



# Positive Post

Monthly publication to create a soft and positive image of Pakistan



## All Pakistan Conference (APC) Resolution is not important, what is important is our will and determination to implement the resolution



Muhammad Taqy  
BS37 3211

Islamabad. September 29, 2011: The All-Party Conference (APC) which was convened in Islamabad at the behest of Prime Minister Yousuf Raza Gilani has issued a unanimous declaration in which all the various parties called for unity in light of the recent increase in pressure on Pakistan by the United States.

All Parties Conference (APC) called by the government to address national security concerns after the US accused Pakistan of aiding its opponent, terrorist groups in Afghanistan, has sought to redefine the national agenda. The unanimously adopted

resolution at the end of the APC has called for giving peace a chance because military action has not delivered (Imran Khan's key demand) and a covert reference to American strategy in Afghanistan, where a decade of war waged by the US has not produced the desired results. Surely this cannot be due wholly to certain sections of the Pakistan Army supporting anti-

Contd. on P.g 7



## Spain confers highest military honour upon Kayani



Kumail Soomro  
BS33 2808

MADRID: Spain conferred the country's highest military honour upon General Ashfaq Pervez Kayani on Thursday.

The Grand Cross of Military Merit award is the highest military honour conferred by the King of Spain for distinguished service. The award was in recognition of Pakistan Army's contribution in the fight against terrorism.

According to an ISPR press release, COAS,

General Ashfaq Pervez Kayani visited the Spanish Joint Staff Headquarters in Madrid where he had meetings with Spanish Defence Minister Ms Carme Chacon and other defence and military officials including Secretary General for Defence Policy, Chief of Defence Staff and Chief of Army Staff.

The focus of the meetings was bilateral defence and military relations and other matters of mutual interest.

Courtesy: Express Tribune

## Mangoes, Gift for Iranian Government

Kumail Soomro  
BS33 2808

Islamabad September 14: Pakistani mangoes presented to the top Iranian leadership by Prime Minister Yousuf Raza Gilani during his visit to the neighbourly country won profound appreciation and gratitude from the host dignitaries.

Contd. on P.g 6

## Karar's journey from small-town of Balochistan to Harvard University



Ali Malik  
VS23 2934

Karachi, September 8: Located on the outskirts of Quetta, is the barren valley of Mariabad where the Hazara lead slow-paced lives. These tribal people, living in narrow brick huts speckled along the rugged hillside, typically sell loose cloth, sweaters or tea for their livelihood.

Contd. on P.g 7



Karar Hussain Jaffer (left) at Harvard University

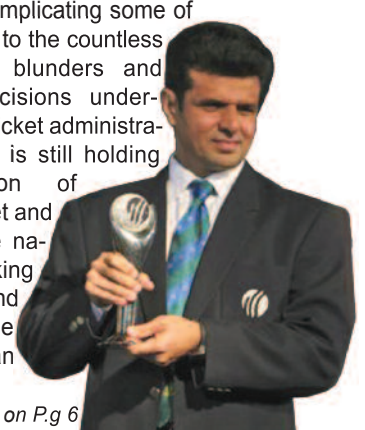
## Legendary Gem of Pakistan Aleem Dar



Omair Abbas  
MS38 3293

At a time when the Pakistan Cricket team has been marred by one crisis after another, from the match fixing scandal implicating some of its top players, to the countless administrative blunders and misjudged decisions undertaken by the cricket administration, one man is still holding the reputation of Pakistan cricket and the flag of the nation high, making us proud, and that man is none other than Aleem Dar.

Contd. on P.g 6



September 2011

**Positive Post**  
A Monthly publication of



*Greenwich University*

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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# Minorities celebrate Pakistan Day



Sameen Amjad Ali  
BS36 3133

Rawalpindi: Hindu and Christian communities of the garrison city on Tuesday arranged special services at temple and churches to celebrate Pakistan Defense Day and pay tributes to the martyrs of 1965 war between Pakistan and India.

