

## Briefs Monsoon from coming next Friday

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD) on Thursday has informed that moderate monsoon spell is likely to penetrate in upper and central parts of the country from Friday (evening/night) and will strengthen on Saturday. A westerly wave is also expected to enter upper parts of the country on Saturday. Rain/wind-thundershowers (with few heavy falls) are expected in Islamabad, Kashmir, Gilgit Baltistan, Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa from Friday (evening/night) to Tuesday. Current prevailing hot and humid weather conditions are likely to subside during the period. Rain-thundershowers with dust raising winds are also expected in Eastern parts of Balochistan (Zhob, Barkhan, Loralai, Musa khel, Sibbi and Kohlu) and parts of Sindh (Sukkur, Jacobabad, Larkana, Shaheed Benazirabad and Mirpurkhas) during Saturday (evening) and Monday.

PIA, CAA will emerge better than ever from crisis: Zaidi

## **Brutalities of** India need to be exposed

Heart wrenching picture of the three-year-old boy in Sopore will forever remain seared in the imagination of all those who believe in humanity, human rights and fundamental freedoms: Aisha

Pakistan

repatriates

113,154

nationals

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan

said on Thursday that

113,154 nationals had

been repatriated who

were stranded abroad

due to the outbreak of

started repatriation of

its nationals in March

in the wake of the

COVID-19 pandemic in

different parts of the

Pakistan, China launch

'Shandong online fair

Pakistan

COVID-19.

world. - DNA

### NEHAL MIRAJ

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan on Thursday condemned the continued brutalization of innocent Kashmiris by the Indian occupation forces in the Occupied Jammu and Kashmir.

Foreign Office Spokesperson, Aisha Farooqui, in a weekly news briefing said images of India's brutalization were flashed across the world yesterday depicting the level of callousness and inhumanity meted out by Indian occupation forces. She said the heart wrench-

ing picture of the three-

year-old boy in Sopore will forever remain seared in the imagination of all those who believe in humanity, human rights and fundamental freedoms. India cannot wash away the truth by fake news and turning its propaganda machin-

ery faster, she added. The spokesperson said ceasefire violations along the Line of Control by Indian security forces continue unabated. She said 1546 ceasefire violations in the first 6 months of 2020 have occurred, resulting in 14 martyrdoms and serious injuries to 114 innocent civilians.

Continued on Page 6

ISLAMABAD: Vazken Kavlakian, Charge d' Affaires of Lebanon in Pakistan called on Acting Dean of Arab countries and Ambassador of Somalia Khadija Al Makhzoumi.. On this occasion Ambassador Khadija thanked Vazken for sparing time and offered best wishes for His Excellency health and happiness. - DNA

## Thirty Taliban killed

DNA

KABUL: The Afghan forces Killed at least 30 Taliban militants in Helmand, Maidan Wardak, and Balkh provinces during the clash. The Defense Ministry said on Thursday that the militants stormed security outposts of the Afghan forces in Grishk and Nadali districts on Wednesday night. He stated that "at least 13 Taliban fighters were killed in Sarband and Yakhchal areas in Grishk and five more were killed in the Nahr-e Bughra area of Nadali in the counterattack."

## No additional troop deployment at LoC

DNA RAWALPINDI: Director General Inter-Services Public Relations (DG ISPR) Major General Babar Iftikhar Thursday said Indian news of Pakistan Army's additional deployment along the Line of Control (LoC) and use of Skardu Airbase by China is false, irresponsible and far from truth. Major General Babar Ift-

ikhar tweeted, "News circulating in Indian electronic and social media claiming additional deployment of Pakistan Army troops along LOC in GB and alleged use of Skardu Airbase by China is false, irresponsible and far from truth."

"No such movement or induction of additional forces has taken place. We also vehemently deny presence of Chinese troops in Pakistan."

Chaman

master plans

Minus one formula is Torkham.

#### DNA

ISLAMABAD: Federal Min-

ister for Maritime Affairs Ali Zaidi on Thursday said that the Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) will go through a thorough cleanup phase. Addressing a press conference alongside Information Minister Shibli Faraz and Special Assistant to the Prime Minister (SAPM) Shahzad Akbar said that he was hopeful that the national flight carrier will emerge from this crisis as a top air line of the world, he also said that the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) will also be

among the top aviation authorities post cleanup. Zaidi said that those who have gotten out of turn promotions or was illegally appointed to an office will be severely dealt with in CAA and PIA; "the matter of the fake license holding pilots would soon be wrapped up and reaches its logical conclusion," he added. He also said that the government is introducing a new aviation policy, he went on to reveal that pilot licensing was revised in the year 2010 and after that many licenses were found to be against the revi-

sions or questionable. "After an investigation, 54 pi lots were banned and no one will be spared on the basis of their political connections, it's the politicians that destroyed the institute in the first place," said Ali Zaidi.

DNA BEIJING: The online launching ceremony of 2020 Shandong Export Online Fair (Round II) was held in Jinan, China, demonstrating a creative way of engaging international

business during the COVID-19 lockdown, Gwadar Pro reported on Thursday. Hussain Haider, Consul General of Pakistani Consulate General in Shanghai, Wang Zihai, president of Pakistan-China Joint Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCJCCI), Iqbal Kidwai, Secretary-General of Pakistan Chemical Manufacturers' Association (PCMA), Muhammad Nadeem Zafar, vice president of Pakistan Hardware Association and others attended the online opening ceremony

As per Mr. Hussain Haider, online negotiation for international business will become a new normal as the COVID-19 pandemic dealt the events industry a blow.

The Online fair has provided a opportunity for enterprises from Pakistan and China to do business with each other.

He further mentioned that China has be-

come Pakistan's largest trading partner, largest country of origin for imports, largest foreign direct investor and its third-largest export destination, while Pakistan has become China's largest investment destination in South Asia due to the construction of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

The exhibition is hosted by Shandong Provincial Department of Commerce. Pakistani Consulate General in Shanghai, Pakistan Chemical Manufacturers' Association (PCMA), Pakistan Hardware Merchants Association (PHMA), etc. have provided great support to the event.

### Malaysia seeks Pak pilots' record

KARACHI: The Civil Aviation Authority of Malaysia (CAAM) has asked Pakistani authorities to provide information of pilots employed by the operator in view of recent reports of fake licences.

The Malaysian aviation authority warned to revoke licences of pilots who were issued licences by Pakistani operator if CAA failed to verify the information.

In its letter sent by CAAM deputy director of the flight operations division. CAA has been asked to submit the information of the pilots' licences by July 3. CAAM also issued directives to local oper-

ators to 'temporarily suspend their pilot who is issued with Pakistan pilot licence from operating flights until their licences can be verified by Pakistan Civil Aviation Authority. Once verification has been carried out, the CAAM will inform operators for their reinstatement immediately.'

The letter, obtained by ARY News, sought complete details of Pakistani pilots emploved at 11 local institutions. It also stated that the Pakistani authorities should also provide the permission letter issued to the pilots by CAAM, as well as that the information of licence transfer to Malaysian licences

The action of Malaysian aviation authority was followed by the European Union (EU) and the United Kingdom (UK) that had sought details of the pilots' licences from Pakistan. – DNA

The Minister added that five Taliban dead bodies have remained on the battlefield. Meanwhile, the Taliban attacked Afghan forces in the Mohammad Quli area in Jaghatu district of Maidan Wardak province which faced "fierce resistance" by Afghan forces. The Ministry of Defense added, as a result, 9 Tali-

ban militants were killed and a vehicle and a motorbike of the group were destroyed.

Monsoon will decrease coronavirus cases: Mirza

DNA

ISLAMABAD: The number of coronavirus cases in the country is declining and will go down even further during the monsoon season, says Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Health Dr Zafar Mirza. He said the reason for this was the smart lockdown imposed in different areas across the country, according to Radio Pakistan. He did not, however, clarify how the monsoon would lead to a decline in COVID-19 cases. As of Thursday Pakistan has reported 217,809 coronavirus cases and 4,473 deaths, according to the government's official COVID-19 portal.

### brainchild of mafia Shibili says opposition all moves against govt bound to fail

### FIAZ CHAUDHARY

DG ISPR

Maj. Gen

Babar also

denied any

presence

of Chinese

troops in

Pakistan

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Syed Shibli Faraz Wednesday said minus one formula was the brainchild of corrupt political forces aiming to desta-He, in a talk show on a

The minister said whatever our current political status and stature was, it was due to Imran Khan and people like him came into politics due to distinct and innovative ideology.

Earlier, state institutions were deliberately collapsed by political mafia merely to protect their personal interests and wrongdoings of their leaderships, he added.

About action against the sugar mafia, he said the government should be given credit of conducting a transparent and across the board investigation into the case following by mak-

shared with Afghanistan ing it public which was the first instance in the political history of the country. He said action would be

taken against the elements identified in the report after sensitizing the FBR. SECP, State Bank and other related institutions.

To a question about the briefing of aviation minister regarding the restructuring of Pakistan International Airlines (PIA), the minister said as media person, politician and minister, his statement needed to be carefully viewed in the context of ground realities

He said irregularities were made at Civil Aviation Authority level as the sanctity of papers of the pilots was doubtful. Although, it would not be suitable to disclose the number of terminated pilots at this forum, however, five pilots were chargesheeted after completion of all codal formalities, he expressed. To another question, he said the government had

plan to invite European aviation agency for the investigation purposes and introducing reforms in the PIA to make it a splendid airline of an international standard.



#### DNA

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister's Special Representative for Afghanistan, Ambassador (R) Muhammad Sadiq said that Pakistan shared Torkham and Chaman border terminal master plans with Afghanistan to enable concurrent and complementary develop-

ment on the Afghan side. In his tweets, he stated that "In the spirit of brotherly cooperation and regional connectivity, Pakistan shared Torkham and Chaman border terminal master plans with Afghanistan to enable concurrent and complementary devel-

opment on Afghan side.' He further added that "An enhanced compatibility in trade infrastructure on both sides will help realise the shared goal of optimum trade, connectivity and people to people facilitation between the two countries.'

### Sindh refuses to introduce uniform syllabus

### DNA

KARACHI: Sindh government has decided against introducing a uniform syllabus devised by the federal government in the province and said that devising curriculum was a provincial prerogative.

A meeting of the education department chaired by Chief Minister Sindh Syed Murad Ali Shah reviewed a proposal to introduce a uniform syllabus across the country

Speaking during the meeting, Education Minister Saeed Ghani said that the federal government had conveyed them the contents of a syllabus to be introduced in the country.

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Pakistan Navy capable enough to match challenges, says Naval chief – Page 02

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Killing grandfather in front of his grandson an oppression: Wani - Page 04

Warmth and Opportunities in Pak-Morocco Ties – Page 05

Salah donates ambulance center to hometown – Page 06

Saudi-led coalition hits Houthi held areas in renewed air raids - Page 07

## **Uzbekistan envoy lauds Islamabad Post's contribution**

Col Saad, Charge d' Affaires of the Embassy says Daily Islamabad Post, CENTRELINE journal and Diplomatic News Agency have made praiseworthy contributions towards strengthening the Pakistan-Uzbek relations

#### DNA

ISLAMABAD: The Charge d'Affairs at Embassy of Uzbekistan COL. Saadulla A Tashmatov has greeted the editor Daily Islamabad Post and Diplomatic, CENTRELINE journal and News Agency, Ansar Mehmood Bhatti on his contributions towards strengthening the Pakistan-Uzbek relations. In a letter, the Uzbek charge d'affaires said that every year on June 27, Uzbekistan celebrates media workers' day, we congratulate every representative of Uzbek as well as Pakistani journalists on their contributions to the develop ment of Uzbek-Pakistani relations.

of the diplomatic mission is inconceivable without strong shoulder of a brother journalist. We are grateful to your responsiveness, care and sincerity that you render to us. Despite the difficult period when the pandemic has swept





the world, your firm support and assistance in properly reporting on pressing problems,



achievements and victories are worthy of strong respect and honor.

The Uzbek charge d'Affaires said that we are convinced that your professionalism and sincere desire to elevate Uzbek-Pakistani relations to a new qualitative level will continue to serve as inspiration in the development and strengthening of cooperation between the two brotherly states. The Uzbek Charge d'Affaires then wished Ansar Mehmood Bhatti for great achievements, good health and success in his

endeavors and family happiness. It may be mentioned here that Pakistan and Uzbekistan enjoy excellent relations in all fields. Bilateral relations between the two countries have witnessed some marked progress in past few years. Ambassador Furgat Sidikov who has recently been appointed as the Deputy Foreign Minister of Uzbekistan played central role in bringing both countries even closer. It is expected that his predecessor COL. Saadulla A Tashmatov, the Charge d Affaires will put in his best efforts to maintain this momentum and further promote and strengthen bilateral relations.

It added that there is no doubt that active work

bilize the government.

private news channel, said they must know that all the cabinet members, parliamentarians and workers of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) were standing by the Prime Minister Imran Khan

## NATIONAL

## 02

### **Briefs**

### Smart lockdown only solution: Dr Zafar

ISLAMABAD: Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Health Services Dr Zafar Mirza Wednesday said the smart lockdown was only the solution to control the spread of COVID-19 and to improve the national economy. The number of coronavirus cases was decreasing while monsoon season would further help reduce the cases in the country, he said while talking to a private news channel.

As many as 128 laboratories had been established across the country, he said adding the people should go to hospitals and laboratories for the COVID -9 tests. He further said the government was taking actions against the medical stores

and private laboratories for overcharging the people. Reply to a question, he said children could be affected from the pandemic in the same way as elders got affected from it. – **APP** 

### Haleem urges Bilawal to focus on Sindh's sufferings

KARACHI: Pakistan Tehreek e Insaf (PTI) Vice President Haleem Adil Sheikh has asked PPP Chairman Bilawal to take notice of the sufferings of Sindh province, especially Larkana.

