



Islamabad POST

Wednesday, May 08, 2024

Pakistan's Credible Daily Newspaper

Price Rs. 30

Russian plot to kill Volodymyr Zelensky foiled, Kyiv says

Detailed News On Page-08

Philippines envoy emphasizes Pak-ASEAN coop

Detailed News On Page-08



T20 WC: Marsh expected to be fit in time

Detailed News On Page-06



May 9 rioters need to be punished

No talks with anarchist group, DG ISPR warns

May 9 perpetrators, facilitators will have to be punished as per Constitution, law: DG ISPR



DNA

RAWALPINDI: Director General Inter-Services Public Relations (DG ISPR) Major General Ahmed Sharif Chaudhry Tuesday said that the perpetrators and facilitators of the May 9 riots need to be punished as per the Constitution and law of the land to preserve the credibility and faith in the country's justice system. "The issue of May 9 riots is not limited to the Pakistan Army but [in fact] concerns the whole nation," the military's spokesperson said while addressing a press conference in Rawalpindi. Noting that the public was a witness to the May 9 incident the spokesperson lamented how some people were "brainwashed" against the armed forces and said: "We saw how some political leaders gave selected targets [to the mob]". "We saw that only military installations were attacked within a span of few hours [and] you saw the public outrage when evidence for this came to limelight. "The lies and deceit cannot continue [...]"

Continued on Page 06

DG ISPR's press conference 'full of contradictions'

PTI calls for judicial commission

KHAYAM ABBASI

ISLAMABAD: Hours after a press conference by the military spokesperson on the events of May 9 and the PTI's involvement in them, party spokesperson Raof Hasan termed it as being "full of contradictions". Earlier today, Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR) Director General (DG) Maj-Gen Ahmed Sharif said that any dialogue with the PTI could happen only if it "earnestly apologises in front of the nation, promises to adopt constructive politics and forgoes politics of anarchy". The DG ISPR made the remarks in a lengthy press conference in Rawalpindi just two days before May 9 — a day that holds significant importance in the country's political landscape as it was on this day last year when military installations came under attack following PTI founder Imran Khan's arrest, which formed the basis of a severe state crackdown against him and his party. Speaking to the media in Islamabad after the ISPR press

Continued on Page 06



ISLAMABAD: A delegation of Japanese businessmen and investors led by Japanese Ambassador to Pakistan H.E Mr. WADA Mitsuhiro called on Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif. — DNA

Uzbek FM due in Islamabad today



DNA

ISLAMABAD: Foreign Minister of the Republic of Uzbekistan Bakhtiyor Saidov is scheduled to arrive here on Wednesday (today) for a two-day official visit from May 8-9. During the visit, Foreign Minister Saidov will call on Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif and hold in-depth talks with Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Mohammad Ishaq Dar on a wide range of bilateral issues of mutual interest, with special focus on trade and connectivity, according to a Foreign Office press release. The visit of the Uzbek foreign minister is expected to provide fresh impetus to the friendly relations between the two countries.

US resolves to extend support to Pakistan

Govt looks to uplift live stock sector, says Fakhr

DNA

ISLAMABAD: The United States resolved on Tuesday to extend support to Pakistan for reducing methane gas. Addressing an event in line with the USAID Climate Financing, US Ambassador Blome said: "We are making all-out efforts to reduce the emission of methane gas in dairy farming."

Continued on Page 06

Invites Japanese investment Saudi delegation visit to boost Pak economy: PM

The Prime Minister commended the role played by the cabinet members especially the commerce, petroleum and the finance as well as the secretaries during Pakistan-Saudi investment conference

ANSAR BHATTI / DNA

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has expressed the confidence that the visit of Saudi delegation headed by its Deputy Minister for Investment will augur well for the country's future. Chairing cabinet meeting in Islamabad on Tuesday, he said the head of Saudi delegation was appreciative of the determination and preparation demonstrated by the cabinet members during the investment conference. The Prime Minister commended the role played by the cabinet members especially the commerce, petroleum and the finance as well as the secretaries during Pakistan-Saudi investment conference. He expressed the confidence that they will continue to work with the same commitment for a better future of the country. Meanwhile, the Federal Cabinet has approved signing of Memorandum of Understanding between Pakistan and

Continued on Page 06

MBS visit to Pakistan is 'on the cards', confirms FM Dar

Pakistan expected to receive final dates of visit from Saudi Arabia anytime in May, says deputy PM

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar on Tuesday said that Pakistan is a sovereign country and the present government would take decisions in the best national interests to meet its energy requirements and fulfill international

Continued on Page 06

Briefs

PML-N's general council meeting rescheduled

Nawaz Sharif, Saad Rafique likely to be made party president, secretary general in party huddle

BUREAU REPORT

LAHORE: PML-N has rescheduled its general council meeting to May 28 on the occasion of "Youm-e-Takbeer" — the anniversary of Pakistan's nuclear tests conducted in 1998. "Following consultation with PML-N leaders, the party's general council meeting will be held on May 28 to mark the 26th anniversary of nuclear tests," Punjab Senior Minister Mariyum Aurangzeb said in a statement. The meeting, previously scheduled for May 11, is likely to see key changes being approved with regards to the party leadership.

No governor's rule in KP: Kundi

If KP CM marches on Islamabad, he will go somewhere else

NAZIR SIYAL

KARACHI: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Governor Faisal Karim Kundi said on Tuesday governor's rule was not being imposed in the province. Speaking to media after visiting Mazar-e-Quaid in Karachi, Kundi said he would try to become voice of the people of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. "I will fight the case of people of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in Islamabad," he said. The KP governor said he would like to promote love instead of spreading hatred among people. He said, "Everyone in Pakistan is a free citizen, there is a Constitution and law in Pakistan."

Suo motu on IHC judges' letter

'Govt not doing anything about interference'

CJP during hearing says it was surprising none of the lawyers were on same page for judiciary's independence

COURT REPORTER

ISLAMABAD: Supreme Court of Pakistan's Justice Jamal Khan Mandokhail on Tuesday said that the government was not doing anything regarding the alleged interference in judicial matters. Justice Mandokhail made these remarks as a six-member bench of the top court, headed by Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Qazi Faez Isa, resumed the suo motu hearing on the Islamabad High Court (IHC) judges' letter accusing agencies meddling in judicial matters. The bench also comprises Justice Syed Mansoor Ali Shah, Justice Jamal Khan Mandokhail, Justice Athar Minallah, Justice Musarrat Hilali and Justice Naeem Akhtar Afghan. On March 25, six judges of IHC had demanded CJP Isa to convene a judicial convention to consider the matter of alleged interference of intelligence operatives in the judicial functions or "intimidation" of judges in a manner that undermined

Continued on Page 06

Zardari gets 'immunity' in Toshakhana case

The case against Zardari cannot be proceed as long as he remains in office, argues Farooq H Naik

MEHTAB PIRZADA

ISLAMABAD: In view of the constitutional immunity of the head of the state, an accountability court in Islamabad on Tuesday halted its proceedings against incumbent President Asif Ali Zardari in the Toshakhana vehicle reference. At the outset of today's hearing, PPP's lawyer Farooq H Naik — counsel of President Zardari — appeared

Continued on Page 06

Israeli forces capture Rafah crossing after heavy strikes

According to media sources, casualties were reported when the Israeli army bombed Salahuddin street in Rafah, while many others were evacuated to the Kuwaiti Hospital following attacks on areas around the Rafah border crossing

NEWS DESK

RAFAH: The Israeli military says it has taken full control of the Rafah crossing, which borders Egypt. Israeli tanks took over the crossing after advancing during the night following heavy bombardment of residential areas. The military said the crossing is now disconnected from the Salah a-Din road in eastern Rafah, which was seized before. Tel Aviv said it would continue the operation in Rafah even after the Palestinian resistance movement Hamas said it had agreed to a proposal on ceasefire in Gaza put forward by Qatar and Egyptian mediators. Earlier, Israeli military aircraft heavily bombed Rafah accompanied with ground advances shortly after Hamas said it had accepted the ceasefire proposal. The official Palestinian news agency Wafa and Egyptian media said Israeli military vehicles advanced towards the Palestinian side of the Rafah crossing with Egypt, as well as the Karem Shalom crossing with the

Continued on Page 06

UNGA to vote on recognizing Palestine as full UN member

FOREIGN DESK

NEW YORK: The United Nations General Assembly has been scheduled to hold a vote on a draft resolution that would recognize Palestine as a full UN member. Diplomats told media if the vote, set for Friday, goes through and gains landslide winning majority, the Assembly would recommend the UN Security Council "reconsider the matter favorably." A condition to become a full UN member is to be approved by the 15-member UN Security Council. Diplomats say

Continued on Page 06

Summer Camp Season 7

Package	1 Activity	2 Activity	3 Activity
1 Child	55,000	70,000	85,000
2 Children	65,000	80,000	95,000
3 Children	75,000	90,000	105,000
4 Children	85,000	100,000	115,000
5 Children	95,000	110,000	125,000
6 Children	105,000	120,000	135,000

RULES & REGULATIONS

Each activity will run for three consecutive weeks, missing days will not be compensated. The female entrance only available for ladies. 15% discount on all Marina services and pool bar menu for the participants and their parents. For registration, please scan the QR code and email the participant's birth certificate and photograph to marina@serena.com.pk mentioning "summer camp 2024" in the subject line. This offer cannot be combined with any other discounts or promotions. Participants can participate in one activity per day. Participating children are to be accompanied by one of their parents. The timings of the classes will be assigned at the time of registration for the entire program, however, changing the time will be subject to availability. Limited seats available. All prices are subject to government taxes.

For more information please scan QR code or call: 051 2005249

Valid from 1st April to 31st August, 2024

Traffic Police crackdown on public transport vehicles

ABBOTTABAD: To ensure public safety on the roads, the Traffic Police Abbottabad Tuesday conducted extensive checks on public transport vehicles in collaboration with Motor Vehicle Examiner (MVE) staff...

ICCI delegation calls on designate Governor Punjab

DNA

ISLAMABAD: A delegation of Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry headed by its President Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari called on Governor-designate Punjab Sardar Salim Haider.



Group Zafar Bakhtawari, Executive members Maqsood Tabish, Rizwan Chheena, Shabbir Malik and other.

KP TEVTA employees stage protest

PESHAWAR: The employees of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Technical Education and Vocational Training Authority (TEVTA) on Tuesday staged a protest against the decisions of 21st BoD meetings...

KP Govt decides to send request for assembly session

PESHAWAR: In the wake of the Supreme Court's decision on oath-taking from elected representatives on reserved seats in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa assembly...

World Asthma Day observed

SARGODHA: World Asthma Day was observed in Sargodha district here on Tuesday. On the occasion, Specialist of asthma, chest, TB, and AIDS, Dr Sikandar Hayat Warraich conducted free check-ups for asthma patients...

Anti-drugs speech contest held for students

He highlighted the importance of such initiatives to combat drug abuse and safeguard the youth against the menace

DNA

DERA ISMAIL KHAN, District Boy Scouts Association, Lakki Marwat organized a speech contest to create awareness against the deadly effects of narcotics among the youth.

of students from government primary, middle, high, and higher secondary schools took part in the declamation contest, highlighting adverse effects of drugs on health as well as its legal, ethical and social aspects.

Muhammad Ghusan Khan Sentinel Model High School Lakki Marwat's Jabranullah secured the first position, followed by Safwanullah from Government Primary School Tooti Abad in the second position...

FIA initiates strong actions against sale of spurious drugs

DNA

PESHAWAR: The Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) in its crackdowns against spurious medicines in Peshawar Zone on Tuesday confiscated scores of medicines, injections, and pills and sent them to laboratories for verification.

Mechanical sweeping operations to be shifted at night

FAISAL SHAHEEN

ISLAMABAD: Chairman Capital Development Authority (CDA), Chaudhry Muhammad Ali Randhawa directed on Tuesday that mechanical sweeping operations for cleanliness in the federal capital should be shifted to the nighttime instead of the morning.

the field. He also directed the implementation of biometric attendance for sanitation staff. Muhammad Ali also emphasized the need for installing trackers on all operational vehicles of the Environment Wing and cameras in all public-dealing offices.

