

## National Action Plan can eliminate terrorists: Zardari

ISLAMABAD: Former President and PPP co-chairman Asif Ali Zardari on Sunday said that fullest implementation of National Action Plan could eradicate terrorists from Pakistan. Zardari condemned terror attack on security forces in South Waziristan and prayed for higher ranks of martyred soldiers. In his statement, former president said to tackle those who challenge writ of state, government must sweep out terror nurseries. "We must label them enemies and wipe them out without distinctions", he said. —Online

# The Business

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## 4.7 magnitude quake hits Swat, adjacent areas

PESHAWAR: An earthquake of magnitude 4.7 struck Swat and adjacent areas in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa on Sunday. The epicenter of the earthquake was reported to be in the border area of Pakistan, Afghanistan, and Tajikistan. Though it sent a wave of fear among people who came out of their houses, no loss to property or casualty has been reported so far from any area. Earlier, a 6.4 magnitude earthquake struck parts of Pakistan. The jolts were felt in Islamabad, Punjab, KP, Balochistan and AJK and GB. —Business Report

## PN, RSNF drill Naseem Al Bahr XIII commences

KARACHI: The major joint Naval Exercise Naseem Al Bahr-XIII between Pakistan Navy (PN) and Royal Saudi Naval Forces (RSNF) commenced here on Sunday.

The exercise was aimed to consolidate the existing strong bilateral relations between Pakistan Navy and Royal Saudi Naval Forces, said a Pakistan Navy media release.

The exercise included joint conduct of maritime security operations across the traditional and non-traditional warfare domains thus enhancing interoperability between both the navies. Earlier, the RSNF flotilla arrived at Karachi port and was warmly welcomed by senior PN and RSNF officers. Besides Naval ships of both Navies, aviation units including PN and RSNF helicopters embarked onboard ships and aircraft of RSAF would also participate in this exercise. On first day of the exercise, various harbour evolutions were conducted to provide synergy in different naval operations. It also afforded opportunity for both navies to conduct operational planning for the joint naval operations to be conducted in subsequent sea phase of the exercise. —DNA



KARACHI: A view of Royal Saudi Naval Forces ship HMS Al Riyadh arrives at Karachi Harbour to participate in the PN and RSNF Bilateral Exercise Naseem Al Bahr XIII.

## UK to recognise Pak vaccination certificates: Envoy

KARACHI: The United Kingdom will soon recognize the vaccine certificates of NADRA from Pakistan, UK High Commissioner in Islamabad Christian Turner has said.

Pakistan's vaccination certificates of the vaccines approved by the UK, will be acceptable to the country, British High Commissioner said on Sunday.

The United Kingdom's Covid rules will change from Monday (tomorrow), removing the 'Amber List' and allowing anyone vaccinated anywhere by one of the four vaccines approved by the UK, to travel to the country without quarantine or self-isolation, he said.

The UK will accept vaccinations by AstraZeneca, Johnson & Johnson, Moderna and Pfizer vaccines of all travellers from around the world, British envoy said. Pakistan was taken off the red list on Sept 22 after being on the no-travel list for five months. British envoy praised the National Command and Control Centre for doing a good job. —DNA

## RCCI concerned over hike in POL prices, inflation

RAWALPINDI: The Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI), has expressed deep concern over the rise in petroleum products and demanded immediate review of prices. Petrol is priced at Rs 127 and diesel at Rs 122 and kerosene at around Rs 100 Per liter.

Nadeem Rauf, the newly elected president said in a statement that constantly rising inflation posed a serious threat to the economy as the consumer prices, influenced by faster rupee depreciation and rise in energy prices, have increased to their highest level. Due to increase in prices of Petroleum the prices of food and basic necessities have increased manifold over the past few months. —DNA

## 1,656 Covid-19 cases, 35 deaths

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan has reported 35 deaths in the last 24 hours by novel coronavirus as the number of positive cases has surged to 1,249,858. The nationwide tally of fatalities has jumped to 27,866 on Sunday.

According to the latest figures by the National Command and Operation Center (NCO) 1,656 persons tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 24 hours.

Punjab remains the worst-hit province in terms of deaths followed by Sindh and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

Till now 12,672 individuals have lost their lives to the epidemic in Punjab 7,425 in Sindh 5,571 in KP, 927 in Islamabad, 738 in Azad Kashmir, 349 in Balochistan, and 184 in GB.

Furthermore 459,392 coronavirus cases have been confirmed in Sindh, 432,809 in Punjab 174,490 in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, 105,664 in Islamabad, 34,216 in Azad Jammu and Kashmir, 32,956 in Balochistan and 10,331 in Gilgit-Baltistan. —Online

# Plan to construct around 2,392 housing units at Sangjani

ISLAMABAD: The government is planning to construct as many as 2,392 housing units at the government land located at Sangjani area under Naya Pakistan Housing Project (NPH) to facilitate the low income citizen.

