

QUETTA VOICE

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PM Shehbaz reaches New York to attend 77th session of UNGA



Imran Khan puts pressure on institutions by hurling threats, Maryam

Education of 386000 students at risk in Balochistan

Syed Ali Shah Analysis

The education of 3,86,000 students is at risk in flood-affected areas of Balochistan. Floods and heavy rainfall damaged around 3,000 government-run primary, middle and high schools across the province.

The damage to schools across Balochistan has affected the schooling of 3,86,000 students. This figure is as per the data shared by the Balochistan Secondary Education Department. Although, the independent sources put the number of students and damaged schools higher than what is being quoted by the officials.

Floods damaged this school in interior Balochistan: Photo provided by UNICEF

The out-of-school children ratio in Balochistan is already higher than in the rest of the country. The education department admits that still, over 1 million children are out of school in the province, lagging behind other provinces of Pakistan in all key social indicators.

Reconstruction of schools a major challenge for the government

The recent monsoon has further compounded the problems of students. The number of government-run primary, middle and high schools in Balochistan is over 15,000. The reconstruction of 3,000 damaged schools is a major challenge for the provincial government, which appears to be least



bothered about the state of education in the province.

So far, the data is only shared at the departmental level. The government has not spoken about the reconstruction of damaged schools and resuming educational activities there. UNICEF has only established 22 temporary learning centers (TLCs) with over 2,000 enrollments. This is simply nothing as compared to the number of students deprived of education.

Govt, opposition solely focusing on PSDP

The provincial coalition government and the 'friendly' opposition have solely focused on their schemes in the Public Sector Development Program (PSDP) 2022-23. They want to get the schemes completed and implemented by hook and crook and uttered not a single word about the reconstruction of damaged schools.

The reconstruction of schools and ensuring the availability of basic facilities would require billions of rupees. The lives of students should not be put at peril to study in damaged classrooms as anytime the damaged rooms and walls can collapse. So no risk should be taken in this regard.

The Balochistan government, UNICEF and other non-governmental organizations on national and international levels working for the promotion of education should take notice of the situation and ensure the reconstruction of damaged schools. Then, the students should be allowed to keep continue their stalled studies.

JUI F likely to join Balochistan government soon

Syed Ali Shah

QUETTA: Jamiat ul Ulema e Islam (JUI) is likely to join the coalition Balochistan government soon. The religious party lawmakers held a detailed meeting with Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Qudus Bizenjo in Islamabad to discuss possible joining of the provincial government.



"JUI has decided to join the coalition government", a lawmaker from the religious party said. He requested anonymity since he was not authorized to speak to the media. With 11 lawmakers in the house of 65 is the second largest parliamentary party and largest opposition party.

The party had played a crucial role in the success of the vote of no confidence against the former Chief Minister Balochistan, Jam Kamal Khan in October last year.

Bizenjo meets Maulana Wasey

CM Balochistan, Bizenjo called on the federal minister for housing Maulana Abdul Wasey in Islamabad. Opposition leader, Malik Sikandar Advocate, Balochistan Minister, Sardar Abdul Rehman Khetran and other lawmakers were also present at the meeting.

"Bizenjo held three hours long meeting with JUI F delegation", the insider mentioned. He said the meeting discussed the allocation of portfolios with the Chief Minister. The religious party has also put a condition that the lawmakers belonging to the former ruling party Pakistan Tehreek e Insaaf (PTI) should not be part of the future coalition government.

JUI asks Bizenjo to withdraw portfolios from PTI ministers

PTI has two provincial ministers including Naseebullah Marri and Mobeen Khilji and Babar Musakhail of PTI is the deputy speaker in the Balochistan Assembly. "We have asked the CM to withdraw portfolios from the PTI ministers", a well-placed source within the JUI disclosed.

CM Balochistan, Mir Qudus Bizenjo and the JUI delegation are expected to meet on Tuesday to give a final shape to the new alliance and the religious party's participation in the government. Balochistan National Party (BNP), the second largest opposition party has not made any decision in this regard so far.

Imran Khan puts pressure on institutions by hurling threats, says Maryam

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) Vice President Maryam Nawaz said that Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan puts pressure on institutions by hurling threats.

Maryam Nawaz appeared before IHC over her appeal against conviction in the Avenfield reference on Tuesday.

During the proceedings, the National Accountability Bureau (NAB) Prosecutor argued that these cases were created on the orders of the Supreme Court (SC) and the present appeal is about aiding and abetting the crime. Maryam Nawaz assisted her father in making and hiding the mentioned property, he said.

On which, Justice Aamer Farooq remarked that the decision of the SC has nothing to do with this appeal, the PML-N leader has filed the appeal on the account of short comings in the Accountability Court's decision.

The court directed the NAB Prosecutor to present counter arguments on the case.

Later, the court adjourned the hearing till September 29.

In a media talk after the hearing, Maryam Nawaz stated that PTI always puts up a challenge and clear it's way out of everything.

Criticizing the PTI Chairman she added that Imran Khan provokes people by telling them to break the idol of fear, while he didn't have the courage to even name someone directly.

She further lashed out at the PTI Chairperson and challenged him to bring forward the proof of any security threats. INP

Germany provides relief items to 1000 families in Lasbela

News Desk

The German government has provided relief items to 1000 families in Balochistan's flood-hit Lasbela district. The Karachi-based German Consul General, Holger Ziegeler and designated Honorary Consul of the Federal Republic of

project was signed between the German Consulate General and Balochistan Rural Support Program (BRSP)", he said.

Thank you for your generous financial support during this tumultuous time, Mr. Baloch told the visiting German Consul General. Secondly, the magnitude of this



Germany in Quetta, Mir Murad Baluch were also present on the occasion of food distribution among the flood-affected families.

"First, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the German Consul General for the generous assistance that they have provided for the grief-stricken flood-affected people of Pakistan, particularly Balochistan", Murad Baloch said on the occasion.

"I am obliged that on my personal request the

calamity is massive & unprecedented in the country's history.

In Balochistan only, almost 85,000 houses have been destroyed, millions of people displaced, their livestock swept away and their agricultural land and crops have been obliterated. This support will help provide much-needed relief to the people. It will take years for people to overcome such a catastrophe, mentally as well, Murad Baloch stated.



NEW YORK: Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif attending the opening of the General Debate in the General Assembly of the United nations.

PM Shehbaz reaches New York to attend 77th session of UNGA

NEW YORK: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif reached New York in the wee hours of Tuesday to represent Pakistan at the 77th session of the United Nations General Assembly, Dunya News reported.

