



Positive Post



Greenwich University
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Monthly publication to create a soft and positive image of Pakistan

2012 Silver Jubilee Year

Pakistan host Muslim leaders summit



Muhammad Asad Rasool
BS38 3299

Muslim leaders gathered for a rare summit in Pakistan designed to increase trade and investment.

Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, Egyptian leader Mohammed Morsi and Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan, key players in the Middle East, were among those attending the Developing Eight (D8) summit.

The D8 groups Bangladesh, Egypt, Indonesia, Iran, Malaysia, Nigeria, Pakistan and Turkey, with an estimated total population of one billion people.

Nigerian leader Goodluck Jonathan arrived in Islamabad. Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono also at-



tended. Bangladesh and Malaysia will represent at adviser and ministerial level respectively.

The summit will mark the first visit by an Egyptian President to Pakistan in four decades and by the first by a Nigerian leader in 28 years.

Its ambitious goal is to increase trade between member countries from \$130 billion to \$507 billion by 2018.

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Calls to grant Malala Yousafzai the Nobel Peace Prize



Mustafa Zubair
BS42 3790

Thousands of people have called for a Nobel Peace Prize for Malala Yousafzai, who was shot by the Taliban in Pakistan for dared to go to school. Malala, 15, has the support of more than 60,000 people backing a petition to nominate her for the award.



The call came on global marking one month since Malala was shot in the head by the Taliban.

In the UK, Shahida Choudhary is campaigning to get the Prime Minister and prominent politicians to write to the Nobel committee to recommend Malala.

Ms Choudhary said: "Malala doesn't just represent one young woman, she speaks out for all those who are denied an education purely on the basis of their gender.

"There are girls like Malala in the UK and across the world. I was one of them." I started this petition because a Nobel Peace Prize for Malala will send a clear message that the world is watching and will support those who stand up for the right of girls to get an education."

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Education for all Education Commission hands over draft law



Saddam Mushtaque
BS39 3466

The Punjab Education Commission has delivered a draft law to the provincial government for the implementation of Article 25-A, which makes free and compulsory education a right for all children aged 5 to 16.

Education was made a provincial responsibility under the 18th Amendment to the Constitution .

The commission had suggested that the

government make all the legislation required within three years, and then ensure that all children aged five to 16 are in schools within five years. "Financial issues, drop-outs and creating effective liaisons between the federal and provincial governments will be the biggest challenges ahead.

Learning assessment Government and private schools which failed to meet standards would have their licences cancelled by the Schools Education Department. The assessments would also help to raise the standard of teaching.

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EDITOR'S NOTE

As Pakistanis, there are two ways to deal with our country's tumultuous situations – either whine about every unpleasing incident, or gear up, gather courageous and face our problems head on. Contrary to a pessimist's viewpoint, looking at the positive side of our country is not being unrealistic. It is about loving and accepting our dear land, and most importantly, sane survival to serve and preserve Pakistan for the generations to come.

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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President Zardari becomes first elected President to address Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa assembly



Deepak Kumar
BS40 3503

For the first time in the history of Pakistan, an elected president Asif Ali Zardari addressed the Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa assembly. He said that the PPP-led government has strengthened the Parliament and forged unity amongst provinces by giving them their due rights.

Zardari addressed the provincial assembly session on the invitation of the provincial chief minister and speaker of the assembly. The speaker had invited the president to address the assembly during the SAARC conference in Islamabad.

Addressing the session, the president said that it was a huge example of progress and patience of parliamentarians and politicians that the assembly



had completed its five years. The President added that provinces had been given their due rights under this government.

He emphasized on the need of defeating the extremist mindset in order to save Pakistan, while condemning the attack on former Jamaat-e-Islami (JI) chief Qazi Hussain Ahmad which took place earlier during the day in Mohmand.

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UK school to train Pakistan's future business persons



Saddam Mushtaq
BS39 3466

London School of Business and Finance (LSBF) is offering a new programme that will train students while simultaneously strengthening ties between the two countries. A reception was organised on Monday at the elegantly decorated Acton House in Clifton. British Deputy High Commissioner Francis Campbell welcomed

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Pakistan sets numerous records

Deepak Kumar
BS40 3503

42,813 people in the National Hockey Stadium sang the national anthem together, smashing the previous best of 15,243 held by India.



