The Business

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LCCI timings during Ramazan rescheduled

LAHORE: The Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI) office timings have been rescheduled for the Holy month of Ramazan. During the Holy Month of Ramazan, the LCCI office would remain open from 10 am to 3 pm without any break while on Friday's time would from 10 am to 1 pm The LCCI President Mian Nauman Kabir, Senior Vice President Mian Rehman Aziz Chan and Vice President Haris Ateeq said that the decision has been taken to facilitate the LCCI members. —Online

PIA to give SCCI members discount on tickets

SIALKOT: A memorandum of understanding (MoU) signing ceremony was held between Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SCCI) and Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) here. Under the agreement, the PIA would give the SCCI members and their families 15 per cent discount on domestic flights and 10 per cent on international flights in economy and executive economy class to members of the SCCI and their families. President SCCI Mian Imran Akbar welcomed the guests. —APP

Fawad assumes additional charge as Minister Law and Justice

ISLAMABAD: Cabinet Division on Saturday issued notification for giving additional charge of Ministry of Law and Justice to Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Chaudhry Fawad Hussain.

Federal Minister for Information and Law Chaudhry Fawad Hussain assumed the additional charge of Minister of Law and Justice and visited the Law and Justice Division.

The Secretary, Ministry of Law and Justice and other officials of the Ministry received him. The Secretary, Ministry of Law briefed the Federal Minister regarding the affairs of the Ministry. It is to be noted that Prime Minister Imran Khan had given additional charge of Ministry of Law and Justice to Federal Minister for Information Chaudhry Fawad Hussain. **—APP**

ISLAMABAD: Interior Minister Sheikh Rashid Ahmad unveils the curtains to inaugurate Children Park at Ministers Enclave. —Online

PTI wins four tehsil seats out of seven in Dir Lower

PESHAWAR: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) has won four out of the total seven seats in Dir Lower district, while one each seat was secured by JUI, ANP and JI in local government elections (Phase-II), Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa-2022.

According to election results announced by Election Commission, Asim Shoaib of PTI has clinched victory in tehsil Balambat by securing 19,702 votes. The candidate of Jamate Islami, Imran Uddin remained runner up by securing 13,586 votes.

Tehsil Timergara seat was grabbed by JUI candidate Irfan Uddin with 10,901 votes while Kashif Kamal stood second by securing 10,468 votes.

alqilla tehsil won by PTI candidate Ashraf Uddin with 11,238 votes where Fazal Wadud of JI declared second by securing 10,177 votes. Ashfaqur Raheem PTI also won the slot of Khal tehsil seat by securing 7,386 votes and defeated Kaleemullah JI who got 6,758 votes. Similarly, ANP candidate Inayatullah remained successful in Munda tehsil with 9,326 votes while Hamayun Khan JI got 7,610 votes and remained second.

Jamaat-e-Islami won a tehsil Samarbagh seat in the LG elections-2022. Its candidate Saeed Ahmed secured 12,155 votes while Jawad Khan PTI came second with 11,827 votes. Tehsil Adenzai seat won by PTI Feroz Shah who secured 15,518 votes while Azizullah Khan of JI declared second by getting 14,124 votes. **—APP**

World looking for morality-based order, says President Alvi

ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi Saturday said that the world was going through a complex situation and it was desperately waiting for a morality-based world order, dominated by human compassion and equality among humans.

During his interaction with the speakers and participants of Islamabad Security Dialogue under the theme of 'Comprehensive security and re imagining the international cooperation,' the president regretted that human history was replete with wars, destruction and deaths.

He said it was a matter of concern whether the nations had learnt from the history or not. What should be the criterion for the security of states with respect to avoidance of tussles? he posed a question.

Human nature was based upon compassion and repulsion with certain elements of phobia and motivated with a survival instinct which often led to stress and tussle among countries, he added.

The president opined that it was expected that enlightened and educated people entrusted with power would do justice with humanity through a morality-based world order, adding there was divergence in the world when it came to the simultaneous application of the international laws upon different countries.

The president noted that different values for humans posed a threat to the world whereas, inequality in wealth among humans also caused a strain despite the global efforts to bridge the difference.

Enumerating the modern-day challenges, he said misuses of freedom of speech, the spread of misinformation and disinformation through fake news were some of the new challenges emerging in the world.

The president said human confusion had spiraled after the outcome of the rational decisions made by those countries where it was considered to be at its peak.

The president referring to some major human destruction in the world history said, the Mongols onslaught, the 100-year war between England and France, WW1 and WWII led to huge human toll.

The world nations, he said, then looked for certain principles to avoid future wars, adding that among the powerful nations, the geopolitical dialogue would be important.

The president said to ensure global peace, efforts were made to encourage globalization through economic and goods flow among the world countries. It was expected that when flow of goods and economy were linked, it could ensure peace, but it could not be achieved as the flow was not equal out of hypocrisy.