Addressing a press conference here Thursday, flanked by PTI leader and Sindh Baitul Mal president Hunaid Lakhani, Saifullah Abro, Jam Farooq Ahmed, Agha Arslan Ahmed and others, he said Bilawal should focus on Sindh, especially Larkana. He said Saifullah Abro is our senior leader. He said the rulers of Sindh are corrupt and inept. He said people of Sindh face water shortage. He said many children died in Thar due to hunger and diseases. He said Sindh irrigation department is a glaring example of corruption

## EID-UL-AZHA 2020 NIH issues health advisory

ISLAMABAD: The National Institute of Health (NIH) in its advisory has warned that the movement of sacrificial animals ahead of Eid-ul-Azha could amplify the risk of coronavirus spreading as crowds are expected to gather in markets to buy animals.

The NIH added these animals also risk spreading the Crimean-Congo Hemorrhagic Fever (CCHF) due to increased human-animal interaction, commonly found in these animals.

in these animals. all crowded places includ-Recognising the threats, the ing large family gatherings

### 'India committing worst HR violations in IoK'

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Kashmir Affairs Ali Amin Gandapur Thursday said that the world must stop Indian brutalities as the atrocities of the occupying forces are increasing day by day in the Indian Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IoJ&K). Condemning the recent

itizers, practising of social distancing during a visit to cattle markets; frequent hand-washing and hand sanitization to disinfect and clean hands; avoidance of all crowded places including large family gatherings

#### ble regional maritime power.

The Naval Chief also underscored Pakistan Navy capabilities to deal with both traditional and non-traditional challenges by ensuring Combat Readiness, instituting effective measures in ideological domain while catapulting Pakistan's maritime sector to promote our maritime interests.

Chief of the Naval Staff advised the Course participants to instill Pakistan Navy's core values of Faith, Character, Courage and Commitment in their noble and demanding profession and draw inspirations from true Islamic values and ideology of Pakistan.

Preceding to the address by Chief of the Naval Staff, a panel of Course participants presented Research Paper on 'Hindutva Ideology and its fallouts on Muslims of India and Pakistan'. The Admiral appreciated the efforts of Pakistan Navy War College for providing the academic stimulus and honing professional knack of the course participants.

Islamabad **POST** 

Friday, July 03, 2020

Pakistan Navy War College is the apex training institute of Pakistan Navy inculcating professional staff and military training to officers of Pakistan Navy, Sister Services and friendly countries for assuming future key Command and Staff appointments.

## CGSS, Punjab Varsity agree to enhance cooperation

It was also decided that both the institutions will jointly work on Belt & Road Initiative encompassing different aspects of BRI

DNA

LAHORE: CGSS team headed by Lt Col Khalid Taimur Akram (Retd), Executive Director, Center for Global & Strategic Studies (CGSS), Islamabad met with Prof. Dr. Niaz Ahmad Akhtar (S.I.) - Vice-Chancellor, University of the Punjab, Lahore at Lahore. During the meeting, it was decided that University of the Punjab and CGSS will jointly collaborate to enhance cooperation and research with regional countries. It was also decided that both the institutions will jointly work on Belt & Road Initiative encompassing different aspects of BRI.





Pakistan Navy capable enough to

match challenges, says Naval chief

#### miral Zafar Mahmood Abbasi visited Pakistan Navy War College, Lahore and addressed the course participants of 49th

ABID RAZA

LAHORE: Chief of the Naval Staff, Ad-

PN Staff Course. On his arrival, the Naval Chief was received by Commandant PN War College Rear Admiral Muhammad Zubair Shafique.

challenges.

The advisory lists several

instructions that need to be

adopted for the prevention

and control of CCHF since

there is currently no vaccine

The instructions include

use of full sleeves and light

coloured clothes, gloves,

face masks, and hand san-

available for the disease.

While addressing the course partici-

pants, Chief of the Naval Staff dilated

upon evolving geo-strategic environment

and its interplay with prevalent security

dynamics and focus on maritime security

While focusing on threat perception, the

Admiral dwelled on various initiatives

and developmental plans in line with his

vision for Pakistan Navy to be a formida-

and mismanagement of PPP government. – **APP** 

### 'EOBI pension increase will benefit workers'

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Science and Technology, Chaudhry Fawad Hussain Thursday said the decision of increasing Employees Old Age Benefit Institution (EOBI) pension will benefit thousands of workers. The federal minister thanked Zulfi Bukhari in a tweet and said "this decision of the Ministry of Labor for increasing pensionary amount will benefit thousands of workers". He extended special congratulations to the workers of Pind Dadan Khan and Khewra. Chaudhry Fawad said, hopefully this month we will be able to start EOBI's Khewra office. Chaudhry Fawad Hussain said the decision to implement Provincial Finance Award is a big step towards fundamental reforms in the country. The districts will no longer need to depend on provincial governments for their share of development funds but the provincial resources will be distributed according to the constitutional formula, Chaudhry Fawad said in a tweet. - APP

Field Epidemiology and Disease Surveillance Division (FEDSD) of NIH has issued an advisory, alerting various stakeholders including human and animal healthcare providers to take timely steps for the prevention and control of CCHF and COV-ID-19.

gy and Dis-<br/>e Divisionduring Eid and sacrifice<br/>of animals; and thorough<br/>washing of hands with soap<br/>ing varioushas issued<br/>ing variouswashing of hands with soap<br/>after coming in contact with<br/>animals or their blood.<br/>Moreover, NIH has also<br/>ke timely<br/>rention and<br/>and COV-washing of hands with soap<br/>after coming in contact with<br/>animals or their blood.<br/>Moreover, NIH has also<br/>Awareness and Alert Letter<br/>infectious diseases. - APP

e father speaks volumes h about India's fascism and p its racial undercurrents.

 Its racial undercurrents.
He added that the picture of the toddler looking shell-shocked on the bloodsoaked corpse of his dead grandfather was sufficient enough to stir the world's conscience. – APP



ISLAMABAD: Senator Raja Muhammad Zafar ul Haq, leader of the opposition in Senate, exchanging views with Egyptian Ambassador Tarek Dahroug at parliament house. – DNA

## CCP achieves major milestones during Fiscal Year 2019-20

#### DNA

ISLAMABAD: The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP), in the fiscal year 2019-20, has processed and granted approval to 59 Merger & Acquisition applications against the annual target of 50, showing the CCP's promising performance to facilitate the local and foreign investors despite the limitations caused by COVID-19 pandemic. Out of the total 59 approvals, 51 were Acquisitions, 5 Mergers and 3 Joint Ventures applications. The major sectors where

The major sectors where these mergers and acqui-

sitions took place include automotive. household products, food, sugar, oil, power, freight, LNG, insurance, agriculture, coal mining, logistics, pharmaceutical, chemicals, petroleum, healthcare, leasing, plastic, textile, hospitality, financial services, digital payments, mobile phone, investment, IT - Hardware, wind power, and microfinance banking. Moreover, the CCP also processed and granted Exemptions to 43 undertakings under the Section 5 of Competition Act, 2010. CCP grants exemptions to notified agreements between companies from the

the Competition Act, on the basis of an individual assessment. Restrictive agreements qualify for exemption if their benefits to general welfare (product improvement, technical or economic progress, benefits to consumer) outweigh their restrictive effects on competition.

During the outgoing fiscal year, the CCP complete 14 enquiries, issued 78 Show cause notices, and passed 15 orders.

An important enquiry was concluded In the matter of alleged bid rigging in the tenders issued by Power Distribution companies for the procurement of Line

Hardware material. Similarly, the CCP issued hearing notices to 39 sugar mills in the matter of show cause notices issued to the Pakistan Sugar Mills Association and its member sugar mills in 2009 for cartelization.

These sugar mills had not challenged the CCP's show cause notices, but legal action had not been started

against them in the past. Even in the challenging time of COVID-19 pandemic, the CCP ensured its smooth functioning by extending facilitation to the stakeholders. An Online Merger and Acquisition Application filing system was launched to facilitate the

local and foreign investors in filing merger applications online. Furthermore, to ensure health and safety of the respondents amid COV-ID-19, the parties have been allowed to respond to the show-cause notices issued to them in the hearings using video conferencing and other online tools. An online application for granting exemptions has also been prepared and will be launched soon. The CCP issued a Policy

Note to the Securities & Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) asking for an immediate reinstatement of the cost audit of companies (particularly, Cement, Sugar, Vegetable Ghee/Cooking Oil, Fertilizer, and Wheat flour companies), so that credible and verified cost information is available to assist in factual (rather than speculative) policy making. In order to curb the bid rigging in tenders and public procurements, the CCP has prepared an in-house ITbased Bid Rigging Analysis and Detection (BRAD) system to help detect signs of collusion in the bidding process. On the legal front, the Islamabad and Lahore High Courts have resumed hearings in the cases wherein the CCP's constitutionality has been challenged by the undertakings.

### BMG urges Sindh government to revoke lockdown extension

KARACHI: Chairman Businessmen Group (BMG) Siraj Kassam Teli and President Karachi Chamber of Commerce & Industry (KCCI) Agha Shahab Ahmed Khan, while strongly rejecting the extension in lockdown up to July 15, urged the Sindh Government to immediately revoke the relevant notification and allow all types of businesses to operate at full capacity which is the only way to save the economy and the businesses from total collapse.

In a statement issued, Chairman BMG Siraj Kassam Teli stated that various businesses including restaurants, hotels, marriage halls, beauty parlors, cinema houses, business centers, sports facilities, and educational institutes etc. have remained completely closed since last four consecutive months that has resulted in plunging all these businesses on the verge of complete collapse. "These businesses are already going through terrible crises and further extension in the lockdown would wipe them out forever that would lead to further intensifying the hardships not only for the business community but also for the already ailing economy, besides triggering massive unemployment which would prove more dangerous than the coronavirus pandemic."

Siraj Teli, therefore, stressed that the extension in lockdown must immediately be withdrawn while the administration should be effectively utilized for strict implementation of the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs).

"If the administration is able to strictly get the lockdown enforced then why it is not being used for strict implementation of SOPs", he asked, adding that the Sindh government will have to alleviate the predicament of businessmen instead of aggravating them.

"On one hand the federal and provincial governments have not provided any relief to these businesses while on the other, the Sindh government has issued COV-ID-19 Emergency Relief Ordinance 2020 which compels the businessmen and industrialists to retain their employees and keep on paying salaries while the businesses should remain closed. It has created a very odd situation when neither any income is being generated nor financial relief has been provided by the government which happens nowhere around the world. – **APP** 



## Islamabad POST Extra balance of the second s 03 Friday, July 03, 2020

## **Briefs**

### Attack on stock exchange condemned

### DNA

ATTOCK: Central President of National Peace Commission for Interfaith Harmony Sehban Arif Sehbai Strongly condemns the cowardly act of terror-ists on the Karachi Stock Exchange. He said that Pakistani forces and intelligence agencies would continue to crack down on terrorists who were harming Pakistan's integrity.

Strongly condemns cowardly act of terrorist attack on Karachi Stock Exchange He will carry out the great mission of serving the homeland with more diligence and dedication God willing.

We are grateful to all the institutions whose timely security measures have saved us from any major tragedy. Praise be to God. We pay tribute to the soldiers who were martyred in this heinous act of terrorism and pray to Allah Almighty for their high ranks. May you always be safe and secure and protect the Holy Land.

### UNFPA to assist Pak in population development strategies

ISLAMABAD: The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) will extend technical assistance to the government to formulate population development strategies and their onward implementation in the country.

Special Assistant to the Prime Minister (SAPM) on Youth Affairs Muhammad Usman Dar and UN-FPA Country Representative Lina Mousa signed the Memorandum of

# Sector G 14/1 allotees to get possession in Dec this year

District Administration launched full scale operation on Tuesday July 1 against the illegal settlers. Consequent upon this operation the illegal settlers attacked the police and Foundation staff. A senior police officer received injuries in this scuffle

### SAIFULLAH

ISLAMABAD: The Federal Govt **Employees Housing Foundation** has announced to handover possession plots of G 14 sub sector 1 to the owners in December this year. According to FGEHF sources, arrangements in this regard are being given final shape. Sources further said that development work in sub sector 2 and 3 is under way at a full pace. Sources said that the Foundation

has determined to get the land vacated at all cost from the illegal occupants. In this regard, the Foundation with the help of the District Administration launched full scale operation on Tuesday July 1 against the illegal settlers. Consequent upon this operation the illegal settlers attacked the police and Foundation staff. A

senior police officer received injuries in this scuffle. The Foundation administration made it clear to all illegal occupants operation against them will continue till the time the entire sector is got vacated. It may be mentioned here The Federal Govt Employees Housing Foundation (FGEHF) has given 15 days to all illegal settlers in Sector G 14 to pack up and vacate the place.

The final notice was given through an advertisement published in all leading newspapers of Pakistan a few days ago asking all illegal occupants to vacate land as the Foundation has already paid to them for their built up properties. The notice further says that if

occupants will not remove their settlements or debris, after 15 days the district administration shall then do so through a full

### **Allottees body resent** attack on govt officials

ISLAMABAD: The Executive Committee of the G 14 allottees body has condemned attack on the govt officials. The body expressed concern over this incident and termed it interference in official matter. The body also demanded of the concerned authorities to take action against such elements. The body noted with deep concern that the matter of G 14 development was pending since 2004 therefore it should not be resolved. - DNA

scale operation. administration shall launch oper-The notice further said that the ation. The administration shall Foundation had surveyed 406 not be responsible for any loss built up properties in Sector G whatsoever as a result of this op-14-1,2 and 3 and paid to the oceration', the notice further reads. cupants. " It has been observed It may be mentioned here that that despite receiving amounts the Federal Govt Employees Housing Foundation (FGEHF) the occupants have failed to vacate land. After 15 days if these had announced that 15 year old settlements are not removed, the issue of development of Sector

G 14 shall be resolved by end of April 2020. The FGEHF further said that measurement target in Sector G 14/1 had also been set and responsibilities assigned in this regard.