Women killed for honor

ISLAMABAD: Infuriated youths have strangled to death their sister over honor in the area of Sandal bar police station on Tuesday. Police spokesman said that Azhar Ali and Amir Hussain r/o Chak No.61-JB were suspicious that their young sister namely Mubasshara had illicit relations with a youth of the same locality.

Pak, Kazakhstan discuss collaboration in IT sector

KHAYAM ABBASI

ISLAMABAD: Minister of State for Information Technology and Telecommunication, Shaza Fatima Khawaja, and Ambassador of Kazakhstan to Pakistan, Yerzhan Kistafin on Tuesday discussed collaboration in the field of IT and Telecommunication between the two countries.



exchange programs between Pakistan and Kazakhstan. Highlighting the investment opportunities in Pakistan's IT and Telecommunication sector, she invited Kazakhstan tech companies to consider investing in this promising

sector. Ambassador Yerzhan Kistafin affirmed his country's commitment to increasing cooperation with Pakistan in the IT and Telecom sector, emphasizing that the ties between the two countries in this domain would be further strengthened. The

meeting was also attended by Additional Secretary of MoITT Aisha Humera Moriani, Chairman of Pakistan Software Houses Association (P@SHA) Muhammad Zohaib Khan, and DG International Coordination Syed Jawwad Ali Sherazi.

Court Notice

بجاءت جناب عمران اکرم صاحب سول جج اولینڈی ڈوی اسٹریٹ اربن ہاؤس ڈرامت نامہ حضور اسحاق ساکن مکان نمبر 239 سڑک نمبر 27 اور سڑک نمبر 5 بریڈن گلی 8 راولپنڈی نام عوام الناس اختیار تمام عوام الناس پر گواہ مقدمہ عنوان بالا میں عوام الناس کی قیام عمل پر پریقے سے ممکن ہے لہذا عوام الناس کو پوزیشن اختیار ہذا مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ کوئی عوام الناس ہذا سے وہ مورخہ 15.05.2024 کو اساتذہ کو ان کی نظر و کارکردگی حاضر عدالت آدے بصورت دیگر نکتہ نظر و کارکردگی میں شامل ہونے کی اور کوئی عذر قابل قبول نہ ہوگا۔ محکمہ عدالت ہیر عدالت

PUC launches nationwide reconciliation drive: Ashrafi

Ashrafi stresses swift justice to May 9 perpetrators to prevent future violence

MEHTAB IRZADA

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Ulema Council (PUC) on Tuesday announced the initiation of a comprehensive nationwide reconciliation drive in a bid to foster political stability and national unity.

the PUC was initiating a mass contact campaign to mitigate the adverse effects of current polarization and foster a culture of harmony and understanding through dialogue and constructive engagement across the nation.

and unity, said the tragic events of May 9, shook the nation with unrest and violence. He underscored the necessity of swift trials for the perpetrators to prevent such incidents from recurring in the future.

witnessed on May 9. In this critical juncture, he made a clarion call for a united front against forces of discord and unrest. Ashrafi commended the growing cooperation between Pakistan and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, particularly in the realms of economy and investment.

Muslim countries. The strengthened economic ties between Pakistan and Saudi Arabia were anticipated to bolster investor confidence and stimulate economic growth, contributing to the overall development and prosperity of the nation.

Advertisement for freeline MOVERS. Includes logo, tagline 'The Smooth Moving Connection', services list (Packing, Shipping, Freight Forwarding, etc.), contact info, and branch offices.

National Days and Armed Forces Days

May

- May 03/Poland National Day
- May 06/Bulgaria Armed Forces Day
- May 06/UAE Armed Forces Day
- May 07/Kazakhstan Armed Forces Day
- May 08/Czech Republic National Day
- May 09/European Union National Day
- May 17/Norway Constitution Day
- May 21/Hungary Armed Forces Day
- May 22/Yemen Republic
- Re-unification Day(National Day)
- May 24/Eritrea National Day
- May 25/Lebanon Liberation and Resistance Day
- May 25/Argentina National Day
- May 25/Jordan Independence Day
- May 28 /Azerbaijan Republic Day
- May 28/Ethiopia National Day
- May 31/Brunei Armed Forces Day

Hotels & Restaurants



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



Turkish Airlines.....8494949



Emergency

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

Enquiry

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



Hospitals

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

Departments

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

Water Tank

Islamabad.....0321-5744480

Serious efforts needed to pull country out of economic crisis

They said that country cannot attain prosperity by selling its valuable assets and obtaining heavy loans instead the only viable way is to reduce the burden of heavy taxes on the industry and incentives for small traders. ICCI senior leaders Jawaid Kazmi and Haider Raza were also present on the occasion

MEHTAB PIRZADA

ISLAMABAD: Former Provincial Minister and Patron-in-Chief United Business Group S.M. Tanveer has said that country is passing through the challenging time and industries are being closed whereas the neighboring country Afghanistan is strengthening its economy by promoting its industrial and textile sectors. He said that we have to vigorously pursue Quaid's saying 'work, work, and work' if we really want to come out of the existing economic quagmire. He said that Hazara is blessed with natural resources but badly overlooked.

Addressing a ceremony in Abbottabad held by Abbottabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Industrialists Association of Abbottabad S.M. Tanveer went on to say that we have to enhance our exports by focusing attention on quality production through industrial development. He added that by promoting tourism, mineral sector and providing cheap



er electricity to industry we can come out of the existing economic problems. On this occasion ban

on leasing of mines and the issue of joint ventures also come under discussion and President FPCCI

Atif Ikram Shaikh was apprised of community's difficulties at length. In his address Secretary Gener-

al United Business Group Zafar Bakhtawari said that Abbottabad is an important trade and cultural hub of KPK and that UBG is determined to provide every possible cooperation for its development as well as for the resolution of the problems of the community.

The Ceremony was also addressed by President Federation of Pakistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry Atif Ikram Shaikh, Chairman National Business Group Mian Zahid, Central Vice President FPCCI Haji Iftikhar Ahmed, Abdur Rasheed Khan and other. Speakers were of the view that the inflated electricity bills are one of the main causes of the closure of the industries. They said that country cannot attain prosperity by selling its valuable assets and obtaining heavy loans instead the only viable way is to reduce the burden of heavy taxes on the industry and incentives for small traders. ICCI senior leaders Jawaid Kazmi and Haider Raza were also present on the occasion. At the end shields were also presented to the visiting guests.

Indian troops martyr three Kashmiris in Kulgam

ISLAMABAD: Indian troops in their fresh act of state terrorism martyred three Kashmiri youth in Kulgam district of Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir, today. According to Kashmir Media Service, the youth were martyred by the troops during a cordon and search operation in Redwani area of the district on Tuesday. The troops also destroyed a residential house while the operation continued till last reports came in.--APP

Exhibition featuring creative interpretation of Iqbal's poetry

ISLAMABAD: An exhibition featuring a joint creative interpretation of Iqbal's Urdu and Persian poetry "...tare harire do rang" by the talented artists duo Shah Abdullah Alamee and Anna Manzoor will be opened at Tanzara Art Gallery on May 09. The ten-day long exhibition titled "...tare harire do rang" (the silk twine of dual hues) presents a captivating exploration of Allama Iqbal's profound poetry through the rich tapestry of visual art, crafted by the talented artists Shah Abdullah Alamee and Anna Manzoor. Drawing inspiration from Iqbal's poetry in Persian and Urdu, the artists embark on a collaborative journey to unravel the nuanced layers of his timeless verses. According to the Curator, Noshi Qadir, "Alamee and Manzoor skillfully blend their unique artistic perspectives, weaving together a symphony that resonates with the essence of Iqbal's poetry. Through their creative harmony on canvas and imaginative compositions, they invite viewers to delve deep into the mystical realm of Iqbal's philosophical musings, where themes of spirituality, humanism, and existential contemplation converge. Each painting in this exhibition serves as a visual ode to Iqbal's poetic legacy, offering a glimpse into the profound depth of his literary genius, capturing the fleeting moments of life's journey, echoing Iqbal's exploration of the duality of existence and the eternal quest for meaning. Noshi Qadir said. According to the artists statement, "As artists engaged in a transformative exploration of Iqbal's poetry, our collaboration transcends mere illustrations to create a unique language that bridges tradition with contemporary art".--APP

PCRWR declares 19 brands of mineral water unsafe

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Council of Research in Water Resources (PCRWR) has declared 19 brands of bottled mineral waters unsafe for human consumption due to microbiological or chemical contamination. PCRWR collected 185 samples of mineral/bottled water brands from 21 cities for examination during the 1st quarter (January to March) of the current year 2024 and it was revealed that 19 brands were unsafe for human consumption, said a report issued here Tuesday. Six brands including Hensley Pure Water, Pure Life, Natural Pure Life, Klear, Am Mughal Pure Water, Nero were found to be unsafe due to presence of higher levels of sodium while one brand (Nero) was found unsafe due to presence of high level of TDS than the permissible limit. Similarly, three brands namely Cleana, Orwell, Still were found unsafe due to presence of high level of Arsenic than the permissible limit, the report further said. More over, 13 brands including Starlay, Al-Faris Water, Nestlo Healthy Water, Nesspure, Pure Life, Natural Pure Life, Nesspak, Geo Max Premium, Cleana, Splash, Karakorum, Heavenly, 7 Bro were found contaminated with bacteria and thus were also unsafe for drinking purpose PCRWR carries out quarterly monitoring of bottled water brands on the directives of government and publicizes the results for awareness of public health. General public is encouraged to look at the detailed report to know about the status of water quality of bottled water brands they consume. The detailed report is available on PCRWR website www.pcrwr.gov.pk.--APP

PMD forecast soaring temperatures this week; rain during weekend

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD) has forecast increase in the day temperatures during the next few days due to high pressure in the upper atmosphere in most parts of the country particularly in the southern half of the country. However, a westerly wave was likely to enter western parts of the country on May 10 (evening/night) and likely to grip the upper parts on May 11. Under the influence of this weather system, day temperatures are likely to remain 03-05 degrees Celsius above normal in Balochistan from May 08-10. Rain-dust-storm/thunderstorm is expected in Quetta, Zhob, Ziarat, Barkhan, Kalat, Khuzdar, Qilla Saifullah, Kohlu and Mastung on May 10 (evening/night) and May 11. Duststorms/thunderstorm is also expected in Kharan, Chagi and Panjgur during the period. In Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, day temperatures are likely to remain 02-03 degree Celsius above normal from May 08-10. Rain-duststorm/thunderstorm is expected in Chitral, Dir, Swat, Abbottabad, Mansehra, Haripur, Kohistan, Shangla, Buner, Malakand, Waziristan, Kohat, Lakki Marwat, Bannu, Dera Ismail Khan, Bajaur, Mohmand, Karak, Khyber, Peshawar, Charsadda, Nowshera, Swabi, Mardan and Kurram from May 10 (night) to May 12 (morning). Hailstorm is also expected at isolated places during the period. In Gilgit-Baltistan/Kashmir, day temperatures are likely to remain 03-05 degree Celsius above normal from May 08-10. Rain-duststorm/thunderstorm is expected in Gilgit-Baltistan including Diamir, Astore, Ghizer, Skardu, Hunza, Gilgit, Ghanche, Shigar, Kashmir (Neelum valley, Muzaffarabad, Rawalakot, Poonch, Hattian, Bagh, Haveli, Sudhanoti, Kotli, Bhimber, Mirpur on May 11 and May 12. In Punjab/Islamabad, day temperatures are likely to remain 03-05 Celsius above normal from May 08-10. Rain-duststorm/thunderstorm is expected in Murree, Galiyat, Islamabad/Rawalpindi, Attock, Chakwal, Jhelum, Mandi Bahaudin, Gujrat, Gujranwala, Hafizabad, Sialkot, Narawal, Lahore, Kasur, Okara, Faisalabad, Toba Tek Singh, Jhang, Khushab, Sargodha, Mianwali, Pakpattan.--DNA

Islamabad Expressway work to be completed by end of July



ISLAMABAD: Chairman CDA Mohammad Ali Randhawa chairing a high-level meeting to review cleanliness arrangements in the city.--DNA

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Chairman Capital Development Authority (CDA) Chaudhary Muhammad Ali Randhawa Tuesday directed that the ongoing development and construction work on the Expressway should be completed by the end of July without any further delay. During his visit to the Islamabad Expressway, he said that the construction work on

the Islamabad Expressway project should be needed to expedite. Chairman CDA was briefed that 75 percent of the work on package one, from Korang Bridge, of the Islamabad Expressway project has been completed. The briefing also included information about the inclusion of the construction of a railway bridge in package one of the project. Muhammad Ali directed that package one of the Islamabad Expressway must be finalized by July 15. The

briefing to Chairman CDA covered the components of the Islamabad Expressway project, including the T-Chowk intersection with two major bridges and an underpass. Chairman CDA emphasized that any further delay in the Islamabad Expressway project will not be tolerated at any cost. Muhammad Ali instructed the Assistant Commissioners to supervise developmental projects. He directed all the Engineering Wing officers

to ensure their presence at the project sites. Chief CDA emphasized that there will be no compromise on the quality and pace of work on the projects. Muhammad Ali also inspected other developmental projects of the federal capital and urged to accelerate work on delayed projects for their timely completion. He evaluated the ongoing development efforts for the expansion and enhancement of Park Road.

