

## Basharat rejects PML-N propaganda of arresting workers

**LAHORE:** Provincial Law Minister Muhammad Basharat Raja on Friday said that a baseless propaganda was being done by the Pakistan Muslim League Nawaz (PML-N) about arrest of party workers and hurdles created by the government prior to the Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) public gathering in Gujranwala.

Addressing a press conference here, the minister said there was no reality in propaganda of arrest of PML-N workers in Lahore or Gujranwala, adding that no hurdle was created by the government from Lahore to Gujranwala.

He said the PDM was allowed to stage public gathering in Jinnah Stadium Gujranwala on its request. They, initially were requested to delay the gathering owing to the coronavirus situation as they should have demonstrated maturity on national issue, he said adding that the PDM had assured in written, implementation on Covid-19 SOPs at its gathering to the district administration.

They also had agreed that the government may take action in case of SOPs violation.

On instruction of Punjab Chief Minister Sardar Usman Buzdar, he said that the district health authorities had been asked to provide masks and hand sanitizer to people of Gujranwala. Against the claims of the PDM leadership of a historic public participation in Gujranwala, he said that if social distancing was observed at the place of gathering maximum of 20,000 people could sit there and with such a thin public gathering, the PDM leadership was thinking to threaten the government but it was day-dreaming. —APP

## SHO held red handed while extorting money

**LAHORE:** The station house officer (SHO) of Lahore's Shahdra police station was taken into custody after being caught in the act of extorting money from the complainant of a murder case.

Muhammad Gohar Nafees, the Director General of Punjab's Anti-Corruption Establishment (ACE), said Aamir Nazir Cheema took a Rs50,000 bribe from the complainant to arrest people nominated in the case.

He said the arrested police officer had asked the complainant for a bribe to the tune of Rs200,000. The SHO has been arrested and a first information report (FIR) registered against him, the DG said. Last year, the Anti-Corruption Establishment (ACE) Punjab had caught a policeman red-handed for receiving a bribe from a woman. Giving detail of the first case, the ACE said the anti-graft body acted on a complaint filed by a person claiming that an assistant sub-inspector (ASI) of police was demanding bribe for appointment on naib qasid post from his sister.

The ACE authorities along with the complainant carried out the raid and arrested the accused red-handed. —DNA



LAHORE: People select used quilts and blankets from a road side vendor near Dehli Gate.

## Sarwar, Hafeez discuss various issues

# No chances of midterm polls, Imran will not resign, says Governor

By Our Staff Reporter

**LAHORE:** Federal Advisor for Finance Abdul Hafeez Sheikh called on Governor Punjab Chaudhry Mohammad Sarwar and discussed various issues including economic, governmental and political issues while Governor Punjab Chaudhry Mohammad Sarwar said that opposition is angry over people not showing up in their jalsas. There will be no midterm elections and Imran Khan will not resign from the post of Prime Minister. Elections will be held in 2023 regardless of opposition's protests.

According to details, Finance Advisor Abdul Hafeez Shaikh met Governor Punjab Chaudhry Mohammad Sarwar at Governor's House Lahore in which various issues were discussed while Finance Adviser briefed Governor Punjab about economic measures and various projects.

Talking on the occasion, Governor Punjab said that the achievements of the



economic policies of the government under the leadership of Prime Minister Imran Khan are being acknowledged by all international institutions including the IMF but unfortunately the opposition is not able to digest Pakistan's progress. It is happening and they are trying to create instability in the country but they will not be allowed to succeed.

While talking to the media after an event, Chaudhry Mohammad Sarwar said that the government is not weak which will fall from any meeting of the

opposition. The people are not standing with the opposition and the opposition is venting its anger by criticizing the government. The opposition will have to wait for the 2023 elections, he added. He further said that Imran Khan is not a leader who comes under pressure, he will not back down on his principles in any case. We promised transparent and impartial accountability to the nation. If the opposition thinks that it will overthrow the government through protests, it will not happen.

