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# Positive Post

Monthly publication to create a soft and positive image of Pakistan

## Kayani pays tribute to Gayari martyrs



Hira Aijaz  
BS42 3733

Chief of Army Staff General Ashfaq Parvez Kayani has said

that the nation will never forget the sacrifices rendered by its jawans.

The army chief was speaking at a commemorative event held near Siachen glacier on Wednesday to honour the 140 army men who died on April 7, 2012 when a huge part of a mountain fell on them.

He said the army after the in-

cident vowed to search all its jawans buried alive under the 120-foot-long and 70-footwide boulder and hand over their bodies to the heirs.

‘It was an impossible task but the army determinedly accepted it as a challenge,’ he said, adding the long drawn search was carried out in a 13,000 feet high area covered with snow.

Gen Kayani said Pakistani and international experts called the search a futile effort and suggested to declare the site a mass grave.

Some experts even said that-



seven to eight years would be needed to dig out the bodies but despite all difficulties, the army was unwavering in its determination, he recalled.

‘It is a matter of satisfaction that the jawans of Pakistan army completed the task with unprecedented courage and persistence.

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## Move to curb smuggling of arms into Karachi



Sehar Nadeem  
BS41 3607

Amid the on-going targeted operations across the city

and dewatering drive jointly launched by the home department and the Karachi Metropolitan Corporation, the Sindh government has approached the authorities in Balochistan to stem the flow of illegal arms from the neighbouring province, it emerged.

A recent meeting between officials from the two sides Sindh and Balochistan weighed multiple ways to curb the trafficking of illicit arms from Balochistan to Karachi.

In this regard, the Sindh government also approached the authorities in Islamabad to seek their assistance to meet the challenge. ‘The recent contact and coordination between the Sindh and Balochistan government is in line with the Supreme Court directives which asked for proper check on arms smuggling to the city,’ said a source privy to the fresh development. ‘The apex court expressed severe concerns over growing weaponisation in the city and asked for effective measures to check the arms supply chain as

*Contd. Pg. 6*

## UNDP to set up policy support unit in Balochistan



Ahmed Jamal  
BS37 3165

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) will set up a policy support and reform unit in Balochistan.

According to an official statement issued here on Wednesday, an agreement to that effect was signed by Balochistan Additional Chief Secretary Aslam Shakir and UNDP Country Director MarcAndre Franche in Islamabad.

Balochistan Chief Minister’s Chief Coordinator Dr Ishaque Baloch also attended the meeting.

The unit is part of the Strengthening Participatory Federalism and Decentralisation Project of the UNDP recently launched in Pakistan. The unit will be set up at the Civil Secretariat in Quetta and will work under the guidance of Chief Minister Dr Abdul Malik Baloch.

The establishment of the unit will be facilitated by the planning and development department of the provincial government.

The unit will focus on providing technical assistance, generating requisite analysis and facilitating policy research to develop the post 18th Amendment policy and institutional



framework for an effective transition management in the province.

The unit will also be responsible for studying legislative, institutional and fiscal spaces provided to the provincial government by the 18th Amendment and the Seventh NFC Award. It will also provide technical assistance to respective tiers of the government on developing inter-sectoral policy frameworks.

Renowned economist Dr Kaiser Bengali will head the unit while the provincial government has nominated Dr

*Contd. Pg. 7*

**EDITOR'S NOTE**

Student life is full of fun, discovery, emotional attachments and stress. But as clichéd as it sounds, it's a preparation ground for all that's later to come in life. Most of us aspire to have successful careers and to achieve something in life. But few of us know what we want to do in our life, or more importantly, what are we good at. As students, we fail to recognise our inner talents, and end up trying to better ourselves in fields that we simply don't have the natural talents for. The trick is to spend time with people who have great observational skills, teachers, parents, friends, and ask them to tell you your strengths and weaknesses.

Explore and invest more in your strengths. But perhaps what matters the most is the will to work really hard, avoid tempting shortcuts, and focus more on "learning" than on "earning" in at least the first two years of your career.