PAL to announce winners of top literary awards

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Academy of Letters (PAL) has finalized arrangements to announce the names of winners of Pakistan's top most literary awards - Kamal-i-Fun and National Literary Awards - for the year 2022 on Wednesday. According to the PAL, the literary awards in different categories will be announced in a ceremony to be held on May 08 (Wednesday).

Among the awards to be announced, "Life Time Achievement Award" and "National Literary Awards" are the most important awards of the country on literary services and books. "Life Time Achievement Award" is conferred upon for the lifelong literary services of a writer. The reward with this award is Rs. 1,000,000/-

This award will be decided by a panel of eminent and respectful writers and intellectuals throughout the country. On this occasion, the "National Literary Awards for 2022" will also be announced on the best books published during the year 2022. "Dr. Allama Muhammad Iqbal Award" will be announced for Urdu Poetry, "Baba-i-Urdu Dr. Molvi Abdul Haq Award" for Urdu Research and Critic Literature, "Saadat Hassan Manto Award" for Urdu Creative Literature, "Shah Abdul Latif Bhittai Award" for Sindhi Poetry, "Mirza Qaleech Baig Award" for Sindhi Prose, "Khushal Khan Khattak Award" for Pashto Poetry and "Muhammad Ajmal Khan Khattak Award" for Pashto Prose. "Syed

Waris Shah Award" will be announced for Punjabi Poetry, "Afzal Ahsan Randhawa Award" for Punjabi Prose, "Mast Tawakali Award" for Balochi Poetry, "Syed Zahoor Shah Hashmi Award" for Balochi Prose, "Khawaja Ghulam Farid Award" for Seraiki Poetry, "Dr. Mehar Abdul Haq Award" for Seraiki Prose, "Taj Muhammad Tajal Award" for Brahvi Poetry, "Ghulam Nabi Rahi Award" for Brahvi Prose, "Saieen Ahmed Ali Award" for Hindko Poetry, "Khatir Ghazanvi Award" for Hindko Prose, "Daud Kamal Award" for English Poetry, "Pitras Bukhari Award" for English Prose and "Muhammad Hassan Askari Award" for best translation work. The amount of this award is Rs. 200,000/-each award.--APP



General Practice

HEALTHCARE CENTRE



Keeping you Healthy!

Welcome to Islamabad's finest private medical centre, where your complete wellbeing is our top priority. Keeping you healthy and in good physical condition is at the heart of everything we do. Our aim is to establish long-term trusting relationships with our patients and their families, offering them easy accessibility to health and continuity of care.

+92334 7474701 | +9251 8900 682
28, Ground Floor, Executive Complex,
G-8 Markaz, Islamabad

@/generalpracticeislamabad
www.generalpractice.com.pk

Briefs

Nehal Hashmi stresses reforms for speedy justice

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Muslim League (N) Senior Leader Nehal Hashmi Tuesday stressed the need for introducing judicial reforms in the country to provide speedy justice and support to the deprived sections of society. Talking to a private news channel, he said that our vision should be of such a improved judicial system in which there is easy justice, speedy justice, and justice for all. PML-N government would bring in drastic and much-needed improvements in the judicial system, he added. He further emphasized that the country was facing economic challenges and collective efforts were needed to steer the country out of current challenging situation. He also called for taking positive steps, saying harmony among state institutions is the need of the hour to pave the way for the development of the country. Replying to a question, he said that his leadership always believes in rule of law and supremacy of the constitution, adding, every institution need to work in their constitutional domain as it was imperative to strengthen system in the country.—APP

One more dengue case reported in RWP

RAWALPINDI: One more dengue case was reported in Rawalpindi during the last 24 hours, raising the tally of confirmed cases to five in the district. District Coordinator Epidemics Prevention and Control (DCEPC), Dr Sajjad Mehmood, Tuesday said that the district administration had lodged 65 FIRs, sealed 82 premises, issued tickets to 170 and imposed a fine of Rs 318,000 on violations of dengue SOPs during the ongoing year. Dr Sajjad informed that during indoor surveillance, the teams checked 1,492,128 houses and found larvae in 3,289 homes in 2024. Similarly, he added that while checking 386,329 places, the teams found larvae at 780 sites during outdoor surveillance. He said the district health authority had devised an effective micro plan to control the spread of dengue keeping in view the previous year's statistics, adding dengue spread situation was under control while intensive efforts were in place to screen every nook and corner of the district so that dengue could not become an epidemic this year.—APP

HMC's Daycare to soon accommodate children

PESHAWAR: The foundation of daycare center in Hayatabad Medical Complex Peshawar was laid by Ghulam Qadir Sahib, Chairman of the Board of Governors. Hospital Director Shehzad Faisal from Administration, Chief Administrative Officer Dr. Sherzaman, Gynecology and Pediatrics faculty participated in the event the other day, along with him. During the inauguration, Chairman Ghulam Qadir described the daycare center as an ideal step to facilitate the children of women working in the hospital. At the same time, regarding the competence and expertise of the staff for the success of the daycare, he emphasized that Daycare staff must be committed and motivated to provide care for children, as parents rely on them for the care of their children adding these people must be trained and experienced in child care. The daycare center is being built to provide better care and development to the children of the hospital employees during the day to ease the hassles of child-rearing of the women working in the hospital. The hospital administration said that the hospital is continuously traveling towards development and providing better facilities from the frontline. The daycare center has a capacity of about 150/200 children and also has a playroom, newborn rooms, lounge, office, kitchen, washrooms.—APP

Pak, Japan discuss ways to enhance cooperation

Rana Tanveer Hussain expressed Pakistan's desire to strengthen its friendship with Japan, which he said was a close friend of Pakistan. He highlighted the significant role Japan can play in Pakistan's auto industry and expressed the hope that more Japanese companies will invest in Pakistan

MAHNOOR ANSAR

ISLAMABAD: Japanese Ambassador to Pakistan, Wada Mitsuhiko, here on Monday met with Federal Minister for Industry and Food Security, Rana Tanveer Hussain. Both sides discussed matters of mutual interest, including bilateral cooperation and the challenges faced by Japanese automakers in Pakistan. Rana Tanveer Hussain expressed Pakistan's desire to strengthen its friendship with Japan, which he said was a close friend of Pakistan. He highlighted the significant role Japan can play in Pakistan's auto industry and expressed the hope that more Japanese companies will invest in Pakistan. The minister assured that the current government is committed to providing facilities to investors for the development of industry and agriculture, which is their top priority. He also emphasized the importance of food security and the need for cooperation between the two countries in this sector. The meeting aimed



to explore opportunities for bilateral cooperation and strengthen economic ties between Pakistan and Japan.

Experts on World Asthma Day stresses public awareness drives

Pulmonologist & Experienced Medical Professional Dr Rizwan Uppal talking to PTV news channel, explained that asthma is a common chronic lung disease with two main causes: inflammation and tightening of the muscles surrounding the airways

ISLAMABAD: Health experts on World Asthma Day stressed public awareness to empower people for well-management of disease and to take all protective measures to remain safe from any painful situation as changing lifestyles, increasing pollution and smoking are the main contributors factors of this disease. Pulmonologist & Experienced Medical Professional Dr Rizwan Uppal talking to PTV news channel, explained that asthma is a common chronic lung disease with two main causes: inflammation and tightening of the muscles surrounding the airways. World Asthma Day is an annual event organized by the Global Initiative for Asthma (GINA) to improve asthma awareness and care around the world, he added.

"Inhalers are the best and

safest way of treating asthma but in Pakistan, people have serious reservations about using them," he said. "early symptoms include shortness of breath, wheezing, chest tightness and coughing, he mentioned.

According to experts, asthma can be controlled if treated properly, however, unfortunately majority of the people in Pakistan are unaware of its treatment and the rising levels of air pollution are leaving more patients prone to the disease. Worldwide deaths from the disease have reached over 300 million people worldwide annually, he added. The first step towards managing asthma is to identify and reduce exposure to triggers, he said, adding, that doctors should check the inhaling techniques of their patients on every visit to the clinics.

"Asthma can be hereditary

or may result from environmental pollution, indoor pollutants and household allergens, etc," he said. A Senior Consultant Chest Physician Dr Waqas Rashed added that in our society some people consider asthma as a communicable disease and avoid the company of people who are suffering from it, adding, that around 12 percent of schoolchildren are suffering from asthma in Pakistan. Asthma is not curable, but it is a controllable disease. A lot of people visit quacks in the hope of getting cured, but they would get only strong doses of oral steroids only to add their serious side effects to the disease, he added. Replying to a Question, he said that industrial workers are at great risk of occupational asthma due to the non-availability of proper

ventilation, masks, clean workplaces and environment, etc. He expressed fear that the ratio of patients can increase further in the coming years if air pollution is not controlled, he added. To another question, he said that Asthma is a serious global health problem affecting all age groups, adding, it is increasing rate of disease in our country which is affecting the lungs of the people. Experts are also called upon to increase their awareness of the continuing preventable morbidity associated with this common disease despite the existence of highly effective controller treatments and to increase their efforts to ensure that environmentally friendly inhaled medications are made available in all countries.—APP

Thai university announces undergraduate scholarships

ISLAMABAD: The Faculty of Economics of Chulalongkorn University, Thailand has established the "Undergraduate Scholarship Program for International Students" to provide financial assistance to qualified non-Thai students who wish to study in Thailand through the competitive international EBA program. According to the Higher Education Commission (HEC), the EBA program is Thailand's most important and innovative program in the field of economics. "With a vision to be an internationally competitive program that aims to produce economists who are highly qualified to contribute to society with ethical and social responsibility", its primary objective is to produce outstanding undergraduates. To fulfill its vision, the EBA program pursues the mission of equipping students with excellent and in-depth knowledge that meets international standards of excellence. It was also intended to emphasize the development of basic competencies for lifelong learning, such as skills and personal attitudes, and to consider this as an integral part of a high-quality undergraduate education in economics. The latest curriculum in the EBA program focuses on private-sector economics, a field that meets students' general interests and career goals. Multilateral and bilateral exchange agreements with several leading institutions in the European Union and Asia have provided excellent opportunities for EBA students to study abroad for one or two semesters. The EBA program was awarded the AUN-QA (ASEAN University Network Quality Assurance) certification in 2015. Furthermore, EBA is increasing the number of its partner institutions in every corner of the world. Our exchange number of incoming and outgoing students has been raised to promote an international atmosphere in the program, the sources added.

PML-N MPA booked

DNA

ISLAMABAD: A case has been lodged against Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) MPA Malik Tariq Awan for allegedly torturing a servant at guest house of Pakistan Tehreek e Insaaf (PTI)-backed Sunni Ittehad Council (SIC) MNA Asif Khan in Peshawar. Police said the case was lodged on behalf of Asif's servant against the PML-N MPA on several charges including terrorism. According to the first information report (FIR), a group of 20 people led by Awan came to the guest house and subjected the victim to torture. "At least five persons have been arrested on MNA Asif's report, which alleges Awan of attacking," said police. However, Superintendent Police Faqeerabad Usama Amin Cheema said no incident of firing took place during all that episode. The SP said workers of both the parties raised slogans against each other during the face-off. Meanwhile, the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Assembly secretary called on Awan at his house to inquire about his well-being. The MPA apprised him that police did not come to Tariq Awan Qila for a raid rather they had come to take his instance regarding the incident and to provide him security.