## Whole nation stands with army: Aleem

By Our Staff Reporter

**LAHORE:** Senior Punjab Minister Abdul Aleem Khan has strongly condemned the terrorist attacks on soldiers and paid tribute to the martyrs of these incidents. He said that the whole nation salutes the martyrs, our great heroes and brave sons who have saved the country from great disaster by sacrificing their lives. Abdul Aleem Khan added that for the protection of the beloved homeland our "Jawans" have proved that the Pakistani Forces have always thwarted any attacks to the homeland and have fought hard against enemy elements on every front.

Commenting on the tragic incidents of Thursday, Aleem Khan said that for a long time the border area, especially Balochistan, has been a target of enemy forces where terrorism is committed as a "soft choice" but our Army is on 24-hour alert to protect the country. He said that terrorism in the country has been reduced to a great extent and the elements involved in such acts of sabotage of national security would not be spared. Senior Minister Abdul Aleem Khan said that enemy forces could not see Pakistan on the path of progress and prosperity and they were especially afraid of the brave and far-sighted policies of Prime Minister Imran Khan who has always faced the enemy with courage and bravery. Aleem Khan paid homage to the martyrs of North Waziristan and Gwadar and expressed sympathy to the bereaved families and prayed to Allah Almighty to grant them courage and strength to bear the irreparable loss.

## PU awards three PhD degrees

By Our Staff Reporter

**LAHORE:** Punjab University has awarded three PhD degrees to the scholars in which Zahid Iqbal S/o Sher Muhammad in Agricultural Sciences after approval of his thesis entitled 'Physio-Agronomic response of Spring Planted Sugarcane to Different Nitrogen and Potash Fertilizer Levels under Drip Irrigation System', Henna Saeed D/o Muhammad Saeed Anwar the subject of Communication Studies after approval of her thesis entitled 'Factors Influencing Rundown Production of Prime-Time Television News Bulletins in Pakistan' and Hira Iqbal D/o Muhammad Iqbal Javeed in Molecular Biology after approval of her thesis entitled 'Molecular and Genetic Screening of Hereditary Lens Opacification in Pakistani Families'.

**MA/MSc practical exams roll number slips issued:** Punjab University Department of Examinations has uploaded the roll number slips of regular, private, late college and PU's on campus students for their practical examinations of MA/MSc Part-II Annual 2020. The candidates are hereby advised to download their Roll Number slips from Punjab University's



LAHORE: A vendor sells the fresh juice of Sweet lime (Mosambi) at his hand cart on Mall Road as it is beneficial for human health. —Online

## 10 dead, 1006 injured in 931 road accidents

**LAHORE:** At least 10 persons were killed and 1006 others injured in 931 road accidents across Punjab during the last 24 hours.

As many as 626 seriously injured people were shifted to different hospitals while 380 with minor injuries were treated on the spot by the Rescue Medical Teams.

The analysis showed that 394 drivers, 51 underage drivers, 165 pedestrians and 457 passengers were among the victims. The statistics show that 196 accidents were reported in Lahore which affected 203 persons, placing the Provincial Capital at top of the list, followed by 76 in Faisalabad with 83 victims and at third Gujranwala with 57 accidents and 59 victims.

According to the data, 757 motorbikes, 130 rickshaws, 103 cars, 51 vans, 11 passenger buses, 26 trucks and 116 other types of auto vehicles and slow-moving carts were involved in these road traffic accidents. —APP

## 3 confirmed, 709 suspect dengue cases reported

**LAHORE:** Three new confirmed and 709 suspect cases of the dengue virus were reported in the province during the last 24 hours.

According to the Primary & Secondary Healthcare Department (P&SHD) here on Friday, four confirmed cases were reported, including one in Lahore, one in Gujranwala, one in Rajanpur and one in Sialkot. All suspect cases of dengue have been kept in surveillance and their tests are being conducted. So far 109 cases of dengue have been confirmed from January this year in the province, however, 101 patients have been discharged after recovery and currently eight patients are under treatment.