Defence Minister Khawaja Asif and Information Minister Marriyum Aurangzeb also travelled with the Prime Minister.

The prime minister is scheduled to attend a reception today (Tuesday) to be hosted by United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres. He will also meet French President Emmanuel Macron, Austrian chancellor and Spanish president today.

A meeting with President of the European Union Council Charles Michel and participation in the Global Food Security

Summit to be hosted by president of Senegal and African Union is also on the agenda of the prime minister's visit.

On September 21, he will meet Managing Director of International Monetary Fund Kristalina Georgieva and President of World Bank David Malpass, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi.

Besides meeting with the UNGA president, the prime minister will also attend a dinner reception to be hosted by US President Joe Biden.

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif will also host a luncheon reception in honour of the Turkish president and his spouse, besides meeting with Finnish President Sauli Niinistö. INP

FM Bilawal urges OIC to push for appointment of UN envoy on Islamophobia

NEW YORK: Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari on Tuesday urged the Organisation of Islamic Countries (OIC) to approach United Nations (UN) Secretary-General to appoint a special envoy on Islamophobia. According to details, the foreign minister was addressing a meeting of the OIC Contact Group on Muslims in Europe which was held on the sidelines of UN General Assembly's 77th session in New York. He said Islamophobia continues to find strong resonance in political spheres in Europe, ultimately leading to the institutionalisation of Islamophobia through new legislations and policies such as discriminatory travel bans and visa restrictions. He said the momentum generated by this resolution should be maintained. The Foreign Minister said one of the worst manifestations of such Islamophobia was in Hindutva-inspired India, driven by the ideology of hate against Muslims. INP

Education of young generation owed to dedicated teachers: Corps Commander

Staff Reporter

QUETTA: Corps Commander Balochistan, Lieutenant General Asif Ghafoor on Tuesday said the education and training of the young generation owed to dedicated and competent teachers. The Commander visited the Balochistan University of Information Technology and Management Sciences (BUIITEMS) and met faculty members, administration, and students.

The first command in the holy Qur'an was revealed about knowledge and indeed knowledge is linked with teachers, Lt. Gen. Asif Ghafoor said while addressing the participants of the seminar.

He further said that teachers, especially primary education teachers, have a very important role in the education and training of any nation. A teacher frames the whole



society, he added.

Corps Commander Balochistan pose for photograph with faculty members of BUIITEMS

"Our young ones should keep themselves away from the narrative of enemies and invest their time for a developed and prosperous Pakistan", the Corps Commander Balochistan stated.

Corps Commander Balochistan while stressing on the importance of self-accountability commented that as a nation it is our individual and collective responsibility that instead of criticizing criticism, we should be self-accountable and fulfill our national and social responsibility in an auspicious manner.

The Corps Commander emphasized the role of teachers in reducing the growing trend of intolerance in society.

QUETTA VOICE

Editor Asim Khan

Floods expose construction quality of dams in Balochistan

Flash floods unleashed by torrential rains exposed the construction quality of dams across Balochistan.

Over the years, the provincial and federal governments constructed hundreds of dams to check the wastage of rainy water.

Breaching of dams puts human lives at peril. Breaching of dams not only failed to save rainy water rather it also put human lives at peril in Pishin, Barkhan, Lasbella, Kohlu, Killa Abdullah, Killa Saifullah and other districts of the province.

Flash floods also swept away poorly constructed roads and standing crops in various parts of the province.

Commission, corruption a common word in C&W and Irrigation departments

This is a good opportunity for those at the helm of affairs to make sure transparency in the utilization of funds by the two departments.

The quality of construction of roads in Quetta and all districts of Balochistan should also be probed to improve socio-economic conditions.

Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Quddus Bizenjo and his coalition partners must go beyond words and launch an inquiry into the breaching of dams and damage to roads.

Climate change, the prime challenge for Human Beings

By Syed Abid Shah

Climate change in the world is one of the most horrible issues. Climate is a significant variation of average weather conditions—say, conditions becoming warmer, wetter, or drier—over several decades or more.

But now recently a 3 day's summit was arranged in Glasgow Scotland about climate changes in the world which is the leading

cause of the several issues of the world. The representative from all over the world, United Nation and different companies Chief executives were participating in this conference; talking about the same issue how to solve it and what measures are taken for this.

Anthropogenic causes of climate change. Humans—more specifically, the greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions that human activity generates—are the leading cause of the earth's rapidly changing climate today.

the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, our current concentrations of carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide "are unprecedented compared with the past 800,000 years."

The burning of fossil fuels like coal, oil, and gas for electricity, heat, and transportation is the primary source of human-generated emissions.

that generate air pollution include fertilizer use (a primary source of nitrous oxide emissions), livestock production (cattle, buffalo, sheep, and goats are major methane emitters), and certain industrial processes that release fluorinated gases.

Though our planet's forests and oceans absorb greenhouse gases from the atmosphere through photosynthesis and other processes, these natural carbon sinks can't keep up with our rising emissions.

Every state should take reasonable care

about the climate change in the world and look after the system of industries which is the major cause of climate change. The developed countries now take measurements to stop climate change and work on technical and advanced technologies which help out to stop the emissions of several gases which destroyed the climate.

The climate IDP

Internally displaced persons (IDPs) remain among the most vulnerable people in the world. The Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement define IDPs as "persons or groups of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized border."

IDPs are often referred to as refugees. However, they do not fall within the legal definitions of a refugee.

Pakistan's diverse geography and climate expose the country to a wide range of climate-induced disasters such as floods and landslides. Although Pakistan has contributed the least to the climate crisis (it is responsible for less than one per cent of the world's planet-warming gases), it is the eighth most vulnerable nation to the climate crisis, according to the Global Climate Risk Index.

According to the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC), 16.6 million IDPs and 94 disaster events were recorded in Pakistan from 2008 to 2021. During this period, floods triggered most of the displacements (15.4 million), followed by earthquakes (1.1 million). Other climate-induced

disasters which triggered internal displacements in Pakistan included chronic droughts, extreme temperatures, and frequent occurring storms.

In 2021 alone, 70,000 internal displacements were recorded in Pakistan, all of them triggered by climate-induced disasters. The recent erratic monsoon rains of 2022 have caused catastrophic floods and affected an estimated 33 million across Pakistan.

