

SC defers hearing on review plea against Article 63-A

Will try to bring Justice Munib Akhtar back to the bench, otherwise, the bench will be reconstituted, hearing to resume today with new bench if Justice Munib recuses, says CJP: Justice Munib writes another letter; asks how can 4 member bench hear and pass an order in 63 A case

STAFF REPORT /DNA

ISLAMABAD: The Supreme Court has adjourned the hearing on a review petition challenging its judgement on the defection clause under Article 63-A of the Constitution after Justice Munib Akhtar refused to become part of the five-member bench. The originally formed five-member bench, headed by Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Qazi Faez Isa, had comprised Justice Aminuddin, Justice Jamal Khan Mandokhail, Justice Mazhar Alam, and Justice Munib.

However, as the hearing began today, Justice Munib was unavailable from the bench, following which the CJP adjourned the hearing till tomorrow (Tuesday), saying that the judge would be requested to rejoin the bench. "We will try to bring Justice Munib Akhtar back to the bench, otherwise, the bench will be reconstituted," said the chief justice.

In his letter, Justice Munib said that he did not recuse from the bench, saying he cannot be a part of a bench that was constituted by Practice and Procedure Committee. "My letter should be made a part of the case record," said Justice Munib, to which CJP Isa said this could not happen. He added that it would have been appropriate had Justice Munib given his opinion after being part of the bench. The CJP said that he respects Justice Munib's opinion, however, the case has been pending for more than two years and the Article 63-A case is very important. Justice Munib, in his letter, noted that the "matter of fixing a bench for the CRP appeared suddenly on the committee's agenda at its 17th meet-

SC nixes LHC's election tribunal order

Electoral body had moved apex court against constitution of election tribunals in Punjab

COURT REPORTER

ISLAMABAD: The Supreme Court on Monday accepted the Election Commission of Pakistan's (ECP) plea against the Lahore High Court's (LHC) June 12 verdict. The high court had formed election tribunals to adjudicate petitions related to national and provincial assembly constituencies in the February 8 general elections. The decision was challenged by the electoral body in the top court contending that it held the authority to form the tribunals and which couldn't be exercised by the LHC. The 5-0 unanimous verdict, reserved on September 24, was announced by Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Qazi Faez Isa-led five-member bench comprising Justice Amin-ud-Din Khan, Justice Jamal Khan Mandokhel, Justice Naeem Akhtar Afghan and Justice Aqeel Ahmed Abbasi.

Continued on Page 06



ISLAMABAD: Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar 50 chairs an Inter-Ministerial to review preparations for the forthcoming 12th Session of Joint Ministerial Commission (JMC) with the United Arab Emirates. - DNA

Malaysian PM set to visit Pakistan

Pakistan and Malaysia enjoy strong bilateral ties anchored in history, culture and faith

FAISAL SHEIKH

ISLAMABAD: At the invitation of Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif, Prime Minister Dato' Seri Anwar Ibrahim of Malaysia will undertake an official visit to Pakistan from 2-4 October 2024. He will be accompanied by a high-level delegation comprising Min-Ministers isters, Deputy and senior officials. Prime Minister Dato' Seri Anwar Ibrahim will hold meetings with Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif. The two sides will discuss a wide-ranging agenda to further strengthen Pakistan-

Stresses necessity of reform 'PPP won't yield to any pressure on judicial package'

PPP chief backs constitutional court with representation of provinces; parliamentary committee to appoint judges

STAFF REPORT QUETTA: As the coalition government

Continued on Page 06

Briefs No need for mily op. in Balochistan CM said that young

people were being deceived through false propaganda to stand up against the state

DNA

QUETTA:Balochistan Chief Minister Sarfaraz Bugti said on Monday that there was no need to continue military operations in the restive province of Balochistan. Speaking at a press conference in Quetta alongside Adeela Baloch, the CM said that young people were being deceived through false propaganda to stand up against the state. "We are making arrangements for better education for the girls of Balochistan. The militants are using young brains for their own gains. These people are not serving Balochistan in any way," he highlighted.

Govt reduces petroleum prices

Petrol will see a decrease of Rs2.07 per litre while HSD will be reduced by Rs3.40 per litre

DNA

ISLAMABAD: The federal government has announced another reduction in petroleum prices, aiming to provide continued relief to the public. Starting from October 1, petrol and diesel prices will be lowered, according to an official notification. Petrol will see a decrease of Rs2.07 per litre, bringing the price down from Rs249.10 to Rs247.03 per litre. High-speed diesel (HSD) will be reduced by Rs3.40 per litre, lowering its price from Rs249.69 to Rs246.29 per litre. In addition, light diesel will see a reduction of Rs1.03 per litre, with the new price set at Rs140.90 per litre.

'They want to break me' Imran Khan announces 'pro-judiciary' protests Govt has decided to file sedition charges against PTI leaders over speeches made at Sangjani rally, say sources

KHAYAM ABBASI

ISLAMABAD:Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founder and former prime minister Imran Khan has announced a series of protests in support of the judiciary, beginning in Mianwali, Faisalabad, and Bahawalpur on October 2. Addressing his supporters through a statement issued from Adiala Jail on Monday, Khan said, "We will protest at Minar-e-Pakistan in Lahore on October 5, and on October 4, Friday, we will gather at D-Chowk [in Islamabad]." Khan warned of attempts to "crush PTI" through the so-called "London RAWALPINDI: A court on Monday rebroader scheme. "They want to break me in jail, but I am not afraid, and neither should that PTI's protests would remain peaceful, ly, but this system has failed to protect us."

Continued on Page 06

Court rejects Imran, Bushra's bail pleas

Ex-PM, former first lady are set to be indicted in jewellery set case on October 2

COURT REPORTER

Plan," adding that his arrest was part of the jected the bail pleas filed by Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founder Imran Khan and his wife and former first the people be," he remarked. He emphasised lady Bushra Bibi in the new Toshakhana case where they face allegations of stating, "We have always protested peaceful misusing power to acquire state gifts. Conducting the hearing inside the

Continued on Page 06

Ukraine attempting to undermine political situation in Russia: envoy

Russian envoy said that an early negotiated end to the conflict will benefit Russia and Ukraine, as well as countries in the Global South, including Pakistan

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Russia to Pakistan Albert P.Khorev on Monday said the Ukrainians attacked the Russian Kursk region in an attempt to undermine the stable domestic political situation in Russia. Realizing that the strategic initiative "on the ground" is in Russia's hands along the entire line of contact, the Kiev regime unleashed large-scale military activities against the civilian population of our regions, and on August 6 this year the Ukrainian fighters invaded the peaceful, border region of Kursk, the Ambassador said. Ambassador of Russia to Pakistan Albert said this while addressing to press conference on the situation in and around Ukraine war. "I would like to reiterate that Russia is in favor of a political and diplomatic settlement of the conflict. The conditions for such a settlement, if you like, the "Putin formula", were set out in detail in a speech by the President of Russia on June 14 of this year at the Russian Foreign Ministry." He said the withdrawal of Ukrainian armed forces from the territories of

Continued on Page 06

Continued on Page 06 Lt General Malik takes charge as new ISI chief His appointment

is a pivotal moment for the ISI's strategic direction

MEHTAB PIRZADA

ISLAMABAD: Lieutenant General Muhammad Asim Malik has officially taken charge as the new Director-General of the Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI). His appointment marks a significant transition within Pakistan's intelligence community. Lt Gen Asim Malik is recognised as one of the Pakistan Army's most capable operational commanders, adept at meeting complex objectives with timely actions. Continued on Page 06

has yet to gain enough parliamentary strength for its contentious constitutional amendments, Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari reiterated his party's firm stance to bring judicial reforms without accepting pressure from any side. "This not possible that we do not accomplish a necessary task by succumbing to someone's pressure,' said Bilawal while addressing an event of the Peoples Lawyers Forum in Quetta on Monday. He claimed that the PPP was told to withdraw the recently proposed constitutional amendments or in another case, it should take back the 18th Amendment. The PPP chief claimed that his party had **Continued on Page 06**

objections to SC bench

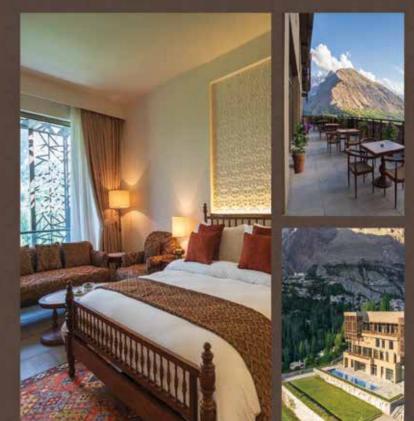
Imran Khan raises

CJP Isa, Justice Aminuddin to recuse themselves from case, demands PTI founder's lawyer

STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: The PTI founder's lawyer Barrister Ali Zafar raised objections to the formation of the bench hearing the 63-A review petitions. On Monday, the PTI founder's counsel filed an application in court. Zafar's petition challenged

Continued on Page 06



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Kanani said there is no need to send extra forces of the country FOREIGN DESK

TEHRAN: Iran will not deploy forces to Lebanon or Gaza to confront Israel, its foreign ministry said on Monday, as Israeli strikes target its allies in the region. "There is no need to send extra or volunteer forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran," said foreign ministry spokesman Nasser Kanani, adding that the Donetsk People's Republic, Luhansk People's Republic, Lebanon and fighters in the Palestinian territories

Iran rules out

military deployment

to confront Israel

Foreign Ministry spokesman Nasser

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HUNZA SERENA HOTEL

02

NATIONAL

Islamabad POST Tuesday, October 01, 2024

PTI in severe panic after two flop public meetings: Azma

LAHORE:Punjab Information Minister Azma Bukhari has said that the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf is in severe panic after holding two consecutive flop public meetings. Talking to media here on Monday, she said that a political party was creating unrest in the country. "KP Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur is hurling threats to run over the federation,' she added. Azma Bukhari said that Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz had provided maximum relief to people of Punjab during six months, adding that now people were fed up with the irresponsible behaviour of the PTI. She said that payment to media was ongoing while a process was being prepared to make payments on monthly basis. She said that the Punjab Chief Minister would soon visit the DGPR and it was top priority of the government to solve problems of journalists. Punjab Information Secretary Tahir Raza Hamdani and Director General Public Relations Sagheer Shahid also spoke

LDA seals more 36 properties over fee default

LAHORE: In a decisive efforts to combat illegal commercial activities, the Lahore Development Authority (LDA) on Monday sealed another 36 properties in the provincial capital. Following the directives from DG Tahir Farooq, LDA's Town Planning Wing sealed over three dozen commercial establishments in various areas, including Gulberg, Faisal Town, Allama Iqbal Town, and Mustafa Town, due to non-payment of commercial fees and illegal usage. The properties sealed during an operation include private banks, schools, universities, medical centers, offices warehouses, rental car services, beauty salons, grocery stores, and more. -APP

Court Notice

بعدالت جناب عران اصغرصا حب سول نیخ را دلینڈی دعوی استقرار حن بابت تصدیق دارمان



ISLAMABAD: Flags of Pakistan and Malaysia adorn Zero Point Interchange, welcoming Malaysia's Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim for his first official visit to Pakistan in the first week of October. –APP

Punjab CM launches "Honhaar Scholarship Program"

STAFF REPORT

LAHORE: Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif has launched the "Honhaar Scholarship Program," fulfilling another commitment to educational advancement. Registration for this initiative has been officially started. The programme is tailored to address global job market demands, providing scholarships to 30,000 students annually sh

across 68 disciplines. Eligible candidates include students from 50 public sector universities, 16 medical colleges, and 131 graduate colleges. Additionally, scholarships will extend to students at prestigious institutions such as LUMS, FAST, COMSATS, NUST, and the Ghulam Ishaq Khan Institute, along with seven other top private universities. Over the next eight years, the Honhaar Scholarship Program plans to distrib-

ute scholarships worth Rs 130 billion, benefiting 120,000 students in the coming four years. Interested students can apply at honhaarscholarship.punjabhec.gov.pk. The CM said "Thanks to Allah, The Almighty, I have fulfilled another promise made in my first speech." Maryam Nawaz emphasized that this programme will ensure access to quality education for deserving and talented students. "The Honhaar Schol-

arship Program will eliminate financial barriers for intelligent students seeking higher education," she said. The CM highlighted that the initiative aims to fulfill the educational dreams of the youth, enabling them to pursue advanced studies and achieve their aspirations. "We are committed to providing higher education and excellent employment opportunities for young people," she added. The programme is set to provide substantial financial support, significantly impacting the future of countless students in Punjab. Meanwhile, Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif took notice of an alleged molestation incident of a female student by the sub-inspector and a private security guard in Sargodha.

The Chief Minister sought a report from the Inspector General of Police Punjab in this regard. The CM asserted that the accused should be brought to justice at the earliest.

Kundi stresses women empowerment, police recruitment in KP

ISLAMABAD: Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Faisal Karim Kundi, on Monday said that women empowerment was top priority, and all possible measures would be taken to support this initiative. He expressed these views during a meeting with a delegation from the social organization SSDO and USIP. It included SSDO Executive Director Syed Kausar Abbas, Director Shahid Jatoi, Program Director Maryam Jawad, USIP Program Manager Hamza Ijaz, Program Officer Bilal Khattak, and Moiz. The meeting focused on promoting the recruitment of women in the police force in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. SSDO and USIP will run awareness campaigns to increase female representation in the police and will assist government institutions in policy-making. Governor Kundi welcomed the inclusion of women in the police force, assuring his full support for initiatives aimed at increasing their participation. He said that involvement of women in the police would not only protect women's rights but also enhance social balance and improve the justice system. He expressed pride in the capabilities demonstrated by women in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa across various sectors, saying that their participation in the police force is a testament to the province's progress towards a more equitable society. Earlier, Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Faisal Karim Kundi, on Monday extended heartfelt congratulations to renowned journalist Dr. Sadia Kamal on her election as the President of the Pakistan Federal Union of Journalists (PFUJ) Workers. In a message, the Governor praised Dr Sadia to become the president of journalist community. He said that it is significance for a woman to get leadership role and accept responsibility. He said that it was included in Pakistan Peoples Party's manifesto to encourage and empower women. Kundi described this election as a historic moment, not only for Dr. Kamal but for the entire journalistic community. He said, "Under Dr. Sadia Kamal's leadership, the strength and dignity of PFUJ Workers will surely increase. Her expertise, experience, and dedication to journalism will pave the way for new opportunities in the media sector." The Governor expressed his hopes for her success in this new position and emphasized the importance of promoting journalistic ethics. He conveyed confidence that Dr. Sadia Kamal would fulfill her responsibilities effectively and play a significant role in advancing press freedom and ethical journalism in Pakistan.-DNA

Chairman Senate for expediting uplift work in south Punjab

MULTAN: Chairman Senate Syed Yousuf Raza Gilani stressed the imperative need to accelerate development work in South Punjab. He said this while during a meeting with Additional Chief Secretary Fuad Hashim Rabbani at Circuit House, here on Monday. The meeting was also attended by Member of the National Assembly Syed Ali Musa Gillani and former MPA Syed Mujtaba Gillani. Gilani stressed that thorough oversight of ongoing projects was essential to ensure timely completion. "Winning public confidence hinges

SBBU organized breast cancer awareness seminar

HYDERABAD: Shaheed Benazir Bhutto University Shaheed Benazirabad organized an awareness seminar and rally in the university campus regarding breast cancer and other women's diseases in collaboration with Noran Cancer Hospital NawabShah. It was presided over by Vice Chancellor Engineer Professor Dr Madd Ali Shah. Speaking on this occasion, Dr. Mark Laghari, a cancer specialist, said that as a human being came into this world alone, he has to take care of himself. There is no need to panic about breast cancer, but if women do regular self-examination and timely mammograms, this disease can be defeated.