No death due to dengue was reported this year due to effective measures taken by the government. The Punjab government was continuously working against dengue across the province and the anti-dengue staff recovered larvae from 8,860 places during the last seven days.

# CPEC, The Greater Pakistan

Malik Muhammad Aslam Awan

Having realised the manifold and marvelous advantages of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and its ancillary projects, power generating, revamping the railway tracks, construction of SEZs along with a vast network of Link CPEC roads, China, Pakistan, Turkey, Iran and Russia are getting closer to form a most potential bloc. The world is changing with unprecedented velocity and new divine world order is going to be implemented. World events are taking a concrete incarnation, leading the world towards a comprehensively changed scenario. The world horizon is going to see the renaissance of the Muslims all around the globe. The US has managed a peace treaty and got realised, in its own assumption, a long cherished dream of Greater Israel.

But the world scenario is not bound by any means to drift towards the direction dictated by the US. America is a country which accepted the creation of Israel immediately after it emerged on the globe, it did not wait even for a single day. Israel is the stooge of the US which acts like a robot on its dictations. The US is making viable efforts, in its own thinking, to make Israel an undisputed entity acceptable to all the countries. It has manipulated to destroy Egypt, Syria, and other regional countries and their economies had shrunk to an alarming state. Unbearable annihilation in Syria, Iraq and Lebanon is the phenomenon of the US malignant policy towards world peace. World peace means the amelioration of humanity and the US is ever hostile to world amelioration.

Now why the US and India clamor against CPEC, because they had foreseen getting closer of Pakistan, China, Russia, Iran and Turkey and natural formation of a strongest world bloc, which would endeavor hard and make hectic efforts for other nations to have advantages and fruits of the fast moving CPEC economic acceleration. Russia, Turkey, Iran, Pakistan and China would be major beneficiaries of the progress ensuing a greatest blessing to their people.

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has initiated visionary plans to boost the economy of his country. Turkey under his charismatic leadership is getting closer to the destination of economic stability, with unprecedented velocity. Turkish currency Lira is gaining stability against US dollar, and in future Lira may have great attraction for world investors more than US dollar. Since now world investors have started purchasing Lira to replace their dollar reservoirs. Turkey's economic growth rate has rung the bell of danger for US dollar. The US is making hectic efforts to destabilise Turkey but Erdogan is strong enough to apprehend US plans and to thwart their sinister motives. He seems to be in full bloom to counter policies antagonistic to Turkish interests. Erdogan has vision to chalk out a policy in the best interest of Turkish population as well as

the whole Muslim Ummah. In the hearts of Muslim Ummah, he enjoys the position, not less than our pride heroes, Salah-ud-Din Ayyubi, Noor-ud-Din Zangi, Khalib bin Waleed, Musa bin Maseer, Muhammad bin Qasim, the souls of these generals who fought for the glory of Islam with undaunted valour might be happy in the heaven to see rise of a leader in the Muslim World who feel the pain in his heart for all Muslims equal to that of Turkish masses. Erdogan is of the opinion that there might be the renaissance of Islam, and to realise his most valued intentions is endeavoring hard to awaken Muslims all around the globe. He has smacked that the US and Israel are making joint and concerted efforts to cause unbridgeable rift between the Arabs and Turkey and Iran, Pakistan in order to make them devoid of national unity. It is lamentable that Arab bloc leaders endeavour to safeguard their own wealth accumulated in Indian projects and the US, are getting back from their incumbency to safeguard the interests of Muslim Ummah.

China and Pakistan have embarked upon a programme of joint intelligence-sharing. China is entrusting the Bidro System to Pakistan, which is the best alternative to American GPS system and entails the results more accurate than American GPS satellite system. Pakistan Company Suparco in collaboration with China will install Bidro network and after its installation China and Pakistan would have joint technology to target missile and aircraft ventures.