The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) has revealed that flood water has washed away more than 1.7 million homes, displacing millions of people within Pakistan, who require shelter, food, healthcare and other essentials.

Additionally, it has been revealed by the UNFPA that an estimated 75,000 pregnant women are affected by the recent floods, and 40,000 are expected to deliver their babies in September 2022. Women and girls are particularly exposed to the risk of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) during disaster events. The UN Women has revealed that more than 70 percent of women suffer various forms of gender-based discrimination in humanitarian crises.

Many internally displaced children in Pakistan have lost access to education as their schools have been washed away. Many children would be forced to quit school and engage in child labour to earn a livelihood to help their families. Pakistan already has the world's second-highest number of out-of-school children with an estimated 22.8 million children aged 5-16 not attending school, as per Unicef. It will be extremely challenging for Pakistan, which is still recovering from school closures due to Covid-19, to send internally displaced children back to school.

Additionally, the WHO has revealed that about 900 health facilities have been damaged across Pakistan. This places IDPs at risk of aggravated disease outbreaks such as dengue fever, malaria, polio, and Covid-19.

Despite a high number of recorded IDPs in Pakistan over the years and the vulnerability faced by them, the country has no national laws or policies implemented that specifically apply to IDPs.

Article 25(1) of the constitution states: All citizens are equal before law and are entitled to equal protection of law. It is also important to note

that Pakistan ratified the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) in June 2010.

Article 2(2) of the ICCPR obligates Pakistan to take "the necessary steps, in accordance with its constitutional processes and with the provisions of the present Covenant, to adopt such laws or other measures as may be necessary to give effect to the rights recognized in the present Covenant."

Pakistan can take inspiration from the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement and incorporate them into its national legislation.

The Guiding Principles were presented to the UN Commission on Human Rights in 1998. They identify the rights and guarantee protection to IDPs in all states of their displacement. Although the Guiding Principles are not legally binding, they have attained significant authority since their inception. At the World Summit in September 2005 in New York, the Guiding Principles were recognized as an important international framework for the protection of IDPs.

Recently, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres visited the flood-affected areas of Sindh and Balochistan and stated that "there is a very unfair situation, in relation to the level of

By Rida Tahir

disruption we are seeing in Sindh." He added that "it is essential for the international community to understand that Pakistan, including Sindh, needs today massive financial support to overcome this crisis," while emphasizing that this was not a matter of generosity, but justice.

The international community should support Pakistan as it responds to the unprecedented climate-induced floods. Many IDPs remain displaced for years. The international community should pledge to support Pakistan until all IDPs return home after the reconstruction of their homes and villages.

Despite a high number of recorded IDPs in Pakistan over the years and the vulnerability faced by them, the country has no national laws or policies implemented that specifically apply to IDPs.

The Land Acquisition Act 1894 is the only legal document that refers to displacement. However, it only applies to the acquisition of land for public purposes and companies.

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Article 2(2) of the ICCPR obligates Pakistan to take "the necessary steps

Collision with happiness

M Bilal Lakhani

Every morning I wake up and ask myself if I'm happy.

This is a terrible habit for my mental health but over the last few weeks, the answer is that I'm actually happy. This is a strange and out of body experience because this hasn't been the case for the majority of my life.

Six months ago, I was on paternity leave and had made big plans to pursue long term professional goals that I never had a chance to pursue because of my full time day job. I thought the extra time I had on paternity leave would allow me to pour myself into those goals but week after week, I was literally doing nothing to move the needle on that front.

All my life, being a type A personality, happiness was married to my professional life. The paternity leave was a strange window into realising it's possible to be

unhappy professionally but happy personally. Perhaps this sounds obvious to most people but it was a profound realisation for me.

Originally, I had planned to use the paternity leave as an opportunity to reinvent myself. But the burden of this reinvention was weighing me down because of the lack of progress rather than exciting me.

So I started experimenting with doing something different half way through my paternity leave. Instead of changing everything at once, I started changing one thing a week and tried to chew on small pieces of it daily.

Week by week, I added a new habit or goal I wanted to achieve and because I was setting expectations so ridiculously low, I was actually able to achieve change and feel happy about my progress rather than denigrating myself for not making progress. Fast forward six months and my life stands transformed. I'm now playing tennis regularly, having dinner with a friend every week, reading the newspaper, doing gratitude exercises and getting closer to God. I didn't start two side gigs.

Nurture a healthy heart to live wisely

Durdana Najam

World Heart Day is celebrated on September 29 to remind the public about the importance of keeping our hearts in good shape.

Metaphorically, the heart connects us with our surroundings and the Almighty. It all flows from the heart. The purification of the heart is obtained both spiritually and physically. What we eat affects the flesh part of the heart, and what we think affects its spiritual side.

Every year 18.6 million people die of cardiovascular diseases (CVD) globally, caused by smoking, diabetes, high blood pressure, obesity, air pollution, Chagas disease and cardiac amyloidosis.

Asia has the highest number of patients with CVD. Of the 18.6 million CVD deaths worldwide in 2019, 58% occurred in Asia. Nearly 39% of these deaths were premature.

prevent and treat CVD." In Pakistan, the CVD mortality is 152 per 100,000 population (22.7%), translating to about 200,000 deaths annually.

The JACC report tells us that dietary changes from traditional Asian to westernised food have had a detrimental effect on the health of Asians living in resource-deficit countries. A recent publication in the Global Burden of Disease provides further insight into food patterns in Asia, for the five unhealthy foods — red meat, processed meat, sugar-sweetened beverages, trans-fats, and sodium — all Asian regions consumed the most sugar-sweetened beverages and sodium.

Prof Nawaz Lashari, Chair of Cardiology at Dow University, stresses healthy physical activity for cardiac health, advising 45-minute walk daily. Pakistan Hypertension League General Secretary Dr Mohammad Ishaq says exercise strengthens the heart.

pharmaceutical company has arranged special events in Karachi, lighting up the city's landmark buildings in red in collaboration with the National Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases and Karachi Metropolitan Corporation. The events will commemorate World Heart Day and pay tribute to frontline healthcare workers, including cardiologists working tirelessly to save lives during Covid-19.

The company has worked with Cardiology institutes throughout Pakistan to introduce cost-effective and efficacious treatments for blood pressure, cholesterol, angina, and heart failure, as well as world-class medical devices for cardiac interventions.

The high prevalence of CVD in Pakistan is mainly the result of our sedentary lifestyle, increased consumption of inorganic and fatty food, coupled with stress and genetic factors. While increasingly effective medicines and devices are continually being introduced, there is absolutely no substitute for prevention through exercise and a healthy diet.