About 50% of women in this country are dependent on their men because they do not know that their lives are connected with their mental, psychological and physical health.–**APP**

Commissioner for steps to control dengue spread in Oct

PESHAWAR: Commissioner Peshawar Division Riaz Khan Mehsud on Monday directed all the deputy commissioners to chalk out comprehensive action plans to control possible dengue spread in the month of October due to decreasing temperature. Presiding over a meeting here on prevention of dengue in all the five districts of Peshawar Division, including Peshawar, Nowshera, Charsadda, District Mohmand and Khyber District, he said that in view of the further decrease in temperature in the month of October, there was a fear of further increase in dengue cases. He directed all the Deputy Commissioners to hold a meeting in their respective districts with relevant quarters and accelerate measures to promptly deal with dengue cases. The commissioner further directed them to submit a daily report to the Commissioner Peshawar Division Office. He also intimated that he himself would monitor and review all the measures and implementation of the action plan. The meeting was attended by all the deputy commissioners, District Health Officers, representatives of WSSP, local government and administrative officers of other relevant institutions. On the occasion the Commissioner was given a detailed briefing about the dengue situation in all the five districts of Peshawar Division and the measures taken so far. -APP

عابده شاجن وفيره يتأم فوام الناس عابده شاجين تيده مشقوت من سكند مكان غبر 134 ، بقلد ذهرى حسن آباد، عالى مورى، رادليندى كين اشتجار الناس كا تحيل ما طريقة مع مكن ند ب لهذا عوام الناس كو يذريعه المبارات بمان مقل كيا جاتا موام الناس كو يذريعه المبارات الم نسبت دعوى بذا مود دو مدونته 2024 مار ما متر الن نسبت دعوى بذا المال وكان كو كو كى عذر اعتر الن نسبت دعوى بذا المال وكان كو يكر في عذر اعتر الن نسبت دعوى بذا المال وكان كو يكر الم ول عن معدالت آوت كاوركو كى عذر قابل قبول نه وكا-

بعدالت جناب عمران اصفر صاحب سول نیخ راد لیندی د توی استنز ارت بابت در اخت نامد عجه ها جر بنام عوام الناس محموطا جر دلد محمد اسلم امر پوره برداد لیندی اشتبار بنام عوام الناس کی قبیل عام مقد مد عنوان بالا می عوام الناس کی قبیل عام طریقد می مکن نه بابدا عوام الناس کی قبیل عام اخبار اشتبار بذا مطل کیا جاتا ہے کہ اگر کی کولی عذر اعتراض نسبت دتوی بذا جو التو ده مدرد مذر بعیر تکار حاض نی ملاق جائے کی ادرکوئی عذر تول ذیری مدات دی می میں ادتی جائے کی ادرکوئی عذر تول ذیری دیکار می میں ادتی جائے کی ادرکوئی عذر تول ذیری میدان میں میں ادتی جائے کی ادرکوئی عذر تول ذیری دیوگ

بعدالت جناب شفراده کا مران صاحب مول نیج راولینری در خواست 25 گارڈین بعنوان مقدمه بویدا قبال بنام مساسد دوبال دختر محمد بلال بحمد محمد مید ریسر نویدا قبال نابالغ مسادق آباد رادلیندی ، برگاه آپ کوشط کیا جاتا بسی که آپ اصال کا که یابر معدی کارموشد 21 اکتر بر 2024 من 80 بچندال شری چش بول در ندار دانی بطرفه کل می الاتی جائے گی

Green Pakistan turns country land of migratory birds

PESHAWAR: Renowned for its rich biodiversity, Pakistan stands as an important country for conservation of wildlife and migratory birds, particularly its wetlands, which serve as vital breeding and resting grounds to thrive. The enlargement of forestry cover and wildlife habitats in

devoloped under green Pakiincluding houbara, cranes, stan initiative has made the geese and ducks mostly from freezing Siberia, the CARs country a home to wildlife and migratory birds especialand even Europe during ly of covered houbara migratharsh winter season owing ing in large number during to substantial enhancement winter season. Known as in their forest and wildlife land of Markhor, Pakistan's habitats, said Dr Muhamwetlands provide complete mad Mumtaz Malik, former breeding ground for migrato-Wildlife Department's KP ry birds mostly arriving from Chief. "These birds mostly the Central Asian Republics arrive through the interna-(CARs) and Siberia owing to tional migration route known as the Indus Flyway (IF), an enlargement of forestry

from Siberia and the CARs by passing through Karakoincrease of jungles with an abundance of weeds, insects ram, Hindukush, and Suleiman ranges along the Indus and plants raised in all four provinces under the Green River via KP to downwards Sindh coastal areas," said Pakistan Programme. Lies at Dr Mumtaz Malik while talkthe crossroads for birds miing to APP He said houbara gration, Pakistan's wetlands, arid and semi arid areas draw population mostly arrive Pakistan in October-December influx of migratory birds, due to limited resources of food in the freezing CARs and returns in March-April to their native areas. Besides wetlands, he said the desert plains of Punjab, Sindh, KP and Balochistan are the houbara, ducks, geese and cranes' wintering habitats where sufficient food is available for their natural breeding. Houbara's flocks mostly land in Kohat, Bannu, Lakki Marwat and DI Khan in KP,

Bahawalpur, Rahimyar Khan, Dera Ghazi Khan, Cholistan in Punjab, Tharparkar Sindh and Balochistan, he said, adding that they eat insects, wild fruits, small reptiles and twigs. Dr Mumtaz said houbara is very sensitive bird and it does not use the route again if they sense any danger on their way during the first journey, adding the bird move quickly as it takes only few days to reach Pakistan. "The weather determines the exact timing of travel as the large bird has to avoid harsh weather and snowfall in flights," he added. "The population travels in groups having a chieftain and once they looses their chieftain, the deputy guides the group to reach its destina-tion."–APP

Old students re-unioned after 49 years: an occasion full of joys and emotions

Govt High School Nawan killi, Swabi (Karnal Sher Killi)

SHAMIM SHAHID

PESHAWAR: It was surprising and emotional on the grounds as around 32 former students of Class 10th from Government High School Nawan Killi, now called as Captain Karnal Sher Khan village have held first ever get together after 49 years on Sunday. Almost of them not were not only gray-haired but even turned-palmed and grand-pa's. Only a few of them were as they remained during school period 1972-75. However, it was an occasion of happiness and surprising when no one was able to control their emotions. Credit goes to no other than Engineer Saeed

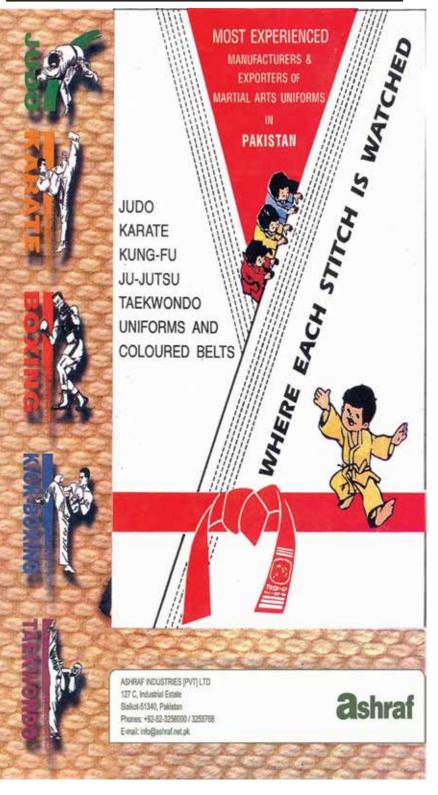
Ul Zaman who belong to village Serai, a small town on main Swabi Mardan Road and connecting two biggest tribes Razar and Omerkhel with each others, who with help of Social Media (WhatsApp) made assembled almost 35 students who have completed their 10th grade in 1975. Later he was joined in this successful move by Ilham Ud Din and Fazal Malik of village Rashakai Swabi and Shams Ur Rahman from village Totalai of Buner. In a period of around one and half a month, the strengthen of watsapp group (Session 1973-75 Government High School raised to over 40,) The group is now comprising students of both Sections A and B who remain fellows and mats from 1973 till 1975. On such

grounds, majority of them assembled in a brief but most impressive and historical gathering in a Restaurant at Swabi Interchange (also called as Ambar) on Sunday. All of them went surprising and emotional upon introductions with each others. Besides moderator and convenor Saeed Ul Zaman, who had served as Class Monitor of Section B, Ahmad Saeed from village Turlandi was also found same young, smart, health and clean-shaved when he arrived. Engineer Saeed Ul Zaman after spending 25 years of his life in Saudi Arabia, now settled in Islamabad. Ahmad Saeed had served Section A as its monitor. Ahmad Saeed had served Banking sector and couple of years retired at a very prestigious position. Soft speaking Khan

Hussain of village Hamza Dher is now a practicing law in Swabi and Mardan. Most interesting was Faqir Zaman who have gown and maintained beard on face like of late Urdu Teacher Rajab Khan Ustad of village Kalu Khan. Abdul Dayan from village Asota Sharif had served Police Intelligence Squads in Karachi and now his almost children (over one dozen) are in European world. Subhan Ullah who was made dishearten by tough and worm weather of Dera Ismael Khan, now retired ass Post Master from Pakistan Post and now living in home town Nawan Killi. Subhan had got admission in journalism department Gomal University Dera Ismael Khan but made worried by warm and tough weather, thus leaving

behind his belongings and didn't returned after spring vacations. Sardar Ghani returned as Educationist like of Pro. Zubair. Muhammad Iqbal Khan of village Managi had served Pakistan International Air Lines. Poet Fazal Yazdan from village Taraki has served the Education Department. Similar was the status of Sher Ali Khan who belong to same village Rashakai like of Faqir Zaman, Fazal Malik. Shams Ur Rahman from Totalai had served Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Public Health Engineering department and still eyeing on "earning" as he working with a firm from Saudi Arab on contract basis. Jehan Afsal from village Taraki had served armed forces and got retirement as a Major.

on efficient public service delivery and prompt resolution of pressing issues", Gilani maintained. The Chairman Senate further stated the need for permanent appointments in key institutions, urging that recommendations be forwarded to the Punjab Government, Gillani also directed enhanced security arrangements at the region's revered shrines. particularly Qila Kohna Qasim Bagh. He wished the removal of encroachments around the historic site to facilitate road expansion and improve traffic management. Reflecting on his tenure as Prime Minister, he recalled that plazas were constructed in Shaheen Market and Ghanta Ghar to relocate traders displaced by anti-encroachment measures. However, he added that the plan had not been fully implemented. The Chairman Senate also highlighted his role in securing a \$10 million grant from the Italian government for the preservation and restoration of Qila Kohna Qasim Bagh and its ancient walls. He stated the delays in utilizing these funds and suggested for the project's swift completion.-DNA





National Days and Armed **Forces Days**

OCTOBER

Oct 01/China National Day Oct 01/Cyprus

National Day Oct 01/Republic of

Korea **Armed Forces Day**

Oct 01/Nigeria **Armed Forces Day**

Oct 02/Guinea National Day

Oct 03/Germany **Unification Day** Oct 03/Republic of

Korea National Foundation Day

Oct 05/Indonesia **Armed Forces Day**

Oct 06/Egypt **Armed Forces Day** Oct 09/Uganda

Independence Day Oct 12/Spain

National Day Oct 23/Hungary

National Day October 24/United Nations

United Nations Day Oct/25/Romania

Armed Forces Day Oct 26/Austria National Day

Oct 27/Turkmenistan Independence Day

Oct 28/Czech Republic National Day Oct 29/Turkey **Republic Day** Hotels &



Restaurants

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



CDA, Guizhou FAO discuss collaboration in Big Data

Both sides agreed to continue their engagement to enhance their cooperation. It was decided that the Chinese side will submit concrete proposals for collaboration in the field of big data, and a draft Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) will be prepared and shared with CDA through the Foreign Office This MoU will outline a framework for long-term cooperation between Pakistan and Chinese firms in the field of big data, with the goal of strengthening digital infrastructure and driving innovation.

STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: A virtual meeting was held via Zoom between the Capital Development Authority (CDA) and the Foreign Affairs Office (FAO) of Guizhou Province, China, aimed at exploring opportunities for collaboration in the field of big data and the establishment of Tier-Four Data Centers in Pakistan. The meeting was attended by the Chinese Foreign Affairs officers and representatives of leading Chinese companies, alongside Acting Chairman CDA, Talat Mehmood Gondal, Member Technology and Digitalization Nauman Khalid, and other senior officials from Pakistan.

During the meeting, Acting Chairman Talat Mehmood Gondal emphasized Pakistan's commitment to advancing its digital infrastructure and welcomed Chinese investment in the country's rapidly growing digital economy and the big data. Member Technology and Digitalization Nauman Khalid highlighted that Pakistan offers immense potential in the

field of big data and digitalization, and we are excited to collaborate with our Chinese counterparts to bring cutting-edge technology and expertise to Pakistan. The partnership between the two sides will be instrumental in positioning Pakistan as a hub for big data innovation.

