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Internet outage due to May 9 incidents caused huge revenue loss to CMOs



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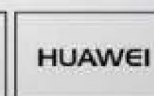
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Editor's Note

Restore Pakistan's image worldwide

It is quite noticeable and painful that on any occasion, event, rallies and protest, the first thing the government does, is shutting down the internet across the country. This extreme measure taken at once not only causes revenue losses to the government in billions of rupees but also loss of billions of rupees to telecom operators. And the extent to which shutting down of the internet affects the business, particularly those of the daily wagers working on the supply of food and freelancing, is unmeasurable. The action also casts a negative impact on Pakistan at the international level as the closure of the internet service triggers concerns from global rights organisations which criticise the move as amounting to depriving the people of their basic right to expression and communication with one another. As such they overtly or covertly demand the government to lift the restriction on the internet which has become an essential need of almost every second person in this modern century. Amnesty International, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Human Rights Watch and more strongly PTA authorities never favour a protest, rally or political event turning into mob riots to the loss of national assets and lives of the people. Therefore, they also desire the exercise of restraint and use of minimum force without resorting to the use of firearms to disperse protestors. Pakistan also witnessed sad scenes in recent days and the government shut down the internet service for an 'indefinite' period whereof millions of mobile phones became inoperative and situation entailed heavy revenue losses to businesses and the government. The government, as such, was urged to lift the ban on the mobile internet without any delay but no immediate response was given. Nearly 125 million people were affected by suspended mobile broadband and blocked access to social media apps. This time in particular, the suspension of mobile broadband services in Pakistan due to the escalation of the political tension in the country caused significant financial losses to digital service providers, the government, and the general population. The suspension of the internet service resulted in an estimated revenue loss of Rs820 million to telecom operators, while the financial loss to the government under the head of the tax receipt on that count has been estimated at around Rs287 million. Individuals who depend on digital apps and payments, such as Careem, InDrive, FoodPanda etc. have also suffered a significant loss in earnings. In addition to causing an information blackout and restricting communications, the shutdown hit various business sectors across the cash-strapped country which is already awaiting help from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in the form of a \$1bn bailout but the same is still not forthcoming. The IT industry, which is already under pressure due to bad governmental policies and a lack of continuity, has come to a standstill since the internet service was suspended. After making pressing demands and appeals the government rose to act to set things in order.

Nearly a week after the brutal clashes, Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) has finally unblocked major social media platforms including YouTube, Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

Journalists, activists, and politicians remained vocal against the government's attempt to silence the dissent by restricting people's access to information and freedom of expression. A week after the mob attacks and a gory situation, Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) maintained that they have not received any orders to restore the social media platforms. However, the government restored mobile broadband services, after four days of suspension when a loss of billions to the economy was already there.

But the suspension of social media apps continues to garner people's ire who used proxies to access the sites. Many people cited plights following the suspension of social media sites as many people are running different businesses on these apps while others need to connect for education and other purposes. So, the government must take into account all aspects before clamping restrictions on the use of apps or suspending the internet service at all. It must be acknowledged that whether apps or internet service both have become an inevitable part of public, private and corporate life and it is ill-affordable to put them all to a standstill in a knee jerk.

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Letters to the EDITOR



Cost of Haj and Umrah packages

The cost of Haj and Umrah packages has skyrocketed leaving many a dream shattered. The significance of the Haj as a part of religious obligations and the importance to perform it in the best possible way is beyond doubt or debate. However, the exorbitant cost of performing the pilgrimage (the Haj) has become a major obstacle in this regard for many individuals and families.

It is unfortunate to see that the prices of Haj and Umrah packages are increased every year making it difficult for many people to afford the same. This has resulted in only rich and upper-class people being able to perform these religious duties and it is contrary to the spirit of Islam which encourages every Muslim to perform the Haj and Umrah. But this time around the high cost of both is falling hard on the layman and the poor who wanted to visit the Holy places spending petty savings.

It is important to address the issue in order to ensure that every Muslim gets the opportunity to perform these religious duties. One can only hope that the relevant authorities will give due attention to the matter and take whatever steps are needed to address the same effectively.

Kareem-un-Nisa, Karachi

Ban housing societies on agri land

The produce of rice, wheat and vegetables in Punjab is on a constant decline as a boom in the real estate business and subsequent construction on agricultural land is squeezing the space for their cultivation. The agricultural land in Punjab is being converted into large housing societies with an extraordinary and rapid increase in construction. If this trend is continued, the production of these crops will be badly affected in the future. The main beneficiary of the situation after less agricultural yield is the inflation mafia which gets a field day to jack up the prices of food items to double and triple to mint more and more money. And this trend has particularly been witnessed at the local level over the last two/three months.

Therefore it is urgently needful to take all necessary measures, including legislation, to protect the cultivated area from being converted into an urban concrete jungle so that the desired and much-needed targets of produce could be met to conveniently meet the local needs at a reasonable and affordable rate and earn forex by exporting the extra amount of produce.

If no urgent attention is paid, we will be forced to import wheat, rice, vegetables and just about everything to satisfy the local demand spending the valuable foreign exchange.

Ahsan Ul Haq Shaikh, Islamabad

Pakistani drama industry stray youth

I want to raise awareness about a topic that affects the minds of common people and through which they learn cultural and moral values. Our Pakistani drama industry is on the decline, and we are now seeing Indian stories being recast and portrayed in our dramas which hardly bear nexus with our culture and society. In the society we live in, people learn a lot from what is projected through the media, particularly television, and it is worrying that our new generation is being exposed to oppressive male and oppressed female characters who silently tolerate their abuse at the hand of the former.

Write us at: flare.mag@gmail.com

We receive too many letters from our valued readers every month through mail and e-mail, however, due to shortage of space, we are publishing only few selected letters.

Why are we not showing the bitter realities and truths of our society in our plays? Adnan Siddiqui, a Pakistani actor, once said in an interview: "Of course, we can't make films like India, but they can't make dramas like ours." I used to agree with him, but now I have changed my mind and say our dramas are being produced on the pattern of Indian stories and characters therein.

I can hope this letter will reach someone, or the writers, who will think about this issue and try to improve the Pakistani drama industry. Let us once again show stories that provide entertainment to the people, but also promote good values.

Fiza Sikandar, Karachi

Internet outage causing millions of rupees

The country has been burning for the past three days (after April 9 incident) and government authorities instead of tackling the situation and arresting the violators, shut down the internet service in the country. This measure not only disturbed the users but also caused millions of rupees in losses to telecom operators. It was the senseless decision to shut down mobile broadband data and social media sites like Twitter, Facebook and Youtube.

The government's explanation was that the shutdown of these essential services was necessary to stop protestors from carrying out their vandalism. In reality, regular cell services were still available and people were able to bypass social media bans through VPNs links. As a result, the broadband shutdown in particular only really affected a small group of people whose bread and butter is associated with the use of mobile data. One of the immediate groups that were affected was gig workers. These are daily workers and earn their money through the media platforms which are attached to the availability of internet service. These people require stable internet access through mobile phone data to do their jobs. Over these days, Foodpanda and services such as Careem were out of service because their captains and riders had no way of accepting rides/orders or following maps to reach them. To put things in context, there are over 13000 Foodpanda and Bykea riders, 30,000 Uber and Careem captains, and around 12,000 Foodpanda home chefs whose daily wages are dependent on broadband data.

Similarly, the shutdown also had a serious impact on freelancers. A large number of Pakistanis work for foreign clients remotely on platforms such as Fivver and Upwork. They provide services ranging from coding to content writing and Search Engine Optimization and they all were badly disturbed about their business due to the shutdown of the internet.

Ch Haseeb Akhtar

For the sake of Pakistan

There is a quote that "Patriotism, when taken into a fanatical, malicious extreme, justifies bigotry, xenophobic sentiment and criminality". Isn't this exactly how things turned out for our country in the past few days (after May 9)? What we saw in the news was not patriotism. It was miscreants having a ball in the name of taking things into their hands for the betterment of the country. Damaging public property, attacking state installations and blocking roads do not show love or loyalty to the country. It is about time we let Pakistan breathe.

Basma Malik, Rawalpindi

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09

Belt-tightening of elitists must to get rid of IMF loans

PAKISTAN ECONOMY Watch



Delay in agreement with the IMF has created a situation of uncertainty resulting in the depreciation of the rupee, loss of investment, and adverse effects in the financial market, whereby Pakistan's credit rating is constantly declining

Chairman of Pakistan Economy Watch (PEW) Brig. (Retd) Aslam Khan, criticized International Monetary Fund (IMF) for the increased conditions for granting loans to Pakistan while marking it a conspiracy against the country.

In his media statement, he said: "The real target of the international institution is CPEC therefore, it wants to delay the loan to weaken Pakistan so that it is made to obey orders that are against its national interests."

He expressed that the lender will not give a loan to Pakistan until we step back from CPEC. "That is why, despite fulfilling dozens of conditions, the IMF continues to make lame excuses,"

Aslam Khan said that the lame justifications of the IMF have made its intentions clear to all, so Pakistan should part ways with it as soon as possible.

He said that Pakistan must learn to live without the IMF, for which elitism needs to be abandoned in the first instance.

He added that due to the delay in the agreement between Pakistan and the IMF, the country's economy has been greatly affected, and the public is also paying a heavy price for it. According to many economists, due to the current economic conditions in Pakistan, the country has no option other than the IMF, as other international financial institutions and many countries have linked the loan to Pakistan with the revival of the IMF programme.

He noted that further loans will be available to Pakistan only after the issuance of instalments by the lender, IMF.

He said the delay in agreement with the IMF

has created a situation of uncertainty resulting in the depreciation of the rupee, loss of investment, and adverse effects in the financial market, whereby Pakistan's credit rating is constantly declining.

The depreciation of the rupee has made many things expensive, as everything from food to oil is imported, he added.

The country has no option other than the IMF, as other international financial institutions and many countries have linked the loan to Pakistan with the revival of the IMF Program

The decision to suddenly increase electricity, gas, and interest rates was wrong, which has put a lot of burden on the people and the business community.

The government should try hard to get out of the clutches of the IMF as soon as the situation improves, he demanded.

Pakistan's history of borrowing from the IMF could be divided into the following periods: early years 1950-1988, Benazir and Nawaz Sharif 1988-1999, Musharraf and Zardari 2000-2013, and Nawaz Sharif and Imran Khan.

In almost each of these eras, not two governments worked with the IMF in the same way, especially in the past two decades.

While Benazir and Nawaz Sharif took turns seeking IMF Programs in the 1990s, the Musharraf

government, which witnessed remarkable foreign currency inflows, also had to knock at Washington's door for financial help.

And then, the Zardari government abandoned the largest-ever IMF Program when it was expedient to do so.

The Imran Khan government went to the IMF almost a year after coming to power. Initially, it had refused to seek assistance from one of the most important Bretton Wood Institutions.

The 2019 negotiations between the Imran Khan government and the IMF proved difficult, even though the Nawaz Sharif government had completed an IMF Program only two years ago.

In September 2013, the IMF approved an SDR4.393 billion (around \$6 billion) Extended Fund Facility (EFF) for Pakistan when the country was under Nawaz Sharif. Between 2013 and 2016, a total of SDR4.393 were disbursed to Pakistan.

A fully disbursed program indicates that the country has carried out financial reforms and performed well on the economic front.

Yet, when Imran Khan's Finance Minister Asad Umar reluctantly approached the IMF in 2019, "the stability gains achieved since late 2016 [had] eroded," and Pakistan was "again in a challenging situation," according to an IMF briefing from 2019.

The IMF documents showed that most economic mismanagement happened shortly after the IMF Extended Fund Facility ended in 2016.

Loss-making state-owned companies, growing circular debt, and a ballooning trade deficit were blamed for financial deterioration. Forex reserves had also begun to fall in 2017.

After removing Asad Umar and installing Reza Baqir as the State Bank of Pakistan Governor, the Imran Khan government won approval for an SDR4.268 billion (again around \$6 billion) IMF EFF loan in July 2019.

The IMF disbursed a total of SDR3,159.5 million to Pakistan under Imran Khan in four tranches.

The first disbursement of over SDR1 billion came shortly after Pakistan signed up for the program in 2019. It was followed by a similar tranche in 2020 when the IMF disbursed SDR1.015 billion.

The second disbursement was made during the Covid-19 pandemic, and the Fund eased some of the reform targets for Pakistan.

But it forced the government to make tough decisions in 2021 before releasing SDR350 million (around \$500 million) in March 2021.

The government jacked up the electricity tariffs, withdrew several tax exemptions, and passed controversial amendments to increase the central bank's autonomy.

The talks for the fourth loan tranche under the Imran Khan government proved even more challenging. The discussion began in October 2021 and dragged on for weeks.

The stalemate compelled the Imran Khan government to seek help from US Assistant Secretary of State Donald Lu, and then-Finance Minister Shakat Tarin met him in Washington.

It is the same official who was later accused of orchestrating a "regime change conspiracy" by Imran Khan.

Pakistan received SDR750 million (around \$1 billion) at the beginning of February 2022. However, at the end of the same month, then-Prime Minister Imran Khan announced a subsidy on petrol and diesel – effectively breaking the agreement with the IMF.

In March 2022, reports surfaced that the IMF had suspended Pakistan's \$6 billion loan program. Negotiations for the revival did not commence until May. Imran Khan had been forced out of office by then, and Shehbaz Sharif of the PML-N had taken over the government.

Talks on reviving the fund facility were concluded in late June, but not before the current government took some harsh decisions, including the withdrawal of tax relief for salaried individuals. ■

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The research institutes in Pakistan and China are working together on the reuse of organic waste in Pakistan.

"We aim to install the first pilot scale project on campus, utilizing the campus food waste", Dr Farrukh Raza Amin, Assistant Professor at the Department of Chemistry, COMSATS University Islamabad (CUI) told foreign media. For over two years, he has been working with the Tianjin Institute of Industrial Biotechnology (TIB), and the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) on anaerobic acidification of organic wastes and value-added chemicals production.

"Through the lab-scale experiment, we have developed strains that produce chemicals including Butyric acid, acetate and propionate from food waste. These chemicals are widely used in the pharmaceutical, food and paint industry", Dr Farrukh Raza Amin said. Furthermore, scientists of the project work to establish a database on organic waste in Pakistan, which includes the characteristics of the feedstock, methane production performance and other basic data to do a systematic study.

The establishment of this information database will benefit both Chinese and Pakistani researchers to pursue research in the given field and provide an important basis to formulate relevant policies and promote the comprehensive utilization of organic waste. The project is also in line with the energy efficiency and clean energy production practices at an industrial scale spelt out in sustainable development goals-7 (SDG-7) proposed by the United Nations, which are intended to be achieved by the year 2030. Anaerobic Digestion (AD) is a widely adopted technology used for producing biogas along with the 'digestate' used as a fertilizer. However, using a wide range of organic wastes and residuals as substrates and the diverse microbial community structure of the bioreactor makes AD one of the most complicated biochemical processes. In the process, hydrogen and Volatile Fatty Acids (VFAs) are formed as intermediate products. As these acids are important precursors for various industries as mixed or purified chemicals such as pharmaceuticals. The challenge is therefore to collect and recover organic waste through industrial or domestic composting. The resulting compost can be used to feed and fertilise the soil as well as meet its agronomic needs. The introduction of organic waste collection generally improves recyclable waste collection performance.

Many start-ups have been working on reducing food and organic waste. Dutch entrepreneur Marco Snickers aims to solve that problem with an avocado scanner unveiled this week at the CES tech show in Las Vegas and designed for use in supermarkets. It uses optical sensing and AI technology to determine ripeness, displaying on a screen whether an avocado is firm or ready to eat. Snickers startup, OneThird, isn't just trying to reduce frustration in the kitchen. According to the United Nations, about

Pak-Chinese scientists' joint venture to reuse organic waste



The establishment of this information database will benefit both Chinese and Pakistani researchers to pursue research in the given field and provide an important basis to formulate relevant policies and promote the comprehensive utilization of organic waste

one-third of food is wasted globally. That means all the carbon emitted to grow, ship and distribute that food was for naught.

OneThird already works with growers, distributors and others along the supply chain to predict the shelf life of avocados, tomatoes, strawberries and blueberries. It will further expand its ability to determine the ripeness of more produce later this year, aiming to help reduce the amount of food that is wasted around the world. And it's testing the consumer-friendly avocado scanner at a supermarket in Canada this month.

The challenge is therefore to collect and recover organic waste through industrial or domestic composting. The resulting compost can be used to feed and fertilise the soil as well as meet its agronomic needs. The introduction of organic waste collection generally improves recyclable waste collection performance

Another Dutch entrepreneur, Olaf van der Veen, is working to empower restaurants to reduce food waste, the majority of which happens in a kitchen before a meal is even served to customers.

His device, Orbisk, uses a camera positioned over a trash can to scan whatever food is about to

be tossed. In addition to seeing the type of food, amount and time of day, "we can see if it's on a plate, in a pan, on a cutting board, which gives circumstantial information on why it was lost," van der Veen said.

Orbisk organizes and shares that insight with the restaurant so they can understand their disposal patterns, helping them save money and reduce food waste, and with it, emissions and water use.

Reencle is designed to make that process easier. The metal bin is a hyper-fast composting system showcased at CES this year and helps households reduce one kilogram (2.2 pounds) of food scraps by 90% volume in just 24 hours.

While the product has sold tens of thousands of units in South Korea, Reencle's parent company Hanmi Flexible hopes to expand to overseas markets, marketing director Jinhwi Bang said.

On the other hand, the "Global Food Waste Management Market" report has been added to ResearchAndMarkets.com's offering.

The scope of this report is broad and covers the global markets for food waste management processes used globally in various industries. The market is broken down by component type, process type, waste type, methods, application, industry and by region. Revenue forecasts from 2022 to 2027 are presented for each component type, process type, waste type, method, application, industry and regional market.

The report also includes a discussion of the major players in each of the regional markets for food waste management. It explains the major market drivers of the global market for food waste management, the current trends within the industry and the regional dynamics of the food waste management market. The report concludes with a particular focus on the vendor landscape. It includes detailed profiles of the major vendors in the food waste management industry globally.

The share of global food that is thrown away has risen significantly over the years. Reduction and effective management of food waste have become pivotal challenges for industries and communities alike. The rising food losses and waste are expected to have detrimental environmental and economic impacts on society.

Due to the increasing world population, food wastage is becoming a serious issue around the globe. The expanding growth in the amount of food waste will have serious adverse effects on society, such as health risks, environmental pollution and scarcity of landfills. There is a consistently growing need to create appropriate, environmentally sustainable solutions to manage the increasing amount of food waste. Among the solutions, the anaerobic digestion process is one of the most promising and environmentally friendly solutions, as it can help in food waste management, nutrient recovery and energy production, the last of which can also help meet ever-increasing global energy demands. ■

Pakistan exports decline to all major trade partners



Total exports to the US during July-March (2022-23) were recorded at \$4525.610 million as opposed to the exports of \$5000.710 million during July-March (2021-22), showing a decline of 9.50 percent, according to the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP)

The United States (US) remained the top export destination of Pakistani products during the nine months of the current fiscal year (2022-23), followed by China and the United Kingdom (UK).

Total exports to the US during July-March (2022-23) were recorded at \$4525.610 million as opposed to the exports of \$5000.710 million during July-March (2021-22), showing a decline of 9.50 percent, according to the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP).

This was followed by China, wherein Pakistan exported goods worth \$1524.704 million compared to the exports of \$2126.820 million last year, showing a decrease of 28.31 percent.

The UK was the third top export destination, where Pakistan exported goods worth \$1493.988 million during the months under review against the exports of \$1671.606 million during last year, showing a decline of 10.62 percent, SBP data revealed.

Among other countries, Pakistani exports to Germany stood at \$1262.755 million against \$1299.173 million last year, showing a decrease of 2.80 percent while the exports to UAE were recorded at \$1081.470 million opposed \$1361.105 million last year.

During July-March (2022-23), the exports to Holland were recorded at \$1105.436 million against \$1075.404 million whereas the exports to Afghanistan stood at \$400.771 million against \$369.625 million.

Pakistan's exports to Italy were recorded at \$853.009 million against the exports of \$759.045 million while the exports to Spain were recorded at \$1042.419 million against \$827.753 million last year.

Whereas, the exports to Bangladesh stood at \$588.292 million against \$648.212 million of the preceding year.

Similarly, the exports to France during the months under review were recorded at \$440.799 million against \$379.661 million while the exports to Saudi Arabia stood at \$357.081 million against \$303.308 million.

Pakistan's exports to Türkiye were recorded at \$240.410 million during the current year compared to \$236.665 million last year whereas the exports to Canada stood at \$343.995 million against \$294.435 million, and Australia stood at \$230.019 million during the current year against \$210.753 million during last year.

According to the Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP), textile exports are the major portion of the country's overall exports, and the textile sector hosts over 50% of the industrial workforce.

According to the Board of Investment (BoI), Pakistan is the eighth largest exporter of textile products in Asia. It is also the fourth-largest producer and the third-largest consumer of cotton. Textile comprises 46% of the total manufacturing sector.

Textile exports of \$19.31 billion in the fiscal year 2021-22 accounted for 60.92% of the country's total exports of \$31.76 billion. According to Textiles and Apparel Policy 2020-25, the textile exports target for the current fiscal year has been set at \$25 billion.

Being allowed to be exported to China, Pakistani sesame has seen its export surge from over 100,000 tons in 2020 to 150,000 tons in 2021. While the devastating floods in 2022 substantially reduced its exports, it is expected to have a bumper harvest as there had been an increase in seeding by 25% since

sellers got better prices last year", Ms Li Yuanyuan, Director of Greater China region of JKT Foods, an agricultural produce trade company said.

In an interview with China Economic Net (CEN) following the China International Sesame Conference held last week in China's coastal city Qingdao, she said, "Before Pakistani sesame is allowed to enter China, most of our products were sold to the Middle East. China offers a vast market to Pakistani sesame."

Under good weather conditions, the stable quality, void of pesticide residue and fair colour of Pakistani sesame give it a competitive edge in the international market, she said.

"Besides, shipping to China is very quick. The fastest direct ship can reach the Chinese port in 12-14 days", Ms Li said.

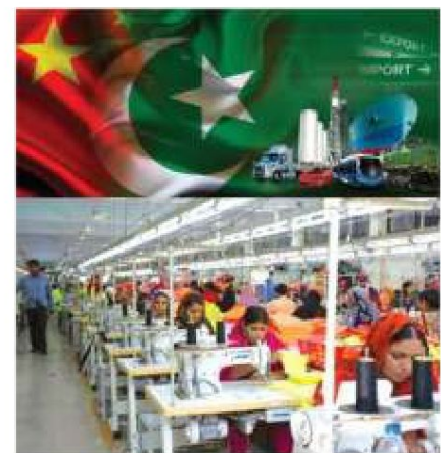
Pakistani sesame hits the Chinese market in around October each year, so there will be enough time for sale before the Chinese Lunar New Year, which usually marks a peak in consumption. "That being said, the time when sesame comes into the Pakistani market coincides with the rainy season. If it rains, the quality of sesame will be compromised, and Chinese buyers can only choose sesame from other countries as a substitute", Ms Li added.

Pakistan exports 80% of the total production of sesame seeds crop. Currently, Iran and China are the big buyers of Pakistan sesame but other countries are gaining market share due to an increase in hulled exports.

Pakistan is the eighth largest exporter of textile products in Asia. It is also the fourth-largest producer and the third-largest consumer of cotton. Textile comprises 46% of the total manufacturing sector

China's imports of sesame account for almost 1/3 of the world's production. Since 2020, its import exceeded 1 million tons for three consecutive years, providing a huge market for Pakistani producers.

Pakistan's sesame production is also catching up. In recent years, the use of hybrid varieties has greatly increased sesame harvests mere 36,000 tons in 2019 to over 150,000 tons in 2022 despite the devastating floods. The increase is mainly from the id variety due to high demand and better quality when compared to the Farmi variety, the size of which has been reduced by 50%, due to less demand, quality issues and high FFA value.



"But overall crop this year is difficult to predict as of now the weather plays a big role", Ms Li said.

She told that at present, most of the Pakistani sesame exported to China is raw sesame. In the next few years, as Pakistan's sesame processing technology advances, highly processed sesame, such as colour-selected sesame and peeled sesame seed is expected to gain more popularity in the Chinese market. ■

Pakistan seriously working on solarisation



The sun is an eternal source of energy, a blessing given by Nature, and with the full use of it we can easily meet our energy needs without harming the environment. In this regard, not only domestic but also commercial needs would be met and the work in this regard is underway. It is high time that these sources should be promoted gradually.

We often talk about climate change and its consequences and are constantly hit by extreme events, such as last year's unbelievably widespread devastation across the country caused by monsoon rains. The losses were also great in the cities and towns where catastrophe at such a scale was never seen before. But the point is no serious efforts are made to know the reasons for calamity, nor is this matter taken for threadbare discussion. The sources of renewable energy that we use are fossil fuels, i.e., fuels buried in the ground, which are formed by natural processes, such as the chemical decomposition of dead and buried organisms over thousands of years.

As a result, natural resources such as petroleum, coal, and natural gas are produced. Petrol is a green or black coloured liquid that has become indispensable in our lives. Coal is a black solid substance being used as an alternative energy source. Now let's talk about natural gas, it is called a poisonous gas, it is colourless and odourless, but it is the most important source of fuel.

These resources are generally considered very beneficial but cannot reuse them once they are consumed. A major disadvantage of them is large amounts of carbon dioxide gas, a greenhouse gas when they are used. This gas adversely impacts our life in many ways besides being the biggest and leading source of environmental pollution. It is also playing an important role in global warming; it is destroying our environment for future generations through a continuous process. In order to avert the negative effects of fossil fuels given the challenge posed by the climate change phenomenon, we need to use all possible resources to protect our environment from pollution.

One of these possible sources is renewable energy, that is, energy that is environment-friendly, such as solar energy, windmill, wind energy, geothermal, etc. Hydrothermal sources like Tarbela Dam are the biggest example of it.

There is no denying the fact that the current sources of conventional energy include petrol, natural gas, etc. When used, they cause significant damage to the environment by polluting the atmosphere with certain types of substances, atop carbon dioxide, while renewable sources do not emit carbon dioxide, which is regarded as a major pollutant. One of the important visits the scribes took as part of her study was to a windmill power plant or wind project which provided her an opportunity to gather information about the important renewable resources found in our atmosphere and how to bring them into use through the mechanical system. I also learned about the development or planting of mangroves in the natural environment, which are the most valuable resource absorbing carbon dioxide gas in the world, and highly suitable for use in our country given the conditions therein. The visit enlightened us about the value and benefits of alternative sources of energy wherein solar energy figured high. It was also heartening to see that work for protecting the environment from degradation was also going on simultaneously with a safe source like a pin mill.

Similarly, the sun is an eternal source of energy, a blessing given by Nature, and with the full use of it we can easily meet our energy needs without harm-

ing the environment. In this regard, not only domestic but also commercial needs would be met and the work in this regard is underway. It is high time that these sources should be promoted gradually.

All kinds of energy sources for our country must be promoted through awareness. And particularly about renewable sources, people from all walks of life must fulfill their responsibilities to promote them. Meanwhile, solar PV potential in Pakistan has paved a new way for Sino-Pak collaboration, said LiuYiyang, Deputy Secretary-General and Spokesperson of the China Photovoltaic Industry Association (CPIA).

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has recently said that the federal government has decided to install solar panels on all government buildings, thereby reducing the high dependence on imported fossil fuels. Pakistan's federal government building will be the first to use solar energy. The government has stipulated the time of April 2023, when these buildings will run entirely on solar energy.

"Government building solar projects can save 300-500MW of electricity per month to reduce soaring import costs, which is as high as about USD 27 billion per year," PM Sharif pointed out.

It bodes well for Pakistan, sure. Indicative Generation Capacity Expansion Plan (IGCEP) 2047 issued by NEPRA proposed that by 2030, Pakistan's cumulative installed photovoltaic capacity will reach 12.9GW; by 2047 it will reach 26.9GW.

Under CPCEC, China's world-leading photovoltaic industry has sensed more opportunities for cooperation. "In 2022, China's photovoltaic module exports to Pakistan has reached approximately USD 870 million, with a total installed capacity of 3.2GW, a year-on-year increase of 54 percent and 37 percent, respectively," said LiuYiyang, during an interview with CEN. "China's export of photovoltaic products in 2022 exceeded USD 50 billion for the first time, showing a skyrocket of more than 80 percent year-on-year." In emerging markets such as South Asia, Pakistan has always been one of the indispensable target markets for China's photovoltaic module exports. Pakistan imported about USD 1.2 billion in photovoltaic modules in the last fiscal year. PSA showed that the country's import demand for photovoltaic products this year will be around USD 1.8 billion.

In addition, as early as 2021, the Pakistani government made a commitment to increase domestic clean energy consumption to 60 percent of the total energy consumption by 2030, and the number of electric vehicles to reach 30 percent of the number of vehicles, which means that new impetus has been injected into the industry and China-Pakistan photovoltaic cooperation.

However, Pakistan has been plagued by high electricity prices and unstable power supply for a long time, showing that photovoltaic energy storage facilities, as an essential infrastructure that supports the large-scale application of photovoltaics and other new energy sources and promotes carbon neutrality, is a top priority for development," Liu pointed out.

All kinds of energy sources for our country must be promoted through awareness. And particularly about renewable sources, people from all walks of life must fulfill their responsibilities to promote them

termittent and volatile.

For the present solar energy in Pakistan, the integrated model of "source-network-load-storage" can efficiently integrate resources and reduce costs.

In the future, the development of photovoltaic projects will enter a new stage, we can certainly share relevant experience with Pakistan."

Energy is one of the areas where CPCEC has invested the most, progressed the fastest, and achieved the most remarkable results. "The global photovoltaic industry is developing in full swing," Liu forecast, "China-Pakistan cooperation in related industries can make due contributions to the global response to climate change." ■

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Poverty-stricken Pakistan wastes away \$4 billion food every year



Over a third of all food produced (~2.5 billion tons) is lost or wasted every year. One-third of this occurs in the food production stage. Boston Consulting Group (BCG) estimates this wasted food is worth \$230 billion

Pakistan, known for its poverty and dependence on relief aid as per world headlines, has been revealed to be wasting a shocking amount of food every year. According to a report by the Ministry of National Food Security & Research, Pakistan yearly wastes food worth \$4 billion, which is equivalent to 26% of its food production. The country wastes a staggering 19.6 million tonnes of food every year, despite efforts to ensure food security.

Earlier reports surfaced online in 2018, had suggested that around 40% of food in Pakistan is wasted, including food loss during the supply chain, and annual food wastage in Pakistan is estimated to be around 36 million tons.

The report by the Ministry of National Food Security & Research highlighted that most of the food items are wasted because they do not meet the criteria of appearance, size, or colour. These food items are excluded from the supply line and end up being wasted for various reasons. Additionally, the report also revealed that the majority of food items stored in kitchens go waste every year for being expired.

It is pertinent to mention here that despite being an agricultural country, Pakistan is facing an acute shortage of food items, especially after the recent past floods and heavy rains. The report's findings have raised concerns about the need for more effective measures to reduce food waste in Pakistan. With the country's increasing population and limited resources, food waste is a problem that cannot be ignored.

If we talk about a worldwide waste of food, global food waste is a cross-cutting issue that starts during agricultural production and continues all the way to landfill. Over 30% of food is lost or wasted every year. This number is even more striking, given the large number of hungry people in the world. Wasted food is not only inefficient, but it's also a social justice issue.

Global food waste has an enormous environmental impact, too. Food waste is a huge source of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and wasted natural resources, and therefore, reducing food waste

could help reduce global greenhouse gas emissions, establish food security, and encourage healthy food systems.

However, this is not to say people are ignoring the problem. Many large businesses, startups, and nonprofits see the issue of food waste as an opportunity. Billions of dollars and calories of food are wasted each year, and the benefits of this value can be recovered.

Rich countries waste the most, as do industrialized countries – which often have a significant impact on this food loss and waste.

Pakistan wastes a staggering 19.6 million tonnes of food each year, despite efforts to ensure food security. These food items are excluded from the supply line and end up being wasted for various reasons

"Food loss and waste" is a term used to define the sum of both types of inefficiencies from unused food in the food system. This term helps researchers clearly explain the scope of their studies.

Is there inedible or unavoidable food waste?

Some food byproducts are inedible such as bones, egg shells, or rough fruit and vegetable peels. However, the conventions for using these different parts of food vary from culture to culture. This makes it hard to quantify how much-wasted food is indeed unavoidable if wasted food is not consumable.

"Researchers tend to include all types of food waste in their estimations, as it is better to find ways to prevent these materials from reaching the landfill. Sometimes the inedible byproducts of food can become feedstock for other products and help the supply chain of agriculture organisations."

Over a third of all food produced (~2.5 billion tons) is lost or wasted each year. One-third of this occurs in the food production stage. Boston Consulting Group (BCG) estimates this wasted food is worth \$230 billion.

Researchers estimate the lost food calories from food waste amount to roughly 24% of the total available food calories. To put this in perspective, the UN reports that about a third of the global population, mostly in developing countries and low-income countries, didn't have enough access to food in 2020—an increase of 320 million people from the previous year.

The trend is increasing, too. The level of food wasted globally is expected to rise by another third by 2030. Similar to the global figures, USDA research from 2010 showed that a third of food produced was left uneaten.

US EPA estimates suggest that food waste makes up the largest single category of waste reaching landfills in the US. It accounted for 24 percent of all landfilled and 22 percent of incinerated solid waste in 2018.

In total, the US wasted 63 million tons of food in 2018. On the upside, about a third of this was managed using various strategies: animal feed, biobased material, anaerobic digestion, composting, donation, fertilizer, and to support environmental costs like wastewater treatment.



Could the remaining two-thirds be transformed into profitable or less damaging activities in order to prevent greenhouse gases?

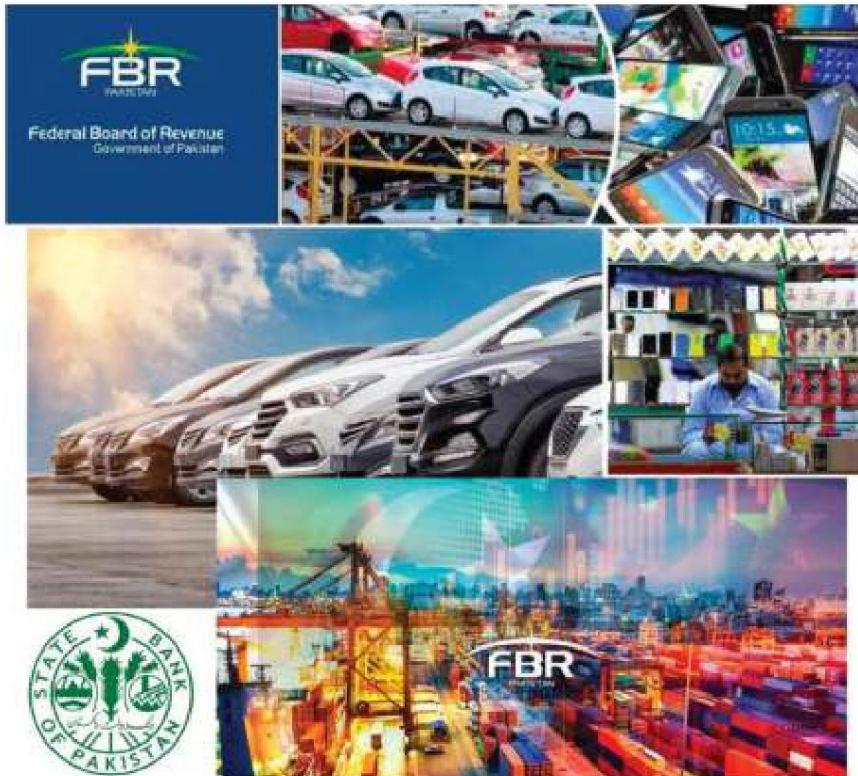
There are some unexpected causes for the food that gets wasted. It's understandable that people don't finish large portions of food at restaurants on a retail and consumer level, but some of the less obvious reasons for food waste relate to agricultural processes, food safety standards, and consumer preferences.

Perhaps you recall the reports of Kenyan farmers losing their crops to locusts in 2020. The last time they swarmed at such a level in 2003-2005, it resulted in crop damage of \$2.5 billion. Locusts are mainly killed by pest infestations, so improving access to pesticides is one way to reduce food loss and help smallholder farmers.

"Apart from natural causes, personal preferences also contribute to wasted food. Research shows that produce buyers avoid 'ugly produce.' A fifth of edible produce that has surface blemishes, grows in unfamiliar shapes or has unique colouration gets discarded from grocery stores. This means that high-income countries are contributing to food waste in earlier stages at a retail level and that food and agriculture organizations cannot mitigate this food loss."

Climate change also contributes to food losses and a lack of food security. It makes growing and harvesting cycles less predictable. Nonseasonal frost, early spring, and a range of other climatic shifts are significantly impacting both the prices farmers set for their crops as well as their ability to predict the right time to plant and harvest. ■

Prices of cars, mobile phones set to decline as RD on 600 luxury items lifted



As a result, consumer items, notably new and old cars, high-tech mobile phones, home appliances, meat, fish, fruits, vegetables, footwear, furniture, musical instruments, dog and cat food and ice cream will become comparatively cheaper

After the reduction in taxes and abolishment of regulatory duties, it is hoped that they drastically see a reduction in prices of mobile phones after the reduction in regulatory duty on these devices after the government imports of over 600 luxury and non-essential items.

According to the details, the Regulatory Duty (RD) on mobile phones has been halved across all categories after the expiration of the Statutory Regulatory Orders (SROs), which means that we can expect a significant reduction in prices for smartphones in Pakistan.

The RD on the cheapest mobile phone costing up to \$30 has been reduced to just Rs. 300 per set, while the RD on mobile phones costing up to \$100 has been set at Rs. 3,000 per set and RD on mobile phones worth up to \$200 is now Rs. 7,500.

Similarly, the regulatory duty (RD) on mobile phones with a value of \$201 to \$350 is now Rs. 11,000 and phones costing above \$350 and up to \$500 will be charged RD of Rs. 15,000. Lastly, the regulatory duty on mobile phones costing above \$500 will be charged at Rs. 22,000 with an additional 25% sales tax.

The government has also completely abolished regulatory duties on the import of used cars of up to 1,800cc. It also cut duty rates for new cars, mo-

bile phones and other range of goods drastically which will significantly cut end consumer prices.

The decision has been taken after the government's policy to contain imports through heavy taxation hardly made an impact of \$400 million but severely impacted businesses across the country.

The two Statutory Regulatory Orders (SROs), which governed the increased rates of regulatory and additional customs duties, expired on March 31st after the chairman of the Tariff Policy Board refused to further extend their validity period.

As a result, consumer items, notably new and old cars, high-tech mobile phones, home appliances, meat, fish, fruits, vegetables, footwear, furniture, musical instruments, dog and cat food and ice cream will become comparatively cheaper.

The consumers of old used cars of up to the 1800 cc category will get major relief with 100% regulatory duties being done away with. The new cars in this category will still attract a 15% regulatory duty in addition to other taxes. Regulatory duty rates on mobile phones have been halved across all the categories as a result of the expiry of the SROs.

About 500 to 700 imported cars of various engine capacities that are stuck at the ports due to the non-availability of foreign currency will also

benefit from the reduced taxes.

While there will be no Regulatory Duty on used cars of up to 1800cc, there will still be a RD on new cars of over 1800 cc, albeit at very low rates, providing a major reduction in prices. The additional custom duties also stand withdrawn on these vehicles.

People do not have a choice but to import used cars due to the low production and poor quality of locally assembled cars. The current economic crisis, however, has affected car consumers significantly. Some of the benefits of reduced rates will be offset due to currency devaluation.

Meanwhile, the import bill of mobile phones has significantly dropped by 71 percent during the last nine months mainly due to the restrictions imposed by the Federal Government and State Bank of Pakistan to curtail the overall imports of the country.

The country has imported mobile phones worth \$462.701 million during the first nine months (July-March) of the current fiscal year 2022-23 as against \$1.6 billion in the corresponding period of the previous year showing a decline of 71 percent, the latest data of Pakistan Bureau of Statistics showed.

A few months back the Federal Government and SBP had imposed several resections on luxury goods including mobile phones to control the soaring imports of the country. The government's plan has worked as the import bill of mobile phones has significantly reduced in the nine months of the current financial year. The imposition of re-

The Regulatory Duty (RD) on mobile phones has been halved across all categories after the expiration of the Statutory Regulatory Orders (SROs), which means that we can expect a significant reduction in prices for smartphones in Pakistan

strictions has increased the prices of the phones in the country. However, the government has recently withdrawn the restrictions, which might reduce the prices of mobile phones. According to the PBS data, the country's mobile phone imports decreased by 55.09 percent on a month-on-month (MoM) basis in March 2023 and stood at \$14.846 million compared to imports of \$33.054 million in February 2023. On an annual basis, the import of mobile phones has also declined. Mobile phone imports have shown 91.93 percent negative growth on a year-on-year (YoY) basis in March 2023 when compared to \$183.894 million in March 2022. On the other hand, according to the PBS data, the overall telecom imports into the country have also registered massive decline in the period under review. The import was recorded at \$744.910 million during the July-March period of the current fiscal year as against \$2.137 billion during the same period of the last fiscal year. On annual basis, the overall telecom imports registered a negative growth of 86.51 percent and stood at \$36.112 million in March 2023 compared to \$267.705 million in March 2022. On a MoM basis, the overall telecom imports registered 44.22 percent negative growth in March 2023 compared to \$64.741 million during February 2023. The data further showed that other apparatus imports stood at \$282.210 million in July-March fiscal year 2023 and registered 47.81 percent negative growth compared to \$540.778 million during the same period of the last fiscal year. On a year-on-year basis, other apparatus imports stood at \$21.266 million in March 2023 and registered 74.63 percent negative growth compared to \$83.811 million in March 2022 and registered 32.89 percent growth on MoM basis compared to \$31.687 million in February 2023. ■

Jazz posts marked growth on all counts despite difficulties



As part of its "4G for all" goal, Jazz invested PKR 3.7 billion in the first quarter of 2023, bringing its overall investment in Pakistan to \$10.4 billion. The company launched more than 1,000 new 4G sites in the previous year, raising the total number of subscribers to 73.7 million and a 17.4% YoY increase in 4G subscribers to 43.1 million

Jazz, the largest mobile network provider in Pakistan, has released its first-quarter 2023 financial results. Despite facing sizable macroeconomic difficulties, the company is still dedicated to promoting digital inclusion and putting money into its 4G network.

As part of its "4G for all" goal, Jazz invested PKR 3.7 billion in the first quarter of 2023, bringing its overall investment in Pakistan to \$10.4 billion. The company launched more than 1,000 new 4G sites in the previous year, raising the total number of subscribers to 73.7 million and a 17.4% YoY increase in 4G subscribers to 43.1 million.

In response to questions about the current business climate and Jazz's ongoing investments in digital infrastructure, Jazz CEO Aamir Ibrahim said: "In the current digital emergency, we are seeking urgent policy interventions to ensure that we can continue to provide robust broadband for Pakistan's growing needs as a digitally progressive country."

