

Algarve, Portugal offers a cliff-side slice of coastal paradise **Moira Mccarthy**
Lisbon: It was just past sunrise and there I was, frolicking on a beach, jumping in tidal pools, running in circles with arms spread wide as starlings flew around me, taking in the beauty as the morning light slowly filtered up and over the cliffs and rock formations along the beach known as ?Praia dos Três Irmãos. At a time of day when I'm usually

(Page-8)

Pakistan welcomes new British govt **Celina Ali**

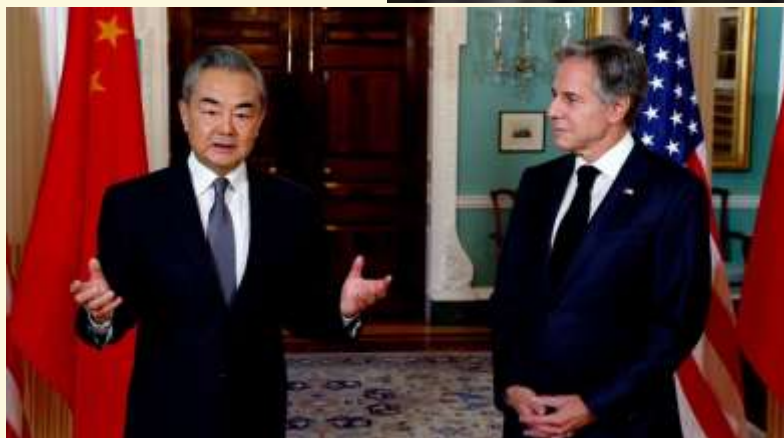
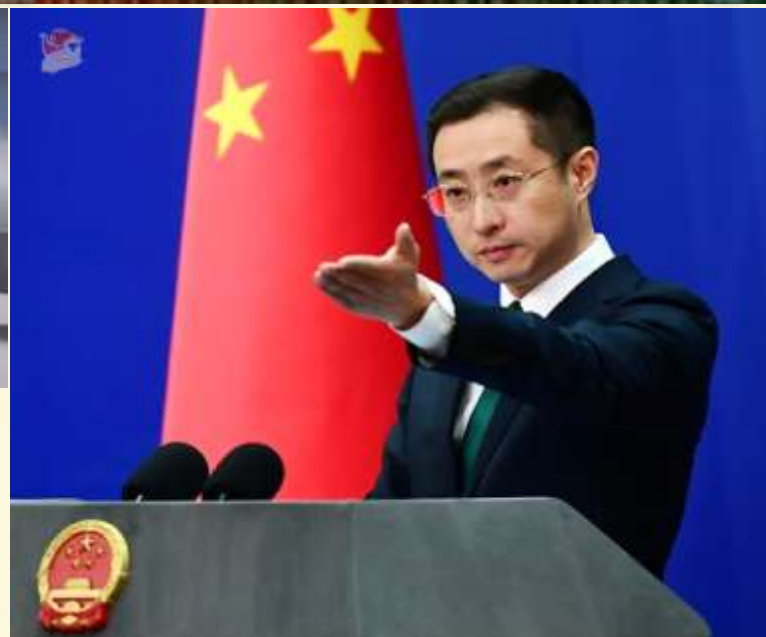
ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's top political leadership this week congratulated British Labour Party leader Keir Starmer for his historic victory in his country's national elections, hoping the two countries would further

(Page-11)

China urges US to stop smearing China, contribute to cyberspace security

Covert Report

Beijing: China urges the United States to stop its smears and vilification against China, act responsibly and contribute to the peace and security of the cyberspace, a foreign ministry spokesperson said this week. Spokesperson Lin Jian made the remarks at a daily press briefing when asked to comment on a newly-released report by China's National Computer Virus Emergency Response Center, National Engineering Laboratory for Computer Virus Prevention Technology and the 360 Digital Security Group. According to the report, the United States has been hyping a hacker organization named "Volt Typhoon" since 2023 and engaging in a worldwide disinformation campaign against China.



Lin said that back in April, relevant Chinese agencies revealed the scandal about the United States framing China for being responsible for "Volt Typhoon" in order to advance its own geopolitical agenda. The latest report further revealed that this disinformation campaign was conceived by the National Security Agency (NSA) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and other members of the U.S. intelligence community with the participation of congressional China hawks and multiple federal agencies, as well as cybersecurity agencies from other Five Eyes countries, and it aimed to manipulate public opinion, Lin said. "Till this day, the United States still owes us an explanation after the report was released," Lin said, adding that the NSA chief is still spreading disinformation about "Volt Typhoon."

"What is worse, the latest report exposed that the U.S. government has been pressuring a cybersecurity company and asking it to rewrite its tech analysis that proves 'Volt Typhoon' to be a ransomware group," Lin added, pointing out that this is a clumsy cover-up tactic that has not worked and will not work.

Lin said that China strongly condemns the irresponsible behavior of the United States. "The United States still owes us an explanation, and should stop its smears and vilification against China at once. We urge the United States to act responsibly and contribute to the peace and security of the cyberspace," he said.

France remains primary rapeseed producer of the EU-27



NewsWire

Brussels: The EU Commission expects a decrease in rapeseed harvests in Romania, Germany, Poland and the Czech Republic in 2024 compared to the previous year. Freezing temperatures earlier in the year and abundant rainfall have fuelled concerns over this year's rapeseed harvest in many parts of the EU-27. There are fears of considerable declines in yield. The EU Commission assumes the 2024 EU rapeseed harvest to reach 19.4 million tonnes. This will translate to a 406,000 tonne drop from the

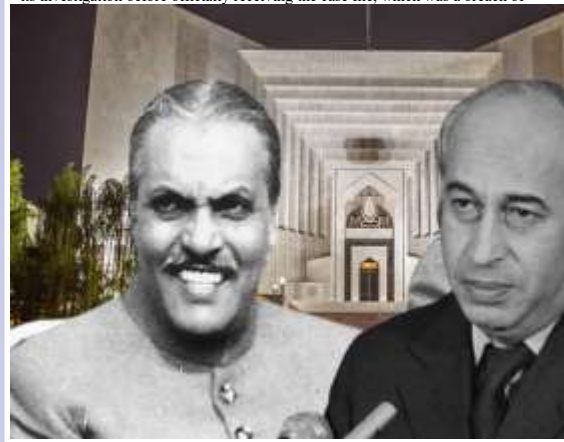
previous year. The Commission's expectations are, therefore, significantly more optimistic than those of the International Grains Council, which estimates EU rapeseed production at 18.8 million tonnes in its April forecast. Germany is forecast to see a harvest of just less than 4.1 million tonnes, 179,000 tonnes less than the previous year. In Poland, the harvest is anticipated to drop round 198,000 tonnes on 2023 to just less than 3.5 million tonnes. In Romania, the decline is expected to be slightly sharper at 206,000 tonnes to 1.7 million tonnes. The Czech Republic, Denmark and Slovakia are also forecast to bring in smaller rapeseed harvests. By contrast, France, the EU's current number one rapeseed producer, is seen to harvest round 166,000 tonnes more than in 2023, namely 4.4 million tonnes. According to investigations conducted by Agrarmarkt Informations-Gesellschaft, Lithuania and Hungary are also likely to get larger harvests.