PDMA devises guidelines about heat waves

ISLAMABAD: Director General (DG) Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) Punjab Irfan Ali Tuesday said that on the strict direction of Chief Minister Punjab comprehensive guidelines have been devised in view of the unprecedented heat waves and heavy monsoon rains. Talking to a private news channel, he said heatwaves are expected to hit Punjab province during the ongoing month, we urged the masses to take timely precautionary measures. "There are chances of heatwaves in the plains of Punjab," he said, adding, "The effects of heatwaves will be particularly high in major cities". He also asked citizens that they should also be made aware of weather changes and precautionary measures. Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) had already issued a warning regarding severe heatwave conditions during the next week in upper, central and south Punjab, he mentioned. He said that Punjab Chief Minister has also reviewed the pre-flood arrangements expected in June and July by the PDMA Punjab and has expressed satisfaction over them.—APP

ANF recovers huge drugs

The successful operation reflects the unwavering commitment of the ANF against drug trafficking

RAWALPINDI: Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) while conducting a raid at Badruddin Yard, Karachi managed to recover a huge quantity of liquid methamphetamine being smuggled to Japan through an Afghan transit shipment. According to an ANF Headquarters spokesman, ANF in a major operation at Badruddin Yard, Karachi seized a huge quantity of drugs recovered from a suspicious Afghan shipment. He informed that ANF foiled a drug smuggling attempt being sent to Japan by labeling "pomegranate juice" through cargo. After a detailed inspection, 360 liters of liquid methamphetamine (Ice) concealed inside juice cans were recovered. He informed that the seized cargo was being sent to Bengo Port in Japan According to the preliminary investigation, the seized consignment was sent from Afghanistan to Karachi. The exploitation of the trade routes by drug trafficking networks highlights a serious threat, he said. The successful operation reflects the unwavering commitment of the ANF against drug trafficking.—APP

IRSA releases 147,700 cusecs water

ISLAMABAD: IRSA on Tuesday released 147,700 cusecs water from various rim stations with inflow of 183,000 cusecs. According to the data released by IRSA, water level in River Indus at Tarbela Dam was 1466.48 feet and was 52.48 feet higher than its dead level of 1,398 feet. Water inflow and outflow in the dam was recorded as 34,200 cusecs and 20,000 cusecs respectively. The water level in River Jhelum at Mangla Dam was 1166.90 feet, which was 116.90 feet higher.—APP

IP and SDGs: Building our common future

FAISAL SHEIKH

ISLAMABAD: The Intellectual Property Organization of Pakistan (IPO-Pakistan) in collaboration with The Millennium Universal College (TMUC) celebrated World Intellectual Property Day 2024 with a seminar on "IP and SDGs: Building Our Common Future with Innovation and Creativity". The event aimed to raise awareness about the importance of intellectual property rights in promoting innovation, creativity, and sustainable development, and to empower citizens with knowledge and skills in IP management. Ambassador (R) Farukh Amil, Chair-IPO

Pakistan, delivered the keynote address, emphasizing the significance of mainstreaming IP education into the national curriculum. He urged students to invent, own, and earn from their ideas, and highlighted IP's critical role in national development, economic security, and empowerment, particularly in achieving the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). He stressed that IP is directly linked to development in numerous ways and is a critical tool for empowerment. Ms. Shazia Adnan, Director General IPO-Pakistan, reaffirmed the commitment to fostering creativity, protecting innovation, and nurturing the innovative spirit. She announced plans to introduce IP education in the national curriculum, a nationwide IP awareness campaign, and the development of a National IP Strategy. She emphasized that today's celebration marks not only a commemoration of past achievements but also a collective commitment to shaping a future filled with innovation, creativity, and prosperity. Dr. Faisal-Abad Mushtaq, Founder & CEO of TMUC, welcomed the participants, emphasizing the significance of collaboration between academia, industry, and government in promoting IP awareness and protection. He highlighted TMUC's commitment to fostering innovation and creativity among students

and entrepreneurs. The seminar featured a panel discussion with experts, including Mr. Majid Bashir, IP law expert, Ms. Malecha Mimi Bangash, banking and financial expert. The panelists shared insights on IP's role in achieving the SDGs, challenges and opportunities in the IP landscape, strategies for effective IP protection and enforcement. The Q&A session that followed allowed participants to engage with the panelists and discuss their concerns and ideas. The event was attended by Ambassadors, students, entrepreneurs, innovators, and IP professionals, who appreciated the efforts of IPO-Pakistan.

MOST EXPERIENCED MANUFACTURERS & EXPORTERS OF MARTIAL ARTS UNIFORMS IN PAKISTAN

JUDO
KARATE
KUNG-FU
JU-JITSU
TAEKWONDO
UNIFORMS AND COLOURED BELTS

WHERE EACH STITCH IS WATCHED

ASHRAF INDUSTRIES (PVT) LTD
127 C, Industrial Estate
Sialkot-51340, Pakistan
Phones: +92-52-3256000 / 3255788
E-mail: info@ashraf.net.pk

Ashraf

Pakistan's First And Only Diplomatic Daily

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

Member APNS / ABC Certified

Vol: 05 Issue: 164

Email: dailyisbpost@gmail.com

Phone: 051-2266165 / 051-2261960

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

American universities: from fighting SA apartheid to Israeli genocide

JAMAL KANJ

AMERICAN universities pride themselves on being a melting pot of free exchange of ideas and critical thinking. The US university tenure system provides academic freedom for professors to instruct and encourage students to think outside the box, fostering the pursuit of ideas that might be considered unpopular or controversial. An environment that enables students to engage in academic learning and encourages involvement in social and political activism; to challenge and prepare tomorrow's leaders free of outside influence. Notwithstanding the foregoing, recent student protests throughout US universities have exposed the limit of this academic freedom when confronting the Israeli Iron Curtain. Professors and students were brutally thrown to the ground, handcuffed, and detained as if they were criminals. Police in full combat gear, flaunting guns and batons, with prisoner buses lined up to intimidate protesters are reminiscent of scenes under dictatorships the US condemns. The protests at US campuses have revealed a sharp divide between those demanding an end to their university's complicity with the Israeli genocide and those who weaponize antisemitism to stifle criticism of "Israel". Ironically, within the latter group, the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) has aligned with Democratic Israeli apologists and bona fide antisemitic Republicans to pressure US academia to shut down the peaceful protests. ADL and its cohorts flourish on Western antisemitism. They thrive on hate, much like ants forage on aphids, ensuring that Jews in the West live in perpetual insecurity. ADL tolerates proven antisemites, such as evangelical Zionists and Donald Trump (aphids), when it benefits "Israel". This explains why someone like Trump, who in the summer of 2017 described Charlottesville white supremacists chanting "Jews will not replace us" as "very fine people," is by far the favored choice for Israelis and hardened American Zionists, to be the next US president. Among Israelis who support the current racist Israeli government coalition, Trump's favorability jumps to a whopping 72 percent. The AIPAC-financed diabolical alliance, led by the ADL, and otherwise politically antagonistic politicians such as Republican representative Mike Lawler and Democrat Josh Gottheimer, were united in heeding Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's call to end student protests. They sought to inaugurate the Israeli Iron Curtain by decreeing that criticism of the Israeli government policies would violate American laws. In his audacious sermon to Americans on April 24, Netanyahu demanded university leaders to take stiffer measures against the students and professors, while showering praise on "local, state, and federal officials" for cracking down on the peaceful protests. He also misidentified the actors when he compared American university protests to Nazi Germany. In fact, the only resemblance between the events at American universities today, and Nazi Germany in the 1930s is the suppression of free academia.



3-phase Gaza truce agreement

THE Islamic Resistance Movement - Hamas informed mediators on Monday that it has agreed to a proposed prisoner exchange and ceasefire deal with the Israeli occupation. The proposal would include three phases, each lasting 42 days. The guarantor countries for the agreement will be Qatar, Egypt, the United Nations, and the United States. Phase one: A temporary ceasefire would commence, coupled with the withdrawal of Israeli occupation forces from the Netzarim corridor [which currently serves as a demarcation line dividing northern and southern Gaza]. Israeli forces are set to withdraw from eastern and residential areas of Gaza. Military aviation and surveillance over the region will cease for 10 hours daily, extending to 12 hours on days of prisoner releases. The daily entry of 600 aid trucks, including 50 fuel trucks, with 300 specifically allocated for northern Gaza. IOF to fully withdraw from al-Rashid Street on day three, enabling forcibly displaced Palestinians to return home and humanitarian aid to enter without obstacles. IOF will withdraw from Gaza's central areas on day 22, including the Nitzarim Axis and the Kuwait Roundabout. Under the terms of the agreement, the Resistance will release Israeli captives, including non-military, elderly, and those who are sick and under the age of 19. In reciprocation, "Israel" will release 30 Palestinian children and women for each female Israeli prisoner, based on lists provided by Hamas. Hamas will release all living Israeli female soldiers in exchange for 50 Palestinian prisoners per soldier. Three Israeli prisoners will be released on the third day, followed by another three every seven days. During the sixth week, Hamas will release the remaining civilian prisoners covered in this phase, with "Israel" releasing the agreed-upon number of Palestinian detainees. On day 22, "Israel" will release all prisoners from the Shalit deal who were re-detained, and any detainees held after October 7, 2023. The exchange process is contingent on compliance with the agreement terms, including halting mutual military operations and completing necessary legal procedures to prevent the re-arrest of Palestinian prisoners. Sanctions imposed on Palestinian prisoners and detainees after October 7, 2023, will be lifted, and their conditions improved. The United Nations and its agencies, including UNRWA, will continue their services in Gaza during the three phases, commencing infrastructure rehabilitation across all Gaza areas, accompanied by the necessary civil defense equipment and debris removal. The agreement facilitates the entry of necessary supplies for housing forcibly displaced individuals who lost their homes during the war, with no fewer than 60,000 temporary housing units. Plans for comprehensive reconstruction of homes, civil structures, infrastructure, and compensation for the affected will commence. Phase two: The return of sustainable calm and the cessation of military operations, with its commencement. The announcement of the cessation of military operations precedes the exchange of male prisoners. Phase three: The exchange includes all bodies and remains of Resistance martyrs, Palestinians, and IOF casualties after identification.

Supreme Court verdict revives PTI's hopes

Qamar Bashir



The objection was promptly rejected, with the argument that the appeal was filed under Article 185 of the Constitution and not Article 184/3. Therefore, the question before the bench was whether the appeals were admissible or not, and if found maintainable, a larger bench could also be constituted to hear the case. The newfound strength and courage, and the demonstration of their commitment to not only deliver justice but also ensure that justice is seen to be delivered, was a consequence of the six judges' letter to the Supreme Judicial Council