Jazz's online financial service, JazzCash, serviced 1.4 million customers with digital loans, gained 14.6 million monthly active users, logged two billion transactions in the previous year, and had a gross transaction value of PKR 4.5 trillion. Jazz World, the business' self-care app, showed a 15.9% YoY increase in monthly active users to reach 12.2 million. As a result of increased expansion, Tamasha, the company's entertainment platform, had a 5.6x YoY rise in monthly active users to 5.6 million.

Jazz has consistently increased its revenue mar-

ket share by about 1% per year over the past five years as a result of its focus on customer-centricity and innovation, as well as ongoing investments made across its value chain.

The business has also advocated for the decoupling of the spectrum price from the US dollar, spreading licence payments over ten annual installments rather than five, and adopting a regulatory strategy to support disciplined inflationary pricing in order to address the issues facing the telecom industry.

Mobilink Bank showed outstanding revenue growth in the first quarter of 2023. According to the Bank's unaudited financial filings, its significant emphasis on digital banking services and branchless banking network has resulted in an amazing 48% growth in revenue.

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According to the Bank's unaudited financial filings, its significant emphasis on digital banking services and branchless banking network has resulted in an amazing 48% growth in revenue

Additionally, branchless banking revenue increased by 61% year over year (YoY) for Mobilink Bank. The average ticket size of loans provided also phenomenally increased in the first quarter

of 2023, hitting PKR 288,000, up 42% from the previous quarter. Additionally, the Bank's profit before tax (PBT) rose by 298% compared to the same time last year.



The Bank's impressive revenue increase, according to Ghazanfar Azzam, President & CEO of MMBL, is a result of its great performance across all business verticals and customer-centric strategy. Mobilink Bank has worked tirelessly to meet its goals, which include offering inclusive and cutting-edge digital financial products to a wide range of clientele.

Mobilink Bank has forged strategic alliances with a number of parties, including the Swiss Capacity Building Facility (SCBF) and CARE International in Pakistan, to further its goals of financial inclusion. Through these strategic partnerships, the Bank has been able to use its knowledge of finance and digital banking to create new products and services that are tailored to the particular requirements of underserved and marginalised populations.



The success of Mobilink Bank provides an example for other businesses of how a single-minded concentration on client pleasure and financial inclusion can result in long-term growth and profitability. As the Bank enters the second quarter, it is still committed to providing cutting-edge banking solutions to all of its clients and promoting economic expansion.

The outstanding financial results Mobilink Bank achieved in the first quarter of 2023 show the Bank's strong commercial resilience and dedication to promoting financial inclusion in Pakistan. With the help of its branchless banking network and digital banking services, the Bank has been able to reach underserved populations and experienced significant revenue growth. ■

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PTCL Group posts double-digit revenue growth of 23%



During the first quarter of 2023, PTCL Group sustained its momentum and strengthened its position as a leading integrated telecom service provider in Pakistan. Despite the ongoing challenging macroeconomic conditions, the Group achieved a 23.2% growth in its revenue compared to the same period last year

PTCL Group has announced its financial results for the quarter ended March 31, 2023. The announcement was made during the Board of Directors' meeting held in Islamabad recently.

During the first quarter of 2023, PTCL Group sustained its momentum and strengthened its position as a leading integrated telecom service provider in Pakistan. Despite the ongoing challenging macroeconomic conditions, the Group achieved a 23.2% growth in its revenue compared to the same period last year. This substantial growth in revenue is primarily attributable to strong performance in the fixed broadband, mobile data, business solutions, and banking services.

The adverse effects of macroeconomic challenges that emerged in the year 2022, continued to affect businesses in 2023 as well. With continuing increases in energy and fuel tariffs, telecom operators are faced with significant challenges to provide quality services to their consumers at an affordable price point. Pakistan's balance of payment issues and restrictions imposed by the State Bank of Pakistan on I.C opening have impacted the network roll-out timelines of the operators and also resulted in a significant devaluation of the Pakistani rupee against foreign currencies. This deteriorating rupee-dollar parity, rising interest rates and additional taxes on telecom operators, over and above the normal corporate tax, have severely affected the profitability.

To mitigate the effects of these challenging issues, policy intervention by the Government is required to provide much-needed relief to the sector.

PTCL Group Highlights

- PTCL Group's revenue of Rs 43.2 billion in Q1, 2023 is 23.2% higher as compared to the same period of last year.

- The Group's profitability was, among other factors, particularly affected by the significant bout of devaluation as the Group has unhedged FOREX liabilities. The Group has posted a net loss of Rs 5.7 billion.

- PTCL continued its growth by posting 17.1% YoY revenue growth in Q1, 2023.

PTCL Group strives to provide innovative solutions to accelerate growth for a 'Digital Pakistan' through robust telecommunication infrastructure and a diverse portfolio of services with enhanced customer experience

- PTML's (Ufone) revenue grew by 20.0% YoY as compared to Q1, 2022.

- U Bank continued its growth momentum and has achieved a 73.0% growth in its quarterly revenue over the same period of last year.

PTCL Highlights

- PTCL's revenue of Rs 22.95 billion for the quarter is 17.1% higher than Q1 2022, mainly driven by growth in carrier & wholesale and broadband segments.

- The company has posted an operating profit of Rs 1.5 billion with a 54.7% growth over last year and a net profit of Rs 5.5 billion for the quarter. Increase in non-operating income, due to translation gain on the Company's forex-denominated receivables, dividend income from a subsidiary and gain on disposal of obsolete assets due to

upgrade and fiberization of the network, played a significant role in achieving a 187.2% increase in the company's net profit as compared to the same period last year.

PTCL Consumer Business: Steady Performance

The company's fixed broadband business achieved 17.4% growth in revenue YoY which is primarily attributable to a two-fold increase in Flash Fiber's revenue and subscribers over the comparative quarter. The IPTV segment also showed a 6.2% revenue growth YoY. Voice and wireless revenue streams have seen a decline due to the continued conversion of customers to OTT services and tough competition from cellular operators.

PTCL Business Services

The business services segment continued its momentum sustaining market leadership in IP bandwidth, cloud, data centre, and other ICT services segments. PTCL's enterprise business grew by 12.1% as compared to last year, while the carrier and wholesale business continued its growth momentum and achieved 36.9% overall revenue growth. International voice revenue has increased by 22.7% as compared to last year. Despite the slowdown of economic activity, overall Business Solutions revenue has shown a remarkable growth of 27.2% on a year-on-year basis.

Being the national telecom carrier and connectivity backbone in Pakistan, PTCL Group strives to provide innovative solutions to accelerate growth for a 'Digital Pakistan' through robust telecommunication infrastructure and a diverse portfolio of services with enhanced customer experience. PTCL collaborated with the Ministry of Federal Education to develop an app called Teleschool Pakistan, which aims to provide free digital learning for students. The launch of this app by the Prime Minister of Pakistan in March last attracted widespread attention across Pakistan.

PTML - Ufone Highlights

Continuing its growth trajectory, Ufone recorded an impressive 20.0% YoY increase in its revenue. Ufone has recently gained a momentous milestone of achieving 24 million subscribers resulting in a 0.4 percentage point increase in market share. Network modernization activities carried out in the first quarter of 2023, resulted in better customer experience for Ufone subscribers. With this improved customer experience, growth in engagement acquisition numbers and better data speeds, Ufone has achieved the 2nd highest customer net adds in the industry during the first quarter. Ufone 4G recently launched a WhatsApp service for a hassle-free customer experience, collaborated with Nestlé Pakistan Limited to establish an advanced customer service solution for Ufone's BPO operations and partnered with Islamabad United for PSL8.

U Bank Highlights

Despite an extremely tough macroeconomic environment, U Bank, the microfinance and branchless banking subsidiary of PTCL, continued its growth trajectory and has achieved a remarkable 73.0% growth in revenue and an impressive 64.5% growth in net profit over the comparative quarter of last year, while maintaining a strong balance sheet position. The bank stands resolute in its commitment towards financial and social inclusion, utilizing its extensive outreach to provide exceptional services to a diverse clientele across the length and breadth of the country through its rural retail banking, corporate finance & investment banking, Islamic banking, urban retail banking, corporate banking, and digital banking canvases.

Corporate Social Responsibility

During the first quarter of 2023, PTCL Group undertook various CSR initiatives to strengthen its position as a national carrier. Amongst these initiatives, Ufone 4G proudly collaborated with ConnectHear to facilitate communication and socialization for the deaf community. The initiative perfectly resonates with Ufone 4G's brand philosophy of inclusivity, under which we strive to foster equality and shared growth. ■

PC launches Cecil Hotel to its historic grandeur in Murree



The event was attended by Mr. and Mrs. Murtaza Hashwani, CEO of PSL and Deputy Chairman, Hashoo Group, His Excellency, Mr. Andrew Dalglish, Acting British High Commissioner, ambassadors, members of the diplomatic community and local dignitaries.

The grand launch of Cecil Hotel by Pearl-Continental took place in Murree recently – a beautiful hill station in the Punjab province of Pakistan. The event was attended by Mr. and Mrs. Murtaza Hashwani, CEO of PSL and Deputy Chairman, Hashoo Group, ambassadors, members of the diplomatic community and local dignitaries.

The highlight of the event was the presence of His Excellency, Mr. Andrew Dalglish, Acting British High Commissioner, who praised the efforts of Hashoo in restoring this historic property to its former glory. Also present at the event was celebrated author, Mr. Omar Mukhtar Khan, who wrote the book "Once Upon a Time in Murree." Mr. Mukhtar spoke about the history and heritage of Murree, which has been beautifully captured in his book, and how the Cecil Hotel is a fitting tribute to this iconic hill station. Mr. Hasan Najib, Executive Director of Lakhani Group, lauded the commendable efforts of Hashoo Group in resurrecting Cecil Hotel's prominence in Murree. He expressed his optimism for future collaborations between the two entities.

The Cecil Hotel by Pearl-Continental is a 170-year-old luxurious property that offers guests a

unique blend of modern amenities and traditional hospitality. The heritage wing consists of well-appointed rooms, restored to their original grandeur, two dining options that serve local and international cuisine, and a Victorian theme coffee shop that offers stunning views of the surrounding mountains.

Mr. Hasan Najib, Executive Director of Lakhani Group, lauded the commendable efforts of Hashoo Group in resurrecting Cecil Hotel's prominence in Murree

The Cecil Hotel was originally built to serve as a summer retreat for British officials and European visitors. The hotel was designed in the traditional colonial style, with elegant verandas, spacious rooms, and intricate woodwork. The hotel was equipped with all the modern conveniences of the time, including hot and cold running water, electric lighting,

and telephone services.

The COO of Hashoo Group, Hospitality and Education Division, Mr. Haseeb Gardezi, spoke about the group's commitment to preserving the heritage of Pakistan and promoting tourism in the country. "We are proud to launch the Cecil Hotel by Pearl-Continental in Murree, a town that has played such an



important role in the history of Pakistan," said Mr. Gardezi. "Our aim is to provide guests with an authentic and unforgettable experience of this beautiful hill station." The ceremony took place amidst the picturesque natural setting of the hotel's outdoors, boasting breathtaking views of the mountains and skies. The ambience was further elevated by the enchanting live jazz music that resonated through the air. The guests were given a tour of the hotel and relished a delectable Hi-Tea comprising an exquisite assortment of European cuisine, accompanied by refreshing tea and coffee.



The launch of the Cecil Hotel by Pearl-Continental is a significant milestone for the hospitality industry in Pakistan and is expected to attract tourists from all over the world. The hotel is now open for bookings, and guests can enjoy a memorable stay in one of Pakistan's most beautiful destinations.

With its elegant colonial architecture, breathtaking views, and cultural heritage, the hotel remains an important part of Pakistan's history and a valuable source of cultural heritage for future generations. Whether you're a history buff, a nature lover, or just looking for a peaceful escape from the city, the Cecil Hotel is the perfect place to visit.



Cecil Heritage by Pearl-Continental stands in the hills of Murree, restored to its original grandeur with beautiful floors, period furniture and crackling fires, maintaining its exclusivity and colonial charm and elegance. The inviting warm ambience takes you back in time as soon as you step through the front door. Located on Mountain View Road and approachable from GPO as well as The Mall, Cecil Heritage offers rooms, including deluxe rooms, spacious family suites, and presidential suites, offering modern amenities, such as IPTVs, smart heating and cooling, telephones, and WiFi. Each room is decorated with period features and a vintage tapestry to pay homage to Murree's historical era. The ensuite bathrooms come equipped with a vintage claw-foot tub, a separate shower, twin wash basins, radiator, and a vanity counter. Guests can book their favourite room and relive the golden period of Murree. ■

As reported by CNBC, the unit is often the company's most significant profit driver. The losses on the chips contributed to Samsung's quarterly operating profit dive of 95 percent on the quarter.

According to Bloomberg, one of the biggest causes of the losses goes back to the start of the Pandemic, which saw smartphone and PC makers stockpile chips to get ahead of supply issues. Now, companies are left with loaded inventories as consumer demand has dropped off amidst high inflation.

The South Korean tech giant will no doubt be hoping its chip business numbers improve as the year goes on, with the recent news marking Samsung's lowest quarterly operating profit since 2009. The company hopes new smartphone and PC launches may increase demand, and also expects an economic recovery in China, which Bloomberg accounts as the largest market for PCs and smartphones. The news may not come as a surprise, as Samsung showed signs of a poor quarter in its earlier preliminary earnings. It plans to cut its memory chip production significantly in order to cut down a nearly 70 percent decline in prices over the previous nine months.

Despite the company taking a hit on its memory chips, the smartphone division was able to recoup some of the losses with a decent quarter, thanks in no small part to the launch of the Galaxy S23 lineup. Samsung Display Corporation (SDC) saw earnings in the mobile panel business decline quarter-on-quarter amid a market contraction, while the large panel business slightly narrowed its losses.

The DX Division's results improved on the back of strong sales of the premium Galaxy S23 series as well as an enhanced sales mix focusing on premium TVs. The strength in the Korean won against the US dollar, euro and most major emerging currencies resulted in a negative impact of approximately KRW 0.7 trillion on company-wide operating profit, mostly in the component business.

In the second quarter, while current market conditions are expected to remain, the DS Division will focus on boosting technological competitiveness, including the gate-all-around (GAA) based 2-nanometer (nm) process, while meeting the demand for DDR5, LPDDR5x and other high-end products.

SDC's mobile panel business will focus on meeting demand projections for the second half of the year, while the large panel business is expected to see an increase in quarterly sales.

The DX Division aims to maintain solid profitability by expanding sales of the Galaxy A series smartphones and new TV models while also improving cost efficiency.

In the second half of the year, based on expectations of a gradual market recovery and a rebound in global demand, the DS Division will focus on high-capacity server and mobile products. The DS Division will continue to strengthen its technology leadership by expanding customers for leading-edge products based on the GAA process.

SDC's mobile panel business is expected to continue leading the high-end market, while its large panel business will further expand in the premium market and improve profitability.

The DX Division plans to solidify its leadership in the premium segment, including foldable smartphones and Neo QLED screens. The DX Division also aims to increase market share by expanding collaboration with partners and will enhance profitability by continuing to improve operational efficiency.

The Company's total capital expenditures in the first quarter stood at KRW 10.7 trillion, including KRW 9.8 trillion for semiconductors and KRW 0.3 trillion for displays. Spending on memory was

Memory chips lowers Samsung's quarterly profit by 95%



The company hopes new smartphone and PC launches may increase demand, and also expects for an economic recovery in China, which Bloomberg accounts as the largest market for PCs and smartphones

concentrated on completing the P3 infrastructure and on the P4 framework in preparation for mid-to-long-term supply. Foundry investments focused on fabs in Taylor, Texas and Pyeongtaek, Korea to address the demand for advanced nodes, while investments in displays focused on infrastructure and module production enhancements.

The DS Division posted KRW 13.73 trillion in consolidated revenue and KRW 4.58 trillion in operating losses for the first quarter.

The Memory Business's performance fell significantly compared to the previous quarter, with ongoing inventory adjustments leading to a decrease in overall demand amid an economic slowdown and weakened customer spending.

For DRAM, demand was sluggish due to inventory adjustments by server customers, mainly hyper scalers, purchasing delays and Set-Build reductions, with consumer demand for mobile and PC applications not yet recovered. The Memory Business focused on selling high-value-added products such as high-density mobile products and meeting server-use DDR5 demand in line with the adoption of new CPUs. While prices fell less than the market forecast, bit growth could not meet the previous guidance.

As for NAND, despite weak demand, the Memory Business actively responded to trends shifting toward high-density across overall applications, such as eStorage of 512GB and above for major mobile customers and client SSDs of 1TB and

above for PC OEMs. As a result, our bit growth exceeded the previous guidance.

Looking ahead to the second quarter, as major hyper scalers invest more conservatively in servers and customers continue to adjust their inventories, limited demand recovery is expected.

For DRAM, the Memory Business will respond to increasing demand for DDR5 and high-density modules led by the launch of new CPUs for servers and increased demand for AI and will also actively respond to LPDDR5x demand for mobile high-end products such as new form factor smartphones.

For NAND, based on cost competitiveness, the Memory Business plans to actively address the demand for high-density products across all applications while responding to customer needs for high-density storage by creating mobile quad-level cells (QLC) markets and diversifying product portfolios.

In the second half, demand is expected to gradually recover as customer inventory levels will have declined due to inventory adjustments occurring since the second half of last year. Set-Build demand is expected to improve with the launch of new smartphones and PC promotion. In addition, the portion of DDR5 for servers is expected to increase due to the expansion of new CPU adoption, and content-per-box will continue to grow as the transition to high-core CPUs accelerates.

For DRAM, the Memory Business plans to accelerate the conversion of cutting-edge nodes for DDR5 and LPDDR5x and actively respond to the strong market demand for HBM3 8H and 12H.

For NAND, the Memory Business will strengthen supply operations for products that customers need by creating a mobile QLC market and expanding the supply of cutting-edge nodes such as V7 and V8. ■

Samsung's memory chip business is coming off a nightmare of a quarter, with high inventories combined with falling demand which contributed to a nearly \$3.4 billion USD (about \$4.63 billion CAD) loss from the division.

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The smuggling of cigarettes and international brands of beverages has increased since the government raised Federal Excise Duty (FED) estimated 154% on cigarettes. The effects of this FED hike caused a heavy increase in the overall taxes on the sale of cigarettes, which has jolted the legitimate tobacco industry in the country. As a consequence of cigarette prices hitting the roof, the tobacco market has been flooded with over 70 new brands of cigarettes during the span of just two months.

While the owners of the beverage industry have also claimed that is not the first time that the beverage industry has borne the brunt of government policies. Available documents reveal that CCI has repeatedly vocalised how the beverage industry has dealt with discriminatory taxes and policies. It is the only industry, within the Food & Beverage (F&B) sector, that is paying the FED in a good amount. It is also the only one amongst various water-consuming industries that are paying water charges, as well as the only industry within the F&B sector that is being threatened with the imposition of the Health Levy. The carbonated beverage industry is currently paying 13% FED, along with a 7% super tax and 17% GST to the government. Further implementing the Sugar Levy, on top of high FED, will double taxation hence potentially driving legitimate tax-paying manufacturers in the beverage industry to collapse.

According to the beverage industry, an increment in FED has always adversely impacted production volumes, considering the product is highly price elastic. The effect of it then trickles down to others, threatening employment, and the incomes of auxiliary businesses across the chain, hence causing an overall rise in the substitution effect, whereby customers switch to sub-standard beverages.

During a media briefing session, representatives of the Pakistan Tobacco Company Limited (PTC) disclosed that the incidence of illicit cigarettes has sharply increased due to the availability of smuggled cigarettes at cheaper rates. This has forced price-conscious consumers to turn to cheaper, smuggled, and illicit cigarettes.

PTC officials revealed that from the period between July 2021 to March 2022, PTC's contribution to the national exchequer was Rs 85 billion. However, the revenue collected during the same period this year only increased by a meagre 14% to Rs 97 billion, despite an excise increase of over 200% in both tiers of cigarettes since June 2022. Such disappointing figures are constantly discouraging investment and are threatening the Large-Scale Manufacturing (LSM) sector in Pakistan.

The representatives informed that PTC contributes to around 80% of the total revenue collected from the tobacco industry, whereas only 2% is contributed by the illicit sector. The officials also revealed that sales volumes for March 2023 have completely flipped, with legitimate industry sales



standing at 1.84 billion sticks in March, as opposed to 4.84 billion sticks in Jan 2023 (pre-mini budget). Similarly, the illicit volume has expanded exponentially from 2.85 billion sticks in January 2023 to 4.8 billion sticks in March 2023.

According to PTC data, over 100 brands of smuggled cigarettes without graphic health warnings have flooded the market, blatantly disregarding all regulations set by the Government of Pakistan, even without fearing the possibility of being caught up. PTC officials recorded a 30% increase in sales of smuggled cigarettes during March 2023 only.

High taxes open floodgate of smuggled cigarettes, beverages



More than 100 brands of smuggled cigarettes without graphic health warnings have flooded the market blatantly disregarding all regulations set by the Government of Pakistan, even without fear of being caught up

Enforcement agencies require an iron hold to lay on the illicit sector to plug this growing cleft between the legitimate and illicit sectors. The implementation of track and trace must be consistent and be implemented in letter and spirit. A nationwide enforcement campaign to curtail the menace of illicit cigarettes must be carried out to ensure the right results for the already ailing economy.

Before the mini-budget was released in February 2023, the excise on a pack of Tier 1 cigarettes was 130 rupees, whereas it was increased to Rs 330 in the mini-budget, amounting to an increase of 154%.

Similarly, the excise on a pack of Tier 2 cigarettes

While owners of the beverage industry have also claimed that is not the first time that the beverage industry has borne the brunt of government policies

was increased from Rs 41 to Rs 101, amounting to an increase of 146%. Despite the drastic increase in both tiers, the Retail Price Threshold was increased by a meagre 35% to Rs 9,000 per 1,000 cigarettes. This has created an anomaly and has opened up a dead zone for any cigarette pack to be viably priced between Rs 180 and Rs 330.

Responding to a query, the officials of the indus-

try stated that despite the letters sent to the Ministry of Finance to remove the anomalies in taxes that emerged after the mini-budget, the Ministry has not considered the request of the industry.

Islamabad desperately needs to secure \$1.2 billion, part of a \$7 billion bailout package of the IMF program it secured in 2019. The latest tranche was originally due in November 2022 but it was delayed as the global lender demanded a clear roadmap from Islamabad on bridging revenue shortage besides ending energy subsidies.

Facing a default scare, Pakistan proposed to increase taxes on certain goods to raise 170 billion rupees in extra revenue during the current fiscal year ending July. Shortfalls in revenue collection were among the reasons that held up IMF's 9th review discussions with cash-strapped Pakistan earlier this month. The Finance Division also issued a notification increasing the general sales tax by one per cent to 18 per cent - these measures are expected to raise Rs 115 billion. However, since the government has agreed to a target of Rs 170 billion in new taxes with the IMF, the remaining Rs 55 billion would be collected through increased excise duty on airline tickets and sugary drinks.

Global ratings agency Fitch downgraded Pakistan's sovereign credit rating by two notches CCC+ to CCC-, citing critically low reserves and difficult conditions set by the IMF. The agency said that in its view "default or debt restructuring" was now a real possibility. ■

Google launches Lab in Pakistan to boost up apps development



Apps Growth Lab 2023 is most suited for early-stage gaming and tools, and utility app developers who have a company-owned Play Store with at least one app published, and a company-owned Google Ads account and are ready to start their user acquisition strategy with their in-house team

Following the launch of the Gaming Growth Lab in Pakistan last year, Google has launched its first 'Apps Growth Lab' in Pakistan, with an aim to help local app developers accelerate and grow their businesses.

The four-month hybrid education programme is designed to identify high-potential app developers, studios, and companies which are looking to scale their businesses in the mobile app industry.

Pakistan's mobile market continued to experience robust growth for the fourth consecutive year, with 3.52 billion app downloads in 2022. This places the country in the 9th position globally, according to a report.

Apps Growth Lab 2023 is most suited for early-stage gaming and tools, and utility app developers who have a company-owned Play Store with at least one app published and a company-owned Google Ads account and are ready to start their user acquisition strategy with their in-house team.

It will offer participants access to more than 25 industrial and Google experts as well as valuable resources in areas such as Google Ads, AdMob and Play, Firebase, and gTech and supportive sessions designed to help them achieve success.

Google said that the launch of the programme demonstrates its commitment to promoting the growth of Pakistan's app industry both locally and globally. Farhan S. Qureshi, Google's Regional Director for Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Sri Lanka, said that the tech giant's ongoing efforts aim to support Pakistani developers and help them expand their work.

The App Growth Lab is based on four core

pillars: build, develop, launch, and scale. The 'Build' phase aims to help participants understand the global app and gaming opportunities and set their company's strategy. The 'Develop' phase focuses on user-centric product development and leveraging technology for long-term success. The

'The launch of Google's App Growth Lab in Pakistan is a game changer for Pakistani entrepreneurs seeking growth in their app businesses. The programme provides entrepreneurs with the necessary knowledge, resources, and mentorship to excel in the competitive app market'

'Launch' component teaches strategies to win the launch, set up monetisation models, and maximise Google's data tools for growth. Lastly, 'Scale' covers launching the app to the world and leveraging market and platform diversification strategies.

The programme is set to launch in June 2023 and will conclude with a graduation event in Lahore in October 2023. Applications are set to close on May 22, 2023.

Saad Hameed, CEO of Game District, encouraged local app developers to apply, saying that his team has "one of the most insightful" experienc-

es with the Gaming Growth Lab Pakistan programme by Google in 2022.

With Pakistan's booming population of over 230 million people and growing mobile phone penetration rate, it's no surprise that the country has become a hotbed for app developers and entrepreneurs. However, despite the growing demand for mobile apps, many entrepreneurs struggle to make their apps successful due to a lack of resources and knowledge.

That's where Google's App Growth Lab comes in, providing Pakistani entrepreneurs with the necessary tools and resources to excel in the competitive app market.

The launch of Google's App Growth Lab in Pakistan is a game-changer for Pakistani entrepreneurs who are seeking growth in their app businesses. The programme provides entrepreneurs with the necessary knowledge, resources, and mentorship to succeed in the competitive app market. With the App Growth Lab, Pakistani entrepreneurs now have a platform to learn from industry experts and connect with other like-minded individuals. So, if you're a Pakistani entrepreneur looking to grow your app business, don't miss out on this opportunity to take your business to the next level.

Google has released Android 14 Beta 1.1. As the rather weird naming implies, this is a mere small update to the first beta, which came out a couple of weeks ago. The next, second beta is scheduled for next month, so you might be wondering why Google would go through the trouble of releasing an intermediary version right now.

The answer is bugs. Apparently, the company thought some of the bugs running around in Beta 1 were too annoying to let be until Beta 2 comes around, and that's how Beta 1.1 came about.

Google releases Android 14 Beta 1.1 patch, fixing a lot of bugs

The new build is labelled UPB1.230309.017. A1 for Pixel 6, Pixel 6 Pro, and Pixel 6a units on Verizon, and UPB1.230309.017 for all others. It's going out over-the-air to the Pixel 4a 5G and later models which are enrolled in the Android Beta Program. As usual with Google updates, expect the rollout to take at least a few days if not more, to reach all eligible devices.

Google highlights a few of the bugs that have been squashed:

Fixed an issue where the system UI crashed when trying to access the Wallpaper & Style screen either through the Settings app or by long-pressing from the home screen.

Fixed some issues that prevented fingerprint unlock from being used.

Fixed an issue where the status bar did not display the mobile network.

Fixed an issue that prevented a SIM card or eSIM from being detected or activated in some cases.

Fixed an issue where the lock screen displayed a message with an unresolved string placeholder when Smart Lock was enabled.

Last year, Google launched the seventh edition of its Google for Startups Accelerator (GFSA) for Southeast Asia (SEA) and Pakistan, where it will enroll up to 15 seed and series A startups, particularly in fintech, health tech, retail and e-commerce, and SME-focused B2B solutions.

The three-month programme would help startups solve their specific challenges by providing the best of Google resources: Google mentors, a network of new contacts to help them on their journeys, and the most cutting-edge technology, Google said.

Since Google's first GFSA launch in 2016, it has supported over 90 startups, who have then gone on to raise over \$5.4 billion in funding and created more than 1,600 jobs across Southeast Asia and Pakistan.

A notable alumnus is DeafTalk from Pakistan, which participated in GFSA 2020 and has provided accessibility solutions for deaf people, including online sign language interpretation, audio-video translation and sign language training. ■

New powerful vivo Y73 with sleek design & 64MP AF camera available in Pakistan

vivo has also brought users new upgrades in technology – the Rear Camera 4K Video Function, for instance, allows you to take videos with crystal-clear definition, any time of the day. Then, give your imaging quality a boost with features such as Eye Autofocus and Ultra Stabilization

Vivo's new Y73 has arrived, bringing along powerful specs for the ultimate smartphone experience.

Built to serve savvy users looking for the perfect balance of aesthetics and functionality – the

and high-quality shots of the vivid night scene. You can further amp up your night shots with four stylish City Night Filters, each one specially created for different styles and preferences.

vivo has also brought users new upgrades in technology – the Rear Camera

4K Video Function, for instance, allows you to take videos with crystal-clear definition, any time of the day. Then, give your imaging quality a boost with features such as Eye Autofocus and Ultra Stabilization.

Moreover, there is also the Dual-View Video feature that allows you to use the Front and Rear Camera at the same time – enabling you to double your creative prowess. Selfie lovers

will enjoy the 16MP Front Camera, which boasts enhancement features such as Super Night Selfie and Portrait Lighting!

When you have explored and discovered all the star imaging features of the vivo Y73, there are more in store for you. The Front Camera, for instance,



brings along fun features such as the Steadiface Selfie Video, as well as enhancement features such as light filters and Video Face Beauty. The Rear Camera is the photography enthusiasts' paradise, with features such as Super Macro, Bokeh Portrait and Multi-Portrait to help you level up your creative work.

These are subtle yet impactful improvements in the quality of life for vivo users – try the vivo Y73 out and experience the difference yourself!

Bringing Viewing Pleasure to the Next Level

Users of the vivo Y73 can expect to enjoy brilliant and realistic digital content on the smartphone's 6.44-inch 60Hz FHD+ Screen that boasts a 2400x1080 Ultra-High Resolution.

In particular, the AMOLED Screen stands out for its picture-perfect clarity, as well as optimized screen real-estate for a top-notch full-screen experience. The smartphone includes an In-Display Fingerprint Feature which can read your fingerprint with a single touch with imperceptible speed. Also noteworthy is the thin yet tough glass, which upgrades the vivo Y73 to be the elegant beast when it comes to form and shape.

Powerful Performance, Built for Go-Getter

The vivo Y73 is perfect for multi-taskers looking to be even more productive, thanks to its 8GB + 4GB Extended RAM that keeps the phone running smoothly even under heavy usage. More apps, more

games? No problem, this smartphone has got you covered – you will still have a perfect mobile experience even if you are a heavy user.



Whether it is having more apps running, or switching between apps seamlessly, this one is perfect for the multi-tasker to manage work, life, and fun. Gamers will also enjoy the Multi-Turbo Ultra Game Mode, for the boost that you need to have for winning!

For power users, this phone meets their needs and more with its generous 8GB RAM + 128GB Storage. Fast speed can also be expected, thanks to the powerful MediaTek Helio G95 processor. What is more, with a 4000mAh Battery Capacity that supports up to 33W FlashCharge fast charging, the vivo Y73 is capable of keeping up with any fast-paced and active lifestyle – there is nothing to stop you from hitting the streets late at night, or closing that next deal!



Price & Availability

All in all, the vivo Y73 comes with powerful specs for the ultimate smartphone experience – perfect for enhancing the lives of all who use it. The outstanding vivo Y73 is now available for purchase across Pakistan at the price of Rs. 89,999 only.

vivo offers a one-year warranty for Y73 along with 15 days free replacement and 6 months warranty for accessories. vivo Y73 is duly approved by Pakistan Telecommunications Authority and supports all mobile networks in Pakistan. Zong customers can



also get 12GB Free Mobile Internet by using their 4G SIM card in Slot 1 (2GB Internet / month for 6 months). ■



vivo Y73 features key upgrades that are added value to the Y-series. These upgrades focus on key functions that users interact with every day so that they can maximize every moment in their busy lives.



Designed to Perfection, Built to Last

The Y73 shines in both aesthetics and durability – making it a winner for heavy users who are always on the go. For one, the elegant phone has a sleek design with a 7.38mm Ultra-Slim Body for a comfortable hold.



The device is lightweight with a 170g Light Grip and fits easily into your pocket, so you don't have to worry about having to carry it around. Designed with a timeless touch, the vivo Y73 comes in two colours for unique tastes – Roman Black for the classic lovers, and Diamond Flare for those who prefer to stand out from the crowd!

Built with innovative glass technology, the vivo Y73's screen is scratch resistant and durable to support your active lifestyle. Now, you can push the new Y73 as far and as hard as you push yourself.

Freeze Everyday Moments with Great Quality

Beyond its outstanding form and design, the vivo Y73 is equipped with formidable imaging functions designed for Selfie and Video enthusiasts to unleash their creativity. One highlight is the 64MP AF Camera with Night Mode that allows you to take beautiful

To keep the benefits of naturally pink salt founded in Himalayan, US-based company Miracle Saltworks Collective Inc plans to invest nearly \$200 million in curating, processing, distributing, and importing Pink Himalayan Salt from Pakistan. Pink Himalayan salt is a type of salt that's naturally pink in colour and mined near the Himalayas in Pakistan. Salt gives minerals and provides incredible health benefits.

As per the PID statement, the representatives of the company met the Ambassador of Pakistan to the United States Masood Khan in Washington and conveyed their plans.

The investment would be made in preparing feasibility, reserve report, upgradation of mining procedures and processes, construction of world-class processing and packaging facility, and community development programs.

During a briefing by the top leadership of Miracle Saltworks Collective Inc. (MSCI), it was informed that Pakistan, with its geographical monopoly of the resource, has huge reserves of Pink Salt with a potential earning of \$12 billion annually.

According to an estimate, the country possesses approximately 22.22 billion tons of natural resources, concentrated mostly in Salt Range areas of Kala Bagh, Warcha, Khewra, and Bahadur-Khel, with an immense potential of kick-starting massive economic activity.

MSCI President Ahmed N. Khan said that a multi-pronged solution featuring public-private partnership under a clearly defined policy was being worked out to assist the government in regulating and encouraging the private sector to take a lead role in exploiting the existing potential. He said that the company was undertaking a joint venture with Pakistan Mineral Development Corporation.

The company plans to raise market awareness globally and reach 10 million tons of verified extraction by 2030. Two world-class processing and distribution facilities would be established in Doha and China to fulfil global demand for Pakistani products.

Ambassador Khan welcomed MSCI's interest in making investments and promoting Pink Salt. He said that the government was committed to providing every possible facility to international investors and the business community intending to invest in traditional and non-traditional sectors of the economy.

The ambassador assured the leadership of Miracle Saltworks of every possible support of the embassy in facilitating early finalization and implementation of their business plan in the country.

Pink salt is popping up in supermarkets and health food stores everywhere, but what exactly are the benefits of this product? With a unique flavour profile and countless potential health benefits, pink salt can add something special to your everyday diet. From reducing hypertension to aiding in digestion, there are many amazing ways that this natural mineral can boost your overall health.

Pink Himalayan salt is a unique type of salt harvested from Punjab and the Himalayan mountains of Tibet. It contains more than 85 beneficial minerals that cannot be found in other salts, including calcium, iron, magnesium, zinc and potassium. This pink salt is known for its pink hue, with pinkish hues ranging from pale pink to bold reddish pink. Pink Himalayan salt also has many health benefits, such as regulating blood sugar levels and promoting healthy skin and hair.

Additionally, it's an all-natural alternative to table salt that adds flavour to dishes without adding any additional sodium. With its natural mineral content and added health benefits, pink Himalayan salt is an excellent choice for those looking for a flavorful way to enhance their meals.

Pink Himalayan salt has been praised for its many benefits, ranging from its trace minerals and elements to its natural pink/ pinkish-orange hue. While the salt itself is relatively expensive, it is proven to be much healthier than regular table salt

US company willing to invest in quality production of Pink salt



During a briefing by the top leadership of Miracle Saltworks Collective Inc. (MSCI), it was informed that Pakistan, with its geographical monopoly of the resource, has huge reserves of Pink Salt with a potential earning of \$12 billion annually

due to the abundance of essential minerals that are not present in regular salt, such as potassium, magnesium, and calcium.

Not only can this salt help release vital vitamins and minerals into your body, but it may also contribute to improved muscle function, increased circulation, regulate blood pressure, support nerve functions and more. Considering these pink salt benefits, it might be worth considering pink Himalayan salt as a culinary staple in your kitchen!

Pink Himalayan salt also has many health benefits, such as regulating blood sugar levels and promoting healthy skin and hair

Pink salt carries many beneficial properties, particularly for respiratory diseases. The pink salt is produced from natural Himalayan crystal salts with pink colour and incredibly high mineral content, including trace minerals such as iron, calcium, potassium, magnesium and much more.

Using pink salt to treat respiratory disorders has been gaining popularity due to its high iodine and bromide levels, which can help reduce inflammation in the airways. Additionally, pink salt releases natural anti-inflammatory ions during

inhalation which can act as a bronchodilator to significantly ease and improve breathing difficulties. These benefits make pink salt an increasingly sought-after therapy among those suffering from respiratory issues or allergies.

Pink salt is an amazing way to reduce your stress levels and improve feelings of relaxation. Unlike many other remedies, pink salt has a number of unique benefits due to its high concentration of trace minerals; it is particularly rich in magnesium, calcium, sulfur, and potassium. All of these components help the body remain balanced and healthy, leading to better moods, more energy, and improved relaxation.

Pink salt is an efficient natural mineral that helps promote restful sleep. It contains numerous beneficial minerals, including magnesium, calcium, and potassium -- all key components of a healthy diet. Pink salt helps to support the body's natural circadian rhythm leading to better sleep quality and therefore improved energy levels during the day.

Pink salt used in a warm bath can be especially helpful before bedtime to improve relaxation and induce a deeper sleep. Pink salt also releases negative ions when heated which can improve stress levels, promoting an overall sense of calmness and tranquility. As importantly, pink salt also helps restore electrolyte balance in the body, leading to better sleep and enhanced physical performance during waking hours. ■

Internet outage due to May 9 incidents caused huge revenue loss to CMOs

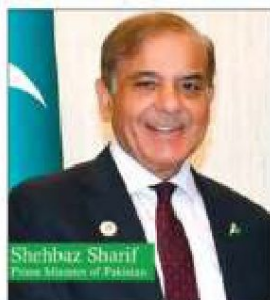


In the wake of the arrest of former prime minister Imran Khan on May 9, a wave of unprecedented Internet blockage swept across the country, plunging millions of Pakistanis into a state of digital isolation. The most affected sector in this milieu is telecom companies which suffered financial losses estimated at Rs2.46 billion due to the suspension of broadband internet services while the government's loss of around Rs860 million in tax revenue is in addition to it. It is quite noticeable and painful that on any occasion, event, rallies and protest, the first thing the government does, is shutting down the internet across the country. This extreme measure taken at once causes revenue losses to the government in billions of rupees besides the loss of billions of rupees to telecom operators. Aggrieved by this situation Chief Marketing Officers (CMOs) of different mobile phone companies wrote letters to Chairman PTA, the Ministry of IT and Telecom and the government of Pakistan to seek compensation for the revenue they faced due to a three-day mobile phone internet outage. Nearly 125 million people engaged in this sector, have been affected by the government's decision to suspend mobile broadband and block access to social media apps

The eruption of wide-scale untoward incidents in reaction to the arrest of Imran Khan on May 9 last, led to a complete blocking of mobile internet and other internet services by the government across the country, on which GSMA, International Communication and all major companies operating in Pakistan were badly affected in terms of the revenues, business and employment. The companies which have put billions of rupees into this business are now up against serious issues arising out of protracted blocking of the internet service and the apps. The mobile phone companies as such through letters have informed the government and the Pakistan Telecom Authority about what they suffered along with recording their protest. In the letter, they painfully told the federal government and the Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) about their failure to pay due deference to the constitutionally provided basic right to do business and also about

the colossal financial losses to the companies which occasioned due to the blocked internet service so that they are duly compensated for their losses to be able to smoothly run the business.

The content of letters is being published so that the readers could get precise information while we, as an



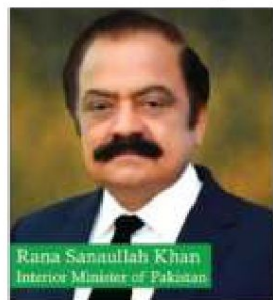
Shehbaz Sharif
Prime Minister of Pakistan

organization, are also trying to present the facts with the aim of encouraging investments in the country and restoring the confidence of those companies which have made investments and are working to promote business

in Pakistan. The government has also been urged to keep up a conducive environment for business and investment which is very necessary to fetch foreign companies to invest their money, without hesitation, in businesses, particularly in the IT and telecom sectors of Pakistan. It is all the more necessary when Pakistan is already facing the worst crisis in these sectors since last year. Due to the economic meltdown and restrictions on imported goods due to the LC factor, these sectors have already faced many setbacks which have forced thousands of people to lose their jobs while the salaries of thousands of others have also been cut down due to the financial crunch in the IT and telecom sectors.

It is quite notable that the IT sector is on the way to development all over the whole world while Pakistan is on the downside on this count mainly due to mismanagement and corruption. Representatives of more than 30 mobile phone manufacturing and assembling

companies said that there are serious problems in the country for the last year in terms of manufacturing and selling mobile phones that have resulted in slow progress in this sector. One of the main issues is said to be the letter of credit (LC) which has brought about enormous problems and made it difficult to bring mobile phones in Pakistan through parts and investors which have rendered factories worth billions of rupees unable to give output up to the mark as basic material was unavailable. The companies are still much worried and struggling to overcome the problems. Against this backdrop, the difficulties of the companies were much compounded when after May 9, the internet services and other services of the mobile phone companies were stopped, after the



Rana Sanaullah Khan
Interior Minister of Pakistan

gory incidents, which made not only the companies but also customers to come under serious difficulties. The blocking of the internet in the real sense of the word, jammed the wheel of the economy wherein, the financial condition of the mobile phone companies was the worst hit.

There has been a severe blow to the mobile business. When contacted, the representative of a large mobile phone company said that through a letter they informed the government of Pakistan that the suspension of internet services on May 9 and after has caused them monetary loss to the tune of over 110 million. The revenue loss during that days is just to one company, while the loss to other three large companies runs into billions.

The sources in the mobile phone sector said that the mobile phone companies in the letter have told the government about their problems getting piled up every next day with specific reference to the said days when the long-duration of internet outages hugely aggravated their financial and other allied problems. They tried to explain to the government the legal and constitutional obligations which require it to ensure the safety and protection of their business without making them suffer the results of a situation which



Syed Aminul Haque
Federal Minister (IT & Telecom)

is not due to their fault. Sources further said that mobile phone companies are already facing serious employment problems, as almost all companies are downsizing their workforce because of the decrease in profit and business. All the investors are expressing serious concerns that how the business will continue in such an unfavourable and unfriendly environment whereof the expenses of the companies are continuing to soar against decreased revenue from the business. Sources say the income or revenue scale of the mobile phone companies gets disturbed for almost the entire year in case their services remain shut down for just one day. Because the companies run their business on very low margins mainly because there is a lack of control over the dollar rate.