Bhutto's execution benefited Zia, violated justice: SC

Abdullah Jan

Islamabad: The Supreme Court of Pakistan has issued a detailed opinion on the presidential reference regarding the execution of former prime minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, acknowledging that an innocent person was hanged without a transparent trial. Chief Justice Qazi Faez Isa penned the 48-page opinion, with additional notes provided by Justice Sardar Tariq Masood and Justice Mansoor Ali Shah. The opinion highlights that Bhutto's trial occurred under martial law, compromising the constitutional integrity of the courts at the time. The opinion emphasises that during Bhutto's trial, the country was under martial law, and the judiciary lacked constitutional legitimacy. "The country and the courts were prisoners of martial law at that time," stated the opinion, noting that the courts were operated by judges who had pledged loyalty to the dictator, not to the people. The Chief Justice's opinion pointed out that General Ziaul Haq, who was the military ruler at the time, directly benefited from Bhutto's execution. "Ziaul Haq directly benefited from the decision to hang Zulfikar Ali Bhutto," the detailed opinion read. The Supreme Court's opinion also criticised the procedural flaws in the investigation and trial of Bhutto. It noted that the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) commenced its investigation before officially receiving the case file, which was a breach of



protocol. Furthermore, the High Court's conduct of the trial rendered several legal provisions ineffective, violating Bhutto's fundamental rights. "The requirements for a transparent trial were not fulfilled," the Chief Justice stated, emphasizing that there was no direct evidence linking Bhutto to the crime. Additionally, the bullet shell recovered from the crime scene did not match the firearms used by the Federal Security Force (FSF), undermining the prosecution's case. The opinion also addressed the misuse of Bhutto's parliamentary speeches in court, asserting that such speeches cannot be used as evidence against any member of Parliament. "The courts also justified Bhutto's speeches in Parliament, which should not have been permissible," it stated. The Supreme Court's larger bench of nine members had completed the hearing on the Bhutto reference on March 4, issuing a unanimous opinion on March 6. The court concluded that Bhutto did not receive a fair trial, and the justice requirements were grossly unmet. The trial procedures were incomplete, and Bhutto was denied a fair opportunity to defend himself.

A digital corridor is helping Pakistani young entrepreneurs

China Economic Net

Beijing: "Our platform could be said to be the Pakistani version of Pinduoduo. As an e-commerce platform targeting price-sensitive users, groceries and daily necessities are within our scope."

Fahad Raja, co-founder of Pakistani e-commerce platform Deal Kart, introduced himself at the EuroAsia Pakistan Digital Economy Forum held in Beijing this week. "As a global giant, Pinduoduo has not yet started operations in Pakistan. But that's not a problem, we are building a Pinduoduo for ourselves." Raja told the reporter that Chinese companies, especially e-commerce companies, are closely related to his career. "In terms of payment, logistics, technology and the like, Chinese companies have attracted global attention, making great achievements. For us from emerging markets, there are too many experiences and even too little time to learn, thus more connections are in urgent need."

Another young entrepreneur, Shahada Salam, mentioned that CPEC ensures the transportation efficiency of Pakistan's supply chain. "In my country, most of the hardware comes from China, such as biometric equipment needed to solve security issues, thus this corridor is very helpful for the timely supply

of hardware and technology products. Nowadays, more and more Chinese companies have set up offices in the special economic zone located in my hometown, Islamabad, including manufacturing and supply chain departments. We are also inviting a large number of Chinese technology companies to set up offices there, so that we could better assist them expand their business throughout the country, and then from Pakistan to the Middle East, Europe, Africa... In the future, this will become an amazing "digital corridor".

A total of more than 200 representatives from all walks of life in China and Pakistan attended the forum, all of whom looking forward to a more shining digital future that both two countries can benefit from. Addressing the Global Digital Economy Conference 2024, Shaza Fatima Khwaja, Minister of State for Information Technology and Telecommunication of Pakistan, said that the global landscape has witnessed a digital revolution in recent years, positioning the IT sector as a cornerstone of economic development, innovation, and social transformation. Recognizing the immense potential of this sector, "both Pakistan and China have made substantial strides in harnessing its capabilities."



Shehbaz Sharif emphasises significant role of China in Balochistan development

Newswire

Quetta: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif this week unveiled a historic package for the farmers of Balochistan, emphasizing the significant role of China in the province's development. Highlighting China's pivotal role, the PM announced the solarization of agricultural tubewells in Balochistan. A formal agreement was signed between the federal and provincial governments in this regard.

The signing ceremony was attended by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, federal ministers, Balochistan's governor Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail, chief minister Mir Sarfaraz Bugti, and members of the provincial cabinet.

During a day-long visit to Quetta, the premier elaborated that the federal government, in collaboration with the Balochistan government, will convert approximately 28,000 agricultural tubewells in the province to solar energy.

This project, costing Pakistani Rs 55 billion, will see 70% of the funds provided by the federal government and the remaining by the Balochistan government. Balochistan Chief Minister Sarfaraz Bugti assured that the solarization of tubewells will be completed within three months. This initiative is expected to save around Rs 90 billion annually and ensure an uninterrupted water supply to farmers. Looking ahead, the prime minister announced plans for the solarization of one million agricultural tubewells nationwide, aiming to save Rs 3.5 billion annually.

In a significant gesture towards enhancing Balochistan's educational prospects, a 10% quota has been allocated for Balochistan students to receive professional training in China, particularly in the agriculture sector. Another 10% quota has been reserved for students to receive IT training under the Chinese company Huawei. This initiative aims to harness the potential of Balochistan's educated and skilled youth for the province and the country's development.

The PM mentioned that funds have been allocated in the federal budget for establishing Danish Schools in Balochistan. He expressed confidence that Balochistan Governor Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail, Chief Minister Mir Sarfaraz Bugti, and the provincial cabinet will continue to contribute significantly to the province's development and prosperity.



Chinese company to establish state-of-the-art three gigawatt solar panel manufacturing plant in Karachi

Newswire

Karachi: In a significant stride towards promoting clean energy and sustainable transportation, Chinese company Sinotec Solar is set to establish a state-of-the-art three gigawatt solar panel manufacturing plant in Karachi. This ambitious project will not only focus on the production of solar panels but also extend to the manufacturing of industrial batteries and electric vehicle (EV) trucks. The initiative aims to bolster Pakistan's energy landscape and foster the growth of green technology. The foundation for this transformative project was laid with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to convert an existing thermal power plant into a cutting-edge 300 megawatt solar power facility.

This conversion, backed by foreign direct investment amounting to \$200 million, marks a significant shift towards renewable energy solutions in Pakistan. Meanwhile, Shanghai Electric Group has reinforced its commitment to Pakistan's energy sector through substantial investments in the Thar Coal Block-1 project.

This move underscores the company's dedication to enhancing the country's energy infrastructure. In tandem with these developments, major oil refineries including Attock Oil Refinery, National Oil Refinery, and Energycio Private Limited are undergoing upgrades to comply with Euro-V standards. This upgrade is a critical step towards reducing environmental pollution and improving fuel quality.

The Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC) has emerged as a key player in driving improvements within the energy sector. One of its notable initiatives includes the establishment of an Anti-Theft Task Force to combat electricity theft. To date, the task force has successfully recovered a staggering 95 billion rupees, reflecting its efficacy and the scale of the issue it addresses.

In addressing the perennial challenge of circular debt, concrete measures are being implemented. A comprehensive strategy has been formulated to manage and significantly reduce this financial burden, which has long plagued the energy sector.

Progress is also being made in the realm of solar energy with the successful installation of a one megawatt solar project in Gilgit-Baltistan and a 150 megawatt project in Sukkur. These projects are part of the broader push towards renewable energy adoption across the country.

Adding to these advancements, the Saudi Fund for Development has extended its cooperation in two ongoing hydropower projects in Azad Jammu and Kashmir, further enhancing the region's clean energy capabilities.

The collective efforts signify a robust and multi-faceted approach to transforming Pakistan's energy sector, aligning with global trends towards sustainability and clean energy.



Enhanced Pakistan-Italy ties discussed as Mohsin Naqvi meets Ambassador Marilina Armellini



Celina Ali Islamabad: Federal Minister for Interior, Mohsin Naqvi, met with the Italian Ambassador to Pakistan, Marilina Armellini here this week. During the meeting, bilateral relations and matters of mutual interest were discussed in detail. The Federal Minister for Interior said that

his recent visit to Italy was successful and productive, and during the meeting with his Italian counterpart it was agreed to work together to combat human trafficking. He added that a delegation from the Italian Ministry of Interior will soon visit Pakistan to meet with Pakistani authorities and visit the border areas.



The Federal Minister for Interior stated that both countries need to further strengthen their mutual cooperation to prevent drug trafficking and human smuggling. He said that no compromise will be made on human smuggling, and all possible measures are being taken to curb it. He said that if we succeed in stopping the

human smuggling at the borders, it will be beneficial for both countries. He also highlighted that the legal migration of skilled labour will also help in discouraging the human smuggling and Italy can benefit from the services of skilled Pakistani Human resource in various fields. On this occasion, the Federal Minister for Interior also presented a

formal invitation for the Italian Interior Minister to visit Pakistan. The Italian Ambassador thanked Interior Minister for his cooperation in various fields. The meeting was also attended by Commandant FC Moazzam Jah Ansari, IG Islamabad Ali Nasir Rizvi, and senior officials from the Ministries of Interior and Foreign Affairs.



CHAIRMAN SENATE, SYED YOUSUF RAZA GILANI IN A MEETING WITH ITALIAN AMBASSADOR TO PAKISTAN, H.E. MARILINA ARMELINI AT PARLIAMENT HOUSE ISLAMABAD ON JULY 03, 2024.

How can they not appreciate the beauty of China?



Ding Gang

Like many viewers, I started planning a trip to Xinjiang after watching the TV series To the Wonder, which puts the spotlight on the nomadic life in Altay in Northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region. This fresh, authentic, and poetic story feels more like a call to those who have lived in cities for a long time — come and see how beautiful Xinjiang is! I began to understand why this eight-episode mini-series received positive reviews at the recent Cannes Film Festival. The beauty portrayed in the series is captivating and real. Seeing the protagonist joyfully running across the flower-filled prairie, her figure set against

the backdrop of towering snow-capped mountains evokes a breathtaking sense of freedom and grandeur. It is this genuine beauty that has touched audiences worldwide.

This prose-like TV series exemplifies the transcendent power of an excellent film and literature work, capable of crossing ethnic, regional, and cultural boundaries.

However, as if color blind, some seem to perceive all beautiful colors China offers as a single hue—the political color of "Red China."

Some Western media outlets have labeled this television series as "propaganda" or "political." This is because this beauty comes from China, a country they consider a "threat."

Some Westerners have been accusing China of being "politically driven" and "the most political country." Ironically, they react with political paranoia at the mere mention of China.

What ordinary Chinese people eat, buy, produce and sell on the world market—all become political issues and supposed evidence of China's attempt to spread its politics globally. Even a TV series like To the Wonder makes them worried and nervous.

To them, there has never been, nor will there ever be, a China filled with such truth, goodness, and beauty. US media outlet the Wall Street Journal (WSJ) even sarcastically headlined: "From Xinjiang With Love: China Show Tries to Give Region a Rosier Image."

These politically-driven Western media outlets are always trying to make a politically driven statement and smear China. In 2009, when serious violent crimes occurred in Urumqi, Xinjiang, the WSJ jumped at the opportunity to issue several comments, using terms such as "riots."

Since then, the Chinese central and local governments have implemented robust measures to achieve social stability and lasting peace in Xinjiang. However, those who wrote editorials back then remain stuck in their political rigidity, unable to



accept that China has such beautiful stories. the mystic emotion. Herein lies the germ of all



While we aspire to create poetry and arrive at distant destinations, they see an imminent "China threat." Do these Western politicians and media, who are so focused on Xinjiang, lack the

art and all true science. Anyone to whom this feeling is alien, who is no longer capable of wonderment and lives in a state of fear is a dead man."

If these Western politicians and commentators are unwilling or unable to appreciate the truth, goodness and beauty of the East, how can they understand the politics of Eastern civilization? Their assessments of China's strategy will be filled with bias.



In 1931, Einstein wrote an article titled "The World As I See It." He wrote: "The finest emotion of which we are capable is

The writer is a senior editor with People's Daily, and currently a senior fellow with the Chongyang Institute for Financial Studies at Renmin University of China

US willing to sacrifice whole Asia-Pacific for own gains

Zheng Yongnian

Today, no one can underestimate the possibility of a world war breaking out. The world is rapidly polarizing and this polarization is evident across major dimensions including economic, ideological and geopolitical. It is crucial to emphasize that this polarization is being engineered from the top down - artificially - rather than emerging organically from the bottom up.

First, there is economic polarization. Globalization once implied the integration of the world economy. If globalization was a process dominated by capital with government support, then economic polarization is now a process where governments dominate and capital complies. When former US president Donald Trump first initiated a "trade war" with China, few could have

anticipated the rapid downturn in global economic and trade conditions to the current situation. Trump's high tariffs policy quickly evolved into US President Joe Biden's comprehensive polarization policy. Almost all empirical evidence indicates that the situation of "one world, two markets" has taken shape.

Second, there is ideological polarization. The US and Western countries have found that as China has risen in the process of globalization, it has not only rejected becoming another "Western country" but has also developed with more distinct "Chinese characteristics." In this context, the US has once again resorted to ideological opposition, defining its relations with China from an ideological standpoint as a competition between "democracy" and "autocracy." If cognitive warfare in economics is more about influencing overseas investors

to prevent them from choosing China, ideological cognitive warfare targets not only the national society but also the Chinese domestic population.

Third, and most importantly, there is geopolitical polarization. Washington has clearly defined China as a country that "harbors the intention and the capacity to reshape the international order" to compete with the US globally. Its direct objective of geopolitical strategies is to contain and restrain China. In this regard, the US has established several multilateral groupings around China's periphery. At the international level, the US academic community of international relations is accelerating the shaping of a new concept, namely "Global East," which lumps together China, Russia, Iran and North Korea, framing these countries as constituting a global "autocratic camp."