The Chinese companies, represented by senior executives and officials from the Foreign Affairs Office of Guizhou Province, expressed strong interest in Pakistan's digital transformation initiatives and gave a detailed briefing

on their expertise. China is eager to invest in Pakistan's big data sector and assist in the development of Tier-Four Data Centers. They see Pakistan as a strategic partner in the digital economy, and they are committed to providing expertise, technology, and financial support to help drive this collaboration forward.

Both sides agreed to continue their engagement to enhance their cooperation. It was decided that the Chinese side will submit concrete proposals for collaboration in the field of big data, and a draft Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) will be prepared and shared with CDA through the Foreign Office. This MoU will outline a framework for long-term cooperation between Pakistan and Chinese firms in the field of big data, with the goal of strengthening digital infrastructure and driving innovation. The meeting reflects the growing bilateral relationship between Pakistan and China, underscoring mutual interests in technology, investment, and the digital economy.a

NA Speaker denounces growing Israeli adventurism in Middle East ISLAMABAD:

Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq has strongly condemned Israel's increasing adventurism in the Middle East, while stating, "Such actions jeopardize regional peace & threaten global security." The Speaker expressed profound grief over the ongoing loss of innocent civilian lives, including women and children, due to Israeli military operations in Gaza and Lebanon. "This growing Israeli adventurism is a blatant breach of human rights and a direct threat to the stability and peace of the Middle East," said the Speaker in a statement here on Monday. He lamented that nations which claim to uphold democracy, justice, and human rights are silent which is dismaying. Speaker Sadig urged the international community, including the United Nations, human rights organizations, and world powers, to take immediate notice of the situation and intervene to stop Israel's continued brutality. He also extended his condolences to the people of Lebanon who have lost their lives. Sardar Ayaz Sadiq reiterated Pakistan's unwavering support for the people of Gaza and Lebanon, affirming that Pakistan will continue to advocate for the protection of human rights and for the restoration of peace in the region. -APP

Tarbela 5th extension project to be completed in 2025-26

ISLAMABAD: Tarbela 5th Extension Hydropower Project having 1510 megawatts (MW) capacity will be completed in 2025-26. The project was being com-

Manipulated electoral process in IOJK sidelining long-promised plebiscite



The views were expressed during a roundtable discussion titled "Governance or Control: Analyzing the 2024'Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir' Assembly Elections," organized by the Institute of Policy Studies (IPS). The session, moderated by Ambassador (r) Syed Abrar Hussain, vice-chairman IPS, was addressed by Khalid Rahman, chairman IPS, Prof. Nazir Hussain, former dean School of Politics and International Relations, Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad, Farzana

Yaqoob, former minister



associate, and Dr. Amna and Kashmir has shifted have already compromised

of AJK and IPS research India's control over Jammu mu and Kashmir regions -

Int'l Translation Day AIOU emphasizes importance of language

ISLAMABAD: Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU) prioritizes the promotion of intellectual foundations, actively engaged in opening the closed doors of culture and civilization through translation. These remarks were made by Professor Dr. Nasir Mahmood, Vice-Chancellor AIOU, during a seminar held in celebration of International Translation Day. He highlighted that the university is giving special attention to the promotion of languages and has established centres for Russian, Chinese, and Turkish languages, with a Japanese Language Center to be inaugurated soon. The Vice-Chancellor also extended his congratulations to the Center for Languages and Translation Studies for organizing the successful event on International Translation Day. Other notable speakers included Professor Dr. Alia Sohail, former Vice-Chancellor of Rawalpindi Women University; Brigadier Waseem Ahmed, former Director of ISPR; Dr. Asghar Nadeem Syed, Dean of Languages at University of Lahore; Dr. Qibla Ayaz, former Vice-Chancellor of University of Peshawar; and Dr. Shehzad Iqbal Sham, Senior Research Fellow. The event was hosted by Dr. Lubna Umar from the Center for Languages and Translation Studies. Speakers highlighted the vital role of those who have shared intellectual foundations, describing them as unsung heroes who have opened new doors to knowledge and creativity. They emphasized that nations are built through language, with countries like Germany, China, the Netherlands, and Australia exemplifying significant progress through their linguistic capabilities. Today, we honor those who have conveyed these foundations. The transfer of one language into another signifies cultural integration, and true translation seamlessly brings one creation into another, making it feel natural and effortless. Dr. Qibla Ayaz underscored the significance of translation in academic fields, noting that it is a long and dedicated intellectual effort. He added that translators have historically played a crucial role in spreading knowledge and ideas. Dr. Ghulam Ali, Director CeLTs, expressed his gratitude to Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dr. Nasir Mahmood, and all departments for their support in organizing the event. He mentioned that this seminar was part of the ongoing Golden Jubilee celebrations at the university. The seminar also featured a cake-cutting ceremony to commemorate International Translation Day. -DNA

Turkish Airlines.....8494949



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



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Water Tank Islamabad.....0321-5744480 Mahmood, professor Faculfrom mere governance to ty of Social Sciences, Interan overt exercise of power. national Islamic University, using elections as a tool to Islamabad. Speakers noted legitimize its hold on the that Kashmiri youth, once region. By pushing these elections, India seeks to hopeful, now face increasing marginalization as India sidestep the plebiscite tightens its grip on the rethat Kashmiris not only deserve but are entitled gion. Despite their historic boycott of the electoral proto under international cess, Kashmiris now find law. By hosting foreign political engagement to be delegates, India seeks to create a façade of conductan administrative necessity, driven by the need to ading free and fair elections. dress daily governance and However, pre-poll manipusecurity issues. This has lations - such as the disbeen accompanied by an proportionate allocation alarming transformation as of seats between the Jamthe integrity of the process. The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is exerting significant influence, with the potential for independent candidates to become kingmakers, further diminishing any hope for genuine representation. The current situation in Pakistan is also impacting Kashmir. The instability and deteriorating conditions in Pakistan have fostered a sense of despair among Kashmiris, who have historically looked to Pakistan for moral and political support.-APP

pleted with the financial assistance of World Bank (WB) and Asian Infrastruc-Investment Bank ture (AIIB), official sources told APP here Monday. They said that WB and AIIB were providing financial assistance to the tune of \$ 390 million and \$ 300 million respectively. Cumulative generation capacity of the project stands at 1530 MW and it will provide 1.347 billion units of environment-friendlv and low-cost hvdel electricity to the National Grid every year.-APP

Speakers celebrate Pervaiz Tahir's legacy of national service

ISLAMABAD: Speakers at a memorial reference on Monday celebrated the legacy of former Chief Economist and most revered economic historian Dr. Pervez Tahir of national service with humanity and upholding truth in the eyes of power while eulogizing his services for the motherland. The Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) organized the special memorial service on the first death anniversary of Dr. Pervez Tahir famously known as "PT" here at the SDPI. The reference was moderated by Tahir Dhindsa, Director SDTV who paid tribute to the late chief economist. He said Dr. Pervez Tahir was the most secular economist in the country who used to keep a balance between the capitalist and socialist ideologies of the economy. Farhatullah Babar, Former Senator and Senior Leader, Pakistan Peoples Party Parliamentarians (PPPP) commended the SDPI, for honoring the memory of Dr. Pervez Tahir. " He was a national asset, and we all owe to celebrate him. Instead of mourning his death, it's time to celebrate his life. Dr. Tahir was a multidimensional person with unmatched capabilities as an economist, humanist, educationist, article writer, and columnist," he said. PPPP Leader, Farhatullah Babar added that former prime minister Benazir Bhutto used to especially notice his articles and columns during her account of daily reviews of newspaper columns. Dr Shafqat Munir, Deputy Executive Director, SDPI also hailed Dr. Pervez Tahir as a man of distinguished character. He extended the Institute's complete support for compiling a book on his articles and columns. Dr Nadia Tahir, Widow of Dr Pervez Tahir thanked the SDPI for memorial reference for remembering PT. She said the works, knowledge, and ideals of PT needed to be preserved for the younger generation. She shared her account of Pervez Tahir who was a leftist Economist who was poles apart from her in his economic ideology. He was pragmatic when it came to applying concepts, thinking passionately with emotions, and applying his mind to shape them into a real palpable outcome, Dr Nadia said. Remembering his selfless endeavors to uphold his principles and integrity, she said, "PT made Joan Robinson recognized by writing a review claiming that her husband Austin Robinson did not give her credit for her work on asset sharing of princely states in India." Tahira Abdullah, Human Rights, Peace Activist, and Development Practitioner recalled Dr Pervez Tahir from his famous name PT, and showed gratitude to SDPI for this tribute on his first death anniversary.-DNA

Romina for strengthening adaptive capacity of people for resilient-society

ISLAMABAD: Coordinator to Prime Minister on Climate Change Romina Khurshid Alam said that empowering disaster-vulnerable communities with resources and skills to sustain the impacts of recurring and intensifying natural disasters in the country is crucial for reducing their vulnerability over time. "Providing necessary training and resources help communities better prepare for, respond to, and recover from natural disasters and this is inevitable for enhancing their climate-resilience. Because, equipping individuals with skills and resources can lead to sustainable livelihoods, helping communities bounce back economically, socially and psychologically after a disaster," She stressed. Addressing as chief guest at a high-level dialogue 'The Resilient Reflections' here on Monday, the Romina highlighted, "Communities, infrastructure and ecosystems are interconnected. Building resilience in one area positively impacts the others, creating a more sustainable and adaptive envi-

ronment overall." Highlighting the significance of community empowerment with resources, knowledge and skills for disaster resilience, Romina Khurshid remarked that when empowered with necessary resources and skills, the resilient communities are better equipped to withstand and recover from natural disasters. However, "by fostering local leadership and providing education on disaster preparedness, resources and skills to recover, we can enhance the safety and well-being of our climate-vulnerable communities", she said. The event was organised jointly by Islamic Relief, National Disaster Risk Management Fund (NDRMF) and Asian Development Bank in support with Climate Change & Environmental Coordination Ministry and attended by senior officials of federal and provincial organizations, national and international non-governmental organizations, academia, researchers and media. She said further that as Pakistan con-

tinues to grapple with the escalating impacts of climate change, including extreme weather events, flooding and resource scarcity, the present government is taking all-out coping measures in collaboration with relevant stakeholders for building resilience and adaptive capacity of the communities, their livelihoods, ecosystems and public infrastructures. Romina Khurshid told the participants that there is need to understand that building resilience is not just a strategy; it's a necessity for our future, which is at stake because of unfolding climate crisis. "Achieving resilient future, there is dire need for all stakeholders including federal and provincial government organisations and other national and international civil society organizations to work closely to empower vulnerable communities with skills and resources, strengthen public infrastructure and protect ecosystems to navigate the challenges ahead for sustainable and resilient future," the PM's climate aide remarked. -APP





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04

TWIN CITIES

BEOE issues notices to

40 technical trade centers

Islamabad **POST** Tuesday, October 01 , 2024

Briefs

ANF seizes 45 kg drugs in eight operations

RAWALPINDI: Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) while conducting eight operations across the country managed to recover 45 kg drugs worth Rs 4.2 million and arrested eight accused, said an ANF Headquarters spokesman here on Monday. He informed that 450 grams hashish and 20 grams intoxicated tablets were recovered near a university located on Raiwind Road Lahore and an accused was arrested. 130 grams ice and 40 grams intoxicated tablets were recovered from an accused rounded up near a university located in Johan Town, Lahore. 120 grams hashish was recovered from the possession of an accused arrested near Kakpul Islamabad. The accused confessed to selling drugs to the students in educational institutions. 4.8 kg hashish and 1.2 kg opium were recovered from a vehicle held near M-1 Toll Plaza Islamabad and an accused was arrested during the operation. 400 grams hashish was found near the university in Hyderabad and an accused was arrested. During another operation in Hyderabad, 350 grams hashish was recovered from a drug dealer near a hospital. The accused confessed to providing drugs in educational institutions. 1.3 kg hashish and 200 grams ice were recovered from the possession of an accused netted near Sector F-10 center, Islamabad. All the arrested accused confessed to selling drugs to the students of different educational institutions. Strict legal action was being taken against those who endanger the future of youth, the spokesman said adding, that suspicious persons are being closely monitored around educational institu-tions.–APP

Rs 4.615m grant among 12 students under CSR

ISLAMABAD: The United States (US) remained the top export destination of Pakistani products during the first two months of the

DNA

the UAE, wherein Pakistan exported goods worth US \$400.977 million against the exports of US \$295.563 million last year, showing an increase of 35.66 per-

the State Bank of Pakistan year, showing a decrease of (SBP). This was followed by 7.66 percent while the exports to Germany were recorded at US \$287.169 million against US \$253.155 million last year, data said. During July-August 2024-25, the exports to Holland were recorded at \$247.343 million against \$226.624 million whereas the exports to Italy stood at \$186.984 million against \$195.539 million. Pakistan's exports to Spain were recorded at \$231,945 million against the exports of US \$242.201 million while the exports to Afghanistan were recorded at \$146.655 million against \$ 88,393 mil-

lion last year. The exports to Bangladesh stood at US \$122.004 million against US \$98,589 million. Similarly, the exports to France during the months under review were recorded at US \$82.680 million against US \$91.043 million while the exports to Belgium stood at US \$100.402 million against US \$96.515 million. Pakistan's exports to Saudi Arabia were recorded at US \$114.189 million during the current year compared to US \$95.174 million last year whereas the exports to Turkiye stood at US \$64.812 million against US \$61.354 million.

Call for equitable climate policies to address challenges faced marginalized segments

ISLAMABAD: Speakers at the conference "Gender, Intersectionality and Climate Change: From Scientific Evidence to Action" held ere Monday highlighted the critical need for equitable climate policies that address the unique challenges facing women and marginalised communities. An overwhelming number of academics, policymakers, development workers and activists converged on the National University of Sciences and Technology (NUST) to attend the conference, funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and supported by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH. The conference on Gender, Intersectionality and Climate Change (GICC) featured panel discussions, case studies, and an interactive exhibition showcasing innovative approaches to gender-responsive climate governance. The event kickstarted with a powerful opening statement by First Secretary of German Embassy, Mr Jan Kühn von Burgsdorff who stressed the importance of gender inclusion in climate policies and Germany's support for Pakistan's efforts to achieve the desired objectives.