While talking to Flair, representatives of the company said the government over the last year has been implementing such conditions for the letter of credit which have made it impossible for them to fulfil the conditions laid down in the license given by the Pakistan Telecom Authority. So, in these conditions, it will be very difficult to extend the services of modern technology to the people of Pakistan. He said that at present the letter of credit requests of the four major mobile phone companies are with the government or the State Bank, but no adequate response has been received. Therefore, the companies are facing severe difficulties in providing services to remote areas of the

country. They said if the situation persisted, internet and other services may also be limited to other parts of the country. In the presence of high inflation, the unstable dollar rate has added fuel to the fire as such investors are avoiding putting any further money in business in the country. The representatives suggested that stakeholders of all the mobile phone companies operating across the country and the government should sit together to find a solution to this serious problem so that necessary facilities like telecommunication, and IT reach the people. The letter written by CMOs reads, "Needless to say that the ongoing and indefinite suspension of Wireless Data services at such a scale has created immense challenges for the CMOs along with creating serious difficulties for the masses across Pakistan as well as impacting the digital and financial services that are the lifeline of an overwhelming number of economic sectors as well as the populace.

Therefore, we strongly urge PTA (Authority) to immediately allow us to restore our Licensed services, i.e. NGMS/Wireless Data services Nationwide. We would also like to urge the Authority to move the case to the relevant quarter for payment of compensation for the losses incurred to us during these forced nationwide outages, as per Law.

We would once again like to assure the Federal Government and Authority that we will continue to cooperate with the Government where there is a gen-

Sources further said that mobile phone companies are already confronting serious problems and almost all are downsizing their workforce only for the reason of phenomenal decrease in profits and business

uine need to suspend service temporarily, time specific and on-site-to-site or location basis as provided for in the relevant Policy of the Federal Government, instead of blanket Nationwide blockades/suspension of services."

"We representing the Cellular Mobile Operators ("CMOS") are collectively writing to you with reference to PTA's email dated 9th May 2023 and subsequent WhatsApp messages on the captioned subject of crucial importance, carrying instructions for suspension of mobile/wireless broadband data services across Pakistan till further notice.

The CMOS, being law abiding corporates were prompt to comply with the above-mentioned and hitherto unprecedented directives regarding the



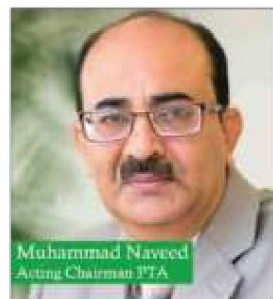
nationwide blockade/suspension of data services, received from the Authority. Our compliance with Nationwide Blocking, despite the fact that the instructions above were beyond the scope of limited blocking/suspension covered by the Policy Directive dated 26.12.2009, PTA's SOP dated 15.02.2010 and our respective cellular mobile license obligations were based on PTA instructions and the empirical situation. The Act (i.e. the Pakistan Telecommunication Re-organization Act, 1996) has clearly not authorized either the Federal Government or PTA to suspend our NGMS/Cellular Mobile services Nationwide and for an indefinite period without the proclamation of Emergency under Article 232 of the Constitution. Whereas blocking/suspension of services under section 8(3)(c) of the Pakistan Telecom-

munication (Re-org) Act, 1996 read with the Policy of the Federal Government as also treated in the Supreme Court proceedings on the subject, is purely event specific and localized, and for designated locations only." It is worth mentioning here that the unavailability of popular social media platforms, such as Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube, on May 9 and after, caused significant disruptions. Not only did it impact social



interactions, but businesses relying on these platforms for marketing and communication also faced considerable setbacks. Furthermore, interruptions in online business education hindered the growth and progress of aspiring entrepreneurs, impeding skill development and economic opportunities.

Disruptions in social media platforms, online services, transportation, hospitality, freelancing, and the IT sector have resulted in financial losses, user inconveniences, and setbacks for entrepreneurs. Prompt action by the government and telecom service providers is vital to restore stability, ensure uninterrupted services, and minimize the impact on the economy and related sectors. Online transportation services, including ride-hailing platforms like Uber, and food delivery services were not spared from the telecom sector's challenges. Users encountered difficulties in



Muhammad Naveed
Acting Chairman PTA

commuting, while businesses in these industries experienced financial losses. The smooth operation of these services heavily relies on efficient telecommunications infrastructure, making them vulnerable to interruptions. The troubles of the telecom sector however extended beyond these services. Twin cities like Rawalpindi and Islamabad, which house approximately 90,000 points of sale for online transactions, faced significant challenges in conducting business during the suspension period. Around 12,000 hotels providing online delivery services also suffered disruptions, affecting their operations and potentially compromising customer satisfaction.

The blackout has also sparked a re-evaluation of risk and future prospects for seed funding among investors. The connectivity breakdown has impacted the investment landscape, leading to a cautious approach and a reassessment of investment strategies. Investors are closely monitoring the situation, evaluating the ability of startups to sustain their operations and deliver returns on investment in the face of connectivity challenges. This shift in investor sentiments may have long-lasting implications for the startup ecosystem, influencing funding opportunities and the overall growth trajectory of early-stage ventures.

The long term fallout of the Internet blackout on startups and seed funding is a pressing concern for the entrepreneurial ecosystem in Pakistan. ■

1.6 bn mobile money accounts worldwide transacting \$3.45bn daily



Commenting on the report, Max Cuvelier, Head of Mobile for Development, GSMA said: "It is promising to see the continued growth of mobile money worldwide. Mobile money has afforded millions of unbanked and underserved people in low- and middle-income countries access to digital financial services, for the first time."

The new GSMA's State of the Industry Report on Mobile Money 2023 released recently and copied to Ghana Business News, shows that across the world mobile money services are growing fast.

It took the industry 17 years to reach the first 800 million customers but took only five years to reach the next 800 million, and of that, 400 million accounts were added over the course of the pandemic. Today there are 1.6 billion registered mobile money accounts, notes Mats Granryd, the Director General of the GSMA and a Member of the Board.

Commenting on the report, Max Cuvelier, Head of Mobile for Development, GSMA said: "It is promising to see the continued growth of mobile money worldwide. Mobile money has afforded millions of unbanked and underserved people in low- and middle-income countries access to digital financial services, for the first time."

The report, which is published annually by the GSMA and funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, shows that rates of adoption are even quicker than expected, with the number of registered mobile money accounts growing by 13 percent year on year, from 1.4 billion in 2021 to 1.6 billion in 2022.

According to the report, in 2022, daily transac-

tions via mobile money reached \$3.45 billion, exceeding the \$3 billion amount predicted in 2021. The total transaction value for mobile money grew by 22 per cent between 2021 and 2022, from \$1 trillion to around \$1.26 trillion.

Despite the unprecedented growth, the authors of the report acknowledge that in many areas worldwide, more work is still needed to help give underserved communities access to safe, secure and affordable financial services.

"With 1.4 billion people worldwide remaining unbanked, the GSMA Mobile Money Programme is working with mobile operators and industry stakeholders worldwide to create a robust mobile money ecosystem, increasing the relevancy and utility of these services and ensuring their sustainability," the report said. The 2023 report also shows that there are now 315 live mobile money deployments across the globe, with peer-to-peer (P2P) transfers and cash-in/cash-out

transactions still among the most popular use cases. Bill payments using mobile money grew by 36 percent year-on-year – faster than any other use case – and the industry continues to focus on use case diversification, playing an important role in digitising economies, it added.

Mobile money and international remittances

The report further notes that, during 2022, mobile money-enabled international remittances grew by 28 per cent year on year – to \$22 billion.

"During the pandemic, many diasporas sent more funds via mobile money to friends and family than ever before. As a result, international remittances grew significantly in both 2020 and 2021, as many senders favoured mobile money for its efficiency, speed, safety and cost-effectiveness. The trend continued in 2022, albeit at a slower rate," it said.

Mobile money and gender dynamics

The report indicates that mobile money is continuing to drive financial inclusion for the world's unbanked, particularly among women in rural communities, where access to mobile money can play a transformational and empowering role.

However, the report points out that there is still a mobile money gender gap that has shown signs of widening over the last year, particularly in India, Indonesia and Pakistan.

According to the report, as mobile phone ownership remains one of the main drivers of the mobile money gender gap, there are also a number of other barriers and cultural norms holding back women from adopting mobile money. As a result, women in low- and middle-income countries are currently 28 per cent less likely than men to own a mobile money account.

A growing number of agents

The report found that the number of mobile money agents also increased significantly last year, with a 41 percent increase between 2021 and 2022. The overall number of agents went from 12 million in 2021 to 17.4 million in 2022. The number of active agents increased by 25 per cent to 7.2 million in 2022.

"A lot of this growth came from Nigeria, where a more liberal regulatory regime meant an increase in mobile money providers. Agents continued to prove to be an invaluable part of mobile money services and were responsible for two-thirds of all cash-in transactions in 2022," it said.

Despite the remarkable growth, Cuvelier added: "However, even with this significant growth, there is still a long way to go to bring those services to over a billion people worldwide who remain unbanked."

The GSMA is therefore encouraging governments worldwide to keep developing the enabling policies that can support mobile money deployments and further boost the growth of this crucial ecosystem. Doing so helps accelerate the digitization of national economies and build financial resilience, allowing communities to support themselves in uncertain times."

Despite the unprecedented growth, the authors of the report acknowledge that in many areas worldwide, more work is still needed to help give underserved communities access to safe, secure and affordable financial services

Mobile money is also continuing to drive financial inclusion for the world's unbanked, particularly among women in rural communities where access to mobile money can play a transformational and empowering role.

However, according to the latest GSMA data, there is still a mobile money gender gap that has shown signs of widening over the last year – particularly in India, Indonesia

and Pakistan. Mobile phone ownership is one of the main drivers of the mobile money gender gap; however, a number of other barriers and cultural norms also prevent women from adopting mobile money. As a result, women in low- and middle-income countries are currently 28% less likely than men to own a mobile money account. ■

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Chinese online courts revolutionise corporate justice system



Dispute resolution through arbitration, mediation and cost-effective and timely measures has been a cherished dream for communities globally. In the new age, the need for confidential and quick resolution of disputes based on justice and equality between commercial entities through cost-effective measures is a major challenge

China's internet courts are revolutionizing online dispute resolution mechanisms, setting a good example to follow by others of the world community.

Dispute resolution through arbitration, mediation and cost-effective and timely measures has been a cherished dream for communities globally. In the new age, the need for confidential and quick resolution of disputes based on justice and equality between commercial entities through cost-effective measures is a major challenge.

According to Confucius, justice is the "real essence" of a progressive society and sustainable social development. Whereas, the real philosophy of socialism also speaks highly about justice and the Chinese model of the Internet Court is a true reflection of it. Against this backdrop, China's online internet courts are doing wonders and thousands of litigants are being provided immediate, transparent and cost-effective justice without spending any money.

During the Covid-19 pandemic, Chinese authorities focused on online dispute resolution through internet courts. Initially, these courts were established in Beijing, Guangzhou and Hangzhou. Internet courts do not require citizens to appear physically in court as the 'smart court' allows participants to register their cases online and resolve their matters via a digital court hearing.

The Chinese internet courts handle a variety of disputes, which include intellectual property, e-commerce, financial disputes related to online conduct, loans acquired or performed online, patent registra-

tion, domain name issues, intellectual property and civil rights cases involving the internet, product liability arising from online purchases and certain administrative disputes.

Against this backdrop, China's online internet courts are doing wonders and thousands of litigants are being provided immediate, transparent and cost-effective justice without spending any money

Internet courts of China have legal and administrative protection in terms of carrying the cases, giving verdicts and enforcement of decisions and laws of the land empowering these courts to take all possible appropriate measures to protect the sanctity of the law which clearly upholds that Chinese are law-loving people and always respect different views.

The Beijing Internet Court deals in 11 different types of cases. It was established in September 2018. Till now more than 400,000 cases have been received and more than 85 percent have now been resolved which has the highest percentage of judicial efficiency in the world. There are specialized judges work-

ing 24/7 to resolve disputes between two parties. On average every judge has 1000 cases which are indeed commendable. It usually takes 86 days to reach its conclusion. With special reference to maintaining complete elements of impartiality and accuracy, all the decisions are being judged through different innovative means, making the Internet Court an apex status in the judicial system of China.

An official of Beijing Internet Court told Gwadar Pro that impartiality and justice are core characteristics of the online litigation process.

"Beijing Internet Court is for protection of human rights under its zero-distance policy. We provide live streaming of court hearings which is a revolutionary online justice system. This is a blockchain evidence platform which is using 5G and big data technology. The parties have the right to appeal in financial court or intermediary court and 99.99 percent cases are heard online while 0.01 percent cases are offline hearings of cases," the official said.

"The average time of the whole process is 86 days while most of the cases are of civil nature. But if the matter gets criminal in nature, it is referred to other courts and once decided, the civil case hearing may resume again in the internet court," the official asserted. The official said that most people turn to the internet court on weekends and the court follows the principle of establishing rules through judges.

"Interestingly, even foreign companies also have the right to approach the Chinese Internet Court to seek justice. Amazon, Apple and many other multinational companies have filed online petitions in this regard which clearly shows their utmost confidence in the judicial system of China," the official added.

Moreover, he added, it has revolutionized the concept of Legal Artificial Intelligence management system in the country which is providing the cheapest source of justice in the country by removing all barriers of physical, physiological, philosophical and geographical barriers of the plaintiff which is indeed commendable.

"Beijing, Hangzhou and Hangzhou courts have regional cases to deal with. All three courts are revolutionary in nature. During the pandemic, all courts provided online services. During the pandemic, the ratio of online cases rose to 44 percent which



brought about a revolution in China's litigation history," the official said. With the formation and activation of the internet courts mechanism, the entire process from filing to adjudication is one line which brings great convenience to both the defendant and plaintiff.

"Now the latest technologies of Artificial Intelligence and blockchains are being applied in these internet courts in China which has definitely increased the overall efficiency of the Chinese Judiciary," the official added.

"The Beijing Internet Court is totally open, transparent and accountable and all its hearings can be watched and heard live streaming. It has already further enhanced judicial process efficiency and safeguarded the basic rights of common people alike," he said. Asked if and how the world could benefit from the Chinese model of internet courts, the official said that the online judicial services may be expanded worldwide to help provide justice to complainants at their doorstep.

"This advanced service can help the developing countries meet the challenges of the new era," the official added. ■

National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA) has launched its locally developed automated fingerprint identification system (AFIS) with a remarkable 99.5 percent accuracy rate. The system called "Nadir" (the Urdu word for unique) has been developed by the software engineers of the National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA).

"Based on Fingerprint Verification Competition (FVC), an internationally acclaimed benchmarking conducted in Italy, NADIR has achieved an impressive accuracy rate exceeding 99.5 percent," NADRA Chairman Tariq Malik said in a statement.

The automated system is set to transform how biometric identification is used in various civil applications, from immigration to border control to e-governance and social services. With its advanced technology, NADRA can now accurately and quickly store fingerprints and identify individuals for a wide range of purposes as a public good. The launch of the system has solidified NADRA's position as a global leader in advanced identity management solutions, the statement said.

With this development, "Pakistan has now joined the few countries that have developed their indigenous AFIS technology" and is now set to offer its product in the international market to help countries improve identification processes.

According to officials of the Authority, the global market for biometric identification technology is mostly dominated by providers from developed countries like the US, the UK, Russia, Japan, France, Germany, and others.

In March, NADRA launched a new data protection service, called 'IjazatAap Ki', which ensures the protection and privacy of citizens' data. Pakistan's first data protection service gives people more control over their data and restricts unauthorised access to service providers, including banks, by sending a 6-digit passcode to the phones of citizens when there is a request for a transaction or personal information.

With Nadir's development, Pakistan has joined the club of those nations which has developed its indigenous AFIS technology and is now set to offer its product in the international market to help countries to improve civil identification, border control, and e-governance.

In another significant development, the National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA) had taken a positive step towards increased inclusivity by launching a dedicated helpline for Persons with Disabilities (PWDs).

One of the most significant features of this helpline is the priority call handling system. This system will prioritize calls from PWDs, ensuring that they receive prompt and efficient assistance. This is an essential aspect of the service, as PWDs often face a host of challenges in their daily lives and require immediate assistance in critical situations.



Chairman NADRA Tariq Malik while launching the helpline underscored that equality is public recognition and every institution must effectively express that an equal degree of attention is due to everyone in society. He further said every citizen has the right to access essential services and PWDs require special attention and support from state institutions. They should not be seen as different, and their unique abilities and contributions add vibrancy to our society.

Tariq Malik said that this initiative is a reflection of NADRA's commitment to creating a more inclu-

NADRA develops landmark fingerprint identification system



According to officials of the Authority, the global market for biometric identification technology is mostly dominated by providers from developed countries like the US, the UK, Russia, Japan, France, Germany, and others

sive and accessible society. This step, in a series of affirmative actions, will enable a more equitable and just society for all.

Chairman NADRA Tariq Malik said consent management is a digital mechanism in line with his vision to protect citizens' privacy and strengthen data security.

The system called "Nadir" (the Urdu word for unique) has been developed by the software engineers of the National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA)

The newly launched dedicated helpline includes an appointment facility through NADRA's Computerized Call Management System (NCCMS), allowing PWDs to schedule appointments for ID cards and document processing.

National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA)'s 'IjazatAap Ki' service has made citizens in charge of their personal data. This service will enable citizens to give their consent before verification of the CNIC, ensuring that their sensitive data is protected at all times.

The pin number will be presented for authentication and will be deemed as the citizen's consent to get his/her ID number verification from NADRA.

Moreover, the helpline will also provide an Interactive Voice Recording (IVR) message in both Urdu and English languages. This feature will help ensure that the service is accessible to a wide range of individuals, regardless of their language preferences or

abilities. The IVR system will guide callers through a series of options, allowing them to select the service they require, simplifying the entire process and making it more user-friendly.

It is pertinent to mention that NADRA has taken various initiatives for PWDs including free-of-cost issuance of CNIC for the first time and with a "lifetime" expiry. NADRA issues CNICs to PWDs in the executive category, printing a disability logo on cards and Child Registration Certificates (CRCs). NADRA has issued free-of-cost CNICs to more than 555,000 PWDs, including 395,000 physically challenged, 37,000 hearing impaired, 24,000



visually impaired and more than 100,000 mentally challenged persons. The PWDs are also given preferential treatment and dedicated counters have been established for them at NADRA centres across Pakistan.

Besides, wheelchairs and ramps have been provided at NRCs for them, while the facility of processing their requests at their doorsteps through man-packs and mobile registration vans (MRVs) is also available. ■

Meta reports hackers' assault on Pakistan, Indian military websites



It is important for individuals, organizations, and the government to be wary of the risks and take steps to mitigate them by means such as increasing media literacy and investing in technology to detect and combat disinformation campaigns

It is a routine matter that India always blames Pakistan for hacking. It also involves Meta releasing the report about uncovering hacking groups in Pakistan that target military men.

Not the first time Indian hackers attacked many official websites. Indian hackers gained unauthorised access to the Pakistani system installed in the ministry and were able to extract a significant amount of data recently.

To save its skin, India blamed Pakistani hackers for attacking its sensitive data. About 120 accounts on Facebook and Instagram were linked to a hacking group in Pakistan that predominantly targeted people in India and Pakistan, including military personnel in India and the Pakistan Air Force.

A Meta report has revealed that an online hacking group in Pakistan has targeted people, including military personnel, in India and Pakistan through fake social media accounts, during the first quarter of the current year.

According to the details, Meta, the parent company of Facebook, recently released its "Adversarial Threat Report, First Quarter 2023" where it gave a detailed account of the action taken against the hacking groups.

In the report, it was revealed that three separate cyber espionage operations in South Asia were linked to a group of hackers. The report highlighted fake apps and websites delivering malware at Face-

book and Instagram social media platforms, involved in espionage as well as committing financial crimes across the world.

"We took action against about 120 accounts on Facebook and Instagram linked to a hacking group in Pakistan that predominantly targeted people in India and Pakistan, including military personnel in India and among the Pakistan Air Force," the Meta report said about the non-state actors in Pakistan. On the other hand, Bahamut APT targeted people in Pakistan, and India, including the Kashmir region, including military personnel, government employees, activists, and others. The action was taken against 110 accounts on Facebook and Instagram linked to Bahamut.

The Meta investigation revealed Bahamut APT as a persistent threat actor that ran campaigns across the internet, including link-shortening services, compromised or attacker-controlled websites, official and spoofed app stores, and third-party hosting providers.

Meanwhile, Patchwork APT targeted people in Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, the Tibet region, and China, including military personnel, activists, and minority groups. Meta took action against 50 accounts on Facebook and Instagram linked to it.

Weaponising social media can have serious consequences, both in terms of individual well-being

and the health of democratic societies. It can lead to the spread of misinformation, the polarization of public opinion, and the erosion of trust in institutions and democratic processes.

It is important for individuals, organizations, and governments to be aware of the risks and take steps to mitigate them, by means such as increasing media literacy and investing in technology to detect and combat disinformation campaigns.

Pakistan has experienced a number of security threats related to the weaponization of social media. State and non-state actors have used social media to spread misinformation and propaganda, to incite violence, and to target individuals and groups who oppose their ideologies or interests.

On the other hand, the Russian 'Sandworm' hacking group has been linked to an attack on Ukrainian state networks where WinRAR was used to destroy data on government devices.

In a new advisory, the Ukrainian Government Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-UA) says the Russian hackers used compromised VPN accounts that weren't protected with multi-factor authentication to access critical systems in Ukrainian state networks. Once they gained access to the network, they employed scripts that wiped files on Windows and Linux machines using the WinRAR archiving program.

A Meta report has revealed that an online hacking group in Pakistan has targeted people, including military personnel, in India and Pakistan through fake social media accounts, during the first quarter of the current year

On Windows, the BAT script used by Sandworm is 'RoarBat,' which searches disks and specific directories for file types such as doc, docx, rtf, txt, xls,xlsx, ppt, pptx, vsd, vsdx, pdf, png, jpeg, jpg, zip, rar, 7z, mp4, sql, php, vbk, vib, vrb, p7s, sys, dll, exe, bin, and dat, and archives them using the WinRAR program.

However, when WinRAR is executed, the threat actors use the "-df" command-line option, which automatically deletes files as they are archived. The archives themselves were then deleted, effectively deleting the data on the device. CERT-UA says RoarBAT is run through a scheduled task created and centrally distributed to devices on the Windows domain using group policies.

On Linux systems, the threat actors used a Bash script instead, which employed the "dd" utility to overwrite target file types with zero bytes, erasing their contents. Due to this data replacement, recovery for files "emptied" using the dd tool is unlikely, if not entirely impossible.

As both the 'dd' command and WinRAR are legitimate programs, the threat actors likely used them to bypass detection by security software.

CERT-UA says the incident is similar to another destructive attack that hit the Ukrainian state news agency "Ukrinform" in January 2023, also attributed to Sandworm. "The method of implementation of the malicious plan, the IP addresses of the access subjects, as well as the fact of using a modified version of RoarBat testify to the similarity with the cyberattack on Ukrinform, information about which was published in the Telegram channel "CyberArmyofRussia_Reborn" on January 17, 2023," reads the CERT-UA advisory.

CERT-UA recommends that all critical organizations in the country reduce their attack surface, patch flaws, disable unneeded services, limit access to management interfaces, and monitor their network traffic and logs.

As always, VPN accounts that allow access to corporate networks should be protected with multi-factor authentication. ■

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Our exclusive Junior Suites offer travelers a unique and relaxing experience with a living room to enjoy the breathtaking views of the Kashmir Mountains. The elegantly furnished bedroom has a king size bed, an ensuite and a walk-in closet. Weary travelers and their families will appreciate relaxing in the spacious living area. The bathrooms are modern and spacious, with temperature controlled showers to help you unwind and a marble vanity completes the luxury fittings throughout.

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Presidential Suite

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vivo returns to the Boao Forum for Asia as strategic partner and shares views on “High-Quality Development”

This year, vivo was once again selected as a strategic partner for the event as a key representative of China's technology innovation enterprises. The vivo X Fold2 was also chosen as the official mobile phone of the Forum, marking the deepening of cooperation between vivo and the BFA

From March 28 to 31, representatives from political, business, and academic circles from various countries attended the Boao Forum for Asia (BFA) Annual Conference 2023 in Boao, Hainan, to discuss global development and promote international solidarity and cooperation.



Boao Forum for Asia (BFA) Annual Conference 2023

This year, vivo was once again selected as a strategic partner for the event as a key representative of China's technology innovation enterprises. The vivo X Fold2 was also chosen as the official mobile phone of the Forum, marking the deepening of cooperation between vivo and the BFA. Hu Baishan, Executive Vice President & COO at vivo, shared vivo's journey and achievements in business operations and technological innovation at the sub-forum on “Strengthening Data Security” on March 31.



vivo X Fold Series and tablet PC vivo Pad2 shown in the BFA

Advocating for differentiated innovation in the mobile phone industry, vivo presents its “high-quality development” journey.

Hu Baishan, Executive Vice President & COO at vivo, shared his views on “high-quality development” during Boao. He said that high-quality development means upholding a long-term development strategy – this requires enterprises to focus on user needs, adopt differentiated product strategies and define new markets. Hu summed up vivo's logic of differentiation into three points: differentiate in the scenarios that users need it most; pay attention to building capabilities and continuously improve vivo's strengths in the long-term strategic tracks of design, imaging, system and performance; and establish world-leading

capabilities after differentiation, with core competencies as the economic moat of the company. After nearly three decades of hard work, vivo's technological innovation has officially entered a new phase.

Taking its differentiation strategy as the starting point, vivo focuses on its four long-term strategic tracks of design, imaging, system and performance. As a forward-looking company, vivo fully invests in the research and development of core technology in the smartphone industry and actively embraces the opportunity of technological change. In 2022, vivo continued to be the best-selling smartphone in China with a market share of 19.2%, according to Counterpoint Research. Its high-end market performance is also improving. The vivo X80 series, X90 series have all been recognized by high-end consumers. 2022 marked the year that vivo's confidence in the high-end market was fully gained which provides the confidence and impetus for high-quality development in the future.

During the forum, Hu met with Li Baodong, Secretary General of the BFA, and presented the official mobile phone of the event, the vivo X Fold2. Hu outlined his vision for a deepened strategic cooperation with the Forum and expressed vivo's eagerness to continue to support, serve, and stay engaged in the Forum, so as to showcase the innovation, leadership and influence of Chinese technology company on such a global platform.



Adhering to user-orientation, vivo demonstrates its data security achievements on the world stage.

In the era of comprehensive digital transformation, digital economy and data security have gained greater importance. Lu Jinghui, Chief Security Officer at vivo, was invited to share his insights on data security and technological innovation strengths, which are currently of most concern to the high-end consumers at the sub-forum on the theme of “Strengthening Data Security” on March 31. During the event, he introduced vivo's protection and governance of data security and its technical achievements in the development of digital economy, and showcase how vivo actively promotes the construction of data security ecology for the mobile phone industry.

With its adherence to long-term development

strategy, vivo has made significant breakthroughs in information security. Last year, vivo unveiled the Thousand Mirror trust engine as the first in the industry to leverage based Thousand Mirror security architecture. This engine is able to conduct a comprehensive analysis and computation on all levels and provides security tools for devel-



opers such as “Privacy and Compliance Testing Platform”, “Application Security Testing Platform”, and “Code Security Scanning Plug-in”. vivo also actively participates in the compilation of national, industrial, and group standards in information security.

During last year's BFA, vivo released the “White Paper on Data Protection Compliance Trends” jointly compiled by the China Academy of Information and Communications Technology, aiming to help the mobile phone industry fully understand global data compliance trends and improve the data security governance. This year, initiated by vivo, two international security standards “Security features to assess mobile terminal security” and “Security guidelines for mobile terminal integrity protection” were approved at the ITU-T SG17 conference held by the International Telecommunication Union. vivo's research and practice in the field of information security have been recognized by world authorities. As of now, the quantity of national, industrial and group standards in personal information protection and data security led and participated in by vivo has exceeded 140.

Constant investment in the long-term strategic tracks is essential to achieving high-end breakthroughs. Focusing on innovation in fundamental technologies, vivo actively builds its competitiveness and promotes its steady development of technology through “joint innovation” and “independent innovation”, providing strong support for its transformation, upgrading and high-end breakthroughs.

On this basis, vivo's latest flagship smartphone vivo X Fold2 and tablet PC vivo Pad2 will also be launched shortly after the BFA in the Chinese domestic market. While bringing surprises to users and the market, these products will also embody vivo's deep understanding of high-quality development in the new era and illuminate a bright future with technology. ■

Saudi Arabia is altering the process through which it provides citizenship to foreign nationals. The Prime Minister will have the power to confer citizenship to foreign nationals under new regulations, which are scheduled to become law after they are published in the Kingdom's Official Gazette. In addition to being published in the Um Al Qura gazette, the decision was publicized on the official Mecca Province Twitter account.

On the advice of the Kingdom's Ministry of Interior, Crown Prince Mohammad bin Salman bin Abdulaziz, the Prime Minister of the Kingdom, will have the authority to award citizenship to eligible people. Article Eight of the Kingdom's Nationality Law has been changed to reflect the change.

It has come about as the Kingdom has introduced significant modifications to who is qualified to become a citizen. King Salman bin Abdul Aziz issued a royal decree earlier this year that establishes who is eligible to apply for citizenship in the KSA.

The children of Saudi women who wed foreigners are now eligible to seek citizenship once they become 18 under the new regulations. The decree was added to article No. 8 of the nation's citizenship constitution.

Saudi citizenship requirements:

Saudi citizenship is granted on different grounds for different individuals.

In any case, at the time of submitting the application, the applicant:

- * must have reached the age of majority.
- * must have acquired the status of ordinary permanent resident in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in accordance with the provisions of its special system for a period of not less than 5 consecutive years (10 consecutive years in the case of expats and professionals, but more on that below).
- * should be able to prove his earnings through legitimate means.
- * should be of sound mind and good conduct.
- * must not have been sentenced to imprisonment for a moral crime for a period exceeding six months.

By birth:

Saudi citizenship is granted to children born to Saudi fathers, regardless of whether they are born inside or outside the Kingdom.

According to the latest amendment, children of Saudi mothers are also eligible for Saudi citizenship at the age of 18, provided that:

- * they have permanent residence status in the Kingdom when he comes of legal age
- * are fluent in the Arabic language
- * have good conduct and sound character
- * have no criminal convictions or imprisonment for a period exceeding six months for any indecent act.

By marriage:

Foreign wives

Foreign women who are married to Saudi women if the following conditions are satisfied:

- * evidence of a legal marital relationship.
- * announcing that she has abandoned her original nationality before a public notary.
- * the marriage must be in accordance with the instructions regulating the marriage of a Saudi to a foreigner.
- * submit a statement that the applicant does not have any previous criminal convictions or moral offence.
- * no notes or restrictions are registered with the relevant authorities.
- * the applicant must be residing in the Kingdom.
- * the marriage must last for at least five years and may suffice according to the following:
 - * if four years have passed since the marriage and she has not given birth, one or more of the following cases must be met:
 - * if one of her brothers or sisters holds Saudi citizenship.
 - * if she was born in the Kingdom to foreign parents.
 - * if the husband is one of her relatives.
 - * if the husband is a professional, such as a doctor or engineer.
 - * if the age difference between her and her husband does not exceed five years.

Saudi govt amends constitution to give citizenship to foreigners



It has come about as the Kingdom has introduced significant modifications to who is qualified to become a citizen. King Salman bin Abdul Aziz issued a royal decree earlier this year that establishes who is eligible to apply for citizenship in the KSA.

- * the period that has passed since marriage is sufficient if one of the following cases is met:
 - * if the applicant's father was a Saudi by naturalization and she did not obtain citizenship from him.
 - * if the applicant gives birth to more than one child.
 - * if the applicant gave birth to one son and the mother is a Saudi woman.
 - * if the applicant gives birth to one son and has more than one brother or sister who holds Saudi citizenship.
 - * if the applicant is born in the Kingdom to a Saudi mother and meets the conditions of Article 8 of the system.

The children of Saudi women, who wed foreigners, are now eligible to seek citizenship once they become 18 under the new regulations. The decree was added to article No. 8 of the nation's citizenship constitution

Foreign widows:

Saudi citizenship is granted to foreign widows of Saudi nationals if the following conditions are satisfied.

- * evidence that she is legally widowed by her Saudi husband.
- * the applicant must announce that she has abandoned her original nationality before a judge or a public notary.
- * the applicant must not remarry after her husband's death.

- * the applicant must reside in the Kingdom.
 - * the applicant must submit a statement that she has not been previously convicted of a criminal or moral offence.
 - * no notes or restrictions registered with the competent authorities.
 - * the applicant must have one or more children who have reached the age of maturity or are close to it, from her deceased Saudi husband or from a previous husband.
- For expats and professionals:**
- Expats and professionals living and working in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia need to satisfy the following conditions to become eligible for Saudi citizenship.

- * the profession of the applicant is proven through scientific qualifications and is based on the country's needs. The total points should not exceed 13 points, and only one qualification is accepted:
 - * Doctorate degree in medicine or engineering allotting thirteen points.
 - * Doctorate degree in other sciences allotting ten points.
 - * Master's degree allotting eight points.
 - * Bachelor's degree allotting five points.
- * family ties, ensuring that the applicant has Saudi relatives. The total points should not exceed ten points, distributed as follows:
 - * if the father is Saudi, he is allotted three points.
 - * if the mother and her father are Saudi, three points are allotted; however, if only the mother is Saudi and her father is not, two points are allotted.
 - * if the wife and her father are Saudi, three points are allotted; however, if the wife is Saudi and her father is not, one point is allotted.
 - * if the applicant has more than two Saudi children and brothers, two points are allotted; however, if there are no more than two, one point is allotted.



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Lower-income country debt payments in 2023 will hit the highest level since 1998, according to figures released by Debt Justice. External debt payments for 91 countries will average at least 16.3% of government revenue in 2023, rising to 16.7% in 2024, an increase of over 150% since 2011.

Higher debt payments are linked to falling public spending. The last time payments were so high, world leaders created a debt relief scheme for the most indebted lower-income countries, which led to 60%-80% of their debts being cancelled.

Heidi Chow, Executive Director of Debt Justice said: "Debt payments are reaching crisis levels in many countries, hindering the ability of governments to provide public services, fight the climate crisis and respond to economic turmoil. There's no time to waste, we urgently need fast and comprehensive debt relief schemes across all external creditors, including legislation in the UK and New York to make private lenders take part in debt cancellation."

Mae Buenaventura of the Debt Justice Program of the Asian People's Movement on Debt and Development (APMDD) said: "Debt payments drain Southern countries of much-needed development financing to protect its citizens from the ever-worsening economic and climate crises. Recent developments in Pakistan and Sri Lanka demonstrate how current international debt mechanisms are spectacularly failing to provide deep, wide, equitable and permanent debt reduction to prevent the deterioration of living conditions by people of the South. Without debt cancellation, Southern debts will continue to rise and along with it, the continued haemorrhage of development finance." The figures are for 91 countries classified as low or lower middle income by the World Bank, or as a Small Island Developing State by the UN, where data is available. Countries with scheduled external debt payments of over 30% of government revenue between 2022-2024 include Sri Lanka, Laos, Pakistan, Zambia and Dominica.

According to the World Bank, for the countries covered in the analysis, of their external debt payments in 2023 and 2024:

46% are to private lenders (not including Chinese private lenders)

30% are to multilateral institutions

12% are to Chinese public and private lenders

12% are to other governments

The figures on external debt payments as a percentage of government revenue are for 91 countries classified as low or lower middle income by the World Bank, or as a Small Island Developing State by the UN, where data is available. The figures are external government debt payments (which includes both principal and interest) as a percentage of government revenue. The average is a mean unweighted average – i.e. all countries are counted the same, so the figures are not unduly influenced by larger countries. The figures do not include domestic debt payments, which in some countries are a large proportion of overall payments.

The figures for external government debt payments have been calculated primarily from the World Bank's International Debt Statistics database. The figures for government revenue are calculated from the IMF's World Economic Outlook (October 2022 edition).

In a few cases, the figures come from IMF Debt Sustainability Assessments, for countries where data is not available in the World Bank or IMF databases (Afghanistan, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Pakistan, South Sudan, Tuvalu), or where we know external debt payments not included in the World Bank database are included in the IMF Debt Sustainability Assessments (Republic of Congo, Malawi and Sierra Leone).

The World Bank's International Debt Statistics database shows external debt payments on loans contracted by the end of 2021. It, therefore, does not include payments on loans made in 2022, 2023 or 2024. The figures for 2023 and 2024 in particular are therefore a lower estimate – they are likely to be higher in as much as any loans given from 2022 on lead to new payments in 2023 and 2024.

The median average follows the same pattern as

Development in low-income countries halted as debt payments reach 25-year highest



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the mean, with payments in 2024 at the highest level since 1998 and increasing by 230% between 2011 and 2024 (see graph below). This shows that the increase is due to a general trend across all countries covered, not caused by particular outliers. In a few cases such as Sri Lanka, Zambia and Ghana, governments are in default on some of their external debt.

The World Bank's International Debt Statistics database shows external debt payments on loans contracted by the end of 2021. It, therefore, does not include payments on loans made in 2022, 2023 or 2024

In these cases, the figures show the scale of scheduled payments, but some of these payments are not actually being made. On the other hand, despite the assurances from friendly countries about external funds to Pakistan, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) still shows a lack of confidence and asking Islamabad to 'do more' to unlock the loan programme.

According to the sources, Pakistan has been asked to present a repayment plan for a \$3.7 billion

loan to the IMF in June as well as needs to demonstrate stronger support from friendly nations in order to meet the commitment.

However, the IMF has reportedly not agreed to a proposal to exchange reserves equal to two months' revenues, which would be valued between \$11 billion to \$12 billion. Sources within the Ministry of Finance revealed that the government has imposed Rs. 170 billion in taxes through the mini-budget in a bid to secure a staff-level agreement with the IMF, which was originally scheduled for February 9.

It is pertinent to mention here that the IMF issued the schedule of board meetings in which Pakistan is not included in any agenda until May 17.

Funding will also not be available from international financial institutions as the staff-level agreement is not reached, moreover, the budget-making process can be affected if transactions with the IMF are not concluded. Last month, the staff-level agreement between Pakistan and the International Monetary Fund is again 'delayed' as the international lender put a new demand.

As per details, the meeting of Finance Secretary Hamid Yakoob in the US remained 'unfruitful' with the International Monetary Fund as the international lender has given the plan to arrange \$1 billion from commercial banks to unlock the loan program.

The staff-level agreement was supposed to be signed on February 9 but had been delayed after then over IMF's demands. ■

A special ceremony was held in Ankara where Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan bestowed the award to the team leader of the Pakistan Army.

The Turkish government has awarded special recognition to the Urban Search and Rescue Team of the Pakistan Army for their exceptional services during the earthquake crisis in Türkiye.

According to the details, a special ceremony was held in Ankara where Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan bestowed the award to the team leader of the Pakistan Army.

This recognition from the Turkish government highlights the expertise and commitment of the Pakistan Army's Urban Search and Rescue Team in providing humanitarian aid and assistance in times of crisis, not only within Pakistan but also at the international level.

On February 6, the magnitude 7.7 and 7.6 quakes struck 11 provinces — Adana, Adiyaman, Diyarbakir, Elazig, Hatay, Gaziantep, Kahramanmaraş, Kilis, Malatya, Osmaniye, and Sanliurfa. More than 13.5 million people in Turkey have been affected by the devastating quakes, as well as many others in northern Syria.

Pakistan has played a remarkable role in providing assistance to Türkiye as it carries out its rescue and relief operations. Pakistan sent a total of nine aircraft carrying tons of relief goods for the survivors of Türkiye and Syria after the devastating earthquakes in February last.

The Pakistan Army relief team was dispatched to Türkiye on February 7, comprising 33 members, who remained in the earthquake-affected areas till February 22.

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During their stay in Türkiye, the team conducted search and rescue operations at 91 sites, successfully rescuing eight individuals alive from the debris.

Furthermore, the team identified seven people and retrieved 138 bodies from the wreckage, which were then handed over to their heirs. The combined death toll surpassed 50,000, with the biggest part of the fatalities being caused in Türkiye.

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif also went to Turkey to express solidarity with the victims of the devastating earthquake and oversee the relief operation.

"I offer my condolences on behalf of the people

Türkiye honours Pak soldiers for rescue, relief services in quake-hit areas



This recognition from the Turkish government highlights the expertise and commitment of the Pakistan Army's Urban Search and Rescue Team in providing humanitarian aid and assistance in times of crisis, not only within Pakistan but also at the international level

of Pakistan and the government of Pakistan and we are here as your brothers, at your service," Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif said to the victims.

The news flashed international media that a Pakistani living in the US has donated \$30 million to the families of those who lost their lives and were injured in the two earthquakes in Türkiye and Syria.

"Deeply moved by the example of an anonymous Pakistani who walked into the Turkish embassy in the US & donated \$30 million for earthquake victims in Türkiye and Syria.

The Pakistan National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) sent relief consignments to Türkiye.

Separately, the Pakistan Air Force (PAF) said in a statement that its aircraft carrying 16.5 tons of humanitarian assistance donated by people for earthquake victims reached Adana, southern Türkiye.

A fundraising campaign was also launched in educational institutions across the country to collect funds for victims of the earthquakes. The drive was launched in schools, colleges, and universities in response to the prime minister's call.

Millions of Pakistanis are still in mourning over the loss of tens of thousands of lives in Türkiye's devastating earthquakes.

"I couldn't put my pain into words because everyone here is in shock and feeling pain for their Turkish brothers and sisters," Ahmed Shoaib, an Islamabad resident, told Anadolu.

"Our prayers and thoughts are with our brothers and sisters," he added.

Some organizations in Pakistan have also launched fundraising campaigns to help Türkiye during this difficult time.

One of the country's largest charitable organizations, the Alkhidmat Foundation Pakistan, has already dispatched volunteers to assist with ongoing

search and rescue operations.

"My father donated a good amount through the Alkhidmat Foundation, and many of my friends are doing the same," Naila Hayat, a doctor from Peshawar, told Anadolu over the phone.

Many prominent people visited the Turkish Embassy in Islamabad to express their condolences and show solidarity with the Turkish people and the government.

"The people of Pakistan are shocked by the sheer scale of devastation caused by enormous earthquakes in Türkiye and Syria. We extend our deepest condolences to the people and government of Turkey," said Asif Luqman Qazi, director of foreign affairs of the religiopolitical party Jamaat-e-Islami Pakistan, while delivering a condolence letter by party chief Sirajul Haq to Turkish Ambassador Mehmet Faraci.

"We will stand by our brothers and sisters in these difficult times in sha Allah," he added.

"Very Dear Turkish brothers, sisters, mothers and elders, we share your pain in this natural disaster. I, Asad Qureshi, on behalf of the nation of Pakistan, assure you that we are with you in every situation. Our heart beats in sync with yours,"

Anadolu received a video message from a young Pakistani artist named Asad Qureshi.

At least 21,800 people were killed and 80,000 others injured by two strong earthquakes that jolted southern Türkiye, the country's disaster agency said.