"The housing project is at evaluation stage at Sangjani, Islamabad and PC-1 of the housing scheme has been approved," official sources in the Ministry of Housing and Works told APP.

The sources said that land transfer and other modalities are in progress on the housing scheme.

To a question, they said that around 45,000 low cost housing units are under construction all over the country.

They said, it included four recently inaugurated projects comprising a number of 11,000 housing units at LDA City Lahore, Jalozi Housing Scheme, Nowshera, Alipur Farash, Islamabad, WWF, Zone-V, Islamabad. It also included Punjab Peri-Urban Housing Scheme recently inaugurated at Sargodha.

In Phase-I of this scheme; 10,000 extremely low cost housing units are being built in 20 districts of Punjab and 12 sites

have been inaugurated by the Prime Minister Imran Khan, they added.

The sources said that 11 sites would be inaugurated in near future.

About the installments, they said the monthly mortgage installments for these houses would be less than Rs. 10,000 per month.

They said that 19,298 low cost housing units have been completed, out of which, Akhuwat has financed 15,734 units.

The sources said that with all the facilitation and incentives offered by the present government the private sector too is keen on low cost housing and has submitted 230 proposals to the Naya Pakistan Housing and Development Authority (NAPHDA) for construction of more than three million housing units across the country.

They said that 48 projects comprising 70,000 housing units have already been shortlisted and negotiations with 42 private parties have been conducted so far.

**Dengue spreading so fast in Punjab, KP**  
Dengue epidemic is spreading so fast in the Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa as there is a constant increase in the number

of patients in Islamabad, Rawalpindi, Lahore, Multan and Peshawar.

The Health Department said on Sunday that there were 68 cases reported during the last 24 hours in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. There are total 1,626 dengue patients in the province and 137 patients are being treated in hospitals.

According to the Health Department, 11 people were diagnosed with dengue in Peshawar during past 24 hours. And the total number of dengue patients in the provincial capital is 338. In Swabi, dengue virus was detected in 14 patients and in Manshera, 9 people were affected by dengue. In Abbottabad, dengue virus was found in 5 people and in Nowshera 8 dengue cases were reported during past 24 hours. So far one patient succumbed to the dengue virus in the province. According to the Islamabad district health officer, the situation was also deteriorating in the federal capital as 64 cases were reported during last 24 hours.

There are 527 dengue patients in Islamabad and 327 patients have died of the virus so far. The situation is really alarming in the federal capital. —Agencies

# Hindutva inspired Indians demo against Pakistanis

ISLAMABAD: A small group of Indian community recently held a demonstration in the United Kingdom to pour their venom against the Pakistani community, which the locals denounced as another attempt by the right-wing Hindu groups to attack Muslims all over the world.

The protest was termed as an effort to create Islamophobic atmosphere in the UK which is rapidly growing in India. The speakers tried to stir sentiments against Pakistani community living in the UK by making announcement to boycott the restaurants run by Pakistanis.

While on the other hand, enlightened Britishers have expressed their serious concerns over the efforts of the Indian government to infuse Hindutva mindset at home and export it into the British society.

They also blamed neo-Nazi Indian regime of polluting the mindset of peaceful and harmonious societies outside. "This campaign is nothing but a form of prejudice and bigotry against Muslims," the British citizens opined.

"This is quite possibly the stupidest thing I have heard in my life. So, these Pakistani people come to the UK for a better life to provide for their family, just like Indians, but our Hindu brother are paint-

ing it as a conspiracy to fund and kill Indian soldiers," another concerned person said.

They said the entire Indian nation was suffering from the Hindutva mindset and were just making an issue out of a non-issue because of their hatred.

A recently held mega online international conference titled 'Dismantling Global Hindutva' in the US was the first academic attempt initiated by academia to understand the undercurrents of Hindutva and its impact on western societies including western campuses of renowned universities. The conference was addressed by speakers from leading universities in the world including Stanford, Harvard, Princeton, University of Chicago, and Berkeley. Over 600 academics across the world attended the online event.

The participants expressed their concerns that Hindutva was becoming a global phenomenon and even the western universities were not safe from its influence propagated by the Indian Hindu students.

The conference highlighted that Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) was promoting Hindutva. Motivated by the Nazi ideology, its regulatory principle was to transform India from a secular democracy to a Brahmin state where Muslims,

Christians Jews and other religious minorities were demoted to the position of second-class citizens.

Speakers were of the view that Hindutva was a political philosophy styled after European fascism of the early twentieth century, an ideology that privileged a cult of personality and authoritarian leadership.

The speakers also noted that the term Hindutva was a strategy based on violence, hatred and terrorism. It is an enemy to democracy and has been targeting freedom of speech since the BJP came into power. They were of the view that hatred was being generated by the Hindutva narrative which was against humanity because the philosophy placed Hindutva as a vehicle, and the message was actually the supremacy of Brahmin Varna over any human bearing stark resemblance to Hitler's neo-Nazi ideology. Speakers were of the view that in the western world, Hinduism was promoted as a culture rather than a religion during the last half a century but now it has changed its face as a brutal and extremist religious monster that wanted to kill everybody except Brahmins.