The possibility of a world war may have been underestimated. Looking at today's situation, regional wars involving multiple countries, especially major powers, have already broken out, such as the Russia-Ukraine conflict. While the wars in the Middle East have manifested themselves mainly as a conflict between Israel and Hamas, many other countries, especially the US, have become deeply involved. It can also be argued that it is the multinational involvement that has given these localized conflicts a protracted character that no one had anticipated.

Since the advent of nuclear weapons, people have often believed that a world war involving major powers is no longer possible, as a war between two nuclear states would mean mutual destruction. However, such an argument has greatly underestimated the possibility of wars emerging in non-nuclear forms. In fact, nuclear weapons have not only failed to eliminate war but have also led to war in other forms. Nuclear weapons "encourage" nuclear-armed states to use violence and war to achieve their goals in a different way, because nuclear-armed states believe that their counterparts will not use nuclear weapons for mutual destruction, they are more likely to resort to violence and war.

Therefore, when people talk about world wars now, the issue to discuss is not whether a world war is possible, but which form it would take. Similarly, today, the development of AI and its widespread application in other fields, especially in the military, are expanding the complexity and diversity of war. Ignoring different forms of war can lead to significant strategic errors. War is the "ultimate expression" of human nature, but the form of war is changing because human nature can be "civilized."

The remaining question is, where could the main battlefield of the world war be, the Middle East, Europe or the Asia-Pacific? The Israel-Hamas conflict is still continuing in the Middle East, but this localized war is hardly likely to develop into a world war by any measure. At the same time, it can be said that the Russia-Ukraine war is entering a "decline" phase, while conflicts in the Asia-Pacific region are experiencing an upward trend.

The US and the entire West are shifting toward the Asia-Pacific. Recently, they have been engaged in cognitive warfare, attributing Russia's "invincibility" in its conflict with Ukraine to China's so-called support. The implication is that it is because of China's support that Russia is able to sustain a war. To a large extent, Washington's cognitive warfare has been effective, successfully directing Europe's strategic attention to the Asia-Pacific region.

For the US, the Asia-Pacific region becoming a "powder keg" is the ultimate means of victory. The US claims to be the guardian of peace in the region, but in fact, it has been dividing Asia-Pacific, creating conflicts across the region to an extreme extent. The ruling elite in the US seems to be trapped in an extreme fear of China. For the US, as long as it can defeat China and emerge as the ultimate "winner," it is willing to risk the destruction of the whole of Asia through war. As some extreme anti-China forces in the US openly declare, Washington's goal in its contest with China should indeed be victory.

The most serious challenge to China is how to respond effectively to the fact that the US is creating a confrontational atmosphere around China, leading the world war to the Asia-Pacific region, and ultimately realizing its strategic goal of encircling and containing China.

The writer is a professor at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shenzhen and president of The Institute for International Affairs, Qianhai

Editor-in-Chief: S. Ali
Associate Editor: Afzal Butt
Email: editor@covert.com.pk
Phone/Fax : +92-51-2723419
690, Street 17 Block E Bahria Town phase 8, Islamabad, Pakistan



USAID partners with local HEIs to boost student support services



"Prioritising the development of soft skills enables universities to better prepare students for the demands of the modern workforce and enhance their career opportunities." Implemented by the University of Utah, the HESSA activity supports the Higher Education Commission and 16 partner universities across Pakistan in enhancing institutional capacity for market-driven education and research, according to USAID. It added that the summit addressed six key thematic areas crucial for supporting higher education institutions in Pakistan: financial aid, student leadership, student



Celina Ali
Islamabad: In a bid to bolster student success in Pakistan's universities, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) this week partnered with local higher education institutions (HEI) to strengthen student support services. This collaborative initiative seeks to empower students with vital skills necessary to thrive in the modern global landscape, said the USAID after the third annual summit organised under its Higher Education System Strengthening Activity (HESSA). The event was attended by over 100 officials and faculty members from 16 partner Pakistani universities.

The USAID said the four-day summit underscored the strong partnership between the US and Pakistan, highlighting their shared commitment to improving access to high-quality higher education for all Pakistanis. The opening session of the summit was chaired by Member (R&D) of the Higher Education Commission Prof Bushra Mirza alongside USAID Deputy Mission Director Maura O'Brien. Dr. Mirza emphasised the importance of cultivating a sense of belonging within universities. "Higher education institutions must create inclusive and supportive environments where every student can thrive and shape their futures," she said. O'Brien underscored the significance of soft skills.

High Commissioner Zahid Hafeez Chaudhri meets UNPG Acting VC



Covert Report
Canberra: Pakistani High Commissioner to Australia Zahid Hafeez Chaudhri this week met Acting Vice Chancellor of the University of Papua New Guinea, Prof Betty Lovai. High Commissioner Zahid Hafeez Chaudhri, who is Concurrently accredited to Fiji, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu, wrote on X: "Had an excellent meeting with the Acting Vice Chancellor of the University of Papua New Guinea, Prof Betty Lovai. Agreed to develop partnership between UNPG and a partner university in Pakistan." The UPNG is a university located in Port Moresby, capital of Papua New Guinea. It was established by ordinance of the Australian administration in 1965. This followed the Currie Commission which had enquired into higher education in Papua New Guinea. The University of Papua New Guinea Act No. 18, 1983 bill repealing the old Ordinance was passed by the National Parliament in August 1983. The university has moved from a departmental to a school structure to foster interdisciplinary and inter-school relationships. The university's library is known as the Michael Somare Library, named after the country's first Prime Minister Sir Michael Somare. Multiple sources have included it among the best universities in Papua New Guinea. The first students at UPNG were enrolled in 1966, with 58 enrollees in a preliminary course. John Gunther was the university's inaugural vice-chancellor. Degree courses commenced in 1967 with 83 students across three faculties of arts, law, and science.[5] The university's first undergraduate degrees were awarded in August 1970 and included future prime minister Rabbie Namaliu.