The magnitude 7.7 and 7.6 earthquakes, centered in the Kahramanmaraş province, affected more than 13 million people across 10 provinces, also including Adana, Adiyaman, Diyarbakir, Gaziantep, Hatay, Kilis, Malatya, Osmaniye, and Sanliurfa.



Several countries in the region, including Syria and Lebanon, also felt the strong tremors that struck Türkiye in the space of fewer than 10 hours.

More than 166,000 search and rescue personnel are currently working in the field, according to the Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency (AFAD).

Almost 92,700 people have been evacuated from quake-hit regions so far, AFAD said. ■

Two billion global population without safe water



Nearly one billion people in cities around the world are facing water scarcity today and the number is likely to reach between 1.7 billion and 2.4 billion in the next three decades, according to the UN World Water Development report, published by UN Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) which coincides with the UN-Water Summit being held in New York

The number of people lacking access to safe drinking water in cities around the world will double by 2050, found a recent new UN report amid warning of an imminent water crisis likely to "spiral out of control."

Nearly one billion people in cities around the world are facing water scarcity today and the number is likely to reach between 1.7 billion and 2.4 billion in the next three decades, according to the UN World Water Development Report, published by UN Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) which coincides with the UN-Water Summit being held New York.

Urban water demand is predicted to increase by 80% by 2050, the Paris-based UN agency said.

Water shortages are also becoming a more frequent occurrence in rural areas, the report found. Currently, between one billion and three billion people experience water shortage for at least a month a year

"There is an urgent need to establish strong international mechanisms to prevent the global water crisis from spiralling out of control," UNESCO Director-General Audrey Azoulay said. "Water is our common future, and it is essential to act together to share it equitably and manage it sustainably."

Globally, two billion people do not have safe drinking water and 3.6 billion lack access to safely managed sanitation, the report disclosed.

The global urban population facing water scarcity is projected to potentially double from 930 million in 2016 to between 1.7 and 2.4 billion people, in 2050.

The rising incidence of extreme and prolonged droughts is also stressing ecosystems, with dire consequences for both plant and animal species, the report warned.

Richard Connor, the report's editor-in-chief, told reporters at UN Headquarters in New York ahead of the launch that "uncertainties are increasing."

"If we don't address it, there definitely will be a global crisis," he said, pointing out the rising scarcity of water that reflects reduced availability and increased demand, from urban and industrial growth to agriculture, which alone consumes 70 percent of the world's supply.

Building partnerships and cooperation are key to realizing human rights to water and overcoming existing challenges, he said.

Explaining the landscape of such shortages, he said economic water scarcity is a big problem,

where governments fail to provide safe access, such as in the middle of Africa, where water flows. Meanwhile, physical scarcity is worst in desert areas, including northern India and the Middle East.

Answering queries from reporters about possible "water wars" in the face of a global crisis, Connor said the essential natural resource "tends to lead to peace and cooperation rather than to conflict."

Strengthening transboundary cooperation is the main tool to avoid conflict and escalating tensions, he said, noting that 153 countries share nearly 900 rivers, lakes and aquifer systems, and more than half have signed agreements.

Detailing experiences – both good and bad – of partners' efforts to collaborate, the report explains how accelerating progress on achieving related 2030 Agenda goals hinges on enhancing positive, meaningful cooperation among water, sanitation, and broader development communities.

Innovations during the COVID-19 pandemic saw partnerships among health and wastewater authorities, who were able to track the disease and provide critical real-time data, he said.

From city dwellers to smallholder farmers, partnerships have produced mutually beneficial results. By investing in agricultural communities upstream, farmers can benefit in ways that help the downstream cities they feed, he said.

States and stakeholders can cooperate in such areas as flood and pollution control, data sharing, and co-financing. From wastewater treatment systems to protecting wetlands, efforts contributing to reducing greenhouse gas emissions should "open the door to further collaboration and increase access to water funds", he said.

"However, the water community is not tapping into those resources," he said, expressing the hope that the report and the conference can trigger productive discussions and on-the-ground results.

Johannes Cullmann, the special scientific advisor to the president of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), said "it's a question of investing wisely."

"While water resources and how they are managed impact almost all aspects of sustainable development, including the 17 SDGs", he said adding, "current investments must be quadrupled to meet the annual estimated \$600 billion to \$1 trillion required to realize SDG 6, on water and sanitation."

"Cooperation is the heart of sustainable development, and water is an immensely powerful connector," he said. "We should not negotiate water; we should deliberate on it." Water, after all, is a human right, he said.

Indeed, water should be "managed as a common good, not a commodity", a group of 18 UN experts and special rapporteurs said in a joint statement.

"Considering water as a commodity or a business opportunity will leave behind those that cannot access or afford the market prices," they declared, adding that progress on SDG 6 (safe water and sanitation for all by 2030) can only happen effectively if communities and their human rights are at the centre of discussions.

"It is time to stop a technocratic approach to water and consider the ideas, knowledge and solutions of indigenous peoples and local communities who understand local aquatic ecosystems to ensure the sustainability of the water agenda," they said.

The commodification of water will "derail the achievement of the SDGs and hamper efforts to solve the global water crisis", the experts added. ■

Water shortages are also becoming a frequent occurrence in rural areas, the report found. Currently, between two billion and three billion people experience water shortage for at least a month a year

Thar Coal Power project will help Pakistan generate energy at a much lower cost, and this would be a game-changer for the overall development of the country, said Shamsuddin Shaikh, former CEO of Sindh Engro Coal Mining Company.

"In the current global economic recession, Pakistan faces the challenge of a massive hike in the fuel price in the international market. With the help of China, Pakistan installed imported coal-based power plants as part of its CPEC investment at the beginning of the project, but now it is installing local coal-based power plants," he said.

"The Thar region of Pakistan has around 175 billion tons of coal reserves, equivalent to 50 billion tons of oil and 2,000 trillion cubic feet of natural gas," he said.

"Pakistan recently successfully launched a third power plant with a capacity of 330MW based on the indigenous Thar coal. Tharparkar district in Sindh now has three plants operating on the local coal. As a result, the total installed capacity of Thar coal has increased to 990 megawatts in three years," added Shamsuddin Shaikh.

He said Pakistan currently generates 5,280MW of electricity from coal, with the Thar coal contributing 1,320MW and imported coal 3,960MW to the overall power generation.

"In the past, Pakistan imported coal from South Africa and Indonesia. The major question is why Pakistan is using imported coal for generating electricity instead of readily available local coal. The major problem with local coal is that Pakistan's coal power plants are designed according to imported coal. As a result, Pakistan is unable to switch to the local coal for the entire plant," said the ex-CEO of the Sindh Engro Coal Mining Company.

"In order to alter the design, a large investment is required. The second reason is that coal is being phased out of the world's energy mix because of its adverse environmental effects, so Pakistan faces financing challenges as well."

"While this project can bring economic benefits and help meet Pakistan's growing energy demands, it is essential to ensure that it develops sustainably and is in line with international environmental and social standards. Proper planning and implementation can maximise the project's benefits and minimize the negative impacts on the environment and communities."

Dr. MirzalkhtiyarBaig, an economist said, "Thar coal mine has a capacity of 175 billion tons, which is more than the oil resources of Saudi Arabia and Iran combined. This power project has the potential to produce electricity for the next 300 years at much cheaper rates."

He said, "Increasing petroleum prices in the international market are making energy production more expensive. We can develop much cheaper electricity and save up to six dollars on each unit, spent in terms of import. After the Russia-Ukraine war, the gas pipeline to Germany was cut off. So they started to develop electricity from coal reserves. Seventy-two percent of Germany's electricity is produced from coal. Pakistan's carbon emissions are not even 1% as compared to the world's leading countries, so our contribution to global pollution is close to none. The new technologies are very much efficient and have less carbon footprint."

Former MD Pepco Engineer Tahir Basharat Cheema said we will have to accept the reality that indigenous sources for producing power cost much cheaper compared to imported ones. "The solution to ending load shedding and producing cheaper electricity lies in the Thar Coal Power Project."

Thar's potential was appreciated in the 1980s, but it's over 40 years and we have not been able to utilize it till now. The incumbent government's steadfast commitment to the revival of the economy and various power projects is much appreciated. The environmental impacts of such projects are visible in no time. The West is already talking and working on clean renewable energy resource-

Thar coal holds energy potential more than SA, Iran



Pakistan's carbon emissions are not even 1% as compared to the world's leading countries, so our contribution to global pollution is close to none. The new technologies are very much efficient and have less carbon footprint

es. Therefore, we also have to develop clean coal technologies to utilize this resource to produce cheaper electricity. In order to use clean coal energy, the government has to utilize its various resources simultaneously for better growth and productivity."

Meanwhile, the mining process of Phase III of the Thar Coal Mine Block II is in jeopardy as critical equipment and parts are stalled at the ports due to Letter of Credit (LCs) issues.

Industry sources said that the operations of the mine II can also completely halt due to further LCs delays.

Thar region has around 175 billion tons of coal reserves, equivalent to 50 billion tons of oil and 2,000 trillion cubic feet of natural gas

Moreover, the delay in the release of spare parts and machinery will also adversely impact the Phase III and Phase IV coal mine expansion, which can provide cheap coal for use in key sectors of the economy including power, cement, and steel.

Sources said that the Fuel Cost Adjustment (FCA) for the month of March awaits approval by the Nepra which will announce the rate after the public hearing.

With the advent of summer, consumers across

the country expect long hours of load shedding and power woes. The reduction in the rate is crucial because the inflationary pressure is already falling very hard on the common man.

With the upcoming summer season, electricity demand from consumers is expected to increase, making it crucial to have reliable and cost-effective sources of power generation.

The cost per unit of energy generated from Thar Coal remains around Rs 7 to 9 per kWh during FY 2021-2022, making it one of the cheapest baseload fuels available locally. Comparatively, power generation from plants using imported fuel coal costs around Rs35 per kWh. Thus, Thar Coal is critical in providing affordable electricity to the country.

The production output of the mine in Block II has increased from 3.8 MTPA to 7.6 MTPA allowing for an additional 660 MW of power generation to the national grid, helping to counter the current energy crisis.

Sources said that the phase III expansion of Thar Block II will further reduce coal prices significantly and boost its affordability as a fuel source. Furthermore, the expansion has the potential to save the country's forex reserves of approximately \$1.2 billion annually.

With approximately 15 percent of the electricity generated in Pakistan is via Thar Coal Block I and II combined and millions of dollars are saved in forex reserves every month by reducing oil imports.

This game-changer project is essential for making Pakistan's energy secure in the long run. ■



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Stress is a natural reaction to the inability to cope with specific demands and events, but a persistent phase of stress can affect a person's health and well-being. In order to manage stress, exercise, setting priorities, and speaking with others, which may include counselling, are the main tips. These demands can come from work, relationships, financial pressures, and other situations, but anything that poses a real or perceived challenge or threat to a person's well-being can cause stress.

Stress can be a motivator, and can even be essential to survival. The fight-or-flight mechanism of the body tells a person when and how to respond to danger. However, when the body becomes triggered too easily, or there are too many stressors at one time, it can undermine the mental and physical health of a person and hence becomes harmful.

Stress is the natural defence of the body against predators and danger. It generates hormones in the body that prepare physical systems to evade or confront danger. People commonly refer to this as the fight-or-flight mechanism.

When humans face a challenge or threat, they have a partial physical response. The body activates resources that help people either stay and confront the challenge or get to safety as fast as possible.

The body produces larger quantities of the chemicals cortisol, epinephrine, and norepinephrine. These trigger the following physical reactions:

- * increased blood pressure
- * heightened muscle preparedness
- * sweating
- * alertness

These factors improve a person's ability to respond to a potentially hazardous or challenging situation. Norepinephrine and epinephrine also cause a faster heart rate.

Environmental factors that trigger this reaction are called stressors. Examples include noises, aggressive behaviour, speeding cars, scary scenes in movies, or even going out on a first date. Feelings of stress tend to increase in tandem with the number of stressors.

According to the American Psychological Association (APA)'s annual stress survey in 2018, average stress levels in the United States were 4.9 on a scale from 1 to 10. The survey found that the most common stressors were employment and money.

Physical effects

Stress slows down some normal bodily functions, such as those that the digestive and immune systems perform. The body can then concentrate its resources on breathing, blood flow, alertness, and the preparation of the muscles for sudden use.

Stress is the natural defence of the body against predators and danger. It generates hormones in the body that prepare physical systems to evade or confront danger. People commonly refer to this as the fight-or-flight mechanism

The body changes in the following ways during a stress reaction:

- * blood pressure and pulse rise
- * breathing speeds up
- * digestive system slows down
- * immune activity decreases
- * muscles become tenser
- * sleepiness decreases due to a heightened state of alertness

How a person reacts to a difficult situation will determine the effects of stress on overall health. Some people can experience several stressors in a row or at once without this leading to a severe stress reaction. Others may have a stronger response to a single stressor.

An individual who feels as though they do not have enough resources to cope will probably have a stronger reaction that could trigger health problems.

Stress is more dangerous than you think



Stress can be a motivator and can even be essential to survival. The fight-or-flight mechanism in the body tells a person when and how to respond to danger. However, when the body becomes triggered too easily, or there are too many stressors at one time, it can undermine the mental and physical health of a person hence it becomes harmful

Stressors affect individuals in different ways.

Some experiences that people generally consider to be positive can lead to stress, such as having a baby, going on vacation, moving to a better home, and getting a promotion at work.

The reason for this is that they typically involve a significant change, extra effort, new responsibilities, and a need for adaptation. They also often require a person to take steps into the unknown.

A person may look forward to an increased salary following a promotion, for example, but wonder whether they can handle the extra responsibilities.

A persistently negative response to challenges can have an adverse effect on health and happiness.

However, being more alert to the effects of stress may help a person manage it more effectively and cope better.

Types

The National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) Trusted Source recognise two types of stress: acute and chronic. These require different levels of management.

The NIMH also identify three examples of types of stressor:

- * routine stress, such as childcare, homework, or financial responsibilities
- * sudden, disruptive changes, such as a family bereavement or finding out about a job loss
- * traumatic stress, which can occur due to extreme trauma as a result of a severe accident, an assault, an environmental disaster, or a war

Acute stress

This type of stress is short-term and usually the more common form of stress. Acute stress often develops when people consider the pressures of events that have recently occurred or face upcoming challenges in the near future.

For example, a person may feel stressed about a recent argument or an upcoming deadline. However, the stress will reduce or disappear once a person resolves the argument or meets the deadline.

Acute stressors are often new and tend to have a

clear and immediate solution. Even with the more difficult challenges that people face, there are possible ways to get out of the situation.

Acute stress does not cause the same amount of damage as long-term, chronic stress. Short-term effects include tension headaches and an upset stomach, as well as a moderate amount of distress.

However, repeated instances of acute stress over an extended period can become chronic and harmful.

Chronic stress

This type of stress develops over a long period and is more harmful.

Ongoing poverty, a dysfunctional family, or an unhappy marriage are examples of situations that can cause chronic stress. It occurs when a person does not see a way to avoid their stressors and stops seeking solutions. A traumatic experience early in life may also contribute to chronic stress.

Chronic stress makes it difficult for the body to return to a normal level of stress hormone activity, which can contribute to problems in the following systems trusted Source:

- * cardiovascular
- * respiratory
- * sleep
- * immune
- * reproductive

A constant state of stress can also increase a person's risk of type 2 diabetes, high blood pressure, and heart disease. Depression, anxiety, and other mental health disorders, such as post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), can develop when stress becomes chronic.

Chronic stress can continue unnoticed, as people become used to feeling agitated and hopeless. It can become part of an individual's personality, making them constantly prone to the effects of stress regardless of the scenarios that they encounter.

People with chronic stress are at risk of having a final breakdown that can lead to suicide, violent actions, a heart attack, or stroke. ■

Zoom revenue and usage increased worldwide



Many advised Yuan against entering an already crowded space, in which he would be competing with Microsoft (Skype) and Google as well as his former employer. He was confident, however, that he could develop a product more enjoyable to use than the incumbents

Zoom is a video conferencing app, geared towards business usage. It was founded in 2011 by Eric Yuan, and launched in January 2013.

While gathering considerable popularity and coming to run profitably in the following years, Zoom truly entered the public consciousness during the coronavirus pandemic of 2020. It was to Zoom that users across the world turned to stay in touch during the lockdown to stop the spread of the virus.

Prior to founding Zoom, Yuan had helped build WebEx, in the decade prior to its acquisition by Cisco in 2007. Yuan, originally from China, famously emigrated to the US after repeatedly failing to get a visa (ninth time lucky!)

Many advised Yuan against entering an already crowded space, in which he would be competing with Microsoft (Skype) and Google as well as his former employer. He was confident, however, that he could develop a product more enjoyable to use than the incumbents.

Yuan's confidence paid off, with a million Zoom users logged within a few months (May 2013), 10 million Zoom users a year later (June 2014), and 40 million around two years post-launch (February 2015).

It was in 2020, as we mentioned above, however, that Zoom really took off. With people confined to their homes, apps that allowed us to stay in touch became central to our day-to-day lives. People in their droves chose Zoom over other options. Ease of access and careful work to keep latency below 150 milliseconds (the maximum before conversations start to feel unnatural) have been cited as potential reasons for the app's success.

Yuan stated in a blog post that over the course of May 2020, Zoom was seeing 200 million daily meeting participants. The following month, this figure had risen to 300 million. This compares to 10 million in December 2019. Zoom still remains a very popular service, but as most of the world has returned to some form of office work, it has lost a bit of its shine.

To fix that, Zoom is aiming to expand the num-

ber of services it can offer to businesses. It acquired Solvvy in May 2022, which sells conversational AI

and automation packages to customer support centres.

Zoom had 400,000 people sign up within the first month. By the end of its first year of operations, Zoom had amassed 200 million meeting minutes.

Today, the software registers over 3.3 trillion annual meeting minutes. And the market cap of the publicly-traded company exceeds \$75 billion.

Total revenue for the fiscal year was \$4,393.0 million, up 7% year over year. After adjusting for foreign currency impact, revenue in constant currency was \$4,462.0 million, up 9% year over year. Enterprise revenue was \$2,409.3 million, up 24% year over year, and Online revenue was \$1,983.6 million, down 8% year over year. Zoom joined a small list of apps, which includes TikTok and Pokemon Go, that have

Zoom still remains a very popular service, but as most of the world has returned to some form of office work, it has lost a bit of its shine

been downloaded over 300 million times in a single quarter. Meanwhile, Zoom announced that it has received the Unified License with Access (AII/PAN India), National Long Distance (NLD), and International Long Distance (ILD) from the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), Government of India. With these licenses, the company will be able to offer Zoom Phone, its industry-leading cloud PBX service, to multinational corporations (MNCs) and businesses operating in India.

Zoom Phone is a global cloud PBX application service that enables MNCs and businesses in India to have a single communication platform for their global workforce. Zoom partners with international telecommunication providers and offers phone numbers and calling plans in 47 countries and territories bundled with cloud PBX service, making it simple for customers to deploy and manage their phone services.

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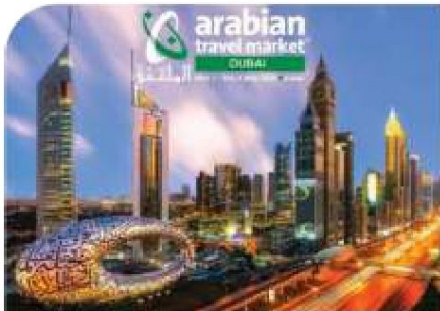
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UAE interested in earliest start of ferry service to Karachi



According to Pakistan's ambassador to the UAE, the offer to launch the ferry has been made by UAE government officials who met Pakistani counterparts at the Arabian Travel Market (ATM) 2023 moot, a tourism event organized annually in Dubai to provide a platform for inbound and outbound tourism professionals in the Middle East

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has shown interest in launching a ferry service from Emirates to Karachi to tap into the tourism potential of the South Asian country, Pakistan's ambassador to the UAE Faisal Niaz Tirmizi said expressing the hope the service would "start soon."

According to Pakistan's ambassador to the UAE, the offer to launch the ferry has been made by the UAE government officials who met Pakistani counterparts at the Arabian Travel Market (ATM) 2023 moot, a tourism event organized annually in Dubai to provide a platform for inbound and outbound tourism professionals in the Middle East.

A 25-member delegation led by the prime minister's special advisor on tourism, Awn Chaudhry participated in ATM 2023 held from May 1-4.

"UAE government officials have shown interest to start ferry service from Emirates to Karachi and we have asked them to share the details so that we could start work at our end," Tirmizi said.

"After receiving the details of the ferry service plan, then we will start work on it."

Over 2,000 exhibitors, including Emirates, Expedia Group, Hilton and Burj Al Arab, from more than 100 countries are at this year's ATM, with over 100 first-time exhibitors. Around 12 companies from Pakistan participated therein.

"UAE officials, including ministers, have said that a lot of tourists are going to Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan and other countries and suggested that Pakistan should also promote its aviation and tourism sector," Tirmizi said about discussions

with UAE authorities at ATM.

"Some participants and tour operators have also suggested starting direct flights for Skardu, and making an international airport [there] because many tourists want to go there directly," the ambassador said, referring to a major tourism, trekking and expedition hub in Pakistan's northern Gilgit-Baltistan region.

Earlier, His Highness Sheikh Ahmed bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Second Deputy Ruler of Dubai and Chairman of the Dubai Media Council, officially inaugurated Arabian Travel Market (ATM) 2023, signalling the commencement of the 30th edition of the Middle East's biggest travel and tourism exhibition. Sheikh Ahmed bin Mohammed affirmed that Dubai, under the visionary leadership of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, has been transformed into a major investment hub and a launching pad for regional and global companies, enabling them to establish and promote various economic activities.

Emirates has successfully wrapped up its participation at the 30th edition of Arabian Travel Market (ATM), welcoming over 16,000 visitors to

its stand, hosting over 300 meetings to strengthen business relationships, and forging collaborative partnerships with tourism organisations from across its network.

The huge turnout of visitors, who experienced the airline's products across every class, is yet another demonstration of its highly sought-after experiences, as the industry continues to make a huge comeback. The airline once again featured its full suite of on-board experiences, including its highly popular, Premium Economy Class, Boeing 777-300ER Game-Changer First Class fully enclosed private suites, Boeing 777 Business Class seat, the newest generation A380 OnBoard lounge, along with other iconic products such as the First Class Shower Spa and the latest version of its A380 Economy Class seats.

The airline also showcased its many sustainability initiatives happening across the business. Its AI Gallery produced 800 personalised pieces of inspirational travel artwork.

Continuing its strong focus on close collaboration and meaningful partnerships with tourism entities and airlines to unlock growth and offer travellers more options, the airline inked agreements with eight tourism boards, including Indonesia's Ministry of Tourism and Creative Economy, the Moroccan National Tourism Office, Tourism Authority of Zimbabwe, Tourism Seychelles, Mauritius Tourism Promotion Authority (MTPA), the Sri Lanka Tourism Promotion Bureau, the Bahrain Tourism and Exhibition Authority and Zambia Tourism. All of the partnership agreements are focused on boosting tourist arrivals to each country and capitalising on developing incremental demand for air travel. Emirates also signed an MoU with Etihad Airways to provide travellers with additional itinerary options when visiting the UAE, with the aim of boosting tourism from key source markets by enabling visitors to experience more than one destination in a single itinerary. On the second day of ATM, Emirates' President, Sir Tim Clark, was a keynote guest at the event's conference speaker series, reserved for top industry voices. Sir Tim discussed the airline's long-term strategy and business growth, the future of its network and fleet, and its sustainability efforts, in addition to broader industry challenges.

Emirates was honoured to welcome UAE royal dignitaries and VIP guests to its stand at ATM, including His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, His Highness Sheikh Maktoum bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum and His Highness Sheikh Ahmed bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum and His Highness Sheikh Mansour bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum. On the third day of ATM, the airline also welcomed the Crown Prince of Ajman, Sheikh Ammar bin Humaid Al Nuaimi.

During ATM, the airline retained its crown as 'Best Airline Worldwide' for the 10th year in a row at the Business Traveller Middle East awards, in addition to picking up "Best Premium Economy Class", "Best First Class" and Emirates First Class Lounge was named "Best Airport Lounge in the Middle East".

The Arabian Travel Market 2023, now in its 30th year, is the region's largest annual travel and trade exhibition, welcoming more than 35,000 attendees from 150 countries.

Dubai's successful participation at ATM

2023 follows the strong performance by its tourism sector in Q1 2023 which saw the city welcome 4.67 million international overnight visitors from January to March, compared to 3.97 million tourists during the same period in 2022, a 17 percent YoY growth and achieving 98 percent of pre-pandemic levels in Q1 2023, making it the fastest recovering destination globally. ■

Over 2,000 exhibitors, including Emirates, Expedia Group, Hilton and Burj Al Arab, from more than 100 countries are at this year's ATM, with over 100 first-time exhibitors. Around 12 companies from Pakistan participated therein

Last year, the US dollar was the king of the world. The world's reserve currency had once again confirmed its status as the ultimate safe haven, crushing rivals gold, the Swiss franc, the Japanese yen and Bitcoin.

As the US Federal Reserve raised rates to fight inflation, overseas investors piled in seeking a higher rate of return, driving the dollar to a 20-year high.

Then as September drew to a close, sentiment shifted. Instead of fleeing trouble, investors started looking forward to the day when the Federal declared victory in the war on inflation and started cutting interest rates instead.

Falling US interest rates would turbocharge global stock markets as investors embraced risk again while fleeing bonds. Anticipating this moment, the US Dollar Index — a measure of the value of the greenback against a weighted basket of major currencies — duly crashed, falling 10 percent from last autumn's highs.

It staged a brief rally during the banking crisis when investors ran scared of another banking meltdown but have been sliding again in recent days.

"A weaker dollar would be welcomed by many after last year's dominance, including in the US", says Victoria Scholar, head of investment at Interactive Investor.

"It could boost the US stock market by making the country's exports cheaper to foreign buyers. Apple, Amazon, Tesla, Nike and others have all pointed to the greenback's appreciation as a significant headwind for profitability."

A dollar sell-off could also boost demand for oil, gold and other commodities, which are priced in dollars and will be cheaper to buyers in other currencies if the greenback fades.

"This will boost the economies of emerging markets countries such as Brazil and Mexico, which are heavily reliant on these exports," Ms Scholar says. The strong dollar has been tough on emerging markets by driving up the cost of servicing their dollar-denominated debts.

These could now become more manageable, if the dollar continues to weaken, giving them a further boost. "Emerging market inflation rates may also fall as their own currencies strengthen against the dollar," Ms Scholar says.

Currency values swing all the time, but the dollar now faces a major long-term challenge to its reserve currency status.

Not everybody likes playing by US rules. Russia and China would like to call a halt to dollar hegemony, and they're not the only ones. In 2019, Malaysia's then Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad floated the idea of a common trading currency for East Asia that would be pegged to gold.

At the start of the millennium, almost three-quarters of global currency reserves were held in dollars. Today, that's fallen to 59 per cent, according to the International Monetary Fund, and the slide looks set to continue.

The dollar's reserve currency status hands the US political power as well as economic strength, and it hasn't been afraid to use it.

To punish Russia for invading Ukraine, western governments froze \$300 billion of Russia's foreign currency reserves last year, roughly half the total, and expelled Russian banks from the Swift international payments system.

So-called dollar "weaponisation" has rattled many countries and not just Russia, says Jason Hollands, managing director of investment platform Bestinvest.

"Countries willing to continue to trade with Russia, like India and China, have started doing so in rupees and yuan instead, triggering talk of the de-dollarisation of the international trading order."

"Brazil and China are now trading with each other in yuan, helping to establish the Chinese renminbi as an international currency and dollar challenger, especially in commodities," MrHol-

Yuan posing huge challenge to dollar dominance



Not everybody likes playing by US rules. Russia and China would like to call a halt to dollar hegemony, and they're not the only ones. In 2019, Malaysia's then Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad floated the idea of a common trading currency for East Asia that would be pegged to gold

lands adds. Dollar pricing makes life difficult for other countries because, when the greenback rises, essentials like oil get more expensive, leaving the big commodity importers at the mercy of exchange rate movements.

"Strengthening economic ties and trade relationships between China and Russia are enhancing the yuan's appeal because it offers them a more stable exchange rate," says Vijay Valecha, chief investment officer at Century Financial.

The so-called "petroyuan" would make big inroads into dollar dominance, MrValecha says.

"Even G10 nations are shifting away from the dollar and towards local currencies, as a safeguard against a soaring dollar and a US debt ceiling blow-up."

"Reports of the death of the dollar have been around for at least 50 years but it hasn't happened yet," says David Morrison, senior market analyst at Trade Nation.

"However, the dollar is in a weaker position with China, Russia, Saudi Arabia and Iran moving away from pricing and trading energy in US dollars."

The US dollar still dominates global trade, with almost 90 percent of forex trade involving the greenback.

It is hard to see the dollar losing its reserve status in the near to medium future, says Giles

Coghlan, chief market analyst consulting for HYCM.

"Yet, with some economists predicting that China's GDP will outpace the US by 2030, the next decade will be crucial."

"If the dollar did lose its reserve status to the yuan one day, the subsequent drop in demand would hit the greenback hard and boost rival currencies such as the euro," MrCoghlan says.

"In the US, borrowing costs would surge as demand for government bonds crumbles, while its substantial debt pile would also grow at pace."

Politically, the impact would be even greater. "China would become the dominant global force," he says.

Dollar strength has been built on US economic wealth, political stability, military might, rule of law, property rights and sophisticated financial systems, none of which are going to vanish overnight.

The yuan makes up just 7 percent of global foreign exchange transactions, a small but fast-growing share, MrCoghlan says.

"The global economy is hard-wired to the US dollar, but as China's influence and power grows that could change as more countries start using the yuan."

"King Dollar" is a long way from losing its crown yet, after a century, it is finally facing a serious challenge to its power. ■

The dollar is in a weaker position with China, Russia, Saudi Arabia and Iran moving away from pricing and trading energy in US dollars

The agreement was signed between the Ministries of Science and Technology Pakistan and the Federal Republic of Ethiopia. The Ethiopian delegation led by Minister of State DrFoziaAmeen arrived at the Ministry of Science and Technology Islamabad. During the visit, the importance was highlighted for establishing a framework for increased cooperation between the science and educational communities of the two countries in the areas of science, technology, engineering, and education for their mutual benefit and peaceful purposes. All activities under this agreement will be undertaken in collaboration with partners in Ethiopia and Pakistan. The diplomatic ties between both nations were established in 1958, since then Pakistan and Ethiopia have enjoyed a cordial relationship and made great progress on bilateral, regional, and international matters and issues.

Honorary Consul General of Ethiopia in Pakistan Ibrahim Khalid Tawab has said that the direct flights between Pakistan and Ethiopia will prove to be a catalyst for enhancing economic and trade relations between the two countries.

Ibrahim said that the inauguration of the Ethiopian Embassy in Islamabad and the start of direct flights between the two countries will prove to be a milestone in advancing diplomatic, economic, cultural and people-to-people relations between them.

Addressing a Pakistan-Ethiopia Business Forum on the occasion of the inauguration of the Ethiopian Embassy in Islamabad with the Ambassador of Ethiopia in Pakistan JemalBekerAbdula and other dignitaries, he said that in order to increase the economic cooperation between Ethiopia and Pakistan, three basic factors are crucial: promotion of economic cooperation, promotion of trade and export and mutual investment.

Ibrahim Khalid said that the role of Ethiopia will be extremely important for the promotion of economic and trade relations with Pakistan in the African region, so the business communities of both countries carry a heavy responsibility to do their best to promote mutual economic and trade cooperation.

He said that with the opening of the Ethiopian embassy in Pakistan and the start of direct flights, it is clear that the economic and commercial cooperation between the two countries is inevitable in the future and the role of the business community and the chambers of commerce will be very important in this regard. We need advanced planning and action-able thinking.

Ibrahim Khalid said that under his leadership, a 70-member delegation of Pakistani businessmen visited Ethiopia where business meetings provided an opportunity for the business communities of both sides to understand each other and gave positive indications for mutual business on both sides.

He said that in the business delegation, businessmen and investors from all major sectors of Pakistan including textile, leather, IT, paper industry, pharmaceutical and other sectors went to Ethiopia and had fruitful meetings with businessmen related to their sector and discussed future business plans.

He said that there are huge opportunities for Pakistani businessmen in Ethiopia which they can take full advantage of. The Counsel General said that Ethiopia will prove to be the gateway to Africa for Pakistan, which has economic growth at a rate of 6.1 percent. He said that Ethiopia with a population of 120 million is the second largest market in Africa in terms of population, and this large mutual market of 350 million people combined with Pakistan's market of 230 million people can bring economic benefits to both countries. He said that Ethiopian Airlines is the largest airline in Africa, which has 170 international and 65 regional destinations, which can play its role in connecting Pakistan to all African countries and other destinations. Pakistan's Foreign Secretary AsadMajeed Khan praised Ethiopian Consul General in Pakistan Mohsin Khalid Tawab for his efforts to increase economic cooperation between the two countries. He said that such efforts should be continued for the development of deeper relations between the two countries in future.

JemalBekerAbdula, Ambassador of Ethiopia to Pakistan reiterated that they would continue to

Ethiopia, Pakistan agree to enhance ties in trade, science, education



This cooperation is of crucial importance for establishing a framework to increase cooperation in science, technology, engineering, and education for mutual benefit and peaceful purposes between the science and education communities in both countries

play a role in further improving business relations between both countries. Minister of State for Innovation and Technology of Ethiopia DrFoziya Amin said that visit of the Ethiopian delegation to Pakistan would contribute to further strengthening trade ties between both countries. She said that there are vast opportunities for cooperation between both countries in various fields including economy, IT, science and technology. She stressed the need for taking full benefit of them as Pakistan is an important country for Ethiopia in South Asia due to its geographical location and similarly, Ethiopia is a gateway for Pakistan to Africa. She said this while addressing a luncheon reception hosted by Engineer Azharul Islam Zafar, Vice President, ICCI in honour of the visiting Ethiopian delegation.

DrFoziya Amin said that women have an important role in the economic development of a country and appreciated the role Pakistani women are playing in various fields including business and economy.

Speaking on the occasion President ICCI Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari said that Ethiopia should play its role to get an observer state status for Pakistan in the African Union. He said that the African Union is a strong forum of the African nations and being an observer state, Pakistan can play its role in developing economic and trade relations among the African,

South Asian and Central Asian countries. He said that both countries should make joint efforts for economic integration and participation in regional and global economic and trade activities.

Jemal Beker Abdula, Ambassador of Ethiopia to Pakistan said that the start of direct flights by the Ethiopian airline with Pakistan would be helpful in improving business and investment relations between the two countries. EngrAzharul Islam Zafar, Vice President ICCI said that both countries can cooperate in textiles, agriculture, construction and many other fields. He termed the opening of a full-fledged Ethiopian embassy in Pakistan and the start of direct flights as a welcome development.

Khalid Iqbal Malik, former President and Group Leader highlighted the investment potential for Ethiopia in Pakistan's tourism sector and stressed that they should take full advantage of it.

Zafar Bakhtawari, former President & Secretary General UBG said that Ethiopia is a growing economy and the start of direct flights to Pakistan would help both countries to further strengthen economic ties.

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs HinaRabaniKhar along with her Ethiopian counterpart MisganuArega inaugurated the opening of the Embassy of Ethiopia in Islamabad. ■

The Counsel General said that Ethiopia will prove to be the gateway to Africa for Pakistan, which has economic growth at a rate of 6.1 percent

Social media deeply penetrated into travel industry of Pakistan



Despite a number of benefits that social media offers, there are still challenges and opportunities which this media is presenting to the travel industry in Pakistan. "As social media penetration rapidly enhanced in Pakistan, many of the early challenges are no longer relevant, as such they are taking new forms almost on a monthly basis," said Mohib Hassan

Social media has revolutionized the way we live, work, and connect with each other. And when it comes to travel, this fact has a profound impact on the way people plan, book, and experience their trips. From discovering new destinations to finding the best deals, social media has become an indispensable tool for travellers of all ages and backgrounds.

In Pakistan, social media has played a key role in promoting tourism and highlighting the beauty of our country to a wider audience. Platforms like Instagram, Facebook, and TikTok have given a safe haven to travellers of all walks of life, from individual users sharing funny videos to guided tours of exotic and unique destinations on Heygo (now defunct). As a result, more destinations have been rediscovered by virtue of social media which has led to a wider diversity of travel experiences even by those who are regular

travellers. More boutique hotels, like luxury glamping, have sprung up in the unlikeliest and remotest of places, such as the Deosai Plains, Wadi Rum, and many more.

But social media has not only impacted the way people travel, it has also changed the way they plan and book their trips. Companies like Sastaticket.pk have leveraged social media platforms to engage with customers and promote their services. According to Mohib Hassan, COO of Sastaticket.pk: "At Sastaticket we utilize social media platforms to different effects. The first use case is to help customers with any problems or queries they have. Our customers can reach us on Facebook, Instagram, and even WhatsApp to have their queries answered within minutes." Sastaticket.pk also uses social media to promote new routes, new vendors, and exciting new money-saving innovations. The company runs weekly giveaways and highlights

the experiences of its customers as well. On LinkedIn, the company primarily uses the platform for recruitment, highlighting its company culture, displaying the latest adventures of its internal adventure club, and highlighting the contributions its leaders and team members make to make the travel booking easy for all.

Despite a number of benefits that social media offers, there are still challenges and opportunities presented by this media to the travel industry in Pakistan. "As social media penetration rapidly enhanced in Pakistan, many of the early challenges are no longer relevant as such they are taking new forms almost on a monthly basis," said Mohib Hassan. "The community has much to learn and progress, and it has been heart-



ening to see our social media users increase their understanding of the platform, trying out unique types of content generation amongst a host of opportunities being leveraged."

One of the biggest challenges that social media presents is the prevalence of fake

news and the need to constantly monitor the online reputation of companies. However, the benefits of social media far outweigh the challenges, and companies like Sastaticket.pk are committed to using it to provide their customers with the best possible travel experience. "We believe that social media is a powerful tool to connect with our customers and engage with them on a deeper level," said Mohib Hassan. "It allows us to address their queries and concerns in real-time and provide them with a seamless booking experience."

Social media has opened up new opportunities for the travel industry in Pakistan, and companies like Sastaticket.pk are leading the way in leveraging these opportunities to promote tourism and showcase the beauty of the country. With social media becoming more ubiquitous every day, the future looks bright for

Social media a cornerstone of modern digital marketing

Social commerce refers to the integration of e-commerce with social media platforms, allowing customers to make purchases directly from social media posts. This trend is set to become more prevalent in 2024, with platforms like Instagram and Facebook offering more features to facilitate social commerce

Social media has become a cornerstone of modern digital marketing, with businesses of all sizes using these platforms to reach their target audiences and build brand awareness. As we approach 2024, several trends are emerging that are set to shape the future of social media marketing. Here are some of the key trends to watch out for: Video content has become increasingly popular on social media in recent years, and this trend is set to continue. Video content has been proven to be more engaging and effective at driving conversions than other types of content, such as text or images. In 2024, businesses will need to prioritize creating high-quality video content that is optimized for social media platforms. Social commerce refers to the integration of e-commerce with social media platforms, allowing customers to make purchases directly from

social media posts. This trend is set to become more prevalent in 2024, with platforms like Instagram and Facebook offering more features to facilitate social commerce. Businesses that embrace social commerce will be able to offer a more streamlined shopping experience to their customers and drive more sales.

Influencer marketing has become a popular strategy for businesses to reach their target audience on social media. However, in 2024, we can expect to see the evolution of influencer marketing as brands seek to work with micro-influencers, who have smaller but more engaged followings, and nano-influencers, who have even smaller followings but are highly trusted by their followers. These influencers may also be more affordable for smaller businesses.

Social media platforms have become an increasingly popular channel for customers to seek support

and resolution for their issues. In 2024, businesses will need to prioritize social media customer service to improve customer satisfaction and loyalty. This may involve investing in AI-powered chatbots to provide instant support or hiring dedicated customer service staff to monitor and respond to social media messages. Emphasis on social media privacy, with growing concerns around data privacy, social media platforms are under increased pressure to prioritize privacy and transparency. In 2024, we can expect to see more regulation and scrutiny around how social media platforms collect and use user data. Businesses will need to ensure they are compliant with these regulations and prioritize transparency and ethical data practices.

In conclusion, the future of social media marketing is set to be dynamic and ever-evolving. By keeping an eye on emerging trends and adapting their strategies accordingly, businesses can stay ahead of the competition and continue to effectively reach their target audience on social media. Whether it's investing in video content, embracing social commerce, or prioritizing social media customer service, businesses must be prepared to adapt to the changing social media landscape in 2024 and beyond.

National Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority (NEECA) is working on a programme to replace the existing stock of old, inefficient fans with energy-efficient fans with effect from July 1st onwards.

"The fan replacement programme will target three tiers of the society including low-income class, average income/middle class, and high-income class," said Sabeih Haideri, Director of Strategy Management at NEECA.

"Under the programme, mechanisms such as bill financing and easy installment loans will be offered to facilitate the replacement of old fans for each income group," Director of Strategy Management Office National Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority (NEECA) Sabeih Haideri expressed these views while talking to the media.

NEECA has already informed the fan manufacturing firms to prepare for producing energy-efficient fans as per standards approved by Pakistan Standard and Quality Control Authority (PSQCA). The PSQCA has also prepared a statutory regulatory order (SRO) to legally bind the fan manufacturers to produce such fans for the effective implementation of energy efficiency and conservation initiatives.

To make energy-efficient fans affordable, a plan is under consideration to sell them in installments to consumers and cost may be recovered through electricity bills.

"If all the existing inefficient fans are replaced with energy-efficient ones, it is expected that it will help save Rs 700 billion annually, as the energy-efficient fans will consume about 40 to 60 watts of electricity compared to the old ones consuming about 120 to 130 watts of electricity," Sabeih said.

He said a ban will be imposed on the manufacturing of electrical fans with an energy efficiency rate of less than 90%, and only the fans with an energy efficiency rate of more than 90% will be allowed. The most energy-efficient fans have a three-star energy rating from NEECA, and such fans are specially designed with energy efficiency and high performance.

"Energy efficiency and conservation had been neglected in Pakistan for decades as the planners mostly focused on adding generation capacity rather than working on reducing the energy demand," said Mustafa Abdullah, a solar and wind project developer and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Moro Power Company Private Limited.

He said energy efficiency and conservation can provide highly impactful and cost-effective solutions to quickly respond to energy crises. Given the high energy intensity of Pakistan's economy and the emerging energy efficiency market, there is a huge scope for demand-side improvement.

According to energy experts, if the existing high electricity consumption fans are replaced by energy-efficient fans, it can reduce power load-shedding to a considerable level.

The government's initiative of banning conventional fans is expected to boost the manufacturing of international standard energy-efficient fans which will pave the way for enhancing exports.

"By binding the local manufacturers to produce energy-efficient fans as per international standards, we will be able to save electricity. This initiative will also boost fan exports to the international market," Sabieh Haideri said.

As per NEECA, the production and purchase of traditional fans will stop from July this year in order to save electricity under the energy conservation plan. NEECA has been tasked with ensuring the production of low energy-consuming fans requiring 40 to 60 watts.

Presently, 21 manufacturers with a total of 37 models have qualified for 3-Star Pakistan Energy

Plan to install energy-efficient fans from July to save Rs 700 billion annually



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Labels.