Mohammad Mansha went flat out to set a new record for making chapatis (breads) – mixing, kneading, spinning and cooking three in three minutes and 14 seconds – while 12-year-old Mehek Gul took just 45 seconds to arrange the pieces on a chessboard using only one hand.

Ahmed Amin Bodla beat a more established record when he landed 616 martial arts kicks on a punchbag in just

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Children's Day observed



Saddam Mushtaque
BS39 3466

Child and Social Development Organisation (CSDO), a social wing of the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry, organised seminars and awareness walks at CSDO schools to celebrate Universal Children's Day for highlighting children rights and protection issues. The CSDO schools have been established in backward and slum areas of Sialkot and its adjacent districts; Gujranwala and Narowal wherein the most marginalized children are getting free education from first to 10th grade.

About 1800 school children, their parents, industrialists, community members, teachers and officials of CSDO participated in the event. On this occasion, children also participated in various competitions such as hamad, naat, mili nagma, drama, tableau, painting, drawing and speeches on importance of education. Community Development EDO Faiz Ahmed Naeem, Vice President Anita Khawaja and Project Manager Ijaz Ahmed visited the schools and delivered speeches on child rights and awarded prizes among the children.

Courtesy : The Nation

"Malala leads TIME's Person of the Year list"



Hafsah Ghaffar
VS41 3710

Malala Yousafzai has topped TIME Magazine's

Person of the Year 2012 list so far. As many as 433 people have been voted in favour of Malala, while just 68 voted against her. Malala has even outnumbered a lot of world leaders including US President Barack Obama and US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton. Malala, who has gained 87% votes in her favour, has topped the list of 38 world leaders and celebrities. Malala became a world celebrity when a documentary was made on her, which also highlighted her vision of providing education to every girl especially the girls of Taliban-stricken areas. On October 9, this year, the intrepid girl was shot in the head by the Taliban militants, who want to kill her for showing courage to pro



mote education. Two other friends of Malala were also wounded as their way to school. TIME magazine chooses a world figure every year as its Person of the Year. An American magazine has placed Malala Yousafzai at the sixth spot in its top 100 Global Thinkers' list. Malala has been honored by the FP owing to her untiring efforts for standing up to the Taliban and everything they represent, the magazine stated. It is astonishing to see Malala Yousafzai ahead of the international leaders, including United States President Barack Obama, German Chancellor Angela Merkel, Israeli Prime

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Journalist nominated for literature prize.

Muhammad Asad Rasool
BS38 3299

Debut author Jamil Ahmad and journalist and novelist Mohammed Hanif were among the six writers shortlisted for the DSC Prize for South Asian Literature for 2013, when the names were revealed.



Journalist and novelist Hanif received his first nomination for the DSC Prize when his name was included in the 2013 longlist for his second novel "Our Lady of Alice Bhatti." The novel, a narrative focussed on a Christian nurse and her relationship with a patient who turns out to be a goon, has remained immensely popular since its publish late last year.



The six names were shortlisted by the jury in London from the longlist of 16 authors. Besides the two names from Pakistan, three Indian writers – Amitav Ghosh, Uday Prakash and Jeet Thayil – and one Bangladeshi author Tahmima Anam made the cut.

Ahmad's debut book "The Wandering Falcon" serves as a collection of short stories from the Pak-Afghan tribal regions, with its main focus on the revolt-hit province of Balochistan, where he served as a government officer in the 1950s. The book has received critical acclaim from writers and reviewers since its publication in 2011.

Bangladeshi writer Anam has been nominated for "The Good Muslim," while from India, Ghosh ("River of Smoke"), Prakash ("The Walls of Delhi") and Thayil ("Narcopolis") complete the shortlist for 2013.

The winner will receive \$50,000 when the prize is announced at the Jaipur Literature Festival 2013 on January 25. A five-member jury, chaired by the former chief executive of India's National Academy of Letters K. Satchidanandan, deliberated over the 16 names.