Rawalpindis Hindus gathered at Krishna Mandir and held special service for the welfare and prosperity of the country. Hindu Sikh Social Welfare Council (HSSWC) president Jag Mohan Kumar Arora delivered address on the occasion.

“Like other countrymen, the Hindus feel proud of being Pakistanis and salute Pakistan Army for defending the country in 1965 war,” he said and added that the Hindu always prayed for the welfare of the country.

He said that Pakistani Hindus were committed to defending the country and work for the welfare and prosperity of the country. He said that



every week on Tuesday, the Hindus gathered at Krishna Mandir to offer their religious rituals and on September 6, special prayers were offered only for the welfare of the country.

Meanwhile, All Pakistan Christian Action Committee and All Pakistan Christian League arranged special service at Government Gordon College Chapel. The prayers were attended by Robinson Asghar, Anwaar Pitras, Mehboob

*Contd. on P.g 6*

## Pakistan, US to work for trade liberalisation



Aliza Fatima Zaidi  
BS32 2691

ISLAMABAD: At the end of two days of talks, Pakistan and the United States agreed on Wednesday to continue engagement at a higher level for further liberalisation of trade regimes between the two countries.

US Assistant Trade Representative Michael Delaney and Pakistan’s Commerce Secretary Zafar Mehmood led their delegations at the

*Contd. on P.g 6*

## “Bank workers give Rs16.17 million for flood relief”



Muhammad Ali Asif  
BS 292316

Karachi: 20th September. National Bank of Pakistan employees have come forward to help the flood affected people and have contributed Rs16.774 million from their salaries to Prime Minister’s Flood Relief Fund 2011.



This amount is in addition to Rs141.5 million paid by the bank, out of which Rs25million were contributed in Prime Minister’s Flood Relief Fund 2011; Rs50million for establishment of medical camps and flood packets and Rs66.5 million for tents to provide temporary shelter for the flood affected people.

Officers, clerical and non-clerical employees have contributed one day salary, AVP/VP/SVP two days salary and EVP & above have contributed three days salary.

*Courtesy: The Nation*

### EDITOR’S NOTE

The efforts of the students are being appreciated by cross section of people in bringing out “POSITIVE POST”.

Most of the people have said that more and more stories should be published to enhance our positive image globally. In this Issue we are publishing the struggle of a young Pakistani who made his way to Harvard University, despite living in a remote area of Baluchistan.

Aleem Dar success story as a great cricket umpire of all times also finds a place in this publication.

We are trying to accommodate all the leading positive stories to our fullest. We always look for your valuable suggestions and take it in a very positive way.



# Pakistan capable of handling dengue

Muhammad Ali Asif  
BS 292316

Lahore: September. 20: Prime Minister Yousuf Raza Gilani said on Monday that Pakistani health and medical experts were fully capable of handling the dengue outbreak and had made significant achievements in this regard.

The prime minister was addressing the National Health Conference at the State Guest House here on Monday. He said the issue of machinery imported to help curb dengue and the question of exempting it of duty would be discussed with the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR). He added that the federal and provincial governments would extend complete cooperation to Punjab to fight the outbreak.

The PM said dengue had af-



ected people across the world but by taking proper steps the chances of dengue outbreak could be minimized. He emphasized the need to create awareness among the people and added that Pakistani health and medical experts were fully capable of handling the situation.

Gilani stressed the need to develop a national coordination mechanism to control epidemics like dengue fever. He said the federal government, global fraternity and UN bodies were providing support to curb the problem.

Courtesy: The News

# Chinese firm to start work on Thar coal



Sana Farooq  
BS34 2880

Islamabad, September 20: The Global Mining Company of China which plans to invest \$4.5 billion in the Thar Coal project till 2016, will begin mining work by April next year under an agreement signed with the Sindh government.

Liyang Liu, Chairman of the Global Mining Company, informed the Chairman of Board of Investment Saleem H Mandivwalla that a feasibility study of

the Thar Coal Block-I would be completed within six months, and the project would become an example for the world as China would stand side by side with Pakistan to overcome the shortfall of power in Pakistan.