A compilation of news made by students of Mass Communication and Media Studies of Greenwich University to highlight the positive aspects of Pakistan

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**Extracts from her autobiography published Malala's first thought after being shot revealed**



Warda Sulaiman Ahmed  
BS41 3600

Malala Yousufzai's first thought was 'Thank God I'm not dead' as she woke up terrified in a British hospital after a Taliban gunman shot her in the head, according to extracts from her autobiography published in the Sunday Times newspaper.



But the 16-year-old said she was unable to talk, had no idea where she was and was unsure even of her own name when she emerged from a coma after six days.

In the extract from her book 'I am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban', which is to be published on Tuesday, Malala said she remembered almost nothing of the attack itself.

The last thing she recalled on Oct 9, 2012, the day she was shot, was sitting with her friends in a school bus as it rounded an army checkpoint in the militancy-hit Swat Valley.

Friends told her that a masked gunman came on board the bus, asked 'Who is Malala?' and then lifted a gun to her head and fired. Her friend said Malala squeezed her hand.

'I woke on Oct 16, a week after the shooting. The first thing I thought was, 'Thank God I'm not dead'. But I had no idea where I was. I knew I was not in my homeland,' she wrote in the extract published by the British newspaper.

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**Cardiac surgery unit for children at CMCH promise**

Ahmed Jamal  
BS37 3165

Senior Education Minister Nisar Ahmed Khuhro has said that a fully-fledged modern cardiac surgery unit exclusively for children with cardiac diseases will be established at the Chandka Medical College Hospital.

He was speaking at a seminar after inaugurating the cardiac pacing laboratory in the hospital's cardiology department on Friday.

The event coincided with the World Heart Day 2013.

Mr Khuhro observed that many children with different heart ailment had to go to India for extensive treatment but proper facilities would now be made available at the CMCH.

For upgraded cardiac treatment facilities for children, the management of the Shaheed Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto Medical University (SMBBMU) had promised a donation of Rs20 million, he disclosed,



and announced a matching grant from the provincial government to launch the project.

He hoped that after execution of the project, no child would have to be referred to India for extensive cardiac intervention. He noted that once the modern facilities were in place, the hospital would be able to offer proper treatment facilities like angiography, by-pass and related laboratory tests.

The minister underlined the need for developing cardiac-friendly habits including regular exercise. He also advised people to prefer vegetables and food with minimum fat and refrain from smoking in order to maintain excellent cardiac health.

Referring to an earlier donation of two small ambulances to facilitate transporta-

Contd. Pg. 7

## Five trauma centres in Badin planned



Amal Khan  
BS37 3219

Sindh Environment, Parliamentary Affairs and Human

Rights Minister Dr Sikandar Ali Mandhro has said that 41 trauma centres in Sindh, including one centre each in five Taluka headquarters of Badin district, will be constructed to provide immediate and compulsory healthcare facilities to the people of the area.

Speaking to the people gathered during his visit to the under-construction Civil Hospital of district headquarters of Badin on Wednesday, he said the hospital was being upgraded at a cost of Rs1,100 million which would also cater for half a million people of neighbouring districts.



'The hospital will be equipped with the latest laboratories and a complete strength of specialists, surgeons and paramedical staff will be made available there round-the-clock so that the people do not need to take their patients to other big hospitals in Karachi and Hyderabad,' he said.

Sindh chief minister was keen to provide basic health facilities to the people on their doorstep and 17 more hospitals on the same pattern were being constructed in the province, he added.

Contd. Pg. 6

## Train ride to promote tourism in KP

Warda Sulaiman Ahmed  
BS41 3600

The Tourism Corporation Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (TCKP) will arrange a train ride for people from Peshawar to Attock Khurd on weekends to promote tourism in the province, according to a press release.



TCKP in collaboration with Pakistan Railways took people from different walks of life on an 'innovative' train ride from Peshawar to the rich heritage site Attock Khurd the other day, the release said.

It added that the event called 'Excursion trip to Attock Khurd' was an innovative

and adventurous tour for those, who took the train ride for the first time.

Speaking on the occasion, Managing Director Tarik Jamil said that TCKP had always been a trendsetter, especially at a time when the province faced numerous security issues.