Kazakhstan invites Pakistan to join first North-South transport forum in Aktau

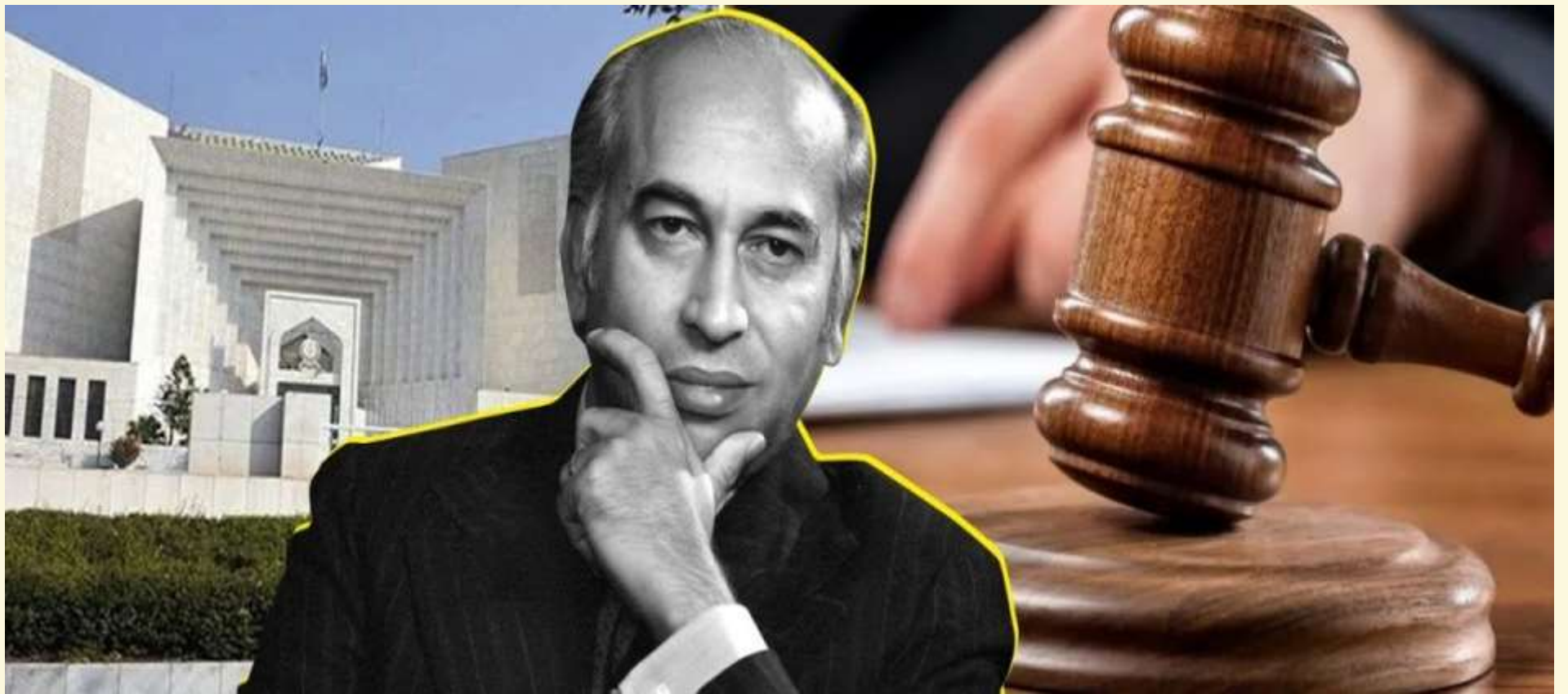


Covert Report
Astana. Kazakhstan this week invited Pakistan to participate in the 1st Transport, Trade and Logistics Forum "North-South," scheduled to be held on July 19-20 in Aktau, Trend reports. The corresponding invitation was made by the Ambassador of Kazakhstan to Pakistan Yerzhan Kistafin to Abdul Aleem Khan, Federal Minister for the Board of Investment, Privatization, and Communication. During the negotiations, the parties discussed the prospects for interaction in the transport and logistics sector, which is a key element of Kazakh-Pakistani cooperation. The parties noted the significant transit potential of both countries, the qualitative development of which can have a positive effect not only for

Kazakhstan and Pakistan, but also for the regions of Central and South Asia. In this context, the main corridors are identified along which the transportation of goods from Kazakhstan has intensified, including to third countries through the seaports of Pakistan. Abdul Aleem Khan supported the need to develop and strengthen transport and logistics routes connecting the two countries and regions, which will certainly help increase both bilateral and regional trade, as well as intensify new areas of mutually beneficial cooperation. Meanwhile, the North-South Transport Corridor was founded on an international agreement signed on September 12, 2000, by Russia, Iran, and India. The agreement has been ratified by 13 nations in total (Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bulgaria, Armenia, India, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Sultanate of Oman, Russia, Tajikistan, Türkiye, and Ukraine).



Bhutto stands vindicated: Umar Rehman Malik



Abdullah Jan
Islamabad: Pakistan People's Party (PPP) leader Umar Rehman Malik this week said that first democratically elected

History. On this day, Pakistan's first democratically elected Prime Minister, Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, was overthrown by General Zia-ul-Haq. This coup

The PPP leader added: "Bhutto's legacy remains unmatched. From the creation of Pakistan's constitution to making the country a nuclear power, his contributions continue to inspire. His dedication to empowering every segment of society ensures he will forever reign in the hearts of the Pakistani people." Earlier, the PPP called for the annulment of former prime minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto's death sentence. A PPP spokesperson, while welcoming the Supreme Court's decision on the presidential reference, emphasised that it took 40 years to seek justice for Zulfikar Ali Bhutto. "The PPP leadership and the party workers have waited to get justice. The PPP workers have not attacked the military installation or the courts, but taken the pain themselves," the spokesperson said. This week, the Supreme Court of Pakistan had issued a detailed opinion on the presidential reference regarding the execution

of former prime minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, acknowledging that an innocent person was hanged without a transparent trial. Chief Justice Qazi Faez Isa penned the 48-page opinion, with additional notes provided by Justice Sardar Tariq Masood and Justice Mansoor Ali Shah. The opinion highlights that Bhutto's trial occurred under martial law, compromising the constitutional integrity of the courts at the time.



Prime Minister, Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto had been vindicated after the Supreme Court declared the trial unfair. "July 5, 1977: A Black Day in Pakistan's

planted the seeds of extremism, violence, sectarianism, Kalashnikov culture, and societal decay that plague us even today," he said.



Greece announces jobs for foreign labourers

Newsire

Athens: Greece is grappling with a severe shortage of agricultural workers, prompting urgent calls from exporters to relax entry requirements for hiring foreign labourers. The deficit, estimated at 180,000 workers, has left swathes of land uncultivated and crops unharvested, dealing a significant blow to farmers and the economy, reported Schengen.News.

The National Interprofessional Organization for Table Olives (DOEPEL) revealed that up to 30 per cent of the country's green olives from the 2022/23 season were left unharvested, resulting in nearly €27 million in agricultural revenue losses. Insurance contribution shortfalls are estimated to exceed two million euros. In response, exporters are advocating for a strategy mirroring the French model, which would streamline hiring criteria for third-country nationals. Greece has already received 14,000 applications for work residence per-



mits following recent legislative amendments, with authorities anticipating this number to surpass 30,000. Greece has inked an agreement with Egypt to recruit 5,000 seasonal workers for the upcoming agricultural season to address immediate shortages. The initiative facilitated through a dedicated platform on the Greek Ministry of Migration and Asylum's website since June 10, 2024, marks a crucial step forward.

Despite these efforts, industry

experts remain concerned, particularly in regions like Crete, Peloponnese, and Macedonia, where the demand for seasonal workers is estimated to reach 80,000.

The Prefecture of Messinia alone requires approximately 4,800 agricultural workers for the entire nine-month cultivation period, according to Aggelis Korovilas, president of the Agricultural Association of Philiatrians of Messinia.

Looking ahead, Greece plans to allocate 147,926 residence permits for third-country national workers across 13 regions for 2023 and 2024. Previous proposals to integrate irregular migrants into the workforce have also been considered, aiming to alleviate shortages in vital sectors such as construction, agriculture, and tourism, as stated by Minister of Migration Dimitris Kairidis in September 2023.