The president said Pakistan had hosted millions of Afghan refugees on its soil for forty years, but on the other hand, refugees were being drowned in the Mediterranean

PTI claims Tehsil Mayor Abbottabad slot

ABBOTTABAD: Much awaited result of Tehsil Abbottabad mayor elections finally announced and PTI candidate Sardar Shujah Nabi claimed victory over PML-N rival Sardar Shamoon Yar Khan.

According to an unofficial result, despite a tough contest between the candidates of the two parties Sardar Shujah Nabi of PTI secured 104750 votes and got a convincing victory with a lead of over 18000 votes while PML-N Sardar Shamoon Yar got 86,256.

The results of Tehsil Havelian were astounding where an independent candidate outran favourite PTI and PML-N candidates, Independent candidate Atif Sher Khan got 31821 votes and won the slot against his rivals Arsal Pervez of PMLN who got 19,312 votes and Aslam Zar Khan of PTI who secured 16,249 votes. According to the sources, independent candidate Atif Sher Khan who won Tehsil Havelian mayor slot has joined hands with PTI. **—APP**

Indonesia supports Pakistan to obtain partner status with ASEAN

ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Indonesia to Pakistan, Adam Mulawarman Tugio, on Saturday said that Indonesia fully supports Pakistan to obtain Full Dialogue Partner status with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), which will provide huge economic opportunities for Pakistan with 623 million of potential trade market of the region.

In an exclusive interview with APP, the Ambassador said that there were two approaches for achieving this goal; first is through an institutional process while the second was that the existing bilateral policy between Pakistan and individual ASEAN member countries need to be addressed through bilateral approach.

On the institutional approach he said, ASEAN and Pakistan have already adopted the action plan, adding that there were 11 areas of importance in which Pakistan and ASEAN countries could work together and one of the areas was trade and investment. The second, he said is related to using the bilateral approach such as Pakistan can build bilateral relations with Indonesia and with other ASEAN member countries and added that by doing this, Pakistan would be able to be accepted as a full dialogue partner status and it would increase political, commercial and economic links with ASEAN member states. The Ambassador further stated that Pakistan had vast potential to increase its exports to Indonesia, mainly textile, garments, leather products, surgical instruments, and fruits. It is pertinent to mention here that the current bilateral trade between Indonesia and Pakistan is around $ 2.6 billion; with balance of trade heavily in favor of Indonesia.

Answering the question related to trade imbalance between both the countries, the Ambassador said the Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA) between the two countries has enhanced Pakistan's exports to Indonesia while in future, by signing the Free Trade Agreement (FTA), trade on both sides can be further enhanced.

Answering a question on Indonesian investment in China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), the Ambassador said that two Indonesian companies are already investing in the Special Economic Zones (SEZs) of Faisalabad (Allama Iqbal Industrial City) and Thatta, Sindh Dhabeji Special Economic Zone.

He said that CPEC project would emerge as a game-changer for the entire region through connectivity to Central Asia and Western China. **—Online**

Pakistan not a part of any block

Continued from Front Page

trajectory were fundamentally transformed.

"While confident of our security and defence capabilities, our priorities are increased trade, investment, energy security, tourism, and people-to-people exchanges. Pakistan will continue to support an equitable and inclusive global order, where no one is left behind. We strive for a world of peace, progress and prosperity, in which benefits of development are shared by all," he added.

The foreign minister further said the challenges and security dilemmas faced by Pakistan today were concomitant to global and regional undercurrents. Pakistani leadership's vision of Naya Pakistan had been focused around economic security and the welfare and well-being of our people.

"In order to focus on these priorities, Pakistan desires peace, security and strategic stability. Pakistan wants to move away from the acrimony and toxicity of the past. We want to move ahead, into a new era of peace and prosperity, and bring the dividends of economic growth and development to our people. In line with our emphasis on shifting from geo-politics to geo-economics, we are advocating peaceful co-existence and win-win cooperation," he opined. The foreign minister further observed that Pakistan's location made it a natural hub for economic confluence for competing states.

The foreign ministry was actively pursuing these objectives through various tools of diplomacy such as economic diplomacy, public diplomacy, digital diplomacy and science diplomacy.

"We are determined to build partnerships beyond our traditional associations. Outreach to Africa has been intensified and our relationships with ASEAN, EU and others are being qualitatively upgraded," he added.

Qureshi said China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), the hallmark of Pakistan's All-weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership with China, was contributing to Pakistan's economic turnaround, in addition to promoting regional connectivity and prosperity. "We envision Pakistan emerging as the gateway to Western China, Afghanistan and Central Asia. We are endeavouring to reap the peace dividends in Afghanistan in the form of enhanced connectivity and trade," he added.