Sales Officer of Pak Fans Sohail Saeed said: "Our company has been producing energy-efficient fans for the last two years. The resurgence of load-shedding [power cuts] has also underlined the need for the manufacture of energy-efficient inverter fans."

"Currently, the energy-efficient fans constitute a small portion of the total national production but their production is gradually increasing. The government's plan to ban the production of high electricity consuming fans has also contributed towards boosting the production of energy-efficient fans."

Sohail further said, "Initially, the production of energy-efficient inverter fans was slow but now it has paced up, as they are more in demand compared to the conventional fans."

Explaining the procedure for NEECA certification, he said the applicants (fan manufacturers) need to send their samples to the accredited laboratory. The lab tests the product in accordance with the set standards and submits a report to the

NEECA which gives a rating on the basis of the report.

"The higher the number of stars, the better the quality and energy efficiency of the fan. The three-star energy efficiency rating is the highest industry standard," he added.

Pak Fans produce 3-star NEECA-certified fans between 50 to 65 watts whereas conventional fans use over 75 watts. The price of a 65-watt energy-efficient fan is Rs9,000 while the conventional fan is sold at Rs8,700.

"At present, Pak Fans manufactures 60 percent conventional and 40 percent inverter technology and solar fans. We are not sure what will happen to the current stock of conventional fans in the market and the manufacturers once the ban gets implemented," he added.

Replying to a query, he said the NEECA-certified energy-efficient fans were more in demand. "We may start exporting such energy-efficient fans in future but currently we are exporting both conventional and solar fans," he added.

It is pertinent to mention that the gap between the power supply and demand is around 5,000-5,500 megawatts. In view of the persistent energy crisis, the government has embarked upon an energy conservation plan and the manufacture of energy-efficient fans is part of the plan. ■

Historic Lahore Diamond features Queen Camilla necklace at King's coronation



The Lahore Diamond holds a rich history, once as part of the Lahore Treasure in what is now the Punjab region. After British colonization in 1849, the diamond was presented to Queen Victoria in 1851 and became a cherished possession, prominently worn as a necklace in her Diamond Jubilee portraits

During the recent coronation ceremony, Queen Camilla adorned herself with a significant necklace known as "the Coronation Necklace." Originally crafted for Queen Victoria in 1858, this exquisite piece showcases a remarkable collection of 26 diamonds, including the Lahore diamond, a magnificent 22.48-carat pendant.

The necklace's captivating story traces back to the British invasion of the Lahore Fort in 1849, where they uncovered the hidden treasures of the 'Toshakhana.' These treasures, which remain relatively unknown to the Subcontinental community, included bags of diamonds, gharras of gold jewellery, precious stones, cashmere shawls, and relics associated with the Holy Prophet Mohammad (PBUH).

Dr John Login, the fort's administrator, diligently catalogued these treasures, although their true extent in terms of quantity and quality remains uncertain. It is likely that many of these items are now held in private collections or were undocumented at the time.

The diamonds seized during the fort invasion were subsequently used to create this extraordinary necklace, giving it its name. Today, it stands as one of the world's most valuable and expensive pieces of jewellery, offering us a glimpse into its intriguing origin.

The Lahore Diamond holds a rich history, once as part of the Lahore Treasure in what is now the

Punjab region. After British colonization in 1849, the diamond was presented to Queen Victoria in 1851 and became a cherished possession, prominently worn as a necklace in her Diamond Jubilee portraits.

Over the years, the Coronation Necklace played a significant role in various coronation ceremonies. Queen Alexandra wore it during her coronation in 1902, followed by Queen Mary in 1911 and Queen Mother Elizabeth in 1937.

Even Queen Elizabeth herself chose this necklace, along with its matching earrings, to grace her Coronation Day in 1953. Throughout her reign, Queen Elizabeth continued to wear this remarkable jewellery set for special occasions, including state dinners.

During the recent coronation at Westminster Abbey, King Charles assumed the role of monarch following Queen Elizabeth's passing, officially declaring Queen Camilla as his Queen Consort. Queen Camilla radiated elegance in a stunning coronation dress designed by Bruce Oldfield, complemented by bespoke shoes crafted by British designer Eliot Zed, using the same silk fabric as her dress.

For the crowning moment, Queen Camilla

la adorned the illustrious Queen Mary's Crown. This remarkable tiara, adorned with an astonishing 2,200 diamonds, was originally created for her great-grandmother, Queen Mary, in 1911 to commemorate the coronation of King George V.

The historical significance of these regal jewels added an extra touch of grandeur to the recent coronation, symbolizing a new chapter in the monarchy's illustrious history.

The UK's Pakistan Network, supported by the British Council and the GREAT campaign, has marked the coronation of their Majesties King Charles III and Queen Camilla in style with a series of events.

The British High Commission in Islamabad hosted a black-tie ball, whilst the Deputy High Commission in Karachi held a traditional garden party, said a news release.



To reflect King Charles's passion for youth development, both events were themed around the Commonwealth's 'Year of Youth' campaign and aimed to spotlight the many opportunities on offer to young Pakistanis via the 'Commonwealth Youth Programme'.

Acting British High Commissioner, Andrew Dalglish, on the occasion said, "Over 60 percent of the Commonwealth's population are under 30, some 1.5bn people. In Pakistan around 63 percent of the population is between 15 and 33 years old. For future stability and sustainable growth, we need to ensure that these young people are properly engaged with decision-making processes that will affect their futures, and are equipped with the skills and the opportunities to make a difference".

With a focus on young people and Commonwealth initiatives, guests at both events included: Commonwealth Athletes, Commonwealth Correspondents, Commonwealth Youth Council Members, individuals from the Queen's Commonwealth Trust Pakistan Chapter and young entrepreneurs from the Prince's Trust, amongst others.

Meanwhile, members of staff from the British High Commission and British Council in Islamabad as well as the Deputy High Commission in Karachi took part in the 'Big Help Out'. A UK initiative designed to mark

the Coronation by encouraging people to get together and volunteer to bring benefit to their local communities.

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In Islamabad, UK staff, supported by Chevening Alumni and members of the City Development Authority, volunteered to beautify a section of the Rose and Jasmine Garden, now named 'Commonwealth Corner', by installing two new park benches and planting 56 trees, one for each Commonwealth Nation.

Whilst in Karachi, Deputy High Commissioner, Sarah Mooney and Deputy Head of Mission, Martin Dawson, took part in the creation of another 'Commonwealth Corner', planting 56 trees in Salman Farsi Park in an event organised by Karachi Commissioner, Muhammad Iqbal Memon. ■

Jazz Game Now and FreeFireaward RZX x Legacy PKR 1 million for qualifying for the FFSI

Islamabad: Game Now, Jazz's online eSports platform, in collaboration with FreeFire, a world-famous multiplayer battle royale mobile game by Garena, has awarded PKR 1 million to RZX x Legacy, the winning team from Pakistan to celebrate its qualification into the FreeFire SEA Invitational (FFSI) 2023.

Game Now and FreeFire have collaborated to hand out a pool prize money of PKR 1 million to RZX x Legacy, which won the month-long qualification rounds in Pakistan from among 1,152 local teams and qualified as one of the 18 teams to compete globally in the FFSI.

The upcoming tournament will be hosted from 12th May

to 28th May in Thailand, and the team will leave for Thailand later this week.

Speaking at the event,

Jazz is committed to creating and bolstering avenues of digital growth in Pakistan. For Pakistan in 2023 alone, the revenue

is predicted at nearly \$73 million. These numbers indicate lucrative global opportunities for our youth and a tremendous potential for economic uplift, and Jazz is determined to help materialize this through Game Now."

Expressing similar zest, Falak Gondal, Partnerships Manager at FreeFire, said, "The global online gaming industry is expected to reach a value of over \$32.5 billion by 2027. We are delighted to host this celebratory event with Jazz Game Now, to recognize the brilliant gaming talent of Pakistan and help pave the way for future gamers in the country. This partnership is our token of support for the local gaming ecosystem and is aimed at fos-

tering a thriving gaming culture where local talent is showcased on the world stage."

Syed Arsalan Qamar, Stream Head Gaming and eSports at Jazz, also highlighted the immense potential of this digital segment saying, "The popularity of eSports in Pakistan calls for rapid development in the sector and Jazz is excited to play a trailblazing role in unlocking this digital achievement."

Jazz Game Now has been instrumental in supporting online gamers in Pakistan to compete globally. Through this initiative, Jazz is delivering on United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure. ■



Kazim Mujtaba, Chief Commercial Officer at Jazz, said, "As a digital-first company,

in the online gaming market is estimated to reach over \$46 million, and by 2027 this value

Ufone 4G and Pakistan Polio Programme join hands for polio eradication in Pakistan

Islamabad: Ufone 4G, a Pakistani Telecommunication Company, has embarked on a shared initiative with the Polio Eradication Initiative (PEI) in Pakistan to raise awareness amongst the citizens regarding the importance of polio eradication through vaccination. In pursuit of this mission, Ufone 4G has launched an extensive SMS broadcast across the districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK), South KPK, Balochistan, Sindh, Punjab and Islamabad, ensuring that the message reaches far across Pakistan.

Ufone 4G exemplifies a firm dedication to promoting transformative change in society. The vaccination drive

by the Polio Programme is scheduled to commence on May 15, 2023. This initiative

a positive impact by tailoring its initiatives to meet community needs.



reflects Ufone 4G's commitment to go above and beyond not just as a telecom service provider but also by promoting social welfare and making

Speaking about the initiative, Syed Atif Raza, Chief Marketing Officer, Ufone 4G, said, "Being a Pakistani and a socially responsible com-

pany, Ufone 4G through its collaboration with the Polio Programme strives to ensure that every child receives essential polio vaccination in the country. Through our joint campaigns, community outreach programs and widespread network, we aim to disseminate our message throughout Pakistan. Our objective is to create awareness and foster a sense of urgency regarding the importance of polio vaccination. Furthermore, by working hand in hand with the Polio Programme, we endeavor to eliminate polio and safeguard the health, well-being and the future of children in our society."

Also sharing his thoughts,

Dr. Shahzad Baig, the National Coordinator of the National Emergency Operations Centre (NEOC) said, "The Polio Programme is glad to partner with Ufone 4G in our fight against polio. Together, we'll use Ufone's 4G network to spread our message in every corner of the country. By pooling our resources and expertise, we're committed to leaving no stone unturned in our quest for a polio-free future for every child in Pakistan."

With a deep commitment to the well-being of individuals, Ufone 4G endeavors to be a shining example of unwavering determination and bring a positive change in the lives of people of Pakistan. ■

TECNO Mobile reduces prices for its customers in Pakistan

Lahore: TECNO Mobile, a leading mobile phone brand in Pakistan, has taken a step to show its strong commitment to its loyal customers by reducing the prices of some of its popular models includes Camon 19 Neo, Spark 8c, Pova Neo, Pop 5 LTE in the market.

The Camon 19 Neo, previously offered at rupees 57,999, is now available for only 44,999. Similarly, the Spark 8C has now been reduced to rupees 36,999 from its previous price of 43,999. The Pova Neo phone is now offered at a price of 34,999 instead of the previous price of 43,999. Lastly, the POP 5 LTE, previously priced at rupees 32,999, is now available for only 24,999.



TECNO Announces Significant Price Reductions Across its Smartphone Range

TECNO has always been dedicated to offering its users the best possible mobile phone experience at an affordable price. By lowering its mobile phone prices, TECNO Mobile ensures that its customers can continue to use their favourite brand's devices without worrying about economic hardships.

Kelvin Zeng, CEO of TECNO Pakistan, stated: "At TECNO, we understand the challenges that our customers are facing in these uncertain times, and we are committed to providing them with affordable, high-quality products. Our decision to reduce the prices of our popular models reflects our commitment to our customers and our willingness to go the extra mile to make them happy." ■

Pakistan, Russia celebrate 75 years of diplomatic ties

Moscow: Speakers including Pakistani Senators, former Pakistani ambassador, think tanks representatives, current Russian Ambassador to Pakistan and Russian scholars at a conference held at Moscow tracing the 75 years history of relations between Pakistan and Russia lauded the current positive trajectory of bilateral relations and emphasised their importance for regional stability.

To commemorate the 75th anniversary of establishment of Diplomatic relations between Pakistan and Russia, the Institute of Oriental Studies in collaboration with Pakistan



Embassy organized a two-day international conference on May 22-23 in Moscow.

Pakistan's Senators Mr. Waleed Iqbal and Mr. Anwar ul Haq Kakar co-chaired first day of the conference.

The participants of the conference noted growth of bilateral relations in diplomatic and economic domains. Various ideas for further strengthening this important relationship were also discussed.

Senator Mushahid Hussain Syed, Former Pakistan Ambassador Qazi Khalilullah and representatives of a number of Pakistan based think tanks participated online. Russian Ambassador to Pakistan H.E. Danila V. Ganich, delivered his statement online.

Director of the Institute Prof. Alikber K. Alikberov, Prof. Dr. Vyacheslav Y. Belokrenitsky and Dr., Deputy Director Vasily A. Kuznetsov also presented their analysis of the relations between the two countries. Russian experts on Pakistan also presented their views on the growing Pakistan-Russia relations. ■

Akhuwat Foundation, Beaconhouse join hands for a more equitable society

Lahore: Beaconhouse Group educational institutions and Akhuwat Foundation have signed an MoU to leverage their respective strengths and collaborate in their philanthropic efforts which include collecting clothes, toys, and other in-kind donations for the less privileged.

Under this MoU, the Beaconhouse Group will assist Akhuwat Foundation by setting up Akhuwat Clothes Banks (ACB) at various Beaconhouse campuses across Pakistan and will encourage its faculty and student body volunteers to actively participate in the foundation's ongoing efforts and initiatives aimed at serving the less privileged members of society. ■



Foodpanda launches Pandago

Karachi: Foodpanda, Pakistan's leading delivery platform, has introduced Pandago for consumers, an innovative on-demand delivery service tailored to cater to the evolving needs of consumers. Initially an exclusive B2B service, Pandago now extends its benefits to C2C deliveries, granting users seamless access to Foodpanda's extensive rider fleet for affordable, anytime deliveries. ■



KE signs MoU for Two 660MW coal plants

Karachi: K-Electric has inked an (MoU with the Sindh, Oracle Power, and PowerChina for the potential development of 2x660 MW coal-fired power project based on Thar coal.

KE was represented by CEO Moonis Alvi, while Secretary Energy Abu Bakar Ahmed was present from the Government of Sindh, CEO Naheed Memon from Oracle Power, and Cheng Qiang from PowerChina. ■



Easy access to exceptional customer support: A comprehensive guide to vivo's commitment to customer satisfaction

Lahore: The advancement of technology has brought about a significant shift in our way of living, with smartphones becoming an indispensable part of our daily routines. We rely on our smartphones for a variety of tasks, from staying in touch with loved ones and colleagues to accessing information and completing everyday tasks. However, providing the most advanced smartphones can never be enough for a seamless user experience. This is where vivo's customer service team comes in — providing the best possible support and guidance to its customers.

As a leading brand in the

industry, vivo prioritizes delivering exceptional customer service that meets and exceeds the



customers' expectations. The brand understands that customer satisfaction and trust are vital to its success and takes pride in providing proactive solutions by anticipating its customers' needs.

vivo's team of experts is al-

ways on standby to provide personalized support and guidance — ensuring a smooth and hassle-free experience for users. The brand believes every customer is unique and deserves individual attention, so vivo takes the time to understand their specific requirements and offer tailored solutions that cater to their needs. The ultimate goal of the company is to build long-lasting relationships with its customers by providing exceptional service at every touch point, fostering trust, and loyalty.

vivo understands that life can be unpredictable, and those unexpected situations can arise,

such as losing your smartphone. The company aims to make its customers' lives easier by providing quick and convenient solutions to their queries, no matter how small or large. vivo's FAQs page is a prime example of this.

vivo understands the importance of communication, which is why it makes itself available on Facebook and Instagram at Facebook and Instagram. Furthermore, vivo has a dedicated WhatsApp chat at 042-35710132 and a toll-free line at 0800-00111, available from 9:00AM to 6:00PM, to address any queries for customers. ■

PTCL Group celebrates the #TayyarHo anthem!

Islamabad: PTCL Group (PTCL and Ufone 4G) has launched its first ever Group Anthem #TayyarHo showcasing the employees' commitment to serve customers with unparalleled excellence.

The PTCL Group's new anthem is more than just a song, PTCL Group embarked on the #TayyarHo journey about a year ago. What is TayyarHo? It is a call to action for the employees to build a comprehensive ecosystem at PTCL Group which will enable the company to deliver extraordinary solutions & experiences for its customers.



tomers.

Speaking on the occasion, Group Chief People Officer, Muhammad Shoaib Baig said,

"This anthem is a dynamic expression of our passion to deliver the best services & experiences to our customers.

At the PTCL Group, we turn challenges into our competitive edge, driving Pakistan towards a digitally connected future. I am certain that this anthem will inspire and energize our teams further to give their best shot despite all odds."

PTCL and Ufone 4G is committed to fostering a workplace that allows employees to express their talent for personal and professional success and fulfilment. The anthem is available on all PTCL and Ufone 4G social media platforms. ■

Standard Chartered, BII sign \$40m risk-participation agreement

Islamabad: Standard Chartered Bank Pakistan Limited recently signed an unfunded Risk-Participation Agreement with British International Investment (BII), the UK's development finance institution and impact investor, to provide support to the microfinance sector in Pakistan. Subject to authorisation from the State Bank of Pakistan, the two institutions will enter into a USD40 million



programme, under which BII will cover 50 per cent of Standard Chartered's risk on local currency loans to the target sector. The agreement was marked by a signing ceremony in Karachi to mark BII's 75th anniversary. The DFI also celebrated 35 years and over \$350 million worth of investment in Pakistan as well as a renewed commitment to financial inclusion. ■

UPaisa introduces digital QR code scan feature for hassle-free transactions

Islamabad: In line with its commitment to providing high-quality user journeys, UPaisa has introduced an innovative QR Code Scan feature on its digital app to bring unprecedented ease and convenience to its users. The innovative upgrade simplifies financial transactions and enhances the usability of financial technology for a larger section of the population.

UPaisa is one of the most trusted financial brands when it comes to ease of access, security, and reliability and the

new innovative feature enhances user-friendliness of the

with the need for manual data and information entry. Going

need to scan the recipient's QR Code and transfer funds in a secure and hassle-free manner.

The feature also allows UPaisa users to create, save and share their QR codes with other users, enabling easy fund transfers with just a simple scan. UPaisa is available to all data users, who can download and install the app from Play Store or App Store and start using it right away to experience swift and convenient financial transactions. Ufone 4G users can also access the

feature by simply dialing *786# from their handsets.

UPaisa constantly innovates and invests significantly in the modernization of its services and infrastructure to deliver a superior user experience to its customers. Apart from its core operations, the platform has been instrumental in fostering the financial inclusion of unserved and underserved communities in Pakistan, thereby opening new avenues for their socioeconomic integration and development. ■



app manifolds by doing away forward, UPaisa users will just

Zong 4G partners with Allied Rental Modaraba known for Caterpillar

Islamabad: Zong 4G, one of Pakistan's leading telecommunications networks, has partnered with Allied Rental Modaraba - Caterpillar, a leading equipment and machinery rental provider in Pak-

sectors.

Under the contract and MoU signed by both parties, Zong 4G will provide all necessary support to Allied Rental Modaraba - Caterpillar to bring diversity and advance-

new opportunities for growth and innovation.

Commenting on the partnership, the spokesperson for Zong 4G said, "We are pleased to collaborate with Allied Rental Modaraba - Caterpillar to bring digital solutions to Pakistan's manufacturing, logistics, and energy sectors. Our partnership will help in creating new business opportunities, improving productivity, and driving economic growth in the country."

"As a leading telecommunications network, we are committed to providing our customers with the latest technologies and digital solutions to help them stay ahead of the competition."

The partnership between Zong 4G and Allied Rental Modaraba - Caterpillar is a significant step towards digital transformation and innovation

PITB launches Bizlinks in collaboration with tech industry

Lahore: Partnering with the tech leaders in the private sector to improve the digital footprint of Pakistan and IT exports is the underlying spirit behind the Punjab Information

Technology Board's (PITB) latest initiative, 'BizLinks'. A special portal was also launched during the event which showcases PITB's products and services and the sign-up facility for interested partners. ■



Technology Board's (PITB) latest initiative, 'BizLinks'.

The initiative is a major step forward towards collaborative engagement with tech leaders through strategic partnerships and jointly exploring business opportunities nation-

wide and globally. In this regard, PITB Chairman Faisal Yousaf hosted an event at Arfa Software Technology Park (ASTP) that included leading players from the IT industry



istan, to develop synergies for communication services and digital solutions.

The partnership aims to pave the way for digital transformation in Pakistan's manufacturing, logistics, and energy

ment to Pakistan's industrial landscape through digitalization.

The partnership will lead to the development of joint ventures in the areas of digital and SaaS solutions, creating

Delegation from Coca-Cola Eurasia & ME visits Pakistan



Islamabad: A delegation of Coca-Cola visited Islamabad to strengthen the relationship with its vast network of partners and government. Government meetings were also held with Tariq Pasha, Special Advisor to PM on Revenue, Asad Rehman Gillani, Federal Secretary, Bof and other key decision-makers. They discussed the current macro-economic challenges, investment timelines and policies. ■

JazzCash, CBA join hands to promote digital financial services

Islamabad: JazzCash and Community Business Agent (CBA) have formed a partnership to provide Cash-In and Cash-Out services to JazzCash customers through CBA's retail network. This collaboration is expected to have a significant impact on the digital financial services industry in Pakistan, making it more convenient and accessible for customers.

JazzCash is a leading mobile wallet and branchless banking services provider with a significant market share in mobile money activity in Pakistan. jazzcash.com.pk

Meanwhile, CBA is the country's largest digital distribution platform, promoting micro-entrepreneurship in the country. cba.com.pk

The CEO of CBA, Ghaz-

anfar Ali Khan, emphasized the company's commitment to elevating micro-entre-



neurship and helping small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to scale upwards and achieve financial sustainability. He underscored CBA's dedication to continuous improvement, innovation, and collaboration to play a more significant and impactful role in the industry.

This partnership is a significant step towards promoting financial inclusion in Pakistan. By joining forces,

these two leading companies are making it easier for people to access and use digital financial services, which will positively impact their lives.

Mr. Murtaza Ali, the Head of JazzCash, speaking at the occasion highlighted the importance of strategic partnerships in building new verticals and avenues that will result in building an ecosystem for payments. This partnership will provide access and ease of payments for JazzCash customers, contributing significantly to digital financial inclusion in the country.

We are excited to witness the impact of this partnership on the industry and anticipate more collaborations that will bring greater financial empowerment to people across Pakistan. ■

Karandaaz Pakistan partners with Foodpanda



Islamabad: Karandaaz Pakistan & Foodpanda signed an MoU which aimed to increase financial inclusion in country by facilitating the onboarding of customers, who are habitual users of the Cash on Delivery option while ordering through the Foodpanda app, to digital payment options like mobile wallets, RAAST ID and debit or credit cards. Covid-19 sped up move towards digitalisation, and countries with better digital payment systems did better during the crisis than those that were slower to adopt digital technologies. ■

vivo X80



Display	6.78 Inch
Camera	Front Camera:32MP Rear Camera:50+12+12MP
Battery	4500mAh 80W FlashCharge
Memory	RAM & ROM 12GB+256GB
Processor	MediaTek Dimensity 9000 (4 nm)

vivo V25 5G



Display	6.44 Inch
Camera	Front Camera:50MP Rear Camera:64+8+2MP
Battery	4500mAh 44W FlashCharge
Memory	RAM & ROM 12GB+256GB
Processor	MediaTek Mt6877 Dimensity 900 (6 nm)

vivo V25e



Display	6.44 Inch
Camera	Front Camera:32MP Rear Camera:64+2+2MP
Battery	4500mAh 44W FlashCharge
Memory	RAM & ROM 8GB+256GB
Processor	MediaTek Helio G99 (6nm)

vivo Y16



Display	6.51 Inch
Camera	Front Camera:5MP Rear Camera:13+2MP
Battery	5000mAh 10W FastCharge
Memory	RAM & ROM 4GB+64GB
Processor	Octa-core (4 x 2.3 GHz Cortex-A53 + 4 x 1.8 GHz Cortex-A53)

vivo Y02s



Display	6.51 Inch
Camera	Front Camera:5MP Rear Camera:8MP
Battery	5000mAh 10W Fast Charge
Memory	RAM & ROM 3GB+32GB
Processor	Octa-core (4 x 2.35 GHz Cortex-A53 + 4 x 1.8 GHz Cortex-A53)

vivo Y22



Display	6.55 Inch
Camera	Front Camera:8MP Rear Camera:50+2MP
Battery	5000mAh 18W Fast Charge
Memory	RAM & ROM 4GB+64GB
Processor	MediaTek Helio G85 (12nm)

IPHONE 11 PRO MAX 256GB

Rs: 2,26,600



Body	144 x 71.4 x 8.1 mm (5.67 x 2.81 x 0.32 in)
Display	6.5 inches, Super Retina XDR OLED capacitive touchscreen, 16M colors
Camera	12 MP, f/1.8, 26mm (wide), 1/2.55", 1.4µm, dual pixel PDAF, OIS 12 MP, f/2.0, 52mm (telephoto), 1/3.4", 1.0µm, PDAF, OIS, 2x optical zoom 12 MP, f/2.4, 13mm (ultrawide)
Battery	Non-removable Li-Ion 3669 mAh battery (15.04 Wh) Charging Fast 18W: 50% in 30 min
Memory	Ram: 4GB, Card Slot: No Internal: 64GB
Features	Face ID, accelerometer, gyro, proximity, compass, barometer, Siri, natural language commands and dictation

Itel Vision 1 Plus

Rs: 14,999



System	AndroidTM 9 Pie
Display	6.5" HD+ Waterdrop FullScreen 1600*720
Camera	Rear: 13.0MP AF + VGA Dual with Flash Front: 8.0MP FF Selfie Camera
Battery	5000mAh Battery
Memory	3GB RAM + 32GB ROM
Fingerprint Sensors	8 Functions

Oppo F21 Pro

Rs. 52,999

CAMERA

OPPO x SONY IMX688 Flagship
Selfie Sensor
64MP AI Triple Camera
Bakal-Flexa Portrait
MicroLED



PERFORMANCE

33W SUPERVOOC
4500mAh Large Battery
RAM Expansion
Qualcomm Octa-Core Processor

DESIGN

Fiberglass-Luxury Design
OPPO Glow
Ultra-Slim Retro Design
Orbit Light

ColorOS 12

Inclusive Design
Smart Security
AI Gesture
Smart Notification Hiding

Oppo A76

Rs. 34,999



Oppo A76 - A Powerful Mid-Ranger
Smart tech Oppo is unveiling A76 to the market soon. The Chinese manufacturer Oppo is working on a new smartphone for its A-series. The upcoming new handset will be a mid-ranger and it will be launched in Malaysia. The newcomer will be named Oppo A76. The coming smartphone will be powered by the Qualcomm SM6225 Snapdragon 680 4G (6 nm) chipset, this is a powerful chipset that is used in upper-class handsets. The Oppo's A76 with this processor will provide the user with powerful results. The smartphone has got a 2.4 GHz Octa-Core processor under the hood of this smartphone. Also, there is a powerful GPU of Adreno 610. The Oppo A76's going to have a 6.56 inches big screen size and it will provide the user with full HD plus the resolution of 720 x 1612 Pixels. And there is an IPS LCD Capacitive Touchscreen display that is the latest one and well known for its outstanding results. This handset Oppo sharp A76 will be paired with a gigantic RAM capacity of 6 gigabytes. The chipset and the RAM capacity of the device show that it will enable the user to execute things within seconds. The internal storage capacity of the smartphone is 128 gigabytes that are enough to store a huge amount of data for future use. The Oppo is packing a Dual Camera in the back of A76. The main camera is 13 megapixels and 2 megapixels. The selfie camera is 8 megapixels which will take wonderful pictures. The upcoming new A76 got a side-mounted fingerprint sensor to protect your data from loss. And the battery of this A76 is 5000 mAh is planted inside the belly of the new A76 which is enough to keep running for almost one or two days of active use. And also there is a fast battery charging of 33W in this new handset which is called A76 by Oppo. Now Samsung and other smartphone companies will be looking to bring features like the Oppo A76.

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Redmi A1+

Redmi A1+ (2GB-32GB)

- Display: 6.52" HD+ Dot Drop display
- Processor: MediaTek Helio A22
- Rear Camera: 8MP main camera
- Battery: 5000mAh (typ)
- Charging: 10W fast charging



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Realme C21

Rs. 19,999

Realme C21 - A Mid-Range Smartphone Of The Company Smart Tech Realme is launching the C21 smartphone to the market. This Chinese company presented the C20 in the January of this year, and Realme will present its successor in three days. Now all the specifications of this phone have appeared on A8Express, and even the price is known. This smartphone will be Realme C21. The smartphone will be powered by one of the latest chipsets available for smartphones in the market that is called MediaTek Helio G35. The new Realme C21 has got a 2.3 GHz Octa-Core processor under the hood of this handset. This new upcoming smartphone has a 5.52 inches screen size which is a big-screen display, with an IPS LCD Capacitive Touchscreen, and this device Realme C21's going to have a full-HD display with a resolution of 720 x 1600 Pixels. And also there is a GPU of PowerVR GE8320 in this upcoming device. Also, there is screen protection of Corning Gorilla Glass 3. The upcoming new Realme sharp C21 is packing the upcoming smartphone with 4 gigabytes RAM, which is the highest point of RAM used in this smartphone so you can say that your phone is going to run at a super-fast speed because of its powerful RAM. Realme has got 64 gigabytes of storage in C21 which means that the capacity of your data is unlimited. On the rear of the smartphone, there is a Triple Camera setup. The main sensor of the smartphone C21 will be 13 megapixels, 2 megapixels, 2 megapixels. The selfie shooter in this phone C21 will be 5 megapixels to make taking selfies more easy and attractive with this new C21. The smartphone has got a powerful battery which will be fueled with a Non-removable Li-Po 5000 mAh battery in C21 by Realme that will carry support for Fast charging of 10W. Samsung and other tech giants will face serious competition when this Realme C21 will release.

Nokia C1

Rs. 8,299

Nokia C1- Back with a Bang! World Famous Nokia returns with C1, the phone with higher specifications and better chances of survival in today's Smartphone market. Equipped with dominant but customized Android OS, Nokia C1 is going to be available from december 2019, as soon as the hot summer ends. The company has been struggling since the Android popularity and then the microsoft take over, now Nokia's C1 is going to be release with much boosted specs and overhauled OS for a better user experience. Earlier half android half windows Smartphone series were disappointing but this time Nokia C1's specs are promising an coming with front snapper of 8MP and rear mounted 5 MP lens that will hold a Carl Zeiss lens for better imaging and recording. Nokia will implement Android OS 9.0 with a twist on C1, last time the result was terrible and resulted in a failed X series but this time we can expect a miracle as the company has embedded the new phone C1 with intel chipset which ensures a geared up performance and may lead to something better. The phone is powered by a 1GB RAM so that C1 can run every application user wants. With non-removable battery, the phone offers 5.45 inch screen with 294 PPI density for sharp images. C1 may bring company back to life and reenter the smartphone battle. The phone equips 16GB internal storage and external card slot to provide more storage space. C1 by Nokia is said to be 8.6mm slim with 66% screen-to-body ratio which makes it one of the slimmest smartphone ever being offered in today's market. Nokia C1 will ensure a serious comeback for the evergreen manufacturer. This Phone will definitely give tough time to budget smartphones of other companies like Samsung And Huawei. Nokia sharp C1 is going to be launched in the month of december 2019 by the chinese giants.

Honor 20 Pro

Rs. 99,999

Honor 20 Pro- The Handset You Will Wish to Have Honor is going to release 20 Pro in the near future. This will be the upcoming flagship of the company. After launching the 10 series, the Chinese tech giant was expected to improve technology. So, the Honor 20 Pro will come up with something different. The handset is packed with the latest SoC. Highly efficient camera setup, huge memory, and massive power. Honor's 20 Pro will come packed with the powerful chipset in the world of smartphone and that chipset is called Kirin 980. This will also be used in its other variant as well. Honor 20 Pro's is a 7 nm chipset that ensures the performance. All the 7 nm chipsets have a great performance ratio as compared to the other handsets of the flagships category. 20 Pro by Honor with this 7 nm SoC consumes less energy and provides high-class performance. The system of the chip will be packed with 8 gigabytes of RAM and 256 gigabytes of internal storage. Honor Pro will have a 6.4-inch broad display screen that will present you Full HD+ resolution. As the camera setup is concerned, Like other flagships the Honor 20's Pro will feature a rear triple camera setup. The primary lens will be 48 megapixels and the secondary will be 16 megapixels with the third one 8 megapixels and 2 Mega-pixel Macro lens. Honor 20 Pro has a selfie shooter of high quality that is 32 megapixels. The back camera will help you to capture the nature and the selfie sensor will help you to get pics of your own with your desired pose. 20 Pro's Handset will be fueled with a heavy battery of 4000 mAh battery. There will an side-mounted fingerprint scanner. Most of the Japanese and Chinese giants are creating a healthy and competitive market by producing smartphones for every type of customers from low budget to high budget customers. So, like Samsung, the company also taking over other smartphone giants.

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Nokia 2.3

Rs:14,900



Nokia 2.3 - A New Entry-level Smartphone
Tech giant Nokia will unveil 2.3, the upgraded version of the 2.2. The up-gradation is taught to be not that significant. It is an entry-level smartphone with a well-known chipset. The internal memory of the Nokia 2.3 is also a good one that will allow you to store a lot of data on the smartphone for future use. The leaked information about the upcoming Nokia's 2.3 ensures that it will support dual SIM and will be available in Sand, Cyan Green, and Charcoal color variants. The information leaked about the chipset of the new Nokia 2.3, confirms that it will be powered by the MediaTek's Helio A22. This chipset will be used in place of 28nm Snapdragon 425. This 12 nm Chipset will provide more power to the Nokia sharp 2.3. Different variants of the phone will offer different ranges of RAM and internal storage. One of the models is packed with 2 gigabytes of RAM and Nokia is going to pack this new upcoming smartphone 2.3 with 16 gigabytes of internal storage. The next variant will be available in 3 gigabytes of RAM capacity and the internal storage of the phone will 32 gigabytes. 2.3 has got another model that may offer an upgraded RAM and internal storage of the phone may also become double. The battery of the handset is reduced by 1000 mAh. It means that the new 2.3 will be fueled with a 4000 mAh battery. Though the battery is a bit on the lower side, still you will have enough power to keep the handset on loss. The upgraded 2.3 has got a Dual lens of 13 MP + 2 MP along with an LED flash that is placed just under the alone lens of the phone. The front-facing camera will be 5 megapixels. The 2.3 by Nokia has no fingerprint reader. As this is an entry-level smartphone so you expect a reasonable price tag. The company is now competitive enough to challenge high-rated companies like Samsung by bringing smartphones like Nokia 2.3.

Redmi 10A



Redmi 10A
(3GB-64GB)

5.5" Dot Drop Display
New Full Screen Design

5000mAh battery
Up to 18 hours standby

13MP dual camera
Selfie camera

MediaTek Helio G25
Up to 90% performance up to 3 stars

Recharge 5000mAh battery
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MediaTek Helio G25
Octa-core Processor

5000mAh

Itel Vision 1



قیمت: 11,999 روپے	
Security: 0.2 sec Face Unlock + Fingerprint sensor	
Camera: 5MP Selfie Camera 1.4 um Big Pixel	
RAM/ROM: 2GB RAM/ 32GB ROM	
1.6GHz Octa Core Processor	ہائپر
15.46 cm (6.088) HD+ IPS Watdrop Display (2.5D Curved)	ایسے
4000mAh High Capacity Battery	جڑی
برائڈ ریجیٹیو ایمل 5	

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Nokia 2.2



Biometric Face Unlock	13MP Rear 5MP Front Camera	5.21" HD+ with Selfie notch	Android 9 Pie	3000mAh battery
RRP 13,900 2 GB RAM 16 GB ROM		RRP 14,900 3 GB RAM 32 GB ROM		

Itel

A25 PRO

RRP: 9,399

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24

Infinix Note 8

Rs. 29,999



Processor	Octa-core (2 x 2.0 GHz Cortex-A75 + 6 x 1.8 GHz Cortex-A55)
Display	IPS LCD Capacitive Touchscreen 16M Colors, Multitouch 7.0 Inches
Camera	Quad Camera: 64 MP, (wide), 1/1.73", PDAF + 2 MP, (macro) + 2 MP, (depth) + 2 MP, Quad LED Flash
Battery	(Li-Po Non removable), 5200 mAh - Fast battery charging 18W
Memory	32/64GB Built-in, 2/3GB RAM microSD Card, (supports up to 256GB)
Features	128GB Built-in, 6GB RAM microSD Card, (supports up to 256GB)

Xiaomi 33w Power Bank

Xiaomi 33w Power Bank
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Infinix Zero 8

Rs. 36,999



Processor	Octa-core (2 x 2.05 GHz Cortex-A76 + 6 x 2.0 GHz Cortex-A55)
Display	6.85Inches, IPS LCD Capacitive Touchscreen, 16M Colors, Multitouch
Camera	Quad Camera: 64 MP, (wide), 1/1.72", PDAF + 8 MP, (ultrawide), 1/4.0" + 2 MP, f/2.4, (macro) + 2 MP, f/2.4, (depth), Quad LED Flash
Battery	(Li-Po Non removable), 4500 mAh Standby: upto 26 days Talktime: upto 36 hours
Memory	128GB Built-in, 8GB RAM microSD Card, (supports up to 256GB)
Features	Accelerometer, Compass, Face Unlock, Fingerprint (side mounted), Proximity

Redmi 10C

Redmi 10C
Snapdragon® 680 |
Large 6.71" display



Immersive 6.71" display
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Ocean 9 Black(2GB)

قیمت : 8,650 روپے

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GPU: Mali-400 MP

12.7 cm (5.0)
Sensors : Proximity, G-Sensor
Light Sensor

2500 mAh (Li-Ion Battery)

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CAMON 18 Premier

Rs:59,999



Tecno Camon 18 Premier - Mid-Ranger Of The Tecno
Tecno is launching its all-new Camon 18 which has got a moniker Premier at the end. The Chinese company Tecno is working on the new smartphone, which was spotted on Google Play Console. The coming phone model number is TRCNO-CH9, and it will be called Tecno Camon 18 Premier. The smartphone will be empowered by a powerful chipset called Helio G96 SoC. This is one of the latest chipsets in the market, and to give more power to this Tecno's Camon 18 Premier it has an Octa-Core processor inside the handset. The handset has got AMOLED Touchscreen and there is a big screen size of 6.7 inches, the users will enjoy using this screen size. The smartphone Tecno Camon 18's going to have a full HD plus resolution of 1080 x 2400 Pixels. Also in this device, there is a powerful GPU called Mali-G57 under the hood of this smartphone. The SoC of the smartphone paired with 8 gigabytes of RAM means that the upcoming smartphone Camon 18 Premier by Tecno is having to be very fast in its execution. The internal storage is 256 gigabytes which is enough to store a huge amount of data for future usage. The Tecno 18 Premier has got a Quad Camera setup. The main lens of the setup will be 64 megapixels along with 12 megapixels, and 2 megapixels, the lens to capture excellent photography. The front-facing of Tecno Camon's 18 Premier is loaded with a 32 megapixels front-selfie camera setup. The smartphone has got a fingerprint sensor to secure your data. The battery of the phone is also a massive one. The smartphone Camon 18 Premier is fueled with (Li-Po Non-removable), 4750 mAh battery to get enough backup time and the smartphones got a Fast charging. Now Samsung and other smartphone companies will be looking to bring features like 18 Premier.

Tecno Spark 8C 4GB

Rs:30,999



Tecno Spark 8C 4GB - A Spark-Series Phone
Tecno is introducing a new Spark 8C which has got a moniker 4GB at the end. The smartphone company Tecno is unveiling a new device in its Spark-series. The upcoming smartphone will be launched in September this year, the coming handset will be a mid-range device. The newcomer will be called Tecno Spark 8C 4GB. This device got a Chipset of Unisoc T606 to give more power to this device and it has an Octa-Core processor inside the phone to make the device ultra fast. Also, there is a GPU of ARM Mali-G57 under the hood of this Tecno's Spark 8C 4GB. The coming device has got a 6.6 inches big screen size and it will provide the user with full HD plus the resolution of 720 x 1612 Pixels. The new Tecno Spark 8C's going to have an IPS LCD Capacitive Touchscreen display that is the latest one and well known for its outstanding results. This handset will be paired with a gigantic RAM capacity of 4 gigabytes. The chipset and the RAM capacity of the Spark 8C 4GB by Tecno show that it will enable the user to execute things with the coming handset within seconds. The internal storage capacity of the smartphone is 128 gigabytes that are enough to store a huge amount of data for future use. The Tecno 8C 4GB will come equipped with a Dual Camera setup. The main sensor of the handset will be 13 megapixels, and another one is a QVGA sensor. The selfie shooter of the smartphone will be 8 megapixels. In this upcoming new Tecno Spark's 8C 4GB, you will find a rear-mounted sensor to protect your data from loss. The battery of this upcoming new smartphone Spark 8C 4GB is 5,000 mAh to give full-day use to the users, also there is a Battery charging 10W. This handset 8C 4GB will give through time to its competitors like Samsung and others.

Tecno Camon 19 Pro

Rs:49,999



Tecno Camon 19 Pro - New-Series Of Smartphones
Tecno is working on a new Camon 19 which has got a moniker Pro at the end. Chinese manufacturer Tecno is launching a new series of smartphones. Last year Tecno has unveiled Camon 18 series, now the company is preparing its successor which will be called Tecno Camon 19 Pro. The new smartphone will be powered by the MediaTek Helio G96 chipset. This is a powerful chipset that will empower the upcoming smartphone Tecno's Camon 19 Pro to provide the user with high-end performance, and also there is an Octa-Core processor under the hood of this smartphone. The upcoming new Tecno Camon 19's going to have 6.8 inches which is a massive screen, and to provide the user with full HD plus the resolution of 1080 x 2460 Pixels. And there is an IPS LCD Capacitive Touchscreen display, also there is a powerful GPU of Mali. The new Camon 19 Pro by Tecno is having an upcoming smartphone with 8 gigabytes RAM, which is the highest point of RAM used in this smartphone so you can say that your phone is going to run at a super fast speed because of its powerful RAM. The built-in storage capacity of the Tecno 19 Pro is 256 gigabytes which means that the capacity of your data is unlimited. On the rear of the smartphone, there is a Triple Camera setup. The main sensor of Tecno Camon's 19 Pro will be 64 megapixels, 50 megapixels, along with the AI sensor. The selfie shooter of the phone will be 32 megapixels. For this purpose upcoming smartphone Camon 19 Pro is having a side-mounted fingerprint reader to secure the data on the smartphone and only allow the authorized person. The device will be fueled with a Non-removable Li-Po 5000 mAh battery that will carry support for Fast charging of 33W. Samsung and other tech giants will face serious competition when the coming smartphone 19 Pro will release.