Out of investment of \$4.5 billion, \$1.5 billion has been earmarked for development of infrastructure and construction of transmission line, road network and communications facilities, Mr Liu informed the BoI chairman.

The government has decided to declare the Thar coal field as

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# Army rescues 58,000 in flood-stricken areas



Jason Liao  
BS36 3113

Hyderabad: The Pakistan Army has rescued 58,000 people trapped in flood water in Badin, Pangrio, Mithi, Umakot, Mirpurkhas, Sanghar, Nawabshah and Tando Allahyar. They have used boats, divers and heavy vehicles to help shift the people to relief camps where they are being provided with food and medical care. So far, they have distributed 885 tonnes of ration goods among the flood survivors. Nearly 50 medical camps have been set up in the flood affected areas to prevent an outbreak of waterborne diseases. The army is also using mobile medical units to provide medical assistance to people. Mobile medical units have been created in boats which continue to provide medical aid around the clock.

They have also set up six water filtration plants to ensure that the

flood survivors drink clean water. The Hyderabad Garrison General Commanding Officer Major General Anwar Ali Hyder took an aerial tour of the flood affected areas which included Pangrio, Khoski, Sangrio and Sanghar. He also reviewed the arrangements made by the army for the people. The operational commanders of Badin and Sanghar Brigadier Javed Iqbal and Ghaus-u-din briefed Major Hyder about the relief and rescue operations in their areas. He appreciated the efforts made by the army officers and jawans. The major interacted with the flood affectees and assured them of the army's full support and cooperation.

A Special Control room has been set up at the Hyderabad Garrison which will monitor the rescue and relief operation in the flood affected areas of the province. So far more than 3,000 army troops are working in flood affected areas.

Courtesy: Express Tribune



# PTCL starts dengue awareness work

Jason Liao  
BS36 3113

Islamabad: Pakistan Telecommunication Company limited (PTCL) has launched a dengue awareness campaign on preventive measures against the virus in all of its exchanges and colonies, said a press release on Friday. The management has directed all hospitals on its panels to provide the best med-

ical facilities to its employees and their family members who may be admitted with dengue fever. All PTCL health centres are on red alert. Contact numbers of medical officials have also been shared with employees and emergency transport has been ensured. All exchanges and staff colonies are being sprayed with pesticides.

Courtesy: Express Tribune

# LPG price down by Rs 2.50 per kg

*Sameen Amjad Ali*  
BS36 3133

Karachi: The local producers of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) have cut prices by Rs2,436 to Rs84,082 per ton. The retail price will be cut by Rs2.50 to Rs112-120 per kg in the country.

According to All Pakistan LPG Distributors Association acting chairman Mohammad Atique Khan the price of an 11.8 kg cylinder has dropped by Rs30 and that of 45.4 kg cylinder by Rs111.

He expressed dissatisfaction over a minimal decline of

Rs2.5 and urged producers to slash LPG price by another Rs 2,500 per ton for September.

He said that due to exorbitant increase in LPG prices, 80 per cent public transport vehicles have been converted to CNG. LPG distributors have slashed their profit margins because of high prices while hundreds of local distributors have closed down their businesses following declining sales.

Mr Atique added that sales would fall further if LPG prices are not decreased by at least Rs2,500 per tons in September.

*Courtesy: Dawn*



# Light Brings New Hope



*Neha Saqib*  
BS 37 3181

Karachi, September 8, 2011: An NGO called Connect – Woman and Child Welfare Organization, has adopted Urs Mohammad Khaskheli as the first of five villages, to have all of its 65 households fitted with solar panels. Each solar panel powers two bulbs and a cell phone charger, according to the president of Connect, Talat Yasmeen.

“I can now study at my own will,” said 18-year-old Bhakhtawar. “I can teach in the morning at the



village school and do my own studying at night under a light bulb”. Bhakhtawar has completed her Matric and intends to go to Thatta College for Intermediate studies. Like Bhakhtawar many other children from these villages can now study at home with ease.