'The aim has always been to promote a softer image of the province and safeguard its rich natural heritage. This is one of such projects and very soon it will be open on weekends for the general public,' he said.

Minister for Tourism Mehmud Khan also said that tourism was important sector but over the years it faced great losses.

The government was planning to open more opportunities to the tourists and that was why such unique proj

Contd. Pg. 7

## Pakistan, Russia agree to jointly combat narcotics

Ahmed Jamal  
BS37 3165

Pakistan and Russia have pledged to make joint efforts in controlling trafficking and production of drugs and narcotics, particularly in Asia. The two sides agreed to enhance their cooperation against drugs when director of the Federal Drugs Control Service of the Russian Feder-



ation, Viktor P. Ivanov, called on President Mamnoon Hussain at the Presidency.

'Bilateral relations between Pakistan and Russia with particular focus on drugs and nar-

cotics control came under discussion during the meeting,' the president's spokesman said.

During the meeting, President Hussain said diplomatic relations between the two countries had improved in the past few years because of bilateral contacts at different levels.

Pakistan viewed Russia as a factor of stability and peace and closer ties and cooperation with it would further enhance chances of stability in the region, he added.

'The government accords highest priority and has remained actively involved with the UN and other international counter-narcotics partners to combating narco-trade and drug trafficking.

Contd. Pg. 7

## Drive against illegal number plates begins

Sehar Nadeem  
BS41 3607

The recent drive against illegal and fancy number plates was a good step by the police, Rangers and responsible members of civil society — at least in theory. Though many official vehicles belonging to government officers and a few members of parliament were checked and impounded, this drive is already failing. Being a witness to this sort of snap check, I have some criticism as well as some suggestions.

In District South, most snap checkpoints were established on major roads of DHA, like Khayaban-e-Shamsheer. Quite conveniently, these are set up in such a way that there was always a major road crossing prior to the checkpoint. And that works as an escape route for some who make an easy detour. I



personally have seen many drivers of tinted SUVs, fancy number plates and gun-toting guards sitting in the rear of their vehicles, make a sudden diversion before the checkpoint on Khayaban-e-Shamsheer became a snap checkpoint.

Secondly, it is amazing to see that cars belonging to senior officials sometimes have no number plates at all and they are escorted by the pilot as well. One such vehicle is a black Camry with no number plate and is always accompanied by a police escort. Another one is a black Prado Landcruiser, which is led by a pilot and followed by many police and Rangers vehicles. If these VVIPs are above the law and the same LEAs are

Contd. Pg. 6

## ECC approves 500,000-ton urea import

Hira Aijaz  
BS42 3733

The Economic Coordination Committee (ECC) of the cabinet approved a proposal on Wednesday to import 500,000 tons of urea fertiliser for the Rabi season from the open international market.

A meeting of the ECC, presided over by Finance Minister Ishaq Dar, directed the Trading Corporation of Pakistan (TCP) to ensure shipment of 300,000 tons of urea in November and 200,000 tons in December.

It directed the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Resources to ensure supply of gas during Rabi to domestic fertiliser units in accordance with their quota allocations to enable them to meet their production targets. The meeting constituted a committee headed by Minister for Water and Power Khwaja Mohammad Asif and comprising Board of Investment Chairman Zubair Umar, the chief executive of Engineering Development Board, Chairman of the Federal Board of Revenue and



secretary of industries to prepare an automobile policy in 45 days.

The committee was directed to seek views of representatives of automobile manufacturers and car vendors and circulate the draft policy widely to elicit proposals from stakeholders.

An official who attended the meeting said that none of the seven ministers and several federal secretaries present in the meeting said anything about the increase in electricity tariff announced two days ago. When the finance minister took up the matter, Khwaja Asif and Information Minister Pervez Rashid said they had addressed concerns raised by the media.

An official statement said the ECC noted with satisfaction that benchmarks agreed with the IMF had been achieved in

*Contd. Pg 7*

## Koreans may invest in steel sector

Amal Khan  
BS37 3219

Korean investors are considering investing around \$400 million in Pakistan's steel sector, says Tuwairqi Steel Mills Limited (TSML) Project Director Zaigham Adil Rizvi.



