Bibi, the wife of Imran Khan, Chairman of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI). and his lawyer Latif Khosa. The leak suggests potential discord within the family, especially with Imran Khan currently in custody. In the audio. Bushra Bibi discusses an incident involving Khan's sisters complaining about Khosa's alleged misconduct related to a case. The conversation revolves around concerns raised by Bushra Bibi regarding Khan's safety, particularly the fear of poisoning when he was held in Attock jail in August. She had previously written a letter expressing these concerns to the Punjab home secretary. In the leaked audio, Bushra Bibi indicates that she informed Khan's sisters about her decision to engage Khosa as her lawyer. She mentions that she conveyed to them that all her cases would now be handled by Khosa. The ex-first lady reveals that Khan's sisters accused Khosa of misbehavior during a meeting at his office, where they protested against including the poisoning claim in the petition filed in the Islamabad High Court. Despite the alleged misconduct, Bushra asserts her choice of Khosa as her lawyer. Khosa, responding to the leaked audio, expresses displeasure and calls it a private conversation between a client and a lawyer.

would help end the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and "stabilize" the region, Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez said on Thursday. "It is obvious that we must find a political solution to put an end to this crisis and this solution requires, in my opinion, the recognition of the Palestinian state," the Socialist premier said during an interview with Spanish public television TVE. "It is in Europe's interest to address this issue out of moral conviction because what we are seeing in Gaza is not acceptable," and also for "a geopolitical objective - to stabilize a region," he added. When he was sworn in for a new term this month Sanchez said his foreign poli cy priority would be to "work in Europe and in Spain to recognize the Palestinian state." If there is no consensus among the EU's 27 member states, Sanchez has said Madrid does not rule out unilaterally recognizing a Palestinian state. - Agencies

Iran prepared to boost military coop with KSA

TEHRAN: Iran's highest-ranking military commander says the country's Armed Forces are fully prepared to promote military ties with Saudi Arabia. Chief of Staff of the Iranian Armed Forces Major General Mohammad Baqeri made the announcement in a phone conversation with Saudi Arabian Defense Minister Prince Khalid bin Salman on Thursday. Baqeri hailed the two countries' efforts to improve amicable relations and Riyadh's hosting of an emergency meeting of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) on the Israel's brutal attacks against Palestinians in the Gaza Strip.

Salman, for his part, said Saudi Arabia welcomes the improvement of cooperation between the two countries' Armed Forces. Baqeri and Salman also discussed key issues of the Muslim world and invited each other to visit their respective countries. Back in March, Iran and Saudi Arabia agreed under a Chinese-brokered deal to restore diplomatic relations severed in 2016. – Agencies

Another petition filed in SC against deportation of Afghans

Adil Shaheen

ISLAMABAD: A group of academics on Thursday filed a petition in the Supreme Court challenging the government's campaign to "en masse deport Afghans" and seeking orders to restrain law enforcement agencies from implementing the decision. The plea, filed by six faculty members of the Lahore University of Management Sciences under Article 184(3) of the Constitution, has been fixed for hearing on Dec 1. Article 184 (3) empowers the Supreme Court to hear cases from individuals who believe their fundamental rights have been violated and the issue is of public importance or take suomotu action (act on its own initiative). In November, the government initiated a nationwide campaign to deport illegal foreign nationals, the majority of whom are

ISLAMABAD: The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) on Thursday again deferred indictment of the PTI chairman in a case of contempt of ECP and chief election commissioner (CEC) till Dec 6. NisarDurrani-led four-member commission conducted hearing of the contempt case against the

Afghans. While the decision had prompted criticism from Afghanistan and several other quarters, the caretakers refused to budge, insisting the move was not aimed at any particular ethnic group. Of the more than four million Afghans living in Pakistan, the government estimates 1.7m are undocumented. So far, thousands of Afghans have returned home from the Torkham and Chaman border crossings. Earlier this month, a similar application was filed by former PPP Senator Farhatullah Babar in the apex court seeking restraining orders against the expulsion of Afghans. A three-member SC bench will decide on the maintainability of the petition tomorrow. The latest plea filed in the SC today named the federation, all four provinces, the Islamabad chief commissioner, the chief commissioner for Afghan refugees, the National Database and Registration Authority (Nadra), the director general of Immigration and Passports and the United National High Commissioner for Afghan refugees as respondents. It stated that the petitioners, as concerned citizens, were compelled to file the plea in the interest of underprivileged and destitute Afghans living in Pakistan, "whether refugees, asylum seekers, so-called illegal foreigners or Pakistani citizens of Afghan origin". "This petition is necessitated due to the serious human rights abuses and blatant violation of the Constitution and international law being committed by the federal government,

the provincial government and other government authorities in name of Pakistan." framed against the PTI chief. He further said it was an issue of framing charges, so these could be framed anywhere.

Former PTI leader Asad Umar appeared before the commission and requested it to acquit him in the case. He said he had been attending the commission regularly and had rested the same day and incarcerated.

Govt to hand over lossmaking Discos to Army

DNA

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Army will be handed over the supervision of loss-making Discos to curb electricity theft and losses, as the government has decided to take strict action against power thieves as well as improve recovery of electricity bills.