Experts insist we have to change our way of thinking and our approach to public health if we want to help people live longer and healthy lives. In this respect, public policy interventions guided by experts in the fields of preventive cardiology and public health,

including education and awareness campaigns, should be conducted regularly to motivate people to exercise and eat healthy food. Only preventive measures can reduce the burden of disease and reduce the excessive reliance on medicine.

On this World Health Day, let us resolve to nurture a heart clean of impurities of food and thought because, as Charles Dickens said, "A loving heart is the truest wisdom." The JACC report tells us that dietary changes from traditional Asian to westernised food have had a detrimental effect on the health of Asians living in resource-deficit countries.

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Prof Nawaz Lashari, Chair of Cardiology at Dow University, stresses healthy physical activity for cardiac health, advising 45-minute walk daily. Pakistan Hypertension League General Secretary Dr Mohammad Ishaq

says exercise strengthens the heart. According to Dr Ishaq, 20% of Pakistan's population suffers from high blood pressure, 10% has diabetes, and 30% is obese.

These ailments lead to heart diseases," he warns. In the context of World Heart Day, a leading pharmaceutical company has arranged special events in Karachi, lighting up the city's landmark buildings in red in collaboration with the National Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases and Karachi Metropolitan Corporation.

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Transcending limits

Ali Hassan Bangwar

Historic moments warrant introspection and reflection. The contemporary pandemic-ridden world seems to be at the crossroads. The prevailing onslaught of Covid-19 against humankind calls for a comprehensive contemplation on what went wrong in our quest for modernisation. The pandemic has resulted in an unprecedented crisis, the likes of which the world has not seen since World War II.

Among all creatures, humankind is high up the evolutionarily ladder due to unmatched cognitive abilities and intellectual prowess. These intellectual abilities were inherently aimed at distinguishing good and evil, and regulating life on earth in a manner that benefits not only humans but their surroundings.

Regardless of their impacts. Rather than running the affairs and utilising the intellect and bounties in a just and sustainable manner, men have badly embezzled with nature's resources at the cost of destruction of other forms of life and of natural ecosystem. The recently released UN IPCC's terrifying sixth assessment report on the anthropogenic destruction of global climate is but a single instance of mankind's high-handedness against their surrounding environment.

A few in the world hold majority of the wealth — the result: millions of people are currently consumed by poverty, hunger and disease. The rich-poor divide widens as time passes by. Global poverty and wide-scale inequality are on the rise. Laws are made and broken for and by the rich, while the poor remain entangled in them. Merciless pogroms are a norm. The week dies of being preyed and consumed by capitalist predators.

become common traits of our culture.

There is an ever-rising trend of flattery and hypocrisy, while everything remains centered around material success. Morality, ethos, empathy and compassion are all considered as outdated notions. One might wonder how is NASA even thinking of colonising Mars if we have utterly failed to learn to live peacefully on earth despite being here for millenniums.

Though heinous acts may go unattended or unpunished by our judicial system, we must realise the earth has its own system of justice. Floods, droughts, forest fires, heat waves, tsunamis, epidemics, earthquakes, torrential rains and violent volcanic eruptions are just a few of the consequences that have come about due to our actions. COVID-19 among other cataclysms questions the sustainability of the existing global order and the underlying principles of globalisation.

Raza Rabbani calls for 'political ceasefire' in calamity situation

ISLAMABAD: PPP Senator Raza Rabbani has called for a 'political ceasefire' owing to the calamitous situation caused by devastating floods.

Raza Rabbani, former chairman of the Senate and a seasoned parliamentarian, in a statement said that the floods have wreaked havoc in Pakistan and people facing hardships owing to floodwaters standing in large parts of the country.

He suggested a 'political ceasefire' for three to four months in this situation of national calamity. "We are required national solidarity, it won't be bad if a political truce comes into force," he suggested.

Commenting on Kalabagh Dam, Rabbani said that the Senate and provincial assemblies have rejected this project, other schemes of water reservoirs can be worked out.

"It is unnecessary to discuss divisive issues that divide the country and the nation," he said. "People are also talking to roll back the 18th Constitutional Amendment and the provincial autonomy," he observed.

Commenting on Kalabagh Dam, Rabbani said that the Senate and provincial assemblies have rejected this project, other schemes of water reservoirs can be worked out. INP

Chinese solar company donates goods for flood affectees

BEIJING: A Chinese leading solar company Zonergy Corporation, a long-standing and strong partner of Pakistan in solar power generation, donated RMB 100,000 to support the relief and rehabilitation efforts of Pakistan for the flood-hit people in Pakistan.

Zonergy Executive Voice President Changbin Qiu presented the check to Pakistani Ambassador Moin ul Haque at a ceremony held in the Pakistan Embassy Beijing, according to a report published by China Economic (CEN) on Tuesday.

Sharing his grief and condolences with the bereaved families, Changbin Qiu said his company will continue to support the people of Pakistan in this difficult time.

He informed that his company has already

provided portable solar devices worth Rs 6.4 million and food supplies worth Rs 2.4 million to help the affected people in different parts of Pakistan.

He said Zonergy Corporation had previously donated Rs 5 million for the Prime Minister COVID Relief Fund.

"Our company has long been committed to Pakistan's public welfare undertakings, fulfilling its corporate social responsibility, investing in the construction of purified drinking water stations in water-deficient areas to provide local residents with clean water, donating equipment to the Bahadin Zakriya University in Multan, Bahawalpur, and the Islamic University Training Resource Center, and offering internship opportunities for students," he mentioned.

Speaking at the occasion, Ambassador Moin ul Haque appreciated the assistance provided by Zonergy Corporation in this difficult time.

Haque said that the company has developed a solar power project in the Quid Azam solar park in Bahawalpur, which is an important project under China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

He further appreciated the support and solidarity of the Chinese government and people for Pakistan during natural disasters, emphasizing that Chinese assistance to Pakistan for flood victims has once again proven the unique nature of fraternal ties between the two countries.

He lauded the company for producing clean energy and helping mitigate the negative impact of climate change. INP



ISLAMABAD: Delegation of International Labour Organization (ILO) calls on Federal Minister Sajid Hussain Turi.

Pakistan, Norway agree to further diversify cooperation

NEW YORK: Pakistan and Norway have agreed to continue joint efforts to further strengthen and diversify cooperation particularly in trade, investment, development and other areas.

