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Dubai Expo to open new avenues for investment

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Real face of India being exposed all over the world



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The poor will get interest free loans for houses

From Our Staff Correspondent

ISLAMABAD: Finance Minister Shaukat Tarin on Monday said that under Kamyab Karobar, interest free loans up to Rs 5 lac will be given to the poor households. Similarly, under Kamyab Kissan, interest free loans will be given to the farmers.

Shaukat Tarin said the programme will also enable these households to build their own houses. He said health cards will be provided to the poor households beside one person of each family will be provided with technical training. The Finance Minister said the loan facility will be provided to the poor households at their doorsteps. He said Kamyab Pakistan Programme will be expanded

to 6m households. Tarin said this initiative will help the poor households stand on their own feet and bring revolution in their lives.

Costly dollar failed to deter importers
Chairman of National Business Group Pakistan, President Pakistan Businessmen and Intellectuals Forum, and All Karachi Industrial Alliance, and former provincial minister Mian Zahid Hussain on Monday said the costly dollar has not slowed the pace of imports which are threatening the economy by expanding deficit.

Controlling exports without compromising growth will be a challenge for the policymakers in which success is the only option, he said. Mian Zahid Hussain said that government want to boost.



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Imran Khan addresses the ceremony of launching Kamyab Pakistan Programme.

■ Imran launches Kamyab Pakistan Programme

POL products prices in India two times higher than Pak: PM

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Imran Khan has said the petroleum products prices in India are two times higher than Pakistan.

"Petrol did not become more costly due to bringing down sales tax and levy. Kamyab Pakistan Programme is the best programme of the country. This project will help improve the plight of the poor segments of society. I am alive to the difficulties facing the poor people", he said this while launching Kamyab Pakistan Programme here, on Monday.

What work was done in state of Medina it is reality and not otherwise, he remarked. China followed the model of Medina and it made progress, he added.

He held that we should have started Kamyab Pakistan Programme 74 years before in Islamabad. We were asked to follow Islamic shariah to our advantage. We will go ahead on the track to development by pursuing principles of State of Medina. He said State of Medina was a successful model of the world because of its principles of humanity and justice.

He underlined that the ill-conceived economic policies were adhered to in the past. The decision on making the country welfare state has never been implemented. We first tried to collect capital and then tried to make welfare Islamic state. He indicated China launched several projects for poverty alleviation. Chinese president has recently announced that the abject poverty remains no more there. He observed the principles set out by the elders were not followed. The benefit was given to elite class. A uniform curriculum was not introduced and the elite class reaped its benefit.

He indicated that the important work of uniform curriculum has been done. Voices are echoing to save the education system based on injustice. The supporters of injustice don't feel ashamed.

In the decade of 1700 GDP growth rate of India was 24 percent. The prices of petrol and diesel in India are two times more than Pakistan. Imran Khan said we have also tried to absorb the maximum pressure of international

increase in the prices of commodities. There has been 100 percent increase in the prices of petroleum products over the last few months but we only increased their prices by 22 percent. For this we slashed the sales tax and petroleum levy on petrol and diesel. He underlined the wheat price increased by 33 percent and that of sugar by 40 percent in the international market but we enhanced their prices by 12 and 21 percent respectively.

He expressed confidence that with improvement in supply chains in the world, the prices of commodities will come down and the benefit will be extended to the masses. He underscored we have lowered sales tax and levy on petrol, therefore, petrol has not become costlier. Pakistan is not petrol exporting country. Even then prices are lower here. We have endeavored that least burden is shifted to people.

Inflation has surged in Pakistan and we are fully alive to the plight of the poor persons, he remarked. —Online

Blasphemous caricatures cartoonist killed

STOCKHOLM: Swedish artist Lars Vilks, who stirred worldwide controversy in 2007 with blasphemous caricatures of the Holy Prophet (PBUH), was killed in a car crash near the southern town of Markaryd on Sunday, police said. Vilks, 75, who had been living under police protection since the blasphemous drawings were published, was travelling in a police vehicle that collided with a truck. Two police officers were also killed. "It is now important to all of us that we do everything we can to investigate what happened and what caused the collision," Swedish police said in a statement on Monday.