Talking to the media at a local hotel here on Sunday, he said the Korean investors had also announced that they would not get any profit out of their investment for next five years for the growth of the steel industry. He said the steel mills had expedited exploring and digging of indigenous iron ore from Mashki Chah district of Balochistan for its DRI (direct-reduced iron) plant production.

In order to get more indigenous iron ore, surveys of different sites across the country, including Chiniot and Faisalabad, had also been conducted in an effort to save precious foreign reserves being spent on the raw material import and to generate employment opportunities.

To a question, Mr Rizvi said utilisation of local iron ore, having required contents, in

furnace would not only enhance the productivity of DRI plant but would also strengthen the country's economy. Korean steel experts had issued a certificate indicating that the DRI plant of the TSML had been the most cost and energy efficient in the world but it needed government's support in getting infrastructure to get iron ore from Balochistan and other parts of the country as well as natural gas supply on agreed prices.

The project director said that the mills had already charged its reduction furnace through indigenous iron ore taken from Balochistan. The local iron ore had the required contents needed to produce quality steel, he said, adding that the Koreans were of the view that there existed a great potential in Pakistan's steel sector.

*Courtesy: Express Tribune*

## Pakistan's role in physics Nobel work recalled

Sehar Nadeem  
BS41 3607

The Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission (PAEC) has hailed the 2013 Nobel Prize for Physics and pointed to the contribution it said Pakistan had made to the work carried out at the European Organisation for Nuclear Research (Cern) which discovered the so-called 'God Particle.'

Peter Higgs of Britain and Francois Englert of Belgium won the Nobel on Tuesday for conceiving of the God Particle which confers mass. The prize-winning theory is

central part of the Standard Model of particle physics which discusses how fundamental forces can be combined into a single unified force – a theory pioneered by Nobel laureate Prof Abdus Salam.

In a statement on Thursday, the PAEC said Pakistani scientists had played a leading role in establishing ties with Cern and took responsibility of constructing 8 out of 10 magnet supports for CMS detector. The magnet supports installed at Cern are labelled 'Made in Pakistan'.

In the year 2000, the country

took a major initiative when the PAEC along with the National Center for Physics made commitment to supply Resistive Plate Chamber.

The PAEC was also involved in the central tracker laser alignment system for the CMS experiment. Pakistani scientists and engineers have also contributed to the construction of Atlas experiment.

The important role played by the PAEC regarding the timely supply and excellent quality of vital parts of the detectors was recognised by Cern through granting 'Best Supplier Award' in 2006.

According to the PAEC, Pakistani scientists are also involved in the analysis of the



enormous data being generated by Large Hadron Collider experiments. Pakistan can proudly claim that in these experiments, not only during the initial period of infrastructure erection but also during experimental phase, Pakistani scientists and engineers have significantly contributed in this international venture.

*Courtesy: Dawn*



## Young voices across two nations

Hira Aijaz  
BS42 3733

What is your country like? What school do you go to? What is your favourite festival? These and other such questions were posed by students from India and Pakistan through letters, postcards and oral histories in the 'Exchange for Change: Pakistan India 2012-2013' exhibition at the Sadequain Gallery, Frere Hall.

Postcards written by Pakistani students, aged between 10 and 14 years, ranged from celebrating their birthdays to enjoying themselves at a Basant festival and to discussing the beauty of Shogran, the tourist spot in the northern areas. Nearly all postcards and letters were jotted down in English but there was one written by Irshad, a student of Class VIII at Gulshan-i-Iqbal Public School, in Urdu who described everything in Pakistan as 'khuobsoorat'.

Letters by Indian students discussed a diverse range of topics such as Ganesh Chaturthi festival, collecting shells as a

hobby, watching Indian films like English Vinglish and Oh My God among other subjects and were impressive for their clarity and penmanship.

Also displayed at the exhibition were a mish-mash of cut-outs that was labelled as collage work on themes such as historical monuments and cultural practices. But there was a particular collage work made by BVS Parsi High School students that brought a smile to one's face. For instance, in their collage work titled 'School Life' they had inserted a cheeky Q & A one of which was 'Most wonderful news: Teacher is absent'.