Pakistan, China, Turkey, USSR, Iran, being the members of same bloc would boost their, within the bloc, trade and their economy is likely to accelerate to gain further momentum. China being the cordial, sincere friend and having friendship — with Pakistan — higher than the heights of Himaliya would like Pakistan having strategic, economic hegemony over South Asia and Middle Eastern countries. CPEC is a project envisioned and initiated between both the countries, China and Pakistan having manifold intents and arena's of mutual cooperation, which after completion will not only bring drastic changes in economies of both the nations but will be harbinger of a new era for both nations. Turkey, Iran, Pakistan Russia and China are heading towards the formation of a natural bloc, playing a leading role in world affairs. India and the US criticise the joint ventures of China and Pakistan CPEC because they fully know that India is an arch enemy of Pakistan and is going to a position of subservience and the US ever allied with Israel and India, will be lowered down from number one strategic and economic power. China, Pakistan and Turkey would replace America, the dollar would be a weaker currency. Strategic, economic supremacy of America will see utter decline and resultantly India and Israel would come down to miserable plight of plebeian.

The writer is a freelance columnist and independent analyst

# Accountants show concern over social, environment issues

**LAHORE:** A global survey of finance professionals reveals their deep concerns about social and environmental issues, with 90 percent of respondents saying they want organisations to increase efforts to become more environmentally sustainable and make a more positive impact on society after the pandemic.

Mainstreaming Impact: scaling a sustainable recovery from ACCA (the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants), also reveals the desire of accountants to spearhead this change, with 95 percent agreeing finance teams have a role to play in building a more socially inclusive and environmentally sustainable future.

Eighty-four percent of the 60 expert panelists from across the South Asia region, including Pakistan, said it was important that the economic recovery from Covid-19 sees organisations become more environmentally sustainable and make more of a positive impact on society. Sajjeed Aslam, head of ACCA Pakistan, says: 'These findings come when around the world in 2020 we have seen record-breaking temperature devastating fires and flooding, and the severe impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic which has worsened existing socio-economic inequalities and reinforced the fragilities of the natural world.

'It is also good to see respondents looking ahead at their own skills and

knowledge, with many expressing an interest in developing further skills to tackle these issues - 58 percent say they are looking to develop knowledge in social impact measurement and 69 per cent are interested in sustainability data analytics.'

Nearly three quarters (72 percent) of South Asia respondents also said having an understanding and accounting for environmental dependencies and social impact was important for organisations to build a greener and more inclusive world.

Helen Brand OBE, chief executive of ACCA says in the report's introduction: 'Guided by the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals, which can act as a common language roadmap to follow out of the current crisis, businesses of all sizes can use this moment to step forward and commit to making an intentional, positive impact on society and the environment through their activities. And for professional accountants, they can make these commitments a reality.

'They have a huge role here, because it's through professional education that accountants can support the transition to a net-zero carbon world. We're committed to ensuring that sustainability and green finance is an integral part of our world-class qualification and members' CPD, supporting our members with a range of new online learning offerings on these important areas.'

Jimmy Greer, ACCA's head of sustainability adds: 'Now is the time to mainstream social and environmental impact management, so that our economies and societies become more resilient to future shocks and can embed health, equity, community and sustainability into business models. Professional accountants and finance teams are central actors, with the skills, knowledge and ambition to do more.' Given perceived leadership barriers, respondents saw their role as being one of partnering with others in a supporting role, helping them achieve objectives by providing the right kind of help for their organisations. Other results show:

Approximately 25 percent of respondents to the survey either did not know whether their finance team was involved in addressing social or environmental impacts, or knew that finance was not involved

Among 18 – 34 year olds, 24 percent ranked human rights as the most important issue to tackle, with 35 – 55 year olds citing diversity and inclusion as being the most important. Over three-fifths of respondents agreed that professional accountants should be involved in understanding social and environmental impacts and dependencies, prioritising creating positive social impact alongside financial returns and in improving risk management of social and environmental issues. —PR