Courtesy: Dawn

Naseeruddin Shah will Perform in Two Stage Dramas in Lahore

Mustafa Zubair
BS42 3790

Famous Bollywood Actor Naseeruddin Shah arrived this morning at Lahore Airport. Naseeruddin Shah will perform in Two Stage Dramas in Lahore. Naseeruddin Shah will work with Faiz Ahmed Faiz Foundation at Al-Hamra Hall.



Naseeruddin Shah said that people of Pakistan will soon see him performing in few upcoming films by GEO Production. Naseeruddin Shah will perform in a Stage drama at Al-Hamra Hall on December 1st and 2nd, 2012.

Courtesy: The News

Having word with journalist he said that "Why would I come to Pakistan if I had no "Aman ki Asha" (desire for peace)? I have brought a message of peace and love from India". Moreover

PM declares 2013 'Year of Child Rights'



Sara Jilani
BS35 2938

Prime Minister Raja Pervez Ashraf has declared 2013 as 'Year of Child Rights', and directed the ministry of information and broadcasting to prepare special programmes to educate and entertain children. "The programmes must focus on balanced development of the child", he said while launching the Awareness Campaign on Child Rights. The event coincided with the Universal Children's Day observed.

The premier announced a grant of Rs 30 million for the Parliamentary Forum on Child Rights as a token of government's commitment to child welfare. The assistance would help the forum spearhead the agenda of child development, he said. The

forum seeks to ensure the parliament's role in monitoring public sector institutions engaged in provision of education, healthcare, food and safe environment. The government has already announced establishment of an



independent and autonomous National Commission on Child Rights which will be responsible for protection and promotion of rights of children

Courtesy: Dawn

US CG in Karachi visits Sindh historical places



Syed Muhammad Ahsan Khan
BS39 3430

The US Consul General, Karachi, Michael Dodman, after taking over the charge of his office here, undertook a visit to the historical places of Thatta, Sindh.

During his visit, Michael Dodman took a tour of the Graveyard of Makli and Shah Jehan Mosque amid strict security.

Talking exclusively to Geo News, Michael Dodman termed the today's trip as his very first after he took over



the charge of the office as US Consul General. He said the objective of his visit was to witness the historical and cultural places of Sindh so that he could learn about the province's civilization.

Michael Dodman said Sindh province has a rich history and that he was glad to see Makli's historical monuments.

Courtesy: The Frontier Post

45 METRO BUS SERVICES vehicles to arrive soon

Muhammad Asad Rasool
BS38 3299

Two ships carrying 45 articulated buses for the Metro Bus Service (MBS) route are likely to arrive from China at the Karachi seaport in a few days, officials related to the development told Dawn

The buses will ply on a 27 kilometre corridor being constructed from Gajjumatta to Shahdara.

According to officials, buses have been dispatched by the manufacturing company, Volvo China, to Pakistan. The fleet costs over Rs1.260 billion whereas each bus is Rs 28 million. As soon as the ships dock at Karachi seaport, a technical team of the Punjab government would go there to deal with unloading, and custom clearance issues.

The fleet will be transported to Lahore from the port through trawlers, Lahore De-

velopment Authority Director General AhadCheema told Dawn. Each bus is 18 metre long and is right hand drive.

"Every bus has 50 to 60 seats with separate compartments for women and men, and can accommodate 150 passengers in all at a time," he said.



The metro route will have 27 stations, of that 18 are near completion. The work on the remaining nine stations was being carried out on a fast track and would be completed in a fortnight, he said.

The corridor includes an 8km overhead bridge from Muslim Town Mor to Texali. Mr Cheema said some of the overhead's portions were

Contd. Pg. 6

Cancer hospital to be set up: Bokhari



Zain Ahmed
VS42 3766

Senate Chairman Nayyer Hussain Bokhari on

Monday said that a cancer hospital will be established in Islamabad soon with the co-operation of the Cuban government.

Speaking at the launch of a cleanliness drive at Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences, he said during his visit to Cuba, he discussed the issue with the Cuban government and Pakistani medical students studying there.

He said expansion of PIMS's emergency ward would also



be undertaken soon.

The chairman said a medical college has been established in NICH with around 200 beds.

Thanking the CDA and various schools for participating in the cleanliness drive, he urged the people to realise their responsibility and help the hospital management keep the hospital clean.