*Courtesy: Express, Tribune*

# Blind dolphin rescued

*Sameen Amjad Ali*  
BS36 3133

Sukkur, September 7: A team of wildlife department rescued a blind male dolphin with the help of fishermen from Rohri canal near National Highway on Wednesday and released it into deep waters of the Indus near Lansdowne Bridge.

Hussain Bux Bhagat, project director of Khirthar National



Park and a dolphin expert who oversaw the rescue operation, said they had received reports that two dolphins had strayed into Rohri and Dadu canals from Sukkur barrage. They succeeded in taking out the male dolphin, he said.

He said that the mammal aged around 15 to 16 years, weighed 55kg and was six feet long.

The endangered species number about 1,300 in the river and 800 manage to survive between Guddu and Sukkur barrages against all odds. They often get entangled in large fishing nets and stray into canals.

*Courtesy: Dawn*

# RAIN BRINGS WAVE OF JOY TO WATER-STARVED KOHISTAN



*HAMZA ANSARI*  
BS29 2382

Thana Bula Khan, September, 19: Rains have become a blessing in disguise for people residing in mountainous area of Kohistan located between Karachi and Hyderabad and falling in the jurisdiction of Jamshoro district.

The total 200mm rainfall sprouted greenery in an around Thana Bula Khan, Thana Ahmed Khan, Karachat and Nooriabad and provided an occupation to its denizens to prepare for rain-fed crops and vegetables cultivation.

The area of Kohistan has also become a sanctuary for nearly 500 rain-affected families to relocate themselves in Thana Bula Khan town and its outskirts.

A journey from Thana Bula Khan through the Super Highway depicted a picture of labour and toil for people were



found busy in preparing their land for cultivation.

A farmer Shaman Palari was busy preparing his land for crops and vegetables at the foothills of Lik Jabal. He was hopeful of producing a reasonable harvest of string beans, sesame and apple gourd on his 10 acres of land. He told this correspondent that he had also stored rainwater in artificial pond for tomatoes and onion.

Luk Jabal, Khirthar Range and other small and big hills are all carpeted with green grass after rainfall.

*Courtesy: DAWN*



# ENTERTAINMENT

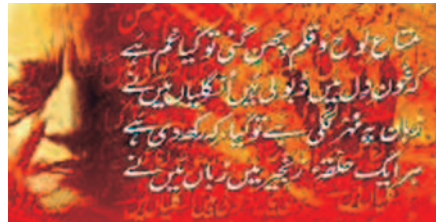


## Faiz's poetry and ideals hailed

Sameen Amjad Ali  
BS36 3133

Karachi: An extremely interesting dialogue (mukalima) presented by an Indian group Dastan Go covering the trajectory of Faiz Ahmed Faiz's life and work and well-researched theses on the poet were the highlight of the inaugural day of the Faiz Ahmed Faiz International Conference titled Dil-i-Pur Khoon Ka Hunar at the arts auditorium of the University of Karachi.

The three-day moot has been organised



by the Pakistan Study Centre, University of Karachi, in collaboration with the Pakistan Institute of Labour Education and Research (Piler) and the Jinnah Medical and Dental College.

Courtesy: Dawn

## KP train revival of SAFARI TRAIN on new route



Amal Khan  
VS373219

Peshawar, Sept 18: The Tourism Corporation Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (TCKP) has contacted the cash strapped Pakistan Railways to start steam safari train between Peshawar and Attock Khurd for local and foreign tourists to promote tourism in the province.

A press release issued in Peshawar said that TCKP had sent a letter to Railways Secretary Javed Iqbal to revive the tourist

attraction in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa that would be linked with the Abaseen Ferry Service, sailing between the tourist resort Kund and Attock in the Indus River.

It added that the century-old antiquated steam locomotive belonging to Pakistan Railways was not only one of the best treasured national heritage assets but also a tourist attraction of international fame that used to run through the Khyber Pass until recently.

The TCKP has sought the revival of the steam safari train on an alternate route,



## Media workshop



Hira Agha  
BS32 2730

ISLAMABAD, Sept 19: Dawah Centre for women is holding its 8th "Islamic Orientation Programme" for female media personnel including electronic and print.