Oral histories were also exhibited in which students interviewed with their grandparents focusing on their recollections of life before Partition. However, this was marred by poor audio quality.

The project was first launched with 2,400 students from 10 schools in Karachi, Lahore, Delhi and Mumbai in September 2010 with the collaboration between the Citizens Archive of Pakistan and Routes2Roots, an Indian non-profit organisation.



This time round the project began in 2012 and expanded to 17 schools in Karachi, Lahore, Rawalpindi, Delhi, Chandigarh & Mumbai and comprised 3,500 students.

Schools from Pakistan that participated in the 'Exchange for Change' project included Mama Parsi School, BVS Parsi High School, AMI School, School of Technical Sciences, the Trust School, The Citizens Foundation, Quality School Foundation, Quaid-i-International School, White House Grammar School and Gulshan-i-Iqbal Public School.

The schools participating in the project from India are Gem Public School, Saupins School, The British School, Adarsh Vidyalaya, Shree Amulakh Amichand Bhimji Vividlakshi Vidyalaya, Guru Harikrishnan School and Tagore International School.

*Courtesy: The Nation*

## Waar beats domestic box office record with opening day take of Rs 11.4m

Ahmed Jamal  
BS37 3165

The most anticipated movie of the year, Waar, opened on the first day of Eid ul Azha on 42 screens across Pakistan and beat the box office record for an opening day take of Rs11.4 million.

With Rs11,397,930 in ticket sales, Waar broke the previous record set by the Shahrukh Khan-starrer Chennai Express, which had mustered around Rs9 million on the first day of exhibition earlier in the year.

Figures from all the 42 screens on which the Shaan-starrer Waar opened have not yet come in and the overall tally for the action film is expected to rise further. The film cost \$2.5 million to make and is expected to be distributed in 25 countries. Waar, which has seen most cinemas booked out for the entirety of its opening



week, is expected to rake in Rs55 million in its first week on current trends. If it manages to do that, it will beat Chennai Express' all time high first week take by a few millions. It will also make it the highest grossing domestic film of the year, out-earning the other blockbuster, Mein Hoon Shahid Afridi, which earned Rs55.4 million.

Waar's first week on the box office has been helped by the unusually long Eid holidays and a weekend immediately afterwards.

*Courtesy: Dawn*

## Govt to use media to defend 'unpopular decision'

Sehar Nadeem  
BS41 3607

A short documentary made by Aisha Gazdar on so-called honour killings — 'The Honour Deception' — has won the best documentary Jury Award at the second Delhi Shorts International Film Festival held on Oct 12. There were about 80 films (documentary and feature) showcased in the festival from countries around the world, including Brazil, Japan, Mexico, Belgium, New Zealand and India.

'The Honour Deception' is a 16-minute film which highlights the actual reasons behind the so-called honour killings in the country, especially in parts of upper Sindh.

A previous film by Ms Gazdar, 'The Silent Voices', about home-based women workers, had won the best film award in the Canadian Labour International Film Festival.

*Courtesy: Dawn*

## Contd. Kiyani pay tribute

The army men with the help of 50 excavation equipment worked day and night and recovered bodies of 133 martyrs, he noted.

He said the search would continue until the remaining bodies were found and handed over to their loved ones for burial.

The army chief thanked the Frontier Works Organisation, National Database and Registration Authority, international community and other organisations for their help in the search operation.

*Courtesy: Dawn*

## Contd. Five truma centres

He said that such a modern hospital could not be run without the help of community partners and he was of the view that the administrative control of the hospital should be handed over to an independent board comprising private and public members.

The minister was accompanied by a team doctors comprising Prof Dr Abdul Bari, Prof Mohammed Ameen Chino and Dr Adnan Asdar.

*Courtesy: Dawn*

## Contd. Extracts from her autobiography published Malala's first thought ater being shot revealed

Malala said she tried to speak but there was a tube in her neck, while her left eye was 'very blurry and everyone had two noses and four eyes'.