The understanding came at a meeting between Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari and Norwegian Foreign Minister Anniken Huitfeldt in New York.

They underlined the importance of early conclusion of Free Trade Agreement between Pakistan and European Free Trade Association.

Bilawal Bhutto Zardari hoped that more Norwegian companies

would benefit from Pakistan's attractive investment policy.

He underlined the importance of enhancing legal migration opportunities for Pakistanis.

Bilawal Bhutto Zardari also underscored the need for peaceful resolution of Jammu and Kashmir dispute in accordance with the UN Security Council Resolutions.

Foreign Minister Bilawal also met US Special Representative for Afghanistan Thomas West and stressed that a peaceful, stable and prosperous Afghanistan is a priority for Pakistan.

FM emphasized the signifi-

cance of continuing international engagement with the interim Afghan government for lasting peace and stability in Afghanistan and beyond.

The US Special Representative appreciated Pakistan's efforts for peace and stability in Afghanistan and in facilitation of evacuations.

The two sides acknowledged the need for continued cooperation on the shared objectives of sustained efforts and engagement of the international community to alleviate sufferings of the Afghan people and promote regional peace and stability. INP

MUB not to be used for political gains: Ashrafi

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister's Special Representative for Interfaith Harmony and Middle East, Hafiz Muhammad Tahir Mehmood Ashrafi on Tuesday said the Muttahida Ulema Board was a religious body and it would not be allowed to use for political gains.

In an exclusive talk with APP, Ashrafi, who is also the chairman of Pakistan Ulema Council, proposed that nobody should misuse the blasphemy laws pertaining to the religion and sanctity of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (Peace Be Upon Him).

He said it was a good omen that during his tenure as the board's chairman not a single

case of blasphemy law was registered on fictitious grounds against any individual or group.

He made it clear that the board had achieved many milestones for the provision of interfaith and interfaith harmony under his supervision during the last two and half years.

He said it was not only acclaimed at the national level but was also recognised internationally due to good code of conduct in his era.

Taking to twitter the other day, Ashrafi said he was grateful to Allah Almighty that the Muttahida Ulema Board was kept away from the politics during his period and every court of law

accepted its decisions and praised by the entire world.

"Thanks God, scholars are inheritors of the right path and such position cannot hinder in the way of truth," he added.

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Nepra likely to cut KE power tariff by Rs4.21

ISLAMABAD: The National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (NEPRA) is likely to slash the power tariff by Rs4.21 per unit for K-Electric (KE) consumers on account of fuel charges adjustment (FCA) for the month of August 2022.

According to details, the KE consumers may get relief of Rs7.21 billion as K-Electric has sought a cut for its consumers on account of fuel charges adjustment for the month of August.

NEPRA will conduct a public hearing on KE's petition for a reduction in power tariff on September 29. With the approval, the people of Karachi will get a relief of Rs7.21 billion. The KE consumers would get relief from next month's electricity bill. INP

Dengue: PTI MPA urges Sindh govt to take effective measures

KARACHI: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) MPA Raja Azhar on Tuesday urged the Sindh government to take effective measures against the rising dengue virus cases in Karachi.

According to details, PTI MPA Raja Azhar has penned down a letter to Administrator Karachi Murtaza Wahab, seeking effective measures to curb the dengue virus outbreak in the port city.

The PTI leader asked the Administrator Karachi to remove stagnant water in outdoor and household settings to stop mosquitoes from breeding after heavy rains lashed the city.

He also urged Murtaza Wahab to direct Karachi Municipal Corporation (KMC) to ensure fumigation campaign across the city. "The Sindh government should get serious to prevent the rising dengue cases," he added. INP

Imran Khan to visit Lahore tomorrow

ISLAMABAD: Chairman Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Imran Khan would visit Lahore on a one-day trip, he would address a lawyers' convention in the Supreme Court Registry.

The PTI Chief, on his Lahore, visit, would also meet with the cabinet members and party leaders. Imran Khan would also meet with Chief Minister Punjab Chaudhry Pervaiz Illahi, party sources said.

His trip to the provincial capital comes at a time when speculations about the PML-N filing a vote of no confidence against the PTI government are circulating. However, earlier on Monday. INP



ISLAMABAD: Country Director at GIZ Pakistan Tobias Becker long with Managing Director Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development Dr. Amer Sheikh distributing toolkits to the returning migrants to start sustainable self-employment during a ceremony organized by OPF.

Ahsan vows to rehabilitate flood victims through national unity

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Planning, Reforms and Special Initiative on Tuesday said that Pakistan was facing a large scale disaster in the world history due to the recent floods and torrential rains and vowed to revive the situation through national unity.

In recent floods, some three million people had been affected whose livelihood was destroyed, he said adding that around 1500 people also died in the recent floods.

The Federal Minister for Planning, Reforms and Special Initiative said this while addressing a press conference after chairing a meeting here at the National Flood Response and Cooperation Center.

Chairman National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) Lt General Akhtar Nawaz and Coordinator National Flood Response and Coordination Center Maj General Zafar Iqbal were also present on the occasion.

The Minister said that in flash floods, 1.7 million houses were destroyed, 800,000 cattle killed and millions of the people were left homeless.

He said that this was one of the largest disaster in modern time, which had disturbed the financial capacity of Pakistan therefore "we need the help of our friends to minimize the impact of losses."

Ahsan Iqbal said that after the huge calamity,

challenges had emerged in different sectors, as millions of people were homeless and their livelihood had been affected by the disaster. He appealed to the nation and people who had not been affected by the floods to help these people in this critical time. The Minister said that in flash floods, 1.7 million houses were destroyed, 800,000 cattle killed and millions of the people were left homeless. He said that this was one of the largest disaster in modern time, which had disturbed the financial capacity of Pakistan therefore "we need the help of our friends to minimize the impact of losses." Ahsan Iqbal said that after the huge. INP

NA-157 by-polls: ECP issues notice to WASA over violation of conduct

MULTAN: Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) issued a notice to the Water and Sanitation Agency (WASA) for violation of the electoral code of conduct ahead of the by-poll in NA-157 Multan.

Pakistan Peoples Party candidate Ali Moosa Gilani has filed a complaint against WASA for initiating development schemes in UC 53 Basti Masoom Shah. WASA authorities have violated the electoral code of conduct, Ali Moosa claimed.

The ECP has issued a notification to WASA demanding a response on Ali Moosa's reservations. The by-polls would be held on October 23, 2022.