The three-day media workshop is aimed at promoting positive values in all spheres of life to help reconstruct a better society in the country.

Amongst training programme for several professional groups, Dawah Center for Women has already arranged seven programmes for media personnel. — APP

Courtesy: Dawn

Peshawar to Attock Khurd, saying under the present challenging times it would not only reassure the safety of public at large but also improve the image of Pakistan Railways and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa globally.

The corporation, the press release said, had decided to bear the entire rental expenses and subsidise the cost of the passenger ticket initially to encourage and promote domestic tourism on no-profit basis.

In addition, this move would also project the Attock Khurd Railway Heritage Resort as a new destination on the tourist map of the province in a befitting manner, the release added.

Courtesy: Dawn

**“Once you replace negative thoughts with positive ones, you'll start having positive results”**

**— Willie Nelson**

## SKILL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME FOR NURSES LAUNCHED IN KP

Hamza Ansari  
BS29 2382

Peshawar, September, 4: The provincial health department has launched a five-year programme for advanced training of the nursing staff at country's premier health institutions to improve the patient care.

The initiative titled "Skill development programme to award scholarships in the field of nursing and physiotherapy" would get underway from November for which an endowment fund of Rs701 million had already been set up, said Special Secretary Health Dr Noorul Iman.

"Under the new programme, trainings being imparted will include Post Registration Nurse (PRN), Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) and MSc," he said. The male and female ratio

has been fixed at 10:90 while the ratio in physiotherapy is 50:50.

For the PRN, the candidate will be required at least two years experience from any recognised institute while the students wanting to get BSN course will need at least 55 per cent marks in FSc. The MSc candidates will require one year experience as BSN. Those aspiring to apply for physiotherapy courses will need with 55 per cent marks in FSc (pre-medical).

Dr Iman said that the profession of nursing had made tremendous progress globally and it was need of the hour to provide modern education to the students in areas of intensive and neonatal care besides other specialised branches of medical sciences.

Courtesy: DAWN

### Contd. Pakistan, US to work for trade liberalisation .....

fifth Trade and Investment Framework Agreement (Tifa) meeting.

The meeting took up various issues ranging from investment to establishment of reconstruction opportunity zones (ROZs). About the outcome of the meetings, the commerce secretary said: "The trading engagement is positive between the two countries. We should continue these talks to further enhance trade relations between the two countries."

After the meetings, the US embassy in Islamabad issued a joint statement.

It said officials from both sides discussed a wide range of investment climate issues including market access, the US Generalised System of Preferences, trade promotion efforts, intellectual property rights and sector-specific investment challenges.

The two sides agreed to work together on measures that will promote private sector engagement between the two countries

and create legitimate and productive enterprises for the Pakistani people. As part of that effort, the US will work with the Congress to enact ROZ legislation.

The statement said both delegations reviewed trade promotion efforts and agreed to continue collaboration, including support for Pakistani exhibitors to participate in major US trade shows.

Pakistan also asked for support of its programme to assist women-owned enterprises in rural areas of the country.

It said the US delegation agreed to follow up on the proposal once it was received. Pakistan provided an overview of its efforts to export mangoes to the US and expressed its satisfaction in the assistance they received, but mentioned that additional work must be done. The US delegation confirmed its continued support for the on-going Pakistan trade capacity-building programme.

Courtesy: DAWN

### Contd. Minorities celebrate Pakistan Day.....

Alam and representatives of Hindus Pandit Channa Lal and Om Parkash.

While addressing the gathering, the speakers said that the Christian and Hindu communities were committed to protecting the country from enemies. They said that they would defend the country till last drop of their blood. The country was facing worst time of its history

and it was the duty of every citizen including Muslim, Hindu and Christian to stand up and protect their homeland.

They also paid tributes to the services of Pakistans Armed Forces and said that the minorities would stand shoulder to shoulder to the government and armed forces to defend the country in difficult time.

