

# QUETTA VOICE

Email address:  
quettavoic@gmail.com

Thursday 13  
October, 2022

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### Climate induced disasters call for coordinated efforts, says PM



### PM Shehbaz, Hamza acquitted in Rs16bn money laundering case

## Education department Balochistan to recruit 9000 teachers: Minister

#### News Desk

The Balochistan government will soon recruit 9000 teachers across the province in the education department. "The provincial government will use all of its resources to provide facilities and improve the educational system of the province", this was revealed by the provincial minister for education, Mir Naseeb Ullah Marri while talking to the media.

"Teachers should perform their duties with dedication and we will try our best to solve their problems", Mr. Marri said. The appointment of more than 9000 teachers in the education department will be conducted soon, which will provide employment opportunities to the educated youth, he mentioned.

Member of the Pashtun Khwa Mili Awami Party and member of the Provincial Assembly Nasrullah Zehri, Secretary Education Abdul Rauof Baloch, Director Schools Abdul Wahid Shakir, President of Government Teachers Association Habib ur Rehman Mardanzai, and others were present on the occasion.

"Teachers have great respect and value in soci-



ety", Mr. Marri stated. All available resources are being used to solve the problems of teachers and provide facilities in educational institutions. Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Abdul Qudus Bizenjo has prioritized the education department and he is taking special interest in solving the problems of the teachers, Mr. Marri added.

The Education Minister said that the file of the upgradation of teachers has been sent. "Inshallah, very soon the teachers will get the good news of upgradation and promotion will be given to junior teachers", he informed. The problem will also be resolved soon and a summary will also be sent to the Chief Minister regarding the teaching allowance to the teachers.

President of Government Teachers Association Balochistan Habib ur Rahman Mardanzai said that Missing posts in the education department are the biggest problem that needs to be solved immediately. "The Government Teachers Association has never supported the absent teachers and will not do so in the future", Mr. Mardanzai told while addressing the ceremony.

## Malala interacts with flood-hit women and children in Sindh's Johi

Nobel laureate Malala Yousafzai landed in Dadu district's Johi on Wednesday and met survivors who were displaced by devastating floods in late August.

Johi taluka was badly affected by recent floods, (RDF) — the organisations that are busy in the flood response in collaboration with the provincial government.

engaged in similar activities in Mirpurkhas, Badin and Sanghar districts which were affected by floods.

RDF's executive director Ashfaq Soomro briefed her about the organisation's response to floods

Meanwhile, the education minister shared details of relief measures adopted by the provincial govern-



but its residents managed to save the city by raising a ring dyke around it, preventing the entry of floodwaters.

and survivors. "I informed her about our response and activities continuing for the last 45 days", he said.

ment with her. According to information shared by the chief minister's media consultant Rasheed Channa, the education minister briefed her about the state of schools and children, stating that 12,000 schools had housed two million children in Sindh. The education of these 2m children was affected, he said and added that "still many areas are under water".

In a high-profile visit that came amidst unprecedented security, Yousafzai landed at an oil field's helipad and then was taken to Johi's Kheer Mori area near Ibrahim Chandio village on a 15-minute drive.

Sindh Education Minister Syed Sardar Ali Shah and Sindh Health Minister Dr Azra Fazal Pechuho accompanied her, as well as singer and social activist Shehzad Roy.

Yousafzai expressed concern over the effects of floods on children's education, according to information from the media consultant. Women survivors shared their problems with her. She also visited Main Nara Valley Dra in (MNVVD) which was carrying floodwaters. Web Desk.

Sindh Education Minister Syed Sardar Ali Shah and Sindh Health Minister Dr Azra Fazal Pechuho accompanied her, as well as singer and social activist Shehzad Roy.

Yousafzai met representatives of the International Rescue Committee (IRC) and Research and Development Foundation

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## Education of 386000 students at risk in Balochistan

#### Syed Ali Shah Analysis post flood plight of schools

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 recon-



struction 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.

### One man killed in a firing incident in Washuk Balochistan

#### News Desk

A young man was killed while two others were seriously injured in a firing incident in Washuk the district of Balochistan. This incident took place as a result of a dispute over house construction.

The tragic incident occurred in the Shahogheri area the sub Tehsil of Washuk. The family of the victim started bringing bricks to build a house when a resident of the village opened fire. The dead body and the injured were rushed to the Divisional Sheikh Zahid Hospital, Kharan. The doctors gave first aid treatment to the injured and then sent them to Quetta. The dead body of the young man was handed over to his heirs. The security personnel reached the area and started an investigation into the incident.

### NA Speaker praises Japan for assisting aid to flood affectees

ISLAMABAD: The National Assembly Speaker Raja Pervez Ashraf Wednesday expressed his gratitude to Japan for assisting aid to flood affectees in Pakistan.

The NA Speaker in a meeting with Ambassador of Japan to Pakistan Mitsuhiro Wada appreciated Japan's emergency aid and grant for flood affectees of Pakistan and Japan's overall support for the socio-economic development of Pakistan.

He also expressed a desire to learn from Japan to efficiently tackle climate-induced disasters.

Matters pertaining to further Pakistan-Japan bilateral ties and worldwide climate change were discussed in the meeting.

The Speaker extended profound condolences over the sad demise of former Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe. INP

### 10 injured in a traffic accident at Kalat district of Balochistan

#### News Desk

At least 10 people including a woman were injured in a traffic accident near the Kalat Degree College. The accident occurred at the college cross where 9 cars collided with each other.

The injured were rushed to the District Headquarters Hospital Kalat where they received first aid treatment immediately. The cars of the Water and Power Development Authority (WAPDA) Hydro Union were moving in a convoy when they collided, fortunately, no casualties were reported. The convoy was going to participate in the oath-taking ceremony of the Hydro



Union, where one of the cars collided with a motorcycle. A woman with the motorcycle rider was seriously injured. On receiving the information the Levies Force took the injured to Karkh Hospital. The injured received first aid and then were shifted to Khuzdar Teaching Hospital by ambulance.