BREAKING the deafening silence against oppressions of the courts by the six courageous judges had given the courage and strength to the Supreme Court's three-member bench to admit the appeal preferred by the Sunni Ittehad Council (SIC), suspended the the decision of the Peshawar High Court, and declared that those elected against the reserve seats claimed by SIC will not be able cast their votes in any matter being taken by the assemblies both at the national and provincial level. During the hearing the bench raised many pertinent and consequential questions which they might not have dared raised prior to the six Judges letter. "The most consequential question, 'Would a political party get reserved seats according to the seats it has won, or can it also get more [than its share]?' The answer was, 'Any political party, under any circumstances, cannot get more than its share of reserved seats.' The second question was, 'Where is it written in the law that the remaining [reserved] seats should be distributed among the same political parties?' Next question was, 'Where is it written in the law that a political party cannot contest elections upon not receiving an electoral symbol?' 'How is it possible that someone's mandate is handed over to someone else?' 'Can seats belonging to independent candidates be distributed among other parties?' 'Can other remaining reserved seats also be distributed to them? Is there anything like that in the law?'. 'If there is nothing as such in the law, then isn't doing so against the Constitutional scheme?' Whether the ECP had not given the unallocated reserved seats to other political parties under its suo motu powers. 'What cannot be done directly cannot be done indirectly either.' 'Is it right to ignore a political party's mandate in an indirect manner?' The most consequential observation was: 'One thing is decided - a party would only get reserved seats according to the representation it has [in the assemblies].'" "Both the Attorney General and the ECP representative could not reply to any of the questions

to the satisfaction of the three-member bench. Consequently, the bench accepted the case for hearing, suspended the earlier ECP and PHC decisions limited to the allocation of the remaining reserved seats, which had been distributed among three other political parties. "The current government perhaps did not anticipate that the Supreme Court Procedure and Practices Act 2023, which deprived the chief justice of the sole power to constitute benches, would work against them. Recognizing that this bench did not include any judges perceived to be favorable to them, the Attorney General at the outset raised an objection against the formation of the bench and demanded the formation of a larger bench. The objection was promptly rejected, with the argument that the appeal was filed under Article 185 of the Constitution and not Article 184/3. Therefore, the question before the bench was whether the appeals were admissible or not, and if found maintainable, a larger bench could also be constituted to hear the case. The newfound strength and courage, and the demonstration of their commitment to not only deliver justice but also ensure that justice is seen to be delivered, was a consequence of the six judges' letter to the Supreme Judicial Council. During the hearing on April 30th, almost all judges of the bench expressed dismay over the character-smearing campaign against the six judges, noting that personal and sensitive data had been retrieved from NADRA, PTI, immigration records, and travel history, which no member of the public could have accessed. They observed with great pain and anguish that the same executive branch, which is supposed to protect the judiciary, seemed to have turned against it." "They insisted, without succumbing to any argument, that the interference of the executive in the judiciary is a matter of paramount importance, therefore, the Supreme Court has the unavoidable responsibility to act, and act now and fast, to create a foolproof firewall around the judiciary at all levels to shield it from outside interference. During the hearing on April-30, the Peshawar High Court's response, among others, was read out. The PHC stated that, in order to receive a

favorable decision in politically consequential matters, the court was threatened by the non-state actors. The PHC's admission explained the level of fear, intimidation, and threat it faced. Knowing that upholding the decision of the EC would be unconstitutional and unlawful, the PHC did so to protect themselves and the lives of their loved ones." "If the Supreme Court had not intervened to suspend the allocation of 78 reserved seats, this would have brought the total strength of PM-L(N) and its allies in the National Assembly close to achieving a two-thirds majority and would have given them unmandated power to amend the constitution as they see fit, whenever required. This verdict of the Supreme Court has also opened the door for hearing on the merit of other consequential and linked cases awaiting hearing by the Supreme Court, such as the matter of compiling the Elections-2024 results based on Form 45, illegal arrest and incarceration of PTI founder, PTI's leaders, and workers, among others. Let's consider a hypothetical scenario where the Supreme Court fixes the case of election irregularities and announces that election results should be compiled based on Form 45. According to PTI and independent election observers, this could mean that PTI would secure 180 seats in the National Assembly. When combined with reserved seats, PTI would have a comfortable majority to form the government both at the center and in Punjab. Consequently, the incumbent governments would have to step down. Let us assume further that the cases against the PTI leader are heard by the Supreme Court purely on merit. This could mean that the founder chairman of PTI would soon be released from jail. He would then contest the election on any seat or seats and most likely, after winning the elections, will become the country's next legitimate and credible prime minister, opening new vistas of either confrontation or reconciliation, instability or stability depending upon how the establishment, political parties, and foreign powers react to this scenario."
- Former Press Secretary to the President
Former Press Minister to the Embassy of Pakistan to France
Former MD, SRBC

US universities: From fighting SA apartheid to Israeli genocide

Jamal Kanj

One day before the mob attack, pro-Israeli bullies harassed and called the protesters "animals" and yelled at a black student, "go listen to your master." Imagine if a similar derogatory language targeted a Jewish student; cable news and the print media would compete to interview the victim, you'd know their names, and they might even receive a White House invitation. But it is not the same when the victim happens to be a black person. Still, the mainstream media rarely reports on the pro-Israeli outside agitators. When covering the middle-of-the-night UCLA assault...

AMERICAN universities pride themselves on being a melting pot of free exchange of ideas and critical thinking. The US university tenure system provides academic freedom for professors to instruct and encourage students to think outside the box, fostering the pursuit of ideas that might be considered unpopular or controversial. An environment that enables students to engage in academic learning and encourages involvement in social and political activism; to challenge and prepare tomorrow's leaders free of outside influence. Notwithstanding the foregoing, recent student protests throughout US universities have exposed the limit of this academic freedom when confronting the Israeli Iron Curtain. Professors and students were brutally thrown to the ground, handcuffed, and detained as if they were criminals. Police in full combat gear, flaunting guns and batons, with prisoner buses lined up to intimidate protesters are reminiscent of scenes under dictatorships the US condemns. The protests at US campuses have revealed a sharp divide between those demanding an end to their university's complicity with the Israeli genocide and those who weaponize antisemitism to stifle criticism of "Israel". Ironically, within the latter group, the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) has aligned with Democratic Israeli apologists and bona fide antisemitic Republicans to pressure US academia to shut down the peaceful protests. ADL and its cohorts flourish on Western antisemitism. They thrive on hate, much like ants forage on aphids, ensuring that Jews in the West live in perpetual insecurity. ADL tolerates proven antisemites, such as evangelical Zionists and Donald Trump (aphids), when it benefits "Israel". This explains why someone like Trump, who in the summer of 2017 described Charlottesville white supremacists chanting "Jews will not replace us" as "very fine people," is by far the favored choice for Israelis and hardened American Zionists, to be the next US president. Among Israelis who support the current racist Israeli government coalition, Trump's favorability jumps to a whopping 72 percent. The AIPAC-financed diabolical alliance, led by the ADL, and otherwise politically antagonistic politicians such as Republican representative Mike Lawler and Democrat Josh Gottheimer, were united in heeding Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's call to end student pro-

tests. They sought to inaugurate the Israeli Iron Curtain by decreeing that criticism of the Israeli government policies would violate American laws. In his audacious sermon to Americans on April 24, Netanyahu demanded university leaders to take stiffer measures against the students and professors, while showering praise on "local, state, and federal officials" for cracking down on the peaceful protests. He also misidentified the actors when he compared American university protests to Nazi Germany. In fact, the only resemblance between the events at American universities today, and Nazi Germany in the 1930s is the suppression of free academia. In 1930s Germany, voices that rejected Nazism were vilified, and "federal officials" ousted university presidents, banned professors from their classes, and Nazi mobs assaulted peaceful citizens. The Nazis did in German universities what Netanyahu solicited "local, state, and federal officials" to do - at US campuses. At the same time, the ADL and the parochial pro-"Israel" professional victims, waged a smear campaign slandering protesting students as antisemitic and accusing them of creating an "unsafe and uncomfortable" environment for other students. Undoubtedly, demanding a ceasefire and protesting the use of starvation as a weapon of war would likely make those who support war and genocide uncomfortable, just as dictators would be uncomfortable when challenged. Nevertheless, the purported discomfort doesn't give "federal officials" the right to abridge freedom of speech, or silence criticism of a foreign government and its policies. Since the start of the student protests, the "uncomfortable" herd, mostly non-university students, has sought to provoke friction as part of a strategy to instigate chaos and disorder with the aim of compelling "local officials" to interfere. This is exactly what took place at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) around 2 a.m. on May 1st, when a masked mob of non-student, pro-"Israel" Jewish, and rightwing hate groups attacked protesting students, resulting in serious injuries. One day before the mob attack, pro-Israeli bullies harassed and called the protesters "animals" and yelled at a black student, "go listen to your master." Imagine if a similar derogatory language targeted a Jewish student;

cable news and the print media would compete to interview the victim, you'd know their names, and they might even receive a White House invitation. But it is not the same when the victim happens to be a black person. Still, the mainstream media rarely reports on the pro-Israeli outside agitators. When covering the middle-of-the-night UCLA assault, the media called it a "clash" and a counter-protest, conveniently failing to mention that the attackers were not students. Then, the police, who failed to protect the peaceful protesters, used the pro-Israeli precipitated bedlam as a pretext to raid the student encampment, arresting the victims rather than apprehending the trespassing assailants. On May 6, the California Highway Patrol (CHP) and the San Diego County Sheriff dispersed a peaceful protest at the University of California, San Diego. A day earlier a group of non-student genocide supporters attempted to provoke friction flaunting Israeli flags and harassing protesting students. Soon thereafter, and following a pattern similar to UCLA, the university administration declared the encampment illegal. Early in the morning, clad in full riot gear and armed with rifles, CHP and Sheriffs closed off access to the university and canceled all in-class activities before raiding the protest site, brutally beating and detaining over 60 students. Reminiscent of the American student protests in 1968, the current student movement, spreading like wildfire, in America and globally, is a natural response to the inept international system and governments led by compliant politicians. This phenomenon is described as the "eros effect" by my friend and scholar, George Katsiaticos. Professor Katsiaticos defines the eros effect as when an event sets off a chain of similar events, triggering a sudden mass political awakening driven by a sense of injustice and international solidarity. At such a point, the entrenched system becomes imbalanced, and change is most likely to succeed. In the 1960s, American students transcended the national divide, opposing an unjust war abroad, and inequality at home. In the 1980s, they protested and helped defeat apartheid in South Africa. Today, a new generation of American students stand united, facing formidable forces invested in privileges rooted in oppression and determined to end the Israeli-made starvation and genocide in Gaza.

Briefs

No talks with anarchist...

FROM PAGE 01
the people accused of being involved in May 9 riots need to be punished," said the chief military spokesperson. Commenting on the prospects of dialogue with any faction, Maj Gen Chaudhry said: "No talks will be held with any political leader, or group which attacks its own army and indulges in propaganda [against them]."

DG ISPR's press...

FROM PAGE 01
conference, Hasan said it reflected "a mind full of contradictions because at the end of it all I could not understand anything". He added that he could not understand "why there is such frustration and what are the factors that propel them again and again to give such statements which have no rationale or logic".

Israeli forces...

FROM PAGE 01
Israeli-occupied territories. A Palestinian security official and an Egyptian authority have told the Associated Press news agency that Israeli tanks have entered Rafah, reaching as close as 200 meters from Rafah's border crossing with neighboring Egypt.

UNGA to vote on...

FROM PAGE 01
the vast majority of the 193-member General Assembly is likely to support the Palestinian bid. However, those opposed could demand changes to the draft, raising concerns with the current text, which also grants additional rights and privileges, short of full membership, to the Palestinians.

US resolves to extend...

FROM PAGE 01
In Pakistan, this project will be presented to the Green Climate Fund for financing. "Efforts are underway to lower the temperature by 1 degree Celsius at the international level until 2030. The partnership with Pakistan is underway in line with the US-Pakistan Green Alliance," said Blome.

Azlan Shah Cup: Pakistan remain unbeaten with draw

Rana Waheed scored the equaliser for Pakistan

SPORTS DESK

IPOH: Pakistan held Japan for a 1-1 stalemate and continued their unbeaten run in the ongoing Sultan Azlan Shah Cup 2024 here on Tuesday. Pakistan and Japan went hard at each other from the word go but neither of the sides could manage to get the upper hand and played out the first two quarters goalless.



HannanShahid gave Pakistan an early lead against South Korea, courtesy of a field goal in the third minute before Arshad Li-aqat doubled the lead in the 20th minute. Pakistan's third goal also came as a field goal, scored by Ghazanfar Ali in the 27th minute while Sufyan Khan converted a penalty corner in the 50th minute to seal a 4-0 victory.

Pakistan announce squad for Engro CA Volleyball League

The team is ready to showcase their skills and sportsmanship in the Engro Central Asian Volleyball Nations League, representing their country with pride and determination

AFZAL JAVED

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Volleyball Federation (PVF) on Tuesday announced its fourteen member's squad for the Engro Central Asian Volleyball League starting from 11 May to 17 May 2024 at Liaquat Gymnasium, Pakistan Sports Complex Islamabad.

Iran, Kyrgyzstan, Sri Lanka, Turkmenistan, Afghanistan and host Pakistan. "The Engro Central Asian Volleyball League promises to be a thrilling competition, bringing together top teams from the region to compete for glory and recognition," said Chaudhry Mohammad Yaqoob, adding that fans and supporters are invited to come and cheer for all the participating teams as they strive for victory in this prestigious tournament.

Ahmed Khan Sady and Ehsan Iqbal are named assistant coaches along with the squad. Brazilian Lucas Rodrigues, will be with the team as a physical trainer, while Muhammad Ismail Khan, Muhammad Sulaiman Amin and Juan Cobucci, Scoutman from Argentina will join the Pakistan Volleyball team as Assistant Scoutman.