Courtesy: DAWN

### Contd. Mangoes gift for Iranian Govt.....

Prime Minister took some 100 crates of Multani mangoes to Iran hoping to add much-needed sweetener to the not-so-friendly relations between the two countries. As expected, the mangoes did the trick, said a member of the Pakistani delegation.

Immediately after landing in Teheran, the Pakistani officials dispatched the crates of mangoes to the top leadership of the country including President of

Iran. As a result, during every meeting, Iranian officials didn't miss to register their gratitude for the gift of the Pakistani mangoes.

It really turned out to be a successful experience and Prime Minister Gilani was happy over the decision to take Multani mangoes to Iran. "Entire official business of the trip went quite smoothly," said an official.

Courtesy: DAWN

### Contd. Legendary Gem of Pakistan, Aleem Dar.....

On the 14th of April, 2004, Dar became the first Pakistani umpire to be inducted into the ICC's elite panel of umpires, and since then has gone from strength to strength. On 17th October 2007, he became the 10th umpire in the world to stand in 100 ODIs. The highlight of his career came when he was asked to stand alongside Steve Bucknor in the ICC World Cup of 2007. He later stood in the final of the 2010 ICC World T20 Cup as well. Dar's accuracy has been proven on

several occasions, such as the Ashes series of 2010.

On the occasion of getting the award (winning ICC umpire of the year award for the third time) Dar said: "It's a great honor and I'm thankful to everyone at the ICC and also my colleagues on the Elite Panel of ICC umpires along with the Pakistan Cricket Board, I'd like to also thank my family for their support since I'm away nearly eight months of the year umpiring."

Courtesy: Agencies

### Contd. Mountain Bike Race.....

and 26 seconds and Stafi of Germany third with two hours, 16 minutes and 28 seconds in the 30km race.

The prize distribution ceremony was planned later in the evening in the Kawai resorts with a dinner for the cyclists and organisers hosted by the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Sports Minister Syed Aqil Shah.

Talking to this correspondent, the sports minister said that holding of such international

events should serve as clear indication that peace had returned to the province.

He praised the Tourism Corporation of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa for holding such a big event that also attracted international teams.

"The winner will receive Rs2 million. We are so excited over the success of the race and plan to invite more teams for such events in the years to come," he said.

Courtesy: DAWN



**Contd. Karar's journey from small town of Balochistan to Harvard University .....**

Like most poor people, their aspirations rarely go beyond sustaining themselves in this underdeveloped nook of Balochistan. Many of them live and die in Mariabad — unaware of the complex concerns and tremendous pace of life in urban centres like Karachi and Lahore. But one student — the son of a trader who sold Quaid-e-Azam style caps in Mariabad for a living — dared to tread a radically different path. Karrar Hussain Jaffar transcended the confines of an obscure town in Balochistan, where people rarely educate themselves beyond matriculation, to study at the prestigious Harvard University. His story — a narrative about the wondrous possibilities of equal educational opportunities — is truly inspirational.

“My childhood friends, with whom spent my youth playing cricket, drive suzukis and rickshaws in Quetta for a living, while I am a PhD student in the US,” says Karrar in a humble tone. “I often wonder why God chose me, out of all the people in my community, to get ahead in life?”

Karrar attributes his educational achievement to his father's passion for his children's higher education. He vividly remembers the chilly morning when his father showed him the ad for Lahore University of Management

Sciences' national outreach programme (NOP), which aimed to sponsor education and living expenses for capable students who could not have afford to pay.

“I was doing my FSc at Cadet college and didn't even know a single thing about LUMS at that point in time,” he fondly recollects. “I didn't take the ad seriously because LUMS did not offer engineering, the field I was interested in.”

When he returned to college from his winter break, he attended a presentation by a LUMS' faculty member, who introduced students to the national outreach programme.

“At the end of the presentation we all took a pre-screening exam,” he explains. “A few weeks later, I got a letter from LUMS inviting me to attend sponsored classes for SAT preparation.”