Hindutva had a history of ill-treatment of women, zero respect for transgender rights, minority exploitation, and extreme policies towards Muslims, Christians,

## Office-bearers of SCST, UBG Secy discuss issues

ISLAMABAD: Zafar Bakhtawari, Secretary General, United Business Group Pakistan, said that the Chamber of Commerce in every district was playing a key role in promoting trade and industry across the country and the establishment of the Sarghoda Chamber of Small Traders (SCST) and Small Industry will further help in promoting the business friendly environment in Sarghoda.

He expressed these views during a visit to Sarghoda Chamber of Small Traders and Small Industry at a meeting at the chamber.

Sh Asif Iqbal, President, Sargodha Chamber of small trade and small industry, said that our chamber has recently been set up and we need guidance and cooperation from other chambers for this. He further added that Sarghoda has lot of potential for agriculture and fruit production it can become a source of foreign exchange by increasing agricultural and fruit exports. Ahmed Hassan Mughal Former President ICCI assured the all possible cooperation by his chamber being located at capital. —DNA

## PM to inaugurate Kamyab Pakistan Programme today

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Imran Khan will inaugurate the Kamyab Pakistan Program (KPP) Today (Monday) under which loans of worth 1.4 trillion rupees will be given to 3.7 million families.

Finance Minister Shaukat Tarin said this in a statement on Sunday. He said that all preparations for the inauguration of the Kamyab Pakistan Program have been completed. He said KPP is a unique program of its kind and it will play a key role in poverty alleviation in the country.

Shaukat Tarin said the program is designed to change the lives of disadvantaged sections of society and empower them financially. He said this is definitely the first program of its kind in Pakistan to connect banks and low-income groups through microfinance institutions. Tarin said it is a practical expression of the state's sense of responsibility toward the poor and vulnerable. He said KPP has five components, which include interest free loans to farmers through successful farmers, interest free loans up to half million rupees to start a business, easy installment financing facility under affordable housing scheme to build one's own house, and provision of skilled based scholarships to the youth. —Online

## Alvi hails Brother Ali for projecting Kashmiris' plight

ISLAMABAD: President Dr. Arif Alvi has commended the famous American rapper Brother Ali for highlighting miseries of the people of Kashmir and their freedom struggle in his song "Don't Walk Away."

In a tweet, President said every word, every sound, every tune and every scream matters.

He said the liberation of Kashmir will be the synchrony of all peaceful human emotions on earth. The President also shared the song, produced by Kashmir Civitas, via twitter. —Online

## Plane struck by bird at Islamabad

ISLAMABAD: A passenger plane was struck by a bird before landing at New Islamabad International Airport on Sunday.

A private airline's flight ER-500 flying from Karachi to Islamabad was preparing to land at the Islamabad airport when it was struck by a bird. However, the pilot of the aircraft managed to land it safely.

Officials at the airport relayed the aircraft's landing gear was damaged due to the bird strike. It has been grounded for necessary repair work, the airline's management said.

The plane was fly back to Karachi on Monday. The management said another aircraft is being arranged to take passengers to the port city. On August 2, a Karachi-bound plane had conceded a bird strike soon after taking off and thus made an emergency landing without suffering any loss to passengers.

The plane suffered mechanical and bodily damage, sources familiar with the incident had said. —DNA

# PR outsources commercial management of nine trains

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Railways had outsourced the commercial management of nine trains to private parties under public private partnership through fair and transparent bidding process during the tenure of the incumbent government.

The basic purpose to outsource the trains were to provide better facilities to the passengers and generate more revenue for the department, an official in the Ministry of Railways told APP.

Pakistan Railways privatized the trains included Mehr Express, Fared Express, Faiz Ahmad Faiz Express, Jinnah Express, Mehran Express, Badar Express,

Sir Syed Express, Ghauri Express, Mianwali Express, he added.

He said the companies which took the commercial management of the trains included S. Jamil and Co. (Pvt) Limited, PRACS, Raas Logistic, As Enterprises, AA Enterprises and SSR Group.

The official said the trains had been awarded through transparent procedure of tendering under Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (PPRA) Rules through advertisement in the leading newspapers.

He said only those trains were awarded whose bids had been received over and above the Pak-

istan Railways earning.

The official said the trains had been awarded with the objective to increase earning and reduce losses of Pakistan Railways, improve cleanliness and provide better food facilities to passengers.

To a question, he said Pakistan Railways was planning to outsource its hospitals in the country to upgrade, expand and rehabilitate them under the public-private partnership.

He said the department had organized a road-show to attract the private sector to join the government in its efforts for improving and upgrading health services in railway hospitals. —APP



ISLAMABAD: A passenger shows his corona vaccination message for taking metro bus ticket from his cell phone. The government enact enhanced business and transport restrictions in high-risk areas. —Online