### Climate induced disasters call for coordinated efforts, says PM

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Wednesday said that Climate induced disasters call for synergized efforts for mutually beneficial outcomes.

In a statement on Twitter, the Prime Minister shared that he is leaving for participation in the 6th Summit of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA) being held in Astana, Kazakhstan.

He added that the CICA is capable of shaping a new configuration of economic cooperation and security in Asia through greater connectivity.

The Prime Minister further underscored that the world is facing a recession due to rising energy and food prices, so there is a greater need to promote engagement and understanding to form win-win partnerships.

Furthermore, PM Shehbaz will be accompanied by members of the Cabinet and senior officials in the two days conference.

The Prime Minister will address the plenary meeting of CICA on Thursday. He will elaborate upon the significance of CICA as a unique forum

for promoting interaction, understanding and collaboration amongst countries across Asia to address common challenges.

The Prime Minister will also highlight Pakistan's perspective on regional and global issues. On the sidelines of the Summit, the Prime Minister will hold bilateral meetings with the leaders of various CICA Member States aimed at fostering greater cooperation, particularly in the fields of trade, investment and energy.

CICA is an intergovernmental process comprising 27 countries from all across Asia. Established in 1992, it focuses on promoting peace, security and socio-economic development in the Asian continent. Pakistan is one of its founding members.

CICA offers an invaluable platform for advancing the objectives of regional stability and prosperity through dialogue and win-win cooperation.

It promotes confidence building measures under five broad domains: economic dimension, environmental dimension, human dimension, new challenges and threats, and military-political dimension. INP

## PM Shehbaz, Hamza acquitted in Rs16bn money laundering case

LAHORE: The Special Court, Central, Wednesday acquitted Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and his son Hamza Shahbaz in the Rs16 billion money laundering case lodged against them by the Federal Investigation Agency.

The court announced its judgment in the mega money laundering case against the Shehbaz family after the FIA prosecutor informed the court that no money was directly deposited in the accounts of the father-son duo.

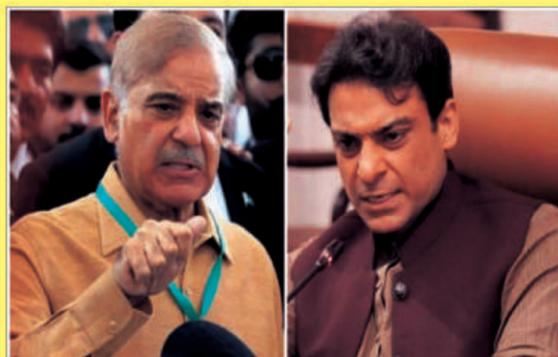
The father-son duo — who were summoned today — did not appear before the court as their counsel filed a request for exemption as PM Shehbaz had official engagements and Hamza was not well.

The court acquitted the prime minister and his son after the FIA — last week — had cleared the PML-N leaders on the charges of laundering Rs16 billion as there was "no direct evidence" against the father-son duo.

During today's hearing, FIA prosecutor Farooq Bajwa opposed acquitting the suspects, saying that Hamza and Shehbaz are allegedly involved in the Rs16 billion money laundering case.

"We want this case to proceed. The case should go on till the suspects have been indicted," the prosecutor urged.

However, Special Court Judge Ejaz Awan noted that the FIA has



failed to produce "concrete evidence" in the challan submitted before the court against the suspects. Following this, the court acquitted the suspects.

In the previous hearing on Tuesday, the judge asked about the number of bank accounts owned by the Malik Maqsood — also known as Maqsood Chaprasi.

The FIA prosecutor Farooq Bajwa responded that late Maqsood had eight bank accounts to his name. The prosecutor further stated that no money was either directly deposited or withdrawn from the accounts of the suspects, including Shehbaz and Hamza.

The judge asked what evidence was there to substantiate that the entire money dealing was being done at Hamza's behest.

In response, FIA's prosecutor said the agency does not have "any evidence" linking him to money laundering.

After the verdict's announcement, the prime minister thanked God for his acquittal and termed the case against him "fake, baseless, and based on political vengeance".

"No matter how much I thank God enough for this, it won't be enough," he said in a tweet. PM Shehbaz said that "despite the worst practices, use of state force, and holding institutions hostage," he still triumphed. Web Desk

## QUETTA VOICE

Editor Asim Khan

## Age relaxation in Balochistan only for a year?

The Balochistan government issued a notification with regard to increasing the age limit for new candidates applying for government jobs a few days back. As per the notification, the government has given eight years extension in the age limit for fresh candidates.

Now candidates of 43 years of age can apply for government jobs in Balochistan, Sardar Abdul Rehman Khetran, the Balochistan Minister for Communication and Works Department announced. However, this relaxation is only for one year.

Age relaxed from July 1st to 30th of June 2023, the notification mentions. This notification gives more questions than answers. The reason behind the age relaxation for government jobs is obvious i.e. ministers, advisers and parliamentary secretaries coupled with friendly opposition would merely adjust their supporters in government departments.

Thousands of jobs are lying vacant in Balochistan. Currently, thousands of vacancies are lying vacant in various departments. Jobless youth of the province are tired of submitting their documents in every department. Since appointments on merit have become rare in Balochistan, therefore, candidates with no political backing or less influence cannot get jobs.

The government has already empowered the departments to recruit employees rather than testing services. Based on track record, testing services are not ideal but they have proved to be far better than departments when it comes to merit and transparency in terms of the recruitment process.

Under the new notification, employees would only serve for 17 years. The question arises that why age relaxation for candidates is only for a year. If the government has clear intention of recruiting those who have tired of submitting documents for jobs, then, the offer should not be for a limited period. The notification is controversial and debatable, when the retirement age is 60 years, then, fixing 43 years as the eligibility for applying for government jobs is beyond comprehension.