Yet with utmost dedication, Karrar managed to clear the screening exam at the end of the four-week training and was selected to take the SAT exams, sponsored by the university. After obtaining an impressive score in his SATs, Karrar got admitted in LUMS and was offered a full scholarship and a monthly stipend.

“I came to LUMS in very high spirits,” reminisces the bright student.

Often feeling like a misfit during his first year at university, Karrar mostly spent his days with other NOP students. “But after a year I managed to befriend other students from Lyceum and Karachi Grammar school.”

Karrar graduated on the Dean's honour list, with a cumulative grade point average of 3.7 and 3.68 in his majors, Maths and Economics, respectively.

A year after graduating, Karrar got a Fulbright scholarship to study in the US.

“I simply told the interview panel that I want to come back to Balochistan after completing my studies. That's where my home is; that's where I belong,” he explains passionately.

But perhaps the most memorable moment in his life — an incident he recalls quite animatedly — was when he found out that he made it to Harvard University

I had no internet at home in Mariabad so I walked 15 minutes or so to a nearby internet cafe to check my email for Harvard's decision,” he explains. “When I saw the acceptance email, I just thought it was too good to be true.”

My mother asked me what Harvard was and my father asked me to wait for potential offers by other universities” he says with a laugh. “It took a while to convince them that I got into the

world's top university.”

“After LUMS, I was very used to being around different types of people so studying and living in the US was not such a problem.” Karrar completed his Master's last year and is currently pursuing a PhD in Economics from the University of Southern California.

What does he want to do with all the knowledge he is amassing? “I want to increase educational awareness in Balochistan—particularly amongst people from my community,” he says.

The young academic's goal might seem like the reiteration of the clichéd promise of “development” that many educated Pakistan promise their country. However, Karrar is actually a first-hand witness of how education can revolutionize communities and places.

“Because of all that I achieved, my parents allowed my sister to get college education in Lahore and my brother got the motivation to get a scholarship to study in Australia,” he says with a hint of pride.

Karrar confesses that most of his family and friends cannot even comprehend what his life is like in the US. But he is fairly confident that after he returns, he can change that.

“I can make them realise the value of education,” he says.

*Courtesy: Express Tribune*

**Contd. Chinese firm to start work.....**

special economic zone, the Bol chairman informed the Chinese investors.

Mr Mandviwalla explained that a comprehensive incentive package has been developed to market Thar coal with consultation of all stake-holders.

The package includes 20 per cent international rate of return to firms, 30 years exemption on corporate tax, all custom duties on import of coal mining projects allowed at zero per cent to reduce the initial capital investment, exemption on withholding tax to shareholders on dividend for initial 30 years, exemption for 30 years on withholding tax on procurement of goods and services during project construction

and operations to reduce the initial capital investment.

Talking to newsmen at a ceremony to appoint honorary investment counsellor of Bol for Turkey here, Mr Mandviwalla said that foreign investors are showing great interest in our mining sector which has vast potential and it can emerge as a leading export sector of the country.

“Mining sector can export more than textile sector. I am very happy to see foreign investors focusing on our mining industry for the first time,” he said.

Mr Mandviwalla said that a high-level delegation from UK visited Pakistan recently and the major-

ity delegates showed interest in mining sector.

He said the mining needs only investment and he expected a good amount of domestic and foreign investment.

He said that this day is important day for BOI as a Turkish businessman has offered his services/ expertise to promote trade and investment between his country and Pakistan, and with other countries including those of Middle East and Central Asian States. He hoped that Turkish honorary counsellor Hilal Ibrahim Demirhan would mobilise and bring investors from Turkey and other countries to Pakistan.

*Courtesy: DAWN*

**Contd. All Pakistan Conference...**

America forces in Afghanistan as the Americans have alleged.

The APC also sought to steer policy prerogatives in a way that restores Pakistan and Pakistanis' compromised self-respect.

The leaders agreed to push for economic self-reliance rather than be held hostage to loans advanced by international lending institutions or foreign aid, both of which come with strings attached. Trade, not aid, was the new mantra expounded. The politicians pledged to stand behind the government and the armed forces should it come to dealing with any military threat posed to the country from any quarter.