PSG backed ahead of UCL semi-final

SPORTS DESK

PARIS: Former Paris Saint Germain midfielder Javier Pastore has backed the French side ahead of the second leg of the UEFA Champions League semi-final against Borussia Dortmund at the Parc des Princes on Tuesday. Dortmund have a slim 1-0 lead in the tie thanks to the winner by Niclas Fullkrug in the first leg.

Wembanyama named NBA Rookie of the Year

"It has always been really important and I'm glad it's finally official."

Oklahoma City Thunder centre Chet Holmgren came second with Brandon Miller of the Charlotte Hornets third

LONDON: San Antonio Spurs star Victor Wembanyama has been named NBA Rookie of the Year. The 20-year-old is the first Frenchman to win the award after averaging 21.4 points, 10.6 rebounds, 3.9 assists, a league-high 3.6 blocked shots and 1.2 steals a game.

Forest lose appeal against four-point deduction

Agencies

NOTTINGHAM: Nottingham Forest have failed in their appeal to have their four-point deduction for breaching financial rules in the 2022/23 season overturned. The club were charged in January after breaching Profitability and Sustainability Rules (PSR) by £34.5m above their permitted threshold of £61m for the assessment period ending 2022/23.

T20 WC: Mitchell Marsh expected to be fit in time

The Aussie skipper got injured during the ongoing IPL 2024

WEB DESK

SIDNEY: Australia will begin their T20 World Cup 2024 campaign on June 5 against Oman in Barbados and they will have their skipper, Mitchell Marsh, fit in time, confirmed head coach Andrew McDonald.



week before we leave. And then he'll be able to ramp that up when we're over there. "We'll be able to cherry-pick the moments during the tournament where he'll be useful with the ball, (and) we've got some all-round depth in the squad, which gives us good coverage anyway."

Bangladesh edge Zimbabwe to take an unassailable lead

They dominated the Zimbabwean bowlers and added 87 runs amid their stand, which spanned less than 10 overs

CHITTAGONG: Towhid Hridoy's blistering half-century, followed by a combined bowling effort led Bangladesh to beat Zimbabwe by nine runs in the third T20I of the five-match series here on Tuesday. The narrow victory in the third T20I meant that the home side claimed the series with a decisive 3-0 lead and two matches to spare.

inant position with a sensational partnership. They dominated the Zimbabwean bowlers and added 87 runs amid their stand, which spanned less than 10 overs. Towhid Hridoy and Jaker Ali both per-

ished in the penultimate over, bowled by Blessing Muzarabani, who returned brilliant figures of 3/14 in his four overs. Hridoy remained the top scorer for Bangladesh with a 38-ball 57 with the help of three



boundaries and two sixes while Jaker made 44 off 34, hitting the same number of boundaries. Set to chase 166, Zimbabwe fell narrowly short of pulling off a miraculous victory, which momentarily seemed possible during FarazAkram's late onslaught. The touring side, after a dismal start, lost wickets at regular intervals and had consequently slipped to 91/8 in 14.1 overs. However, Akram, coming out to bat at No.10, Faraz put on an astounding 54-run partnership with Wellington Masakadza to keep Zimbabwe in the hunt. Zimbabwe then needed 21 runs off the final over but Mohammad Saifuddin castled Masakadza on the first delivery to put Bangladesh on top.

Zardari gets 'immunity'..

FROM PAGE 01

before the accountability court and filed a plea seeking to halt the court's proceedings against his client. "As per the law, Asif Zardari has presidential immunity. The case against Zardari cannot proceed as long as he remains in office," argued the lawyer.

Saudi delegation...

FROM PAGE 01

Colombia for establishment of a joint trade committee. The Cabinet also approved flight operations by Air Sial to China, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Turkey, United Kingdom and Kuwait. This approval has been granted under National Aviation Policy 2023 and Air Services Agreement.

'Govt not doing...

FROM PAGE 01

the independence of the judiciary. The six IHC judges - Justice Mohsin Akhtar Kayani, Justice Babar Sattar, Justice Arbab Muhammad Tahir, Justice Tariq Mahmood Jehangiri, Justice Sardar Ejaz Ishaq Khan and Justice Saman Rifat Imtiaz - had written a letter to the chief justice, who is also chairman of the Supreme Judicial Council (SJC). Seeking guidance from the council on "interference" of the spy agencies in courts' affairs, the judges wrote: "We are writing to seek guidance from the Supreme Judicial Council (SJC) with regard to the duty of a judge to report and respond to actions on part of members of the executive, including operatives of intelligence agencies, that seek to interfere with discharge of his/her official functions and qualify as intimidation, as well as the duty to report any such actions that come to his/her attention in relation to colleagues and/or members of the courts that the High Court supervises."

MBS visit to Pakistan...

FROM PAGE 01

obligations. Addressing a press conference at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the deputy prime minister and foreign minister, to a query regarding Iran-Pakistan gas pipeline, said that the government would take the decisions in the national interests and would not allow interference into its international obligations. He also termed the Iranian President's visit to Pakistan as very productive. To another query, he replied that Crown Prince and Prime Minister of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Mohammed bin Salman would undertake a bilateral visit to Pakistan soon and they would receive a date in this regard, in the current month. Earlier, initial and business to business meetings had taken place which helped in finalizing the groundwork for the top Saudi leadership's visit to Pakistan, he added.

Lost and Found

I, Atif Hussain Awan S/o Makhzan Khan (R/O Sasali Gahr, Teh-Dist Hajaira) have Lost my Original Vehical Smart Card Registration No (IDK-4C73), Chasis No (941589), Engine No (F331626), Model 2000 Suzuki Cultus in I-9 Islamabad. If found please contact (0341-5180011).

Briefs

UK police close Shahzad Akbar acid attack probe

ISLAMABAD: The UK police have shut down a probe into a reported acid attack on former Assets Recovery Unit (ARU) head Shahzad Akbar after finding no suspects during an around six-month-long investigation, according to a media report published Tuesday.

"We have explored all lines of enquiry and have not been able to identify any suspects," the report quoted a police source linked with counter-terrorism policing.

Calling it an extremely complex investigation, the Hertfordshire Constabulary said, "Since November, officers have been working hard to try and trace those involved. On this occasion, we have explored all lines of enquiry and have not been able to identify any suspects. Incidents of this nature are thankfully rare in Hertfordshire and the safeguarding of any victim remains our priority. Should any new information come to light, we will act on this accordingly."

The media report also quoted an intelligence source confirming that the investigation has been closed after no suspects were found during the "dedicated investigation" marking the review of several hours of footage including the entry and exit points of the local area in Royston. The decision to close the investigation was made after the forensics didn't create any headways and no clues were found, it added.

In November last year, the Herts police said they were contacted by the ambulance service just before November 26, 2023 at 4.45pm on Sunday to reports of an assault in Royston. "It is believed an acidic solution was used. A 44-year-old man received hospital treatment and has now been discharged. Safety of any victim is paramount and we believe this is an isolated incident," the police had said. According to the media report, Imran Khan's former advisor holds evidence and documents in the £190 million corruption case. He took away these state-owned papers and refused to cooperate with the inquiry. The Cabinet Division had also sent him a letter asking questions about his role in the £190 million properties settlement case and Imran Khan and Bushra Bibi's Al-Qadir Trust case.—

APP

UBS net profit up 71%

ZURICH: Swiss banking giant UBS on Tuesday said first quarter net profit rose 71 percent to nearly \$1.8 billion after two quarters in the red due to the takeover of Credit Suisse.

Switzerland's biggest bank said turnover increased by 46 percent to \$12.7 billion. A company statement said income of its investment bank — the largest project in the integration of rival Credit Suisse — increased by 16 percent due to a more favourable market climate and a good performance of IPOs and mergers and acquisitions. In March 2023, Swiss authorities strongarmed UBS into the \$3.25-billion takeover to prevent Credit Suisse from going under with catastrophic consequences for the global financial system. The results for the first three months of 2024 were a moment for the bank to review progress since the integration of Credit Suisse. "A little over a year ago, we were asked to play a critical role in stabilising the Swiss and global financial systems through the acquisition of Credit Suisse and we are delivering on our commitments," said UBS chief executive Sergio Ermotti. "This quarter marks the return to reported net profits and further capital accretion — a testament to the strength of our business and client franchises and our ability to deliver significant progress on our integration plans while actively optimising our financial resources." The megamerger combined two heavyweight banks pulling in diametrically different directions. As for the outlook, the bank said that although monetary easing was expected in the eurozone.—Agencies



Federal Minister for Communications, Privatization & Board of Investment, Abdul Aleem Khan inspecting land slide in Skardu on May 6, 2024.

At UN Pakistan pushes for preventing weaponization

The 193-member Assembly was debating Russia's veto in the Security Council last month which blocked a draft resolution aimed at preventing a new extraterrestrial arms race

UNITED NATIONS: Pakistan has called for steps to prevent the weaponization of outer space, saying such a course would avert a grave danger to international peace and security. "The threats to security in and from outer space have escalated sharply in recent years. This is evident from the placement of weapons in space, and its increasing characterization as the next war-fighting frontier in the military policies and doctrines of major powers," Ambassador Munir Akram told the UN General Assembly on Monday.

The 193-member Assembly was debating Russia's veto in the Security Council last month which blocked a draft resolution aimed at

preventing a new extraterrestrial arms race. Due to the negative Russian vote, the 15-member Council failed to adopt last month's text, which received 13 votes in favour, with China abstaining. The draft resolution was introduced by United States and Japan and co-sponsored by over 60 nations. In his remarks, Ambassador Akram said that the US-Japan draft resolution rightly recognized that the prevention of an arms race in Outer Space would avert a grave danger for international peace and security; underscored the importance of the Outer Space Treaty; and reiterated that the Geneva-based Conference on Disarmament as the sole

multilateral disarmament negotiating forum. Pakistan, he said, has always maintained a principled position that resolutions on global disarmament issues should be deliberated and concluded in an inclusive and transparent manner within the appropriate forums — the Conference on Disarmament (CD), the UN Disarmament Commission and the First Committee of the UN General Assembly, which deals with disarmament and international security matters. The Pakistani envoy regretted that there has been no progress on a Treaty to Prevent an Arms Race in Outer Space for over four decades. "Initially," he said, "some dismissed the possibility of an

arms race in outer space. Then, they argued that it was too late to prevent its militarization and called for focusing on non-weaponization measures. Now, they want to concentrate on behavior rather than capabilities, ignoring the inherent risks of legitimizing the weaponization of Outer Space." Pakistan, Ambassador Akram said, has been advocating a comprehensive approach with a dual focus on both capabilities and behaviour. "We have consistently advocated urgent negotiations on a legally binding instrument on PAROS (Preventing Arms Race in Outer Space). Currently, we have also actively contributed to non-legally binding measures

such as Transparency and Confidence-Building Measures (TCBMs). However, he added, the evident gaps in the international legal regime cannot be filled by TCBMs or other non-legally binding norms. Regretting that a few states continue to block the start of such negotiations in the Committee on Disarmament (CD) on a legally binding instrument that prohibits the placement of weapons in outer space and outlaws the threat or use of force against outer space objects, the Pakistani envoy said that they have failed to explain how such negotiations would undermine their security interests. "They have also failed to justify why definitional and verification

issues cannot be taken up during negotiations — an approach that they advocate for another item in the CD." Ambassador Akram therefore hoped that this issue of weaponization of Outer Space, which has been raised in the Security Council, will be transmitted to the C.D. for further consideration within the context of negotiations on a Treaty to prevent an arms race in Outer Space. Earlier, Russian Ambassador Vassily Nebenzya explained why his delegation voted against the US-Japan draft resolution. He stated that despite its "beautiful sounding title", the text failed to address its declared goal because that objective was already covered by existing international agreements.—DNA