The election commission announced to organise LG polls in all districts of Karachi on October 23, whereas, by-elections in eight NA constituencies will be held on October 16.

The decision was taken in a high-level session chaired by the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Sikandar Sultan Raja Tuesday. INP

Pakistan reaffirms commitment to peaceful, stable Afghanistan

NEW YORK: Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari on Tuesday reaffirmed its abiding commitment to a peaceful, stable and prosperous Afghanistan.

According to details, the foreign minister made these remarks during a meeting with US Special Representative for Afghanistan Thomas West, which was held on the sidelines of UN General Assembly's 77th session in New York.

Speaking on the occasion, FM Bilawal Bhutto emphasized the significance of continuing international engagement with the interim Afghan government for lasting peace and stability in Afghanistan and beyond.

The US Special Representative appreciated Pakistan's efforts for peace and stability in Afghanistan and in facilitation of evacuations.

The two sides acknowledged the need for continued cooperation on the shared objectives of sustained efforts and engagement of the international community to alleviate sufferings of the Afghan people and promote regional peace and stability. INP



NEW YORK: Pakistan's Ambassador to Washington, Masood Khan receiving Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif at JFK International Airport.

BISP has better database of differently-abled persons: Shazia Marri

KARACHI: Federal Minister for Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety and Chairperson Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP), Shazia Marri has said that the BISP has better database about persons living with disabilities and it is playing the vital role to empower them by their inclusion in the Programme as per our criteria.

BISP ensures maximum inclusion and minimum discrimination of differently-abled people in its social protection programs.

She said this during the recent ongoing NSER's desk-based survey, differently-abled people were given priority while their visits to data collection centers and also, specific protocols are in place for these groups such as a separate registration desk, facilitation by center staff etc. NSER registration centers facilitate every person with disability for survey registration who approaches the center.

This she said while addressing as guest of honor on a conference to prepare a road map for higher education of persons with deafness, organized by Ida Rieu Welfare Association, at Ida Rieu School for Blind and Deaf at Karachi on Monday.

On this occasion, Chief Minister Sindh Syed Murad Ali Shah, Special

Assistant to Chief Minister, Sadiq Ali Memon and others were present.

Shazia Marri said that I am truly happy to be here with all of you for the inaugural session of a conference on Higher Education for the Deaf Students.

As we know, this conference will be exploring the prospects and the modalities of providing Higher education to people with deafness. I must compliment everyone at Ida Rieu for this brilliant initiative and for bringing together people with relevant knowledge and expertise on a subject which is generally not prioritized.

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Imran Khan should tell who is XY: Mian Javed Latif

ISLAMABAD: PML-N leader and federal minister Mian Javed Latif has said Imran Khan should tell who is XY and he is telephoning whom.

"darling is still being patronized by some one at present. Imrani threat is not only attacking Pakistan but also is assailing the faith of Muslims of Pakistan," he said this while addressing a press conference here Tuesday.

He went on to say a strange game is being

played inside Pakistan. Efforts are being made to foment unrest under a planning and attack every institution. Even the religion is not being spared.

He held Imran Khan says there are Mir Jaffars and Mir Sadiq in the institutions. He writes letter to IMF to make Pakistan Sri Lanka. Imran Khan has crossed all the limits.

FIR is registered against Imran Khan but the terrorism clauses are removed against him, he remarked.

US ambassador meets Imran Khan in the darkness of night, he said adding Imran Khan then comes forward with harsh stance against the institutions.

Imran Khan says if XY telephone comes then give him threat that way in return that tell us your name first, he indicated. Then who is XY and he is telephoning whom.

You admit that agencies used to get pass bill during your tenure, he stated. Now you say you have come by dint of

your prowess.

You change Anti corruption DG because he does not become your partner in your personal vendetta.

We will not allow Imran Khan to ridicule Islamic teachings, he declared.

He held Imran Khan says there are Mir Jaffars and Mir Sadiq in the institutions. He writes letter to IMF to make Pakistan Sri Lanka. Imran Khan has crossed all the limits.

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against Imran Khan but the terrorism clauses are removed against him, he remarked.

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Imran Khan says if XY telephone comes then give him threat that way in return that tell us your name first, he indicated. Then who is XY and he is telephoning whom. Online



NEW YORK: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif arrives at UN HQs to attend the welcoming reception by UN Secretary General for Heads of State/Government participating in the seventy-seventh session of UNGA.

Senate body concerned over non-presence of Chairman CDA in meeting

ISLAMABAD: The Senate Standing Committee on Privatization on Tuesday has expressed its annoyance over the continuous absence of the Chairman Capital Development Authority (CDA) in the meeting of the Committee.

The Committee which met here with Senator Shammim Afridi in the Chair, decided to move a privilege motion in the Senate against Chairman CDA for his absence in the meeting despite repeated instructions.

The Committee also decided to bring the matter into the notice of Chairman Senate, besides apprising him about the impediments faced in the proceedings of meeting.

Speaking on the occasion, Senator Anwar ul Haq Kakar said that nobody is above the law and it was the privilege of the Committee to call the public servant any time and held him answerable.

He said that the Chairman CDA was also not present in last meeting of the Committee and due to his absence, the Committee was unable to get appropriate replies regarding the matters pertaining to civic agency.

Meanwhile, Chairman of the Committee Senator Shammim Afridi said that the Privatization Commission has hired 18 consultants for the divestment of state owned enterprises, adding that transaction of such loss making entities were not completed yet. The Privatization Commission was directed to submit details of financial expenses of all such consultants before the next meeting of the Committee, he expressed.

While briefing the Committee, Secretary Privatization Commission said that the progress report of the Commission was in progress and during last year, about 07 properties were privatized. He told the meeting that the privatization process was initiated in 1991 and so far 178 entities were privatized and gained an amount of Rs649 billion.

Senior officials of the Commission also informed the meeting that the Cabinet Committee on Privatization (CCoP) in January, 2021 had approved privatization of Lahore Electricity Supply Company (LESCO), adding that a working group was established in order to prepare a model for the privatize the power distribution companies. He said that these working groups had prepared conception models for 08 distribution companies, besides suggesting the management models for QESCO and TESCO.

It was informed that after the change of the government, the matter was submitted before the new government, and on June 24, 2022 the issue was put before the CCOP. Besides, he said that Power Division was negotiating with provincial governments regarding the privatization of power distributions companies.