"Initially, there is nothing that points to anyone else being involved". —Agencies

PIA allowed to resume flights to Kuwait

From Our Staff Correspondent

KARACHI: Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) has been allowed to resume flight operation to Kuwait. Spokesperson of the airline, while thanking that Aviation Minister, CAA officials, Foreign Office and Pakistan's Ambassador to Kuwait said that their efforts led to restoration of the operation.

For now, the national flag carrier will operate two flights in a week to the Gulf country. Earlier, Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) reduced the number of flights of Kuwaiti airlines to Pakistan from October 1 after the gulf state refused to grant permission to PIA.

NEPRA increases power tariff by Rs1.65 per unit

From Our Staff Correspondent

ISLAMABAD: Already overburdened by inflation, increased oil prices, food items, Pakistanis were in for a shock when the National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (NEPRA) on Monday decided to increase the power tariff by Rs1.65 under monthly fuel adjustment.

According to an order the increase in electricity prices will not apply to K-Electric customers and consumers who use less than 300 units per month. The hike in the power tariff will burden the power consumers with additional billions of rupees.

Army soldier martyred in NW

RAWALPINDI: Terrorists targeted security forces post in Gharioum area of North Waziristan, on Monday.

According to ISPR, troops responded promptly. During exchange of fire, Sepoy Muhammad Amir Iqbal embraced Shahadat. Area clearance is in progress to eliminate any terrorist found in the area. —Online

Rupee sheds 32 paises

ISLAMABAD: The exchange rate of Pakistan rupee depreciated by 32 paises against US dollar in the interbank trading on Monday and closed at Rs170.79 as compared to the previous day's closing of Rs170.47.

According to Forex Association of Pakistan, the buying and selling rates of dollar in the open market were recorded at Rs 172.3 and Rs 173.3 respectively.

Similarly, the price of euro was appreciated by 01 paise and closed at Rs197.41 against the last day's trading of Rs197.40, the SBP reported. The Japanese Yen remained unchanged to close at Rs 1.53, whereas an increase of Rs 1.98 was witnessed in the exchange rate of British Pound, which was traded at Rs231.69 as compared to its last closing of Rs229.71. —APP

PSX gains 172 points as govt, IMF talks start

KARACHI: The Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) managed to close the first day of the week on a positive note despite inflationary concerns, with the benchmark KSE-100 Index gaining 172.8 points (+0.39 percent) to close at 45,044.5 points.

The market opened on a negative note and remained in the red zone for most part of the session. However, the last 40 minutes trading helped the index turn into positive and end the session above the 45,000 level. The KSE-100 Index moved in a range of 542.2 points, showing an intraday high of 45,105 points and a low of 44,561.8 points. Among other indices, the KSE All Share Index gained 150.43 points (+0.49 percent) to close at 30,844.02 points, while All Share Islamic Index gained 110.3 points

(+0.5 percent) to close at 21,952.42 points.

A total of 370 companies traded shares in the stock exchange, out of them shares of 219 closed up, shares of 144 closed down while shares of 7 companies remained unchanged. Out of 91 traded companies in the KSE-100 Index, 56 closed up and 35 closed down. The overall market volumes decreased by 0.17 million to 267.22 million shares. Total volume traded for the KSE-100 Index was 94.36m shares. The number of total trades increased by 1,807 to 108,645, while the value traded increased by Rs1.08 billion to Rs10.10b. The market capitalisation increased by Rs37.75b.

Among scrips, TELE topped the volumes with 25.66m shares, followed by WTL (21.64m) and SMBL (14.69m). —TLTP

Seven decades of Pak-Argentine ties growing: FM

ISLAMABAD: Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi on Monday said the 70 years of diplomatic relations between Pakistan and Argentina would grow into a more meaningful partnership with cooperation in challenging areas including climate change and environmental protection.

The foreign minister expressed these views at a ceremony held at the capital's Argentina Park, where he planted seven saplings to mark the similar number of decades of Pak-Argentina relations. Argentina's ambassador Leopoldo Francisco Saheos, Federal Minister Syed Fakhar Imam, State Minister for Climate Change Zartaj Gul and

other officials were present.

FM Qureshi said strong bilateral relations between Pakistan and Argentina over the last 70 years was a sign of "mutual trust, respect and cooperation".