The housing foundation had made this announcement in response to a number of queries emanating from Prime Minister's Citizen Portal regarding development of Sector G 14 and its sub sectors. The G 14 sector was announced in 2004 but due to illegal Built Up Properties (BUP) it could not be developed.

The foundation further said land for Sector G 14/1,2,3 was acquired by the DC office Islamabad vide an award under Section 11 of the Land Acquisition Act 1894 in January 2005.

The award for Built up Property in G 14/3 could only be announced in 2014 and supplementary award in 2017. Almost 70 per cent of the area of Sector G 14/3 has been got vacated and development work is being executed on the site.

It further stated, the measurements for BUP are being conducted in Sector G 14/2 and award of BUPs in G 14/2 was done in February 2020.

Similarly measurements for BUP have already started in G 14/1and award of BUPs is expected by 31 March 2020.

Earlier, FGEHF had decided to accommodate settlers of G 14/1 to G 15 and a summary in this connection was forwarded to the concerned authorities for approval. Many people who were allotted plots in this particular sector have died while majority of the allotees has sold out plots because they had lost hopes of early development of this sector.

### **RCCI** inks MOU with Eilya Care Foundation ways envisioned providing DNA services to the business

RAWALPINDI: The Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI and Eilya Care Foundation Pakistan inked a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to develop a liaison between the plasma donation organization and the patient aiming to provide service to the business community associated with Rawalpindi chamber during COVID-19.

Speaking on the occasion,

Saboor Malik, President,

RCCI, said, "RCCI has al-

others.

community and has already initiated many projects for the welfare and growth of the community. He said that RCCI has noticed a communication gap between the families of COVID-19 patients and the recovered patients who were willing to donate the plasma. To bridge this gap we came up with an idea

willing donors and those Dr. Nadia Raza, CEO Eilya looking for plasma together, Care Foundation Pakistan and Saboor Malik, President, RCCI signed and exchanged the documents at a ceremony held at Chamber House Rawalpindi here on Thursday which was also attended by senior vice president Nosherwan Khalil Khan, Vice President Hamza Sarosh, amongst

المعصيلات المعالي Trunkwala's & MCI

Understanding (MoU) on Thursday in this regard, said a news release issued by the office of Usman Dar who leads two flag-ship initiatives of the government on youth including the Prime Minister's Kamvab Jawan Program and Corona Relief Tiger Force. The MoU was aimed at strengthening institutional mechanisms to integrate youth voices into national development policies and processes. It would formalize cooperation between Kamyab Jawan Programme and UNFPA for the empow-

### the youth. – APP WSSCA completes disinfection spray

erment and well-being of

ABBOTTABAD: A disinfectant spray campaign is underway in Abbottabad to eradicate germs and prevent corona outbreak by ensuring safety to the public in various public places here on Thursday. Teams from Water and Sanitation Services Company Abbottabad (WSSCA) Thursday completed disinfectant sprays at various places in the city on the instructions of the district administration including Nazeer Teaching Hospital Kaihal, Colony Benazir Teaching Hospital Kaihal, Ehsas Cash Distribution Center, Government Degree College No. 01, Sabzi Mandi and Sehlad Orman Bazar. – APP

### IRSA releases 317,600 cusecs water

ISLAMABAD: Indus River System Authority (IRSA) on Thursday released 317,600 cusecs water from various rim stations with inflow of 320,400 cusecs. According to the data released by IRSA, water level in the Indus River at Tarbela Dam was 1461.99 feet, which was 75.99 feet higher than its dead level 1386 feet. Water inflow in the dam was recorded as 148,200 cusecs and outflow as 170,000 cusecs. - APP



ISLAMABAD: A large number of residents of I-9 Sector busy in filling their pots with drinking water from filtration plant. – APP

## **Tiger Force committed** to serving people with Patriotism: DC

tives of Tiger Force Volunteers of Good Governance ATTOCK: Deputy Comacross the district.

DNA

Thursday.

missioner Chairs Meeting The Deputy Commission-With Focal Persons Of PM er said that the Volunteers Tiger Force Volunteers on of the Tiger Force are committed to serving the people with patriotism.

Deputy Commissioner Ali Anan Qamer has said that He further said that more than 8,000 youths from all the Volunteers of Tiger Force in District are playover the district have reging their positive role in istered themselves. In the Tiger Force, out of which creating awareness among about 10,000 youths have the people for the prevention of Corona epidemic. approached them from Tiger Force Volunteers are all over the district. The fully assisting the district DC said that Tiger Force administration in imple-Volunteers are serving. According to their abilities menting the SOPs, he said this while presiding over a and performing their du-

meeting with representa- ties at Ehsas Centers in the district. The Deputy Commis-

sioner also directed the Assistant Commissioners to work with Tiger Force Volunteers in their tehsils to the best of their ability. Earlier, Focal Person Tiger Force volunteer. While giving a briefing, said that volunteers of Tiger Force present at Ehsas Centers, Mosques, Imambargahs, Bazaars And other public places. In this regard, they are not only providing awareness. But also play-

ing their full role in imple

menting the SOP issued by

the government.

The nation is with the Pak Army

### **MUNIR FAISAL**

ATTOCK: Special Advisor to Prime Minister for Climate Change Malik Amin Aslam has said that anti-national elements are trying unsuccessfully to disturb peace in Pakistan.

The entire nation is with Pakistan Army, Police and other security personnel against terrorism for the sake of the nation We salute those who sacrificed their lives.

Their sacrifices will not be in vain. Those who attacked the stock exchange are the enemies of peace. We openly condemn this cowardly incident and want to convince the enemy that Pakistanis The nation knows how to confront the enemy forces.

he added. Dr. Nadia Raza said that this MOU will help in identification of Plasma donors and also provide relief for the patients.

to make a close liaison and

a platform that brings the

Under the agreement, RCCI and EILYA Care will create an awareness drive regarding plasma donation. Both parties will share and assist in communication coordination and information sharing necessary to provide support to the COVID-19 patients of Rawalpindi.

Government spends Rs. 254.95 bln on social protection schemes

ISLAMABAD: The present government has spent an amount of Rs.254.95 billion for different social protection and poverty alleviation schemes under Ehsaas Programme. The biggest undergraduate scholarship programme of country's history was initiated on November 4, 2019 under which Rs. 4.8 billion has been provided to 50,500 students through Higher Education Commission.

Ehsaas interest free loans launched from July 05, 2019 has provided loans worth Rs. 24.082 billion to 712,852 persons. Ehsaas Kafalat programme launched since January 31, 2020 has benefited so far 4,576,463 deserving women. Ehsaas Saylani Langar programme was started from October 07,2019 through public-private partnership and established six Langar points in Punjab, Sindh, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Islamabad.

Ehsaas Amdan programme which was launched on February 21, 2020 has distributed small business assets worth Rs. 1.5 billion among 25,054 families. Ehsaas Ration Portal was launched on April 21, 2020 by the government to create linkage between the deserving persons and philanthropists. - APP

## Pakistan moves towards customizing the **Practical Guide on Electronic Evidence**

UNODC Representative Jeremy Milsom highlighted that internet users have doubled in Pakistan during the last 10 years and the trend is expected to grow and presently there are approximately 35 million users in the country

### Adnan Yousaf

Rescue

1122 aided

2209 people

in June

RAWALPINDI: The Punjab

Emergency Services, Rescue

1122 provided timely emer-

gency care to 2209 victims

while responding to 2325

emergencies in different are-

as of the district during month

of June. District Emergency

Officer (DEO) Rescue 1122,

Rawalpindi Dr Abdul Rahman

chaired a monthly review

meeting and directed the Res-

cue Officers to ensure quality

emergency care to the resi-

dents without any discrimina-

tion within shortest possible

time. The data revealed that

the incidents occurred in dis-

trict included 737 road traffic

accidents, 1123 medical emer-

gencies, 76 fire emergencies,

98 crime calls. - APP

ISLAMABAD: UNODC's Country Office Pakistan together with Terrorism Prevention Branch (TPB) and in collaboration with national counterparts including the National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA) and Counter Terrorism Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) Pakistan organized an online workshop on requesting electronic evidence from Service Providers (SPs) in counter terrorism related cross-border investigations. The virtual workshop was organized under the framework of a European Union (EU) supported project entitled "Pakistan's Action to Counter Terrorism"

### Committee Executive Directorate

(PACT) Sindh. The proliferation of networking hardware such as computers, mobile phones, effortless internet access and the availability of various digital tools and software has amplified the ease at which crime is being planned, organized and executed regardless of a perpetrators' location. Once suspects are apprehended nearly all prosecutions depend, at least in part, on the use of electronic evidence, including location data, social media postings, text and email messages and records of cell phone calls. In response to the challenges faced by Member States, UNODC, in close cooperation and coordination with the United Nations Security Council Counter-Terrorism

(CTED) and the International Association of Prosecutors (IAP) launched the Global Initiative on "Strengthening the Capacity of Central Authorities and Counter-Terrorism Prosecutors and Investigators in Obtaining Digital Evidence from Private Communications Service Providers (CSPs) in Cross-Border Investigations, with a Particular Focus on Counter-Terrorism Matters", in 2017. As a result of UNODC continued outreach, Service Providers (SPs) regularly supported the delivery of capacity-building events under the global initiative. Facebook, Apple and Careem participated in the online workshop addressing specific issues faced by criminal

justice officials in Pakistan while submitting electronic evidence requests.

In his opening remarks, UNODC Representative Jeremy Milsom highlighted that internet users have doubled in Pakistan during the last 10 years and the trend is expected to grow and presently there are approximately 35 million users in the country.

In majority of terrorism cases some sort of electronic evidence is relevant therefore it is essential we develop a country-specific guide to enhance the skills and knowledge of investigators and prosecutors to understand preservation, pre-mutual legal assistance, mutual legal assistance and emergency discourse requests.

The EU Chargé d'Affaires a.i. Anne Marchal, outlined how a strong criminal justice system can contribute to effective counter-terrorism response in the country, and acknowledged the role PACT project has played in piloting this global initiative in Pakistan.

Director General Counter Terrorism, MoFA Mr. Asim Khan highlighted that "international cooperation is a key pillar of our counter terrorism strategy" and with the customization of this guide for Pakistan we aim to improve the quality of requests submitted to Service Providers for obtaining electronic evidence which is critical in successfully prosecuting terrorism cases.

Police arrested Gamblers

#### DNA

ATTOCK: Three gamblers were booked besides recovering bet money amounting Rs15,680, Motorcycle, Cell phones and others from their possession and arrested during raids at their gambling dens in Tehsil Fatehjang attock.

Spokesman of police informed that in a crackdown against the anti social elements Fatehjang

Police station got information that some people were busy in playing gambling in the area during course of action police arrested the Three gamblers identified as Adnan Sadique, Yar Mumtaz and Sher Ali besides recovering Rs15,680, Two Motorcycles worth Rs1,75,000, Three Mobile phones worth Rs 40,000 were Confiscated.

## 04

## **TWIN CITIES**

### Islamabad **POST** Friday, July 03, 2020

**Briefs** 

### **COVID-19** badly affected capital's food industry

ISLAMABAD: Coronavirus pandemic has badly affected the businesses of food and hotel industry in the federal capital and some restaurants have started offering online services to cope the situation

The restaurants owners were trying to shift their businesses from traditional services to online orders. People due to ban on the service at restaurants were only ordering the food items online to fulfill their needs. The demand of food delivering chains at homes also increased in the capital. The owners of hotel Hammad Aslam said that initially they were waiting for the normalization of situation but the situation was still same due to which they started using new ideas to continue their businesses. However, he said that his business was hadly affected due to COVID-19 pandemic. Safiullah Khan an owner of restaurant said that his fast -food place was closed for the 3 months which was caused lose of one million rent and other expenses.

He said that now he restarted work after relaxation in the lockdown by the government with only take away and online services under the complete standard operating procedures (SOPS) for the safety of the peo-ple." – APP

### AIOU uploads merit lists of admissions

ISLAMABAD: Allama Iqbal Open University uploaded admission lists of successful candidates in merit-based masters level programmes offered in second phase of semester Spring 2020 admissions.

According to Director Admissions, besides uploading the merit lists at the university website (www. aiou.edu.pk) the successful candidates have also been informed through letters dispatched at their postal addresses. He added that last date for fee deposit is July 10. He advised the desiring students to download fee challan from the university website and deposit the fee in branches of Muslim Commercial Bank, Allied Bank Limited, United Bank Limited and First Women Bank Limited. The director said that students from Gilgit-Baltistan and Azad Jammu and Kashmir areas could also deposit their fee in National Bank of Pakistan. Those candidates who have not received intimation letter about admission so far or whose names are not in the merit list of their respective subject can inquire about the status of their admission by calling on phone numbers 051-9057422 and 051-9250043. He said that the merit lists of MSc Mass Communication, Environmental Design and Forestry Extension have been finalized. - APP



ISLAMABAD: Members of Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry presenting bouquet to newly elected President of SAARC CCI. - DNA

## Killing grandfather in front of his grandson an oppression: Wani

He said that it was an Israeli pattern that India was following in Kashmir to instill a sense of fear and insecurity amongst Kashmiris

### DNA

ISLAMABAD: Terming killing of a civilian right in front of his 3-year-old grandson by the Indian occupation forces as a chilling reminder of Nazi oppression, senior vice chairman the blood-soaked corpse of Jammu Kashmir National Front (JKNF) Mr. Altaf Hussain Wani has said that the soul-wrenching photo

his dead grandfather was sufficient enough to stir the world's conscience. describing this While

spine-chilling incident as a sign of growing frustration within the Indian occupation forces the JKNF leader said, "This surge of frustration within the rank and file of the Indian army has led to the killing of a number of civilians in the valley over the past couple of months". Referring to a similar incident Mr. Wani said that "In May, a young man later identified as 25 year old

Peer Mehrajudin, son of ASI, resident of Makhama, Budgam was killed ruthlessly when Indian paramilitary CRPF forces opened fired at his car near Kawoosa Khalisa village in Narbal area of central Kashmir Budgam". He said that it was an Israe-

li pattern that India was following in Kashmir to instill a sense of fear and insecurity amongst Kashmiris.