The meeting was attended by the Senators, Saeed Ahmad Hashmi, Anwar ul Haq Kakar, Rana Mahmood ul Hassan and Syed Muhammad Sabir Shah. Secretary Privatization Commission along with senior officials also attended the meeting. INP



ISLAMABAD: Vice President of Pakistan Muslims League (N) Maryam Nawaz talking to media persons outside Islamabad High Court after attending her hearing, in Federal Capital.

Rain damages 1.6m tonnes of wheat stock in Larkana division

LARKANA: Severe rains have damaged around 1.6 million tonnes of wheat stock, stored in government warehouses in Larkana division.

As per details, the Sindh government failed in saving wheat stock during the recent rains and 600,000 tonnes of wheat stock, stored inside warehouses and ten lacs of wheat lying under open sky in Larkana district were completely damaged.

Due to damage to the wheat stock, it is being feared that flour prices will hit Rs200 per kg in the near future, which is currently being sold at Rs120 per kg.

Meanwhile, the hoarding of wheat is also underway after the Sindh government fixed Rs4,000 wheat support price. INP

Gastro claims 12 lives in Tando Muhammad Khan

TANDO MUHAMMAD KHAN: Tando Muhammad Khan: At least 12 people, including 10 children have been reported dead due to gastro in Tando Muhammad Khan within one month, ARY News reported.

The administration says a total of 7600 gastro patients were brought into local hospitals in the last month, 10 among the 12 dead were children, they added.

On September 18, at least six persons in flood relief camps in Khairpur district, including five children, died of gastroenteritis. While a patient with gastroenteritis died in Garhi Khairo amid the floods in the area.

Sindh Health Department in an alarming report, earlier said that over one million people in flood-affected areas of Sindh have been infected by various diseases including gastroenteritis.

Two children Asifa 8, and Wakeela 2 died of gastro in Kotdiji taluka of Khairpur. An unnamed three-year girl died in Thari Mirwah, while two children and a woman died in flood camps in Faiz Ganj and Nara talukas of the district. INP

Punjab sees spike in dengue virus cases

LAHORE: Punjab continues to report a surge in mosquito-borne disease as the province has reported 215 fresh dengue virus cases during the last 24 hours.

In a statement, the secretary health Punjab said that 105 cases of dengue virus were reported from Lahore and 47 cases of the mosquito-borne disease were logged in Rawalpindi during the past 24 hours.

Moreover, 18 dengue virus cases were reported in Gujranwala, while three cases each were reported from Kasur, Vehari and Sheikupura.

The Punjab secretary of health said that 3,645 dengue infections have been reported in the province this year so far, adding that 1,489 cases of the disease have been reported in Lahore alone. INP

FIA summons Shaukat Tarin for 'leaked audio call' investigation

ISLAMABAD: The Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) on Tuesday issued a notice to Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf leader Shaukat Tarin and summoned him in the investigation of the leaked audio call conversation with KP Finance Minister Taimoor Saleem Jhagra. Tarin has been summoned to the FIA on September 21, 10 am. According to details, the former minister has been summoned by the FIA for investigation of the leaked audio call between him and Taimoor Saleem Jhagra, in which he could be heard asking the latter to write a letter to the International Monetary Fund (IMF), saying the KP government. INP

Abdul Qadir directs DRAP to ensure supply of quality medicines

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for National Health Services Abdul Qadir Patel on Tuesday directed Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (DRAP) to ensure supply of quality medicines.

According to details, the DRAP has launched inspection of a listed medical firm under Division of Health and OTC rules. The firm was involved in manufacturing of fake and unregistered products, said the spokesperson of the Ministry of Health.

In a statement, Health Ministry's spokesperson said that the authorities were taking effective measures to prevent supply of fake medicines. "Raids were being conducted on distributors, pharmacies and medical stores across the country," he added.

The spokesperson noted that the authorities had also conducted a raid on Karachi Port Qasim and recovered fake drugs.

Meanwhile, Health Minister Abdul Qadir Patel directed DRAP to ensure supply of quality medicines, saying that the ministry was committed to eliminate fake medicines from the market. "Those involved in fake drugs trade are enemies of humanity", he added.

It is pertinent to mention here that the Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (DRAP) and Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) had fastened their country-wide crackdown on fake and unregistered medicine, conducting multiple raids, and recovering INP

Court confirms Interim bails of 10 PML-N MPs

LAHORE: The Sessions Court directed to confirm the interim bails of 10 Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) MPs including Rana Mashhood in the Punjab Assembly riot and vandalism case.

The Additional Sessions Judge Muhammad Yaseen Mohal heard the bails plea in the Sessions Court on Tuesday, in which 10 accused, including Rana Mashhood, Malik Saif ul Malook Khokhar, Awais Leghari appeared and police submitted the full investigation report to the court.

During the hearing, the lawyers of the accused took the stand that the riots named in the case by the police as targets for 'political revenge' have nothing to do with the case.

The prosecution took the stand that the accused are charged with rioting in the Punjab Assembly

and their arrest is required to complete the investigation.

After the arguments of the lawyers were completed, the court confirmed the interim bails of all the accused and directed the accused to submit surety bonds of 50,000.

Talking to the media outside the session court, PML-N leader Rana Mashhood said that Imran Khan wants the next Army Chief to be of his choice.

Responding to the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman's statement, he said that Imran Khan stated yesterday that if he didn't come into power for the next two months, then we will lose everything. I want to tell Imran Khan that he has already lost the trust of the nation. PTI Chairman's negative intentions have been revealed to Pakistanis, he said. INP

Rana Sanaullah says Mqm-P's grievances would be addressed

KARACHI: Interior Minister Rana Sanaullah, after meeting with the Muttahida Qoumi Movement Pakistan (MQM-P) leaders on Tuesday, said that the MQM-P leadership is disheartened and demotivated, and their grievances need to be addressed.

Interior Minister Rana Sanaullah held a press conference after his meeting with the MQM-P leadership in their Bahadurabad office. The Prime Minister would meet and offer his condolences to the MQM-P leadership soon, he added.

Missing persons is a subject which causes humiliation to Pakistan on interna-

tional platforms. Many international organizations question us regarding the missing person situation. Rana claimed that the government would do anything in their power to resolve the issue, he added.

The Interior Minister said that the State is responsible for any missing person in the country. The suffering of missing persons' families is worse than death, he added.

Talking about the speculations about the reemergence of the Taliban in Swat the Interior Minister said that the news is fake. Our security officials are on alert, and are performing operations on a daily basis, he added. INP

ADB to assist flood-hit Pakistan with relief package

ISLAMABAD: The Asian Development Bank (ADB) is preparing a flood relief package to assist Pakistan, stricken by devastating floods.