It means, the fresh recruited employees would only serve for 17 years and then their retirement would approach fast. The government has to review its decision since the province need young energetic and educated manpower to run the affairs of the province.

## 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. It's the longer-term trend that differentiates climate change from natural weather variability. The climate is the fundamental part of the world. Because our agriculture and industrial system are dependent on climate and a lot of commodities required in industries is directly coming from agriculture to industries. Moreover, climate control is essential for every state or even for every individual to take significant caution about the weather.

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. The members of the summit emphasise using new technologies which are free from pollution like the solar system and wind turbine.

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. Greenhouse gases play an important role in keeping the planet warm enough to inhabit. But the amount of these gases in our atmosphere has skyrocketed in recent decades. According to

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." Indeed, the atmosphere's share of carbon dioxide—the planet's chief climate change contributor—has risen by 46 per cent since preindustrial times.

The burning of fossil fuels like coal, oil, and gas for electricity, heat, and transportation is the primary source of human-generated emissions. A second major source is a deforestation, which releases sequestered (or stored) carbon into the air. It's estimated that logging, clearcutting, fires, and other forms of forest degradation release an average of 8.1 billion metric tons of carbon dioxide per year, accounting for more than 20 per cent of all global CO2 emissions. Other human activities

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. Activities like agriculture and road construction can also change the reflectivity of the earth's surface, leading to local warming or cooling.

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. The resulting buildup of greenhouse gases is causing alarmingly fast warming worldwide. It's estimated that the earth's average temperature rose by about 1 degree Fahrenheit during the 20th century.

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. They also work on agriculture to produce new seeds and plants which support environmental protection. They also use the solar system and wind turbines instead of using fossil fuels which are causing climate change. Japan and other developed countries of the world work on electric vehicles it is also significant for climate change. Every individual must take too much care about climate change because it is one of the leading causes of the world which affects all over the world.

## Cinderella 2021 and women empowerment

Beenish Mahmood

Feet, what do I need them for, if I have wings to fly? — Mexican artist Frida Kahlo

Women form 48.76 % of the total population in Pakistan. Hence, women's empowerment is crucial to the development of a healthy society — economically, socially and politically.

A conservative society where men would harass wives, daughters, mothers in the name of honour and where women were subservient and docile, treated as objects rather than humans is gradually being replaced by a more accommodating, tolerant mindset in both genders.

Patriarchy is being redefined. But this is not always the case. With better education, it is assumed that incidents of rape, domestic violence and karo-kari would decline. However, every other day the newspapers come up with a blaring headline

that leaves the reader shattered and fearful.

Why is this happening, and who is responsible for this heinous crime? The question is potent!

Looking in retrospect, the Noor Mukadam case speaks volumes about the helplessness of a female in the wake of male superiority. Zahir Jaffer was from a well-to-do family. He was educated. So then what went wrong and where? To put it in a nutshell, rape and murder are an offense that only men who are frustrated sexually and suffer from an inferiority complex would commit. Imposing their power on the weaker sex is proof of their 'masculinity'.

Education does help in breeding an egalitarian society, but it is not an assurance of bringing up 'good' men! Sexual frustration and harassment is common amongst men, not only in Pakistan, but all across the

globe. And whereas before it was a taboo to discuss such issues, now with the freedom of expression, women are taking to the streets and asking for their rights and justice to prevail.

Regarding this scenario, the recent remake of Cinderella in 2021 by Kay Cannon brushes upon women empowerment in a beautiful and effervescent manner. Like in the original Walt Disney Classics, where Cinderella plays the victim, Camilla as Cinderella in the recent version is not helpless. She has agency. Cinderella is a strong, resilient and determined girl who thinks big! She wants to be a successful dressmaker. She wants to live her life, and she wants to live her dream. And nothing will make her deviate from the pathway to realise her goals. She wants to be a celebrity. She wants her name to be on everyone's lips,

but in the small, old-fashioned town she lives in, girls are not allowed the freedom to choose a career for themselves.

The film reinforces the notion of women's empowerment. Whilst the Prince is madly in love with this fearless and bold girl and wants her hand in marriage, Cinderella has a bigger agenda! She aims for the stars and hence becomes the voice of all the surrounding women who, because of the patriarchal society, suppress their ambition for the ultimate truth i.e. marriage.

Cinderella does, at the end, marry the Prince but not at the cost of her passion. She wants to set an example for other women to follow. She wants to contribute to the society in a positive and constructive manner and for that she is willing to forgo a life of ease and luxury.

The film is not the only effort of recent times to address the

power of women. The global Me Too movement as well as the Aurat March organised in Pakistan are all monumental efforts towards changing the society's outlook about women.

The Me Too movement provides a platform for empowering women, especially women who are 'weak'. The Me Too movement urged women to come out of their complacency and speak up about their 'bad' experiences with men!

With evolution and change, no doubt the outlook has changed, but it's not true for everyone. What happens inside is a story no one can unlock. What appears on the surface may not be true and for this reason, the Aurat March and the Me Too movement are important. It brings into play modern women supporting the cause of poor women. Educating them in their rights is what matters.

## 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. As little as six months ago, I was feeling unhappy every morning, bordering on restlessness and flirting with sadness.

What turned things around and is this happiness sustainable? 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. Instead, I was finding happiness in spending time with my daughter, wife and parents. As well as the joy of doing nothing. But I was trying to fight this feeling, rather than embrace it.

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. I'm also the kind of person who likes to reinvent his life every few years and by that I mean change everything. 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. For background, I wanted to start two side gigs, play tennis three a week, get closer to religion, make a new YouTube video every day, re-evaluate my purpose in life and take care of my new born baby during the paternity leave. The expectations were crushing me instead of inspiring me. So I started doing something radically simple. For one week, I told myself the only way I'd evaluate whether my day is a success is if I woke up in the morning and did a gratitude exercise, where I'd write down three things I'm grateful for in my diary. That's it. That's the only

thing I'd evaluate myself on. Everything else could wait. I was on leave after all.