Pro-Rector Academics NUST, Dr Osman Hasan in his closing remarks, emphasised the need for empowering women and ensuring their equal participation in climate decision-making, which could lead to more effective and equitable solutions in addressing the challenges posed by climate change. Leading experts at the conference highlighted the disproportionate impact of climate change on women and marginalised communities. Director and Founder of the Karachi Urban Lab at the Institute of Business Administration (IBA), Karachi, Dr Nausheen Hafeeza Anwar underscored the need for inclusive decision-making in climate governance. Dr Sauleha Kamal from the University of York and Dr Muhammad Sajjad, from the University of Hong Kong, provided important insights into the gendered aspects of climate adaptation and the vulnerability of disaster-prone areas. Complementing the insightful discussions, the conference featured an Art and Photo Exhibition, showcasing visual representations of how climate change impacts different communities, particularly women. A Project and Product Exhibition, modeled after the concept of a "human library," allowed attendees to engage with ongoing projects that promoted gender equity in climate action. The interactive platform fostered meaningful dialogue between experts and participants, further enriching the conference experience. The conference underscored NUST's commitment to gender mainstreaming and providing real solutions for real problems. -DNA

DFP urges int'l intervention to prevent bloodshed in **IIOJK**

ISLAMABAD: The Jammu and Kashmir Democratic Freedom Party (DFP) has strongly condemned the ongoing bloodshed perpetrated by Indian occupation forces against Kashmiri people in Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir. According to Kashmir Media Service, DFP spokesman Advocate Arshad Iqbal in a statement issued in Srinagar expressed grave concern over the fresh killings of Kashmiri youth in Kulgam and Kuthwa districts, tearing apart the Modi regime's normalcy mantra in the territory. "The Indian occupation forces have a notorious track record of murdering Kashmiri youth in staged encounters," Iqbal stated, denouncing the continued bloodbath and target killings. "The unabated killings and extrajudicial executions are a deliberate attempt to create a climate of fear and intimidation among the Kashmiri people," Iqbal added. The DFP spokesman urged the international community to take immediate notice of the deteriorating human rights situation in occupied Jammu and Kashmir and pressure India to stop its brutal suppression of the Kashmiri people's struggle for freedom. The DFP spokesman emphasized that India's actions are a blatant violation of international norms and human rights, with over 96,347 people killed by Indian forces since January 1989. – APP

IRSA releases 179,300 cusecs water

ISLAMABAD: Indus River System Authority (IRSA) on

Monday released 179.300 cusecs water from various rim stations with inflow of 155,000 cusecs. According to the data released by IRSA, water level in River Indus at Tarbela Dam was 1537.70 feet and was 139.70 feet higher than its dead level of 1,398 feet. Water inflow and outflow in the dam was recorded as 94,100 cusecs and 85,000 cusecs respectively The

ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Brazil to Pakistan, H.E Mr. Olyntho Vieira, called on Dr. Malik Mukhtar Ahmad Bharath, Coordinator to the Prime Minister on National Health Services.-DNA

US, UAE and UK top 3 destinations of Pakistani exports

Monitoring and supervision of Overseas Employment Promoters through 7 Protectorates of Emigrants Offices and Processing of Overseas Employment Promoters (OEP) Licences regulate emigration under the Emigration Ordinance, 1979, and promote the Emigration of ISLAMABAD: Bureau of Emigra-Pakistani Citizens. It is also the tion and Overseas Employment responsibility to look after the (BEOE) an attached department emigrants' interests and welfare of the Ministry of Overseas Pakiand advise the Federal Governstanis and Human Resource Dement on emigration policies and velopment (OP&HD) had blacklisted around 40 technical trade centers across the country due

DNA

procedures. Monitoring and supervision of Overseas Employment Promoters through 7 Proto the complaints and involved tectorates of Emigrants Offices in fraud cases with innocent citiand Processing of Overseas Emzens. An official source told APP ployment Promoters (OEP) that the main function of this Licences, he added. BEOE department is to control and also provides the platform for

pre-departure briefing to Emigrants and mandatory Insurance coverage to Pakistani workers abroad. Memorandum of Understating with Foreign Countries for Export of Manpower and Management of State Life Emigrants Insurance Fund (SLEIF) were the main functions of this department. He said that BEOE has advised the foreign job-seekers to only reach out to the valid Overseas Employment Promoters to avert any loss of time, money, and their energies. He said there were only 2,577 Over-

seas Employment Promoters (OEP) licenses that were valid as more than 5048 licenses had been pronounced invalid. Out of the invalid OEPs, the licenses of some 670 were canceled on various grounds while 805 expired and the rest had surrendered. They said all foreign job-seekers must visit the official webpage of BEOE regularly to get fresh and valid information and protect themselves from unauthorized OEPs. The officials said that the BEOE was mandated to regulate emigration under

the Emigration Ordinance, of 1979, promote the Emigration of Pakistani citizens, and look after the interests and welfare of the emigrants. Among other functions, the BEOE had been advising the Federal Government on emigration policies and procedures, monitoring and supervising Overseas Employment Promoters through 7 Protectorates of Emigrants Offices, processing Overseas Employment Promoters (OEP) Licences, and giving pre-departure briefings to emigrants.

ISLAMABAD :S K Hydro (Private) Limited has distributed a grant of Rs 4.615 million among 12 local students under company's commitment to education and local welfare. The company hosted the "Dreams Becoming Reality" CSR Activities Launch Ceremony at the Suki Kinari Hydropower Station construction site, said a press release issued here Monday. Dignitaries including the Commissioner of Hazara Division, the Deputy Commissioner of Mansehra District, local military officials, and leaders from the project company attended the ceremony. In his remarks, the Commissioner of Hazara Division expressed his deep appreciation to S K Hydro (Private) Limited for its long-standing contributions to regional socio-economic development and its active involvement in social welfare initiatives. He highlighted the company's commitment to corporate social responsibility (CSR) by supporting education, constructing infrastructure, providing flood relief, and contributing to environmental conservation. The Commissioner also praised the project for strengthening China-Pakistan friendship.-APP

current financial year 2024-25, followed by the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and United Kingdom (UK). Total exports to the US during July-August 2024-25 were recorded at US \$949.855 million against the exports of US \$934.666 million during July-August 2023-24, showing an increase of 1.62 percent, according to

cent. UK was the third top export destination, where Pakistan exported products worth US \$366.370 million during the month under review against the exports of US \$351.186 million, SBP data revealed. Among other countries, Pakistani exports to China stood at US \$323.435 million against US \$350.297 million last

water level in River Jhelum at Mangla Dam was 1215.90 feet, which was 167.90 feet higher than its dead level of 1,050 feet. The inflow and outflow of water was recorded 11 600 cusecs and 45 000 cusecs respectively. The release of water at Kalabagh, Taunsa , Guddu and Sukkur was recorded as 93,000, 85,300, 69,300 .-- APP

IMF financing will lessen the nation's problems

market, which will signifi-

DNA

cantly reduce Pakistan's debt ISLAMABAD:The Chairservicing burden, which has man of the FPCCI Advisory reached 10 thousand billion Board and National Business rupees annually. Speaking to Group Pakistan, President of the business community, the Pakistan Businessmen and veteran business leader stat-Intellectuals Forum, and All ed that the government is Karachi Industrial Alliance, taking the necessary steps to meet the IMF's goals, includas well as former provincial minister Mian Zahid Husing abolishing or merging sain, said on Monday that Pasome federal ministries. The kistan will receive a seven bil-Federal Minister of Finance lion dollar loan from the IMF has recently announced a reduction in government over 37 months. loan has an interest rate of less than five expenditure. He added that percent, and paying the first the IMF's conditions also instalment of one billion dolinclude the elimination of lars is a pleasant experience. losses in the electricity and Mian Zahid Hussain said that gas sectors, an increase in now it will be possible for the tax base, and the priva-Pakistan to get cheap loans tisation of public companies

from the global financial that are losing money. The business leader stated that implementing these conditions is not easy, but it will improve the situation, whereas failure to do so may worsen it. According to him, Pakistan's problem is declining tax collection and rising government expenditure, which necessitates serious efforts. Mian Zahid Hussain said that the government should now strictly deal with tax defaulters because the burden of direct taxes on the public has been steadily increasing and there is no longer room for further tax hikes. He said that new measures are also necessary for recoveries. Government expenditure. which includes debt.

ISSI hosts int'l moot on celebrating Pak ancient archeological, civilizational heritage

STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: The Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI) hosted a One-Day International Conference, titled "Celebrating Pakistan's Ancient Archaeological and Civilisational Heritage", at ISSI on 30 September 2024. The Inaugural Session included Remarks by the Secretary of National Heritage & Culture Division, Hassan Nasir Jamy as Guest of Honour; Welcome Remarks by Ambassador Sohail Mahmood, Director General, ISSI: and Introduction to the Conference by Dr. Talat Shabbir, Director, China Pakistan Study Centre, ISSI. The Session was graced by Senator Mushahid Hussain as the Chief Guest. Senator Mushahid Hussain emphasised history and heritage as sources of strength for a nation. He stated that national security

should extend beyond geopola premier tourism destination. itics and geo-economics to in-Secondly, the establishment clude national culture, history, of an international airport on and heritage. Pakistan stands significant sites to enhance at the crossroads of tourism, accessibility and visibility in enriched by its historical sigglobal markets. Thirdly, implenificance. The Silk Road exhimenting a visa-on-arrival policy bition at the British Museum can further simplify travel for in London, featuring Buddhist international tourists. Fourthsculptures from Swat, exemplily, he suggested focusing on fies the cultural connections of Buddhism and Sikhism as they our history. Senator Mushahid present low-hanging fruit for Hussain highlighted that Pakiattracting religious and culturstan is home to six UNESCO al tourism. Fifthly, promoting World Heritage sites, and adventure tourism can leverthere is immense potential to age Pakistan's diverse landadd more to this list. He highscapes and outdoor activities. lighted the Kartarpur Corri-Additionally, highlighting the richness of Pakistani cuisine dor, which represents a milestone initiative in soft cultural will also play a vital role in diplomacy, besides promoting enhancing the overall tourist inter-faith harmony. To capitalexperience. To ensure this is ize on Pakistan's rich historical as successful, it is imperative and cultural heritage, he emto link tourism, culture, and phasized the need for a commedia effectively. Establishing a Task Force dedicated to proprehensive strategy. Firstly, he recommended robust marketmoting Pakistan's soft image ing and media initiatives are and as a popular tourism descrucial to promote Pakistan as tination will be instrumental

in achieving these goals. With these initiatives, the sky is the limit for Pakistan's tourism potential, making it an attractive option for both domestic and international visitors. Ambassador Sohail Mahmood highlighted the significance of Pakistan's millennia-old, multi-layered archaeological and civilizational heritage, including the Indus Valley and Buddhist Gandhara Civilizations. He quoted the book '5000 Years of Pakistan' by Dr. Mortimer Wheeler, published in 1950, in which the author acknowledges that the book's "title is a wilful paradox but contains fundamental truth." Indeed, the fundamental truth is that Pakistan is a young nation with millennia-old history and heritage. The magnificence and diversity of Pakistan have few parallels.



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75 years of China

HE 75th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China is a momentous occasion, not only for the over 1.4 billion Chinese people but also with global significance and historical importance. Over these 75 years, the journey of Chinese modernization has profoundly transformed China and influenced the world, truly realizing that "our work will be written in the annals of human history." This year also marks the 70th anniversary of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence. Amid a changing international landscape, China has steadfastly maintained an independent and peaceful foreign policy, upholding international fairness and justice. As China increasingly approaches global center stage, it continues to make new and greater contributions to the cause of peace and development for humanity. Seventy-five years ago, when this ancient nation in the East opened a new chapter in its history, the world was just beginning to recover from the devastation of two wars. From a struggling agricultural country, China has evolved into the world's second-largest economy, the world's leading manufacturing power, the top trader of goods, and the holder of the largest foreign exchange reserves. This historical elevation in national strength matches China's significant contributions to global development. From 1979 to 2023, China's average annual contribution to global economic growth reached 24.8 percent, with an average of over 30 percent from 2013 to 2023. For 12 consecutive years, China's outbound direct investment in foreign countries has ranked among the top three globally, holding over 10 percent of the global share for eight years. China's "new three items" - electric vehicles, lithium-ion batteries, and solar cells - are facilitating the globe to accelerate their green and low-carbon transitions, while its infrastructure projects span over 190 countries and regions worldwide. Today, averagely speaking, China engages in approximately 80 million yuan (\$11.4 million) worth of trade with the world every minute, invests approximately 112 million yuan abroad every hour, and attracts about 3.377 billion yuan in foreign investment daily. The development of China is intricately linked with global progress, achieving mutual success, and driving the world toward greater progress and prosperity. A great nation with over 5,000-year-old civilization stands majestically in the East, as over 1.4 billion people stride forward on the path to modernization. Such a vast scale itself is one of the main powerful driving forces for the progress of the entire world and human society. The practices of Chinese modernization teaches us that development is the key to solving all problems. China has proposed the Global Development Initiative to support the development and revitalization of countries in the Global South. By the end of 2023, China's direct investment in countries participating in the Belt and Road Initiative had exceeded \$300 billion. Chinese companies have built the first ultra-high voltage direct current transmission line in the Americas, the first electrified railway, the first digital mine, and numerous infrastructure and livelihood projects in Africa, making an indelible contribution to global infrastructure construction. From "seek knowledge even if you have to go as far as China" to "seek peace even if you have to go as far as China," peace is a valuable public good that China offers to a turbulent world.