Algarve, Portugal offers a cliff-side slice of coastal paradise



Moira McCarthy
Lisbon: It was just past sunrise and there I was, frolicking on a beach, jumping in tidal pools, running in circles with arms spread wide as starlings flew around me, taking in the beauty as the morning light slowly filtered up and over the cliffs and rock formations along the beach known as Praia dos Três Irmãos. At a time of day when I'm usually pretty quiet, I was

scenery, the sea, the storks (wow!), the history and the many ways to experience it all lead me to declare this as one of the best beach destinations on the planet. I headed to the Algarve region of Portugal – the southernmost part of the country – for a late spring escape. What I found was nothing short of magical. That early-light beach romp was a Day One "aha!" moment, but there were so many more.

shore, easing into caves with hidden beaches and nature-created sunroofs. We dove into the just-warm-enough Atlantic and floated, soaking in the azure sky. Or the visit to Castelo de Silves, one of the best-preserved Moorish fortifications in all of Portugal. Here I learned more history as I looked out on the hills, fields and cityscape of the region, but also on nest after nest of majestic, soaring storks (I'd never seen one in the wild before).

food and drink, and a comfortable setting.

hotel with a Miami-beach like feel: Look out one side of



Or the morning shopping the fresh seafood, produce and bakery at the vibrant ? Portimão Market, where local foodies don't just shop but linger and chat (two Michelin-star chefs were at the coffee bar during my visit). Or the entire day spend on ? Ilha da Culatra, a tiny island community so sublime you'll feel you stepped into a painting. One of the secrets to making all this easy? The Tivoli hotels (tivolihotels.com) that dot the region. I split my stay between three, each their own vibe and dedicated to perfect stays as well as easy access to the experiences available just past their front doors. There's an Algarve Tivoli choice for every traveler.

First up, Tivoli Alvor Algarve Resort, a family-friendly choice with an upscale, all inclusive set up (it even includes a voucher for a seaside dinner in the nearby fishing town), an all-age pool and adults only pool, vibrant kids center, lush grounds and walking



Next up (and my favorite), is Tivoli Carvoeiro Algarve Resort, a five-star masterpiece tucked onto a cliff-hugging coast. The view itself is worth the stay, but there's so much more. The hotel is a landmark; boats linger offshore catching the view all day long. And while you'd be happy at their pool area overlooking the sea or at one of their many restaurants with epic views (do not miss the Sky Bar, not just for the best view you may ever have with dinner but for over-the-top creative and delicious sushi and cocktails), a cute little town and a lovely beach (where you can even do a cliff jump) is an easy 10 minute walk away. Last came Tivoli Marina Vilamoura, a more classic style

the hotel and you'll spot two big pool areas as well as their Purobeach set up, their own spin on a party-style oceanfront locale. Expect lots of music (sometimes live), excellent beach bed-side drink service and a lot of fun. Look out the other side and you are right in the center of a vibrant marina. Strolling the boardwalk near 11 p.m., I passed by Irish bars in full song, a hopping karaoke spot and families out in the warm summer night for ice cream. (One note: they like their nightlife on the marina side. If you hope for a quieter evening, book a room on the beach side). They're all set in the seaside region I'm now hankering to get back to —the sooner the better. Algarve, Portugal and the Tivoli spots? You had me at bom dia.

giggling with delight. That's the thing about visiting Algarve, Portugal. The

Like the guided boat trip along the coast with Thalassa Yachts (thalassayachts.com). We cruised up along the

distance from that spectacular beach I visited day one. You'll find lots of families there, but also golf groups and other guests looking for a good price, easy access to



Japan-Pakistan celebrating 70 years of ties

Ambassador Wada Mitsuhiro

At my official residence in Islamabad, I entertain my valued guests almost every day with my Japanese chef's skilful cuisine. He prepares authentic Japanese dishes using local ingredients and sometimes arranges them with elements of Pakistani food. The chef's handmade cakes and Pakistani

Projects in which Japanese companies provided their technical expertise in cooperation with local construction companies not only contributed to the development of infrastructure for socioeconomic development but also had the effect of technology transfer. In a wide range of fields such as education, health,

the handover ceremonies. That is one of my favourite jobs as Japanese Ambassador; it allows me to get a sense of what the local people are thinking of. We also provide support in cooperation with the United Nations and other international organisations. For the 2022 floods, for instance, Japan pledged about \$77 million in assistance, half of which is being implemented in cooperation with international organisations. We have also been supporting the Polio Eradication Programme in Pakistan through the United Nations Children's Fund (Unicef) since 1996. This long-standing partnership has helped to reach millions of children with life-saving vaccines over the years.

imports are bad," but I was very proud to see that imports from Japan are supporting Pakistan's export industries.

To support these efforts, the Pakistan-Japan Business Forum, in cooperation with its Japanese counterpart, the Japan-Pakistan Business Cooperation Committee, has been holding regular meetings and seminars, and arrangements are currently underway for the next meeting. Besides business, there are other interactions between people. There are Japanese nurses in Multan who have been supporting local healthcare for many years. There are also Japanese NGOs working to support Pakistan.



fruits for dessert finish the course meal. Of course, this season, the stars are the mangoes, which have become even sweeter in July.

Japan started importing Pakistani mangoes in 2011. They have been gaining popularity in Japan, where they have been touted as the "sweetest mangoes in the world." Quarantine inspectors from the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries visit Pakistan every year to check mango processing and packing facilities. Thanks to the efforts of producers, exporters, and distributors, Pakistani mangoes are enjoyed in Japanese households.

Behind Pakistan's proud foodstuffs and products to the world is the private sector's passion as the driving force. Japan has had business ties with this region for over 100 years since 1918, when Japan Cotton Trading Company (now Sojitz), which was responsible for exporting quality cotton to Japan, established an office in Karachi.

After the Second World War, Japan achieved economic growth thanks to Pakistan's lifting of the ban on cotton exports to Japan. This year marks the 70th anniversary of Japan's official development assistance (ODA) to Pakistan. In 1954, Japan's ODA began when the predecessor organisation of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) welcomed a Pakistani trainee to Japan in the field of public administration.

'Business is not a volunteer activity; companies cannot move forward unless it is feasible as a business'

The following year, eight Japanese experts in the field of agriculture were dispatched to Pakistan. Japan's development cooperation began with technical cooperation in the form of people-to-people exchange, and this became the philosophy of Japan's ODA. Over the past 70 years, a cumulative total of 7,443 Pakistanis have studied in Japan, and 3,140 Japanese experts have supported the government and the people of Pakistan.