The gratitude exercise had a transformational impact not just on my week — because I focused on what I was grateful for rather than what I didn't have or was behind on — but it also had a snowball effect that would rip through the existing pillars of my life. The following week the gratitude exercise became easier to do because it was turning into a habit so I decided to take on one more task. Setting up a tennis date for next week. One date instead of three. The next week I played tennis. The following week I increased the frequency to twice a week. I felt so energised and excited at the end of my games and the morning after.

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. So, if tobacco blackens the arteries, stress tightens them to hamper the smooth flow of blood, putting in peril the very survival of the heart. One has to be goodhearted and at peace with oneself to live longer and healthier.

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. Among the 20 most populous countries, China has the highest age-standardised rate of diet-related CVD deaths (299 per 100,000 population) while Pakistan has the highest proportion of diet-related CVD deaths (152 per 100,000 population).

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. 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. Ignoring such preventive measures increases the burden of heart disease and the cost of healthcare in Pakistan.

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. 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. Among the 20 most populous countries, China has the highest age-standardised rate of diet-related CVD deaths (299 per 100,000 population) while Pakistan has the highest proportion of diet-related CVD deaths (152 per 100,000 population).

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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. Rather than fleeing it as a traditional view, we need to mull over the lessons the pandemic is trying to teach us. When deliberating, one may be forced to conclude that something is wrong with what we have been doing. We shouldn't be oblivious of an inevitable principle: one gets what one gives. When we harm nature, nature harms us back.

Among all creatures, humankind is high up the evolutionary 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. Paradoxically, humans have outstepped and outreached their assigned authority and overestimated themselves as an omnipotent entity enjoying complete impunity of all their activities

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. Even men didn't spare his fellow beings.

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. The tyranny against the weak, and the atrocities of rulers over their subjects have surged as time passes by. The growing scourge of terrorism and extremism, rising populism and demagoguery, and fascist political leadership is the new normal. Mass adulteration, hoarding, black-marketing, organised crimes, cheating, lying, manipulating, exploiting have all

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. The pandemic has given humankind the opportunity to rethink and reform existing socio-political and economic orders in line with principles of egalitarianism, eco-friendliness, compassion and empathy. Rather than wasting resources on weapons, we must utilize it for the underprivileged, the poor and the weak. Since we have already prospered materially, we now need to invest in humanity if we want to shield ourselves from nature's

US values its longstanding cooperation with Pakistan: State Department

WASHINGTON: The US State Department spokesperson Ned Price while briefing the news...

ice, we don't delve into the details of those engagements always. He said that there are a number of areas where our interests are aligned.

to the deserving people, Ned Price said we have adequate tracking mechanisms in this context. USAID staff makes regular trips to monitor our programs in the field.



ISLAMABAD: Dean of Law Faculty from University of London, Simon Askey called on Federal Minister for Law and Justice, Senator Azam Nazir Tarar at Ministry of Law and Justice.

Ch Shujaat requests PM Shehbaz to lay focus on reducing inflation

ISLAMABAD: Veteran politician and Pakistan Muslim League-Quaid (PML-Q) President Chaudhry Shujaat Hussain, who called on Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif in Islamabad Tuesday, had requested him to take measures to reduce inflation so that masses could have a sigh of relief.

reducing inflation. The PML-Q president assured the prime minister of his and a faction of his party's support, but urged him to provide relief to the inflation-hit people.

of the meeting, when the prime minister inquired after Chaudhry Shujaat about his health, the latter said he was well, and added he would feel much better if he (the prime minister) took steps to bring down the prices of items of daily use.

Sindh, Balochistan acquire 'biological pesticide' from army to deal with mosquitoes in flood-hit areas

ISLAMABAD: The Sindh and Balochistan governments on Wednesday procured several hundred kilograms of a "biological insecticide" from the Pakistan Armed Forces following the deaths due to water borne diseases in the flood-hit areas.

lives, fearing that over 2.7 million people in these districts could contract malaria in these areas by January 2023, of which many could die if not treated.

cial, Moskill is an environment-friendly product which is approved by the Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (DRAP) and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) but added that both the provincial governments were using this product on an experimental basis as they had not used this kind of method before for the vector control.

The insecticide, developed by a science and technology organisation of the armed forces, will be used to eliminate mosquitoes and their larvae, federal health officials said.

The NHS official said in order to prevent deaths due to malaria and other vector-borne diseases, Sindh and Balochistan have decided to apply the biological pesticide "Moskill" on an experimental basis and in this regard, officials of both governments have been trained by the army regarding the use of biological chemical containing "Bacillus thuringiensis", which is a proven larvicidal bacterium, found naturally in the soil.

On the other hand, a former healthcare professional associated with Pakistan Army said British Indian Army had long experience of dealing with mosquitoes, especially those that spread malaria and added that in some ways, Malaria had killed more troops than an enemy, compelling the army to come up with ways and means to deal with vector-borne diseases.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Power, Engr. Khurram Dastgir Khan called on the Speaker National Assembly Raja Pervaiz Ashraf.

According to the official, Moskill is an environment-friendly product which is approved by the Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (DRAP) and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) but added that both the provincial governments were using this product on an experimental basis as they had not used this kind of method before for the vector control.

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Imran Khan knocks at IHC door seeking bail to avoid arrest in FIA case

ISLAMABAD: In order to avoid arrest in the prohibited funding case, former prime minister and PTI Chairman Imran Khan has approached the Islamabad High Court seeking protective bail on Wednesday.

Exchange Act. He pleaded with the court to accept his protective bail plea so that he could appear before the relevant court.

Chairman Imran Khan in the prohibited funding case. The other prominent accused in the case are included: Sardar Azhar Tariq, Saifullah Nyazee, Syed Younis, Amir Kayani, Tariq Shaikh, and Tariq Shafiq.