Vegetable

imports

decrease by

2.13%: SBP

ISLAMABAD: The imports

of vegetables products into

The JKNF leader said that the Kashmir's recent history was apparently awash with such stories of terror, which, he said, would continue to haunt the conscience of those who criminally chose to stay silent on the Kashmiris' unending sufferings despite knowing the fact that the Indian forces were involved in serious war crimes in Kashmir.

These horrifying incidents taking place in the length and breadth of the Kashmir valley he said were the cause and consequence of the long-drawn Kashmir conflict, which he said would continue to wreak havoc on the lives of innocent Kashmir unless the festering dispute was resolved peacefully in accordance with the UN resolutions.

### **Sub-sectors** of I-8, I-10 de-sealed

ISLAMABAD: The administration of Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) has decided to de-seal the residential areas of Sector I-8/3, I-8/4, I-10/1 and I-10/2 on Thursday evening (today) at 1900 hours. The commercial areas of Sector I-8 Markaz and I-10 Markaz would be de-sealed from July 3rd (Friday), according to a notification issued by the ICT on Thursday. The decision was taken after detailed survey, contact tracing, ground surveillance and testing of suspected individuals, however, the de-sealed areas would be regulated by the prevailing orders of section 144, in case of any violation of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), strict actions would be taken against the delinquent by the respective Assistant Commissioner. said the notification. - APP

### Cantonment Boards, 1Link sign agreement

RAWALPINDI: Another significant step has been taken by Cantonment Boards of Pakistan to facilitate the residents of all the cantonments. In line with the e-Governance policy of the Government of Pakistan, an agreement has been signed between 1Link and the Cantonment Boards of Pakistan that will now enable the cantonment residents to pay their taxes and fees online. The cantonment residents can avail this facility by entering challan number mentioned on the challan in 1Bill option from any bank's mobile app, ATM or online portal. Director General, Military Lands and Cantonments Major General Hasnat Amir Gilani on the occasion said that now the cantonment residents would be able to pay their bills easily and avoid hassle of visiting bank branches. – APP

### PAL to hold online reception of "Nami Danam"

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Academy of Letters (PAL) will hold an online reception of Shakeel Jazeb's poetry collection entitled "Nami Danam" on July 3. Renowned poetess/writer Kishwar Naheed ,poet-scholar Iftihar Arif and Chairman PAL Dr Yousuf Khushi will be the chief guest, an official said here on Thursday. Dr Qasim Peerzada, Amjad Islam Amjad, Muhammad Azhar ul Huq, Asfhar Nadeem Saeed will be the honourable guests. - APP

PM Imran announces 15 national parks across country

### FFC opens cell

ISLAMABAD: Keeping inview monsoon season, the Federal Flood Commission (FFC) has operationalized its communication cell round the clock besides monitoring mechanism to observe water situation in all major rivers. Talking to APP here Thurs day, Chairman FFC Ahmed Kamal said that Standard Operating Procedure (SOPs) guidelines have already been issued to all concerned departments during annual conference held on June 25.

The concerned department had already directed to complete dredging Leh Nullah before monsoon season, he said. Directives were also issued for dams operation of Mangla and Tarbela in the monsoon seasons under the set rules and regulations, he said. The Chairman said Pakistan Space and Upper Atmosphere Research Commission (SUPARCO) was also requested to share weather and climatic details. There were 10 per cent above normal prediction of rains for AIK and Sindh in the monsoon season, he said. He said it was the responsibility of FFC to implement flood protection plan. SOPs have already made for dams which were reviewed regularly by FFC, he said. –  $\mathbf{APP}$ 

DNA

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Imran Khan on Thursday has announced to establish 15 national parks across the country to improve environmental condition.

Addressing a ceremony, the premier told that the parks will cover a land area of over 7300 square kilometers. spanning the mountains in the north to the scrub forests in the plains and a marine protected area in the

ISLAMABAD: Oil and Gas Development

Company (OGDCL) on Thursday announced

that it had started commercial production of

gas from two more newly discovered depos-

its including Thal East Well-I and Bhimbra

Well-I, which was being added in national

The company is getting 10 Million Cu-bic Feet per Day (MMCFD) gas and 2.25

MMCFD gas from Thar East Well-I and

Bhimbra Well-I since June 26 and June 28

With addition of newly discovered wells in

the national production gathering system,

the company said, the country would be

able to save foreign exchange, provide suf-

ficient supplies to domestic and industrial

grid for onward supply to consumers.

respectively, a news release said.

south of the country. He said that in the initial phase, almost 5000 direct

ed for the youth. PM Imran said that the initi-

ative will create employment opportunities for people across all provinces, especially the youth. He cited the example of Chitral where the local population had gotten involved and preserved ibexes, which in turn, helped them secure jobs.

The prime minister lamented that he had witnessed the destruction of Murree and other green areas which were present during his days as a youth, due to an increase in population.

two newly discovered wells

"Pakistan faces a big danger from climate changes and global warming," he said, nature jobs will be generatadding that the government

aims to plant 10bn trees to protect and preserve the environment

He called on his aide Ameen Aslam to study the way national parks were preserved and maintained in the US and implement the same in Pakistan. PM Imran said that the Pakistan government will issue guidelines on how to preserve parks and until then, the parks will not be open for the public.

The PM further stated that Pakistan is rich in natural minerals however, the need is to utilize them in best way.

consumers. On Wednesday, the company

also announced initiating commercial pro-

duction of gas and condensate for its Dhoke

Hussain Field Well-I, located in Kohat dis-

From there, the OGDCL intended to pro-

duce 300 barrels per day oil and 12 million

cubic feet per day gas. The first gas produc-

tion from the well had been injected in the

system of Sui Northern Gas Pipelines Lim-

The company said it had stepped up its field

activities for timely completion of the ongo-

ing projects as it was committed to reduc-

ing the gap between demand and supply of

the commodity aimed at meeting needs of

domestic and industrial consumers. - APP

trict of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

ited on June 28.

the country witnessed a decrease of 2.13 percent during the eleven months of ongoing fiscal year 2019-20 as compared to the corresponding month of last year. Pakistan imported vegetables products worth \$ 2251.261 million during July-May (2019-20) against the imports of \$ 2300.456 million during July-May (2018-19), showing nominal decline 2.13 percent, according to the data issued by the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP). The food commodities that contributed in positive growth of vegetable imports included edible vegetables, import of which grew from \$380.868 million last year to \$472.022 million during the current fiscal OGDCL starts production from year, showing increase of 23.93 percent.

The imports of cereals increased by 7.62 percent, from \$81.182 million to \$87.372 million whereas the imports of vegetable planting materials also increased by 24.17 percent, from \$26.094 million to \$32.401 million, the data revealed. On the other hand, the commodities that contributed in negative growth included coffee, tea. Mate and spices, import of which declined from \$593.303 million last year to \$557.709 million during the current fiscal year, showing negative growth of 5.99 percent. - APP

ISLAMABAD: Reckitt Benckiser (RB), the makers of leading health and hygiene brands including Dettol, Harpic, and Robin Bleach, has announced a collaboration with the Government's frontline organization. NDMA (NATIONAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT AU-THORITY), to conduct disinfection drives across major high traffic public places in a bid to further their efforts to fight the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Reckitt Benckiser** 

**& NDMA to conduct** 

disinfection drive

The disinfection drives will be held by the organization in frontline public places with high exposure including public hospitals, bus stops and railway stations in Karachi, Lahore and Islamabad.

To maintain the effectiveness of the disinfection process, RB will use state of the art equipment and its high-quality disinfectant brand, Robin Bleach; a sodium hypochlorite-based product being used in compliance with WHO standards around disinfection (\*WHO recommends bleach as an effective disinfectant against germs. However, WHO does not endorse any specific brand.)

On this collaboration, the Chairman of NDMA, Lt. General Muhammad Afzal, said, "We believe there has never been a more important moment in time for the entire nation (public and private organizations) to work towards solving one of the most pressing problems.

That is why NDMA has chosen to work with RB to complement its expertise and resources with RB's high quality products to help protect as many people as possible and curtail the spread.'

The CEO of Reckitt Benckiser Hygiene Home Pakistan Limited, makers of Robin Bleach, Akbar Ali Shah, said, "As the world faces this unprecedented global health crisis, it is clear that no one can fight this war alone.

"We have been at the forefront of this battle since the outbreak. This unified effort on our part has been in the hopes to help the country flatten the curve of the spread of COVID-19, and to accelerate the return of everyday life."

RB also previously announced a commitment of Rs. 500 million for relief efforts to help the country fight the COVID-19 pandemic.

These disinfection drives also come as part of RB-PL's efforts to step up preventive measures against the COVID-19 crisis. – DNA

### MOHR allocates 23.00 mln for NAP

ISLAMABAD: The Ministry of Human Rights has allocated Rs. 23.00 million for the implementation of National Action Plan which would be completed by April 05, 2021. According to an official of MoHR here on Thursday, the National Action Plan consists of six thematic areas of interventions including policy and legal reforms, access to justice, strengthening/establishing national human rights institutions, implementation of UN human Rights. The provincial task force on Human Rights has been working for strengthening establishing national human rights institutions to implement UN human rights treaties. - APP

### Police Khidmat Markaz facilitates over 1300 citizens

RAWALPINDI: Police Khidmat Marakaz are facilitating the citizens as the main objective behind establishing the Khidmat Marakaz was to minimize the gap between citizens and the police and the Police Khidmat Markaz Gujar Khan which was inaugurated a few days back has facilitated over 1300 citizens. According to a police spokesman, Gujar Khan Police Khidmat Markaz, like other Khidmat Marakaz of the province, is making all out efforts to provide facilities to the citizens and providing driving learning permit, driving license, character certificate, personal verification and other such facilities under one-window operation.

He said, over 1300 citizens were facilitated at the centre which was inaugurated by Inspector General of Police Punjab Shoaib Dastagir a few days back.

The spokesman said that the residents of Gujar Khan were applauding the initiative of Punjab Police and efforts of City Police Officer (CPO) Rawalpindi Muhammad Ahsan Younas made for establishment of the centre. This project is providing the citizens all the facilities under one roof, he added. The objective behind establishing the Khidmat Markaz is to minimize the gap between citizens and the police, he expressed. He further said that these centres were also helping in improving the force's image and aiding in building trust between officials and the public. - APP



ISLAMABAD: President All Pakistan Anjuman Tajiran Ajmal Balouch in a meeting with Tahir Abbasi, SVP ICCI Khalid Chaudhry and Habib ur Rehman. - DNA

of a toddler crying on the chest of his dead grandfather speaks volumes about India's fascism and its racial undercurrents. In a statement issued here on Thursday Wani said that the picture of the toddler looking shell shocked on

## PUBG Ban: Commendable decision

### **Shujaat Hamza**

HE Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) has suspended Player Unknown's Battlegrounds (PUBG), an online multiplayer game played by millions in the Pakistan. Apparently there were a lot of complaints regarding the game and its impacts on children and youth. The game is said to be addictive, brutal and time consuming, the time which can rather be spent on something more productive. Many believe that the game is not only addictive but it penetrates suicidal and brutal thoughts in minds of immature youth. The game, containing group of players, begins with players landing on an island, looking for arms and ammunition, killing enemies without getting themselves killed. The game gained worldwide popularity and its phrases became online slangs in last 2 or 3 years.

Various countries have banned the blood featuring game, and some of the countries have even reversed the ban decision. The common reasons cited for its suspension are bloodshed and cruel animations. The most worrying part of the game's popularity is that most of its addictive users are teenagers and children. These types of violent video graphic games can lead to horrific outcomes. Games like PUBG also have a part in most of the school and public shooting incidents in western world.

In Pakistan, there have recently been a few incidents where young players have allegedly committed suicide because of the video game. The most notable case of suicide was reported in Lahore this past week. Eighteen-year-old Shaharyar was reportedly found hanging in his room. The victim's brother, Shoaib, who works as a salesman, confirmed to the authorities that he was a PUBG addict. The family belongs to Quetta. The ban on PUBG was long time coming. There were voices being raised for its suspension ever since it became out youth's favorite addiction. There are other games which are as addictive but cause near to none harm to the society by any means; FIFA is as addictive as PUBG but shows no violence and promotes team play and competition.

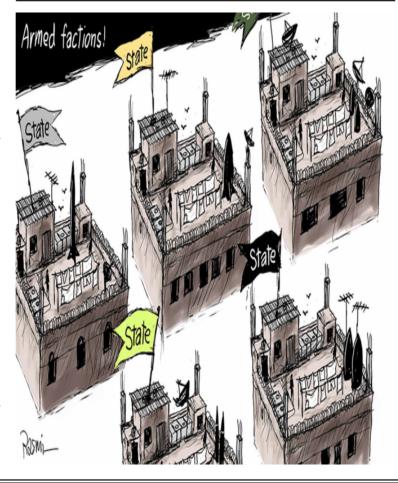
Though the ban is currently temporary, it's about time that the government and PTA erase this violent graphic game from country's households and provide ground game facilities to youth. Establishment of grounds and parks can be very helpful in bringing this generation back to physical activities and sports. The new generation should be encouraged to showcase their abilities in real life. Online games of any kind should be discouraged, let alone a game as barbaric and violent as PUBG.

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### Friday, July 03, 2020

# Pakistan: The land of young entrepreneurs

### SAHAR ZAREEN KHAN

The demographic situation of Pakistan is very unique in the world. Blessed with many natural resources yet most of the same have not been explored to its full potential. People sometimes grumble about its economy being in shambles yet when mental and financial freedom is needed, entrepreneurs like Jibreel Ameen rise up and make their dreams come true. An entrepreneur is a special vibe and tribe with a professional caring crew. A young and talented soul with a lot of experience at a very young age, this junior entrepreneur hails from Kohat, a Southern District of Khyber Pukhtoonkhwa Province of Pakistan. His big achievements at such an early age will make one think how he was able to do so. When most college graduates collect their degrees and move back to their parents, Jibreel Ameen started earnings from Facebook (affiliate marketing) and finally established the Big Boys Media, a business concern that provides excellent content about lifestyle in the year 2013. He started investing in Facebook and formed a very strong network of 80 million audience within a year.