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Vice-presidential debate

HIS week's vice-presidential debate between Democratic Governor Tim Walz and Republican Senator J.D. Vance might not be as consequential as June's match-up between US President Joe Biden and his predecessor Donald Trump. However, it could still affect November's election and have wider global implications in the coming years. This is not least given the possibility on the Republican side that Trump could die or become incapacitated during a second presidential term, from 2025 to 2029, given his advanced age of 78. His challenger, Vice-President Kamala Harris, is 59. History underlines the crucial role that vice-presidents, stepping up in the way Vance might have to, have played in times of geopolitical tensions, which today include Ukraine and the Middle East. Harry Truman exemplifies this: he was vice-president from only January to April 1945 before assuming the presidency after Franklin D. Roosevelt died soon after winning his fourth election. Within weeks of entering the top job, Truman made several highly consequential decisions, including the dropping of atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. He also attended the landmark Potsdam conference with the Soviet Union and Britain to decide how to administer the defeated Nazi Germany. In the nuclear age, the electoral stakes of selecting a deputy who is perceived to be capable of effectively assuming office is even higher. Take the example of the 2008 election when Republican nominee John McCain, then 71, made the decision to select the much younger, one-term Alaska governor Sarah Palin who was widely viewed at the time as too gaffe-prone to be a heartbeat away from the presidency. Walz, 60, has significant experience as governor of Minnesota, and also served for more than a decade in the US House of Representatives. There are few doubts he could effectively assume the top job. However, the same may not be true for the 40-year-old Vance, who is a first-term senator from Ohio. Vance compares poorly to Trump's choice in 2016 of then-governor of Indiana, Mike Pence, who could have potentially assumed the presidency if the situation had warranted it - not least because of his more than a decade of experience in the House of Representatives. Even if Trump, the oldest major party presidential candidate in US history, were to win again and survive another five years, his energy could flag significantly as he moves into his 80s. His running mate would potentially wield significantly more influence in the White House than Pence did, where he was largely a peripheral figure. Harris and Pence face off in only vice-presidential debate of 2020 US election There are other reasons Vance or Walz as vice-president could have significant influence in the next White House. First, the post has assumed more power and resourcing in the post-war era, with recent holders of the office such as Biden, Dick Cheney and Al Gore among the most influential in history. The power enjoyed by these three reflects, in significant part, their own strong experience and relationships with presidents Barack Obama, George W. Bush and Bill Clinton respectively. Walz appears to have a similarly warm relationship with Harris, although whether Vance has the same strong rapport with the much more mercurial Trump is not so clear. The influence of multiple, recent incumbents such as Biden, Cheney and Gore is in part a function of the increased status of the vice-presidency.

The complexity of China-North Korea relations

Dr. Muhammad Akram zaheer



China's relationship with North Korea must also be understood in the context of its broader strategic interests, particularly its desire to stabilize relations with the United States and other major global players. In recent years, China's economy has faced significant challenges, including trade tensions with the U.S., slowing growth and the need to attract foreign investment. These economic concerns have prompted Beijing to prioritize improving its relationship with Washington, even as it navigates the complexities of its ties with Pyongyang. Additionally, China has sought to strengthen its relationship with South Korea, a key US

HE relationship between China and North Korea is a multifaceted and deeply complex one, shaped by an intricate web of historical, ideological and strategic imperatives. Understanding this relationship requires a careful examination of the geopolitical factors that influence both nations' policies toward each other and the broader international context in which they operate. The China-North Korea relationship is rooted in shared ideological foundations, dating back to the Cold War era. Both nations were part of the communist bloc, united by a common Marxist-Leninist ideology. During the Korean War (1950-1953), China played a critical role in supporting North Korea against the United States and South Korea. This historical solidarity created a sense of camaraderie between the two nations that has persisted despite evolving political and economic circumstances. The Chinese Communist Party (CCP) and the Korean Workers' Party (KWP) share a mutual commitment to maintaining their respective political systems, both rooted in single-party rule. North Korea's Juche ideology-an autarkic interpretation of socialism that emphasizes self-reliance-also has ideological affinities with China's state-centric economic model, especially during Mao Zedong's era. Over time, however, their economic and political systems have diverged significantly, with China embracing market-oriented reforms under Deng Xiaoping, while North Korea remained economically isolated. Nevertheless, the ideological bond between the two countries continues to shape their relationship, as both regimes prioritize political stability and resist external pressure to democratize. The Korean Peninsula holds immense strategic importance for China, given its geographical proximity and the security risks associated with instability in the region. Beijing is acutely aware of the delicate balance of power in Northeast Asia, where any shift could have far-reaching consequences for regional stability. The peninsula is situated at the intersection of several major powers, including the United States, Japan, Russia and China, making it a geopolitical flashpoint. For China, the stability of North Korea is crucial not only for maintaining regional peace but also for preserving its own influence in Northeast Asia. A destabilized Korean Peninsula would pose significant challenges for Beijing, including the risk of a humanitarian crisis spilling over its borders and the possibility of a U.S.-aligned, unified Korea. Such an outcome would bring American military forces closer to China's borders, undermining Beijing's security interests. Therefore, while China has supported international efforts to curb North Korea's nuclear ambitions, it remains deeply committed to preventing the collapse of the regime in Pyongyang. One of China's foremost strategic concerns regarding North Korea is the risk of nuclear conflict on the Korean Peninsula. North Korea's pursuit of nuclear weapons has long been a source of tension in the region, drawing condemnation from the international community and resulting in numerous sanctions against Pyongyang. For Beijing, a nuclear war on the peninsula would have catastrophic consequences, not only for North Korea but for China and the entire region. Such a conflict could lead to massive destruction, regional destabilization and a severe humanitarian crisis that would directly affect China. A nuclear exchange could also draw in other major powers, particularly the United States and its allies, further complicating the global security landscape. The presence of U.S. military forces in South Korea and Japan, combined with Washington's security commitments to its East Asian allies, has already heightened tensions in the region. A nuclear conflict would exacerbate these tensions and could escalate into a broader confrontation between China and the West. Thus, China has a vested interest in preventing any escalation of the nuclear issue on the Korean Peninsula. However, Beijing faces a significant dilemma. While it wants to curb North Korea's nuclear ambitions, it must do so without pushing Pyongyang toward collapse. The implosion of the North Korean regime would likely result in a refugee crisis along China's borders, as well as the potential unification of the peninsula under a pro-U.S. government. Such a scenario would severely undermine China's strategic position in Northeast Asia, leaving it with a far less favorable security environment.

To prevent such a collapse, China provides substantial economic and diplomatic support to North Korea. Despite international sanctions and Pyongyang's frequent provocations, Beijing continues to offer North Korea lifelines in the form of trade, food aid and energy supplies. This support is essential for sustaining the North Korean economy, which has been severely strained by sanctions and mismanagement. China's economic assistance is also a means of maintaining leverage over North Korea, ensuring that Pyongyang remains dependent on Beijing for its survival. This economic dependence allows China to exert influence over North Korea's policies. particularly in areas where Pyongyang's actions could destabilize the region. Diplomatically, China has often acted as a mediator between North Korea and the international community, particularly through its participation in the Six-Party Talks aimed at denuclearizing the Korean Peninsula. While these talks have vielded limited results, Beijing's role as a mediator underscores its commitment to preventing the isolation of North Korea. China believes that isolating Pyongyang entirely could push the regime toward more aggressive and unpredictable behavior, further destabilizing the region. Despite China's efforts to manage North Korea's behavior, the relationship between the two countries is often fraught with tension. North Korea's frequent missile tests, nuclear advancements and belligerent rhetoric have undermined Beijing's broader strategic goals in the region. Pyongyang's actions contributing to regional insecurity and have prompted South Korea and Japan to strengthen their defense capabilities, leading to an arms race in Northeast Asia. Moreover, North Korea's provocations have led to a stronger U.S. military presence in the region, as Washington reinforces its security commitments to its East Asian allies. This increased U.S. presence is undesirable for China, as it threatens to undermine Beijing's influence and security in the

region. Thus, North Korea's actions often complicate China's efforts to maintain regional stability and navigate its broader strategic interests. At the same time, North Korea's economic dependence on China creates a delicate balancing act for Beijing. While China needs to support the regime to prevent its collapse, it also must curb Pyongyang's more destabilizing actions. Beijing is particularly concerned that North Korea's continued pursuit of nuclear weapons could trigger a military response from the United States or its allies, leading to a broader conflict that would engulf the region.

China's relationship with North Korea must also be understood in the context of its broader strategic interests, particularly its desire to stabilize relations with the United States and other major global players. In recent years, China's economy has faced significant challenges, including trade tensions with the U.S., slowing growth and the need to attract foreign investment. These economic concerns have prompted Beijing to prioritize improving its relationship with Washington, even as it navigates the complexities of its ties with Pyongyang. Additionally, China has sought to strengthen its relationship with South Korea, a key U.S. ally in the region. Beijing views improved relations with Seoul as a potential pathway to stabilizing the Korean Peninsula and reducing tensions with the United States. A more stable relationship with South Kores could also help Beijing achieve its long-standing goal of denuclearizing the peninsula, which would remove a significant source of regional instability. The relationship between China and North Korea is likely to remain a complex and delicate one, shaped by both nations' competing strategic priorities. While China seeks to preserve stability on the Korean Peninsula and prevent the collapse of the North Korean regime, it must also manage the risks posed by Pyongyang's nuclear ambitions and provocative behavior. At the same time, China's broader strategic goals, including its desire to improve relations with the United States and South Korea, will continue to influence its approach to North Korea. In this context, Beijing's policy toward Pyongyang is one of delicate balancing, as it seeks to maintain its influence in Northeast Asia while preventing regional instability. As long as North Korea remains economically and diplomatically isolated, China will continue to play a pivotal role in shaping the future of the Korean Peninsula. However, managing this relationship will require Beijing to carefully navigate the complex dynamics of regional security, international diplomay and its own domestic priorities Both historical ties and contemporary strategic imperatives define Tthe China-North Korea relationship. While China is committed to preventing the collapse of the North Korean regime and maintaining stability on the Korean Peninsula, it also faces significant challenges in curbing Pyongyang's nuclear ambitions and managing its broader regional relationships. As the geopolitical landscape in Northeast Asia continues to evolve, China's ability to balance these competing interests will be critical in shaping the future of the region.

Why European inertia is not good for the Middle East?

Chris Doyle

The one arguable exception to European inertia is France. As ever, its leaders treat Lebanon as if it was of vital French interest. Yet, as was seen after the 2020 Beirut explosion, President Emmanuel Macron has little influence despite grandiose statements. France partnered the US in leading the call for a three-week ceasefire, but Netanyahu just dismissed it. Are European leaders right to be disengaged? On one level, one wonders what they could do

HE story of the last year has been one of acute international failure over Gaza. Israel has conducted a genocide unhindered by any international flak that might have forced its belligerent prime minister or his extremist government coalition to think twice. Only the international legal system threatens to put a brake on Israeli actions. The International Court of Justice has ruled on the plausible danger of genocide in Gaza and the illegality of Israel's occupation. The International Criminal Court's chief prosecutor is seeking arrest warrants against Israeli and Hamas leaders. This failure of accountability has energized Israeli actions in Lebanon, as it plays out its Gaza playbook to the north. Uber-confident following the shameful silence of its key allies, Benjamin Netanyahu had little hesitation in opening up the northern front. The assassination of Hassan Nasrallah was just the latest in a whole batch of moves designed to stoke the fires of conflict. If anyone was in any doubt about the brazen contempt Netanyahu has for his allies, his routine mockery of the Biden administration is Exhibit 1. Once again last week, the White House claimed Israel was willing to agree to a 21-day ceasefire as called for by the US, the EU, the UK and others. As soon as Netanyahu got off his plane in New York, he wrecked all hopes of any such deal. He has done this on Gaza routinely. The US has failed to hold its truculent and unruly ally to account. But why are the European states being so timid? The reaction of most European countries to the escalation over Lebanon has centered on two priorities: evacuating their citizens and expressing concern. Finally, they have largely called for de-escalation, at best a ceasefire. Even the evacuation

of nationals has been a dubious effort. Many still languish under bombardment in Lebanon.

As for the expressions of concern, this is the same disease that has beset policy toward the obliteration of Gaza. It is utterly irrelevant, designed to fill the gaping policy void. A few states stand out for ducking this trend, with Spain, Ireland and Norway speaking out. Spain condemned Israel's attack on Hezbollah's paging devices. What is also noticeable is that the latest EU statement on Lebanon made no mention of Gaza. Israel is winning the argument, as it did with the Houthi attacks in the Red Sea, on decoupling Gaza from Lebanon. This is naive. A ceasefire in Gaza and one between Israel and Hezbollah would be inextricably linked. A Gaza ceasefire would make one in the north far easier. The reality is that the Israeli leadership does not want one on either front. It believes that it can deliver a military victory on both fronts, while also cracking down and even annexing the West Bank. The other feature is that the Europeans make reference to UN Security Council resolutions on Lebanon, notably 1701. The Palestinians, meanwhile, have long since given up hope that any resolutions dealing with their occupation will get referenced, let alone implemented. One explanation for this European malaise is that the continent's politicians and publics are still fixed on local, internal issues, with isolationism dominant. They are unwilling to devote serious attention to issues outside their immediate geographical interest. The EU system is engulfed in choosing its next 26 commissioners, triggering power plays in Brussels. Sweden is focused on burgeoning gang crime, Italy on immigration. Belgium is trapped in postelection negotiations. Austria has also just had elections. Baltic and Eastern European states fret about Russia. Poland is handling calamitous floods. The honeymoon for the new British Labour government has ended early.

The one arguable exception to European inertia is France. As ever, its leaders treat Lebanon as if it was of vital French interest. Yet, as was seen after the 2020 Beirut explosion, President Emmanuel Macron has little influence despite grandiose statements. France partnered the US in leading the call for a three-week ceasefire, but Netanyahu just dismissed it. Are European leaders right to be disengaged? On one level, one wonders what they could do. Unity is lacking. But a coalition of major European powers including Germany, France and the UK could lead the way. Britain today has a less Europhobic government. Many Lebanese and Syrians are leaving Lebanon and some will make their way to Europe. Security should also be a major concern. After Israel assassinated Nasrallah's predecessor as Hezbollah leader in 1992, the group's response was to launch attacks against soft Israeli and Jewish targets in Turkiye and Argentina. This may be its option again now, with European targets on the agenda.

But it still feels like these leaders are tiptoeing nervously around an erupting volcano, hoping they do not get caught up in the lava flow. All the talk has been of trying to avoid a war when, for some time, those on the ground have been saying "we are in a war" and the Israeli leader was indicating that he wanted one, including on multiple fronts. Now even the blinkered Europeans cannot ignore this grave reality. They need to step up before Lebanon becomes the next Gaza.

06

WORLD / SPORTS

PAK vs ENG: Shan vows to

back players despite defeat

Pak captain has stressed the need to support players, particularly after defeats

Islamabad **POST** Tuesday, October 01, 2024

Briefs

SC defers hearing on review plea against...

FROM PAGE 01 the committee has been meeting since before July 17." "Even though no bench was constituted, the Chief Justice (in minority) had proposed a five member bench, to be headed by the senior puisne Judge. That proposal has now been abandoned and the Chief Justice has himself assumed command of the CRP, for reasons that are not unknown," he wrote. "I may also note that the bench now constituted includes Justice (R) Mazhar Alam Miankhel, who currently attends sittings of the Court as an ad hoc judge in terms of Article 182. The reasons why it was considered necessary to so request Justice Miankhel (and another retired Judge) are set out in the minutes of the meeting of the JCP held on 19.07.2024.