The PTI chairman submitted an application to the Islamabad High Court seeking protective bail in a case registered by the FIA in the prohibited funding case under the Foreign Exchange Act. In his petition, Imran stated that the Federal Investigation Agency lodged a case against him under the Foreign

Exchange Act. He pleaded with the court to accept his protective bail plea so that he could appear before the relevant court. Meanwhile, IHC registrar Asad Khan has raised three objections to Imran's petition saying that the PTI chief did not do his biometric; he attached an unconfirmed copy of the FIR; and how could the petitioner submit his application to the high court before filing it in a special court. The FIA on Tuesday registered a case against 11 people including Pakistan Tehreek

Insaf. According to an inside story of the meeting, when the prime minister inquired after Chaudhry Shujaat about his health, the latter said he was well, and added he would feel much better if he (the prime minister) took steps to bring down the prices of items of daily use. PM Shehbaz told him that the US dollar's rate had come down courtesy efforts made by Finance Minister Ishaq Dar, and now his focus was on reducing inflation.

Two Pakistani fishermen arrested by Indian forces

KARACHI: The Indian security forces arrested two Pakistani fishermen while they were fishing in the open sea, reported on Wednesday.

The fishermen had been identified as Yasin Sheikh and Muhammad Sheikh, according to the official sources.

Both the fishermen had been arrested while fishing in the open sea. They were from Zero Point of the coastline.

It is to be noted here that 16 fishermen from Zero Point are imprisoned in India. 58 fishermen of Sajawal district and 40 fishermen of Karachi are also imprisoned in Indian jails.

"The government should take effective steps for the release of the arrested fishermen," it has been demanded. INP

Nawaz Sharif, Maryam find morning joy on foot in London

LONDON: Away from the political hustle and bustle, PML-N Quaid Nawaz Sharif and daughter Maryam Nawaz spared some time for a morning walk in London.

In a tweet, Maryam Nawaz posted a picture of herself with father Nawaz Sharif having a stroll on a walking track in a garden in London.

It can also be seen in the picture that some other party leaders and security personnel were walking ahead and behind the father-daughter duo.

Maryam Nawaz marked the post with the caption 'Morning Walk' and with a heart emoji, indicating she was enjoying some spare time with her father.

Sharif's medical report was reviewed again. INP

Kids, woman among six die in Neelum Valley jeep plunge

NEELUM VALLEY: Six people including two children and a woman perished when a jeep plunged into a deep ravine at Jagraan Road in Neelum Valley on Wednesday. As per local sources, the Rescue efforts could not be started promptly due to the mobile phone service's unavailability at the accident site.

The locals on their own carried out the relief and rescue work. However, as soon as they were informed, the Rescue teams rushed to the spot and started the rescue operation. Reportedly, there were eight members of the same family travelling in the vehicle which skidded off the road and fell into the deep ravine. INP

No fatality as Pakistan reports 49 more corona cases

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan has registered 49 more coronavirus infections and no fatality during the last 24 hours, showed the figures released by the National Institute of Health (NIH) on Wednesday morning.

The death toll in the country remained the same at 30,620 while the number of total infections now rose to 1,573,164 after adding the fresh 49 cases.

During the last 24 hours (Tuesday), 10,693 tests were conducted throughout Pakistan whereas the positivity ratio stood at 0.47 percent. The number of patients in critical care was recorded at 29. INP



ISLAMABAD: Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Narcotics Control, Attaullah Tarar addressing a press conference.

Youth kills father, step-sister for 'property' in Lahore

LAHORE: In an incident of double murder in Lahore, a youth killed his father and a step-sister over a 'property' dispute, police said on Wednesday.

step-sister over a 'property' dispute, police said on Wednesday. The dead were identified as Ghulam Hussain and seven-year-old Irza, while Ali Imran, the suspect, however managed to flee from the spot. A heavy contingent of police reached the crime scene and started collecting the evidence.

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He ordered the SP to ensure immediate arrest of the man with the help of footages obtained from CCTV cameras as well as witnesses' accounts. SP Saddar, on the other hand, said that teams had been constituted for the arrest of Imran, and soon he would be behind the bars. In an incident of double murder in Lahore, a youth killed his father and a

Passport Missing

I lost my passport number PO1926462 named Abdul Tawab Fayazi, Afghan national somewhere. If someone has found plz contact on mobile number 03108609545 or contact the Afghan Consulate in Quetta in this regard.

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Suspect behind attack on Korangi fire station arrested: Rangers

KARACHI: One of the suspects behind an armed attack on a fire station and the killing of two employees, in Karachi's Korangi area, has been arrested in a joint operation conducted by the police and Sindh Rangers, said a spokesperson of the paramilitary force on Wednesday.

shared that the suspect has been handed over to the police for further legal action. Earlier this month, two officials of the Karachi Metropolitan Corporation's fire department were killed and another was wounded after unidentified persons opened fire on a fire station in the Korangi area of the city. Police said unidentified suspects opened fire on a fire brigade office located near Bilal Chowrang in Korangi within the limits of the Awami Colony police station, killing two persons on the spot and injuring another. The deceased fire brigade officials were identified as 55-year-old Amir and Mehboob, 40, whereas, the injured official was identified as 30-year-old Irshad. The police said the suspects entered the fire brigade office after climbing the walls and

held the security guard hostage at gunpoint. They took him inside the office and asked about other employees, after which one of the suspects brought the victims together and they were shot. Another official, Zeeshan, was also present at the office when the incident took place. He informed the police that he was an eyewitness to the incident.

The spokesperson said that suspect Sheikh Bilal Zafar Farooqi, who was involved in terrorist activities, was arrested in the joint operation carried out in the Manzoor Colony area of the city. Arms and ammunition were also recovered from the suspect, he said.