He mentioned that Pak was facing the threat of climate change as the country with immense water resources could become water scarce. In these circumstances, he said, tree plantation was the most important strategy for Pak to overcome the challenge. Qureshi said the institutional mechanism was playing an important role in strengthening bilateral relations, while the joint commission was working towards promoting trade between the two

Steps underway to attract foreign investment: Alvi

ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi on Monday said steps were being taken in the country to provide a congenial business environment to attract foreign investment. He said the reforms initiated by the government to improve the ease of doing business had delivered results and Pakistan's position in international rankings had improved from 136th to 108th position.

President made these remarks while talking to a delegation of the Quetta Chamber of Commerce and Industry (QCCI), led by President Quetta Chamber of Commerce and Industry (QCCI) Fida Hussain Dashti, here at the Aiwan-e-Sadr.

The president said the government was focusing on facilitating and strengthening the business and the industrial sectors and in this regard, had provided maximum relief to the trader community and other vulnerable segments of society during the COVID-19 pandemic.

He highlighted that the government had allocated Rs 100 billion under the Kamyab Jawan Programme to promote entrepreneurship and Small & Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in the country and provide business loans to youth on easy terms and conditions. The delegation informed the president about the contributions of the Quetta's business community in the national economy and apprised him about their problems. The President assured the delegation to help resolve their issues.

Alvi seeks media's role in spreading awareness on breast cancer

President Dr Arif Alvi has sent letters to media houses and journalists in the country, urging them to join hands with the government and civil society in raising awareness about breast cancer.

The president asked the media organisations to create awareness through public welfare messages, talk shows and newspaper articles during the entire month of October, the President Office

said on Monday. President Alvi in his letter mentioned that breast cancer accounted for 44 percent of cancer cases among women in Pakistan and fifty percent of them died due to lack of early diagnosis. He said early diagnosis could provide 98 percent chances for the women patients to get rid of the disease.

He said the subject remained a taboo in the society and restricted the women to get themselves the required medical consultation. He stressed that women should be encouraged to self-check once in every three months as 50,000 out of 100,000 women die due to late diagnosis.

The President said his wife Samina Alvi and her team had organised various awareness programmes in October, aimed at highlighting the importance of self-diagnosis to minimize the chances of breast cancer. Last year, he said, the media in the country launched an effective awareness campaign to educate people about breast cancer. He advised the media organisations to paint their



LAHORE: Chief Minister Punjab Usman Buzdar sits on the driving seat to check a bus on the occasion of inauguration of newly-added buses in the Lahore Metro Bus Service.

Producers can sell electricity to business entity: Hammad

ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of the Netherlands Wouter Plomp called on the Federal Minister for Energy Muhammad Hammad Azhar on Monday in his office to discuss the issues of mutual interest.

During the meeting, the minister highlighted the initiatives of his government to enhance the share of renewable energy in the energy mix of Pakistan which has been targeted to be 45 percent by 2030, said a press release. He informed that all the future energy projects would be renewable energy based. The Minister reiterated that Pakistan is keen to develop cleaner and environmentally friendly sources of energy. He further said that Pakistan is in-

roducing policy of wheeling of electricity which would allow power producers to sell electricity to any local business entity instead of central power purchasing agency. He also informed that Pakistan is investing heavily to enhance the transmission capacity of the country removing all bottlenecks and excavating new transmission lines. The Ambassador apprised that several Dutch companies were interested to invest in the projects of solid waste energy.

He said that the Dutch companies had great expertise to effectively use domestic and agriculture wastes to produce electricity which was claimed to be cheaper. The Minister expressed his strong desire in the ex-

change of technology and expertise in the field of generation of electricity through solid management.

12.48m mobile phone sets manufactured locally: PTA
12.48m mobile phone sets have been manufactured locally, including 5m 4G smartphones, after the instruction of Mobile Manufacturing Policy in June 2020 to encourage local production.

The official said the PTA issued MDM Regulations in 2021, a major milestone in the journey towards "Digital Pakistan". As of July 2021, he said the PTA has issued MDM authorization to 26 companies, including both foreign and local Co with brands like Samsung, Vivo, Oppo, Nokia, Alcatel, Techno, Infinix. —APP