DNA

LAHORE: Pakistan Test team captain Shan Masood has emphasised the importance of the upcoming series against England, calling it a crucial moment for the team. Reflecting on recent performances, Masood acknowledged the disappointing results of the series against Bangladesh but remained optimistic about the future.

In a press conference, Masood stressed the need to support players, particularly after defeats. "It's easy to make changes after a loss, but if we want to move forward, we must back our players," he said, underlining the value of continuity in building a strong team. Masood expressed that the players are deeply regretful of the recent losses and are determined to achieve better results. He highlighted the preparations for the Champions One-Day Cup, which provided valuable insights into the squad's fitness levels. "We've learned a lot about our physical and mental condition, and it's clear that improvements are needed."



Speaking about his role as captain, Masood admitted that losing is always difficult. "As a captain, it feels terrible when the team loses. It wasn't the ideal start, but accountability comes with defeat," he remarked. He also pointed out that the team had sev-

eral opportunities to gain the upper hand against Bangladesh but failed to take advantage of them. Looking ahead, Masood emphasised the importance of mental and physical fitness, particularly for Test cricket. "If Pakistan want to become a top Test side, we need to significantly improve both physical and mental fitness. Our conditioning should be on par with other top teams in the world." He also addressed the return of Aamir Jamal from injury, noting that the current Test squad was selected based on player fitness. "For now, we've built the squad for one Test, considering the players' fitness levels. Meanwhile, If required, Zahid Mahmood would be brought into the squad," Masood explained.

Concluding his remarks, Masood acknowledged the pressure of professional sports but affirmed that no player enjoys losing. Remember, Zahid will join the pre-test camp in Multan as the 16th player, but the final squad will be trimmed to 15 players for the first Test. Squad (for 1st Test) Shan Masood (captain), Saud Shakeel (vice-captain), Aamir Jamal, Abdullah Shafique, Abrar Ahmed, Babar Azam, Mir Hamza, Mohammad Huraira, Mohammad Rizwan (wicket-keeper), Naseem Shah, Noman Ali, SaimAyub, Salman Ali Agha, Sarfaraz Ahmed (wicket-keeper), Shaheen Shah Afridi.

Lt Gen. Malik takes charge...

FROM PAGE 01

He possesses expertise in operational intelligence and has managed various military affairs. Before this role, General Malik commanded the Infantry Division in Balochistan and the Infantry Brigade in Waziristan. He has been awarded the prestigious Sword of Honour and has served as Chief Instructor at the National Defence University (NDU) and as an instructor at the Command and Staff College in Quetta. Additionally, the new spymaster is a graduate of Fort Leavenworth and the Royal College of Defence Studies. He previously held responsibilities within the Military Operations Directorate.

Imran Khan raises objections...

FROM PAGE 01 the formation of the bench, arguing it was not constituted in accordance with the Practice and Procedure Act's requirements. Under the amended law, a three-member committee - comprising the Chief Justice, the most senior judge, and a judge nominated by the Chief Justice must decide bench formations. The plea highlighted that Justice Mansoor Ali Shah was absent from the committee meeting on September 23, leaving only two judges to make the decision. Ali Zafar argued that such a decision, made by two instead of the required three members, cannot legally form a bench under the Practice and Procedure Act. As a result, the current bench is not eligible to hear the review petition.

Malaysian PM set to visit Pak

FROM PAGE 01 Malaysia ties in diverse fields including trade, connectivity, energy, agriculture, halal industry, tourism, cultural exchanges and people-to-people contacts. They will also discuss regional and global developments. Pakistan and Malaysia enjoy strong bilateral ties anchored in history, culture and faith. This visit provides an important opportunity to further strengthen Pakistan-Malaysia relations.

SC nixes LHC's election...

FROM PAGE 01 Declaring the LHC's ruling "null and void", the apex court today said the high single-member court's bench's decision could not be presented as a judicial precedent as it didn't consider the lack of meeting between the LHC chief justice and the chief election commissioner. Pointing out that if the said meeting were given due consideration, then the high court would not have made such a decision, the SC said that a cautious approach should be adopted when an issue relates to a constitutional body.

Ukraine attempting to undermine political...

FROM PAGE 01

Spurs romp to 3-0 win over Manchester United



WEB DEWS

MANCHESTER: Tottenham Hotspur's Brennan standing Johnson, DejanKulusevski and Dominic Solanke got on the scoresheet in a 3-0 victory over 10-man Manchester United in the Pre-

a loss that will again raise tap in for his fourth goal in questions about manager Ėrik ten Hag. "I thought it was an outperformance," said Postecoglou. "We start-

four games. "Eleven v 11, or 11 v 10, we completely dominated the game," Johnson said. "We had a clear game plan and we did exactly ed the game well, scored what we wanted to do." Spurs continued to run a great goal and probably should have had two or circles around United on a nightmare evening for

goalkeeper Andre Onana. tute Lucas Bergvall. ter the third goal.

when Lisandro Martinez slipped on the halfway line. Johnson sprinted away and his deflected cross fell to Kulusevski, who acrobatically clipped the ball past Solanke had scores of angry United fans heading for the exits when he stuck his leg out to poke the ball home from close range in the 77th minute after Pape MatarSarr headed on a corner kick from fellow substi-The delighted Spurs fans did not stop singing all afternoon, breaking into a chant of "Is there a fire drill?" as thousands of United fans beat a hasty exit af-

Antoine Griezmann quits int'l soccer at 33

Atletico Griezmann Madrid forward made his France debut in March 2014 and has gone on to win 137 caps

PARIS: France's 2018 World Cup-winning star Antoine Griezmann on Monday announced his retirement from international football, bringing to an end a 10-year career with his country. "It is with a heart full of memories that I am closing this chapter of my life," France vice-captain Griezmann, 33, wrote on X. The Atletico Madrid forward made his France debut in March 2014 and has gone on to win 137 caps, a figure beaten only by his former teammate Hugo Lloris (145) and 1998 World Cup winner Lilian Thuram (142).

Griezmann is also fourth in France's list of all-time leading goal-scorers with 44, behind only record marksman Olivier Giroud, Thierry Henry and current captain Kylian Mbappe.

He scored in France's 4-2 win over Croatia in the final of the 2018 World Cup in Moscow, having previously helped his country reach the final of Euro 2016, a tournament he ended as top scorer with six goals. Griezmann was also outstanding for Les Bleus on their run to the 2022 World Cup final, which they lost on penalties to Argentina in Qatar. His last major tournament will be remembered less fondly, as neither he nor his team found their best form at Euro 2024 despite mak-

Kherson and Zaporozhya regions of Russia, Kiev's refusal to join NATO, the abolition of all illegal sanctions against Russia adopted without the approval of the UN Security Council, and respect for the rights of the Russian-speaking population of Ukraine. Russian envoy said that an early negotiated end to the conflict will benefit Russia and Ukraine, as well as countries in the Global South, including Pakistan. He said that Russia is a reliable trade and investment partner that offers opportunities for equitable, mutually beneficial cooperation with Pakistan.

Court

rejects

Imran...

FROM PAGE 01

Adiala jail, where the for-

mer PM and first lady also

appeared, Special Judge

Central Shahrukh Arjumand

announced the verdict on

the bail pleas filed by the

couple. The development

comes as the duo is set to

be indicted in the said case

on October 2 after the Na-

tional Accountability Bureau

(NAB) was barred from pur-

suing the matter and the

case was transferred to the

Federal Investigation Agen-

cy (FIA) in line with the

Supreme Court's verdict re-

storing amendments to the

anti-corruption laws. The deposed prime minister has

been imprisoned for almost a year upon his conviction in four cases - two Toshakhana

references, the cipher case,

and the Iddat case, in which

his wife is also incarcerated.

'PPP won't

yield to any

pressure...

FROM PAGE 01

achieved successes via

18th constitutional amend-

ment, including by renam-

ing Northwest Frontier Province (NWFP) as Khy-

ber Pakhtunkhwa province

among others. He said that

the existing mechanism

of judicial appointments was not in favour for the

nation but only for judges.

He stressed the necessity

of reforms citing the exist-

ing procedure of appoint-

ments in the judiciary.

mier League on Sunday as the visitors ran roughshod over the bedraggled Old Trafford side. Ange Postecoglou's Spurs climbed to eighth in the table on 10 points after six games, while beleaguered United. who saw captain Bruno Fernandes sent off in the 42nd minute for a high challenge on James Maddison, are 12th with seven points in

three. The pressure then overwhelms them and they get the red card. After that I thought we controlled the game well. "Just an outstanding effort from all the lads." Tottenham went ahead in the third minute when defender Micky van de Ven carried the ball over half the length of the pitch before playing a low centre across the six-yard box for the wide open Johnson to

Dutchman Ten Hag in rainy Manchester. "To concede a goal after two or three min-

utes like that, it did something to our belief," he said. "Totally unnecessary. "This is not good enough. We have to accept this and get better. Focus on the next game and do things better than we did today.' Tottenham doubled their lead in the 47th minute ing it to the semi-finals. Griezmann's last appearance for France came in a UEFA Nations League win at home to Belgium earlier this month.

The striker's decision to quit is further confirmation that an era has come to an end for the French side. Lloris and centre-back Raphael Varane both retired from international duty in the wake of the 2022 World Cup, with the latter quitting football entirely last week at the age of just 31. Giroud stopped playing for his country in the wake of this year's Euros in Germany. Coach Didier Deschamps will name his next France squad this Thursday ahead of Nations League matches against Israel in Budapest on October 10 and Belgium in Brussels four days later. - Agencies

Imran Khan announces pro...

FROM PAGE 01

Khan also highlighted the treatment of women within the party, mentioning, "Our women are languishing in jails. An 80-year-old woman was charged, yet no one cared." Khan voiced support

Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa for Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur, who has led a march towards Islamabad, stating that Gandapur "awakened the province's people" and echoed his call for revolution. "Ali Amin was right; revolution will come, and our message has reached the public," Khan added. The PTI leader reiterated his party's commitment to defending the judiciary and continuing their "struggle for freedom." He also mentioned his wife Bushra Bibi, who has been imprisoned for several months, accusing the government of trying to weaken him through arrests.

Iran rules out military...

FROM PAGE 01

"have the capability and strength to defend themselves against the aggression". Israel has in recent days been mounting heavy air strikes in Lebanon against the so-called "axis of resistance", a network of Iran-aligned groups in the region, including in Syria, Yemen and Iraq. Iran will not leave Israel's 'criminal acts' unanswered, says foreign ministry An Israeli strike on Beirut Friday killed Hassan Nasrallah, the head of the Lebanese group Hezbollah that has been armed and financed by the Islamic republic for years. "We have not received any request in this regard from any side, on the contrary, we are informed and are sure that they do not need the help of our forces." Kanani told reporters in Tehran.

Kohli becomes fastest player to reach 27,000 runs He surpassed Sachin Tendulkar's record of 623 innings

WEB DESK

RAT Kohli became the fastest player to reach 27,000 international runs during day four of India's second Test against Bangladesh at the Green Park Stadium in Kanpur on Monday. He surpassed Sachin Tendulkar's record of 27,000 runs in 623 innings. Kohli has currently played 594 innings in international cricket. The other players who have crossed the 27000-run mark include former Australian captain Ricky Ponting and Sri Lanka's Kumar Sangakkara. Fastest to 27000 international runs 594 innings – ViratKohli 623 innings - Sachin Tendulkar

648 innings – Kumar Sangakkara 650 innings – Ricky Ponting

Before the start of the match, Kohli had scored 8871 Test runs in 114 matches at an average of 48.74.

South Africa gives go ahead to Bangladesh tour

The Proteas will play a two-match Test series against the Tigers

FOREIGN DESK

JOHANNESBURG: Cricket South Africa has confirmed the tour to Bangladesh for the Test series in October. The Proteas will play a two-match Test series during their tour of Bangladesh. Recently, the CSA and security team reviewed the arrangements in Bangladesh after the country faced political turmoil. In regard to this, the BCB director expressed excitement while speaking to an Indian news channel on Monday. "Naturally, it is relieving that international cricket is returning back to Bangladesh, Nazmul Abedin," BCB's director said.

"Definitely (there was a concern), but things are under control here, and we understand that there is no big problem here. But there was a concern about how the world is looking at us now it is relieving as a fact, considering the outside world is also thinking that we are a safe place to come. I hope other countries will also feel better about us, and if we conduct it well (the home series against South Africa), the other team will also feel assured coming here."

Previously, Bangladesh experienced political unrest and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina was forced to resign after nationwide protests. Meanwhile, the CSA's Operations Manager, Team Security Manager, Safety and Security Consultant, and representative of the South African Cricketers' Association conducted a security assessment.

"CSA has given the series a go-ahead on the recommendation made by the team post an in-loco inspection visit to Bangladesh," CSA said in a statement on Monday.

In order to face the hosts for the Test series in October, the Proteas Men will be arriving in Dhaka on October 16. After that, the team will travel to Chattogram for the second match, scheduled from October 29 to November 2.

Napoli jump to top of Serie A with win over Monza After starting last season as champions and finishing disappointing 10th place, Napoli have rediscovered their form

SPORTS DESK

ROME: Napoli saw off lowly Monza 2-0 at home on Sunday to leapfrog to the top of the table with goals from Matteo Politano and KhvichaKvaratskhelia. After starting last season as champions and finishing a disappointing 10th place, Napoli have rediscovered their form this campaign, racking up four wins in six outings under coach Antonio Conte. Politano sent the home side ahead in the 22nd minute when he drove in from the right before slotting coolly past

Georgian star Kvaratskhelia then settled the match just 11 minutes later when the ball bobbled kindly to him in the box and he emphatically slammed home from a central position. Conte's arrival to the club in the close season is already bearing fruit as Napoli sit top of the table for the first time since June 2023 - when they won the Scudetto. But the former Italy boss dismissed talk of title pretensions, telling DAZN: "I have to look at the reality and that says we

are very far from flying high. "We've got to sweat it out game after game, like we did today where we had to sweat hard to earn those points. "We can let the fans dream, but I have to keep my feet on the ground and realise there are teams ahead of us for many reasons. We are chasing them down

Napoli have 13 points after six matches, one point more than Juventus in second spot and two ahead of AC Milan, Inter Milan and surprise-packages Torino. Earlier, Torino failed to regain top spot in

Serie A, slipping to their first league defeat



of the season 3-2 at home to Lazio. Torino were always off the pace as Lazio took the lead in the eighth minute, former Arsenal midfielder Matteo Guendouzi striking from just inside the penalty box. Guendouzi's goal was well set up by in-form on-loan Arsenal defender Nuno Tavares, who has turned into a provider for his teammates. It was his fourth assist of the campaign. The visitors doubled their lead on the hour, BoulayeDia sweeping the ball home. Torino coach Paolo Vanoli's decision to bring on Che Adams to add some zest to

the attack paid off as the Scottish international reduced the deficit seven minutes later for his third goal in three matches. Vanoli's frustration got the better of him and he was dismissed from the touchline for dissent in the 74th minute. His mood darkened as Lazio substitute TijjaniNoslin knocked in their third, just half a minute after coming on, in the 89th minute. Saul Coco scored a consolation goal in time added on with a fine volley. "I was really angry at our first half performance," said Vanoli. "We played better after the break.

the goalkeeper from a tight angle.

and will try to do our best," he added.