This young lad used to educate and deliver speeches on mass media when most of today's entrepreneurs were busy preparing a proper CV. Currently running a huge lifestyle and fashion audience, the Founder/CEO of Big Boys Media helps people gain social media following, increase in sales, business development and educating all bloggers. So many Instagram growth and marketing services have begun popping up but he is of the view that hiring the right people with proven record, and portfolio for your online business will help you ease the tedious and time consuming process. Jibreel educate all social media interns, bloggers and influencers FREE OF COST despite the fact that it took him a decade learning the online business in extremely challenging environment. Things got changed when this young Lad started his clothing and apparel business on Facebook. His company got bigger and became Social Media Manager of world's leading garments and apparel businesses. His media network comprised of Automotive industry made his second success when their audience on Facebook reached 4.8 million in three months without putting a single penny in business. Jibreel Ameen believes that entrepreneurs don't work to gain status. Sharing content to create an awareness about Graphics, web design, and search engine optimization all comes under digital marketing.

Whether such qualities are there in an entrepreneur's DNA or the same are developed with the passage of time is a never ending controversy yet this young boy has proved that through his natural talent and pure hard work one can achieve anything at any stage of life. The government should make plans to get benefit from the skills of such talented young people.

## Warmth and Opportunities in Pak-Morocco Ties

### Hamid Asghar Khan



Morocco, situated on the Mediterranean as well as Atlantic, with varied

AKISTAN shares a number of historic, socio-cultural and geographic commonalities with the brotherly Kingdom of Morocco. The leadership and people share great mutual respect and affection, however a number of cooperation, trade and investment opportunities present themselves and need to be availed to provide more substance to the relationship. The Covid-19 Pandemic has disrupted planned official visits by the Honorable Speaker of the Moroccan Assembly to Pakistan and also that of the Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee who were to lead parliamentary delegations. A visit to Rabat by our Foreign Minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi similarly has been delayed due to the outbreak. Morocco, relying on its strong and effective, local and regional government system, was able to admirably enforce its 3 month lockdown. They have been able to do a tremendous job of curtailing the spread of the disease. With just over 12,000 cases-11,000 of them recovered-the Kingdom is now moving towards the muchawaited resumption of business activities and international connectivity.

A new British affiliated school has requested the Embassy to help identify dynamic and qualified teachers from Pakistan for its new campus opening in Rabat this August. Similarly, the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization has communicated its desire to recruit specialists in various fields for its Headquarters here in Rabat. ond largest international organization. Morocco also participates proactively in Arab League and African Union affairs, and is the only country to have free trade agreements with both the USA as well as the EU. Textile investors from Pakistan, setting up units here would benefit from the abundance of energy, skilled labor, easy connectivity and duty exemptions under the FTA's. 2020 happily witnessed the second round of formal bilateral political consultations between the two countries, and the Moroccan delegation had constructive meetings at the Foreign Office, Parliament and with other important stakeholders while in Islamabad. MOU's for cooperation between APP and Maghreb Arab Press as well as between The Mayors of Islamabad and Rabat are under consideration. Mission organized visits to Casablanca, Tangiers, Meknes and Rabat for a visiting 22 member FPCCI delegation who had excellent meetings with sectoral counterparts. We here at the Mission were delighted to assist with the official visit of COAS General Qamar Javed Bajwa, who undertook a three day visit, among other engagements delivering a lecture at the Military College, and holding discussions with the Defence Minister as well as the Moroccan Army Chief. Earlier, the Mission was happy to assist with another official visit by the Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee of Pakistan. The mega developments planned for the southern provinces as per the vision of His Majesty present exciting

Pakistani is planning to open a traditional hotel to cater for the large tourist market in the months ahead. We must collectively explore the employment and business opportunities that present themselves in this region.

The Islamic Center for Development of Trade at Casablanca has offered to help host an Islamic countries trade show in Pakistan, and it is anticipated that delegates from over 35 countries will participate in the event. The Embassy has proposed that the best export goods of Pakistan be displayed on this occasion to help promote our goods. We feel our sports, pharmaceutical and textile products among others can find a ready market here. The Embassy is also striving to bridge the information and awareness gap that exists on both sides. Opening of an Information Section at the Mission shall greatly help boost trade, generate people to people ties and allow for more robust public diplomacy that we have planned in the shape of a book exhibition, qawwali show, textile exhibition and paintings display in the months ahead.

In 1956 a newly independent Pakistan had the vision, resolve and conviction to stand by our Moroccan brothers as they struggled for their freedom. With commonalities of culture and religion, and a shared world view of peaceful development, it is time to translate our traditionally warm, cordial ties into concrete trade, commercial and investment linkages. There is much we can learn from each other, and we at

landscapes from pristine beaches to sandy deserts and the green Atlas Mountains is uniquely positioned, and is a tourists paradise. A moderate, inclusive, tolerant and welcoming culture enables the Kingdom to regularly host over one million tourists per month. Our Mission has hosted a tour operator delegation from Pakistan, and arranged meetings here to organize family package tours

The national press agency is desirous of hiring a dynamic journalist in Pakistan, to represent them, and to provide a regular news feed from Pakistan.

Morocco, situated on the Mediterranean as well as Atlantic, with varied landscapes from pristine beaches to sandy deserts and the green Atlas Mountains is uniquely positioned, and is a tourists paradise. A moderate, inclusive, tolerant and welcoming culture enables the Kingdom to regularly host over one million tourists per month. Our Mission has hosted a tour operator delegation from Pakistan, and arranged meetings here to organize family package tours. Similarly, the State of the Art Tanger-Med Port-a sprawling

complex including vibrant industrial and economic zones is an export dynamo. The warehousing, passenger and goods terminals in the \$12 billion dollar facility spread over 2500 acrescontributes to employment, as well as national economic connectivity and growth.Morocco is truly a gateway to Africa. We have proposed that the operators of our Gwadar Port come and examine the management model adopted here at what has become one of the world's fastest growing ports. Morocco is widely viewed as a stable, well governed reliable friend and ally by countries near and far. Under the vision and guidance of His Majesty Mohammad VI, the country has made great strides in the fields of alternate energy, water conservation, education, equitable development, judicial reforms, devolution of powers, effective local governance and in boosting the private sector. The security and intelligence services do an admirable job of proactively maintaining peace and safety. Reforms in almost every field are geared to address the needs of the population.

The Kingdom is among the top two destinations for foreign investment on the vibrant African continent, and they play a leading role at the OIC-being the birthplace of the world's secopportunities for Pakistani infrastructure and development companies to participate in major road, railway, port, housing as well as health and educational projects. Similarly, the hospitality sector offers ample opportunities and at least one the Mission remain determined to help forge stronger and deeper ties, fostering cooperation in every sector possible. *Hamid Asghar Khan is Pakistan's Ambassador in Morocco* 



## EU ban on PIA flights needs to be reviewed

Sajjad Shaukat



Besides, talking to a newspaper regarding the suspension of PIA flights by EU, the spokesperson of the PIA confirmed on the same day that "the PIA was dedicated to implement new confidence building measures which would try to get this decision reversed as soon as possible" UROPEAN Union (EU) and the United Kingdom have suspended the flight operations of Pakistan's national carrier Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) to and from their airports following the statement by Federal Minister for Aviation Ghulam Sarwar Khan that nearly 300 PIA pilots' licences have been suspended, as these were fake.

The European Union Air Safety Agency (EASA) said that ban on the PIA flights, operating in Europe, commencing from July 1, 2020 is for the next six months with the right to appeal against this decision, as a PIA statement said.

Likewise, the UK's Civil Aviation Agency suspended PIA's flight operations from Birmingham, London Heathrow and Manchester effective immediately.

The move followed the grounding of 262 Pakistani pilots whose licences the country's Minister for Aviation Ghulam Sarwar Khan termed "dubious", adding that almost 300 licences of PIA pilots have been suspected.

Since the announcement by minister for aviation, several countries like Vietnam, including some Gulf countries have grounded Pakistani pilots working for their airlines, but, are reviewing their licences.

It is notable that on May 22, this year, a PIA flight crashed into houses in Karachi, in which 97 people aboard the plane were martyred.

In this regard, PIA Chief Executive Officer Air Marshal Arshad Malik conducted fair inquiry and investigators blamed two pilots, who were chatting about the coronavirus, while they first attempted to land the Airbus A320 without putting its wheels down.

In this context, a renowned newspaper pointed out on June 26, 2020 that amid the aviation crisis, the PIA management decided to ground 150 (one-third of its) pilots and started relieving them from flight rosters for allegedly possessing 'dubious licences', while asking the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) to urgently provide the list of all those PIA pilots who allegedly had fake/suspicious commercial pilot licencees—not to allow such pilots to operate flights and initiat-ed departmental action against them. A show-cause notice had been earlier sent to the general secretary of Pakistan Airlines Pilots Association (Palpa) for allegedly instigating

pilots to go on strike.

PIA Chief Executive Officer Air Marshal Arshad Malik on June 25, this year wrote another letter to the director general of the CAA and a letter to the aviation division secretary, asking them to urgently provide the list of all those PIA pilots having fake/suspicious licences.

Air Marshal Malik had stated that the provision of lists of commercial pilots having fake or suspicious licences would enable the management to issue instruction for immediate action within rules and regulations in vogue.

In this respect, the show-cause notice issued to Palpa General Secretary Imran K. Narejo on June 30, 2020 said: "You are called upon to show cause within seven days of receipt of this notice as to why disciplinary action in accordance with the company rules should not be taken against you." While welcoming the actions being taken against recruitment in PIA on bogus and fake degrees, Palpa demanded that the same criteria must also be applied to the management positions, whereby officers were recruited with fake or irrelevant degrees having no experience of commercial aviation.

Media reports suggest that show-cause notices had, also, been issued to the pilots having counterfeit licenses and fake degrees.

Nevertheless, instead of sweeping the issue under the carpet like the past practice, this shows the seriousness of the government towards flight and passenger safety.

Besides, talking to a newspaper regarding the suspension of PIA flights by EU, the spokesperson of the PIA confirmed on the same day that "the PIA was dedicated to implement new confidence building measures which would try to get this decision reversed as soon as possible". As far as the same development in the UK was concerned, the spokesperson stated that "he had not received official correspondence in that regard as of the present moment".

The PIA spokesperson added: "There are over 1.6 million British Pakistanis in the UK who regularly travel to and from the UK to Pakistan. Previously, PIA flew 25 flights to the UK every week with 7,500 passengers flying...The PIA had been allowed overflying over the European air space, besides getting a four-day breather to operate flights for the stranded Pakistanis. A late night announcement, the PIA said its three destinations, including Oslo, Milan and Paris, would be effected by the ban of EASA, however, no restriction had been placed on overflying. The PIA would be filing an appeal next week and would try to sort out the issue within the shortest possible time".

Notably, Prime Minister Imran Khan told the Parliament on June 30, this year that he would reform PIA and other government institutions by saying: "I want to tell my nation: We have no other option, reforms are inevitable." He directed the Ministry of Aviation on July 2, 2020 to probe into the fake degrees of PIA pilots and present a report in the federal cabinet.

Aviation Minister Ghulam Sarwar Khan also stated that reforms aimed at restructuring PIA would be completed by the end of the year.

Meanwhile, placing safety of its passengers at the top priority, PIA is auditing pilots' documentations. In this connection, the organizations having established safety and security management systems is using the Auditing Capabilities to assess their level of compliance to subscribed standards. The qualified auditors will thoroughly evaluate the system and report their findings and observations as an independent evaluation of the systems and their performance.

Although PIA is in economic crunch, yet even this important factor has not distracted Pakistan from its motto: "safety first and foremost".

Nonetheless, PIA has grounded all pilots who have even slightest suspicion of fake licence. This has by default raised the safety of planes as well as passengers and hence must be appreciated.

Taking cognizance of these factors positively, EU ban on PIA flights needs to be reviewed immediately. UK and some other countries should also reconsider their decisions. Rather EU and these countries must encourage the "self-auditing of PIA for enhanced safety".

Sajjad Shaukat writes on international affairs and is author of the book: US vs Islamic Militants, Invisible Balance of Power: Dangerous Shift in International Relations Email: sajjad\_logic@yahoo.com

## WORLD / SPORTS

## Salah donates ambulance center to hometown

city

In Nagrig, girls had to travel long distances to receive an education. So, in 2018, Salah financed the building of a girls' school in the village. He also bought land to donate to Gharbia, which will be used to build a sewage treatment plant, guaranteeing clean water in the region

06

#### DNA

CAIRO: Egypt and Liverpool football hero Mohamed Salah does more than score goals and win trophies - he also has a knack for charity, as he has shown in his hometown of Nagrig in the Egyptian governorate of Gharbia.

The opening of a new ambulance center, donated by the footballer to the village, was announced this week by Tarek Rahmy, mayor of Gharbia.

Salah's father, Haj Salah Ghaly, was present at the announcement, along with Dr. Magdy Awad, head of Gharbia's ambulance institute, and Dr. Abdel Naser Hemeida, Gharbia's health ministry representative.

The ambulance center, which reportedly cost 600,000 Egyptian pounds (\$37,200), will serve 30,000 people in the village. Salah does not forget his roots, something he proves time and again through his actions. The ambulance center is only the latest act of charity in a long list of good deeds by

the Egyptian superstar. In Nagrig, girls had to travel long distances to receive an education. So, in 2018, Salah financed the building of a girls' school in the village. He also bought land to donate to

Gharbia, which will be used to build a sewage treatment plant, guaranteeing clean water in the region. The Liverpool winger previously bought

medical equipment for his village and also set up a charity foundation to supply the needy on a monthly basis.