Large-scale infrastructure projects such as the Kohat Tunnel, the Ghazi-Barotha hydroelectric power plant, the Indus Highway, and the East-West Road are also well-known examples of Japanese assistance. Behind these projects were people-to-people relationships based on trust.

water supply and sewerage, and disaster prevention, Japan has practiced self-help support by "teaching how to fish, rather than just giving fish." Last year, Japan revised its Development Cooperation Charter, taking the concept of self-help support further and adopting the concept of "co-creation" as one of its basic policies, which means the creation of social values through dialogue and cooperation. Human-centred cooperation is also evident in Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP). Projects that quickly meet the needs of local communities, such as school construction, road and bridge rehabilitation, and providing hospital equipment, have been implemented in cooperation with local non-governmental organisations (NGOs). Collaboration with locally based organisations



Cooperation at the private sector level should not be forgotten. Currently, about 80 Japanese companies are doing business in Pakistan together with their Pakistani counterparts. In addition to contributing to tax revenues, the automotive industry has contributed to

The relationship between Japan and Pakistan has been strengthened and diversified by passionate Japanese and Pakistani people. An ambassador's job is to empathise with, connect, encourage, and support people who have a passion to do their part for the relationship between Japan and Pakistan.

and Pakistan could be much stronger. I believe that there are a number of possibilities that no one has yet realised in the bilateral relationship that will continue to progress towards the 80th, 90th, and 100th anniversaries of our diplomatic

パキスタン人材セミナー
名古屋

日時: 2024年3月10日(月)
13:00~16:30(開場12:30)

会場: 名古屋国際センター 第一会議室(5階)
(名古屋市中村区那古野47-1)

参加申込はこちらから

駐日パキスタン大使館主催

allows for cooperation that reflects the needs of each individual. Every year, I host signing ceremonies at my residence and go to the project site for

Pakistan's socioeconomic development in terms of direct and indirect employment growth, technology transfer, employee moral education, and corporate social responsibility activities in the region. Of course, business is not a volunteer activity. Companies cannot move forward unless it is feasible as a business. We are looking forward to the Pakistani government's progress on the "Ease of Doing Business" policy. We are committed to further developing the relationship between Japan and Pakistan and looking for new business opportunities based on the more than 100 years of business relations.

Last year, Morinaga Milk increased its capital by \$57m. Toyota invested \$100m to begin local production of hybrid-electric vehicles. Kumon, a Japanese education company, opened classrooms in Islamabad, Lahore, and Karachi, aiming to open 15 classrooms by the end of next year. In the information technology (IT) sector, Japan Station, which provides software offshore development services for Japan, is extending business. Human resource firms Plus W and Profound Vision have established offices in Pakistan and are helping Pakistani IT engineers to explore onshore and offshore job opportunities with Japanese companies. When I visited Sialkot last year with representatives of Japanese companies, I learned that high-quality Japanese materials and machine tools support Sialkot's internationally competitive products, such as soccer balls and medical equipment. In the midst of a shortage of foreign currency, I have heard an easy argument that "exports are good,



During my tenure in Pakistan for over two and a half years, I have met many passionate people. Each time, I have felt that the relationship between Japan

relations. I would like to continue to cherish the relationships between people and realise the possibilities one by one.



Bulgaria: Archaeologists find a marble statue in an ancient Roman Sewer



He also thinks that the statue may have been buried some time after 388 A.D., when a major earthquake hit the area and devastated the city. It appears to have destroyed infrastructure to such an extent that the sewers were no longer functional, he said.

But even though the sewer had been decommissioned following the quake, Dr. Vagalinski added, it remained sturdy, and became something of a burial ground for pagan history.

"Although we might not think a sewer is the right place, at least it would be unharmed," said the Rev. Professor Martin Henig, an expert on Roman art at Oxford University who was not associated with the dig. "Nobody was going to touch the sewer," he added.

The statue is missing part of its right arm, which almost looks like it was amputated, Dr. Vagalinski said. The left hand may be damaged, too. But otherwise, the statue seems mostly intact.

"It is rare and exciting to find an almost perfectly intact statue, and especially one of such apparently high quality," Elizabeth Marlowe, the director of the museum studies program at Colgate University, who was not involved in the dig, wrote in an email.

The statue's geographic location may also offer insights to researchers. Many such well-preserved statues were looted, Dr. Marlowe wrote, and "surface seemingly out of thin air in dealers' shops in Switzerland or New York."

This can mean that the finds — although remarkable — are often stripped of clues about their origins. (Smugglers work hard to erase those details to obstruct cultural officials who may try to get artifacts back to the

Amelia Nierenberg

Sofia: Archaeologists in Bulgaria made an unexpected discovery in an ancient Roman sewer last week: A well-preserved marble statue, taller than a man.

"We found it by accident," said Lyudmil Vagalinski, the scientific director of the excavation. "It was amazing. A whole statue appeared in front of us."

The discovery could illuminate how people in the area, modern-day Bulgaria, fought to preserve their religion as Christianity swept across the ancient world. The sewer may have been a hiding place used by pagans trying to protect the imposing statue from Christian zealots, who sometimes destroyed the heads of pagan deities.

They seem to have succeeded: Researchers have not yet unearthed the entire statue, but the face and head show no signs of destruction.

"It's a miracle that it survived," Dr. Vagalinski said. He and his colleagues were working on a routine dig near the village of Rupite, close to Bulgaria's southwestern border with Greece, in the blistering summer heat

last week when they spotted marble in the soil. They tried to keep their excitement in check, Dr. Vagalinski said, as a marble foot emerged. Then, they saw careful carvings on the toenails. Legs sprouted upward. A torso followed. Finally, a head.

"It was just waiting for us," he said. Almost as if the statue had found them, not the other way around. This would not be the first ancient statue to emerge from an unsavory trench: Construction workers in Rome also found a marble figure in a sewer system last year.

The Bulgarian statue — which Dr. Vagalinski thinks may depict the god Hermes — may have been buried in the late fourth century. He thinks it was placed in the sewer a few years after 380 A.D., the year Emperor Theodosius I declared Christianity the official religion of the Roman Empire.

The pagans in the ancient city where the statue was found, then called Heraclea Sintica, may have wanted to protect their treasures from Christian defacement.

"They tried to secretly preserve their memory of these deities," Dr. Vagalinski said.

place they were found.)

"If this surfaced on the art market, we would never in a million years have guessed that it came from a small town in the Bulgarian hinterland," Dr. Marlowe wrote. "We would have guessed that it came from a wealthy city or private estate in Italy."

Such an impressive marble statue — which she said was a rare find in southwest Bulgaria — could be useful to understanding Heraclea Sintica. Dr. Marlowe said the city was not a well-known Roman site. "This has the

potential to greatly enrich our understanding of the local culture of this region," she wrote.

For now, Dr. Vagalinski and his team are focused on carefully extracting the statue. Once it is fully excavated, which he hopes will happen this week, he and other researchers will work to date and analyze the piece — before readying it for display in the local history museum.

"It's like a sensation," he said. "Such huge statues are very rarely found."



German Consulate in Karachi halts visa services for non-EU citizens



Covert Report

Karachi: The German Consulate in Karachi this week halted its services for non-EU citizens due to security issues.

In 2023, Pakistan emerged among the top nationalities with the highest visa rejections in Germany and Schengen states overall.

Pakistanis spent €3.3 million on visa

applications in 2023, while their expenses might increase further in 2024.

The German Consulate in Karachi, Pakistan, has suspended visa services for non-European citizens, citing safety concerns.

Meanwhile, non-EU citizens who have already been issued visas can obtain them, Schengen.News reports.

"Due to imminent security concerns, the

Consulate of the Federal Republic of Germany will remain closed for services to non-EU citizens until further notice!"

The consulate's statement issued on July 8, 2024, did not provide further details regarding this announcement.

However, according to a media report, such a move follows some violent actions in Pakistan, including assaults on international citizens and police officials in Karachi.

The above-mentioned decision is expected to affect many individuals in the South Asian country, given that Germany is considered a favourite destination for Pakistanis.