BUSINESS / WORLD

Briefs

07

PSX loses 177 points

ISLAMABAD: The 100-Index of the Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) continued with bearish trend on Monday, losing 177.93 points, a negative change of 0.22 percent, closing at 81,114.20 points against 81,292.13 points on the last working day. A total of 297.994.181 shares were traded during the day as compared to 339,323,128 shares the previous trading day, whereas the price of shares stood at Rs 14.103 billion against Rs.12.893 billion on the last trading day. As many as 444 companies transacted their shares in the stock market, 132 of them recorded gains and 244 sustained losses, whereas the share price of 68 companies remained unchanged. The three top trading companies were PIA Holding Company with 43,078,126 shares at Rs 18.74 per share, WorldCall Telecom with 21,681,706 shares at Rs 1.20 per share and Hub Power Company XD with 20,477,310 shares at Rs 119.34 per share. Lucky Core Industries limited witnessed a maximum increase of Rs 30.90 per share price, closing at Rs 1,051.03, whereas the runner-up was Mari Petroleum Limited with Rs 16.71 rise in its per share price to Rs 425.54. Rafhan Maize Products Company Limited witnessed a maximum decrease of Rs 542.49 per share closing at Rs 6,804.26 followed by Unilever Pakistan Foods Limited with Rs 149.94 decline to close at Rs 17,075.06.-APP

Rupee sheds 08 paisa against dollar

ISLAMABAD: Pakistani rupee on Monday depreciated by 08 paisa against the US dollar in the interbank trading and closed at Rs 277.71 against the previous day's closing of Rs 277.63. However, according to the Forex Association of Pakistan (FAP), the buying and selling rates of the dollar in the open market stood at Rs 278 and Rs 279.50 respectively. The price of Euro increased by Rs1.47 to close

Pakistan embassy in Beijing observes defence and martyrs day

STAFF REPORT

BEJING: Today, the Embassy of Pakistan in Beijing commemorated Defence and Martyrs Day with a solemn ceremony, honoring the bravery and sacrifices of the Pakistan Armed Forces. The event was attended by a large number of distinguished guests including senior Chinese civil and military officials, members of the diplomatic corps, Defense Attaches, media, members of Pakistani community and officers of the Embassy. Air Marshal Jia Zhigang, Deputy Commander Peoples Liberation Army (Air Force) of China graced the occasion as Chief Guest. The ceremony began with playing of the national anthem, followed by a moment of silence to pay homage to the martyrs who laid down their lives in defense of Pakistan. Addressing the ceremony, Ambassador of Pakistan to China, H.E Khalil Hashmi, while highlighting the salience of Defence Day, paid rich tributes to the valor, resolve and ultimate sacrifices made by members of the Pakistan Armed Forces in defence of our homeland.

Ambassador Khalil Hashmi also underscored the strong bond between Pakistan and China, emphasizing the deep-rooted partnership and cooperation in the field of defence between the two countries. He underlined

that Pakistan highly values further deepening them to its strong ties with China advance the shared goals of and remains committed to peace and security in the re-

gion. The ceremony also featured a presentation on the historic events of the 1965

war, including acts of heroism displayed by Pakistan's armed forces. A short video

highlighting the modern achievements of the military and its role in disaster relief,

contributions to regional stability was screened.

EU to hold emergency talks on Lebanon escalation

Hezbollah, a close ally of Hamas, stepped up barrages of northern Israel in the wake of the Hamas attack, displacing tens of thousands of people

BRUSSELS: European foreign ministers will hold emerbacked Hezbollah group from gency talks Monday on the spiralling into a broader consituation in Lebanon, Brussels flict. The 27-nation European Union has so far struggled to said, as Israel presses on with air strikes after killing Hezbolspeak with one voice - or exlah leader Hassan Nasrallah. A ert much influence – to curb spokesman said the bloc's forthe violence that has roiled eign policy chief Josep Borrell the region over the past year.

between Israel and the Iranan aerial campaign that saw Israel kill Hezbollah's longtime chief Nasrallah on Friday in a major ratcheting up of tensions. Israeli attacks have killed hundreds in Lebanon since last Monday, the deadliest day since the country's 1975-1990 civil war. In the last

200,000 people are displaced inside Lebanon and more than 100,000 have fled to neighboring Syria. Israel has increasingly switched its focus to tackling Hezbollah after almost a year of waging a devastating offensive in the Gaza following last year's October 7 attack

Cash-strapped Sri Lanka records first deflation in 39 years COLOMBO: Cash-strapped Sri Lanka's economy recorded

falling consumer prices for the first time in 39 years, official data showed Monday, with the September inflation figure dipping to negative 0.5 percent. Census and Statistics Department data showed price drops in both food and non-food goods contributing to deflation in September. compared to inflation of 0.5 percent in August. Sri Lanka last recorded deflation in October 1985 with a figure of negative 2.1 percent. Inflation peaked at 69.8 percent two years ago at the height of an unprecedented economic crisis in the island nation. Acute shortages of food, fuel and medicines led to months of protests that eventually forced then-president Gotabaya Rajapaksa to temporarily flee the country and resign in July 2022. His successor Ranil Wickremesinghe secured a \$2.9 billion International Monetary

peacekeeping missions, and

Islamabad **POST**

Tuesday, October 01 , 2024

UAE condemns attack on residence of ambassador in Sudan

BU DHABI: The UAE has condemned an attack that targeted the residence of its head of mission in Khartoum by a Sudanese army aircraft, which resulted in extensive damage to the building. In a statement, the Minis ry of Foreign Affairs affirmed that it would submit a formal letter to

the League of Arab States,

the African Union and the



at Rs 310.66 against the last day's closing of Rs 309.19, according to the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP). The Japanese yen went up by 01 paisa and closed at Rs1.94, whereas an increase of 88 paisa was witnessed in the exchange rate of the British Pound, which traded at Rs372.12 as compared to the last day's closing of Rs 371.24. The exchange rates of the Emirates Dirham and Saudi Rival increased by 02 paisa and 01 paisa to close at Rs 75.60 and Rs74.02 respectively.-APP

Gold price dips after earlier reaching record high

KARACHI: Gold prices have decreased in the global and local markets. According to the All-Pakistan Gems and Jewellers Sarafa Association (APGJSA), the price of 24-carat gold per tola also decreased by Rs 500 in local gold markets, settling at Rs 275,500. The price for 10 grams of gold also dropped by 428 rupees, reaching 236,197 rupees. On the other hand, in the international bullion market, the price of gold per ounce has fallen by \$4, bringing it down to \$2,653. In contrast to the decline in gold prices, the price of silver per tola remained stable at Rs 3,050. The price for 10 grams of silver also held steady at Rs 2,614.88. Earlier, gold prices in Pakistan hit a record high of Rs 264,000 per tola, rising by Rs2,300 in one day, driven by global market trends as investors positioned themselves ahead of upcoming CPI inflation data. In the international market, gold increased by \$23 per ounce, reaching \$2,524, nearing its previous peak. Investors are anticipating a slowdown in US inflation, which, along with weak unemployment and iob creation figures for August, could lead to a significant interest rate cut by the US Federal Reserve. In addition, the Pakistani rupee strengthened against the US dollar, gaining Rs 0.08 in the inter-bank market to close at Rs 278.54. In the open market, it improved by Rs 0.10, settling at Rs 280.85 per dollar,-APP

had convened a video meeting at 1500 GMT "to discuss the EU's response to the latest escalation in Lebanon." International powers are scrambling to prevent the conflict

STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: The Oil and

Israel on Monday carried out its first air strike in the heart of Lebanon's capital Beirut since the outbreak of the war in Gaza last year, killing four people. That raid was the latest in

week, Israeli bombardment has killed more than 700 people, including 14 paramedics over a two-day period, the ministry said. UN refugee chief Filippo Grandi said well over

by Hamas. Hezbollah, a close ally of Hamas, stepped up barrages of northern Israel in the wake of the Hamas attack, displacing tens of thousands of people.

Fund bailout and raised taxes and prices to stabilise the economy. Wickremesinghe lost office after a presidential election earlier this month. The winner of that contest. President Anura Kumara Dissanayake, has vowed to maintain the IMF programme but relax some of the austerity measures it imposed.

Pak, Oman to promote interfaith **OGRA** notifies harmony, peace through dialogue sharp increase in LPG price STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: Minister for The federal government is Religious Affairs and Interconsidering relief after global faith Harmony, Chaudhry Salik Hussain has emphaoil price drop as Brent crude oil sized the need for Pakistan and Oman to work together prices slashed by US\$0.50 to in promoting religious harmony, peace, and tolerance through interfaith and intercultural dialogue.

day visit to Oman, he made these remarks during a meeting with his Omani counterpart Minister of Endowments and Religious Affairs, Sheikh Mohammed bin Said bin Khalfan Al Mamari. Salik said the challenges faced by the Muslim world

today require the promo-

tion of unity, tolerance,

countries, particularly in the current global context, which demands efforts to promote harmony, tolerance, and peace. He highlighted that dialogue between religions and civilizations is essential for global peace, and that respect and tolerance are integral to Islamic teachings.

of unity among Muslim curity forces for their swift response following the attack on a mosque in Muscat in July, which prevented further escalation. He also proposed initiatives for exchangbetween religious es scholars and experts, to deepen the understanding of Islamic teachings through joint conferences and seminars on key religious topics.

tween religious institutions of both countries, focusing

various proposals to address growing trends of religious intolerance, terrorism, and sectarianism, while also fostering peace and interfaith harmony. During the meeting, both sides agreed to enhance cooperation in countering extremism and promoting interfaith harmony. They agreed on potential cooperation to improve the curriculum of religious schools (madrasas) in line with contemporary Islamic teachings.

UN reporting the attack. The UAE stressed the importance of protecting diplomatic buildings and embassy staff residences, in accordance with the treaties and customs that regulate diplomatic relations. "The UAE has called on the army to assume full responsibility for this cowardly act," it added, describing it as a "flagrant violation of the fundamental principle of the inviolability of diplomatic premises." The Sudanese army responded that it "condemns and denies the accusation" by the UAE, adding that "it does not target the headquarters of diplomatic missions, United Nations agencies or voluntary organizations and does not turn them into military bases and loot their assets. A statement said: "The one that carries out these heinous and cowardly actions is the terrorist, rebel militia (RSF) ... supported in committing all this by countries known to the world." According to eyewitnesses in Khartoum, heavy clashes have raged in several parts of the capital for the past four days in a major flare-up

At least 12 die, 10 missing as migrant boat sinks off Tunisia

of hostilities.-APP

DJERBA: At least 12 Tunisians including three children were found dead after a migrant boat capsized off the coast of the southeastern island of Djerba on Monday, a judicial official said. The boat went down at dawn and 29 people were rescued, Medenine court spokesman Fethi Baccouche told AFP, adding five men and four women were among the dead, and that the cause of the sinking remained unknown. The Tunisian National Guard said it was alerted by four migrants who swam back ashore. Tunisia and neighboring Libya have become key departure points for migrants seeking better lives in Europe, often risking dangerous Mediterranean crossings. The exodus is fueled by Tunisia's stagnant economy, with only 0.4 percent of growth in 2023 and unemployment soaring. - APP

Global rice price drops after India allows white rice exports

MUMBAI/HANOI: Global rice prices fell on Monday after India, the world's No.1 exporter of the grain, gave the go-ahead for exports to resume, boosting global supply and helping poor Asian and African buyers secure more affordable supplies, exporters said. India on Saturday allowed exports of non-basmati white rice. That came a day after New Delhi cut export duty on parboiled rice to 10%, buoyed by a new crop in the offing and higher inventories in state warehouses. "Suppliers from Thailand, Vietnam, and Pa-

kistan are responding to India's move by lowering their export prices," said Himanshu Agarwal, executive director at Satyam Balajee, a leading rice exporter. "Everyone's trying to stay competitive to hold their spot in the market." Global rice prices soared to their highest level in over 15 years following India's decision last year to ban the export of white rice and impose a 20% duty on parboiled rice exports. Last year's export curbs imposed by India allowed competing suppliers like Vietnam, Thailand, Pakistan,

and Myanmar to increase their market share and command higher prices in the global market. On Monday, India's 5% broken parboiled variety was quoted at \$500-\$510 per metric ton, down from the last week's \$530-\$536. Indian 5% broken white rice was offered around \$490. Exporters in Vietnam, Pakistan, Thailand and Myanmar also lowered prices by at least \$10 per ton on Monday, dealers said. The Philippines. Nigeria, Iraq, Senegal, Indonesia, and Malaysia are among the key importers of Asian rice. Buyers

and sellers are evaluating the potential impact of increased Indian rice supplies and accordingly prices would settle this week, said Nitin Gupta, senior vice president of Olam Agri India. India accounted for more than 40% of the world's rice exports in 2022. a record 22.2 million metric tons out of a total 55.4 million metric tons of global trade. Thai rice prices were quoted at \$540-\$550 on Monday, down from last week's \$550 to \$560 per ton. Thailand's rice export prices could decrease due to increased supplies in the market, but the extent of the decline would depend on several factors, including the appreciating Thai currency, said Chukiat Opaswong, honorary president of the Thai Rice Exporters Association. Rice prices have started to correct, even in Vietnam, but traders caution that the full impact of Indian supplies has yet to be seen. "(Vietnamese) exporters should stay calm and avoid reducing prices to secure contracts," said Truong Tan Tai, chief executive of Vinarice Co., a rice exporter.–Agencies

and religious harmony. He products prices in Pakistan Speaking during his threestressed the importance Salik lauded Oman's seare likely to decrease from Salik further suggest-October 1 amid a significant ed establishing student drop in the international marexchange programmes beket. According to details, the federal government is expected to announce a sigon the study of Shariah, nificant reduction in petrol Quranic teachings, and Isprices on September 30, the lamic history. sources said. They added The two officials discussed that the petroleum products

a hike in the price of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) by Rs 7.31 per kilogram (kg) for October. According to a notification issued by the OGRA, the new price for LPG now stands at Rs 250.31 per kg. After the recent increase, the cost of an 11.8 kg domestic cylinder has risen by Rs 86.28. The new price for a domestic LPG cylinder of 11.8 kg is fixed at Rs 2965.38. The revised prices will be in effect from October, as per the no-tification issued by OGRA. Earlier, the price of LPG was decreased by Rs 7 per kg. Subsequently, the 11.8 kg domestic cylinder price has risen was fixed at Rs 2,879. Meanwhile, the petroleum ber 30.