Tecno Camon 19 Neo

Rs:40,999



Tecno Camon 19 Neo - The Mid-Ranger
Tecno is working on a Camon 19 which has got a moniker Neo at the end. The company is launching a new smartphone in its Camon series. The newcomer will be a budget-friendly phone and will be named Tecno Camon 19 Neo. The smartphone got a Chipset of MediaTek Helio G85 which is the most powerful chipset and to give more power to this handset there is an Octa-Core processor inside the Tecno's Camon 19 Neo to make the device ultra fast. Also, there is a GPU of Mali under the hood of this smartphone. The display screen size of the smartphone is 6.8 inches and it will provide the user with full HD plus the resolution of 1080 x 2460 Pixels. The new Tecno Camon 19's having an IPS LCD Capacitive Touchscreen display that is the latest one and well known for its outstanding results. The handset will be paired with a gigantic RAM capacity of 6 gigabytes. The chipset and the RAM capacity of the Camon 19 Neo by Tecno show that it will enable the user to execute things with the smartphone within seconds. The internal storage capacity of the smartphone is 128 gigabytes which is enough to store a huge amount of data for future use and the device got a microSD dedicated slot. On the rear of the Tecno 19 Neo, there is a Triple Camera setup. The main sensor of the handset will be 48 megapixels, 2 megapixels, and 2 megapixels, to make taking selfies easier and more attractive. The Tecno Camon's 19 Neo is having a side-mounted, optical fingerprint reader to secure the data on the smartphone and only allows the authorized person. The Camon 19 Neo will be fueled with a Non-removable Li-Po 5,000 mAh battery that will carry support for Fast charging. Samsung and other tech giants will face serious competition when the coming 19 Neo will release.

Huawei P30

Rs:89,999



Huawei P30 - Terminator Series
Once again Huawei surprised with P30 intro which seems too early but yet sources are claiming that this new phone is developing and soon it will be available in the market. So if the give info is correct then Huawei P30 is not too far from us and soon we will see a smartphone with latest design which gonna make him different from other smartphones. Huawei's P30 have to make himself strong because Samsung has announced a whole series of smartphones that gonna toughen the competition for this phone but it seems that as usual Huawei P30's unique design will beat its rivals and gonna rank in higher class easily. Mate series of this brand is still in pipeline and yet they have created hype that Huawei P-series P30 smartphone is on its way too. Display of the phone is 6.1 inch and it is made up of OLED touchscreen which is capacitive and smooth for scrolling. Huawei has decided to equip the display of the P30 with FHD resolution and we will see a 1080 x 2340 display ratio used for display of this phone. Internal storage of the phone is consist of 128 GB and storage capacity of P30 is expandable with help of an additional SD card with a capacity of 256 GB SD card. In today's world camera seems to be strong selling point for smartphones that's why the new P30 is coming with triple camera setup on the back and as usual this camera setup is going to beat everyone in its class due to its AI technology which is perfect in every way. P30 gonna come up with single 32 MP lens on the front armed with Bokeh effect used to blur the background of the focused object. Artificial Intelligence is also used in front camera of P30 by Huawei which can easily sense the type of object and it can use its intelligence to improve the quality of the picture according to the given scenario. Chip used in Huawei P30 is Kirin 980 which is best chipset yet available.

Apple iPhone 11(128 GB)

Rs:1,56,300



Body	150.9 x 75.7 x 8.3 mm (5.94 x 2.98 x 0.33 in)
Display	6.1 Inches, Liquid Retina IPS LCD capacitive touchscreen, 16M colors
Camera	12 MP, f/1.8, 26mm (wide), 1/2.55" 1.4µm, dual pixel PDAF, OIS 12 MP, f/2.4, 13mm (ultrawide)
Battery	Standby:N/A Talk Time:Upto 17h Music Play:Upto 65h
Memory	Ram:4GB, Card Slot:No Internal:128GB
Features	Face ID, accelerometer, gyro, proximity compass, barometer, Siri natural language commands and dictation

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Importer Name	Brand	Qty	Amt
FUTURE TECH	APPLE	78	72,629
AIR LINK COMMUNICATION (PVT) LTD	APPLE		
M/S. NIZAM ELECTRONICS	APPLE		
MICROTEL TRADING	APPLE		
SMART TECHNOLOGIES	APPLE		
YELLOSTONE TECHNOLOGIES (PRIVATE) LIMITED	APPLE		
HAMZA ENTERPRISES	APPLE		
EXPERT TRADERS	APPLE		
ROCKERS TRADING	APPLE		
ORIENT ENTERPRISES	APPLE		
PENTA INTERNATIONAL	APPLE		
SAHAA TRADERS	APPLE		
EUROTEL TRADING	APPLE		
HEAVEN TECHNOLOGIES	APPLE		
PREMIER CODE (PRIVATE) LIMITED	D CODE		
SWIFT BIZ SOLUTIONS PVT LTD	DIGIT 4G		
HUAWEI TECHNOLOGIES PAKISTAN (PRIVATE) LIMITED	HUAWEI		
YELLOSTONE TECHNOLOGIES (PRIVATE) LIMITED	HUAWEI		
INNOV TECHNOLOGIES	HONOR		
INNOV TELECOM (PVT.) LIMITED	INFINIX	890	165,243
BAKKA TRADING	INFINIX		
HAMZA ENTERPRISES	INFINIX		
CARLCARE SERVICE (PVT.) LIMITED	INFINIX	7	564
SICCOTEL TRADING	INFINIX		
EUROTEL TRADING	INFINIX		
TRANSSION TECNO ELECTRONICS (PRIVATE) LIMITED	INFINIX		
EXPERT TRADERS	INFINIX		
MICROTEL TRADING	INFINIX		
ORIENT ENTERPRISES	INFINIX		
ROCKERS TRADING	INFINIX		
SAHAA TRADERS	INFINIX		
CARLCARE SERVICE (PVT.) LIMITED	ITEL		
INNOV TELECOM (PVT.) LIMITED	ITEL		
TRANSSION TECNO ELECTRONICS (PRIVATE) LIMITED	ITEL		
EXPERT TRADERS	ITEL		
FORTUNE (PRIVATE) LIMITED	MOTOROLA	341	32,395
TECNO PACK ELECTRONICS (PRIVATE) LIMITED	NOKIA		
OPPO MOBILE TECHNOLOGIES PAKISTAN (PRIVATE) LIMITED	OPPO		
EXPERT TECH (PRIVATE) LIMITED	OPPO		
HAMZA ENTERPRISES	OPPO		
IMPEL TECH (PRIVATE) LIMITED	OPPO	400	35,200
THRIVE MOBILES & ACCESSORIES TECH (PRIVATE) LIMITE	OPPO		
A.S. TELECOM (PRIVATE) LIMITED	OURITEL		
EXPERT TRADERS	ONE PLUS		
M/S TRADELINK INTERNATIONAL	REALME		
EXPERT TECH (PRIVATE) LIMITED	REALME		
Logistics Propel	REALME		
HAMZA ENTERPRISES	REALME		
SAMSUNG EC PAKISTAN PVT LTD	SAMSUNG		
LUCKY MOTOR CORPORATION LIMITED	SAMSUNG	25,835	2,731,630
UMBRELLA ELECTRONICS & GENERAL TRADERS	SAMSUNG		
SAHAA TRADERS	SAMSUNG		
ORIENT ENTERPRISES	SAMSUNG		
MICROTEL TRADING	SAMSUNG		
HAMZA ENTERPRISES	SAMSUNG		
EXPERT TRADERS	SAMSUNG		
EUROTEL TRADING	SAMSUNG		
DEPLOY (PVT.) LIMITED	SPARKX	18,160	991,816
AIR LINK COMMUNICATION (PVT) LTD	TECNO		
SAHAA TRADERS	TECNO		
AREERAH TECHNOLOGIES LIMITED	TECNO	5,000	398,250
M/S UNITED MOBILE	TECNO		
TRANSSION TECNO ELECTRONICS (PRIVATE) LIMITED	TECNO		
UNITED COMMUNICATION (PVT.) LIMITED	TECNO		
INNOV TELECOM PVT LTD	TECNO		
HAMZA ENTERPRISES	TECNO		
SICCOTEL TRADING	TECNO		
CARLCARE SERVICE (PVT.) LIMITED	TECNO		
EXPERT TRADERS	TECNO		
ORIENT ENTERPRISES	TECNO		
VIVO ELECTRIC (PRIVATE) LIMITED	VIVO		
COASTAL JADE TECHNOLOGY (PRIVATE) LIMITED	VIVO	1,717	288,966
SSH TELECOM (SMC-PRIVATE) LIMITED	VGOTEL		
UNITED COMMUNICATION (PVT.) LIMITED	VNUS		
AIR LINK COMMUNICATION (PVT) LTD	XIAOMI		
BAKKA TRADING	XIAOMI		
CORETECH	XIAOMI	1,100	85,052
GLOBAL CUSTOMER CARE (PRIVATE) LIMITED	XIAOMI	10	1,250
SELECT TECHNOLOGIES (PRIVATE) LIMITED	XIAOMI		
SMARTLINK TECHNOLOGIES	XIAOMI		
STRATEGIC LOGISTIC SERVICES (PRIVATE) LIMITED	XIAOMI	2	300
UNITED COMMUNICATION (PVT.) LIMITED	ZTE	10,200	753,882
APPLE		78	72,629
D CODE			
DIGIT 4G			
HUAWEI			
HONOR			
INFINIX		897	166,307
ITEL			
MOTOROLA		341	32,395
NOKIA			
OPPO		400	35,200
ONE PLUS			
OURITEL			
REALME			
SPARKX		18,160	991,816
SAMSUNG		25,835	2,731,630
TECNO		5,000	398,250
VIVO		1,717	288,966
VNUS			
VGOTEL			
XIAOMI		1,112	86,602
ZTE		10,200	753,882
Total		62,740	9,557,677

تصویری خبرنامہ



آرمی چیف جنرل سید عامر حسین سیالکوٹ کیرپن کا دورہ کر رہے ہیں



بلوچستان: وزیراعظم شہباز شریف اور ایرانی صدر ابراہیم رئیسی ملاقات کر رہے ہیں



اسلام آباد: وزیراعظم شہباز شریف سے نائب وزیر داخلہ سعودی عرب ملاقات کر رہے ہیں



کوہاٹ: قبائلوں نے اپنے مطالبات کے حق میں احتجاج کے موقع پر بڑک باک کر رکھی ہے



لاہور: مسلم لیگ ق کے زیر اہتمام پاک فوج کے حق میں ریلی نکالی جا رہی ہے



چترال: پلیم جوشی فیسٹول میں شریک خواتین روایتی لباس پہن کر رہی ہیں



کراچی: آسمان پر شام کے اوقات میں چھانے والے بادلوں کا منظر



اسلام آباد: پاک آرمی کے حق میں ریلی نکالی جا رہی ہے



ایبٹ آباد: طالب علم گاڑی کی چھت پر خطرناک طریقے سے سفر کر رہے ہیں



کراچی: ریزرو جی بان مونی پھل بیچی فروخت کر رہا ہے



لاہور: ورلڈ میوزیم ڈسٹ پر نمائش میں شریک لڑکیاں مجسمہ دیکھ رہی ہیں



اسلام آباد: وزیر مملکت فیصل کریم کنڈی میڈیا سے گفتگو کر رہے ہیں



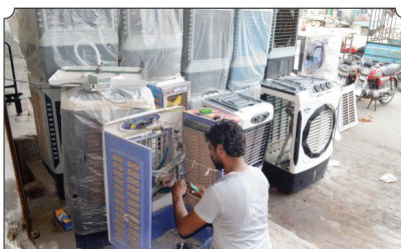
اسلام آباد: خواہشہر اکیڈمی کی رہنما مایا علی پریس کانفرنس کر رہی ہیں



اسلام آباد: رات کے وقت موٹر سائیکل سوار اپنی منزل کی جانب رواں دواں ہیں



لاہور: تصویری نمائش میں شریک خواتین ٹین پینٹنگ دیکھ رہی ہیں



فیصل آباد: کاریگر ایگزیکٹو کی تیاری میں مصروف ہے



حیدر آباد: وائس چانسلر جی سی یونیورسٹی طیبہ ظریف نور کی بیٹی کی کوشیلڈ پیش کر رہی ہیں



لاہور: شملہ پہاڑی پر بدترین ٹریفک جام ہے

مکڑی کا دس فٹ بلند جسم، تین کروڑ 28 لاکھ ڈالر میں فروخت



نیو یارک (ویب ڈیسک) امریکی خزانہ فرانسس خاتون جسے ساڈا اور فنکارہ کی جانب سے مکڑی کا ایک دو فٹ لمبا جسم تین کروڑ 28 لاکھ ڈالر میں فروخت ہوا ہے۔ پاکستانی رقم میں یہ قیمت 34 کروڑ روپے بنتی ہے۔ فروخت ہونے والا شکار لوئیس جوزف بوزا دے 1996ء میں بنایا تھا۔ خاتون فنکارہ نے مسلسل کئی دہائیوں تک غیر معمولی بڑے انکچر بنانے جو دنیا بھر میں مقبول ہوئے۔ اسپائڈر مانی یہ جسم دس فٹ بلند ہے اور کاشی سے ڈھانکا گیا ہے۔

50 برس میں آب و ہوا میں تبدیلی سے 20 لاکھ افراد ہلاک ہوئے

شکار وہ غریب افراد ہیں جو پسماندہ ممالک میں رہتے ہیں جن کا کاربن اخراج میں کردار نہ ہونے کے برابر ہے



جنیوا (ویب ڈیسک) اقوام متحدہ کی جانب سے جاری ایک رپورٹ میں کہا ہے کہ آب و ہوا میں ہونے والی تبدیلی سے گزشتہ 50 برس میں 20 لاکھ افراد ہلاک ہوئے ہیں اور عالمی معیشت کو 3.4 ٹریلین ڈالر کا نقصان ہوا ہے۔ تاہم 90 فیصد اموات غریب اور ترقی یافتہ ممالک میں ہوئی ہیں اور اس کا سبب نقصان بھی انہی کے حصے میں آیا ہے۔ اقوام متحدہ کے تحت، عالمی موسمیاتی تنظیم (ویلیو ایم او) کے مطابق 1970 سے 2021 تک پوری دنیا میں موسمیاتی شدت سے 11778 واقعات ہوئے۔ تحقیقاتی ادارے کہتے ہیں کہ ان کی تعداد بڑھتی جا رہی ہے۔ اس کے علاوہ غریب افراد ہیں جو پسماندہ ممالک میں رہتے ہیں جن کا کاربن اخراج میں کردار نہ ہونے کے برابر ہے۔ ویلیو ایم او کے سربراہ پٹری ہلاس نے کہا کہ جو لوگ موسمیاتی تباہی کے دھانے پر ہیں وہ گری سے جھک رہے ہیں اور پانی و سیلاب کا سامنا ہے۔ انہوں نے گزشتہ تین ہفتے بھارت اور میانمار میں موسمیاتی طوفانوں کا حوالہ دیتے ہوئے بتایا کہ آب و ہوا کی تباہی کے شکار سب سے زیادہ غریب عوام ہی ہو رہے ہیں۔ رپورٹ کے مطابق 1970 سے موسمیاتی شدت سے ہونے والی اموات میں اضافہ ہوا تو 50 ہزار انہوں نے سال تک محدود کی۔ اس کے بعد 2010 سے ان میں کمی ہوئی جو سالانہ 20 ہزار ہلاکتوں تک محدود رہی۔

آسٹریلیا میں دیوبندیکل مشروم کی افزائش سے عوام حیران

آسٹریلیا (نیٹ نیوز) آسٹریلیا میں بارشوں کے موسم کے بعد جنوبی علاقوں میں غیر معمولی طور پر بڑے مشروم پھل اٹھے ہیں۔ ماہرین نے انہیں کھانے سے منع کیا ہے کیونکہ اس طرح پیٹ میں درد اور معدے کے دیگر عارضے لاحق ہو سکتے ہیں۔ انہیں عام طور پر بلیکس کہا جاتا ہے جو مشہور ہیں۔ اگرچہ ان کی افزائش عام نہیں لیکن گزشتہ چند برس میں برسات کے بعد ان کے اگنے میں تیزی دیکھنے میں آئی ہے۔ خورد روہ سے کی طرح پھوٹ پڑنے والے مشروم پر ماہرین بھی تحقیق کر رہے ہیں۔ مقامی افراد نے حیرت کا اظہار کرتے ہوئے کہا کہ ایک مقام پر بہت سے مشروم اک آئے ہیں جن میں سے کئی ایک کا گھیر ایک میٹر تک وسیع ہے۔ آسٹریلیا میں اس وقت موسم خزاں ہے اور بارشوں کی بھرمار ہے۔ اس موسم میں کئی کار جو حرارت سرد ہو جاتا ہے اور کئی بڑے سے ڈارٹن ہلکے بھورے مشروم بہت تیزی سے پودان پڑھتے ہیں۔

پاکستانی کمپنی کا امریکی اسٹارٹ اپ سے شراکت داری کا معاہدہ طے

تحت عملی ملک کے وسیع تر اور مشہور کاروباری نیٹ ورک کو بہت فراہم کرنے کے ہمارے مقصد کے گروہ کو

کراچی (ویب ڈیسک) جعفر بزنس سنسٹر نے چپ کی تصدیق میں مہارت کی حامل سکولن ویلی میں واقع اسٹارٹ اپ (Impar) "ہمارے" کی اسٹریٹجک ایکٹریٹن کا اعلان کر دیا ہے۔ یہ پہلا موقع ہے کہ جب سے یہ ایس نے پاکستان سے باہر کی اسٹارٹ اپ میں سرمایہ کاری کی ہے جو کہ دنیا کے ٹیکنالوجی مہتمکوں ویلی میں واقع ہے اور چپ کی تصدیق کی صنعت میں معروف ہے۔ یہ ایس نے ایس کی ای او ڈیٹا اسلام نے کہا کہ ہمارے اسٹارٹ اپ کے حصول کی تحت عملی ملک کے وسیع تر اور مشہور کاروباری نیٹ ورک کو بہت فراہم کرنے کے ہمارے مقصد کے گروہ کو ہے جو مستقبل، اخراجی اور ہمارے معیشت کو چلانے کے لئے طریقوں کے ساتھ اچھی طرح سے مکمل مل جاتی ہے۔ توقع ہے کہ چپ کی تصدیق کی مارکیٹ اگلے پانچ سالوں میں 16 ارب ڈالر تک بڑھے گی جس سے یہ باہر بھی انتہائی طلب کی حامل صنعت بن جائیگی۔ ہمارے کی بنیاد پاکستان میں ایک تصدیقی مرکز کے قیام اور مقامی طلباء کو امریکی کمپنیوں کے ساتھ کام کرنے کی تربیت دینے کے مقصد سے رکھی گئی تھی تاکہ تصدیقی ٹیکنیٹری بڑھتی ہوئی طلب کو پورا کیا جاسکے۔

پاکستان کی درخواست پر اپیل نے ایپ اسٹور سے 10 اپس ہٹا دیں

روسی کی درخواست پر سات اپس کو ان ممالک کے قانون کی خلاف ورزی کرنے پر ایپ اسٹور سے ہٹا

کلیفورنیا (ویب ڈیسک) ٹیکنالوجی کمپنی اپیل نے پاکستان کی درخواست پر 10 اپس ہٹا دیں۔ اسٹور سے ہٹا دی جانے سے جاری ہونے والی 2022 کی ایپ اسٹور انسپریشن رپورٹ کے مطابق اپیل نے مجموعی طور پر 1474 اپس ہٹا دیں۔ مختلف حکومتوں کی درخواستوں پر ایپ اسٹور سے ہٹا دیں۔ اعداد و شمار کے مطابق اپیل نے چین کی درخواست پر 1435 ہمارت کی درخواست پر 140 پاکستان کی درخواست پر 10 روس کی درخواست پر سات اپس کو ان ممالک کے قانون کی خلاف ورزی کرنے پر ایپ اسٹور سے ہٹا دیں۔ اپیل کو بتایا گیا ہے کہ ایپ ہٹانے کے لیے 18 ہزار 412 درخواستیں موصول ہوئیں جن میں سب سے زیادہ چین کی جانب سے 5 ہزار 484 درخواستیں تھیں۔ ایپ اسٹور پر رجسٹرڈ اپیل ویلیو ڈیٹا کے 3 کروڑ 69 لاکھ 74 ہزار 15 تھیں جبکہ 2022 میں قواعد و ضوابط کی خلاف ورزی کرنے پر اپیل نے 4 لاکھ 28 ہزار 487 ویلیو ڈیٹا کو ہٹا دیا۔ گزشتہ تین ہفتے اپیل نے بتایا تھا کہ ایپ اسٹور نے 2022 میں 2.09 ارب ڈالر سے زائد کی آمدنی کمزور دہی کی فراہم کی تھی۔ 39 لاکھ چوری شدہ کریڈٹ کارڈ ہلاک کیا۔

ٹھاپے پر قابو نہ پانے والے بھارتی پولیس افسران کو رٹائر ہونے کا حکم

نئی دہلی (انٹرنیشنل نیوز ڈیسک) بھارت کی شمال مشرقی ریاست آسام میں پولیس فورس نے زیادہ دن والے افسروں کو بھارت کی ہے کہ وہ عوامی اتحاد کی بجائے کیلئے یا تو وہ اپنا دن گھنٹا میں یا پھر دن رات ہو گیا۔ عالمی میڈیا رپورٹس کے مطابق پولیس افسران کے نفسی صحت کی کامیابی کے لیے آسام پولیس نے افسران کو مخصوص ڈیٹا لائن دی تھی۔ آسام کے ڈائریکٹر جنرل آف پولیس کی نیٹ ورک نے اعلان کیا تھا کہ تمام افسران کا باڈی ماس انڈیکس پیڑ در پیڑ طور پر ریکارڈ کیا جائے گا۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ جن کا زیادہ دن والے دن میں وجوہات سے متعلق ہے، وہ اس بھارتی منتقلی ہیں۔ 60,000 کے قریب پولیس کے موٹے افسران کو ڈیٹا ہونے یا رضا کارانہ طور پر رٹائر ہونے کے لیے تین ماہ کا وقت دیا گیا ہے۔ ورنہ ان کا مقصد پولیس فورس کو بائرن ہونا ہے۔

انسانی جسم کا سب سے بڑا معمہ جو شاید کبھی حل نہ ہو

شعور بڑا تھوڑا ہے جسے سائنسی اصطلاح میں hard problem of consciousness کہا جاتا ہے



امریکا (نیٹ نیوز) ہمارے دماغ میں 100 کھرب عصبی رابطے مل کر ہمارے اندر ذہن ہونے کا شعور کیسے اجاگر کرتے ہیں؟ بہت سے عقیم نظریات اسے نہ صرف انسانی جسم کا سب سے بڑا راز سمجھتے ہیں بلکہ سائنس کا بھی سب سے بڑا معما گردانتے ہیں۔ شعور کا راز دراصل اس بنیادی سوال میں چھپا ہے کہ شخص دماغی فعالیت سے حیرات کیونکر اور کیسے جنم لیتے ہیں۔ اگرچہ سائنس نے دماغ کے کام کرنے اور مختلف ذہنی فعالیت سے اس کے تعلق کو سمجھنے میں حیرت حاصل کی ہے لیکن شعور بذات خود اب بھی سائنسدانوں کے نزدیک معما ہے جسے سائنسی اصطلاح میں hard problem of consciousness کہا جاتا ہے۔ شعور کے راز ہونے کی ایک وجہ یہ ہے کہ یہ ایک انتہائی پیچیدہ ذہنی معاملہ ہے۔ ہر فرد کا شعوری تجربہ دوسرے سے منفرد ہوتا ہے جس کا براہ راست مشاہدہ یا اس کی بنیادیں نہیں کی جاسکتی۔ ہم افراد کے طرز عمل دماغی سرگرمی اور ذہنی حرکات کا مشاہدہ کر سکتے ہیں لیکن کتنے ہی جدید آلات نے آئیں۔

واٹس ایپ پیغامات میں ترمیم کا آپشن متعارف کرا دیا گیا

صارفین واٹس ایپ میسجز بھیجنے کے بعد اس میں 15 منٹ تک ترمیم کر سکیں گے



سان فرانسسکو (ویب ڈیسک) واٹس ایپ نے منیج ایڈٹ کرنے کے آپشن کی آزمائش کے بعد اس بہت کو عوام میں متعارف کرا دیا ہے۔ عالمی میڈیا رپورٹس کے مطابق منیج ایڈٹ اور ایک ڈکریٹ برگ کے فیچر کے ساتھ ایک صارفین واٹس ایپ میسجز بھیجنے کے بعد اس میں 15 منٹ تک ترمیم کر سکیں گے۔ لیکن یہ فیچر اس کے لیے مخصوص ہے جو صارفین کو ایڈٹ کرنا یا جابجا کرنا ہے۔

طرح کی بہت اچلی Message پر پیچیدہ دستیاب ہے۔ اس سے قبل واٹس ایپ کی خبر دینے والی ایپ ویلیو ایس نے انہوں نے کہا تھا کہ نئے ایڈٹ اور ڈکریٹ آپشن شامل کیا جا رہا ہے جو پیغامات میں غلطیاں درست کرنے اور ایڈٹنگ کی سہولیات فراہم کرے گا۔ پیغام کی ایڈٹنگ کے لیے آپ کو کچھ دیر تک پیغام پر ٹیپ کرنا ہوگی اور اسلیٹ ہونے کے بعد آپ کی جانب مودی لائنوں کو کچھ کرنے پر ایڈٹ میں نمودار ہو جائے گا۔

صوبہ سندھ میں کچھوں کی 8 اقسام پائی جاتی ہیں، محکمہ جنگلی حیات

سندھ کی کچھوں (گرین ٹرٹل) مذہبی کچھوں (اولیور ٹرٹل) باقاعدگی سے ہمارے ساحلوں پر آتے ہیں

کراچی (ویب ڈیسک) گونا بھر میں 23 قسمی کچھوں کے تھلے کے عالمی دن کے طور پر منایا جاتا ہے جس کی مناسبت سے محکمہ جنگلی حیات سندھ نے اس سال کے ہیر سندھ کی کچھوں کے حوالے سے شمار پائی ڈیٹا جاری کر دیا ہے۔ محکمہ جنگلی حیات کے مطابق صوبہ سندھ میں تازہ پائی کی آٹھ اقسام جن میں 4 زم زم والے اور 4 سخت خول والے کچھوں شامل ہیں۔ سندھ کی کچھوں کی ریکارڈ شدہ اقسام میں ہیر سندھ کی کچھوں (گرین ٹرٹل) مذہبی کچھوں (اولیور ٹرٹل) باقاعدگی سے ہمارے ساحلوں پر آتے ہیں۔ جبکہ لیورڈیک وہاں کچھوں کی آمد بھی ریکارڈ کی گئی ہے۔ دوسرے ذہنی سرگرمی میں وہ اپنے صندھ کے ہیر اجوں کی صفائی کی وجہ سے سالانہ بندش کے دوران کدو و گھرو کوڑی اجڑا کر کے سرمے میں بیٹھے پانی کی کئی کئی کچھوں کو رسیک کر کے موت کے قہقہے سے بھی بھرا دیا گیا ہے۔



لکڑی کے ڈبے میں پسند
سیٹھلا سڑکی راہ ہموار

ٹوکیو (ویب ڈیسک) سنی اسلام آباد کے نام سے منسوب ہیں
میں پچھلی دہائی کے ایک بڑے ڈپے کی محل اہمیت
ہے۔ لیکن جاپانی انجینئروں نے ایک خاص قسم کے گزری
سے بنے چکر ڈپے میں برقی آلات رکھ کر اس کی
آرامش بخلائی ماحول میں کی گئی ہے۔ سنی اسلام آباد کی گزری
سے چمباتی سنی اسلام آباد بنایا گیا ہے جو حقیقت میں بالکل
اصل اور قدرتی محل سنی اسلام آباد بھی ہے۔ اس منصوبہ کو
انجینئریسٹ کا نام دیا گیا ہے۔ سنی اسلام آباد کی بجلی مضبوط
اور یکساں ہوتی ہے جس سے کسان بنائے جاتے ہیں۔
اس کا سب سے بڑا فائدہ یہ ہے کہ دہائی کے بجائے گزری
کے سنی اسلام آباد وزن میں ہلکے ہوتے ہیں۔ دہائی سنی اسلام
آباد کی صورت میں ہمارے گھر سے رہتے ہیں اور ہر
ایک گزری میں تقسیم ہو کر ہمارے گھر سے ہر بار
اس علاقہ کو ڈپے کے سنی اسلام آباد کے علاقے منصوبہ بھی
شہر مشکلات کے شکار ہو سکتے ہیں۔

آئی فون صارفین ونڈوز 1 سے ہوجائیں خبردار

ماہیکر و سائنس نے تمام دلدوز 1 1 صا رہنمائی کے لیے آگے ادا ایس فون ایک فیچر جاری کیا

لندن (ویب ڈیسک) ایک نئی رپورٹ کے مطابق وٹوز 11 میں متعارف کرایا گیا انگریز سافٹ ویئر فون لنک نیچے آئی فون صارفین پر سائبر حملوں کا سبب بن سکتا ہے۔ ایڈوانسڈ صارفین کا فرض ہے کہ فون لنک نیچے کا استعمال کر رہے ہیں اور اس کے ذریعے دالے قاتلے کو استعمال کرتے ہوئے اپنے ایڈوانسڈ فون کو کمپیوٹر سے جوڑتے ہیں۔ گزشتہ ماہ کی نامی کمپنی انگریز سافٹ ویئر تمام وٹوز 11 صارفین کے لیے آئی او ایس فون لنک نیچے جاری کیا جس کو استعمال کرتے ہوئے صارفین 39 زبانوں میں حالیہ سطح پر 85 ہائیڈروجن فون لنک نیچے استعمال کر سکتے ہیں۔ رپورٹ کے مطابق ملحد سائبر ایسٹار (انٹرنیٹ کا استعمال کرتے ہوئے لوگوں کو ہراساں کرنے والے) کسی کے بھی آئی فون پر فون لنک ایپلیکیشن بھیجے کہ ان کا ڈیٹا حاصل کرنے کے لیے استعمال کر سکتے ہیں۔



مموٹر سائیکل سواروں کی زندگیاں بچانے والا ہیلمٹ تیار کر لیا گیا

کراچی (ڈینٹ شو) قاعدہ کے باصلاحیت کپیڈر ایجنٹ نے ملزمزائیکل سواروں کو جلالت سے جانے اور کسی حادثے کی صورت میں جلد از جلد فروغی میں امدادی فراہمی یقینی بنانے کیلئے اسدات ہیملٹ اینڈ ایکسیڈنٹ وارنٹ سسٹمز کراچی پر ہیملٹ میں نصب ایئر بیس سٹریٹ، جی ایس ایم اور جی پی ایس سسٹم کے ساتھ کار چارنگ سسٹم سے گیس ہیں، یہ ہیملٹ انڈس یونیورسٹی کے شعبہ کپیڈر ٹرینس سے فارغ التحصیل (گرجویٹ) علما، محققین اور جرحہ امور ختم فوجی کاڈوں کا نتیجہ ہے جس کا مقصد کراچی میں ملزمزائیکل سواروں کے ہر ایک جلالت کی صورت میں جلد از جلد فروغی میں امدادی فراہمی کو یقینی بنانا کران کی جان کو بچانا ہے۔ یہ ہیملٹ کسی حادثے کی صورت میں ہر جرحی سہولتوں ایڈیوینس اور ہوزڈ کی چھٹیوں کے اندر جرحی ادارے کے ساتھ مخصوص فہرول پروڈکٹوں یا ہل خانہ کو وارنٹ جاری کر کے حادثے یا اندر جرحی سے آگاہ کرتا ہے اور ہیملٹ سے اپنے ملزمزائیکل سوار کی نوکشن سے بھی آگاہ کرتا ہے۔ پاکستان جہاز قافلہ میڈیکل ٹرینس میں جھینے والی ایکسپریٹ کے مطابق کراچی میں ہونے والے 87 فیصد ایکسیڈنٹ میں ملزمزائیکل سوار حصہ ہوتے ہیں۔



جنسی میں 43 فیصد اور 29 سال کی عمر کے جوان ہیں۔ ان حالات میں 15 لاکھ کوٹنگین پیمیں آئی جنس کی وجہ سے وہ معذوری کا فائدہ ہوجاتے ہیں۔ 32 فیصد سواران کو سر پر چوٹ لگتی ہے، 64 فیصد کو ٹانگوں اور 37 فیصد کو قفس پر چوٹ لگتی ہے۔ حالات کا دورانیوں والے 87 فیصد موٹر سائیکل سوار جیت دیا ہے، بقیہ سیدھا بیمار کر رہی ہیں موٹر سائیکل سوار جس کی زندگیوں کو نا اچھی خطرات کی نشاندہی کرتے ہیں اور حادثاتی موت میں چلا دی جلد ہی اندر کی فراموش

دودھ دہی کا کیمیکل میٹھوروں کو
اپنی جانب کشش کر سکتا ہے

لسا کا (ویب ڈیسک) ایک تحقیق میں معلوم ہوا ہے کہ انسانی جسم کی ہیک میں موجود ایک اہم جزو اپنے اندر پھر اس لیے خصوصی کشش رکھتا ہے۔ جان ہو کھڑا لیٹا اور سر پٹ لٹھٹیا اور اسکول آف میڈیسن نے دنیا کی اپنا سر پٹ راست کے ساتھ ایک تحقیق میں یہ جاننے کی کوشش کی کہ مختلف انسانی ہیک میں پھر اس کے لیے کوئی خصوصیات پر کشش ہوتی ہیں۔ تحقیق کے لیے 20 ہائے 20 سالہ نوجوانوں کا تجزیہ کیا گیا جس میں نیکروں اور انفری لیٹریا کے پھر (ان پھر اس میں لیٹریا کے جراثیم تھے) کے گھٹے گھٹے پھر اس کے گرد آٹھ انڈر اوڈ ٹینڈ لگائے گئے جن کو پھر اس کے اس پھر اس کے جراثیم کو انسان کی ہیک پھر اس تک یا آسانی سے پہنچتی تحقیق میں محققین کو معلوم ہوا کہ پھر اس انسانی جسم کی ہیک کی جانب کھینچے چلے آئے تھے جن میں پھر اس کی ہیک کی طرف سے اڑ جانے والے کاربوئیٹک ایسڈ پھر اس کے ہیک کی مقدار میں اضافہ ہو گی۔

آئر لینڈ: غیر قانونی ڈیٹا کی منتقلی، میٹا پر 1.3 ارب ڈالر جرمانہ عائد

حکم دیا ہے کہ وہ اکتوبر تک بحر اوقیانوس کے پار صافین کے ڈیشا کی منتقلی بند کروے



ڈیجیٹل (ایب ڈیٹیک) آئرلینڈ کے ڈیٹا پروڈکشن کمیشن
 فیس ایک کمپنی جیٹا پروڈاکٹوریٹی کے خلاف وزری کرنے پر 3.1
 ادب ڈارک جرنل عام کیا ہے۔ عالمی میڈیا رپورٹس کے مطابق
 ڈیٹا پروڈکشن کمیشن (ڈی پی سی) نے امریکی ایک کمپنی پر
 پروڈاکشن اصولوں کی خلاف وزری کرنے پر 3.1 ادب ڈارک
 جرنل عام کیا ہے اور حکم دیا ہے کہ وہ ایکٹو بریک جیٹا فیس
 بار صارفین کے ڈیٹا کی منتقلی بند کر دے۔ یہ جرنل تین سالہ تحقیقات کے بعد لگا دیا گیا ہے جیٹا آئرلینڈ اپنی فیس ایک کمپنی کی
 فراہمی میں یورپی یونین سے ذاتی ڈیٹا امریکا کو بھیجتا ہے۔ مزید برآں جولائی 2020 میں ڈیٹا پروڈکشن کمیشن کی جانب سے یورپی
 یونین کورٹ آف جسٹس میں لائے گئے تھے کیس میں فیس ایک آئرلینڈ کے خلاف فیصلہ جاری کیا گیا تھا۔



پیسوں کے عوض ٹیک ٹاک کی مسلسل اسکراننگ کی نوکری

درخواست میں امیدواروں کو پریکٹیکل ٹیسٹس پوٹنوب چیسٹل سبکراٹب کرنے کا کہا گیا ہے

لاس انجلس (ویب ڈیسک) ایک لاس انجلس ٹیلی ویژن مارکیٹنگ ایجنسی نے سوشل میڈیا صارفین کے لیے پیسوں کے عوض ہیک ٹاک کی انتخاب اسکرالنگ کی دہائی پیش کر دی ہے۔

ایجنسی ٹیلی ویژن مارکیٹنگ کی کمپنی کے تحت لانچ کی گئی تھیٹر کرنے والی نیٹ ورک ٹیکنیکس نے ہیک ٹاک واپس جاب 0.2 کے لیے درخواستیں موصول کرنا شروع کر دی ہیں۔

تھکنے کا سیلاب درخواست گزاروں کو لوگ 100 محضوں تک ہیک ٹاک دیکھنے کے لیے 100 واٹری محتو کی حساب سے ادا کی گئی کہ تاک ویڈیو شیئرنگ ایپ پر ابھرے والے سے فریڈ زکو روایت کیا جا سکے۔ درخواست میں امیدوار کو پانچویں ٹیکنیکس یوب چینل سبسکرائب کرنے کا کہا گیا ہے۔

درخواست گزار فارم میں 50-100 الفاظ پر مشتمل وجہ فراہم کرتے ہوئے تاہم یہ کہ انہیں بے فکری کیوں ملتی جا چاہئے تمام درخواست گزاروں کی عمر کم از کم 18 برس ہونی چاہئے اور سوشل میڈیا پلیٹ فارم کے متعلق معلومات ہونی چاہئے۔ درخواست جمع کرنے کی آخری تاریخ 31 مئی 2023 ہے۔



کینسر سے شفا یاب مریض نے کیلوں والے

تختہ پر 12 گھنٹے کھڑے رہ کر ریکارڈ بنادیا

لبنان) (دوب: ایک) اپنی غیر معمولی امت اور عزم سے سرطان کو کھٹکتے رہنے والے لبنانی فوجیوں نے ایک کیوں والے تختے پر 12 تختے سے ڈاکو کھڑے ہو کر ایک نیا ریکارڈ بنا دیا ہے۔ اس طرح ایک چاب توہ خود کو مضبوط دکھانا چاہتے تھے تو دوسری چاب سرطان کا شعور بھی بیدار کیا۔ راسی کا ڈاکو اس کے کام کو کیڑوں کی آف وولڈ ریکارڈ کے بعد بھی جتے جتے سے ٹوڑا ہے۔ راسی چاہتے ہیں کہ اس کے بعد دوبارہ ریکارڈ کے تمام پر لگنے پر نصف میرا تھن (قریباً 20 کلو گرام) تک دوڑنا چاہتے ہیں۔ لیکن ان انہوں نے کل 12 تختے سے 8 اور ایک کیڑوں کے ہرے تختے پر لگنے پر کھڑے ہو کر نیا ریکارڈ کا تمام کام کیڑوں کی آف وولڈ ریکارڈ کے مطابق راسی کی شہداد کا سامنا زندگی کی حساسیت کو ظاہر کرتی ہے۔ ہمیں اس صحت کا خیال رکھنا ہے اور اس کی نگہبانی کی ضرورت ہے۔

100 برس بعد آسٹریلیا میں ہونا کیئنگرو کا دوبارہ انکشاف

کتے، بلیوں، اور لومڑیوں کے شکار بننے کے بعد ان کی تعداد تیزی سے ختم ہو کر غائب ہو گئی تھی

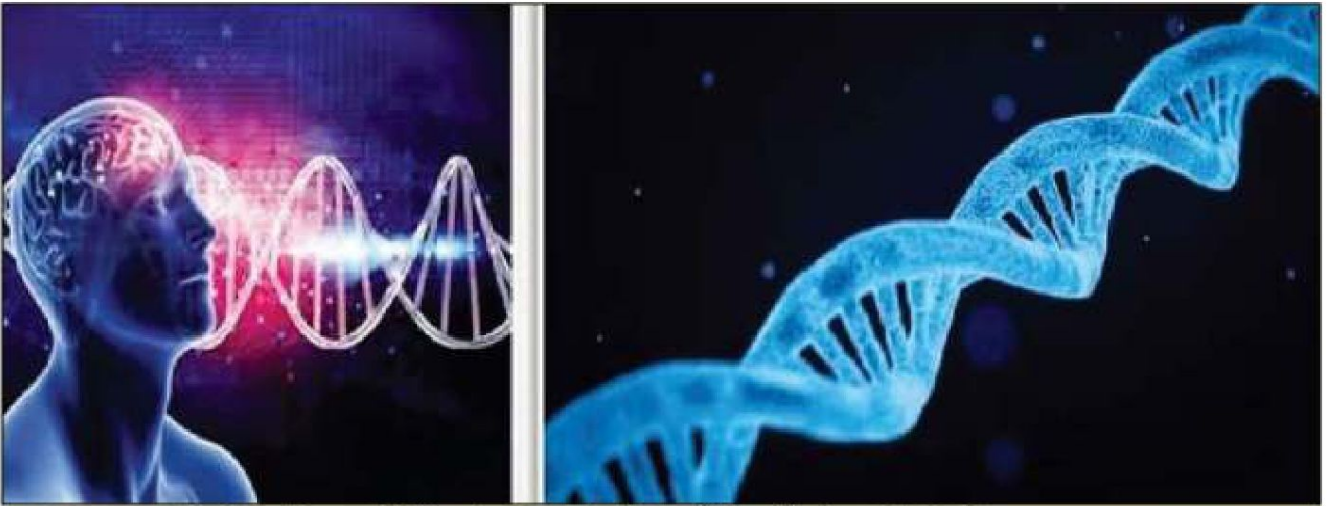
آسٹریلیا (ویب ڈیسک) برش بھی دم والے لیکن صرف خرگوش کے برابر جسامت رکھنے والے ننھا کنگڑو آسٹریلیا میں 1000 برس بعد دیکھا گیا ہے۔ انہیں جینگڑو کہا جاتا ہے جو دو صدی قبل آسٹریلیا کے 60 فیصد درختوں پر عام پائے جاتے تھے۔ لیکن آبادی میں اضافے، جنگلات کے کٹاؤ، کتے، بلیوں، اور لوہڑیوں کے ڈھار بننے کے بعد ان کی تعداد تیزی سے ختم ہو کر باقی ہو گئی تھی۔ اب اب سو برس آسٹریلیا کے جزیرہ نما، یارک میں یہ ننھی مخلوق دوبارہ کھنسی کی ہے اور ماہرین نے دو سال میں ایسے 120 جانور قدرتی ماحول میں چھوڑ دیے ہیں۔ لیکن ان کے حدود پر حفاظتی بازدار کاگر ڈھاری جانوروں سے محفوظ بنایا گیا ہے۔ اس عمر میں ان کی آبادی بڑھی ہے اور 45 میں سے 42 باراؤں کے سینے پر قدرتی حملی میں بھیگی دیکھا جاسکتا ہے۔ باقی یہ ایک خوش آمد بات ہے۔ لیکن واقعہ کے برعکس آسٹریلیا میں ان کی آبادی 12000 سے کچھ زیادہ ہو سکتی ہے۔



