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Development in education, health sector top priority

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Ahsan refuses to take action against those insulted him



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Will the UK finally have its first 'Brown' PM!

LONDON: From political pundits and bookies to 'psychic' seals and fortune tellers, the question of who will be the Conservative party's next leader — and the UK prime minister — is being hotly debated on screens, at homes and in pubs across the UK.

Since Boris Johnson's resignation on July 7 was forced by junior ministers, around 10 names have been floated as contenders for the key slot, though not all of them have said that they want the job. Half of these MPs and ministers are from ethnic minority backgrounds. In 2021, 14 per cent of the UK population was from a minority ethnic background. Following the 2019 general election, six cabinet members and 10pc of Members of the House of Commons were from ethnic

minority backgrounds. Sajid Javid has held various cabinet positions and is widely believed to be a man to watch for the race. Born to Pakistani immigrants from Toba Tek Singh who moved to the UK in the 1960s, Javid was born in Rochdale and grew up in Bristol. He has served in several cabinet positions under three Tory PMs since 2012, even getting the top job of home secretary in 2018. Sajid Javid has the experience, Rishi Sunak the charm; polls clearly favour Ben Wallace. Most recently, he was in Johnson's cabinet as health secretary. Appointed to the post as the UK was in the throes of the pandemic, Javid authored a 'post-crisis blueprint' for how to renew growth across every part of the UK. —AFP

PM phones King Hamad for trade, investment ties

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister (PM) Shahbaz Sharif while reiterating resolve to promote old brotherly ties with Bahrain has said close ties have provided opportunities to beef up cooperation in diverse areas particularly promotion of bilateral trade and investment. He expressed these views during a telephonic conversation with King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa of Bahrain on Saturday and exchanged greetings on the auspicious occasion of Eid-ul-Adha. The Prime Minister also conveyed his best wishes for the continued progress and prosperity of the brotherly people of Bahrain. Reciprocating the warm Eid greetings from the Prime Minister, King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa extended best

wishes to the people of Pakistan on this occasion. He expressed his resolve to broaden mutual cooperation for the benefit of the people of the two countries. Pakistan and Bahrain enjoy longstanding cordial relations, rooted firmly in shared faith, mutual understanding and commonality of interests. **Nation salutes Fatima Jinnah for her role** Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif Saturday said that the entire nation paid tributes to the great contributions of Madire-Millat Mohtarma Miss Fatima Jinnah who waged the struggle for creation and construction of Pakistan and always supported the founder of Pakistan, Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah. —APP

India sending arms in 'wheat' containers

ISLAMABAD: India under Hindutva government led by Narendra Modi can go to any extent to malign Pakistan, and for this, the regime has hired a section of Indian electronic and print media as well as a gang of social activists. Sources said that right from frequent staged terrorist incidents in the past to the killing of a tailor in Udaipur, Rajasthan, and the transportation of so-called wheat in the name of humanitarian aid to Afghanistan, India spares no opportunity to harm and defame Pakistan. When it comes to transportation of 'wheat' containers, the sources said that Pakistan knew that whenever India was given a concession it exploited the opportunity against Pakistan. However, in order to

avoid any distrust, Islamabad initially gave India one-month time period to accomplish the task of sending wheat to Afghanistan via Wahga border. First, India failed to accomplish the task in the given period, and secondly it started blaming Pakistan for 'stealing significant amount of wheat India had sent to Afghanistan'. The sources said that Pakistan, then gave India an additional two-month period to send its commitment to Afghanistan, but it deliberately slowed down the process to keep the issue alive and create mistrust between Pakistan and the Afghan brethren. The source revealed that India had also been using the Wahga route to send weapons. —Online



COLOMBO: Protestors gather inside the compound of Sri Lanka's Presidential Palace.