*Courtesy: DAWN*

# SPORTS



## Sportsmen help the flood victims



**Kinza Peracha**  
BS33 2814

Karachi September 19: Pakistan's leading sportsmen are gearing up for a relief campaign for victims of floods that have caused massive devastation in Sindh.

Among the sportsmen who have promised to participate in the relief work are squash legend Jahangir Khan, former captain Shahid Afridi and tennis ace Aisamul Haq Qureshi.

The campaign is being led by Sindh chief minister's sports advisor Haleem Adil Sheikh who said that he had received an encouraging response from the leading sports personalities he approached for assistance.

"The legends are ready to come on board," Sheikh told The Express Tribune. "All of them are ready to play their part and campaign for the flood victims will start soon."



Sheikh said those who have promised to become a part of the campaign also included various Olympians including the Pakistan Hockey Federation Chief Selector Hanif Khan.

"We'll be holding exhibition cricket and hockey matches to raise funds. Our sportsmen will also auction their memorabilia to gather funds. These legends have a huge following and hopefully the campaign will help the affected people."

Sheikh said he would soon meet President Asif Ali Zardari and the sportsmen to finalise the details of the campaign.

*Courtesy: Express Tribune*

## Mountain Bike Race Slovak grabs men's event

**Kumail Soomro**  
BS 33 2808

Mansehra, September 18: The UK emerged as the overall winner of the three-day Himalayas International Mountain Bike Race the third and final leg of which was held on Sunday amid minor injuries to several cyclists, as the area received hailstorm and heavy rains during the race from Kawai to Siri Paye in Kaghan Valley.

The cyclists covered 30km distance from Kaghan Memorial Trust, Kawai, to Siri Paye, in the final leg of the race. In the men's event, Martin Haring of Slovakia continued his supremacy and also won the third leg, covering the 30km distance in one hour, 36 minutes and five seconds.

Mr Haring was declared as the winner of the men's event of the race. Eight teams took part in the race held from September 16 to 18 in Kaghan Valley.

As a whole, the UK cyclists clinched the first spot, Slovakia second, Eurasia third, World United fourth, Denmark fifth, Holland sixth, Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa seventh and Pakistan eighth.

In the third leg of men's event, Nathan Matt Page of UK got second place after covering the 30km distance in one hour, 46 minutes and 15 seconds, and Nathan Dahlberg of New Zealand third spot with his timings of one hour, 48 minutes and 13 seconds.



## Pakistan geared up for Asian Kabaddi Championship

**Aliza Fatima Zaidi**  
BS32 2691

Islamabad: A 15-member Pakistan squad will depart for Iran on Thursday to participate in the first circle-style Asian Kabaddi Championship that takes place from September 24 to 28 in Tabriz.

The event will see over 120 athletes participate from Pakistan, Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Afghanistan, Turkmenistan and hosts Iran.

Pakistan Kabbadi Federation (PKF) Secretary Muhammad Sarwar told APP that the Pakistan outfit consisted of young and talented players, who underwent hard training in a two-week camp at Pakistan Sports Complex in Islamabad.



"The event will be held in our traditional circle style where players will go one-on-one against each other. I hope our athletes will perform well as they are well prepared for it," he said.

Squad: Imtiaz Alam, Muhammad Irfan, Muhammad Afzal, Musharraf Javed, Asif Ali, Mohsin Naseer, Muhammad Mansha, Muhammad Ashfaq, Muhammad Hayat, Naeem Butt, Muhammad Imran Khan, Muhammad Kashif Khan, Shafique Ahmed, and Shams Latif. Muhammad Asif Cheema will accompany the team as coach/manager.

*Courtesy: Dawn*

In the women's event, Mel Alexander of UK landed top honours by clocking eight hours, 26 minutes and 52 seconds for the entire distance of 136km of the three-day race in the valley.

In the final leg of women's event, Rickie Cotter of UK covered the distance in two hours, two minutes and seven seconds to clinch first spot. Lisa Pleyer of Austria stood second with two hours, 13 minutes

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