وائس ایس مس کال جلسا زی سے کس طرح بچا جاسکتا ہے

یہ معلومات ملنے کے بعد جلسہ اس کو یا تو بالمشاورت کو فروخت کر دیتے ہیں یا دھوکا دہی کے لیے استعمال کرتے ہیں

کلیونروپا (ایب ڈیسک) سماعت میں حال میں بڑے چالانے پر ہونے والی دہائی میں ایک ایسے کال جھلساڑی ایک بڑا سامعہ
 خطرہ بن گئی ہے۔ ایک ایسے کال جھلساڑی نمبر سے کال موصول ہو جس کا گوشہ میں جھٹکا کرتے ہوئے اس نمبر پر دہائی کال یا
 منیج کرنے پر جھٹکا کرتا ہے۔ اب اس کے مطابق جھلساڑیوں کو کوئی کال جھلساڑی سے کراپے نام میں چھپاتے ہیں۔ جھلساڑیوں کا
 بیانیہ مقدمہ صارفین کو دھوکا دے کر ان سے خفیہ معلومات حاصل کرتا رہتا ہے۔ یہ معلومات ہٹے کے بعد جھلساڑیوں کو باوقافی فریق
 کو فروخت کر دیتے ہیں یا دھوکا دہی کے لیے استعمال کرتے ہیں۔ بین الاقوامی نمبر سے دہائی ایسے کال یا دہائی ایسے منیج کے
 ذریعے اس جھلساڑی کی شناخت کرنا کافی آسان ہے۔ صارفین درج ذیل لاگو عمل اپنا کر اس قسم کی جھلساڑیوں سے بچ
 سکتے ہیں: ایسے جتنی تعداد میں دہائی ایسے پر بکھر جتنی تعداد میں ان کرنے کے کاؤٹ بک رسائی میں سیکورٹی کا اضافہ ہو جائے۔
 جن کا کھینچو میں ایسے جتنی تعداد میں مکمل موجود رہتا ہے وہاں اعلیٰ سیکورٹی یعنی ہوتی ہے۔ درجست: صارفین کو مشکوک نمبروں
 سے آنے والی کالز کا نظارہ اندازہ بالک اور درجست کرنا چاہئے۔ توجہ دینے: صارفین کو کوشش میں یہ اور مواصلاتی ایپلی کیشن پر کیے جانے
 والے ذاتی و تفریحی و محکمہ سے باخبر رہنا چاہئے تاکہ جھلساڑیوں کی دہائی سے بچا جاسکے۔



ڈیجیٹل ڈانکس

20 سال قبل ایک اہم سائنسی کوشش کے نتیجے میں انکشاف ہوا تھا کہ انسانی جینوم 20 ہزار پر مشتمل کوڈنگ جینیات پر مشتمل ہے لیکن یہ جینیات انسانی ڈی این اے کا صرف وہ فیصد حصہ ہیں۔ اس وقت یہ خیال کیا گیا کہ باقی ڈی این اے اہم نہیں لیکن اب یہ احساس ہو رہا ہے کہ ان کا کتنا اہم کردار ہوتا ہے۔ پریل 2003ء میں انسانی جینوم کے اندر موجود زندگی کی کتاب کا ہیڈ جانتے کی 13 سائنسی کوششوں کو مکمل قرار دیا گیا۔ اس وقت بہت زیادہ توقعات تھیں کہ 'ہیومن جینوم پراجیکٹ' جس پر تین ارب ڈالر خرچ ہوئے، کے ذریعے کئی

میں کھنڈے کے لیے ضروری ہے۔ کیری سٹیفنسن ڈی کوئیٹنکس کینیڈا کی چیف ایگزیکٹو ہیں۔ وہ کہتی ہیں، "ارتقاء میں کوڈسے کرکٹ کی کوئی جگہ نہیں ہے۔ جینوم کا حجم برقرار رہنے کی کوئی وجہ ہوگی۔" دو ہائیڈروکس کے بعد اس ڈارک جینوم کے بارے میں کچھ معلومات سامنے آ رہی ہیں۔ اس کا جیادی مقصد پر مشتمل چار کرنے والے جینیات کی ڈی کوڈنگ کے عمل کو رواں رکھنا لگتا ہے اور یہ جاحولیا کی جسم کو روکنا ہے جس میں خوراک، ورزش، نیند، جسمانی مشاغل شامل ہوتے ہیں جسے 'ایپی جنٹیکس' کہتے ہیں۔ میر کہتے ہیں کہ ان کے خیال میں یہ دشمن زندگی کا ہارڈ ویئر ہے جبکہ ڈارک جینوم

ڈارک میٹر ڈی این اے کا پراسرار حصہ

سائنس دانوں نے انسانی جینوم کے بارے میں جان نیکس کے اتنا ہی چھوٹے کے بارے میں علم حاصل کر لیا ہے۔ وہ کہتے ہیں، "انسان نے مسلسل ماحول کے حساب سے خود کو ڈھالا ہے اور جب ہم سوچتے ہیں کہ ہم کسی بھی سے مختلف کیوں ہیں، تو اس کا جواب اسی ڈارک جینوم میں چھپا ہے۔" جب سائنسدانوں نے زندگی کی کتاب یعنی ڈی این اے کو سال 2000ء کے دوران پڑھنا شروع کیا تو ایک مشکل یہ تھی کہ انسانی جینوم کے وہ حصے جہاں پر دشمن کوڈنگ نہیں تھی، ایک جیسے ڈی این اے کی کئی شکلیں موجود تھیں جن کو 'ننڈھوسوز' کہا جاتا ہے۔ یہ مقدار میں اتنے زیادہ تھے کہ تمام ممالیہ کے نصف جینوم ان پر ہی مشتمل ہوتے ہیں۔ جینف بونیک نیو یارک یونیورسٹی میں ڈارک میٹر پراجیکٹ چلاتے ہیں۔ وہ کہتے ہیں، "پہلے انسانی جینوم کی تشکیل ان ایک جیسے ڈی این اے کی وجہ سے مشکل ہوئی کیوں کہ ڈی این اے کا تجزیہ کرنا آسان ہوتا ہے اگر وہ منفرد ہو۔" آٹھ سال میں ماہرین جینیات نے لڑا نیڈھوسوز کو نظر انداز کر دیا اور جینوم کے پروٹین کوڈنگ کرنے والے حصوں کو 'ننڈھوسوز' قرار دیا۔ لیکن گذشتہ ایک دہائی کے دوران لیٹا لوبی میں ترقی کی وجہ سے ڈارک جینوم کا بہتر طریقے سے جائزہ لینا ممکن ہوا ہے۔ ایک تجربے میں محققین نے چوبیس کے ڈی این اے میں موجود ایک مخصوص لڑا نیڈھوسوز کو ایک جانور سے بنادیا جس کا نتیجہ یہ نکلا کہ اس کے آدھے سے زیادہ بچے پیدا ہوئے تھے جس کی مرلے گئے۔

اس سے ثابت ہوا کہ چند لڑا نیڈھوسوز ہماری ہڈی کے لیے ضروری ہو سکتے ہیں۔ جینف بونیک کا کہنا ہے کہ جینوم میں لڑا نیڈھوسوز کی موجودگی کی وضاحت شاید اس بات سے ہو سکتی ہے کہ وہ کافی قدیم ہیں جن کی تاریخ زین پر زندگی کی ابتدائی شکل کے وقت کی ہے۔ دیگر سائنس دانوں کا کہنا ہے کہ یہ ایسے وائرس کی وجہ سے آئے ہیں جنہوں نے انسانی تاریخ کے دوران ڈی این اے پر حملہ کیا لیکن وقت کے ساتھ کسی اور مقدمہ کے لیے جسم

تیار ہوں کا علاج در پافیت ہو جائے گا اور انسانی زندگی کے بارے میں سنے مارا زافا ہوں گے۔ جب پریس کانفرنس کے دوران حیاتیاتی سمجھ بوجھ کے ایک نئے دور کے 71 ناکارہ اعلان کیا جا رہا تھا، انسانی زندگی کے بارے میں آگیا دینے والا یہ میٹون ایک غیر متوقع خبر تھی کہ باعث بنا۔ اس وقت عام خیال تھا کہ انسانی جینوم کی اکثریت پر دشمن تیار کرنے کی جالیات پر مشتمل ہوگا، جو ہر جاندار میں جیادی قہری مواد ہوتا ہے جو جلیوں کے اندر اور باہر جہاں کن کرادار کرتا ہے۔ انسانی جسم میں 200 سے زیادہ قسم کے ٹیپے ہوتے ہیں اور یہ تصور کہ عجیب نہیں تھا کہ ہر ٹیپے کو ایک قسم کے جینیات درکار ہوتے ہوں گے۔ انسانی جینوم کے تین ارب حرف میں سے وہ فیصد جسے ہم کئی دہائیوں کے لیے کھنڈے میں جن کی تعداد 20 ہزار کے قریب ہے۔

ماہرین جینیات یہ جان کر حیران ہوئے کہ انسانوں میں پروٹین کے اتنے ہی جینیات ہیں جتنے زمین پر موجود بہت سے جانداروں میں ہوتے ہیں۔ اس انکشاف نے سائنس کی دنیا کو ایک نئی شکل میں ڈال دیا اور ان کے سامنے یہ سوال کھڑا ہوا کہ شاید ہماری کچھ بڑی جلیاتی سمجھ بوجھیں کچھ کچھ کے چیف ایگزیکٹو ہیں جو دل کی بیماریوں، سرطان اور دیگر بیماریوں کا علاج در پافیت کرنے کے لیے انسانی جینیات کے بارے میں جاننے کی کوشش کر رہے ہیں۔ وہ کہتے ہیں، "مجھے دو بار یاد ہے جب بہت سے لوگوں نے سوچنا شروع کیا کہ کیا حیاتیات کے بارے میں ہمارے خیالات لگد ہو سکتے ہیں۔" انسانی ڈی این اے کے 98 فیصد کو ڈارک میٹرو ڈارک جینوم کا نام دے دیا گیا۔

یہ حروف کا ایک پراسرار جہم تھا جس کا تو ہم مطلب جانتے تھے اور نہ مقدمہ۔ کچھ ماہرین جینیات نے 71 ناکارہ میں کہا کہ انسانی ڈارک جینوم کا کوئی مقصد نہیں اور یہ انسانی ارتقاء کے نتیجے میں اکٹھا ہونے والا کوڈ کرکٹ ہے، ایسے جینیات کے باقی ماندہ ٹکڑے جن کا مقصد وقت کے ساتھ ساتھ ختم ہو گیا۔ تاہم دوسرے ماہرین کا ماننا تھا کہ یہ جینوم انسانیت کے بارے

ہو سکتا ہے۔ میر کہتے ہیں کہ آراین اے جانتے ہیں کہ ڈی این اے ماحول میں کسی قسم کی تبدیلی پر کیسے رتہ رتہ کرے گا۔ اور اب آراین اے کوڈنگ آراین اے کی طرف اس نظر سے دیکھا جا رہا ہے کہ یہ ڈارک جینوم اور مختلف طویل المدتی بیماریوں میں رابطہ ظاہر کر سکتے ہیں۔ خیال کیا جاتا ہے کہ اگر ڈارک جینوم مسلسل غلط قسم کے منتقل میں، جیسا کہ سرٹ ٹوٹی، بری خوراک اور محدود عمل و حرکت کی زندگی، تو اس کے پیدا کردہ آراین اے بالکل ہی جسم کو بیماری کی کیفیت میں ڈال دیتے ہیں اور جینیاتی حرکت اس طرح تبدیل ہو جاتی ہے کہ ٹیپے مرنا شروع ہو جاتے ہیں۔ یہ بھی خیال کیا جاتا ہے کہ چند مخصوص آراین اے نیو فٹنی قہری نامی جین کو بند کر سکتے ہیں یا اس کی حرکت میں اضافہ کر سکتے ہیں جو ماحول پر سرطان بننے سے روکتا ہے۔

شیر خٹریا ڈی پرائیو جینیٹکس بیماریوں میں جان کوڈنگ آراین اے کی کچھ تعداد کو کام کر سکتی ہے۔ تاہم ڈارک جینوم کی اہمیت کا اندازہ اب ایسی بیماریوں کے علاج میں کرادار کر رہا ہے۔ ایک جانب جہاں ادویات کی انجینئرنگ صرف پروٹین پر ہی توجہ مرکوز کرتی ہے، کچھ بیماریوں اب اس کوشش میں ہیں کہ کس طرح سے آراین اے پر اثر انداز ہو کر ان بیماریوں کا کیا علاج ممکن بنایا جا سکتا ہے۔ دوسری جانب سرطان کی دیکھیں کے میدان میں بھی جینوم کے پروٹین کوڈنگ حصے پر توجہ دی گئی ہے۔ لیکن جینیٹک کی دیکھ بھلی تان پر دشمن کوڈنگ حصے کے ذریعے سرطان کا علاج حاصل کرنے کی کوشش کی ابتدا کر رہی ہے۔ میر کی کینیڈا پرائیو جینیٹکس، ایک ایسی ادویاتی تیار کرنے کی کوشش کر رہی ہے جو ایسے جان کوڈنگ آراین اے کو نشانہ بنائے جن کی وجہ سے دل کی بیماری ہوتی ہے۔

ان کا کہنا ہے، "پروٹین کوڈنگ ڈی این اے کا مسئلہ یہ ہے کہ جسم میں ان کی تعداد صرف 20 ہزار ہے لیکن ڈارک جینوم میں ایسے تان کوڈنگ آراین اے موجود ہیں جو صرف دل میں بیماری پیدا کرتے ہیں اس لیے ان کو نشانہ بن کر ایک کم خطرہ ادویہ بنائے جاسکتے ہیں۔" تاہم یہ ایک حقیقت ہے کہ ہم ڈارک میٹر ڈارک جینوم کی سطح تک ہی موجود ہیں اور بہت زیادہ کچھ نہیں جانتے۔

ہو سکتے ہیں، "ابھی ہم نے ایک ڈی این اے کا نام لیا ہے اور اگلے 15 سے 20 سال میں صرف یہ ہوگا کہ ہم جلیوں میں ایسے مخصوص رویوں کی شناخت کر سکیں جو بیماری کی وجہ بنتے ہیں اور پھر ڈارک جینوم کے ان حصوں کی شناخت کی کوشش کریں جو ان رویوں کی وجہ بنتے ہیں۔ اصل چیز یہ ہے کہ اب ہمارے پاس یہ کام کرنے کے لیے وہ آلات دستیاب ہیں جو پہلے نہیں تھے۔" ہو سکتا ہے کہ کوئی بھی جینوم کے تمام حصے اور جانتے جانیں گے۔ زندگی کی کتاب اور جہاں ان جینوں کے ساتھ جانے کے باقی دوسرے جینوں میں سال پہلے ہوا تھا۔ وہ کہتے ہیں، "ابھی بھی بہت سے سوال ہیں۔ کیا ہماری جینیات وقت کے ساتھ بدلی ہے؟ کیا ہم اسے مکمل طور پر ڈی کوڈ کر پائیں گے؟" ہو سکتا ہے، مطلق، ہم ایک دو تین نیا تاریک مقام میں داخل ہونے کی کوشش کر رہے ہیں اور ابھی بہت سی ادویاتیں ہوائی ہیں۔ (بکھرے بی بی سی)

دلی ترقی اور داریگی کو بیان کرتا ہے۔

نویں اہم میں دکھایا گیا ہے کہ اگر فرض کریں کہ تمام عظیم معیاتی بنیادیں سیاست دان نہ ہوتے اور جنگی پائلٹ ہوتے تو وہ کیسے دکھائی دیتے اور دوسری اہم میں پاکستان کی معروف فلمی اور موسیقی صنعت سے وابستہ شخصیات کو تصوراتی طور پر لندن میں موجود دکھایا گیا ہے۔ ان میں سلطان راہی، مصطفیٰ قریشی، طارق عزیز اور نصرت رحمتی شامل ہیں۔

آپ یہ تصاویر دیکھ کر بتائیں کہ اگر ڈاکٹر صاحب نے ان تصاویر کو پس منظر پر اہم نہ کیا ہوتا تو فلمی طور پر ایک مریض کی تشکیل نہ دی ہوتی اور صرف جی جی جی بلکہ انسان کے خالص جذبات کو تصاویر کے حصہ اور بات میں محمول کرنا آج ہر دن ہوتا ہوتا تو کیا یہ تصاویر آپ کو اپنی بات متوجہ کرتیں؟ بالکل بھی نہیں، اسی لیے ہمارا خیال ہے کہ فی الحال تو مصنوعی ذہانت کے چرچے اپنی جگہ کر رہے ہیں ذہانت کی ہمیشہ محتاج رہے گی۔

مصنوعی ذہانت کی تصویر سازی کی سہولتیں

مصنوعی ذہانت جہاں ایک طرف ہر طرح کے موضوعات پر تحریری مضمون لکھنے کی بات کر رہی ہے وہیں دوسری طرف اس معلومات کے جہان کو مختصر کرنے کا بھی مصنوعی سلسلہ جاری ہو چکا ہے۔ مصنوعی ذہانت کے وہ بڑے حوالے لوگ باڈ اور ڈیٹ کی پی ٹی ہیں۔ ان دونوں نے کھلی ہوئی معلومات کے ساتھ مختصر معلومات کو فراہم کرنے کی سہولت بھی متعارف کروادی ہے۔ اس سلسلے میں کئی دیگر ایپس بھی کام کر رہی ہیں جن میں جیسپر، ڈیل ای ٹو، فیس آرٹ اور کیوڈا شامل ہیں۔ یہ وہ ایپس ہیں جو تحریری مواد کو تصویر میں تبدیل کرنے کی صلاحیت رکھتی ہیں۔

حقیقی مصوری اور مصنوعی ذہانت کا تقابل

مصنوعی ذہانت وقت گزرنے کے ساتھ مزید تیز ہوتی جا رہی ہے۔ حال ہی میں گوگل کے لیے کام کرنے والے مصنوعی ذہانت کی دنیا کے ایک اہم نام ڈاکٹر جفری ہینن نے گوگل سے استعفیٰ دے دیا ہے اور وہ انسانی مستقبل کے لیے اسے بڑا خطرہ قرار دے رہے ہیں، تو ایسے میں رواجی دنیا بھر حقیقت کی دنیا بھی کیا جاسکتا ہے، وہاں فنکاروں اور مصوروں کا کیا

اسی تناظر میں ایک اور برق رفتار اور یہ طویل رکھنے والی ایپ 'ناول اے آئی' ہے۔ یہ

پوری کہانی یا فلم کے اسکرپٹ کو اور کسی لکھے ہوئے ناول کو تصاویر میں تبدیل کر سکتی ہے

مستقبل ہوگا؟ کیا یہ مصنوعی ذہانت مستقبل میں ان کا خاتمہ کر دے گی؟ ایسے بہت سے سوالات ہمارے ذہن میں گذشتہ دن کر رہے ہیں لیکن میرے خیال میں مصنوعی ذہانت اور حقیقی ذہانت کے حامل انسانی مصوروں کے مابین کوئی موازنہ بننا نہیں ہے کیونکہ ایک انسان اپنی تصویر کو کیسے پر اتارنے سے پہلے اپنے خیال میں تراشتا ہے، اس کا خاکہ بناتا ہے پھر اس کو کتنی شکل دیکر لوگوں کی آمیزش سے کیوں پر منتقل کرتا ہے۔

یہ صرف پینٹنگ نہیں ہوتی بلکہ جذبات اور احساسات پر مبنی ایسی تصاویر ہوتی ہیں جو ہمیں زندگی کے مختلف پہلو دکھاتی ہیں۔ ان ہینٹنگز میں گہری بیانات پنہاں ہوتے ہیں، تجربی

ای تناظر میں ایک اور برق رفتار اور یہ طویل رکھنے والی ایپ 'ناول اے آئی' ہے۔ یہ ایک پوری کہانی یا فلم کے اسکرپٹ کو اور کسی لکھے ہوئے ناول کو تصاویر میں تبدیل کر سکتی ہے، اسی طرح چند ایک ایپس بھی ہیں جن کے ذریعے تصاویر میں جدت لائی جاسکتی ہے جیسا کہ آپ مذکورہ فنکاری تصاویر میں دیکھ سکتے ہیں۔ اس طرح کی ایپس میں فیس ایپ، ڈیپ اے آئی، رینجی شامل ہیں جن کے ذریعے حقیقت سے قریب تر تصاویر بنائی جاسکتی ہیں۔ ٹیکنالوجی کی ترقی کے اس دور سے پر اپنی مشین اور کارٹون سازی اب بچوں کا کھیل محسوس ہونے لگی ہے۔



بھی ہوتی ہے اور مصنوعی ذہانت کسی بھی صورت منطق کا متبادل نہیں ہو سکتی۔

حرف آخر

ان تصاویر کو دیکھ کر ثابت ہوتا ہے کہ مصنوعی ذہانت کا علمس اپنی جگہ لیکن انسانی ذہانت کی معراج کو پہنچنا فی الحال ممکن نہیں ہے کیونکہ انسان مجھے مشین بھی بن جائے یا حیوان تاقل بھی ہو مگر پھر بھی وہ رہتا انسان ہی ہیکہ وہ اشرف المخلوقات ہے جس نے اس کائنات کو دریافت کرنے کا عزم کر رکھا ہے اور آئے دن وہ اس مقصد کے تحت نئی دریافتیں کر رہا ہے۔ مصنوعی ذہانت بھی انسان کی دریافت ہے نہ کہ وہ مصنوعی ذہانت کی دریافت ہے۔ اس موقع پر چون ایلیا کی ایک غزل کے چند اشعار پڑھتے جائے جن میں یہ ساری کیفیت صحت جو بنے بہت پہلے ہی بیان کر دی گئی جب مصنوعی ذہانت کا دور دور تک پہنچتا تھا۔ وہ فرماتے ہیں

ہم آئی ہے کوئی آس مشین
شام سے ہے بہت اداس مشین
بہی رشتوں کا کارخانہ ہے
اک مشین اور اس کے پاس مشین
شہر اپنے دہانے کے منجل
تھشم لگے کو اب ہے کس مشین
ایک پر از قادی بھی ٹوٹ گیا
اب رکھا کیا ہے تیرے پاس مشین

مصوری (Art Abstract) اس بات کی ایک روشن مثال ہے۔ اب تجربہ پر مبنی مصوری کو صرف انسان ہی پیش کر سکتا ہے اور انسان ہی سمجھ سکتا ہے کیونکہ اس جسم کی مصوری میں پیغام اور گہرین اسطور میں ہوتی ہے۔ تصویر کے اندر ایک تصویر ہوتی ہے جس کی تفسیر کرنا پڑتی ہے۔ میرے خیال میں مجھے مصنوعی ذہانت کی کوئی بھی انٹیلیجنس ہو وہ وہ درجہ تصویر کو پیش نہیں کر سکتے۔ جی پی جی ان کو مصنوعی ذہانت سے ممتاز کرتی ہے۔

یہ ایک بات ہے کہ ایک طبقہ کا خیال ہے کہ آئے دن وقت میں مصنوعی ذہانت یہ کام بھی اپنے ذمے لے سکے گی جس میں حقیقی کی صلاحیت کے ساتھ ساتھ احساسات بھی شامل ہوں گے۔ فی الحال تو یہ ہوتا ہوا ممکن دکھائی نہیں دیتا لیکن شاید مستقبل میں ایسا ممکن ہو سکے۔ تاہم انسان کی ذہانت کے آگے چاہا بہت مشکل امر ہے۔ ابھی تو انسان کی حقیقی تکمیل کرنے پر حقیقی فیصلہ ساز رہے گا۔

'مصنوعی ذہانت مشین کا متبادل نہیں ہو سکتی'

اس حوالے سے جب ہم نے انور مقصود سے یہ دریافت کیا جو خود بنیاد کے عظیم فنکار ہیں اور بہت اچھے مصوری ہیں کہ وہ مصنوعی ذہانت اور مصور کے مابین فکری یا تکنیکی کس طرح دیکھتے ہیں تو انہوں نے اس موضوع پر اخبار خیال کرتے ہوئے کہا کہ مصنوعی ذہانت حقیقی ذہانت کو متاثر نہیں دے سکتی۔ انسان کا ذہن صرف تصویر پیش نہیں کرتا بلکہ افکار کو بھی پیش کرتا ہے مصنوعی ذہانت ابھی یہ مرحلہ پار نہیں کر سکتی۔ ان کا یہ بھی کہنا تھا کہ ایک مصور کے کام کی پیچھے سال یا سال کی مشق





خرم سبیل

اس تحریر کو لکھتے وقت میں نے سوچا کہ کیوں نہ پہلے ہم مصنوعی ذہانت سے ہی پوچھ لیں کہ مصنوعی ذہانت کیا ہوتی ہے؟ اور اس کی مصنوعی یادداشت میں اس کی تعریف کیا ہے؟ تو قارئین جیت جی پی ٹی کی مصنوعی ذہانت نے مجھے اس سوال کا جواب یہ دیا جو میں نے بھی بڑا اگراف کی صورت میں لکھ دیا ہوں۔ یہ ظاہر ہے جواب بہت عمل محسوس ہو رہا ہے، لیکن آپ کی تفہیم کے لیے اس کو میں نے کچھ ترسیم کر کے درست کیا ہے اور قواعد کی قطعیاں بھی درست کی ہیں۔ ہر چند کہ اب یہ تحقیق حریف کی سنے درجہ تک جا چکی ہے لیکن کیا وہ دیکھا رہا ہے یا نہ دیکھا ہے جیسا انسان اپنا تا تکمیل تک مشین اور انسان کے مابین ایک بہت بڑا

مصنوعی ذہانت بمقابلہ حقیقی ذہانت

اب آپ خود بتائیے کہ اگر مصنوعی ذہانت کی مشین سے کہا جائے کہ سعادت حسن منٹو نے اپنی کہانوں اور کرداروں کے لیے یہ کیوں کہا کہ میری کہانیاں اور کردار بڑا اور ننگے ہیں۔ میں ان کو پکڑے نہیں پہنا سکتا کیونکہ آپ کا سماج ہی بد صورت ہے۔ وہی بد صورتی اور غلطی میری کہانوں میں دکھائی دیتی ہے۔ ویسے بھی پکڑے سلائی کرنا اور بیوسات تیار کرنا روزی کا کام ہے، میں تو معاشرے کو اسی طرح پیش کروں گا جیسا وہ ہے۔ تو کیا یہ مصنوعی ذہانت اسی طرح پکڑے کی بیان کی انہیں آ میری کے ساتھ ایسی تحریر آپ کو کھڑے کرے سکتی ہے؟ میرا جواب ہے نہیں، لیکن شاید بہت سارے دوست

کی تھوڑے قصبہ میں داخل بھی ہو رہی ہیں جن میں سرفہرست وہ قصبہ ہے جس میں آئن اسٹائن کو مفت راشن حاصل کرتے ہوئے دیکھا جاسکتا ہے جس کے ہاتھ میں آنے کا تھیلا ہے۔ یہ قصبہ پاکستان میں بہت مقبول ہوئی اور ایسی کئی اور تصاویر ہیں جن کو ڈاکٹر صاحب نے حقیقی کر کے سب کو حیران کر دیا ہے۔ وہ انفرادی اور اجتماعی دونوں طرح کی کمیوں پر کام کرتے ہیں اور اس طرح سے انہوں نے اپنے کام کو انہو کی صورت میں پیش کیا ہوا ہے۔ آئیے ان کے چند منتخب انہو اور تصاویر سے ان کے ذہن کو سمجھنے کی کوشش کرتے ہیں کہ وہ کس طرح پاکستان پر مضمر پاک و ہند کی تاریخ، اسلامی تہذیب و تہوار اور دیگر پہلوؤں کو مصنوعی ذہانت کی مدد سے چیت کر رہے ہیں۔

ہم انہو کی مدد سے سمجھ سکتے ہیں کہ کس طرح پاکستان اور دنیا

مصنوعی ذہانت کا طلسم اور ہمارا آرٹ

ہم نے مصری مساک کی تصاویر کی صورت میں بھی بیان کیا جاسکتا ہے۔ انہوں نے اپنے انہو کو مختلف نام بھی دیے ہیں اور انفرادی طور پر بنائی جانے والی تصاویر کو بھی مختلف نام دیے ہیں لیکن لطف کی بات یہ ہے کہ جب ہم انڈا گرام پر ان کی ابتدائی پسوں کا جائزہ لیتے ہیں تو جب یہ اس تکنیک پر کام

میرے اس جواب سے متنب نہیں ہوں کہ چلیں ہم اس پہلو کو ذرا کی اور طرح در ذہانت کرتے ہیں کہ مصنوعی ذہانت کی موجودگی، آسانوں اور سہولتوں کے باوجود کیوں ہمیں حقیقی ذہانت کی ضرورت رہے گی۔

اس کے لیے ہم یہاں ڈاکٹر شعیب سعادت کی بنائی ہوئی مصنوعی تصاویر کا انتخاب پیش کر رہے ہیں جن کو انہوں نے مصنوعی ذہانت کے مختلف سافٹ ویئرز کی مدد سے تیار کیا ہے۔ مصنوعی ذہانت اور حقیقی ذہانت کے امتزاج سے تصاویر بنانے والے اس فنکار کا پس منظر یہ ہے کہ وہ کیمرنگ میں مصروف انجینئر میں تحقیق کے طالب علم ہیں اور اپنی انجی ڈی کی سند کے حصول کے لیے کوشاں ہیں۔ چونکہ ان کا پیشہ درانہ میں منظرانہ سائنس کا ہے اس لیے ان کا ماننا ہے کہ وہ مصنوعی ذہانت کے اصولوں کو بہت اچھی طرح سمجھتے ہیں اور انہیں عام انسانی فہم کے مطابق احمالے اور تہیب دینے کی باتیں سے واقف ہیں۔ موجودہ زمانے میں یوں تو اب مصنوعی ذہانت کے استعمال سے کوئی بھی مصنوعی تصویر بنا سکتا ہے اور بہت لوگ یہ کر بھی رہے ہیں۔ ان میں کچھ تصاویر ایسی ہیں جو آپ کے دل میں گھر کر رہی ہیں اور ان میں اکثر یہ انہیں تصاویر کی ہے جس میں انسانی فہم بفراس سے مکی مدلی کی ہے۔ ڈاکٹر شعیب نے مصنوعی ذہانت پر انحصار نہیں کیا جاسکتا ہے۔ ڈاکٹر شعیب سعادت کی تصاویر میں انہی پہلوؤں کا خیال رکھا گیا ہے۔ ان

فرق احساسات اور محسوسات کا ہے۔ اس فنکار کو پار کرنے میں مشینوں کو بہت وقت لگے گا۔ مصنوعی ذہانت کے ذریعے مصنوعی جذبات پیدا کرنا آسان نہیں ہوگا کیونکہ اس کا حقیقی پروا درست انسان کے دماغ اور حواسِ الجھ سے ہے۔

مصنوعی ذہانت کے مطابق وہ کیا ہے؟

مصنوعی ذہانت (آرٹیفیسیل انٹیلیجنس) سے مراد ایسے کمپیوٹر سسٹمز کی ترقی ہے جو ایسے کام انجام دے سکتے ہیں جن کے لیے عام طور پر انسانی ذہانت کی ضرورت ہوتی ہے، جیسے ہماری اوراد، تقریر کی شناخت، فیصلہ سازی، اور قدرتی زبان کی پروسیسنگ۔ مصنوعی ذہانت سسٹمز کو آتا ہے سمجھنے، پیڑن کی شناخت کرنے، اور اس دنیا کی بنیاد پر پیشین گوئیاں یا فیصلے کرنے کے قابل بنانا ہے۔

یہ آنکھ مشین لکھ، انگریز کے استعمال سے حاصل کیا جاتا ہے جو مصنوعی ذہانت سسٹم کو آتا ہے کہ مسلسل تجزیہ کر کے وقت کے ساتھ ساتھ انہی کا کردار کو بچھڑانے کی اجازت دیتا ہے۔ اس کی بہت سی مختلف انسام ہیں، انہوں اصول پر مبنی نظام، تبدیل نیت دور، جینیاتی الگورتھم، اور ناظر نظام۔ یہ نظام صحت کی دیکھ بھال اور مالیات سے لیکر تھقل وصل اور سیکورٹی جگہ تک، ہمارے رہنے اور کام کرنے کے طریقے میں انقلاب لانے کی صلاحیت کے ساتھ وقت بچانے پر شعبوں پر لاگو کیے جاتے ہیں۔

اگرچہ ان لوگوں موجود ہوتی تو علامہ اقبال کا شعاعی جہان، لیاقت علی خان اور دیگر رضا کیسے دکھائی دیتے، یہ تصاویر اس فنکار کے بہت کچھ اعزاز سے پیش کر رہی ہیں۔ جہاں یہ دنیا عوام کے ساتھ ملتی، خواہے ہیں۔ یہ ایک شاندار آئینہ یا عیا جس کو مصنوعی ذہانت کی معاونت سے پورا کرنا ممکن ہوا۔

دوسرے اہم میں دکھایا گیا ہے کہ دنیا کے امیر ترین افراد کو اگر فرض کریں پکڑے سینے پر جتے تو وہ کیسے دکھائی دیتے، اس اہم میں ان محلات کو متحید کیا گیا ہے۔ ان تصاویر میں فیس بک کے بانی مارک ڈاکر برگ، ٹیکسٹ ورسٹ کے روح رواں بلی ٹکس، دنیا کے امیر ترین لوگوں میں سے ایک بھارتی تاجر لکیش اپانی اور فکس کے سنے مالک ایلون مسک سمیت دیگر شامل ہیں۔ دراصل یہ اہم تا جہ کہ میرے قریب ہوتو کس طرح روزی بہت مصروف ہو جاتے ہیں ہاگل اسی طرح جیسے یہ شخصیات اپنی اپنی زندگیوں میں اپنے مطلوبہ احواف حاصل کرنے کے لیے مصروف ہیں۔

تیسرے اہم میں پاکستان میں مفت آہ حاصل کرنے کے نام پر جو کچھ ہوتا ہے، یہ تصاویر اس کی عکاسی کرتی ہیں۔ تصور کریں کہ دنیا کی نامور شخصیات اگر کم نام ہوئیں اور وہ پاکستان میں مقیم ہوتیں تو اس آنے کے نتیجے کو حاصل کرنے کے بعد کیسے لگتے۔ انہیں میں سے ایک تصویر آئن اسٹائن کی ہے جو اس دگی مارجرے کی سٹاک اور ڈاٹ کام بیان کر رہی ہے جس آنے کے لیے کئی جانوں کا نیاں ہوا۔ ان تصاویر میں آنے کا تھیلا

موجودہ زمانے میں یوں تو اب مصنوعی ذہانت کے استعمال سے

کوئی بھی مصنوعی تصویر بنا سکتا ہے اور بہت لوگ یہ کر بھی رہے ہیں

اٹھائے دیکھ معروف شخصیات کی دکھائی دیں گی۔ جو تھے اہم میں خود وہوں کے چہرے پر چھائی اداسی اور بے بسی کو متنبس کیا گیا ہے۔ پانچویں اہم میں کارٹون کیسٹرز کی صورت میں مختلف مشہور شخصیات کے پورٹریٹ بنائے گئے ہیں جن میں فلی ٹکس اور دیگر جن افراد کی خبر تا وقت شخصیات شامل ہیں۔ چھٹے اہم میں دکھایا گیا ہے کہ اگر معروف علم انڈا کے عام پاکستانی شہری اور کرکٹ کے شہدائی ہوتے اور اگر کسی اہم شخص میں کچھ چھوٹ جاتا تو ان کے تاثرات کیا ہوتے۔ اس اہم میں نام کرور، بینڈر اور ڈی کیمرے سمیت مقبول فنکاروں کی تصاویر شامل ہیں۔ ان کے علاوہ ساتویں اہم میں میرے دن کے معروف شخصیات کیسے دکھائی دیتی وہ ناظر میں پیش کیے گئے ہیں۔ آٹھواں اہم مصنوعی ذہانت اور وہ لوگوں کی دنیا میں ہونے

کر رہے تھے تو اس سے قبل ان کے موضوعات کا اعتبار بہت عام سا تھا۔ روایتی اعزاز میں وہ پاکستان کی سیاست اور ثقافت پر بات کر رہے تھے اور وہ عام تصاویر کی مدد سے اس کو بیان بھی کر رہے تھے لیکن جب انہوں نے اپنی اس تکنیک پر محور حاصل کر لیا جب انہوں نے اپنی تکنیک سے اور اپنے افکار سے لوگوں کو حیران کرنا شروع کر دیا۔ کیا وجہ ہے کہ ہم بھی ان کی جانب متوجہ ہوئے اور ہر طبقہ یا اعزاز بہت پر کشش ہے اور مصنوعی ذہانت کی خوبیوں کا اعتراف کرنا پڑتا ہے لیکن کیا صرف مصنوعی ذہانت سے یہ ممکن ہو پاتا؟

پہلے اہم میں ڈاکٹر صاحب نے ہر مضمر پاک و ہند کے اس دور کو دکھایا ہے جب پاکستان کے قیام کے لیے کوششیں ہو رہی تھیں اور مسلم لیگ کے مرکزی رہنما عوام میں موجود تھے۔ اس موقع پر



سید فیصل الرحمان

اگرچہ پاکستان ایٹمی اور میزائل ٹیکنالوجی کی صلاحیت کا حامل ملک ہے لیکن سائنس ٹیکنالوجی کے دیگر شعبہ جات یعنی خلائی ٹیکنالوجی، جیسے کہ کنٹرول، ایگزیٹو، اینٹیگ، ریڈیو فری کونسی (آر ایف)، انٹرفیرنگ، بلنڈ میٹری کیپنگ اور فلکیات میں ہم اب تک بہت پیچھے ہیں۔ تاہم ریڈیائی فلکیات (ریڈیو آسٹرونومی) ایک ایسا ہم گیر میدان ہے جس میں تحقیق و ترقی کے ساتھ پاکستان ٹیلی مواصلات، دفاع، طبی عکس نگاری اور بڑے پیمانے کے علوم میں اپنی صلاحیتوں کو بڑھا سکتا ہے۔

ریڈیائی فلکیات کے کتنے ہیں؟ ہم جانتے ہیں کہ کئی آسمانی اجسام روشنی خارج کرتے ہیں، حرارت پیدا کرتے ہیں لیکن ساتھ ساتھ دور ریڈیائی امواج بھی خارج کرتے ہیں۔ ان میں ستاروں سے لے کر نیپچون تک اور پلاسار سے لے کر بلک ہول تک شامل ہیں۔ یہی وجہ ہے کہ ریڈیائی فلکیات کا کائناتی تحقیق کا ایک دلچسپ اور قدرے کم خرچ طریقہ بھی ہے۔ دوسری جانب ای ٹیکنالوجی سے دیگر عملی علوم بنے اور ان کی صنعتی فوائد حاصل ہوئے ہیں۔

مثلاً ریڈیائی فلکیات کا ایک نمونہ دلچسپ پہلو وہی قاتی ٹیکنالوجی ہے۔ ہوائیوں کا آسٹریلیا کے قومی خلائی ادارے ای ایس آئی آر او نے بلک ہول سے آنے والے لیکن ٹھہرے ہوئے ریڈیائی سگنلوں کو جمع کرنے کے طریقے وضع کیے ہیں اور یوں ہمیں وہی قاتی ٹیکنالوجی ملی۔ اسی طرح ریڈیو فلکیات میں ڈیٹا کا حصول مین ٹیکنیکل ریز بٹس (ایم آر بی) کی طرح ہوتا ہے جو تیار یوں کی عکس نگاری کیلئے طب میں استعمال ہو کر لاکھوں کروڑوں افراد کی جان بچا رہا ہے۔

ریڈیائی فلکیات کے اسٹے پہلو ہیں کہ ان سے مختلف شعبوں کے سائنسدانوں کے درمیان تعاون اور اخراج سے بے پایاں نکلے ہیں۔ مثلاً پاکستانی جامعات حوصلہ افزائی اور کچھ فنڈنگ کے ذریعے ریڈیائی فلکیات کے شوقیہ مسابقتی شروع کر سکتی ہے۔ اس سے طلباء و طالبات کو سیکھنے اور خود اعتمادی حاصل کرنے کے سبب پلٹ فارم میں کے اور یوں نئی نئی آسمانی دریافتوں کی راہ ہموار ہو سکتی ہے۔

اب اسے وسیع تناظر میں دیکھیں تو پاکستان کا قومی خلائی ادارہ اور اس سے وابستہ ایجنسیاں (سپاکو، این سی ایس اے، آئی ایس ٹی اور ایساو وغیرہ) دیگر مواصلاتی اداروں کے ساتھ مل کر مشترکہ طور پر ملک میں ریڈیائی فلکیات کے بین الاقوامی میٹارکاسم سے کم از کم ایک تحقیقی ادارہ ضرور بنائیں۔ اس کی ایک مثال بھارت میں چاند میٹرولوجی ریڈیو ٹیلی اسکوپ (بی ایم آر ٹی) ہے جو دنیا بھر میں موجود ریڈیائی رصدگاہوں کے مقابلے میں بہت ہی کم خرچ ہے۔

ملک میں قومی مرکز برائے طبیعیات (این سی پی)، اسلام آباد، کراچی میں ایٹمی ای بے ریسرچ انسٹی ٹیوٹ برائے کیمسٹری اور دیگر ادارے بھی اپنے اپنے سائنسی مقاصد کیلئے وسیع

تعاون بڑھا سکتے ہیں۔ ملک کے بہت سے سائنسی ادارے اپنے شعبوں اور دلچسپی کے لحاظ سے فلی طبیعیات، فلی طبیعیات، فلکیاتی کیمیا، فلکیاتی حیاتیات، سول فرس اور نظام شمسی سے باہر سیاروں کی حواشی بین المرصوعاتی شعبوں (انٹرا سیسٹری) کے درمیان اشتراک کر سکتیں۔ اس سے ملکی اداروں کے درمیان تحقیق و ترقی کے تعاون کا ایک دور شروع ہو سکتا ہے جو پوری دنیا میں سائنسی ترقی کو تیز کرنے کیلئے اختیار کیا جاتا ہے۔ یوں ملک میں سائنسی اداروں کے درمیان تحقیق و ترقی کی بہت ضرورت ہے۔

اجرتے ہوئے ممالک مثلاً بھارت، چائنا میٹرولوجی ریڈیو ٹیلی اسکوپ (بی ایم آر ٹی)، اور جنوبی افریقہ نے اسکوڑ کو میٹر ایرے (ایس کے اے) جیسے منصوبے شروع کیے۔ توقع ہے

بلوچستان میں ریڈیو انٹرفیر میٹری کے روشن امکانات

”ریڈیو انٹرفیر میٹری“ ریڈیائی فلکیات میں ایک ایسا طریقہ ہے جس میں بہت سی ریڈیائی دوربینیں سے حاصل ہونے والی معلومات یا ڈیٹا ایک جگہ جمع کیا جاتا ہے۔ سو بلوچستان میں ایسے بھارتی اور پرسکون مقامات موجود ہیں جہاں آبادی نہ ہونے کی وجہ سے انھیں ”ریڈیو امواج کیلئے خاموش علاقے“ قرار دیا جاسکتا ہے۔ اس جگہ پر دوربینوں کی ایک قطار تعمیر کی جاسکتی ہے۔ پھر تمام دوربینوں کو ریڈیو انٹرفیر میٹر ٹیکنیک سے جوڑ کر فلکیات کے اس شعبے میں ترقی کی جاسکتی ہے۔ سو بلوچستان کی مرکزی حیثیت رکھنے والے