'All sorts of questions flew through my waking brain: where was I? Who had brought me there? Where were my parents? Was my father alive? I was terrified.

'The only thing I knew was that Allah had blessed me with a new life.

A doctor gave her an alpha-bet board and she spelled out the words 'country' and 'father' -- her father was headmaster of the school that Malala had attended in Swat.

'The nurse told me I was in Birmingham, but I had no idea

## Contd. Move to curb smuggling of arms into Karachi

well as reforms in the licensing regime.

He said the recent meetings and discussion from the two sides were part of Sindh government's organised campaign against illegal arms mainly in Karachi for which it had also imposed a ban on the issuance of arms licences. The measures agreed upon by the Sindh and Balochistan governments would add value to the drive, he added. Only last week the Sindh government had imposed a ban on the issuance of arms licences with an immediate effect just before launching a major campaign against illegal weapons in the city in line with the Supreme Court orders that include verification of hundreds of thousands of arms licences issued so far. Also, the authorities had decided that a database of weapons sold by arms dealers in Karachi over the past five years would be compiled. According to an official statement, the authorities had decided that people would be asked through the print and broadcast media to 'surrender' illegal arms voluntarily for which they would be offered 15 days. The government

fixed Oct 11 as the deadline for the holders of illicit weapons to surrender their arms.

Along the dewatering campaign, an official said, there was a need to find out and cap the source of the arms supply, to arrest those involved in gunrunning, and to break the back of networks supplying the city with illicit weapons. Once the supply lines dry up, criminals and militants would have a far more difficult time procuring the weapons needed for their deadly business, he added.

The Sindh government move also echoed in a report that it had recently submitted in the Supreme Court.

The report titled 'steps taken to improve law and order situation in compliance of the orders of honourable Supreme Court of Pakistan passed on August 30, 2013' filed by the chief secretary briefly hinted at measures on these lines.

'Chief secretary Sindh recently held a meeting with chief collector of customs enforcement, Karachi and the collector customs MCC Gwadar to ascertain the way

and means through which illicit arms and ammunition is smuggled into Karachi [in order to] curb this menace, said the report.

'It emerged that due to lack of coordination among the provincial law enforcement agencies and customs authorities, non-communication of credible intelligence information to customs in advance and resource constraints, the enforcement mechanism has not been very effective.

Therefore, the report said, the chief secretary made a reference to the Federal Board of Revenue to take measures for effective enforcement to curb illegal trafficking of arms. The chief secretary also made a reference to the ministry of interior for timely sharing of intelligence reports with the customs authorities so that they could 'efficiently intercept' the arms being smuggled into Karachi. 'The ministry of interior has also been requested to equip the enforcement machinery with modern technology methods to check the movement of arms and smuggling of other goods,' added the report.

*Courtesy: Dawn*

## Contd. Drive against illegal

protecting them, then the police and Rangers have no right to question the owner of any other vehicle without a number plate. Such officers should be punished and their vehicles confiscated.

The CPLC, police, Rangers and members of civil society should establish a safe helpline where citizens can anonymously report illegal licence plates, as well as shady vehicles in their areas. As long as the people in power consider themselves to be above the law, they should not expect the public to start following it any time soon.

*Courtesy: Express Tribune*

*Courtesy: Dawn*

**Contd. ECC approves 500,000-ton urea import**

the first quarter.

The meeting approved a proposal by the Ministry of National Food Security and Research for release of the second tranche of 75,000 tons of wheat through the World Food Programme for providing food support to 175,500 displaced families of Fata and KhyberPakhtunkhwa.

It directed the National Fertiliser Marketing Limited (NFML), Utility Stores Corporation (USC) and Finance Division to reconcile their payments with the TCP in two weeks so to clear the dues.

Representatives of the NFML said that Rs1.3 billion had been paid to the TCP.

The ECC directed Ministry of Industries to reconcile outstanding amounts of the USC and the TCP in eight weeks.

The meeting instructed the secretary of finance to ensure that funds on account of subsidy were released to the TCP so that the import of urea and other activities of the corporation remained unaffected. It noted with satisfaction that the quarterly release of urea subsidy of Rs.7.5 billion was being made to the TCP.