The spokesperson shared that the suspect has been sent to jail multiple times, adding that raids were being conducted to arrest his accomplices. The Rangers official

He said that the other employees were sleeping and one of the suspects brought two victims into the control room and put a pistol on the forehead of one of them, asking him to recite Kalma before shooting him. INP

Pakistan's progress linked with Imran's accountability: Marriyum

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Information and Broadcasting Marriyum Aurangzeb on Wednesday said the country's progress and prosperity will be linked with the accountability of Imran Khan as he was the "biggest security threat" for Pakistan.

reacting to the remarks of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chairman. "The country will surely prosper if Imran Khan were made subservient to the law," she added. Being the head of government, she said, Imran Khan was solely responsible for all the wrongs committed during the four-year tenure of PTI, but the real power was exercised by his wife Bushra Bibi and her friend Farah Gogi.

Marriyum said had he had absolute power, then the gravity of his loot and plunder would have been inconceivable. With "limited power", Imran Khan had damaged the country's interests and played sinister games to achieve his political motives, she said, adding the state would have been in danger if he had held "absolute power". She said Imran Khan should have told the masses if he did not enjoy complete power while being in the government for some four years. INP

TENDER NOTICE

The SPI/ADMN: CCPO-QUETTA invites bids from eligible Bidders for supply of following items. Bid Security 5% and Tender fee Rs. 1000/- for the work. TSE-222310131231

Table with columns: S.#, Class of Object/Tender Fee, and Procurement details. Includes information about bid security, tender opening, and contact details for the Quetta Division.

JOB ADVERTISEMENT-RETIRED ARMY OFFICER

Soldier Welfare Organization Quetta intends hiring a retired Army Officer (Lieutenant Colonel) for the job of "Assistant Secretary Planning and Development". Applicants with following pre-requisites will be accorded preference: Good and clean military record, Masters in Business Administration, Civil Engineering, Psc/isc/Isic, Having experience in business management, Less than 3 years of retirement.

JOB ADVERTISEMENT-RETIRED ARMY OFFICER

Soldier Welfare Organization Quetta intends hiring a civil officer for the job of "Finance Management Officer". Applicants with following pre-requisites will be accorded preference: Masters in Business Administration (Finance), Having experience of 5 years in relevant field.

Advertisement for 'Nafis Sindh' featuring a table with columns for 'Job Title', 'Salary', and 'Experience'. Includes contact information for the organization.

# Monkeypox cases top 70,000: WHO

Case numbers in the global monkeypox outbreak have now topped 70,000, the World Health Organisation (WHO) announced on Wednesday as it warned that declining new cases did not mean people should drop their guard.

The WHO said that case numbers last week were on the rise in several countries in the Americas as it stressed that a slowdown worldwide in fresh cases could be the "most dangerous" time in the outbreak.

WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said more than 70,000 cases have now been reported to the UN health agency this year, with 26 deaths.

"Globally, cases are continuing to decline, but 21 countries in the past week reported an increase in cases, mostly in the Americas, which accounted for almost 90 per cent of all cases reported last week," he told a press conference in Geneva.

"A declining outbreak can be the most dangerous outbreak because it can tempt us to think that the crisis is over, and to let down our guard."

He said the WHO was working with countries to increase their testing capacity and to monitor trends.

"We are concerned about reports of cases in Sudan, including in refugee camps near the border with Ethiopia," Tedros added.

"Like Covid-19, monkeypox remains a public health emergency of international concern, and WHO will continue to treat it as such."

A surge in monkeypox infections has been reported since early May among men who have sex with men, outside the African countries where it has long been endemic.

More than 42,000 cases have now been reported from the Americas and nearly 25,000 from Europe.

Cases have been reported from 107 WHO member states this year, though 39 have registered no new cases in the past 21 days. The 10 countries with the highest total number of cases are: the United States (26,723); Brazil (8,147); Spain (7,209); France (4,043); Britain (3,654); Germany (3,640); Peru (2,587); Colombia (2,453); Mexico (1,968); and Canada (1,400). These countries account for nearly 87pc of global cases. Where the given dataset was known, 97pc were men, with a median age of 35 years old; 90pc identified as men who had sex with men; and 49pc were HIV-positive, according to the WHO's case dashboard. Web Desk



ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's Ambassador-designate to Hungary Asif Hussain Memon, called on President Dr. Arif Alvi, at Aiwan-e-Sadr.

## Flood affected areas require 2.99 mln seed bags for Rabi crops

ISLAMABAD: Flood affected areas across the country need 2.99 million seed bags to fulfill the requirements of upcoming Rabi season, Commissioner Food Security ministry of National Food Security and Research informed a meeting held here at the National Flood Response and Coordination Center (NFRCC) on Wednesday.

The meeting chaired by Minister for Planning and Development Ahsan Iqbal was informed that around four million acres of cultivatable area have been affected by flood across the country.

Chairman National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) Lieutenant General Akhtar Nawaz, provincial secretaries of agriculture and other concerned officials also participated in the meeting.

The Rabi crop, especially the cultivation of wheat and the measures regarding the supply of subsidy-based seeds were reviewed in the meeting.

The forum was also apprised of the progress made so far on the NFRCC web portal and dashboard.

Planning Minister Ahsan Iqbal directed that the requirement of the respective areas and the types of seeds should be determined in advance.

Furthermore, he said relief activities in the flood affected areas should be expedited due to the arrival of winter besides immediately finalizing mechanism for procurement of subsidy based seeds and distribution at district level.

He said the provincial governments should confirm about the availing of subsidy-based seeds as soon as possible.

There should be no delay in delivering seeds to farmers for the Rabi crop, he said adding that the delay would increase the issue of food security in the country.

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### Not interested in arrest of Imran Khan, says Khawaja Saad

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Railways Khawaja Saad Rafiq said Wednesday that he was not interested in the arrest of former prime minister Imran Khan.

"We had been a victim of revenge for five years," he said while talking to media in Lahore. "False cases had been made against us during the tenure of Imran Khan," he alleged.

"Imran misleads people. He is a hatemonger," he deplored.