According to a local newspaper, a serving brigadier and his supporting staff comprising officials from the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) and Intelligence Bureau (IB) will oversee matters at the Performance Monitoring Units (PMUs) in all the loss-making Discos.

The monitoring team will have the mandate to identify corrupt elements in Discos as well as people abetting and stealing electricity. These officials will also have the authority to take action against the perpetrators. "We have carved out a plan which is yet to be approved by higher authorities. However, the top functionaries of Power Division have made up their minds to start implementing the plan from HESCO (Hyderabad Electric Supply Company) as a pilot project," secretary power confirmed. "This will help identify unscrupulous elements within the Disco and people hand in glove with theft of electricity and causing billions of rupee losses to the national exchequer." According to the data for the financial year 2020-21, the recovery of electricity bills in HESCO was at 73.7%, in SPECO 64.6%, in QESCO at 34.66% and TESCO at 25.29%. The caretaker energy minister, on September 6, announced a crackdown plan on electricity thieves mentioning that the system annually braves the colossal loss on account of electricity theft and failure to pay bills amounting to Rs589 billion. As of September 6 this year, the total

loss in the Discos where recovery is relatively better - in Lahore, Faisalabad, Gujranwala, Multan and Islamabad amounted to 79 billion units, which is equal to a loss of Rs100 billion out of billing of Rs3,044 bn, estimated at 3%. Similarly, the Discos in Peshawar, Hyderabad, Sukkur, Quetta, Azad Jammu and Kashmir had losses as high as 60%. However, in the loss-making companies such as HESCO, SEPCO, QESCO and TESCO, the required results are not being attained which is why it has been decided that Performance Monitoring Units are to be headed by a serving brigadier with supporting staff from FIA and IB.

OGRA notifies hike in LPG prices

DNA

ISLAMABAD: The Oil and Gas Regulatory Authority (OGRA) has notified increase in the prices of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG). According to OGRA, the price of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) was increased by

Rs3.83 per kg. Meanwhile, the domestic cylinder rate has been increased by Rs45.18. The new rates of LPG with increased prices will be Rs3,007.35 per domestic cylinder.

The Oil and Gas Regulatory Authority (OGRA) stated that LPG prices increased due to increase in the dollar rate by 1.87 percent.

Earlier, the Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) company warned the concerned stakeholders about a potential shortage of LPG during the upcoming winter season. According to the details, the gas company emphasized the need to book the LPG shipments in advance to address the LPG shortage during winter.

'End Israeli aggression', President Abbas meets Blinken President Abbas handed Secretary Blinken a comprehensive file documenting Israeli occupation crime in Gaza, and the West Bank, including Jerusalem

News Desk

RAMALLAH: President Mahmoud Abbas welcomed today US Secretary of State Antony Blinken in the presidential headquarters in Ramallah, where they discussed the latest efforts to stop the Israeli aggression on the Palestinian people. During the meeting, President Abbas emphasized the urgent need to establish a complete ceasefire in Gaza and end the Israeli aggression, aiming to spare civilians from the woes of bombardment, violence, and destruction inflicted by the Israeli war machinery.

The President underscored the importance of increasing humanitarian, medical, and food aid, as well as swiftly providing water, electricity, and fuel to the Palestinian people in Gaza. He also called for the provision of all the necessary aid to ensure that hospitals and essential facilities in Gaza can resume their operations promptly, offering medical services to thousands of wounded individuals and serving the needs of the Palestinian population.

During the meeting, President Abbas handed Secretary Blinken a comprehensive file documenting Israeli occupation crime in Gaza, and the West Bank, including Jerusalem. The file includes evidence of killings, destruction, ethnic cleansing, and other atrocities committed by Israeli occupation forces. Addressing the suppressive measures taken by Israeli authorities against Palestinian prisoners, President Abbas urged Secretary Blinken to compel the Israeli government to immediately halt these actions and cease violations against Palestinian prisoners and the broader Palestinian population. The President reiterated his rejection of the forced dis-



placement of the Palestinian people, whether in Gaza or the West Bank, including Jerusalem. He emphasized the necessity of US intervention to prevent the Israeli authorities from expelling Palestinians in the West Bank, especially in the Jordan Valley, which is witnessing silent annexation plans by settlers and the Israeli occupation army. The President pointed out that Gaza is an integral part of the State of Palestine, and its separation, as planned by the Israeli authorities, is utterly unacceptable. He stressed the importance of releasing Palestinian tax funds withheld by the far-right Israeli government. In this regard, President Abbas said that the Palestinian

In this regard, Fresident Abdas said that the Palestiman leadership will not abandon its responsibility for the people of Gaza, who fall under the jurisdiction of the State of Palestine. He affirmed the necessity of Palestine obtaining full membership in the United Nations and convening an international peace conference. The President emphasized that peace and security can only be achieved through the implementation of the two-state solution based on international legitimacy resolutions. This solution includes the entire land of the State of Palestine in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, and the Gaza Strip, and recognition of the State of Palestine, said the President. He highlighted that security and military solutions have proven their failure and will not achieve security and stability in the region.

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