He helped his old school set up a football pitch and gym so students could enjoy proper facilities to practice sports and lead a

lifestyle. cently, Salah Most redonated food to the Basyoun of during the COVID-19 His charity pandemic. also reaches beyond his hometown. helped He Egypt by

Standard Chartered

=;



making a 5 million Egyptian pound donation to the "Tahya Masr Fund" in 2016. Last year Salah donated more than 50 million Egyptian pounds to the National Cancer Institute. Salah has the nickname "the happiness maker" for a reason. While his actions on the

pitch inspire, those off the field matter just as much. Considered an extraordinary player and not by chance called the Mes- si Egypt due to his dribbling and his peerless left foot.

Salah is making a name for himself in European football at increasingly high levels. The 28-year-old Egyptian, who is credited with lighting up the English Premier League in his first two seasons at Liverpool, scored 20 goals in his first 26 games for the club. Salah, who was bought by Liverpool from AS Roma for 42 million euros, also helped Egypt qualify for the World Cup for the first time in 28 years.

Salah has become the most famous athlete in Egypt in the last three years and an inspiration to the country's youths.

Salah was crowned Africa's most valuable player at the Aiteo CAF Awards 2017. He has heped Liverpool reach the Final of 2018 UEFA champions league, and win the prestigious tournament the following year. He also helped his team win the Premier League this year after more than 3 decades. Such kind gestures aren't limited to Egypt, however. Last month Salah was pictured casually paying for local people's fuel during a visit to a Sainsbury's petrol station in Liverpool. The footballer, who was wearing Liverpool FC training kit at the time, covered the fuel costs of everyone filling up at the same time as him.

Islamahad **POST** 

Friday, July 03, 2020

In February, the UN announced that Salah had been selected as the first ambassador for the Instant Network Schools programme, partially as a result of his involvement in several humanitarian and charity projects. The programme aims to connect young refugee and host country students to high quality online education. Salah is set to support the project through public appearances at schools participating in the initiative.

The forward, 28, is the Reds' leading goal scorer this season, playing a key role in the club sealing a first league title for 30 years last week. The Egyptian joined Liverpool in 2017 and has also won the Champions League and Club World Cup with the Reds. Salah has scored 92 goals in 145 games since joining Liverpool, including 21 in 41 games this campaign. He signed a new five-year contract in July 2018 but has occasionally been linked with a big-money move away.

## Armenian FM seeks to distort Karabakh conflict format, says Tural Ganjaliyev

#### DNA

The Armenian Foreign Minister's attempt to distort the format of the conflict is another indication of Yerevan's unconstructive position, said Tural Ganjaliyev, the head of the Azerbaijani community of the Nagorno-Karabakh region of Azerbaijan.

Touching upon the video conference held between Azerbaijani and Armenian foreign ministers on June 30 under the auspices of the OSCE Minsk Group, Ganjaliyev said: "During the meeting, Armenian Foreign Minister Zohrab Mnatsakanyan tried to distort the conflict and portrav the Armenian community of the occupied Nagorno-Karabakh region of Azerbaijan as a 'people."

"The concept of "Nagorno-Karabakh people" does not exist, but only the population of the Nagorno-Karabakh region of Azerbaijan, which includes the Armenian and Azerbaijani communities," Ganjaliyev added. He recalled that Russian Foreign

Minister Sergei Lavrov used the words "Nagorno-Karabakh population" during one of his recent visits to Baku, which is a strong response to the Armenian side. Furthermore, the head of the Azerbaijani community reminded the Final document of the Helsinki Summit of the CSCE (now

the OSCE) held in March 1992. He said that as noted in the document, Armenia and Azerbaijan are parties to the conflict, and the Armenian and Azerbaijani communities in the Nagorno-Karabakh region of Azerbaijan are interested parties to the conflict. "I reiterate that the Azerbaijani and Armenian communities of the Nagorno-Karabakh region of Azerbaijan can cohabitate in peace, only within the internationally recognized borders of Azerbaijan.'

Azerbaijan and Armenia are locked in a conflict over Azerbaijan's Nagorno-Karabakh breakaway region, which along with seven adjacent regions was occu-

pied by Armenian forces in a war in the early 1990s. More than 20,000 Azerbaijanis were killed and around one million were displaced as a result of the largescale hostilities.

The OSCE Minsk Group cochaired by the United States, Russia and France has been mediating the Armenian-Azerbaijani conflict since the signing of the volatile cease-fire agreement in 1994.

The Minsk Group's efforts have resulted in no progress and to this date, Armenia has failed to abide by the UN Security Council resolutions (822, 853, 874 and 884) that demand the withdrawal of Armenian military forces from the occupied territories of Azerbaijan.

### West Ham stun Chelsea in derby

### DNA

LONDON: Andriy Yarmolenko's last-gasp winner settled an eventful London derby with Chelsea and delivered a huge boost to West Ham United's hopes of avoiding relegation.

In a topsy-turvy game, which saw West Ham infuriated when Tomas Soucek's firsthalf goal was ruled out by VAR, substitute Yarmolenko made the decisive contribution when the finished off a superb counter attack with a classic left-foot finish.

It looked like both sides would have to settle for a point but that late twist not only provides a huge morale lift to David Moyes' side, putting them three points clear of the relegation places, but also completed a good 24 hours for Manchester United in the race for Champions League places after their win at Brighton and third-placed Leicester City's loss at Everton.

Moyes was angry when Soucek saw a first-half goal ruled out because Michail

## Mikel Arteta confident Aubamayang will stay

### DNA

LONDON: Mikel Arteta says he is "very positive" Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang will sign a new contract after he became the fastest Arsenal player to net 50 Premier League goals.

Gabon forward Aubameyang, 31, scored twice as the Gunners climbed to seventh with a 4-0 win over Norwich. His current contract ex-

pires at the end of the 2020-21 season. "Hopefully he will be here for a long time," Arsenal boss Arteta told BBC Sport. "Every time I speak with him he is really happy where he is, he is very settled and

his family are happy."

for the Gunners since joining for £56m from Borussia Dortmund in January 2018. Only five players have scored 50 top-flight goals faster than Aubameyang in the Premier League era -Andy Cole (65 games), Alan Shearer (66), Ruud van Nistelrooy (68), Fernando Torres (72) and Mohamed Salah (72). "For him to achieve that is

Aubameyang has scored 51

goals in 79 league games

phenomenal," added Arteta. Asked about the prospect of signing a new contract after the Norwich win, Gunners captain Aubameyang told BT Sport: "We'll see. We're going to talk with the club and see what happens. "I am really focused on the

games until the end of the season and then we'll see."



### **Brutalities of** India need to be exposed

#### From Page 1

Aisha Farooqui said Pakistan has categorically rejected the grant of domicile certificates in Indian Occupied Jammu and Kashmir by the Indian authorities to reportedly 25,000 Indian nationals.

Aisha Farooqui said Pakistan has been consistently sensitizing the international community about the Indian leadership's threatening statements to use terrorism as a tool to destabilize Pakistan. "Pakistan has already shared with the international community, incriminating evidence about the Indian Intelligence Agency RAW's involvement in terrorist activities in Pakistan," the FO spokesperson added.

### UEFA announce Champions League schedule

GENEVA: UEFA announced the schedule for the Champions League 2020-21 season on Wednesday, with the new season set to kick off on October 20. According to the schedule, next season will be postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic as the group stage will run from October 20 to December 9. The elimination stage will begin on February 16 next year with the final to be played on May 29 in Istanbul. UEFA have released new arrangements for the postponed fixtures of this season, as Portugal will host all the remaining fixtures in August. – APP

## Sir Everton Weekes: West Indies legend dies aged 95

### DNA

Weekes, who scored 4,455 runs at an average of 58.61 in 48 Tests, is the only man to make centuries in five consecutive Test innings. He was known as one of the 'Three Ws' alongside fellow West Indies greats Sir Clyde Walcott and Sir Frank Worrell.

"Our hearts are heavy as we mourn the loss of an icon. A legend, our hero," said Cricket West Indies (CWI). "Our condolences go out to his family, friends and many fans around the world." Weekes has the 10th high-

est average in Test history, among those to have played

PORT OF SPAIN: Legendary West Indies batsman Sir Everton Weekes has died at the age of 95.

are 97.

He, Walcott and Worrell were part of the first West Indies side to win a Test in England in 1950. Weekes was the third oldest

surviving men's Test cricketer, after South African John Watkins and England's Don Smith, both of whom

at least 20 innings.



The Barbadian, who made his Test debut against England in 1948, retired in 1958 and received a knighthood in 1995. He was taken into inten-

sive care in hospital in June 2019 after suffering a heart attack. CWI president Ricky Skerritt said: "A most amazing pio-

ing. He was literally a founding father of our cricket." West Indies Players' Association said: "We salute a great West Indies icon; Sir Everton made an invaluable contribution to the sport, his country and the region. "We were blessed to have him among us, may his soul

neer in West Indies cricket.

A tremendous gentleman

and a wonderful human be-

rest in peace. The MCC said: "Everyone at MCC and Lord's are saddened at the news of Sir Everton Weekes' passing. "He will forever be remembered as one of West Indies cricket's finest cricketers.' Weekes averaged 91.61 in seven seasons for Bacup in the Lancashire League, and his average of 158.25 in 1954 remains a league record.

Antonio was adjudged to be offside and in Chelsea keeper Kepa Arrizabalaga's line of vision.

Chelsea then took the lead through Willian's penalty but battling West Ham levelled through Soucek's header right on the stroke of half-time.

Man-of-the-match Antonio bundled West Ham in front six minutes after the interval but this eventful affair looked to be heading for a draw when Willian's superb free-kick with 18 minutes left drew Chelsea level.

And yet, with injury-time looming, West Ham broke and the tireless Antonio set up Yarmolenko for a crisp finish that gave Moyes' men what could be a priceless three points.

### 'Azhar has a golden chance to prove his mettle'

ISLAMABAD: Former skipper Ramiz Raja believes captaincy would matter a lot on the England tour saying Azhar Ali has a golden chance to prove his mettle. "Captaincy matters a lot in cricket as one has to read the opposition and game and access players combination and strategy. If a captain is good he can even take a weak team sky high, but if he's not then even a stronger team can't do anything," he said in a video on

his YouTube channel. Ramiz said it was a golden opportunity for Test skipper Azhar Ali to prove his mettle. "You shouldn't fear of losing and should go with a fearless approach. Azhar should just focus on his batting when he goes to bat and should not take the of five since the Spanextra package of captaincy ish season restarted last with him. Just think you are month. Real have a game a batsman and you have to score runs and a century," in hand on Barcelona and he said and added a good the better of the headcaptain keeps both things to-head record which decides league placings for separate. teams on the same num-

Ramiz said Pakistan can also replicate the 1992 series against England in Eng-

a kinder run-in than the land which we won. "We had an outstanding Catalans, who drew 2-2 bowling attack at that time with Atletico Madrid on Tuesday, Zidane warned in the likes of Wasim Alram. the trophy could slip from Waqar Younis and Mushtaq Ahmed. In the current team their grasp if they lose momentum. we have pacers Shaheen Shah Afridi, Naseem Shah "It's my job to warn you you've won nothing yet. and spinner Yasir Shah," he This is the harsh reality. said. - APP

## Danish Cup final interrupted as fans refuse to keep distance

COPENHAGEN: The Danish Cup final was interrupted for almost a quarter of an hour because fans refused to comply with the social distancing rules inside the stadium, police said.

The two finalists, Aalborg (AaB) and SonderjyskE, were each allocated 750 tickets for the match in Esbjerg on Wednesday

evening. During the first half, "the referee had to suspend the match for up to 15 minutes, when the AaB fans refused to stay in the designated seats and huddled together in violation of the Covid rules," Sydjylland police said on Twitter.

The match resumed after 14 minutes and ended in a 2-0 victory for SonderjyskE, who won the competition for the first time.

The police also tweeted that they arrested some fans for letting off flares.

The increased crowd for the match represented a loosening of Denmark's earlier coronavirus rules limiting attendance at a football match to 500 with a

minimum distance between them of two metres. On Tuesday, the Danish government said it would allow 500 fans into each section of the stadium and that would have to keep one

metre apart. – APP

## Zidane warns Madrid 'we have won nothing yet'

DNA

ber of points.

Even though Real have

Wednesday. MADRID: Zinedine Zi-"There are six games left dane warned his Real Mawith 18 points at stake. drid players on Wednes-We are one point ahead, day to maintain their nothing more. focus if they are to pip "Being on the right track Barcelona to the league is one thing, but we will title ahead of their La have to repeat this until Liga clash with Getafe. the end of the season." Madrid top La Liga by a Real will be without Eden point after five wins out

Hazard, who has been left out of the 24-man squad selected to face Getafe at the Santiago Bernabeu on Thursday.

The truth of the matter,"

Zidane told reporters

The Belgium forward limped off during Real's 1-0 win at Espanyol on Sunday and was seen with ice on his right ankle, on which he had surgery in

March. "We shouldn't panic," said Zidane about Hazard's condition.

"He spent a long time away from the pitch, he's had to go through some difficulties ... I have no doubt that Eden will be well again soon.

## **Cabinet committee decides** against privatising Roosevelt Hotel

third party.

A special invitation was also given to the minister for industries and production and the State Bank of Pakistan governor, among others

ISLAMABAD: The Cabinet Committee on Privatisation announced that will not be selling the Pakistan

DNA

the Prime Minister on Finance Abdul Hafeez Shaikh. According to a statement by the finance ministry, the CCoP also decided to hire a financial adviser to start the process for the transaction in light of the report of M/s Deloitte (an auditing firm) from July 2019 which recommended "that the highest and best use of

the Roosevelt Hotel Property is to redevelop the site into a mixed

use (through Joint Venture) of primarily office tower over retail and condominium". The statement added that it was also directed that Deloitte would update its study on the hotel transaction in the next four weeks and the findings shall

Today's meeting also denotified the task force formed for the sale

International Airlines-owned Roosevelt Hotel in New York but would run it under a joint venture with a The decision was announced after a committee meeting was held un-

### der the chairmanship of Adviser to be shared with the CCoP.

of the hotel. It was also agreed that the hotel would be started from scratch with a private entity. The meeting was attended by ministers for communication, law and justice, privatisation and power and advisers on commerce and investment and institutional reforms and austerity.