"The truth has won today," he pointed out. INP

### 30 mobile manufacturers issued license to start local production: NA told

ISLAMABAD: The National Assembly was told on Wednesday that under Mobile Device Manufacturing Policy, 30 mobile manufacturers had been issued licenses to start local production of mobile devices by setting up local facilities.

Parliamentary Secretary for Industries and Production Shahida Akhtar Ali told the House that a mobile device manufacturing policy had been made to encourage local production and counter the security threat. The mobile phone manufacturing policy will ensure localization and indigenization of parts of mobile phones, she added.

Responding to a question regarding the rehabilitation of Pakistan Steel Mills (PSM), she said that the government was making continuous efforts for the rehabilitation of PSM.

She said that to review PSM, the Economic Coordination Committee (ECC) of the cabinet in its meeting on 3rd May 2019, passed directions to place PSM on the privatization list and directed the Privatization Commission (PC) for appointment of Transaction Advisory Consortium (TAC) for the revival of PSM through advice to the government on a set of appropriate privatization modes and as per law.

The Financial Advisor (FA) bank of China international Consortium was shortlisted by the privatization commission, she said and added that the FA had carried out due diligence in consultation with the PC to find out the best possible option/mode for the revival of PSM. The Parliamentary Secretary said that after deliberation, FA had proposed a transaction structure model suggesting transferring Identified Core operating Assets into a wholly owned subsidiary of PSMC through a scheme of arrangement. To formalize the proposal, PC moved a summary for the approval of the proposed transaction structure she said adding the Cabinet Committee on Privatization (CCoP) had approved the creation of a new subsidiary/company INP

### Summary moved to purchase new plane for Punjab CM

LAHORE: Keeping in view the ageing plane currently in the use of Punjab Chief Minister Chandru Pervaiz Elahi, the Welfare Wing has decided to buy a new one for him and sell the old one.

In this connection, a summary has been sent to the Punjab finance department, which will constitute a committee to fix the price of the plane.

There was no mention of the plane's price in the summary sent to the finance department. INP

### Killer of 19 people in Karachi arrested from Lahore

LAHORE: Four dangerous suspects, including a hired killer involved in the murder of 19 people in Karachi, have been arrested in Lahore on Wednesday.

Police officials claimed that all of the suspects, including the hired assassin Wasi Iqbal and Nigerian drug traffickers named Abuzar, and two other suspects Nazobi and Farhan who are from various parts of Karachi, were apprehended from a posh hotel in Gulberg area of Lahore.

Wasi Iqbal was detained before locating the target, according to the police, who also said that interrogation has been started. Police also seized drugs and high-quality cocaine from their possession. INP

### Funeral prayers in absentia for martyred Altaf Shah held in Islamabad, AJK

ISLAMABAD: The funeral prayer in absentia for the martyred All Parties Hurriyat Conference leader, Altaf Ahmad Shah, was offered in Islamabad, today.

The funeral prayer in absentia organised by APHC-AJK chapter was attended by a large number of people from different walks of life.

The funeral prayers in absentia were also offered for Altaf Ahmad Shah in Muzaffarabad and other cities of Azad Jammu and Kashmir.

Speakers at these gatherings paid rich tributes to the martyred leader for his contribution and sacrifices in the ongoing Kashmir freedom movement.

Altaf Ahmad Shah was the son in law of the icon of the Kashmir freedom movement Syed Ali Gilani, who also died in the Indian custody on September 01, last year, after remaining under continued house arrest for over a decade. INP

### Pakistan urges UN to play role in resolution of Kashmir dispute

UNITED NATIONS: AT the United Nations, Pakistan has called upon the World Body to play its role in a peaceful settlement of the long-pending Kashmir dispute in line with its resolutions and Kashmiris' aspirations.

According to Kashmir Media Service, Pakistan's Permanent Representative to the UN, Munir Akram, speaking at the UN General Assembly said Pakistan wants peaceful relations with all its neighbours including India. However, he said resolution of the Kashmir dispute is essential for ensuring durable peace in South Asia. Ambassador Akram termed India's illegal occupation of Jammu and Kashmir as the worst manifestation of modern-day colonialism. He said for the last over seven decades, India had avoided. INP

### India replicating Israeli model of West Bank's settler colonialism in IIOJK: Report

ISLAMABAD: The All Parties Hurriyat Conference (APHC-AJK) chapter and Legal Forum for Kashmir (LFK) jointly organized a press briefing for the launch of a report on the imminent situation in Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir in the wake of New Delhi's settler colonial programme.

The report titled Colonial Diary—a repository of settler colonial diktats in IIOJK—was launched to apprise the international community of Indian machinations political, legal, and economic subjugation of Kashmiris which amounts to war crimes under International Law.

The report has been compiled by the team of Legal Forum for Kashmir (LFK). It includes around 220 legislations, administrative changes, orders, notifications, and press releases by

India in the last three years (August 2019 – August 2022) after the abrogation of Article 370.

Colonial Diary is the repository of settler colonial diktats by the Indian administration in IIOJK. The documents included in the repository are the various legislations, administrative changes, orders, notifications, and press releases by the Indian state after the abrogation of Article 370.

The repository includes various laws, articles, and bills on different issues and with diverse themes including Land acquisition for military purposes, the Roshni Act, Termination of government employees under 311 (2) (c), Waqf properties, Pandit Migration, Jammu Kashmir Reorganization Act (2019), Domicile Certificate, Delimitation Commission, etc. INP

### FIA again summons Ismael, Najeeb, Seema Zia in prohibited funding case

KARACHI: The Federal Investigation Agency (FIA), Karachi on Wednesday again summoned Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leaders, former Sindh governor Imran Ismael, Najeeb Haroon and Seema Zia for questioning in the party's prohibited funding case on Thursday.

Last time, all three leaders had been handed a questionnaire by the FIA officials and were directed to answer the questions and also submit the proofs.