No letup yet for flood-battered southern Brazil

PORTO ALEGRE, BRAZIL: The rains may have abated, but floodwaters continued their assault on southern Brazil Monday, with hundreds of municipalities in ruins amid fears that food and drinking water may soon run out. Since the unprecedented deluge started last week, at least 85 people have died and more than 150,000 were ejected from their homes by floods and mudslides in Rio Grande do Sul state, authorities said. The search is becoming ever more desperate for 134 people reported missing among the devastation that also left 339 people injured. The disaster, which experts and the government have linked to climate change, has left the state resembling "a scene out of a war," the state's governor Eduardo Leite said Sunday. In total, 385 cities, towns and villages have been hit, many of which remain cut off from the world — without access to drinking water or electricity or any means of calling for help. In Porto Alegre, the state capital with 1.4 million inhabitants, many suburbs remained under water even as the sun shone Monday. "Last night, the water came up to the corner and had stabilized. Today, we woke up and it was outside my house and rising," Neucir Carmo, a 62-year-old resident of the Floresta neighborhood, told AFP. "We don't know how high it will go." The Guaiba River, which flows through the mega-city of high-rise buildings and wide streets, reached a record high level of 5.3 meters (17.4 feet) Sunday — well above the historic peak of 4.76 meters that accompanied devastating floods in 1941. By Monday morning, the level had receded slightly, to 5.27 meters. The MetSul meteorological agency said on its website that some parts of Porto Alegre, the wider metropolitan region and valley settlements "will be uninhabitable for weeks to months." —DNA

New York judge threatens Trump with jail

NEW YORK: The New York judge presiding over Donald Trump's historic criminal trial threatened the former US president with jail time on Monday if he commits another violation of his gag order. Trump, 77, is charged with falsifying business records to reimburse his lawyer, Michael Cohen, for a \$130,000 payment made to a porn star just days ahead of his 2016 race against Hillary Clinton. Stormy Daniels, whose real name is Stephanie Clifford, was threatening at the time to go public with her story about a 2006 sexual encounter with Trump, a salacious revelation that could have been damaging to his White House campaign. Judge Juan Merchan held Trump in contempt of court and fined him \$1,000 on Monday for a violation of the gag order prohibiting him from publicly attacking witnesses, jurors or court staff and their relatives. Trump, whose trial is taking place six months ahead of an expected White House rematch with Democrat Joe Biden, was also fined a total of \$9,000 last week. But Merchan said these penalties were not serving as a "deterrent" and he would have to consider jail time for further violations. "As much as I do not want to impose a jail sanction... I want you to understand I will," Merchan told Trump, who sat silently at the defense table dressed in a dark blue suit and red tie. "At the end of the day I have a job to do and part of that job is to maintain the dignity of the justice system," the judge said, calling Trump's defiance a "direct attack on the rule of law." Merchan's ruling came at the start of the third week of testimony in the high-stakes trial of the Republican White House candidate, the first former US president to face criminal charges. Speaking to reporters after the day's proceedings, Trump blasted the case as "election interference" by Democrats to keep him off the campaign trail. "I should be out campaigning," he said. Before the day wrapped up, prosecutors said they expect at least two more weeks of witness testimony, drawing an angry reaction from Trump. I thought they were going to be finished today and they want two to three more weeks," he told reporters. He also criticized the gag order. "Our constitution is much more important than jail, it's not even close," he said. "I'll do that sacrifice any day." Prosecutors called two witnesses on Monday. Jeffrey McConney, a Trump Organization executive, walked the jury through the reimbursements to Cohen for the hush money paid to Daniels, saying most of the funds were drawn from Trump's personal account. McConney was followed by Deborah Tarasoff of the Trump Organization's accounts payable department, who was asked about the checks signed by Trump to pay Cohen back. Daniels, 45, and Cohen, 57, who has become a vocal critic of his former boss, are both expected to testify at some point during the trial. Hope Hicks, a former close advisor to Trump, testified last week about the "crisis" that engulfed his 2016 presidential campaign after a tape emerged of him bragging about groping women. Hicks said she was a "little stunned" by the now infamous Access Hollywood tape in which Trump was heard boasting about grabbing women's genitalia. Hicks was a key player in the final stages of Trump's successful 2016 presidential campaign when the hush money payments to Daniels were allegedly made. According to prosecutors, panic over the tape triggered a Trump campaign effort to silence Daniels over her claim of a sexual encounter with the married Trump. Trump denies ever having sex with Daniels. In addition to the New York case, Trump has been indicted in Washington and Georgia on charges of conspiring to overturn the results of the 2020 election won by Biden. He also faces charges of illegally storing huge quantities of top-secret documents taken from the White House at his home in Florida.—DNA

UN pledges to stand with Gazans

UNRWA is not evacuating: the agency will maintain a presence in Rafah as long as possible and will continue providing lifesaving aid to people

UNITED NATIONS: Amid reports that 100,000 Palestinians have been told by Israel to leave Rafah ahead of an anticipated military operation there and that Hamas has accepted the latest Israeli ceasefire proposal, UN humanitarian officials Monday insisted that they had no intention of quitting the vital aid hub. Israel has yet to respond to multiple news reports that Hamas's supreme leader, Ismail Haniyeh, had confirmed the acceptance of ceasefire terms, in a phone call with Qatar's Prime Minister and a senior Egyptian minister. Earlier, in the morning following news of the Israeli evacuation order, the UN agency for Palestine refugees UNRWA said in a post on X that "an Israeli offensive in Rafah would mean more civilian suffering and deaths. The consequences would be devastating for 1.4

million people." "UNRWA is not evacuating: the agency will maintain a presence in Rafah as long as possible and will continue providing lifesaving aid to people." Echoing that alert, the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) warned that "a military besiegement and ground incursion in Rafah would pose catastrophic risks to the 600,000 children" sheltering there. Many "are highly vulnerable and at the edge of survival", the UN agency said in a statement, highlighting increased violence in Rafah and the fact that potential evacuation corridors were "likely mined or littered with unexploded ordnance". Any military move on Rafah would likely result in very high civilian casualties while also destroying "the few remaining basic services and infrastructure" that people needed to survive, UNICEF insisted. "Hundreds of thousands of children who are now cramped

into Rafah are injured, sick, malnourished, traumatized, or living with disabilities," said UNICEF Executive Director Catherine Russell. "Many have been displaced multiple times, and have lost homes, parents and loved ones. They need to be protected along with the remaining services that they rely on, including medical facilities and shelter." In a related development, the head of the UN World Food Programme (WFP), Cindy McCain, said that northern Gaza was now experiencing "full-blown famine...and it's moving its way south". Ms. McCain's remarks on Sunday echoed serious and repeated concerns from other senior UN officials and the international community about aid restrictions and delays imposed by Israeli authorities. "The Israeli authorities continue to deny humanitarian

access to the United Nations," insisted UNRWA chief Philippe Lazzarini. "Only in the past two weeks, we have recorded 10 incidents involving shooting at convoys, arrests of UN staff including bullying, stripping them naked, threats with arms and long delays at checkpoints forcing convoys to move during the dark or abort," he said in a post on X on Sunday. The UNRWA Commissioner-General also condemned rocket attacks on Kerem Shalom crossing which reportedly killed three Israeli soldiers, leading to its closure. The crossing is a key humanitarian relief entry point. According to media reports, leaflet drops by the Israeli military above eastern Rafah advised communities to move to the so-called safe zone of Al Mawasi, to the west of Rafah, by the Mediterranean Sea. UN humanitarians have previous-

ly rejected similar evacuation initiatives by the Israeli military on the grounds that they represent forced displacement. "In Al Mawasi, there is a severe lack of sufficient infrastructure including water available and it is not feasible to support tens of thousands of displaced people there," UNRWA spokesperson in Gaza Louise Wateridge told UN News. More than 400,000 people already shelter in the coastal location, according to the UN agency's latest assessment, which reported an influx of displaced persons from nearby city of Khan Younis. To help them, UNRWA has two temporary health centres in Al Mawasi, along with other newly established medical points in the area. "Unlike claims (to the contrary), it is far from safe, because nowhere is safe in Gaza," insisted UNRWA Communications Director Juliette Touma. Since October 7.

China says top climate envoy heading to US for talks

BEIJING: China's top climate envoy will head to the United States for talks with US counterpart John Podesta on Tuesday, Beijing said, as the world's top two emitters seek to deepen cooperation on combatting global warming. Beijing's Ministry of Ecology and Environment said in a statement that Special Envoy for Climate Change Liu Zhenmin will head to the United States from May 7 to 16. He and Podesta will discuss "promoting China-US climate cooperation to achieve practical results", the ministry said. The US State Department said the talks would take place in Washington. It also said the two sides would discuss issues "including energy transition, methane and other non-CO2 greenhouse gases, circular economy and resource efficiency, low-carbon and sustainable provinces/states and cities, and deforestation, among others". The talks will be the first in-person between the two envoys since taking their positions as well as the first between the United States and China on the environment since the UN's COP28 summit in Dubai late last year. That summit saw nations endorse for the first time a call for an eventual transition away from fossil fuels responsible for global warming. Prior to the meetings, Liu and Podesta's predecessors met in California for talks that culminated in a joint statement from the world's two largest carbon-emitting nations that helped form a basis for COP28. Beijing said the two envoys planned "an in-depth exchange of views" on the agreement forged during those talks, known as the Sunnylands Statement on Enhancing Cooperation to Address the Climate Crisis.—APP

Boeing probed in US over possible falsified records on 787

NEW YORK: US air safety authorities are investigating whether Boeing completed required plane inspections on the 787 and whether employees falsified aircraft records, officials said Monday. The issue centers on whether Boeing undertook required inspections to "confirm adequate bonding and grounding where the wings join the fuselage on certain 787 Dreamliner airplanes," the Federal Aviation Administration said in an email. The FAA said it opened the investigation after Boeing notified it that the company may not have completed required inspections, which are needed to ensure a safe and functional electrical flow between aircraft components. "The FAA is investigating whether Boeing completed the inspections and whether company employees may have falsified aircraft records," the agency said. "At the same time, Boeing is reinspecting all 787 airplanes still within the production system and must also create a plan to address the in-service fleet." The issue surfaced after a Boeing employee observed an "irregularity" and raised the issue with a supervisor who elevated it further. "We quickly reviewed the matter and learned that several people had been violating company policies by not performing a required test, but recording the work as having been completed," Scott Stocker, head of the Boeing 787 program, said in an email to staff. "We promptly informed our regulator about what we learned and are taking swift and serious corrective action with multiple teammates," said Stocker, adding that engineering staff determined that the issues does not pose an immediate safety of flight risk. The probe adds to the litany of issues facing Boeing in the aftermath of a near-catastrophic Alaska Airlines flight in January in which a panel on the fuselage blew out. The FAA has given the company three months to present a plan to address "systemic quality-control issues." The company's management of the 787 came under question at an April 17 Senate hearing at which a company whistleblower testified that he was retaliated against after raising questions about manufacturing processes on the 787 that he believed threatened aircraft safety.—APP

Briefs

PTI founder declines to meet Marwat

ADIL SHAHEEN

RAWALPINDI: The PTI founder declined to meet Sher Afzal Marwat, as his name was not included in the list of scheduled meetings provided by the founder himself. Tuesday's list of meetings was provided by the PTI founder, who is currently incarcerated in Adiala Jail. It's worth mentioning that a prearranged list is provided in advance for meetings with the PTI founder in jail.

Naqvi, Bugti discusses law and order situation

STAFF REPORT

QUETTA: Federal Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi visited Quetta today and met Balochistan Chief Minister Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti at Chief Minister House. Sarfraz Bugti welcomed the Interior Minister on his arrival at Chief Minister House. During the meeting, issues of mutual interest, law and order situation in the province and other important issues were discussed. Interior Minister assured all possible cooperation to improve the law and order situation in Balochistan and said that all kinds of resources are available for Balochistan province. Balochistan has a very important role in development of the country, he said. He added that I am always available for the welfare of my brothers from Balochistan. Balochistan Chief Minister Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti thanked Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi for his cooperation towards public order in the province. CM Balochistan said that all resources are being used for peace and order in the province. Balochistan Home Minister Ziaullah Langove and Federal Interior Secretary Khurram Ali Agha were also present on the occasion.

Several key positions in PPP remain unfilled

DNA

LAHORE: Several key positions within the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) remain unfilled, with no immediate chances of being filled. Asif Ali Zardari's assumption of the presidency of the country left the position of PPP (Parliamentarians) chairman vacant. Also, Faisal Karim Kundi's appointment as KP governor created a vacancy for the party's central information secretary. Sardar Salim Haider's nomination as Punjab governor means the party will have new Rawalpindi division president. It's anticipated that Raja Pervez Ashraf will replace Yousuf Raza Gilani as senior vice chairman, and Nadeem Afzal Chan is poised to take over as central information secretary.