The recent events in Ukraine reflected a failure of diplomacy, he said, adding Pakistan believed that all efforts must be made for the immediate cessation of hostilities to avoid further loss of life, and to address the humanitarian situation. "The current situation is posing an unprecedented threat to international peace and security, and global economic stability. Prices of energy and food commodities in the international market have skyrocketed. Supply chains have been disrupted to the detriment of developing countries," he added.

Qureshi said Pakistan maintained a principled and non-partisan position on the matter.

"We have consistently emphasized the fundamental principles of the UN Charter including non-use and threat of use of force; respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity of all states; and pacific settlement of disputes. —

Call to build up capacity, understanding on int'l law

ISLAMABAD: Experts at a panel discussion on Islamabad Security Dialogue titled "Evolving Challenges and Opportunities in International Law" urged Pakistan on Saturday to build up its indigenous capacity and understanding on international laws to strengthen its endeavors at global foras for justice and equality.

The panel discussion was the sixth session held here under the Islamabad Security Dialogue 2022 with the theme 'Comprehensive Security: Reimagining International Cooperation' moderated by Oves Anwar.

Delivering his keynote address through video link, Justice Paul Pangalangan said that the theme of the session called upon us to find ways for the international law to play its role in challenges faced by all.

International humanitarian law expert Hurst Hannum of TUFTS University said the interpretation of international law has become so flexible that it lost its objectives where human rights have tremendous potential that need recognition to exploit its benefits in conflict resolution. Dr Kubo Macak of ICRC said that there was need to engage on humanitarian law in the context of cyber space. There are three key components of the jurisdiction of implementation of humanitarian laws that include firstly the humanitarian puzzle, he said and added that the increasing cyber armageddon threats arising in the future and its humanitarian cost need to be taken into account as many countries were developing military cyber capabilities.

Secondly, he said the military aspect of cyber attacks was another point of discussion and thirdly, the limits of this behaviour to what extent it could be utilized for hostile activities. He informed that the states had agreed that the international law was applicable in cyber space. He mentioned that the cyber operations' nature of attack would determine application of international humanitarian law. Danae Azaria of UCL Faculty of Law said that there were circumstances that called for state reaction when its interests were under threat. **—APP**

James Karska of Havard and US Naval War College informed that the law on Sea Convention intended to protect biodiversity in exclusive economic zones. "All the sea conventions over the time will have the ability to address territorial disputes as the law on Sea Convention has separate provisions for conflicts", he added.

Toby Landou of DUXTON HILL said that Pakistan had played an important role in protection of foreign direct investment (FDI) and it had a long history of treaties on protection of FDI. "Pakistan has great success in investment arbitration, where the fundamentals of future security demand Pakistan to develop local capacities and understanding of the subject in time before the process", he suggested.

Ahmed Irfan Aslam of AGFP said that the subject matter had become complex and the abilities of the ministries would have to be apt with modern trends to discuss treaties on international laws.

Pakistan's digital media wing on par with other countries: Fawad

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Chaudhry Fawad Hussain on Saturday said concerted efforts were made by the present government to bring its digital media wing on par with that of the other countries.

In fact, it was the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) government which set up the official digital media wing and started the digitalization of the state-owned media organizations, he said while addressing to the participants of Islamabad Security Dialogue here.

He said the state news agency—Associated Press of Pakistan (APP) had been digitalized and would soon be transformed on the pattern of the Reuters and AFP.

As regards the Pakistan Television Corporation (PTV), he said the organization had generated record revenue of Rs 4 billion in this year.

"We have digitalized two channels of the PTV and this year, the revenue of PTV sports was Rs 2.5 billion which is one of the biggest revenue in the history of PTV," he added.

Highlighting the problems confronted by the country in presenting its story to the world and countering the others, he underlined the need for strengthening the film and music industry.

In 1970s, the minister said Pakistan was the third largest film-maker country in the world with a large number of cinemas and screens. In 2005, the film industry faced a massive decline and not a single film was produced.

A massive drop in the numbers of cinemas and screens was also witnessed in the past, he added. Regretting the past governments' least attention to the national narrative, he said the modern wars were fought in the media and the new technologies, thus, gained sheer importance. He also pointed out the limited budget of the External Publicity Wing and mentioned different incidents including Noor Muqadam case on which Indians pushed an extensive anti-Pakistan narrative on the social media networking sites.

Fawad said the Indian state media was also involved in such smear campaigns against Pakistan. Disinformation lab was also set up by India to propagate false news against Pakistan, he added. Despite presence of huge media in the country, he said a false propaganda was launched against Pakistan just to propagate that the media was not free there.

Currently, there had been 150 channels in the country, including 43 foreign ones, he said adding that the media was more free in Pakistan than other countries. **—APP**

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