Courtesy: Express Tribune



Shahvaar pays tribute to Yash Chopra



Salar Khoso
BS38 3358

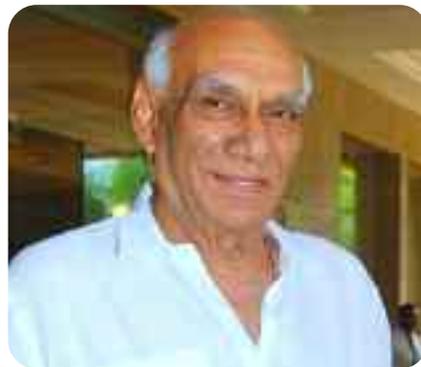
Shahvaar Ali Khan loves the limelight. His instant fame of "Filmeinshilmein" featured in Desi Boyz and then an impressive single on Indo-Pak peace, "No Saazish, No Jang," has made him popular in both countries. Khan's most recent song that has gone viral on social media is a tribute to Yash Chopra, the king of romance, on his demise.

Khan's song titled "Mai har ek pal ka shayar houn" (I'm a poet of every moment) is his way of remembering and admiring Yash Chopra for his contribution to the Indian cinema, and of course nobody can deny that he was equally popular in Pakistan. The tribute is from the original song "Mai pal do pal kashayarhoun," featured in 1976 Kabhie Kabhie which was produced and directed by Yash Chopra.

"If I can give a tribute to Ustad Mehdi Hassan Khan sahab on his demise then why can't I also admire Yash Chopra's work?" Khan said to The Express Trib-

une in an interview.

I am humbled that I was the first artist in Pakistan or India to honour Mehdi Hassan sahab in my small way after he passed away. If Indian singers can do the same for Mehdi sahab was equally popular in India, then I can also appreciate Yash ji in my own way."



Chopra's last film, Jab Tak Hai Jaan, had the biggest film opening in the history of Pakistani cinema a testament to the director's fan following in Pakistan.

"As a Pakistani artist, and an ardent fan
Cont. Pg. 6

Korean Food Festival Held



Syeda Warda Ahmed
BS41 3600

A sumptuous Korean Food Festival was held at Defense Country and Golf Club in Karachi. The Consulate General of the Republic of Korea hosted Korean Food Festival 2012 with two renowned chefs from Korea who had especially arrived for the event, Chef Sang-chul Han, (Master in Food Service) and Chef Moo-sub Kim. About 500 guests were feted with a wide range of healthy food and the culture of Korea. Most Korean foods are made with all natural ingredients like soy-bean paste, soy sauce and red pepper powder.



The festival was indeed a well-appreciated effort at sharing Korea's rich and unique culture and discovering the rich flavors of Korean cuisine. Koreans believe that creating and eating good food is a work of art and a part of heaven. Korea has unique traditions devoted to preparing food right from growing ingredients, cooking, table setting, sharing to its consumption.

Courtesy: The Nation

"Life's challenges are not supposed to paralyze you, they're supposed to help you discover who you are."

Bernice Johnson Reagon

PTV to launch English language channel soon: Kaira

Syed Muhammad Ahsan Khan
BS39 3430

Minister for Information and Broadcasting Qamar Zaman Kaira revealed on Monday that preparations are afoot to launch Pakistan Television's English language channel soon, Radio Pakistan reported.

Addressing a ceremony to mark 48th anniversary of PTV in Islamabad on Monday evening, he emphasised the need for preserving archival material available with PTV.

He lauded the state run channel for maintaining its identity despite intensive

competition from rival media in the private sector.

At least two full-time English language channels in Pakistan found it hard to survive. Dawn News, which was the first English language news channel in the country operated for three years before switching over to the mainstream Urdu language due to dwindling profits and shrinking viewer base.

Express 24/7, the second locally operated English language channel remained on air for almost 30 months before a similar story of dwindling revenues and shrinking viewership forced it off-air.

Courtesy: Express Tribune

Pakistani journalist honoured by prominent women media group



Sheikh Saaïd Khalid
VS41 3654

Renowned Pakistani journalist Zubeida Mustafa received the lifetime achievement award from the International Women's Media Foundation at an event held in New York.