# **N7**

# **BUSINESS / WORLD**



### **NZ** minister resigns after lockdown blunders

### DNA

WELLINGTON: New Zealand's health minister has resigned after criticism of the government's response to coronavirus and his own breaches of lockdown rules. David Clark had already been demoted after breaking rules to take his family to the beach.

He said continuing in his role was distracting from the government's overall response to the pandemic. Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern confirmed on Thursday that she had accepted his resignation.

New Zealand has been hailed as a success story when it comes to tackling the coronavirus.

The country has recorded 1,528 confirmed or probable coronavirus cases and 22 people have died. Last month, all Covid-19 restrictions were lifted and the nation was declared virus free. However the country's handling of border and isolation facilities has recently come under fire. In one case, two people were allowed to leave isolation early to visit a dying parent without being tested for the virus. They were later confirmed to have Covid-19.

Mr Clark said: "I take full responsibility for decisions made and taken during my time as Minister of Health.' He said that now was the appropriate time to move on, with no evidence of community transmission in the country.

UK makes citizenship offer to Hong Kong residents

### DNA

LONDON: Up to three million Hong Kong residents are to be offered the chance to settle in the UK and ultimately apply for citizenship

## Saudi-led coalition hits Houthi held areas in renewed air raids

### Houthi-run news outlet reports two civilian casualties as coalition fighter jets pound several Yemeni provinces

### DNA

RIYADH: Fighter jets belonging to a Saudi-led coalition battling Yemen's Houthi rebels have launched dozens of air raids on several Yemeni provinces, as the kingdom announced the start of a new military operation. The Houthi-run Al Masirah Media Network reported air raids

on the capital, Sanaa, as well as Marib, al-Jouf, al-Bayda, Hajjah and Saada provinces throughout Wednesday and into the night. It said an elderly woman and a child were killed and four others wounded in Saada province. In Sanaa, residents described the air raids, which also struck the city's international airport, as

"violent". Saudi state television reported earlier on Wednesday that the missiles towards the Saudi capicoalition had begun a military push against the Houthis after the group stepped up cross-border missile and drone attacks on the kingdom.

Sources told Al Jazeera late on Wednesday the coalition launched more than 40 air raids on Sanaa and its surrounding areas.

Last week, the Houthis fired

tal, Riyadh, in the first such assault since a six-week ceasefire prompted by the coronavirus pandemic expired in late May. The coalition said it intercepted the attack.

Saudi Arabia was targeted with dozens of attacks using ballistic missiles or drones last year, including a devastating assault on two facilities of oil giant Saudi Ar-

amco that temporarily knocked The long-running war has killed out half the kingdom's crude output.

Fighting escalated in March

2015 when the Western-backed

military coalition intervened to

restore the government of Pres-

ident Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi.

tens of thousands of people, mostly civilians, and forced mil-Yemen has been locked in conlions from their homes in what flict since 2014 when the Houththe United Nations has called is seized much of the country's the world's worst humanitarian north, including Sanaa. crisis

Islamabad **POST** 

Friday, July 03, 2020

Last week, the UN's humanitarian chief Mark Lowcock warned that Yemen will "fall off the cliff" without significant financial support.

### **Huawei signs** smart cities deal with Saudi firm

ISLAMABAD: Huawei is involved in smart city projects in more than 100 countries of the world. In recent venture, Huawei has struck a deal with Saudi investment firm name "Batic" to work on smart cities projects throughout the Kingdom.

Smart City Solutions Company, a unit of Riyadh-based Batic Investments and Logistics Co. (Batic) will work with the Chinese technology giant on smart projects covering areas such as parking lots, transportation, the reduction of energy consumption as well as lighting and waste management.

Batic is already working on a major smart city contract in the Eastern Region, part of a SR1.3 billion (\$300 million) project that will run for 25 years.

"Smart Cities Solutions and Huawei will cooperate in supplying the market with an integrated portfolio of services and models for operating smart cities that can be customized," said Adnan Al-Morshid, CEO of the Smart Cities Solutions Company. "One of the first projects within the framework of this agreement is the car park project in Dammam, in which the Smart Cities Solutions Company will assume the task of operating modern parking lots and command centers for Khobar, Dammam and Dhahran cities."

Saudi Arabia is investing heavily in smart cities in an effort to modernize the economy and provide high-value tech-focused jobs for its youthful population. It is part of a broader push to diversify its economy away from oil. Saudi Arabia's Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs launched the nation's first smart cities program, which targets 17 cities in its first phase, together comprising almost 72 percent of the Kingdom's population. - DNA

### 'Huge gamble' on Brexit could add to Britain's jobs crisis

The UK and EU have made little progress in negotiations over their future relationship of the year - especially

ness.

ed.

given that we are already

grappling with the upheav-

al caused by coronavirus,"

said the letter, which was

shared with CNN Busi-

The decision not to extend

the transition period is a

"huge gamble," they add-

The warning came within

hours of two major em-

ployers saying they would



BERLIN: Germany has taken over the rotating EU presidency for next six months. - DNA

Boris Johnson has said. The PM said Hong Kong's freedoms were being violated by a new security law and those affected would be offered a "route" out of the former UK colony.

About 350,000 UK passport holders, and 2.6 million others eligible, will be able to come to the UK for five years. And after a further year, they will be able to apply for citizenship. British National Overseas Passport holders in Hong Kong were granted special status in the 1980s but currently have restricted rights and are only entitled to visa-free access to the UK for six months. Under the government's plans, all British Overseas Nationals and their dependants will be given right to remain in the UK, including the right to work and study for five years. At this point, they will be able to apply for settled status, and after a further year, seek citizenship.

### Palestinians rally as global opposition to Israeli annexation grows

JERUSALEM: Thousands of Palestinians protested Wednesday in Gaza against Israel's West Bank annexation plans, as Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said talks were ongoing on the project, which faces intensifying international opposition. Netanyahu's center-right coalition government had set July 1 as the date from which it could begin implementing US President Donald Trump's Middle East peace proposal. While no major announcement was expected on Israel's self-imposed kick off date, Netanyahu's office said talks with US officials "on the application of sovereignty" were ongoing. Netanyahu was also discuss ing annexation with his security chiefs, it added, saying "further discussions will be held in the coming days." In Gaza City, several thousand protesters gathered, some brandishing Palestinian flags and placards condemning Trump. "The resistance must be revived," Gaza protester Rafeeg Inaiah told media, "Israel is afraid of force." - APP

## Azerbaijan donates \$300,000 to Palestinian refugees over COVID-19

### DNA

BAKU: Azerbaijan has allocated \$300,000 to the UN Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) for Palestinian refugees, local media reported with the reference to the Minis-

try of Foreign Affairs on July 1. The aid was allocated upon President Ilham Aliyev order in response to Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation Dr Yousef Al-Othaimeen's request to support the fight against the coronavirus pandemic in Palestine. The

need for humanitarian assistance to Palestine has arisen due to the spread and consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic.

It should be noted that Azerbaijan recently provided humanitarian aid to Yemen, as well sent medical supplies to Afghanistan and

Iraq over COVID-19

Azerbaijan has also made individual donations to the World Health Organization, and provided humanitarian assistance to 29 WHO member-countries, including \$5 million to Iran during the COV-ID-19 pandemic.

## Ethiopia: Military deployed after protests kill more than 80

Oromia demonstrations broke out after assassination of well-known singer Haacaaluu Hundeessaa.

### DNA

DOHA: The military was deployed in the Ethiopian capital on Wednesday as armed gangs roamed neighbourhoods in a second day of unrest that claimed more than 80 lives.

Popular musician Haacaaluu Hundeessaa was shot dead on Monday in what police said was a targeted killing. Protests following the killing, and a sense of political marginalisation, broke out the next morning in the capital and other towns and

Oromia region. The assassination of Haacaaluu, from the country's largest ethnic group, stoked tensions that threaten to derail the country's democratic transition. "So far 81 people have been killed, including three Oromia special police force members,"

said Bedassa Merdasa, the Oromia police chief. Gunshots echoed through neighbourhoods many and gangs armed with machetes and sticks roamed the streets. Witnesses described a situation pitting

cities in the surrounding youths of Oromo origin against some of the city's other ethnic groups, and where both sides skirmished with police.

Ethiopian singer Hachalu Hundessa shot dead in Addis Ababa "We had a meeting with the community, and we were told to arm ourselves with anything we have, including machetes and sticks. We no longer trust the police to protect us, so we have to prepare ourselves," said one Addis Ababa resident, who like others interviewed asked not to be named for fear of

reprisal. The military had been deployed in some areas, three witnesses said. One described a street littered with rocks that anti-Oromo protesters had thrown at police Many residents feared Haacaaluu's funeral - scheduled for Thursday in his home town of Ambo - could ignite more violence. "Security forces have invaded our town, we can't go out to mourn. No vehicles are moving around except security patrols with machine-guns," Chala Hunde, 27, said from Ambo, 100km (60 miles) west of Addis.

US gains

lion jobs in June as businesses began to reopen nationwide, while the unemployment rate fell more than two points to 11.1 percent, the Labor Department reported Thursday.

The job creation was far higher than economists were expecting, and showed the rapid pace of gains as people who were laid off returned to their jobs, especially in hard-hit sectors like

But a separate Labor Department report showed job losses continued, as 1.43 million people filed initial claims for unemployment benefits last week as coronavirus cases surged. - APP

### DNA

LONDON: The United Kingdom has passed the point of no return. It has less than six months to reach a new trade deal with the European Union or risk heaping more pressure on companies that are already laying off tens of thousands of workers because of the coronavirus pandemic.

slash a combined 6,700 More than 100 companies, jobs in the United Kingentrepreneurs and trade dom because of the coroorganizations have written navirus pandemic, which to Boris Johnson, warning has pushed the country the prime minister that into its worst economic erecting barriers to doing downturn in 300 years and business with the United triggered mass layoffs. UK Kingdom's biggest trading companies in aviation and partner would put even retail have cut over 10,000 more people out of work jobs in just two days. and lower living standards. Signatories of the letter called for alignment with The firms, many of which are in the manufacturing EU regulations in order to and chemicals sectors, allow the free flow of prodhave called for a new trade ucts such as pharmaceutical, medical, and chemdeal that matches current arrangements as closely as ical supplies. A good deal possible. Brexit took effect is "the only way to avoid on January 31 but UK-EU chemical supply chain disruption," Peter Newport, trade has continued as if CEO of the Chemical Businothing changed thanks

to a transition agreement. The deadline for the United Kingdom to ask the European Union to extend that transition beyond the end of this year expired on Tuesday.

"Businesses simply do not have time or capacity to prepare for big changes in trading rules by the end

ness Association said in a statement. The United Kingdom and European Union have made little progress in negotiations over their future relationship, and time is running out to prevent a rupture when transitional arrangements expire at

the end of this year. Putin thanks Russians for 'support

and trust'

### DNA

LAHORE: Bus ride-hailing service Airlift has introduced a new online grocery shopping service in Pakistan introduced as 'Airlift Grocer', bringing in an impressive foreign investment of \$10 million.

This investment comes to Pakistan at a time when the economy is crippled due to the havoc caused by Covid-19 and creation of new jobs and supporting the local suppliers can serve as a lifeline for the local economy through such foreign investments.

Pakistan's retail e-commerce sector has registered a significant growth during the recent past but there is ample room for new

entrants to further uplift the mar- ACE Capital (Taiwan) participatket. The initial investment round for Airlift Grocer was led by Quiet Capital, based in San Francisco,

ing, among other local partners. Existing investors, First Round Capital (San Francisco), Fatima

tional experience of retail e-com-

with TrueSight Ventures (London), RT Ventures (London), Shorooq Partners (Abu Dhabi), and

Gobi Ventures (Pakistan) and Indus Valley Capital (Pakistan) also

merce to Pakistan's every growing base of online shoppers, while continued their support for Airlift strictly following safety guidelines

in this financing.

This new service from Airlift

promises to provide an interna-

as issued by public health authorities to restrict the further spread of Covid-19.

Airlift Grocer promises a satisfying shopping experience through its express delivery of all orders within 45 minutes. Shoppers will also be able to choose from a wide range of products which are sure to be delivered with accuracy of order and fixed transport charges irrespective of order value.

The service is currently introduced for online shoppers in Lahore and will soon be launched in Karachi.

Shoppers can log on to the website airliftgrocer.com to start shopping or download the Airlift Grocer mobile app from Google Play store and Apple's App Store.

MOSCOW: President Vladimir Putin on Thursday thanked Russians after a nationwide vote approved controversial constitutional reforms that allow him to extend his rule until 2036. "Thank you very much for your support and trust," Putin said in televised remarks after an announcement from Russia's election commission that nearly 78 percent of voters had supported the amendments to the basic law. Putin reiterated that the amendments were necessary as they "improve the political system and fortify social guarantees" as well as "strengthen sovereignty." – APP

## **Airlift Grocer launches in Pakistan with an** impressive foreign investment of \$10m

### 4.8 mn jobs in June WASHINGTON: The US economy regained 4.8 mil-

leisure and hospitality.