The ADB in a communique said that the bank will participate in funding for relief work in flood affected areas of the country.

The bank will provide support to poor people, ailing women and children suffered ravages of flooding.

The ADB will provide help to farmers who suffered losses of crops and extend assistance in cultivation of crops so as they could stand on their feet, according to the statement.

The lender will also provide funds for rebuilding of roads, bridges and other infrastructure destroyed in flood. It will also extend support for reconstruction of damaged houses, schools, hospitals and other amenity buildings.

The ADB in its recent report had placed Pakistan among high-risk countries prone to be affected by natural calamities, adding that the country every year suffered losses of US\$2 billion from natural disasters.

The report shared by the ADB highlighted that floods have brought more destruction than earthquakes in Pakistan and every year natural calamities claim on an average 863 lives in the country.

The natural calamities have increased poverty in

the country after floods destroy harvest, homes and other infrastructure. "There is only a limited insurance of harvest in Pakistan and only 272,000 farmers have got their harvest insured," it reported.

It highlighted that floods further devastate underprivileged districts, increasing poverty level in those areas. The report shared that most of the people below poverty line lives in Balochistan, Sindh and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

The report suggested adopting and extending disaster risk management approach to evade damages from the floods and earthquakes. The measures taken in Pakistan to deal with floods and earthquakes are non-satisfactory, it said.

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SHC CJ takes notice of Mithi gang rape case

KARACHI: Sindh High Court (SHC) Chief Justice (CJ), Ahmed Ali Shaikh on Tuesday took notice of Mithi gang rape case.

The Sindh High Court CJ has summoned a detailed report from the deputy superintendent of police (DIG) and senior superintendent of police (SSP) Tharparkar in a matter related to the alleged kidnap of a girl from Mithi ss area of Kaloi and gang rape.

Both the officers have been directed to appear before the Sindh High Court (SHC) on September 22 along with the report.

On Monday, a victim of gang rape allegedly committed suicide in village Mehran Soomro within the limits of Kaloi Town of Tharparkar.

Read more: Mirpurkhas: Two girls kidnapped, raped by several men

body of the victim was sent to Taluka Hospital Dipol Town for postmortem on late Sunday night.

The girl was reportedly abducted by some "unknown" persons five days back and kidnapers, who, after raping her had left her at a deserted place near her village.

The victim in her written complaint with police had stated that she was criminally assaulted when she was going to Hyderabad to receive official documents of the pension of her father who died few months back.

Both the officers have been directed to appear before the Sindh High Court (SHC) on September 22 along with the report.

On Monday, a victim of gang rape allegedly committed suicide in village Mehran Soomro within the limits of Kaloi Town of Tharparkar. INP



KARACHI: A leader of Muttahida Qoumi Movement Pakistan (MQM-P) Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui talking to media persons along with the Federal Minister for Interior Rana Sanaullah, in Provincial Capital.

9 trucks of rations, eatables distributed among flood-affectedees

ISLAMABAD: The Khidmat Committee Tajar Union Blue Area, Islamabad, organised the distribution of 9 trucks of rations, eatables, water, clothing, mosquito nets and medicines etc for the flood affected areas.

Addressing the gathering on the occasion, Sardar Yasir Ilyas Khan CEO Centaurus mall and Former President ICCI praised the Business community for providing open heart support to the citizens that have been affected by the floods.

He said it has almost become a tradition that the Business community always reaches out to the people of Pakistan whenever there has been a natural calamity like floods, earthquake or any other natural disasters in the country. Over the past month the Islamabad business community has sent nearly 600 tons of supplies to the flood affected areas. He mentioned that his family has also contributed Rs 30M for this purpose. He also

highlighted that the Business community across Pakistan not only contributes towards the GDP but is always ready to stand-up to the challenges of natural calamities whenever they occur. It was stated that we need to unite our efforts because rehabilitation is going to take years and the sooner, we can help rebuild their homes the sooner their lives can head towards normality. He stressed upon the need of steady and continuous support by maintaining accurate statistics of the loss so that support can be extended to the correct areas in a timely manner. The function was attended by The Senator Talha, Ajmal Baloch President all Pak Anjuman e Tajran, Zahid Qureshi President ISCCI, Raja Hassan President Blue Area and Group leader Yousef Rajput. In the end Sardar Yasir once again reiterated the need of timely and continuous support to the flood affected people for their reforms. INP

6.7t of food distributed among flood-affectedees in 24 hours: NFRCC

ISLAMABAD: A total of 4653 people were rescued overall, while 6.7 tonnes of food was supplied to flood-affected people in the last 24 hours, the National Flood Response Coordination Center (NFRCC) reported.

The NFRCC reported that no infrastructural damage was caused by rains in the last 24 hours. However, 12,716 km of roads and 374 bridges have been damaged due to floods amid heavy rainfall and floods in the country, they added. Army Aviation helicopters have taken 574 flights for flood-relief operations rescuing 4653 stranded people, the NFRCC told. 6.4 tonnes of relief goods were supplied using the Army Helicopters in the last 24 hours, it added.

A total of 147 relief camps, over 300 medical camps, and 218 relief collection points have been established across the country, NFRCC said. Over 9597.5 tonnes of food items have been collected at the relief points while 9476.9 tonnes of food items have been distrib-

uted in the country. In total 8.85 million medicine were collected while 8.83 million have been distributed among flood-affected people in the country, it added. Over 3,19,867 people have been treated in the 300 medical camps so far, and patients are being provided 5-day medicine, it added. According to NFRCC, at least 17,843 people have taken refuge in 11 Navy tent centres. At least 15,300 people have been rescued by 23 emergency response teams of the Pakistan Navy, the NFRCC told. The Emergency Response teams of the Pakistan Navy have distributed over 1617 tonnes of food items, 5642 tents, and over 7,000 litres of mineral water among flood-affected people. A total of 147 relief camps, over 300 medical camps, and 218 relief collection points have been established across the country, NFRCC said. Over 9597.5 tonnes of food items have been collected at the relief points while 9476.9 tonnes of food items have been distributed. INP



ISLAMABAD: DR. Palitha Gunrathana Mahipala, Country Director of World Health Organization (WHO) in Pakistan handing over mini ambulances, motorbikes and essential medical equipments to Chairman Senate, Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani for flood affected districts of Balochistan.