Philippines envoy emphasizes Pakistan-ASEAN cooperation

ISSI holds second round of dialogue with ASEAN Committee in Islamabad



KHAYAM ABBASI

ISLAMABAD: The Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI) held the second round of dialogue with ASEAN Committee in Islamabad (ACI) comprising heads of missions of ASEAN member states here on Tuesday. The ASEAN delegation was led by the current ACI Chair, Ambassador Maria Agnes M. Cervantes, Ambassador of the Philippines to Pakistan. Ambassador Sohail Mahmood, Director General ISSI, led the ISSI side, a news release said. In his opening remarks, Ambassador Sohail

Mahmood highlighted the special significance Pakistan attaches to ASEAN as part of its "Vision East Asia." While noting ASEAN's standing as a global economic powerhouse and a successful model of regional cooperation, he underlined Pakistan's growing engagement with ASEAN member states, both bilaterally and on the institutional plane. Among other things, he noted that the two-way trade volume between Pakistan and ASEAN had reached \$ 11.8 billion, highlighting the potential for further growth with the \$3 trillion economy of the region. Tracing the history of Pakistan's Sectoral Dialogue with ASEAN he emphasized

the efforts being made for its elevation to Full Dialogue Partnership status. Ambassador Sohail Mahmood also highlighted the initiatives taken by the ISSI for promoting Pakistan-ASEAN relations, which include establishing a first-of-its-kind "ASEAN Corner" in the ISSI Library last year. For the future, the Institute plans to organize activities that help raise awareness about ASEAN and its global significance, strengthen mutual trade ties and economic collaboration, and promote academic and research linkages as part of people-to-people contacts. Earlier, DrTalatShabbir, Director, China

Pakistan Study Centre ISSI stated that Pakistan and ASEAN share a longstanding and robust relationship. Pakistan's strategic location as a bridge between South Asia and the Middle East complements ASEAN's focus on trade and connectivity. Furthermore, the collaboration between Pakistan and ASEAN extends to diverse areas including agriculture, education, counterterrorism and development. Philippines Ambassador Maria Cervantes emphasized that the cooperation between Pakistan and ASEAN is important. She acknowledged the importance Pakistan attaches to Full Dialogue Partnership with ASEAN and assured support in Pakistan's efforts as well as those of the ISSI in this regard.

During the wide-ranging discussion on agenda points, it was agreed that deepening Pakistan-ASEAN cooperation across diverse domains – political and security, economic, and socio-cultural – was the most desirable pathway. It was further agreed to focus on special publications, promote exchanges between respective business communities, and strengthen links between think-tanks on both sides.

The other members of the ASEAN delegation included Ambassador Nguyen Tien Phong, Ambassador of Vietnam; Mr. Aung KyawThuya, Charge d' Affaires of Myanmar; Mr. RahmatHindiartaKusuma, Charge d' Affaires of Indonesia; Mr. MohdSyafiqHassubullah, Charge d' Affaires of Malaysia; Mr. KhairurrijalHazim, Charge d' Affaires of Brunei Darussalam; and Ms. Gob Kamola, Charge d' Affaires of Thailand. Ambassador Khalid Mahmood, Chairman Board of Governors ISSI, delivered concluding remarks at dialogue.

Another IHC judge seeks contempt proceedings

Justice Mohsin Akhtar Kayani writes letter to Islamabad High Court chief justice requesting action

COURT REPORTER

ISLAMABAD: Following Justice Babar Sattar's request, Justice Mohsin Akhtar Kayani has also written a letter to the Islamabad High Court chief justice requesting initiation of contempt proceedings over a malicious smear campaign being run against him on social media. According to sources, Justice Kayani has forwarded his request to IHC Chief Justice Aamer Farooq. Sources say a bench is likely to be constituted based on the requests made by Justice Babar Sattar and Justice Mohsin Akhtar Kayani in response to the slur campaigns launched against them on social media platforms. On Monday, Justice Babar Sattar wrote a letter to the IHC chief justice to launch contempt proceedings against those who breached his and his family's privacy by sharing details, including their US residence permits, online. Sattar pointed out that identity cards and permanent residency cards of his family members were uploaded on social media. Earlier on Sunday, the IHC public relations office issued a statement in response to the social media campaign, calling it "malicious and contemptuous".

Modi votes as election heats up

AHMEDABAD: Hindu nationalist Prime Minister Narendra Modi cast his ballot Tuesday in India's ongoing general election after giving several inflammatory campaign speeches accused of targeting minority Muslims. Turnout so far has dropped significantly compared with the last national poll in 2019, with analysts blaming widespread expectations that Modi will easily win a third term and hotter-than-average temperatures heading into the summer. Modi walked out of a polling booth early morning in the city of Ahmedabad while holding up a finger marked with indelible ink, flanked by security personnel and cheered by supporters. – Agencies

Government mulls increasing retirement age

"Service structure will be changed over a period of time to reduce its [pension liability] burden," says finance minister

DNA

ISLAMABAD: In a bid to reduce pension payments, Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb has revealed that the government is considering raising the upper age limit for retirement on the board ahead of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) mission's visit to the country. Addressing a joint press conference flanked by Law Minister AzamNazeerTarar and Minister for Information and Broadcasting AttullahTarar in Islamabad on Tuesday, Aurangzeb said: "Service structure will be changed over a pe-



riod of time to reduce its [pension liability] burden." The IMF team is expected to visit Pakistan this month during which the contours of a larger and longer programme will be discussed, the finance czar added. He further said that their focus is to ensure macroeconomic stability and structural reforms. Last month, cash-strapped Pakistan made a formal request to the IMF for seeking the next bailout package in the range of \$6 to \$8 billion under Extended Fund Facility (EFF) with the possibility of augmentation through climate financing. The News reported. The government made the request as the country completed a short-term \$3 billion programme in April. Speaking on the occasion, Aurangzeb said that the confidence of investors is increasing Pakistan as a result of its march towards stability. He said: "The visit of the Saudi delegation remained very successful. The Saudi delegation evinced confidence in Pakistan's economy." The country is heading in the right direction, the minister said adding that agriculture is witnessing growth of 5% on the back of bumper crops. He said the foreign exchange reserves have exceeded \$9 billion dollars while inflation has reduced from 38% to 17% and it is gradually coming down. The finance minister emphasised the need to enhance the tax-to-GDP ratio to 13 to 14%. He said reforms in the energy sector will be carried out and losses of state-owned enterprises will be reduced.

PM Shehbaz talks to UAE president on phone

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister of Pakistan Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif held a telephone conversation with His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) this evening. The Prime Minister conveyed heartfelt condolences to the UAE President on the sad demise of his beloved uncle His Highness Sheikh Tahnoun bin Mohamed Al Nahyan and prayed for eternal peace of the departed soul as well as patience for the Royal Family to bear this irreparable loss. The Prime Minister said that the people of Pakistan have always held the UAE Royal Family in high esteem and respect, particularly lauding the leadership of the late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, founder of the UAE, who was a great friend of Pakistan. The UAE President thanked the Prime Minister for the telephone call. Both leaders reaffirmed their resolve to enhance bilateral ties between the two brotherly countries. They also agreed to meet soon at a mutually convenient date.

Taliban say order restored after Afghan opium poppy protests

International research firm Alcis released research based on satellite data last year showing there had been a drastic reduction of opium production in most provinces between 2022 and 2023, often by more than 90 per cent

FOREIGN DESK

KABUL: The Afghan Taliban said on Tuesday they have quelled protests in a northern province over security forces' attempts to eradicate opium poppy cultivation which generates income for many impoverished farmers. Taliban authorities were holding meetings in Badakhshan, spokesman ZabihullahMujahid said in a Whatsapp message, after several days of protests, in which two people were killed. Mujahid said in a separate statement that a delegation from Kabul, led by the defence chief of staff, would this week travel to Badakhshan to investigate, a rare official acknowledgement of civil disturbance since the Taliban returned to power in 2021. Since then, they have vowed to restore control over the entire war-torn nation and have at times forcefully broken up protests in urban areas, especially against decisions that restrict women from educa-

tion and many workplaces. "The Badakhshan issue can be solved," Mujahid said. "Two of our countrymen lost their lives during the clashes, their rights will be observed," he said, adding that authorities would meet with relatives and make a decision over compensation for their deaths. International research firm Alcis released research based on satellite data last year showing there had been a drastic reduction of opium production in most provinces between 2022 and 2023, often by more than 90 per cent. However it noted that in Badakhshan, the amount of land used for poppy cultivation had grown. Mujahid did not elaborate on the cause of the deaths. Local broadcaster Tolo reported that the two had been killed as the protests became violent and security forces opened fire late last week. Zabihullah Amiri, head of the Taliban-run provincial government's media department, said that an official delegation from the provincial capital had travelled to the two districts to hold meetings and that the areas were now "under control".

Russian plot to kill Zelensky foiled, Kyiv says

According to the SBU, the plotters had aimed to use a mole to get information about his location, which they would then have attacked with rockets and drones

Putin starts new six-year term

WEB DESK



MOSCOW: Russian President Vladimir Putin said it was up the West to choose between confrontation and cooperation as he was sworn in for a new six-year term on Tuesday at a Kremlin ceremony that was boycotted by the United States and many of its allies. More than two years into the war in Ukraine, Putin said he wanted to "bow" before Russia's soldiers there and declared in his inauguration speech that his landslide re-election in March was proof the country was united and on the right track. "You, citizens of Russia, have confirmed the correctness of the country's course. This is of great importance right now, when we are faced with serious challenges," he told dignitaries in a gilded Kremlin hall where a trumpet fanfare sounded to greet his arrival. "I see in this a deep understanding of our common historical goals, a determination to adamantly defend our choice, our values, freedom and the national interests of Russia." At 71, Putin dominates the domestic political landscape. Leading opposition figures are in prison or exile, and his best known critic, Alexei Navalny, died suddenly in an Arctic penal colony in February. YuliaNavalnaya, the late dissident's wife, urged supporters in a video on Tuesday to keep up the struggle against Putin.

KIEV: The Ukrainian security service (SBU) says it has foiled a Russian plot to assassinate President VolodymyrZelensky and other high-ranking Ukrainian officials. Two Ukrainian government protection unit colonels have been arrested. The SBU said they were part of a network of agents belonging to the Russian state security service (FSB). They had reportedly been searching for willing "executors" among MrZelensky's bodyguards to kidnap and kill him. Ever since Russian paratroopers attempted to land in Kyiv and assassinate President Zelensky in the early hours and days of the full-scale invasion, plots to assassinate him have been commonplace. The Ukrainian leader said at the start of the invasion he was Russia's "number one target". But this alleged plot stands out from the rest. It involves serving colonels, whose job it was to keep officials and institutions safe, allegedly hired as moles. Other targets included military intelligence head KyryloBudanov and SBU chief VasylyMalyuk, the agency added.

The group had reportedly planned to kill MrBudanov before Orthodox Easter, which this year fell on 5 May. According to the SBU, the plotters had aimed to use a mole to get information about his location, which they would then have attacked with rockets and drones. One of the officers who was later arrested had already bought drones and anti-personnel mines, the SBU said. SBU head VasylyMalyuk said the attack was supposed to be "a gift to Putin before the inauguration" - referring to Russia's Vladimir Putin who was sworn in for a fifth term as president at the Kremlin on Tuesday. The operation turned into a failure of the Russian special services, MrMalyuk said. "But we must not forget - the enemy is strong and experienced, he cannot be underestimated," he added. The two Ukrainian officials are being held on suspicion of treason and of preparing a terrorist act. The SBU said three FSB employees oversaw the organisation and the attack. One of them, named as DmytroPerlin, had been recruiting "moles" since before Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February 2022. Another FSB employee, Oleksiy Kornev, reportedly held "conspiratorial" meetings "in neighbouring European states" before the invasion with one of the Ukrainian colonels arrested. – Agencies

MURREE SPARKLETT'S
Bottled Drinking Water

WATER TASTES BEST IN GLASS!!

CARBONATED WATER ALSO AVAILABLE IN GLASS BOTTLE

330ml 750ml

For Sales & Supply Contact:

Adeel Butt 03334131756
Kaiser Waheed 03325808422
Riaz Muhammad 0335 5111043