The meeting approved a proposal of the Ministry of Commerce and Textile Industry to withdraw its decision of July 3, 2012 to restructure the Pakistan Central Cotton Committee .

It decided to reconstitute the committee with 18 members, one each from the four provinces, chairmen of the All Pakistan Textile Mills Association, Pakistan Agriculture Research Council, Karachi

Cotton Association and Pakistan Cotton Ginners Association, minister of textile industry, secretaries of the textile industry, finance, planning and development, national food security, vice president of the PCCC and secretaries of agriculture of Sindh and Punjab.

The ECC decided to hire an experienced and senior research scientist for the post of vice president of the PCCC through an advertisement in newspapers.

The meeting was informed that the country's year-on-year inflation rate (CPI Index) had registered an increase of 7.4 per cent in September, defying predictions about higher rate as the inflation had registered an increase of 8.5 per cent in August an 8.3 per cent in July.

*Courtesy: Dawn*

**Contd. Cardiac surgery unit**

tion of heart patients from narrow or congested localities to the hospital easily - ,

Mr Khuhro announced a donation of five more ambulances to the hospital.

Later, the minister gave away shields to luminaries, visited the cardiac department and inaugurated different machines, as well as a library name after renowned cardiologist Prof Karim Abbasi.

Cardiology department chairman Prof Dr Saeed Ahmed Sangi speaking at the ceremony highlighted precautions and treatment of cardiac ailments and suggested a balanced diet and less use of salt to avoid heart problems.

Earlier, a cardiac awareness walk was held from the cardiology department to the paediatrics surgery department at the hospital.

Ghost schools, teachers Meanwhile, Senior Education Minister Mr Khuhro speaking to Dawn said steps were being taken to identify ghost schools and teachers so that appropriate action could be taken against them. He said data of teachers and their posting would be uploaded on his department's website so that everyone, specially parents of the students concerned, were able to know their teachers.

He also asked the media and members of civil society to help identify such schools and teachers. He said that appointments in his department were being made in a transparent manner.

Mr Khuhro said he was determined to make all closed schools functional at any cost and not to compromise on education issues.

*Courtesy: Dawn*

**Contd. Train ride to promote tourism in KP**

ects were in the pipeline, the minister said.

The historical tourist resort of Attock Khurd is situated across the Indus River near the old Railway Bridge, which connects Khyber Pakhtunkhwa with Punjab.

The old Victorian railway station was built in around 1880 and it speaks volumes about the magnificent masonry with beautiful British architecture, surrounded by lush green hills.

The train departed from Peshawar early in the morning

and reached Attock Khurd at 10am where a tour was conducted of the heritage site and demonstration of Neil interlocking system, bridge area and visit to the beach site. A visit was also conducted of the Abassen Ferry Terminal, the release said.

A vast number of youth also participated in the train tour. They not only witnessed enchanting scenic landscapes but also got knowledge about the places and their role in their rich history, the release said.

*Courtesy: Express Tribune*

**Contd. Pakistan Russia**

The government appreciated the support of Russian Federation in narcotics control, he said while expressing hopes that bilateral cooperation would continue in this regard.

Mr Ivanov thanked the president and praised the country's role in supporting regional initiatives to combat drug trafficking.

Russian Ambassador in Islamabad, Andery Budnik and other high officials of the Russian embassy were present on the occasion. trol, he said while expressing hopes that bilateral cooperation would continue in this regard.

The meeting was attended by secretary to the president Ahmad Farooq, secretary of Narcotics Control Division Nawabzada Muhammad Akbar Khan Hoti, press secretary Saba Mohsin Raza and additional secretary foreign af fairs Tasnim Aslam.

*Courtesy: The Nation*

**Contd. UNDP to set up policy support unit in Balochistan**

Ishaq Baloch as the policy coordinator for the unit.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr Franche expressed grief and sorrow over the huge human loss in recent earthquakes in Awaran and Kech districts of Balochistan. He said the UNDP was ready to use its resources to help the provincial government in the assessment of the damage caused

by the earthquakes and in reconstruction and rehabilitation of affected areas and communities.