■ Rajapaksa protected by a military unit, escorted to safety

Sri Lankan president flees as protesters storm his residence

COLOMBO: Sri Lanka's President Gotabaya Rajapaksa fled his official residence on Saturday shortly before protesters, angered by an unprecedented economic crisis, stormed and overran the compound. Huge crowds had surrounded the leader's home to demand his resignation, blaming government mismanagement for the painful downturn. As protesters surged at the gates of the President's Palace, troops guarding the compound fired in the air to hold back the tide until Rajapaksa was safely removed, a top defence source told media on condition of anonymity. "The president was escorted to safety," the source added. "He is still the president; he is being protected by a military unit." Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe, who would assume the presidency in the event of Rajapaksa's resignation, has called an urgent cabinet meeting to discuss a "swift resolution" to the political crisis, his office said. Members of the crowd broadcast live footage on social media showing hundreds of people walking

through the President's Palace. The colonial-era state mansion is one of Sri Lanka's key symbols of state power and officials said Rajapaksa's departure raised questions as to whether he intended to remain in office. "We are awaiting instructions," a top civil servant told AFP. "We still don't know where he is, but we know he is with the Sri Lanka navy and is safe." Colombo's main hospital said 14 people were being treated there after being hit by tear gas canisters. Sri Lanka has suffered through months of food and fuel shortages, lengthy blackouts and galloping inflation after running out of foreign currency to import vital goods. Thousands of people had poured into the capital for the demonstration, the latest expression of unrest sparked by the crisis. Police had withdrawn a curfew order issued on Friday after opposition parties, rights activists and the bar association threatened to sue the police chief. Thousands of anti-government protesters ignored the order and even forced railway authorities to operate trains to take them to Colombo

for Saturday's rally, officials said. "The curfew was not a deterrent, in fact it encouraged more people to get on the streets in defiance," the defence official said. "Passengers had commandeered trains to reach Colombo." The country has nearly exhausted already scarce supplies of petrol, but protesters backed by the main opposition parties hired private buses to travel to the capital. Demonstrators have camped outside Rajapaksa's seafront office to demand his resignation over the government's mismanagement of the crisis. Soldiers armed with assault rifles were bussed into Colombo on Friday to reinforce police guarding Rajapaksa's official residence. Authorities said they had deployed nearly 20,000 troops and police officers for a security operation to protect the president. Sri Lanka has defaulted on its \$51 billion external debt and has been in bailout talks with the International Monetary Fund. Nine people were killed and hundreds wounded when clashes erupted across the country after Rajapaksa loyalists attacked peaceful protesters outside the

Shehbaz felicitates Ummah, overseas Pakistanis on Eid Alvi for rising above personal interests, selfishness

ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi has urged the nation to reaffirm their resolve to rise above the personal interests, avarice and selfishness and support the deserving and helpless people in the society by absorbing the spirit of compassion, sacrifice, consideration and sympathy. In a message on the occasion of Eid-ul-Azha, 1443 Hijrah, being observed in the country on Sunday, the president said that considering the financial situation of the country, the people were required to utilize their passion of sacrifice, so that they could emerge out of the present day challenge as a strong nation. Felicitating the Pakistani nation and the Muslim Ummah on the auspicious and joyous occasion of Eid, the president said that no nation could aspire to achieve development till it had ingrained quality of sacrifice as this human spirit was of global significance. He said the real meaning behind sac-

rificing animals was to sacrifice human desires for the achievement of high ideals. Such an urge equipped humans with capability that could help them overcome all the hurdles and save them falling from the right path, he added. The religious occasion reminded the Muslims of the great sacrifice of Hazrat Ibrahim (AS) and Hazrat Ismail (AS) who had bowed their heads in the obedience of Allah Almighty. The day also made the faithful to reiterate their resolve for offering any kind of sacrifice in the obedience to Allah Almighty. Another report adds: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Saturday congratulated the overseas Pakistanis and the Muslim Ummah on the occasion of Eid-ul-Azha. On his Twitter handle, the prime minister said the sacred day was reminiscent of the passion of sacrifice and the obedience to Allah Almighty. He further stressed that the Muslims Ummah must play its collective role to

assist and support the poor and deserving Muslims. Eid-ul-Azha is being observed by the Muslims in different parts of the world at the end of this year's Hajj. **Raza Ashraf, Zahid Durani greet nation on Hajj, Eid** Speaker National Assembly Raja Pervaiz Ashraf and Deputy Speaker Zaid Akram Durani felicitated the nation and whole Muslim Ummah on the auspicious occasion of Hajj and Eid-ul-Azha. While congratulating the Muslims who embarked on Hajj journey this year, they said that we must be thankful to Allah for the blessing of Hajj resumption this year after the Covid-19 Pandemic and travel restrictions, said a press release. Speaker Raja Pervaiz Ashraf said that Eid-ul-Azha reflects the values of sacrifice, compassion and happiness for us; however the true joy relates with taking care of the needy and to include them in our happiness. —APP