### **Posthumous** award for victim of Canada mosque attack

MONTREAL: Five Canadian men were honored Wednesday for their bravery in a 2017 attack on a mosque in Quebec, including a posthumous award for Azzedine Soufiane, who was shot dead as he lunged at the gunman. The awards, unveiled on Canada Day, will be presented by the Governor General of Canada Julie Payette at a later date due to the coronavirus pandemic. On January 29, 2017, a man known for his far-right, nationalist sympathies opened fire on worshippers praying at the Quebec City mosque, killing six people and seriously injuring several others. The five men tried to stop the attacker, with surveillance video showed in court revealing how Soufiane lunged at him in an attempt to save fellow worshippers. Soufiane was posthumously awarded the Star of Cour age "for having sacrificed his life while trying to disarm the shooter," the governor general announced in a statement. The four survivors of the attack will receive the Medal of Bravery, including one man who was left a paraplegic by the attack. – **APP** 

### School built in Gwadar under CPEC

BEIJING: The expansion project of China-Pakistan Gwadar Faqeer Middle School, only institution built in the field of basic education under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) framework, was successfully completed and handed over to Pakistan's education department.

Supervised by Gwadar Authority Development

## Briefs Pv project contributes 840 mm kwh to Pak power generation

24 dead, 7 injured in Mexico

It was not immediately clear if the same facility was hit both times

### DNA

IRAPUATO: At least 24 people were killed and seven wounded when armed men attacked a drug rehabilitation center in Irapuato, as the government struggles to contain violence perpetrated by drug mafias in the country. This is the second such attack to take place in Irapuato in one month. The attack was also confirmed by a federal government official.

This Pv power station is contracted to build by a Chinese company, TBEA. As stated by the Project manager, the Pv power station, built in Cholistan desert, Bahawalpur, Punjab Province, can provide about 0.5 million kwh maximumly of clean electricity per day

### STAFF REPORT

ISLAMABAD: The 100MW Photovoltaic Power Station Project in Punjab that was put into production in 2015 has showed a consideration progress in recent year.

According to a report up to 2020 June 30th, this power station has safely operated for 5 years and provided more than 840 million kiloity and high standard Pv

watt-hours of electricity. power station, a series of ad-This Pv power station is vanced techniques, mature contracted to build by a Chinese company, TBEA. As stated by the Project manager, the Pv power station, built in Cholistan desert, Bahawalpur, Punjab Province, can provide about 0.5 million kwh maximumly of clean electricity per day and constantly work for 25 years.

experience and machines were imported from China. She said. "Pv power as a reliable, efficient, sustainable and low-cost electricity resource, can not only resolve the dearth of power in the nation, but also tackle other social issues such as employment and local stability. The most important thing In order to build a high qualis that, establishing such a

project has trained a group of professional people for Pv power."

The manager portrayed a rosy future of Pv power cooperation between Pakistan and China. "For three respects we can foresee a potential in this sector," she said. "One of the factors is that China is capable to build

advanced Pv power station. China already built several large scale Pv stations in Xinjiang region. The advanced experience provides efficient technical support for Pv power developing in Pakistan.

"Meanwhile, Pakistan has suitable natural conditions to develop Pv power," she said, "the adequate solar resource and flat terrain in a large area in Sindh, Punjab, KPK and Balochistan gives a great potential to build Pv power station.'

"The last positive factor is policy support. Under CPEC project, both Chinese government and Pakistan government provide favorable measures to facilitate Pv power station project developing in Pakistan. According to a new energy

planning target released previously, the share of new energy in the domestic energy mix will reach 20% by 2025 and 30% by 2030." She said.

**Russians clear** way for Putin's rule until 2036

Final results of the referendum on constitutional changes show a landslide victory for Russia's president

MOSCOW: Russians have granted President Vladimir Putin the right to stay in power until 2036 by voting overwhelmingly for constitutional changes that reset the clock on the longtime Russian leader's tenure to zero, but critics said the outcome was falsified on an industrial scale.

Official results published on Thursday, after 99.9 percent of ballots had been counted, showed that the former KGB officer who has ruled Russia for more than 20 years as president or prime minister had won the right to run for two more six-year terms after the current one ends in 2024.

That means Putin, 67, could rule until the age of 83. The Central Election Commission said 77.9 percent of votes counted across the world's largest country had supported changing the constitution. About 21 percent had voted against, it said.

Ella Pamfilova, head of the commission, said the vote had been transparent and that officials had done everything to ensure its integrity. - DNA



SRI LANKA: Governor of Central Province, Hon. Lalith U. Gamage presenting souvenir to High Commissioner of Pakistan to Sri Lanka, Mai, Gen. (Retd) Muhammad Saad Khattak. - APP

Practical realisation of South Punjab dream has begun: FM Qureshi

Jamaat to challenge IHC decision

(GDA), the expansion project is funded by China Foundation for Peace and Development (CFPD) and constructed by CCCC-FH-DI Engineering Co., Ltd., a renowned integrated largescale investigation and design company in China. The Final Acceptance Certificate for the project was signed by relevant parties, China Economic Net (CEN) reported here on Thursday. According to CFPD, the expansion work was never an easy one with the COVID-19 pandemic, the shortage of engineering materials, technologies and construction personnel and security risks striking at the same time. However, engineers from CCCC-FHDI Engineering have made feasible plans and taken measures effective to guarantee the quality and processing of the expansion project, and the construction was completed ahead of schedule. – APP

### Biden to seek Kashmir solution

NEW YORK: The US Democratic Party has assured Pakistani-American community activists that the party's presidential nominee, Joe Biden, if elected, would contribute in promoting equitable solutions to the outstanding issues of Kashmir and Palestine as well as the growing discrimination against Muslims in India. The assurance was given by Tom Perez, chairman of the Democratic National Committee. in a virtual meeting arranged by the American-Pakistani Public Affairs Committee (APPAC) with the Biden presidential campaign. Biden, a former vice president, will face President Donald Trump in the November elections. So far, he is leading Trump in all polls.

Dr. Ijaz Ahmed, APPAC's chairman, welcomed Perez at the start of the Zoom meeting, promising to work closely with him as he highlighted the problems facing Pakistani-Americans and the issues that are uppermost in their mind. Perez thanked him for the offer of cooperation with the Biden campaign, saying the former president knows very well the dispute between India and Pakistan over Kashmir and would seek it's resolution. - APP

DNA ISLAMABAD: Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi has expressed gratitude to Prime Minister Imran Khan over the

government's recent steps towards the realisation of South Punjab province. In a video statement put out this morning, he said the additional chief secretary (ACS) and the additional inspector general of police (AIG) have been appointed for the south Punjab secretariat. He said the two officers

will establish their offices in Multan and Bahawalpur to address the problems

of people.Shah Mahmood of southern areas of the Qureshi said the practical province will not have to realisation of the dream travel to Lahore to get their of south Punjab province administrative issues ad-

dressed

has begun today as people



He said administrative issues and those related to police will now be resolved in Multan and Bahawalpur, terming the devolution of powers to the grassroot levels a crucial step. He stressed a need for a Provincial Finance Commission (PFC) award on the pattern

of the National Finance Commission (NFC). The foreign minister said the PFC will help disburse funds to all districts according to their population, needs, and deprivation. Like the past, South Punjab's funds will not be squandered for the purpose other than they are set aside for, he added

## Iftikhar to focus on improving Pak trade with SAARC countries

### DNA

ISLAMABAD: A delegation of Islamabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry led by President Muhammad Ahmed Waheed met with Iftikhar Ali Malik and congratulated him on assuming the charge of President, SAARC Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

The delegation also congratulated Zubair Ahmed Malik, former President ICCI for his election as Executive Member SAARC CCI. Tahir Abbasi Senior Vice President, Saif ur Rehman Khan Vice President ICCI. Mian Akram Farid Chairman ICCI

Sadiq, Mian Shaukat Masud, Muhammad Ejaz Abbasi, Ch. Waheed ud Din, Atif Ikram Sheikh, Sheikh Amir Waheed, Karim Aziz Malik, Malik Sohail Hussain, Muhammad Naveed Malik, Mahmood Ahmed Warraich, Muhammad Shakeel Munir, Ashfaq Chatha and others were in the delegation. Mian Anjum Nisar, President FPC-CI, Senator Haji Ghulam Ali Vice President SAARC CCI and others were also present

at the occasion. Addressing the delegation, Iftikhar Ali Malik said that as President SAARC CCI, he would focus on improving Pakistan's trade rela-

Founder Group, SheikhTariq tions with SAARC member states. He said that he would use SAARC CCI platform to capitalize on the trade ASEAN and NAFTA and improving trade among the SAARC region would be his key priority

He thanked ICCI delegation for congratulating him and assured that he would work in cooperation with trade bodies of Pakistan to explore new opportunities for Pakistani business community in SAARC region. He further said that he would try to complete the building of SAARC CCI Headquarters in Islamabad to make it functional. Speaking at the occasion, Muhammad Ahmed Waheed, President, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI) congratulated Iftikhar Ali Malik on taking over charge as President SAARC Chamber of Commerce & Industry and hoped that his tenure would be instrumental in starting a new era of growing trade and

### DNA

ISLAMABAD: Deputy Amir of Jamaat-e-Islami Pakistan (JIP) and former member National Assembly Mian Muhammad Aslam has said that he will challenge the Islamabad High Court decision of rejecting his petition against hike in petroleum prices

He said the decision was taken after the petition filed by him against the hike in prices of petroleum products by the Islamabad High Court was rejected. He said that an appeal would be filed in the intra court on the same petition. He said that Jamaat-e-Islami would not remain silent on this issue as it was of public importance.

Mian Muhammad Aslam said that the decision taken by the government to reduce and increase the prices of petroleum products is the prerogative of the executive but not the executive. Has always acted against the constitution of Pakistan and against the aspirations of the people so we went to court against the decision of the executive, but we regret that the court did not play its role in protecting the public rights enshrined in the constitution of Pakistan Mian Muhammad Aslam said that PTI government has increased the prices of petroleum products in one night.

By violating the constitutional rights of the people, Jamaat-e-Islami has always raised the issues of the people at every forum and our struggle will continue till the people get their rights.

### 78 die, 4,339 more test positive in Pak

#### DNA

According to latest data of

the National Command and

Operation Centre (NCOC),

4,339 new infections were

detected after 22,128 tests

were conducted in the pre-

vious 24 hours, taking the

national tally of cases to

More than 1.3 million tests

have been conducted in the

country while 108,642 COV-

ID-19 patients are undergo-

ing treatment and 104,694

patients have recuperated

from the disease.86,795

the past 24 hours.

217,808.

in Sindh so far, 77,740 in Punjab, 26,938 in Khyber ISLAMABAD: Death toll Pakhtunkhwa, 10,608 in Balochistan, 13, 082 in Islamfrom the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in the country abad, 1,135 in Azad Jammu has climbed to 4,473 as 78 and Kashmir and 1,511 in more people died of the Gilgit Baltistan. The number of coronavirus highly contagious disease in

cases across the world has surpassed over 10.6 million while the pandemic has so far claimed more than 514,628 lives.

cases have been detected

The United States tops both in number of cases and deaths with over 2.7 million cases and more than 130,123 deaths followed by Brazil with over 1.4 million cases and more than 59,656

deaths. Over 5.8 million patients have so far recovered from the disease across the world.

### COVID-19 claims 31 more lives, infects 2430 others

KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah has said that 2430 new cases of coronavirus were detected when 9436 tests were conducted raising the tally to 89225 cases while 31 more patients died lifting the death toll to 1437.

In a statement issued here from CM House, the chief minister said that 9436 samples were tested against which 2430 new cases of coronavirus emerged constituting the 26 percent detection rate.

He added that so far 471023 tests have been conducted which diagnosed 89225 cases all over Sindh, of them 49926 have been cured, including 1399 overnight. "The recovery rate in the province stands at 56 percent," he said. Shah said that 31 more patients died lifting the death toll to 1437 that constituted 1.6 percent death rate. He added that currently, 37893 patients of COVID-19 were under treatment, of them 36072 in home isolation, 243 at isolation Centers and 1578 at different hospitals. - DNA

### **Daily virus** cases in US tops 50,000

### DNA

NEW YORK: The United States reported a whopping 52,788 new coronavirus cases on Wednesday, the largest single-day total since the start of the pandemic. President Trump speculated in a Fox Business interview that the virus was "going to sort of disappear" at some point, but many other officials are far less optimistic. Across the country, plans for a gradual return to normalcy are quickly being cast aside, with California, Michigan and New York City.

### 'Long battle ahead': WHO warns WHO emergencies expert Mike Ryan told the same briefing the UN body planned to send two experts from headquarters to join its country team in China to establish

the scope for a mission looking into the origins of the coronavirus

### DNA

GENEVA: The World Health Organisation (WHO) has warned that countries which fail to use every mechanism available to combat the coronavirus will struggle to beat it.

"Some countries ... have taken a fragmented approach. These countries face a long, hard road ahead," Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus told a virtual briefing from WHO headquarters in Geneva, without singling

More than 10.5 million people have been infected globally and more than half a million have died since the COVID-19 disease first emerged in China. Tedros said local flare-ups were

out any nations.

inevitable as some nations began lifting lockdown restrictions. "But countries that have the systems in place to apply a comprehensive approach should be able to contain these flare-ups locally and avoid reintroducing widespread restrictions," he said.

WHO emergencies expert Mike Ryan told the same briefing the UN body planned to send two experts from headquarters to join its country team in China to establish the scope for a mission looking into the origins of the coronavirus. Heavily criticised by the United States and others for secrecy and a late response. China has said it was transparent throughout and

would support an investigation once the pandemic is under control.

While many have signalled a live animal market as the probable origin, U.S. President Donald Trump and Secretary of State Mike Pompeo have said there is evidence the virus originated in a Wuhan laboratory.

The Americas are the current epicentre, particularly the United States, which has the highest COVID-19 death toll in the world

- more than 127,393. Ryan said the WHO was trying to verify reports of hoarding of medical supplies in the United States and wanted to ensure everyone had access to life-saving materials. Asked about a virus in Chinese pigs that a study said has become more infectious to humans and might become a "pandemic virus", Ryan said: "It's important to reassure people that it is not a new virus and is a virus under surveillance.'

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economic relations among SAARC member states.

for developing strong networking and business linkages between the private sectors of SAARC countries potential of SAARC Region. He said that trade among the SAARC region was just 7%, which was far less than the trade among other regional blocks like EU