\$72.27/barrel

Gas Regulatory Authority (OGRA) on Monday notified prices are likely to decrease by Rs 1 to 3 per litre. The diesel prices may also drop by Rs. 3 per litre as the new prices will be in effect from October 1. The federal government is considering relief after global oil price drop as Brent crude oil prices slashed by US\$0.50 to \$72.27/barrel. The sources reveal that the Prime Minister's approval will be sought before announcing the new prices on Septem-









Briefs

China's advancement in biotechnology benefits Pakistan

DNA

BEIJING: In the realm of pharmaceuticals, China's biotech advancements in nology and traditional medicines present numerous opportunities for Pakistani enterprises. "By leveraging China's expertise, Pakistani companies can introduce innovative products and treatments to their market, thereby improving healthcare outcomes and access,' said Ma Jian representative of the Sichuan Liaison Office of the China-Pakistan Business Council, China Economic Net (CEN) reported. То facilitate seamless cross-border healthcare experiences. Ma underscored the importance of legal frameworks, streamlined visa procedures, and improved services, particularly in English proficiency.

"As we receive increasing inquiries from Pakistani patients seeking treatments like rehabilitation in China, addressing these issues becomes even more crucial," he added. "As Pakistan's healthcare landscape is evolving, we see immense potential in tapping into the demand for its medical tourism," highlighted Ma Jian. Speaking at a roundtable dialogue on "Cross-Border Medical Tourism" as part of the 2024 World Medical Tourism and Global Healthcare (Boao) Forum (WMTF) held in the picturesque Chinese city of Haikou, Ma highlighted the unique blend of TCM and modern medical practices offered by China.

Protest is last resort for release of Imran

FAISAL SHEIKH

Serena Hotels and Canadian HC advocate for climate resilience

Serena Hotels and the High Commission of Canada Host Strategic Dialogue on Strengthening Indigenous Communities through Climate Action, Inclusion, and Gender Parity



DNA

ISLAMABAD: A high-level strategic dialogue called "Strengthening Indigenous Communities: Empowerment through Climate Action, Inclusion, and Gender Parity" took place today at the Islamabad Serena Hotel. Co-hosted by Serena Hotels and the High Commission of Canada, the event brought together prominent speakers, including H.E. Leslie Scanlon, Canadian High Commissioner to Pakistan; Aziz Boolani, CEO of Serena Hotels and Chairman of the Aga Khan Rural Support Programme (AKR-SP); Sardar Ramesh Singh Arora, Minister

for Minorities Affairs, Government of Punjab; and key leaders from civil society organizations working to support socio-economic inclusion and empowerment of local communities and marginalised groups in Pakistan. Canada, at home and around the world, is working to advance reconciliation and promote engagement with Indigenous Peoples, based on recognition of rights, respect, cooperation, and partnership. It involves listening to, learning from, and working in partnership with First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples in Canada, as well as with local communities around the world, to address the unique challenges that these communities face. Reflecting on the

significance of the event, Canadian High Commissioner Scanlon remarked, "On this day of Canada's National Truth and Reconciliation, the dialogue was an opportunity for us to amplify the voices of Indigenous and marginalized communities, as well as leaders, here in Pakistan. Canada is built on the ancestral lands of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples, and as we continue our reconciliation journey we are committed to applying a reconciliation lens across our diplomacy and global advocacy efforts. Whether it's promoting socio-economic inclusion, empowering youth, women, and girls in all their diversity, or supporting climate resilience for those on the frontlines

of the climate crisis, we are committed to working with Pakistan to help build a sustainable, resilient, and equitable future. Today's dialogue, with the participation of Pakistani leaders who are working to support local communities, highlighted the importance of collective policies, actions, and partnerships to support local communities' unique needs." Speaking at the event, Mr. Aziz Boolani, CEO of Serena Hotels, emphasized, "At Serena Hotels, we believe that sustainability is not just an agenda, but a responsibility. By supporting indigenous communities, we can amplify their voices and experiences in shaping policies and solutions for climate resilience. Today's dialogue underlines our commitment to advancing inclusive growth and ensuring that the impacts of climate change are addressed with the unique needs of these communities in mind." Serena Hotels, through its Public Diplomacy initiative, has long been committed to fostering meaningful dialogues on pressing global issues, with a particular focus on climate action, social inclusion, and the empowerment of marginalized communities. This event was reflective of Serena's dedication to addressing the profound impact of climate change on indigenous communities, who are often on the frontlines of environmental challenges. By bringing together leaders, policymakers, and civil society, Serena Hotels & the High Commission of Canada aimed to contribute to a broader understanding of the interconnectedness of climate resilience and socio-economic inclusion, ensuring that no community is left behind in the face of global environmental shifts.

Israeli airstrikes kill 12 in Gaza

FOREIGN DESK

CAIRO: Israeli airstrikes pounded areas across the . Gaza Strip on Monday killing 12, including a journalist and her family, medics said, although the intensity of the ground offensive has subsided as Israel steps up its fight with Hezbollah in Lebanon.Palestinian health officials said Wafa Al-Udaini, who wrote articles about the war in English advocating the Palestinian viewpoint, was killed when a missile struck her house in the central city of Deir Al-Balah, also killing her husband and their two children. There has been no immediate comment from the Israeli military.

Udaini's death raised the number of Palestinian journalists killed in the Israeli offensive since Oct. 7 to 174, the Hamas-run Gaza government media office said. In another strike, a Palestinian was killed and several were wounded in Rafah, near the border with Egypt, while in the northern town of Beit Hanoun an airstrike killed one man and injured others, medics said. While later on Monday, an Israeli air strike on a house in Nuseirat, one of Gaza Strip's eight historic refugee camps, killed six people, health officials said.

SHC approves Karsaz accident suspect bail Court says suspect is a mother of three school-going children who need her support

NAZIR SIYAL

KARACHI: Stressing the need for further inquiry, the Sindh High Court on Monday granted bail to the female driver arrested in Karsaz road accident in a drug case against surety bonds worth Rs1 million. On August 19, a young woman and an elderly man were killed when the suspect's luxury vehicle crashed into multiple vehicles near the Pakistan Maritime Museum in Karachi. Those killed in the accident were identified as daughter and father, 26-year-old Aamna Arif and 60-year-old Imran Arif. According to law enforcement officials, the woman who caused the accident received an injury on her head and her CT scan was conducted at the Jinnah Postgraduate Medical Centre (JPMC).

Hezbollah says it is ready for any Israeli land invasion

Elsewhere in his remarks, the top Hezbollah official underlined that Israel is delusional if it thinks that it can achieve its goals through massacres and Western support

News Desk

NaimQassem has vowed that the Lebanese resistance group will continue the path paved by its late leader

ance fighters across West Asia, Lebanon, and freedom-loving peoples worldwide over the loss of Nasrallah. "With the martyrdom of Sayyed Nasrallah, we lost a brother, a dear BEIRUT: Hezbollah's Deputy Secretary General Sheikh friend and a great leader. He was present on the battlefield and pursued the line of jihad for many years. He followed the path of the late founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Imam Khomeini, and his successor Ayatollah Khamenei. "Savved Nasrallah was the leader of freedom fighters, and his primary goal was the liberation of Palestine and holy al-Quds. Know that he will always be among us," he said. Sheikh Qassem stated that Israeli forces are killing and committing massacres against civilians across Lebanon, and are attacking civilian and health facilities. "The Zionist regime does not face off resistance fighters, but it rather kills innocents. The US is a partner with Israel, through unlimited military support - culturally, politically, financially," Sheikh Qassem pointed out. Elsewhere in his remarks, the top Hezbollah official underlined that Israel is delusional if it thinks that it can achieve its goals through massacres and Western support. Sheikh Qassem stated that Hezbollah fighters are prepared and "we will emerge victorious in case the Israeli enemy decides to launch a ground invasion of Lebanon.'

KP CM Gandapur promíses legislation against enforced disappearances

Gandapur stated in court that he opposed such actions and that they were working to amend police act

SHAMIM SHAHID

PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur appeared before the Peshawar High Court (PHC) in the missing persons case and assured the court of legislative action against the re-arrest of individuals after their release from jail. During the hearing, the petitioner stated that his son was taken by the police and, despite receiving bail, was re-arrested by the CTD upon exiting Peshawar Jail. Chief Justice Iftikhar Ibrahim questioned how someone could be arrested from outside jail after being granted bail, calling it a violation of the court's decision. The court inquired with the additional SHO if he was responsible for the arrest, to which he replied under oath that he was not even present at the venue. Justice Ijaz Anwar remarked it as an unfortunate reality in the country where individuals were taken in such a manner, asserting that it was implausible for the police to be unaware of these actions. The court summoned Chief Minister Gandapur and adjourned the hearing. Upon resuming, Gandapur stated in court that he opposed such actions and that they were working to amend the police act.

RAWALPINDI: PTI founder Imran Khan's sister Aleema Khan stressed that protest was the last resort for Imran Khan's release. Talking to media outside Adiala Jail in Rawalpindi, she stated that Imran khan had emphasised to keep protest alive, it shouldn't be halted.

Aleema Khan stated that peaceful protest was the only viable option to halt Imran Khan's possible military detention and trial in military court. She highlighted that people took the streets in Rawalpindi for supremacy of law and independent judiciary but they were faced with resistance and rubber bullets were fired on them. She added that KP CM Ali Amin Gandapur brought a huge convoy but it was fired. She berated the incumbent government, saying having 17 seats in federation and 25 in Punjab government was afraid of them. She insisted on protesting until Imran Khan's release and judiciary's independence as Imran Khan and workers had no other option. Aleema Khan revealed that protests were being held in Multan, Faisalabad, Mianwali and Bahawalpur as protest was a constitutional right of citizens. She announced that a protest rally will be organised in Minar-e-Pakistan on the birthday of Imran Khan.

Government to file treason cases against **PTI** leaders

MEHTAB PIRZADA

ISLAMABAD: The government has decided to file a treason case against the PTI leaders over the speeches they delivered during the Sangjani rally on Sept 8. According to sources, the government is taking action under Section 196 of the Criminal Procedure Code, which deals with treason charges.

The cases filed under this section are non-bailable, and police do not require warrant for arrests. Read more: PTI gets permission for Islamabad rally on Sept 8 Both the Ministry of Law and the federal prosecutor general have endorsed the move and formal approval from the federal cabinet is being sought for further proceedings.

Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah, and will achieve the goals he set. He made the remarks on Monday noon as he delivered a televised speech broadcast live in Beirut in commemoration of late Hezbollah chief Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah, who was martyred on Friday after the Israeli regime bombarded a southern suburb of the Lebanese capital using US-provided weapons and munitions. "Despite the loss of our leaders and the great sacrifices, we will not renounce our stances and the resistance will continue to assist Palestine. We have persevered despite all the attacks.

"We will continue Nasrallah's path and Hezbollah will continue its goals. Hezbollah's operations continued after its late leader's assassination," he emphasized. The Hezbollah deputy chief offered his deepest condolences to Imam Mahdi, the Twelfth and last Shia Imam, Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei, resist-

Pak first climate change curriculum launched

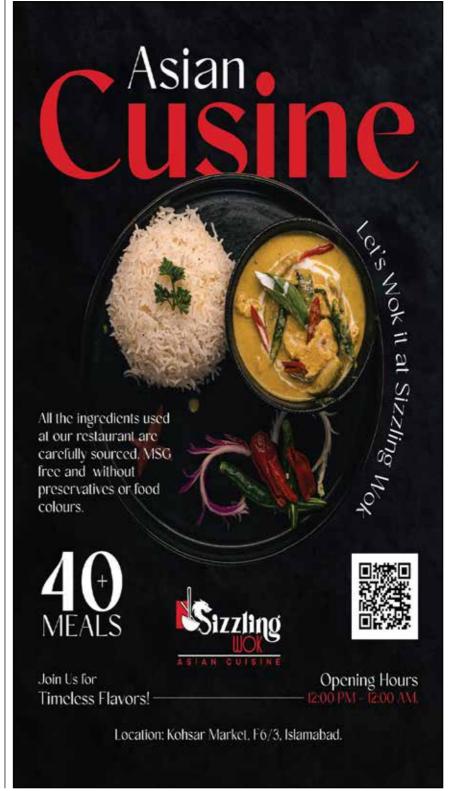


The curriculum, created by TRC under the Climate Change Awareness and Action for Nature, Diversity, Livelihoods, and Ecosystems (CANDLE) initiative, includes an interactive toolkit for teachers

KHAYAM ABBASI

ISLAMABAD: The United States partnered with the Teachers' Resource Center (TRC) to launch Pakistan's first climate change curriculum for schools. This program will educate students from grades 1-10 on the science behind climate change and provide them with tools to protect the environment for future generations. The curriculum, created by TRC under the Climate Change Awareness and Action for Nature, Diversity, Livelihoods, and Ecosystems (CANDLE) initiative, includes an interactive toolkit for teachers. It also features easy-to-use lesson plans covering essential topics such as climate science. the impact of climate change, and practical solutions for adapting to a rapidly changing environment.

"By introducing climate education in schools, we're empowering young minds to take meaningful action," said Lisa Swenarski, Minister Counselor for Public Diplomacy, at the launch event in Islamabad. "These students will grow up with a deep understanding of their role in protecting the environment, and that's where real change begins." Senior federal and provincial education leaders, as well as representatives from both public and private sector attended the launch and emphasized the vital role education plays in addressing the climate crisis. The new curriculum reflects the shared commitment of both the United States and Pakistan to fostering a sustainable and resilient future. By integrating climate education into schools through this innovative initiative, Pakistan is preparing its youth to become environmental leaders, empowering the next generation to protect their communities and the planet.



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