Honoured as the first woman in Pakistani mainstream media, Ms Mustafa, 70, worked to enact hiring policies favourable to women during her 30 years at Dawn, the women's media group said.

Ms Mustafa covered issues that received little attention in her country and were sometimes considered taboo, including breast cancer, contraception and rape.

She paid tribute in her speech to the



Pakistani women who followed in her footsteps in journalism, saying that without them, she would not have "earned the title of pioneer".

Other recipients of awards were Khadija Ismayilova of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty in Azerbaijan, Asmaa al-Ghoul, a freelance journalist in the Gaza Strip, and Reeyot Alemu, who was a columnist for the independent Ethiopian newspaper Feteĥ until her arrest in June 2011. They won the courage awards.

Courtesy: Dawn.com

Contd. Punjab International sports festival

will send a soft image of the country to the world and showcase the talent at the youth of Pakistan possess."

"Pakistan is not all about bad news," another fan, Jahangir Khan, said. "Good news like this festival and others cheers the residents."

"This festival united the teams from this region and improves relations between the participating countries," said Shahbaz.

The games took place under tight security at sports venues across the city.

Courtesy: Express Tribune

Contd. Pakistan sets numerous

three minutes, beating the previous best of 612 also set by a Pakistani. Sadi Muhammad set a record by using his moustache to pull a 1.7-tonne pickup truck a distance of 60.3 metres, to wild applause from the crowd. Mohammad Nauman lit up the crowd in Lahore as he wired a household plug in a dazzling 35 seconds.

Daniel Gill and Mohammad Rizwan set a new record for heading a football between them, managing 335 consecutive headers in three minutes and 45 seconds.

Courtesy: Express Tribune

Contd. Education for all: Education ..

The draft law also proposes awards for teachers and schools who perform well and the formation of district level school management committees which would assist in assessing standards. The National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA) would be required to ensure that it does regular updates of births and deaths, to make sure that the relevant authorities have accurate information in order to identify and locate out-of-school children.

Courtesy: Express Tribune

Contd. Shahvaar pays tribute to Yash Chopra

of film music, whether Indian or Pakistan, 'Mein Har Ik Pal Ka Shayar Hoon' was just made intuitively from my heart," shared Khan. "It was in adulation of the Lahore-born man who defined films and music for an entire era, not just for Indians, but also for the world."

"Main pal do pal ka shayar hoon" was written by the renowned poet, Sahir Ludhianvi and was sung by the ever-green Mukesh for Kabhie Kabhie. Khan's childhood memories are tied to the tunes from the film and during his school days, he discovered that four geniuses had worked for Kabhie Kabhie's successful soundtrack: Chopra, Ludhianvi, Mukesh and Khayyam the film's music composer.

"It seemed like a befitting and humble tribute from a fellow Lahori to a man of Yashji's stature in an effort to augment my own learning curve in music," said Khan. "The lyrics of the song hauntingly and ironically define the existence and passing of a great creative genius; his momentary yet immortal connect with his audience and hence the twist — Mein harek pal kashayarhoun."

Courtesy: Express Tribune

Contd. Swimming courses: Indian coach in

highest, will be teaching new techniques in competitive swimming at level 5 to about 17 women and 26 men, so they can become better coaches.

Courtesy: Express Tribune

Contd. Malala leads time

Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and many more in the list of Global thinkers. UNESCO the UN agency tasked with promoting education, will stage a high-level advocacy event aimed at mobilizing a deeper commitment to educating girls and celebrating the courage of young girls like Malala Yousufzai on December 10, it was announced in Paris.

Courtesy: The Nation

Contd. 45 Metro Bus Services vehicles to arrive soon

still under various phases such as piling, shuttering and concrete and earth filling, adding that the bridge would be completed by mid December.

Mr Cheema said though there was no deadline to launch buses on the MBS, the LDA would be able to know about the tentative dates in the next 15 days.

He said the ongoing construction of KalmaChowk underpass would not

cause a delay in the MBS completion.

"Actually the underpass is not a part of the MBS, and the construction of the route is going on at this particular portion," he said.

The Traffic Engineering and Planning Agency has been tasked with constructing the Kalma Chowk underpass in two months.