This is reflected in the number of visa applications Pakistanis submitted to German missions in 2023. During that period, Pakistani nationals filled out 19,095 visa applications to Germany, the highest number compared with the number of requests submitted to other Schengen states.

Of those, 11,630 applications were approved, while the remaining 7,370 were rejected. With such a rejection rate, Pakistan emerged among the ten nationalities

with the most refused visas by Germany in 2023.

In addition to Germany, Pakistanis submitted a notable number of applications to Spain (18,482), Italy (12,390), the Netherlands (11,389) and France (8,225).

Overall, Pakistanis filled out almost 86,700 visa applications to Schengen states. Of those, 49.6 per cent of applications were denied, making Pakistan the fourth country of origin for visa applicants whose visas were most rejected.

Moreover, Pakistanis spent €3.3 million on visa applications—the highest figure of

nationalities with the highest reception rates in 2023.

As of June 11, the EU increased its Schengen visa fees by 12.5 per cent for citizens of all third countries under its visa regime. More specifically, visa fees for adults surged from €80 to €90, and for children, from €40 to €45.

Such a decision is also expected to affect Pakistanis, given the increasing number of applications they submit. As reported earlier by Schengen.News, their visa application expenses might exceed the €6 million figure.



Pakistan welcomes new British govt



Celina Ali

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's top political leadership this week congratulated British Labour Party leader Keir Starmer for his historic victory in his country's national elections, hoping the two countries would further strengthen their ties under his leadership.

The Labour Party swept to power after more than a decade in opposition, as a jaded electorate handed the party a landslide victory, punishing the governing Conservatives after 14 years of economic and political upheaval. With almost all the results in, Labour had won 410 seats in the 650-member House of Commons and the Conservatives 118.

Starmer officially became prime minister, leading his party back to government less than five years after it suffered its worst defeat in almost a century.

"Congratulations to Sir Keir Starmer on the landslide victory of the Labour Party in the general elections," Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif said in a social media post. "Looking forward to working closely with the new UK government, under Sir Starmer's wise and able leadership, to further strengthen and broaden the Pakistan-UK partnership."

President Asif Ali Zardari also wrote a message of felicitation on his social media account, saying he hoped the new UK leader would "play his role in addressing shared challenges faced by the world."

"I congratulate @Keir_Starmer on his victory in the UK elections. Pakistan looks forward to working with the new govt to further strengthen bilateral cooperation in all areas of mutual interest. I hope he'd play his role in addressing shared challenges faced by the world," he posted on X.

Britain has experienced a run of turbulent years - some of it of the Conservatives' own making and some of it not - that has left many voters pessimistic about their country's future. The UK's exit from the European Union followed by the COVID-19 pandemic and Russia's invasion of Ukraine battered the economy, while lockdown-breaching parties held by then-Prime Minister Boris Johnson and his staff caused widespread resentment and anger.



"I have very strong feelings about how you lead your life. You always look ahead, you never look back." - Ann Richards

"All your life, you will be faced with a choice. You can choose love or hate...I choose love." - Johnny Cash

Italy: PM Meloni insists French election result not defeat for far right

Covert Report
Rome: Italy's Prime Minister, Giorgia Meloni, this week said that no party in France emerged victorious in the just-concluded legislative elections, in which the far-right National Rally (RN) was beaten into third by a leftist coalition and President Emmanuel Macron's centrist bloc. The Italian leader's comments were part of reactions pouring from across Europe over

the legislative election results, which saw Marine Le Pen's RN dramatically halted in what was thought could be a rise to power. Speaking in Washington, where she was attending the NATO summit, Meloni said that interpreting the results as a defeat for Le Pen's party was simplistic. "I think that because, if we want to look at what happened in France, the truth is that no one can sing victory," she said. "There were three coalitions: none of the three

prevailed, none of the three is able to govern alone. I can say from personal experience that it is easier to govern when you are together because you share ideas than when you are together because you share an enemy," she added. According to Nicoletta Pirozzi, Head of the EU Programme at the Institute for International Affairs, Meloni should actually welcome the outcome. "Le Pen's defeat is not necessarily bad for



Meloni. As things stand now, if Le Pen had won, this would have forced Meloni to come in second position among right-wing political forces in Europe," said Pirozzi. "Following the news that both the RN and the League party are joining Orbán's Patriots for Europe group, Meloni can represent a more cooperative side of the right bloc, if you will, one that can strike a deal with the new Commission headed by Ursula von der Leyen." For Elly Schlein, leader of Italy's main opposition party, the Democratic Party, the results show that "the far right can be beaten". Meanwhile, Italians on the streets of Rome were also reacting to the news

from France. While a range of opinions were on display, one thing they seemed to agree on was that the upset for the far right in France offers many lessons for their own country. "I am very happy about the outcome and I had predicted that," one person said. "Right-wing parties should stop proclaiming victory before having actually won." For one young man, the huge voter turnout was impressive. "It's nice to see that in France, young generations have mobilised and went to vote to change the political situation. It would be great to do the same here in Italy and encourage both young and old people to go vote." But while some parts of Europe breathe a sigh of relief that the extreme right was unable to secure a majority despite their growing popularity.

Foreign students in Denmark can now work part-time for up to 90 hours a month



Ambassador of Denmark to Pakistan H.E. Jakob Linulf

Alza Kryeziu
Copenhagen: All foreign students holding work permits in Denmark can now work part-time in the country for 90 hours per month. The new rules that came into effect today, July

1, also apply to those who want to work full-time for three months this year (June, July, and August). Denmark recently eased rules for Professional Models, allowing them to work for short periods without a work permit.

As of July 1, 2024, international students eligible to work in Denmark part-time now have the right to work 90 hours per month. According to the Danish Immigration Service, those granted a part-time work permit from Denmark can also work full-time for 90 hours in June, July, and August of this year, Schengen.News reports. The Executive Order on the issue of residence and work permits for students will be changed on July 1, 2024. Previously, Danish authorities required foreign workers to extend their stay in the country before their current residence and work permit expire, with the condition that the work stay does not exceed 90 days within the last 365 days. Denmark has a strong job market with a low unemployment rate, making it a good place to look for part-time jobs. As a result, the most popular industries for part-time employment include retail, hospitality, and customer service. The minimum wage in Denmark is relatively high, currently at around 110 DKK (€14.75) per hour, and working hours are typically limited to 15-20 hours per week for international students. As the Danish Immigration Service explains, foreign students can apply for a residence permit in Denmark for a job search if they possess a valid residence permit based on completed studies such as a bachelor's, master's, or doctoral program in Denmark approved by a state authority. Before applying, applicants should know that a state authority has approved their educational

program and check if their current residence permit already includes a job search period. Thus, the Styrelsen for International Rekruttering of Integration (SIRI) automatically grants a 3-year job search period together with the study permit if the validity of the passport allows. International students can apply for a job search permit only if they follow these rules as follows: The validity period of the residence permit as a student has been shortened due to the expiration date on the passport. They have received a 6-month period to look for

work together with the residence permit or completed their education program in Denmark after the specified study period. Recently, the country also decided to relax some of its rules regarding foreign professional models, granting them the right to work in the country without a work permit for short periods of time. Since June 1, 2024, this group of workers can professional models to enter Denmark without a work permit for up to three separate work periods of three days within 180 days.