The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) had on August 2, 2022, in its unanimous decision, declared that the PTI had received funds from prohibited sources, including from 34 foreigners such as the LLC, America. In its 70-page verdict, read out by the chief election commissioner, the ECP declared that the PTI received funds from 34 foreigners and 351 business personalities. INP

### Omer Sarfaraz Cheema appointed Punjab Home Advisor

LAHORE: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chief Imran Khan on Wednesday approved Omer Sarfaraz Cheema's appointment as Home advisor in Punjab.

According to details, the PTI Chief made the decision to appoint the former governor of Punjab Omer Sarfaraz Cheema as Home Advisor Punjab. Home Minister Punjab

Earlier on Tuesday, Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader Col (ret'd) Hashim Dogar stepped down as Punjab Home Minister.

Dogar sent his resignation to Punjab Chief Minister Pervaiz Elahi for approval. INP

### PM meets Azeri president; discusses bilateral ties, cooperation

ASTANA (Kazakhstan): Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Wednesday met the President of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev, and discussed the bilateral relations and ways to further enhance the mutual cooperation.

The meeting took place on the sidelines of the 6th Summit of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA), being held in the Kazakh capital on October 12-13.

Earlier, the prime minister arrived here along with a delegation comprising members of the cabinet and senior officials.

He would also attend a banquet hosted by the President of Kazakhstan, Kassym-Jomart Tokayev in honour of leaders of the CICA member states.

PM meets Azeri president; discusses bilateral ties, cooperation

Prime Minister Shehbaz would address the plenary meeting of CICA on October 13, where he will elaborate upon the significance of CICA as a unique forum for promoting interaction, understanding, and collaboration amongst countries across Asia to address common challenges. INP

### Spokespersons' Dialogue to strengthen strategic communication

BEIJING: China's Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs and Spokesperson, Hua Chunying held consultation with Assistant Secretary and Spokesperson of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Asim Iftikhar Ahmad via video link.

The two sides exchanged views on China-Pakistan news media exchange, information release, public diplomacy and other topics, according to a statement issued by Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

They agreed to closely communicate and cooperate in the fields of international communication strategy docking, information release coordination, and cracking down on false information, so as to create an increasingly better public opinion environment for the development of China-Pakistan relations, and work together to enhance the international voice of developing countries.

"Glad to have a very productive consultation with H.E. Asim Iftikhar Ahmad," Hua Chunying tweeted after the meeting.

Asim Iftikhar wished the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China a complete success and firmly believed that under the leadership of the Communist Party of China will embark on a brand-new journey of economic and social development. In his comments, Pakistan Ambassador to China, Moin ul Haque tweeted:

"Spokespersons' Dialogue is an institutionalized mechanism between Foreign Office of Pakistan and China's MFA to strengthen strategic communication. The latest round held was indeed very productive in reinforcing close cooperation and commonality of views." INP



ISLAMABAD: Adviser to the Prime Minister on Kashmir Affairs and Gilgit-Baltistan Qamar Zaman Kaira along with others showing Colonial Diary during launching ceremony of at NPC.

### Chinese vaccine technology catalyzes Pak's export of livestock products

ISLAMABAD: Chinese vaccine technology catalyzes Pakistan's export of livestock products, says a report published by Gwadar Pro on Wednesday.

"Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD)-Free Certification proved to be a prerequisite for the promotion of Pakistan's meat export to major markets of the world, with a potential to reach 1-3 billion U.S. dollars annually. China has experience theoretically and practically in the construction of animal disease free zones. We are willing to share our technology with Pakistan and deepen cooperation to boost its livestock exports to China," said Prof. He Cheng, Coordinator of China-Pakistan Agricultural Science and Technology Innovation & Extension Center, China Agricultural University. Currently, Pakistan's livestock sector is suffering from major animal diseases, such as Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD), Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD), Brucellosis, and Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR). Due to non-certification of disease free zones, Pakistan could not compete with major exporters such as New Zealand, Australia, Brazil, etc.

Vaccination is an effective means of building immune barriers. Regarding core vaccine technologies, China has developed cutting-edge technologies of FMD vaccines, including inactivated vaccine, peptide vaccine and virus-like particle (VLP) vaccines. Last month, a Chinese delegation consisting of He Cheng, Dr. Li Shoujun, President of Tianjin Ringpu Bio-Pharm Group, a veterinary vaccine and pharmaceutical company in China, and two vice-presidents of the company visited Pakistan's related governmental sectors including Pakistan Agricultural Research Council, private companies. INP

### Chinese expert team on disaster management leaves for Pakistan

BEIJING: A Chinese experts' team on disaster management left for Pakistan on Wednesday to share their expertise in flood damage assessment and assist the country's reconstruction works.

The team, organized by the ministry, also had personnel of the Ministry of Water Resources and China Meteorological Administration, according to official sources. The group will help Pakistan in disaster assessment and flood prevention and mitigation.

China's Ministry of Emergency Management (MEM) and China International Development Cooperation Agency (CIDCA) held farewell ceremony for the team.

In his remarks while seeing the team off at airport in Beijing, China's Vice Minister of Emergency Management, Zhou Xuewen said, since June, Pakistan had been hit by severe floods, which resulted in heavy casualties and property losses. Currently, the country remains at a critical juncture in its flood control and disaster relief work.

The deployment of the team demonstrates China's commitment to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with Pakistan, he added.

In a tweet, Pakistan Ambassador to China, Moin ul Haque said: "A 9-member team of Chinese experts left for Pakistan today to help us in damage assessment, reconstruction and rehabilitation in the wake of floods. Saw them off with Chinese Vice Minister of Emergency Management and Vice Chairman, CIDCA."

Moin ul Haque expressed gratitude from the Pakistan government for the support offered by the Chinese government and people to the country when it was in difficulties. He said at the airport he looked forward to seeing China and Pakistan further strengthen cooperation on disaster management, especially in early warning and capacity building for disaster control. INP



BALOCHISTAN: Federal Minister for Overseas Pakistanis Development, Sajid Hussain Turi launches Cash for Work initiative with ILO in Balochistan.