Courtesy: Dawn

Contd. Call to grant Malala Yousafzai the Nobel Peace Prize

Ms Choudhary also fought for her education when she was taken out of school in the UK age 16 and forced into a marriage in Pakistan.

She escaped back to the UK, resumed her education at the age of 28, and now runs a network in Birmingham to support women in similar situations. Malala, who is widely known as a campaigner for girls' education in Pakistan, was attacked with two other school girls travelling home from school in the Swat Valley.

The gunman who boarded the van in which she was travelling asked for her by name before firing three shots at her.

In early 2009, she wrote an anonymous blog about life under the Taliban, who had banned all girls in her area from attending school.

The global petition to have Malala nominated, on Change.org, was started in Canada by Tarek Fatah, a writer and broadcaster.

It has already received support from Canada's four largest political parties and has been

replicated by supporters in other countries, including France and Spain.

The Nobel Committee rules state that members of national assemblies and governments can make nominations for the prize. Nominations close in February for the next award ceremony. Speaking on behalf of Malala Yousafzai exactly a month after she was targeted on a school bus in Pakistan, her father, Ziauddin, said she wanted to thank well wishers for helping her to "survive and stay strong".

Malala was flown to Birmingham's Queen Elizabeth Hospital for specialist treatment after escaping death by inches when a bullet grazed her brain on October 9. Mr Yousafzai, his wife and their two sons flew to Britain last month to be with Malala, who was travelling home from school with two classmates when she was shot at pointblank range.

In a statement issued by the University Hospital's Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust, Mr Yousafzai said: "She wants me to tell everyone how grateful she is and is amazed that

men, women and children from across the world are interested in her well being.

"We deeply feel the heart-touching good wishes of the people across the world of all caste, colour and creed." Malala, who campaigned for the right of girls to receive an education, has received thousands of gifts, cards and messages of support since arriving in Birmingham on October 15.

"Among the gifts have been pocket money "for sweets", CDs, school books, clothing, toys and jewellery. Whole classes of pupils have written letters and messages supporting her campaign.

In his statement, issued as new pictures were released of his daughter sitting up reading a book and looking through cards, Mr Yousafzai added: "I am awfully thankful to all the peaceloving well wishers who strongly condemn the assassination attempt on Malala, who pray for her health and support the grand cause of peace, education, freedom of thought and freedom of expression."

Courtesy: Express Tribune

Contd. UK school to train

the presence of LSBF in Pakistan, hoping that it would be one way in which greater ties can be established between Pakistan and the UK. Campbell said that this good news was much needed at a time when "Karachi and Pakistan are in the headlines for the wrong things." For this reason, it was important to celebrate the arrival of education. Around 28 Pakistani students will be going to the business school in February to embark on the new programme it will offer. Campbell, who is also the director for UK Trade and Investment, said that the institution in London, which opened its doors back in 2004 offers short courses, as well.

The new 360 programme will have undergraduate and postgraduate courses with a focus on training people for different careers in Pakistan.

Courtesy: Express Tribune

Contd. Pakistan host muslim leaders summit

D8 leaders are set "to discuss ways to cushion the effects of the global economic recession and climate change and tackle ways to boost trade among themselves", the Pakistani government said in a statement.

Islamabad rarely hosts major international gatherings given the Taliban and Al-Qaeda-linked violence that has plagued the country since the 9/11 attacks.

Security will be stepped up sig-

nificantly, as the summit coincides with the Holy month of Muharram.

Thousands of extra police and paramilitaries will be deployed and construction work has been suspended around the diplomatic enclave to provide "God willing, foolproof security", Islamabad police chief Bani Amin told.

Pakistan wants the summit to boost trade and investment, strengthen its international

standing and help "remove misconceptions (about Pakistan) created in a section of international media", the statement said.

The D8 is also due to adopt a charter at what will be its eighth summit. But commentators believe proceedings could be overshadowed by events in the Middle East, where 136 Palestinians and five Israelis have been killed in eight days.

Courtesy: The News

Contd. President Zardari becomes first elected President to address Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa assembly

He appreciated the sacrifices rendered by the people of KP which allowed democracy to move forward.

The president also spoke of how this ideology had destroyed the traditions of the KP and the people of the province needed to fight this.