Aslam Shakir thanked the UNDP for offering help to the Balochistan government in reconstruction and rehabilitation of the quake-hit areas and the people.

*Courtesy: Dawn*



## Asif – Pakistan's modest world champion

Ahmed Jamal  
BS37 3165

Rising sports stars regularly spout the cliché about not letting success change them, but in the case of Mohammad Asif, Pakistan's sole current world champion, it seems to be true. The 31-year-old was given a hero's welcome when he returned to Pakistan after winning the amateur world snooker championship a year ago, feted by politicians and media alike. He still lives in the same modest house in a nondescript corner of Faisalabad, an industrial city in Punjab province, and still practises at the same grubby basement club. He says he has seen nothing of the \$100,000 reward promised him by the government for his win, but his success has made him a superstar in the city once known as the "Manchester of Pakistan" for its countless cotton mills.

"Wherever I go, thanks be to God, I get special love from the people, everybody is caring and praying for me," he told AFP. "Now everyone in the city recognises me, which gives me pleasure." The biggest change for Asif has been his wheels. Gone is his rickety old motorbike, replaced by a gleaming black Toyota Corolla emblazoned with "M. Asif -- World Champion" -- a gift from Pakistan's rich-

est man, property tycoon Malik Riaz. Asif is only the second Pakistani to win the world title, after Mohammed Yousuf, nearly 20 years ago, but his campaign nearly ended before it began. A shortage of funds meant the Pakistan Billiards and Snooker Federation (PBSF) had practically given up hope of sending players to last year's championship in Bulgaria until a slew of personal donations allowed Asif to board the plane.

The shy, softly spoken Asif repaid their generosity with a fairytale win, beating England's Gary Wilson 10-8 in the final. Now he has his sights set on matching the achievement of his professional counterpart Ronnie O'Sullivan, who in May successfully defended the world crown he won in 2012. "I am ready to defend my title and am confident I will win it again," Asif said ahead of the tournament in Latvia starting on November 27.

Asif helped Pakistan to victory in last month's world team championship in Ireland and he said the experience has brought him added mental steel. "The recent wins have boosted my morale and have matured my game. I have learnt how to handle the pressure, which is key in snooker," he said. All being well, Asif plans to turn professional next year



thanks to a \$20,000 sponsorship deal from entrepreneur Nadeem Omar.

Illustrious names like Jimmy White, James Wattana and Ken Doherty are all former amateur champions, with the Irishman being the only player so far to have held both the amateur and professional crowns. Despite enjoying great popularity at amateur level around Pakistan, snooker struggles for funding and exposure in a country obsessed with cricket. While cricket stars earn good livings with big-money sponsorship deals and endorsements for everything from banking to shampoo, snooker is left to struggle on thanks to the efforts of dedicated amateurs.

But for Asif, there is no comparison. "This is the best game. Technically there is a lot of joy in it, you have to beat your opponent by yourself whereas in cricket you have to rely on your teammates," he said, noting that the sport had a distinguished history in Pakistan. "Our founder M Ali Jinnah also used to play this game."

*Courtesy: The Nation*

## Jashn-i-Chitral begins

Amal Khan  
BS37 3219

A sports festival featuring local folk games, including polo, began here on Tuesday, which will continue for ten days.

Chitral deputy commissioner Mohammad Shoaib Jadoon inaugurated the Jashn-i-Chitral festival during a ceremony.

Chitral Scouts commandant of Colonel Naeem Abbas was also in attendance.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr Jadoon

said that the sports gala was being held to provide the local people with entertainment opportunities as Shandur festival had been cancelled due to blockade of roads by floods in Gilgit and Chitral.

He said the tourism industry in the area had been closely linked to the sports especially polo and that the holding of the festival would surely attract tourists to the area.

Mr Jadoon said folk games of Chitral also attracted tourists to the region, that's why his administration had included all the



known games in the competition.

He said the polo team of Ghizar Gilgit was also participating in the competition which will give the fans a chance to watch a thrilling match between the rival teams of Gilgit and Chitral.

*Courtesy: Express Tribune*