Chaos at stations as PR fails to run trains on time

LAHORE: Pakistan Railways authorities at the Lahore Railways Station are failed to provide relief to the people who wanted to go back to their native areas across the country. A number of trains have been delayed and PR authorities were not able to overcome the issue. The delayed situation has put the passengers in a difficult position as they had bought the tickets and completely rely on the Pakistan Railway's efficient system. The train system was disrupted from the Jhimpir Railways Station and later it was restored. But the situation has not improved and passengers are still in a difficult situation. Passengers said that the train schedule was accidentally derailed but PR authorities were not providing any relief to them. On the other hand, the PR spokesperson claimed that Pakistan Railways fares were almost half in comparison to other coaches. He said PR authorities have been working day and night to ensure a smooth flow of trains on time. He claimed that no train was canceled despite the suspension of the Pakistan Railways operation at the Jhimpir Railways Station. —DNA

Gold price at Rs142,200 per tola

ISLAMABAD: The price of 24 karat per tola gold remained stagnant at Rs.142,000 on Saturday, All Sindh Sarafa Jewellers Association announced. The price of 10 gram 24 karat gold and 10 gram 22 karat also remained unchanged at Rs.121,914 and Rs.111,754 respectively. The price of per tola and ten gram silver witnessed no change and was sold at Rs1520 and Rs 1,303.15 respectively. The price of gold in international market increased by \$1 and was sold at \$1843 against its sale at \$1742, the association reported. —APP

Eid-ul-Azha to be celebrated today

LAHORE: Eid-ul-Azha will be celebrated today (Sunday) with religious fervour to commemorate the great sacrifice of Hazrat Ibrahim and Hazrat Ismael (AS). The day will dawn with special prayers in mosques for well-being of the Ummah and progress, prosperity and security of the country. Eid prayers congregations will be held at mosques, eidgahs and open places in all cities, towns and villages. Ulema in their Eid sermons will highlight the significance of the philosophy of great sacrifice offered by Hazrat Ibrahim and Hazrat Ismael (AS). People will offer sacrifice of animals to follow Sunnah of Hazrat Ibrahim (AS). —Online

Holiday notice

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Offices of The Business will remain shut down today (Sunday) and tomorrow (Monday) on account of Eid-ul-Azha. There will, therefore, be no issue of the newspaper of Monday and Tuesday.



Eid greetings
Daily The Business wishes its readers and advertisers a happy Eid greeting on the occasion of Eid-ul-Azha.



KARACHI: People struggle to move forward in a flooded street after heavy monsoon rain.

Heavy rain in Islamabad, Swabi, Karachi and other cities

From Our Staff Correspondent

ISLAMABAD: Urban flooding triggered by heavy rains wreaked havoc on Islamabad's low-lying Sector H-13 where rainwater entered the houses. Rain water has also entered in basements of buildings while residents of the areas await rescue teams. On the other hand, low-lying areas in Swabi are flooded as heavy rain fell in parts of the city. Citizens are facing problems due to the flooded roads. Roof of a house also fell in Swabi due to heavy rainfall. A woman and her daughter lost their lives due to the incident. While heavy rain also poured in different

parts of Karachi. Heavy rain poured areas like PECHS, Sharah-e-Faisal, Nursery, Manzoor Colony, Bahadarabad and vicinities. Earlier, Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD) on Friday forecast rain and wind-thundershower in Islamabad and other parts of the country like Punjab, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Balochistan, Lower Sindh, and Kashmir. While issuing a warning, the spokesperson of PMD said, heavy falls might generate flooding in local Nullahs of Lasbela, Naseerabad, Gwadar, Panjgur, Turbat, Awaran, Barkhan, Quetta, Bolan, Kohlu, Potohar region, northeast and central Punjab.

Heavy falls are also likely in Mandan, Peshawar, Nowshera, Haripur, and surrounding areas during the same period. While rain with wind-thundershower is also expected in Gilgit Baltistan and Kashmir. Heavy falls are likely in Azad Kashmir. **Navy continues relief work in rain-hit areas of Balochistan** Pakistan Navy continues relief operations in remote coastal areas of Balochistan affected by recent rains and floods. According to Pakistan Navy, in Windar dozens of people trapped in the floodwaters were evacuated. **Continued on Back Page**