Expressing happiness over visiting Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa and thanking the provincial chief minister for inviting him,

he said that completion of the tenure of the Parliament is an historic event for the country, The further added the government would continue to work for strengthening democracy.

He noted, "Protection of democracy is in the interest of the country. The Pakistan Peoples' Party has taken revenge from the killers of the Benazir Bhutto by strengthening democracy".

President Zardari eulogized the sacrifices made by the people of Khyber Pukhtunkhaw in the fight against terrorism and said that common people, political workers and the Army have made tremendous sacrifices against terrorism.

"Khyber Pukhtunkhaw has everything except peace," the president regretted.

Courtesy: Pakistan News



Swimming course: Indian coach in town to teach the latest techniques

Syed Muhammad Ahsan Khan
BS39 3430

Pakistan Swimming Federation (PSF) has appealed to Punjab and Sindh governments to allocate land for the first ever swimming academy in the country. Though the federation has funds to build the academy that will feature a 50 by 25 feet pool for 200 athletes, the project cannot be completed without land allotment.

This was stated by PSF President Kamran Lashari at the inaugural ceremony of the swimming coaching course at Islamabad Club.

“Though we have talent in Pakistan, we lack the equipment, techniques and expertise to excel in swimming and other sports, said Lashari. Swimming is not even predominantly recognized as a



sport due to social, economic and religious reasons.”

To hone the skills of 43 participants, famed Indian coach, Pradeep Kumar will be leading the course. Kumar shared that he looked forward to the skill-building experience and hoped that it will be as fruitful as it was four years ago when he visited Pakistan.

Kumar who is at level five, which is the
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Punjab International Sports Festival

Hafsa Ghaffar
VS 413710

The Punjab International Sports Festival 2012 kicked off November 7, with 1,381 athletes from 26 countries competing in more than 11 sports over the eight days.

Punjab Chief Minister Shahbaz Sharif and Indian Punjab Deputy Chief Minister Sardar Sukhbir Singh Badal attended the colourful opening ceremony in the National Hockey Stadium Lahore.

Male and female athletes from Central Asian countries and beyond are taking part in track and field, baseball, football, fistball, hockey, touch ball, table tennis, badminton, juditsu, rugby and kabaddi.

“The sports festival will bring people of different nationalities closer besides portraying a better image of Pakistan,” Shahbaz said while inaugurating the event in presence of 40,000 cheering spectators.

“Pakistan and India would test their talent in hockey, kabaddi, tug of war and wrestling,” Shahbaz said adding, “After every two years, the Punjab Cup will be organised between the countries.”

The event is being held simultaneously with the Dosti Cup, a contest between Pakistani and Indian deaf-mute teams. The Dosti Cup includes competitions in cricket, kabaddi, wrestling, badminton (male and female), table tennis and chess.

The festival marks “the first time that a contingent of 1,381 players plus their coaches and managers descended on the soil of Pakistan,” Shahbaz said.

“The Punjab International Sports Festival will give new dimension to the youth of the country,” he said. “We are not talking about one city or a province but are talking about the whole of Pakistan.”

“Yes we are very happy and enjoying this beautiful event,” said Sidra, a Lahore-based sports fan. “The efforts of the youth
Contd. Pg.6

Pakistan cricket team to tour India



Sophiya A. Meer
VS41 3708

At last there is some good news for the subcontinent's cricket lovers. Pakistan is going to play on Indian soil this December.

The Indian government has permitted the national cricket board to revive old rivals cricket on the home ground; not on the borrowed grounds in far-away lands. Mumbai attacks in 2008 led to the suspension of such inter-country visits.

Since gaining independence in 1947, both countries are at loggerheads on non-issues. Being a small country, Pakistan suffered the most on economic and social development sectors as it had to unnecessarily compete with India on military front. It is time the two countries took a pause; if ever they want to fight,



the cricket ground is the place to flex the muscles.

Other areas of competition include poverty alleviation, education, healthcare and shelter for all the segments of society, elimination of religious and sectarian hatred. It is hoped that the Indian government will take all-out measures to ensure no gang gets a chance to disrupt the long-awaited ODIs and T20 matches in coming weeks.

Courtesy: Dawn.com