بلوچستان اور فلکیاتی سائنس

منصوبے کی کامیابی کیلئے ضروری ہے کہ سو بلوچستان سے سی ماہرین، عملہ اور تحقیکی ماہرین بھرتی کیے جائیں۔ دوسرے مرحلے پر ملک کے دیگر علاقوں سے رابطہ کیا جائے۔ توقع ہے کہ یہ منصوبہ یورپی یونین کی تحقیقی مرکز ”سرن“ جیسی ایک پھولتی کھلی اختیار کرے گا۔ سرن نے نہ صرف پورے یورپ میں جدید سائنس ٹیکنالوجی کا غلبہ رکھی ہوا ہے۔ پاکستان کو آنے والی شیلیں بھی استفادہ کر رہی ہیں۔ اس سے کئی اختراعات اور ٹیکنالوجی کا غلبہ رکھی ہوا ہے۔ پاکستان کو کوشش کرنا ہوگی کہ اس کی تیار کردہ فلکیاتی دوربینیں بین الاقوامی معیار کی ہوں، جن میں ایس کے اے اور بین

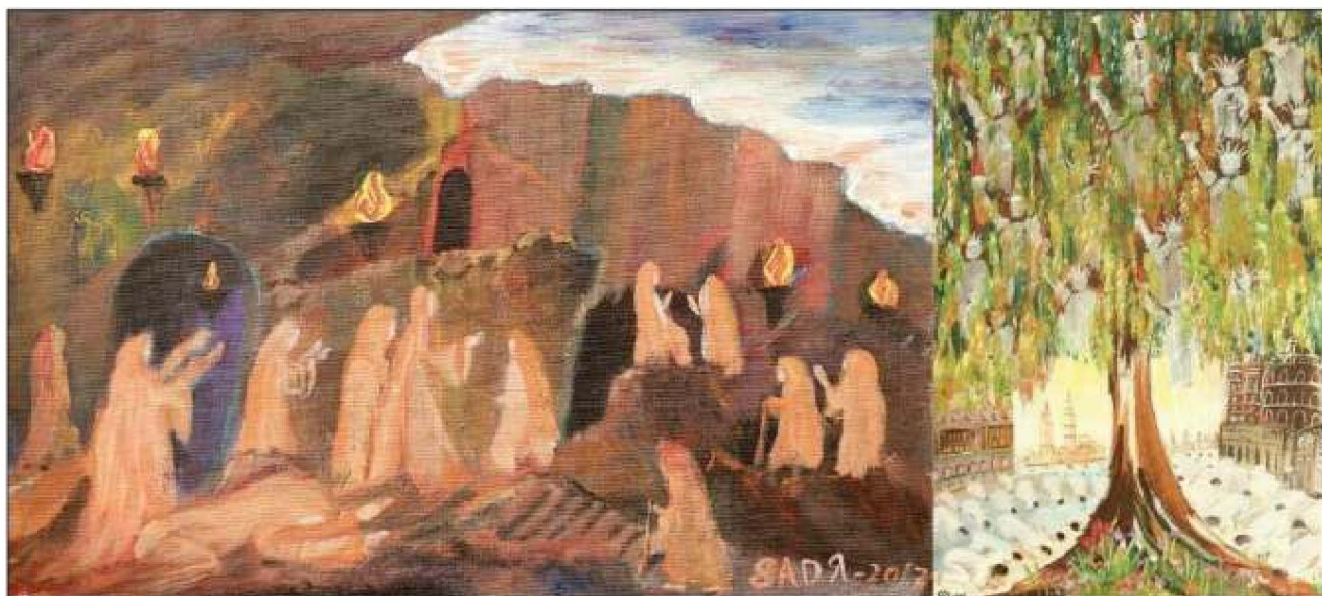
ریڈیائی فلکیات سے صنعتی و علمی انقلاب آ سکتا ہے

پاکستان کے دیگر علاقوں میں اس سے منسلک چھوٹی چھوٹی ریڈیائی رصدگاہیں قائم کی جاسکتی ہیں۔ یہ سب باہم مل کر ایک بڑے اور طاقتور انٹرفیر میٹر میں وصل سکتی ہیں۔ اس کا فائدہ یہ ہوگا کہ جدید فلکیاتی ٹیکنالوجی کے ساتھ ساتھ ابتدائی تحقیقی (پلی ریڈیوٹن) تعاون کی جاسکتی ہیں۔ اس طرح نظر انداز کردہ بلوچستان کا ایک شاندار ٹیکنالوجی روپ بھی سامنے آسکے گا۔

اگرچہ اس میں سرمایہ کاری کی ضرورت ہوگی لیکن اس کے فوائد بھی بہت ہوں گے۔ اس سے بین الاقوامی تعاون بڑھے گا، بین الاقوامی تحقیق پر ان چڑھنے کی اور مختلف شعبوں سے تعلق رکھنے والے ماہرین ایک مشترکہ مقصد کی جانب پڑھیں گے۔ سب سے بڑھ کر ملک میں مشترکہ سائنسی تحقیق کا ایک نیا دور کھلے گا۔

پاکستان کے دیگر علاقوں میں اس سے منسلک چھوٹی چھوٹی ریڈیائی رصدگاہیں قائم کی جاسکتی ہیں۔ یہ سب باہم مل کر ایک بڑے اور طاقتور انٹرفیر میٹر میں وصل سکتی ہیں۔ اس کا فائدہ یہ ہوگا کہ جدید فلکیاتی ٹیکنالوجی کے ساتھ ساتھ ابتدائی تحقیقی (پلی ریڈیوٹن) تعاون کی جاسکتی ہیں۔ اس طرح نظر انداز کردہ بلوچستان کا ایک شاندار ٹیکنالوجی روپ بھی سامنے آسکے گا۔





زیر: حسین شاہ

مٹاشا ملک کی جانب سے پیش کی جانے والی ناقص "دینی ان
کوائز" کو شیخ مسنون: جبریل گزٹ فرام کو گناہوں کے ایک فکرا نامہ
میں پیش ہے جو کہ اپنی سے تعلق رکھنے والے ایک شخص کی راجد
امور پر مبنی ہے 21 سالہ ام کا قید پر گزارا ہے۔ امور پر مبنی
امور کا یہ 11 خبر کے مضمون کی وضاحت و تبصروں میں سے ایک
ہے۔ وابستہ وقت گرد ہونے کے بعد اجماع پر
گناہوں کا نامہ پیش میں قید کر دیا گیا تھا
انٹرنیشنل اسکول آف آرٹس اینڈ آرکیٹیکچر گیلری میں منتقل
ہونے والے اس ضمن میں کہہ سکتے ہیں کہ ان کی ناقص کی گئی جو
امور پر مبنی ہے اس وقت تحقیق کے لیے جب وہ دیگر کسی احرام
کے زیر حراست تھے اور ان پر تھکا ہوا تھا۔ اس ضمن
مزید 10 وضاحتوں کے لیے ہمارے بھی شامل کیے گئے جنہوں
نے ان کو کی دہائی ہوئی ان پینٹنگز جو اس وقت سمر کی گئی تھیں
جنہوں نے دوبارہ تحقیق کیا۔ اس کام کے لیے انہوں نے ان کے
کیاں کی طرف سے کہے گئے ان پینٹنگز کے تحقیقی انٹرنس سے مدد

وہ دن پارے اب بھی امریکی حکومت کی تحویل میں ہیں
 کیونکہ انھیں اس حد تک یہ بینڈنگز قومی سلامتی کے
 لیے براہ راست خطرہ ہیں۔ جب میں نے اہم
 رہنمی سے پوچھا کہ ایسا کیوں ہے تو انہوں نے
 کہا: کیونکہ وہ یہ نہیں چاہتے کہ دنیا کو معلوم ہو کہ
 امریکا میں بنیادی انسانیت کا بھی فقدان
 ہے۔ اسٹروٹس اپنی کہانی سنانے اور ناقابل
 فہم غرضیوں پر چھوڑ جانے کا ایک عمل ہے۔
 یہاں پر یہ طور ہے کہ وہ امریکی کی ذاتی کہانی پر مشتمل
 غرضیں ہیں لیکن مجموعی طور پر اس میں امریکا اور پاکستان
 دونوں حکومتوں کے "مصلحتانہ کاموں،
 گائڈ لائنوں کے لیے بندش اور
 اسباق کے حوالے
 سے نظریات،
 سینئر شپ،
 ہنگامی
 اور "میش
 کے
 تبدیلی

(امریکا کی چار جہازیں کسی جہاں قید کو بغیر کسی الزام کے غیر
مصدقہ شدہ قید کیا گیا تھا ہے) جیسے مولف پر زور دیا گیا ہے۔
10 جنوری 2002 کو، کوئٹہ ہوائی کیمپری زندگی ہی ہمیشہ کے
لیے تبدیل ہو گئی۔ انہیں ان کی اپنی ہی حکومت نے ان کے
بھائی کے سر اداغوا کیا اور جہاز پر یو۔ سٹارٹ کے دورِ مصداقت

گوانتانامو بے

میں کل 54 چارواکر ہیں امریکا کو غرور و دست گرد کیا گیا۔ بعد میں
امریکی اور پاکستانی حکومتوں نے دعویٰ کیا کہ قطعی سے انہیں
مطلوبہ و ہشت گرد میں سے کوئی بھی نہیں تھا۔ لیکن امریکا کا دعویٰ ہے
کہ وہوں کو شکیں شروع سے ہی واضح طور پر جانتی تھیں کہ وہ
حسین میں نہیں ہیں۔ اس آرٹ ٹرائل کا اہتمام اس عزم کے
ساتھ کیا گیا کہ اس میں حصے والے دیگر تہذیبوں کی پیشکش
سے حاصل ہونے والی آمدنی 100 فیصد حصہ امریکی کو دیا
جائے گا، جو ابھی تک انہیں طاقتور نہیں لیکن امید ہے کہ جلد ہی یہ



در احکام کی جاتی ہے۔ احمد باقی ہے کہ
 یاروں کو کراچی میں منعقد ہونے
 والے شو میں فروخت
 کرنے سے گریز کیا ہے۔
 کراچی میں احمد آرٹ شو
 کے آغاز سے صرف ۱۱
 ماہ قبل واپس آئے
 تھے۔
 آرٹ شو کی کیوریٹر
 کے مطابق قرون
 وسطی کی طرز کے
 تشدد کی

تھیکوں سے لے کر ایک بیکہاٹھن کی الم کا آپ جتنی معجز
عام پر آنے لگے، احمد شاہی کے ساتھ ہونے والی زیادتی کا
بنا نہ سمجھو۔ بالآخر سے تباہنا بنادہ اسے جڑی کھنسی، وہ
اٹنی ہی سے بچن ہوئی جاتی تھیں۔ دوسری جانب احمد کی
صورت حال بالکل مختلف ہے۔ انہوں نے دوسرے علاج سے

کا 'قیدی فنکار' اور اس

چند منزل قتل مجھے اس حقیقت سے آگاہ کر دو، پہلے 48
گھنٹوں میں صرف دو مجھے سوئے ہیں اور ایسا انہوں نے
استیلاء کے طور پر کیا۔ یہ سن کر میں سوچنے لگا کہ کیا مجھے ان سے
اس وقت اعتراف کرنا چاہیے یا نہیں، اس پر انہوں نے فوراً مجھے
یقین دلانے سے جواب دیا کہ وہ ملک ہیں۔ انہوں نے بتایا
کہ وہ صرف کڑے ہو کر سکتے ہیں اور یہ کہ وہ ہر سزا پر بالکل
فقیں ہو سکتے کیونکہ جیسے ہی ان کا سر جھکے پر جھکا ہے، وہ بیدار
ہو جاتے ہیں۔ وہ آخر خند میں چاہل قدم بھی کرتے ہیں کیونکہ
ہر گرمی انہیں سکون اور آرام فراہم کرتی ہے۔

امیر باجی نے اسبابِ طور پر 2011ء میں بینک کر شہر سے کی تھی لیکن انہیں اپنا پہلا بینکس 2016ء میں ملا۔ تو اس سے قبل وہ بینک کیسے کرتے تھے؟ ۱۲ برس پہلے کرتے تھے۔ بنیادی طور پر کسی بھی سچے چیسے کے قسم کے ٹھوس، سادگی قیود کے بغیر فراہم کے کپڑے اور بٹھانچا اور گرو کی دواؤں پر وہ فن پارے تخلیق کرتے تھے۔ جیل میں پینٹ کے استعمال کی اجازت سے پہلے وہ کافی، جانے پاؤں اور گرو کی کوآرٹ کے دواؤں کے طور پر استعمال کرتے تھے۔ وہ کاغذ، پشور، پشور اور پشور پینٹ کی غریبی کو دیکھ کر بینک کرتے تھے۔ کبھی کبھار جیل کے درمیں جیل کے جیلوں کو چاروں طرف کرتے تھے۔ لپے اور انسانی فیلڈ استعمال بھی کرتے تھے۔

ادھر باقی تمام تر صلاحیتوں کا سہرا اسی ہلکے سے عضل رکھے
 ملے ایک نئی تپتی صابری افریقہ کو دیتے ہیں جسے وہ اپنا
 'استاد' سمجھتے ہیں۔ یہ پوچھ سچ ہے کہ کوئی ارشد اور ادھر باقی
 کے انداز میں جو کچھ سمجھا پائی جاتی ہیں جیسے بس سحر میں
 کے منظر کی تکرار اور کسی موضوع کو چنٹ کرنے کا طریقہ۔
 اگرچہ ادھر باقی نے ابتدائی طور پر غلطو کو اپنے منہ میں رکھ لیا
 ہے استعمال کیا کیونکہ صابری بھی سچے استعمال کیا کرتے تھے،
 لیکن کافی جلد ہی ان کے بعد ان کے بعد میں ان کے جیسے کو تسلیم
 کیا گیا اور اب یہ ان کی فیاضی تریج ہے جس کے بعد
 انہوں نے صابری کو ان کے ایک دیگر کھیل سکائی جو
 فضاوں کے طور پر ان کی ادھنی کا ایک اعزاز ہے۔

جائزہ (2018ء) نامی فن پارے میں احمد ربانی نے امریکی آزادی کے جیسے کو علاقائی طور پر درست سے لکھ دکھا ہے اس سے حقیقت اور تصور کے درمیان فرق واضح ہوتا ہے۔ احمد ربانی آزادی کی

عالم گیر علامت کے طور پر امریکا کے شاندار تصور پر سوال اٹھاتے ہیں۔ انہوں نے امریکا کے شاندار تصور کو حقیقت سے دور دراز اور ان کا فن پارہ اس پر غور ہے۔ انہوں نے امریکا کو آزادی کا قریب قرار دیتے ہوئے کہا کہ یہ ایران، افغانستان، پاکستان اور شری گور یا جسے ممالک کو بچھڑنے میں

گوانتانامو بے کا قیدی فنکار اور اس کے فن پارے

آجے آجے ہوتا ہے جبکہ اسے اپنے گریبان میں جمائے رکھنے کی ضرورت ہے۔

اس میں کوئی حیرت کی بات نہیں ہے کہ ان کی پیٹنگوں میں آزادی کا موضوع بار بار دہرایا جاتا ہے۔ پاکستان (2018ء) میں صدارت گزراؤں کو ظاہری طور پر مسلمان ہیں، لکویا ایسے وقت کے ساتھ ساتھ دیکھا ہے جس پر امریکی آزادی کا مجسمہ پھیل کی طرح دکھایا ہے۔ 2017ء میں ایک اور پاکستان پیٹنگ میں ہم نے دیکھا کہ لوگ آگ کی پریشانی پر ہیں۔ یہاں یہ دیکھ کر تعجب ہوئے کہ کیا یہ آگ وحی ہے جو آزادی کے شمع کے ہاتھ میں موجود شخص سے نکلتی ہے یا بلکہ احمد ربانی مذہب کی وحدانیت کی طرف اشارہ کر رہے ہیں اور اس وجہ سے اسے انسانیت کی وحدانیت کے برابر قرار دے رہے ہیں، وہ اس جذبے کو بہت مقدس گردانتے ہیں۔

امہ ربانی کہتا ہے کہ ان کی تمام پیشینگو کو جو کچھ ایک سالہ جوڑی ہے وہ گواہان کو سچل کی فتح دیں۔ قیاد اور ستر شپ کی ان کے فن پاروں کے اہم موضوعات ہیں۔ ایک تصویر میں حراقی مرکز کی تصویر کشی کی ہے جہاں ایک ڈھانچا رکھتوں ہاتھ میں لیے پیٹے سے سکڑوں معدنی ہی کو تھوڑو جہل کرنے کی کوشش کر رہا ہے، اسی طرح ایک تصویر میں امہ ربانی شہرت خانے میں خون سے لٹ پت نار کر گری بیٹھے ہیں۔ فی خفا و دوزخ کے اعزاز میں تھمرا اور ستر شپ کے ان مختلف طریقوں کی عکاسی کرتے ہیں جن سے اس قیدی فکا کو گورنر پر پناہ۔ میں نے یہاں دوزخ کے اعزاز میں اس لیے کیا ہے کیونکہ بدسلوکی کے باوجود اس کی نرم سرکراہت اور حرا سے ایک امید کی عکاسی کرتا ہے جو کہ ان کے کام سے بھی

اور آخر میں احمد رابلی درخواست کرتے ہیں کہ اس پیغام کو
قارئین اور دیگر کامیاب بنایا جائے کہ ان کے پاس وقت
تک آزاد نہیں سمجھیں کہ جب تک میرے تمام بھائیوں کو
گوانتا نامہ ہے آزاد نہیں کیا جاتا۔ صرف ایک فرد کی قید
کے ساتھ مجھے میری زوجہ جیسی دہائیوں کا سب سے زیادہ
اسکول آف آرٹ اینڈ آرکیٹیکچر گیلری میں 2 سے 15 مئی
2023 تک نئی دہلی میں فورگن مومن: لبرنگ آرٹ فرام
گوانتا نامہ کے تناظر میں لکھی گئی۔

شاز یہ حسن

'جب سے میں اپنے برج سے واقف ہوا ہوں جب سے میں نے تیر اندازی کا خواب دیکھا ہے۔ یہ کہنا تھا راشد مسعود کا جن کا شمار ملک کے قہر میں تیر اندازوں میں ہوتا ہے۔ 28 سالہ راشد مسعود کی پیدائش 24 نومبر کو ہوئی جس کی وجہ سے وہ برج قوس ہیں۔ لائیو زبان میں قوس کے معنی تیر انداز کے ہیں۔ برج قوس کی علامت میں ایک تیر ہے جس میں ایک گھیر ہے، جو کہ تیر اور مکان کی نمائندگی کرتا ہے۔

برج قوس کی علامت

انہوں نے اعتراف کیا کہ میں علم نجوم کا مداح نہیں ہوں۔ مجھے بس اس علامت سے پیار ہو گیا تھا۔ راشد مسعود نے کہا کہ میں لکھن میں کرکٹ، بالی اور فٹبال کھیلا کرتا تھا۔ انہیں کھیلنے میں حرا تا تھا لیکن ان میں سے کوئی وہ کھیل نہیں تھا جس

میں کو کھیلنا تھا۔ درحقیقت اگر تیر اندازی کے لیے درکار کسی سامان کا کوئی حصہ انکوائٹ جاتا ہے تو اس کے لیے ہیس 4 یا 5 ماہ انتظار کرنا پڑتا ہے۔ یہ تمام سامان درآمد کیا جاتا ہے اس لیے ہمیں بیرون ملک سے متبادل سامان آنے کا انتظار کرنا پڑتا ہے۔

چونکہ روپے کے مقابلے میں ڈالر امریکا میں زیادہ ہے، یہی وجہ ہے کہ ایک درجن تیروں کے سیٹ کی قیمت جہاں ماضی میں 4 ہزار روپے ہوا کرتی تھی اب وہ 8 ہیس 85 ہزار میں خریدنا پڑتا ہے۔ ہم میں سے زیادہ تر خاص طور پر میرے جیسے طلبہ کے پاس اسٹے پیسے نہیں ہوتے۔ ہمارے کوئی قسطوں پر ادائیگی کرنے میں ہماری مدد کرتے ہیں۔

ڈالر کی قیمت میں اضافے کے ساتھ

یہ تیر بھی مہنگے ہو رہے ہیں

تیر اندازی: دیگر ممالک کی نسبت پاکستان میں یہ کھیل نیا ہے

راشد مسعود کہتے ہیں 'ہم تیر اندازی کے شوق کی خاطر کافی قربانیاں دیتے ہیں۔ ان سے پہلے چھپا کر کیا حکومت آپ کی مدد کرتی ہے؟ اس پر راشد مسعود نے موقف اپنایا کہ دیگر ممالک کے برخلاف پاکستان میں تیر اندازی کے کھیل کو نا شعور کیا جاتا ہے اور یہاں لوگوں کو اس حوالے سے زیادہ آگاہی بھی نہیں ہے تو فی الوقت تیر اندازوں کو حکومت کی کوئی توجہ حاصل نہیں ہے۔

راشد مسعود نے بتایا کہ 4 سال قبل جب میں نے جامعہ کراچی میں تیر اندازی کی مشق شروع کی تو اس وقت صرف ملک بھر میں صرف 20 تیر انداز موجود تھے۔ اس وقت اور اب بھی ایک نیا کھیل تصور کیا جاتا ہے۔ اس سے قبل تیر اندازی کی مشق صرف پاک فوج میں کی جاتی تھی۔ میرے کوچ حسن عبداللہ عام شہر یوں کو تیر اندازی سکھانے والے پہلے شخص تھے۔ انہوں نے سال 2011ء میں اس کا آغاز کیا تھا۔ آج وہ تیر اندازی سکھانے کے معاملے میں پاکستان معروف نام بن چکے ہیں۔

اس میں کوئی دو رائے نہیں ہے کہ تیر اور مکان بھٹیاری ہیں۔

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بھٹیاری ہیں۔ لیکن ہم انہیں کھیل میں استعمال کرتے ہیں اور ایسا کرتے ہوئے ہم تمام حفاظتی تدابیر اپناتے ہیں۔ اب بھی۔۔۔ یہ کہہ کر وہ ہنس پڑے اور مزید بتایا کہ میرے گھر والے خاص طور پر میری والدہ مجھے بار بار لگتی ہیں کہ اگر میں نے تیر سے کسی کو ڈنکی کیا تو یہ بہتر ہوگا کہ میں گھر والوں کے آگے کا خیال دل سے نکال دوں۔

انہوں نے بتایا کہ تیر اندازی میں بعض ایسی چیزیں ہیں جن کی وجہ سے وہ بھی ابتدائی دنوں میں گھبرا گئے تھے۔ اس حوالے سے راشد مسعود نے بتایا کہ کبھی کبھار آپ تیر چلاتے ہیں اور وہ پلٹ جاتا ہے۔ تاہم اس کی رفتار اسی نہیں ہوتی جس سے کسی کو نقصان پہنچے لیکن یہ میرے دل کی دھڑکن تیز کر دیتے ہے کہ کوئی گناہ کیا تھا۔

انہوں نے بتایا کہ ہم بھی سے تیر اندازوں کو یہ کہہ کر خوفزدہ کرتے ہیں کہ اگر ان کا تیر بولف نہیں لگتا تو وہ تیر

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بہتر بنانے کے لیے اپنے طریقہ کار ہوتا ہے تاکہ ہم عالمی معیار کے مطابق آجائیں، اگرچہ اس کے لیے ہمیں ابھی کافی وقت درکار ہے۔ پاکستان میں اس کھیل کے حوالے سے ٹینٹ تو موجود ہے لیکن یہاں یہ کھیل ابھی نیا تصور کیا جاتا ہے۔ اس کھیل میں راشد مسعود کے پندرہ بیٹن الاغی کھلاڑی ترکیہ کے سینہ کاڈز ہیں جو فوکیو اولمپکس میں تیر اندازی کے قہر میں تھے۔

انہوں نے بتایا کہ تیر اندازی میں مہارت اور تحریک ہی سب کچھ ہیں۔ اس کھیل میں مہارت کا انحصار طاقت پر نہیں ہے جیسا کہ سینہ کاڈز کو کچھ کرنا ہے۔ اچھا تیر انداز بننے کے لیے آپ کو تیر، جسم کے اوپر کی حصے کا توازن اور سانس کو قابو کرنا ہوتا ہے اور آپ یہ تمام عناصر کو گاہر اور مراعات کے ذریعے حاصل کر سکتے ہیں۔

چونکہ تیر اندازی مہارت پر مبنی کھیل ہے، اس لیے اس میں خواتین کی کس کھیل کے مقابلے بھی ہوتے ہیں۔ ہمارے پاس ایسی خواتین اور لڑکیاں بھی ہیں جو مردوں اور لڑکوں کو شکست دے سکتی ہیں۔ اس کھیل میں عمر کی کوئی حد نہیں ہے، اگرچہ اس میں اندر 18 اور اندر 21 کے مقابلے بھی ہوتے ہیں۔

مستقبل کے ارادوں کے حوالے سے سوال پر راشد مسعود نے کہا کہ ان کی توجہ کبھی کبھار ہرگز نہیں ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ اس مقابلے کے ٹاپ تیر انداز انجینئری، شہر، بھر رہے ہیں۔ ان کے مقابلوں میں شامل ہونے پر زور دیا۔ انہوں نے کہا مجھے اس وقت خود پر اتنا اعتماد نہیں تھا اس لیے میں پہلے گھبرا گیا۔ لیکن یہ سچ ہے کہ مقابلوں میں حصہ لینے سے مجھ میں اعتماد پیدا ہوا۔

انہوں نے مزید بتایا کہ آپ جانتے ہیں کہ یہاں صرف ہم ہی وہ لوگ ہیں جنہوں نے 2021ء سال کی عمر میں تیر اندازی کا آغاز کیا۔ دیگر ممالک میں سنہ 6 یا 7 سال کی عمر میں تیر اندازی کی مشق کا آغاز کر دیتے ہیں۔ آپ جیروں ملک ایسے تیر اندازوں سے نہیں گئے جنہیں 14 سے 15 سال کا تجربہ حاصل ہے۔

انہوں نے ٹھانڈی کی کہ پھر بھی مسلسل ٹریننگ ہمیں بہتر بنانے میں مدد کرتی ہے۔ ہمارے کوچ کا بھی ہماری کارکردگی

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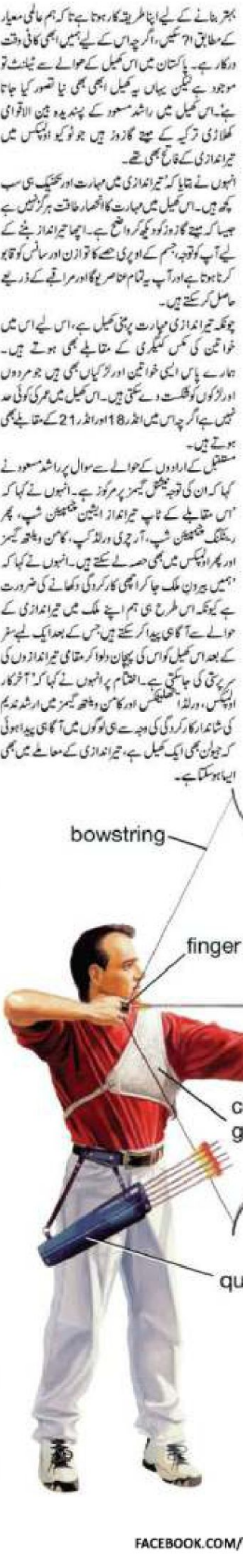
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THE KERALA STORY

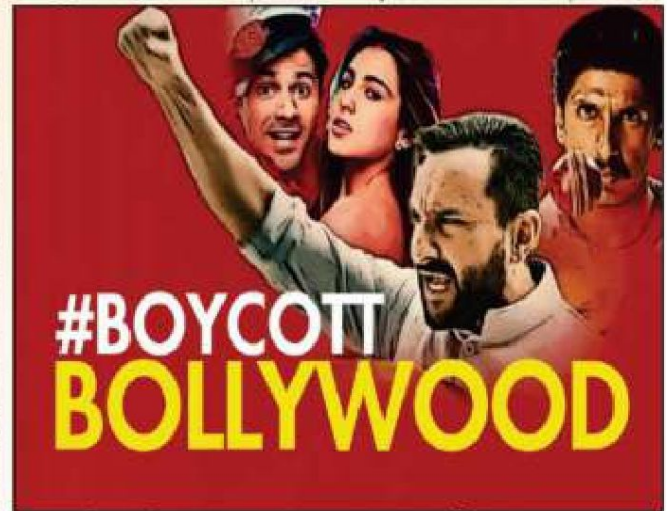


ساتھ اقبال

بھارتی سنیما کو دنیا کی سب سے بڑی فلمی صنعت کہا جاتا ہے۔ اعداد و شمار بھی اس موافقت کی ایک حد تک حمایت کرتے ہیں مگر آج یہ صنعت دیگر فلم اڈسٹریز کی رہنمائی کرنے کے بجائے خود سب سے کمزور نظر آتی ہے۔ ناقدین کے مطابق اس صورت حال کی بنیادی وجہ لی ہے لیبر کا رکھنا پتہ اور قوم پرست سوچ ہے جس نے دیگر شعبوں کے ساتھ ساتھ بھارتی فلمی صنعت کو بھی اپنا نشانہ بنالیا ہے۔ اس کا نتیجہ اب پروڈیکٹرز فلمز کی صورت میں سامنے آ رہے ہیں۔ گزشتہ دوں ریلیز ہونے والی ہندی فلم دی کیرالا اسٹوری نے معاملے کی تحقیق کو مزید عمال کر دیا ہے۔ دی کیرالا اسٹوری نے قوم پرستانہ سوچ کا تسلسل تصور کی جانے والی اس فلم نے ایک جانب جہاں ہندوستانی مسلمانوں کو الزامات کے کتھرے میں لا کھڑا کیا ہے وہیں کیرالہ کی مذہبی ہم آہنگی کو بھی نشانہ بنانے کی کوشش کی ہے۔

جانب سے بھی ان واقعات کو غیر حقیقی قرار دیا گیا ہے۔ یہی بنیاد پر جمیت ملتا ہے بھارتی سپریم کورٹ میں فلم کی نمائندگی روکنے کی درخواست دائر کی گئی۔ ان کا یہ بھی مطالبہ تھا کہ فلم ساز وضاحت جاری کریں کہ یہ حقیقت کے بجائے فکشن پر مبنی ہے۔ سپریم کورٹ نے ٹیلی ویژن چینلوں پر اس درخواست کو خارج کرتے ہوئے درخواست گزاروں کو کیرالا ہائی کورٹ سے رجوع کرنے کا مشورہ دیا۔ البتہ وہاں بھی درخواست گزاروں کی شہدائی نہیں ہوئی اور فلم 9 مئی کو ریلیز ہو گئی جس کے بعد تنازعہ سے مزید شدت اختیار کر گئی۔

تو جہاں جیسے تنازعہ اور مذہبی موضوع کے گرد گھومتے والی سدھو سین کی اس فلم کا تیز رفتاری سے برسرِ نمبر بن رہا تھا۔



میں یہ سسٹمی خیز دھوکا کیا گیا تھا کہ فلم نہ صرف حقیقی واقعے پر مبنی ہے بلکہ کیرالا اور اس کے گرد و نواح سے تعلق رکھنے والی 32 ہزار مضمون نگاروں کو جہاں نامی اس سازش کا شکار بن کر جنگ زدہ علاقوں میں دفن ہو چکے ہیں۔ اس ٹیڈر پر رائے عامہ تقسیم ہو گئی۔ ایک جانب جہاں مسلم مخالف گروہوں کی جانب سے اسے سراہا گیا ہے وہیں مسلمان اور دھوکا خیز خیال طبقے کی جانب سے 32 ہزار لڑکیوں کی گمشدگی کے دعوے کو کراہی مٹھواتے ہوئے حقائق کے منافی قرار دیا گیا ہے۔

جب آزاد مبصرین نے جاہلیت کار کے دعوے پر سوال اٹھایا تو ان کی جانب سے کیرالہ کے کیونڈر رہنما اور سابق وزیر اعلیٰ ٹھکران اپنا تندن کے ایک بیان کا حوالہ دیا گیا جو کیرالہ کے اسلامی اذیت بننے کے تحت سے پریشانی تھا۔ ساتھ ہی جاہلیت کار نے سابق وزیر اعلیٰ اومین چاند سے کے اڈا ٹوڈے میں شائع

ہونے والے کیرالہ کی خواتین میں قبول اسلام کے بارے میں رکھان سے حقیقی بیان کو اپنی فلم کی بنیاد بنالیا ہے۔ البتہ آزاد میڈیا اور فیکٹ چیک کرنے والے ناخبین پلٹ فارموز کی جانب سے یہ نشان دہی کی گئی ہے کہ مذکورہ بیان میں 32 ہزاری تعداد کا ذکر تھا جسے ان کو مسلم خواتین کی انجنا پتہ تجویزوں سے

کرمی قسم کی انکشاف کیا گیا تھا۔ مزید یہ کہ فلم ساز واصل ٹھکران اپنا تندن کے کیرالہ کے اسلامی اذیت بننے کے بیان کو بھی غلط فہم پیش کر رہے ہیں۔

یاد رہے کہ یہ اسلاموفوبیا جس جانب فلم ساز نے 32 ہزاری تنازعہ تعداد کو اپنے فیکٹ کی کام کا موضوع بنایا۔ 2018 میں اپنی ایک دستاویزی فلم میں دی ایم آف ٹوڈے کے لیے بھی سدھو سین نے ان ہی سے بنیاد اعداد و شمار کا سہارا لیا تھا۔ اس ٹیڈر پر تھکران نے دالوں نے یہ نشان دہی کی کہ کیرالہ کے پولیس کے پاس بھی ان ہزاروں خاتون کی پر اسرار گمشدگی کی رپورٹ درج نہیں ہوئی۔ ناقدین امریکی اذیت ڈیپارٹمنٹ کی دہشت گردی سے متعلق سال 2020 کی رپورٹ کا بھی حوالہ دیتے ہیں جس میں آئی ایس آئی ایس میں شمولیت اختیار کرنے والے ہندوستانیوں کی تعداد 66 تائی گئی تھی۔ اس رپورٹ کو بعد ازاں ہندوستان مانٹر سمیت بھارت کے کئی معجز اخبارات نے بھی شائع کیا تھا۔

اس نوع کے تنبیہ اعتراضات کو جب کانگریس اور دیگر روشن خیال تنظیموں کا ساتھ ملا تو اس دعوے کا تقعر مزید عمال ہو گیا۔ ناقدین نے سوشل میڈیا سمیت تمام دستیاب فورم پر یہ کیس لڑا۔ دہاکے باعث پروڈیوسر کی جانب سے 25 اپریل 2023 کو جاری کردہ ٹریلر میں 32 ہزاری تنازعہ تعداد کے تذکرے سے اعتبار برتا گیا اور پوٹو پ ڈسکرپشن میں اسے کیرالہ کے مختلف حصوں سے تعلق رکھنے والی 3 خواتین کی حقیقی کہانی ٹھہرانے پر انکشاف کیا۔ انٹرنیٹ فلم ساز اور جاہلیت کار 31 ہزار 997 خواتین کی جبراً مذہب تبدیلی، زیادتی اور دھوکے سے انورجے عین الزامات سے پیچھے ہٹ چکے تھے۔ البتہ سدھو سین کی جانب سے مختلف پلیٹ فارمز پر اس تعداد پر اصرار جاری رکھا گیا۔ ایک جانب تنبیہ جاری تھی، تو دوسری طرف فلم کی حمایت کرنے والوں کی تعداد بھی بڑھ رہی تھی۔ لی ہے لی اور اس کے اتحاد میں نے اپنا ذہن فلم کے پلڑے میں ڈال دیا۔ وہ ریلیز کے بعد ناقدین واضح طور پر دھوکوں میں پھنسے نظر آئے۔ لی ہے لی کے قریب کچھ جانے والے مبصرین نے اسے ایسے کیسول کر سہارا، البتہ تنبیہ مبصرین کی جانب سے اسے کمزور دھوکا کی کوشش ٹھہرایا گیا۔

ایک جانب دی این این ایس کے اس کی پیش اور اداکاری کو ناقص قرار دیا تو وہیں این ڈی ڈی نے اس کے

دی کیرالا اسٹوری: بولی وڈ میں پروپیگنڈا فلمز کا پرخطر رجحان

کردی۔ کیرالہ میں بھی فلم شدہ جتنی کا نشانہ بنی۔ خیال رہے کہ کیرالہ کی سیاسی تاریخ میں کانگریس اور کیونڈر پارٹی کا کلینا بھاری رہا ہے اور دونوں کی جانب سے مذکورہ فلم کو کیرالہ کے خلاف پروپیگنڈا اور ہندوؤں کی ترویج قرار دیا گیا۔ البتہ شمالی بھارت میں، جسے لی ہے لی کا اصل وٹم دیکھا جاتا ہے، فلم کو شہرہ آفاق ٹیگ لی اور فلمی چٹوٹوں نے یہ پیش گوئی کر دی کہ یہی تنبیہ کا ٹیگ کی طرح جاک مسخر قاتل ہو سکتی ہے۔ یاد رہے کہ معمولی بٹ اور کمزور پروڈکشن کے ساتھ بننے والی یہ فلم 35 روز میں 35 کروڑ کا بزنس کر چکی ہے۔

فلم سے جڑی سیاسی اور مذہبی تقسیم اس وقت مزید عمال ہو گئی، جب بھارتی وزیر اعظم، نریندر مودی نے اس میں پیش کردہ بیانیہ کو سراہتے ہوئے اسے حقیقت پر مبنی قرار دیا اور اس کی مخالفت پر کانگریس اور دیگر جماعتوں کو آڑے ہاتھوں لیا۔ یاد رہے کہ دی کیرالا اسٹوری کی لیے لی کی جبرور سپورٹ ملی تھی۔ جہاں چھ ناٹک ریلیز ہونے والی شاد رخ شان کی فلم 'پھان' کی لیے مثال کا سامانی کو انجنا پتہ ہندو اور اپنا ٹیگ ٹیگ کی ناکامی کا رونا راتا بھارت، وہیں دی کیرالا اسٹوری کی کامیابی یا شہرہ سے کہنا پتہ اندازہ فورم پرست سوچ ہندی فلم بننے میں بڑی حد تک سہایت کر چکی ہے۔ اسی سوچ کے تحت نامی میں علامہ این ٹی اور احمد شاہ ابدالی سمیت مسلم تحریکوں کو بھی انداز میں پیش کیا گیا اور اسی نظریے کے تحت مسلم سلطان کو، جو کل تک ہندوستان میں رٹس سرکار کے خلاف جدوجہد کا استعارہ تھا، ایک جوتنی اور ہندو دشمن سلطان کے طور پر پیش کرنے کی

تجارتوں کی جاری ہیں۔ تنبیہ مبصرین کا خیال ہے کہ دی کیرالا اسٹوری کے ذریعے لی ہے لی کی ناک کے اسٹیبلشمنٹ میں اپنی سرکار بچانے کے لیے کوشاں ہے۔ 2019ء سے ناک ٹک میں لی ہے لی کی کارنامے مگر ناقص کارکردگی اور کانگریس کی مقبولیت کے باعث انہیں مشکلات درپیش ہیں جس سے جبراً آزما ہونے کے لیے نفرت کار نکھایا جا رہا ہے اور اس میں دی کیرالا اسٹوری تریپ کا بچہ بھی جاری ہے۔ یاد رہے کہ ناک ٹک ناچ تنازع کی وجہ سے ایک عرصے سے خروار میں ہے۔ چاہے یہ فلمی یا باقاعلی سیاست میں کام لے یا ناک ٹکس بات سے انکار نہیں کیا جاسکتا کہ سیکولرزم کا پرچار کرنے والا بولی وڈ انجنا پتہ نظریے کے ذریعے بن چکا ہے۔

پروفیسر ڈاکٹر عبدالملک

مائیکرین کے مسئلہ کا دورانیہ مختلف افراد میں مختلف ہوتا ہے جو کہ 4 سے 72 گھنٹے تک ہو سکتا ہے۔ عمومی طور پر اس کا دورانیہ 6 گھنٹے تک ہوتا ہے۔

سر درد۔۔۔ شاید ہی کوئی ایسا انسان ہو جسے زندگی میں ایک بار اس سے واسطہ نہ پڑا ہو۔ سر درد یوں تو نسبتاً ایک عام قسم کی

ہے جو کہ آپ کی معمول کی زندگی کو متاثر بلکہ بیکار کر سکتی ہیں۔ درحقیقت عام طور پر خاندانی (جینیاتی) ہوتا ہے۔ یعنی ایک ہی خاندان کے مختلف افراد اس مرض میں مبتلا ہو سکتے ہیں۔ اس بنا پر یہ موروثی بیماری بھی ہے۔ اگر والدین میں سے کسی ایک کو بھی مائیکرین ہے تو بچے میں بھی مائیکرین ہونے کا امکان 50 فیصد ہوتا ہے اور والدین میں دونوں کو مائیکرین ہو

مائیکرین کے درد پر کیسے قابو پایا جاسکتا ہے؟



بیماری بھی جاتی ہے مگر اس کا دائرہ کافی وسیع ہے۔ جس میں عام سر درد سے لے کر جان لیوا سر درد تک شامل ہیں۔ ان ہی میں سے ایک قسم آدمی کے سر کا درد ہے جسے درحقیقت اور مائیکرین بھی کہتے ہیں۔

مائیکرین کیا ہے؟

مائیکرین جس کو عام الفاظ میں آدمی کے سر کا درد بھی کہا جاتا ہے (مضرب کی نہیں کہ یہ درحقیقت آدمی کے سر میں ہی ہوتا ہے) عام طور پر وقفے وقفے سے ہونے والے سر درد کو بھی مائیکرین کہتے ہیں۔ مائیکرین میں سر کے درد کے ساتھ ساتھ دوسری علامات مثلاً جلیج، آنسو آتی طور پر چہرے کا متاثر ہونا یا تیز دھوپ، تیز روشنی، تیز آواز، کسی خاص خوشبو یا بدبو وغیرہ سے الجھن شامل

تعلق مندرجہ بالا عوامل میں سے ہی کسی ایک سے ہو۔

مائیکرین کتنا عام ہے؟

مغربی حقیقت کے مطابق مائیکرین کا دورانیہ 12 فیصد افراد کو ہوتا ہے۔ اس شرح میں مزید اضافے کا امکان موجود ہے۔ جیسے کہ تقریر کر چکا ہوں کہ یہ درحقیقت میں سر درد کے مقابلے میں زیادہ (2 سے 3 گنا) ہوتا ہے اور کم وبیش 5 ہزار سے ایک خاتون مائیکرین کا شکار ہوتی ہے۔ عام طور پر 24-25 سال عمر کے لوگ اس کا زیادہ شکار ہوتے ہیں۔ یہی وجہ ہے کہ مائیکرین بہت سے اہم صحتی و صحتی مسائل کا باعث ہے۔ پاکستان میں ایک اندازے کے مطابق 4 کروڑ سے زائد افراد مائیکرین میں مبتلا ہیں۔

مائیکرین کی علامات کیا ہیں؟

مائیکرین میں شدید سر درد سے پہلے یا اس کے ساتھ ساتھ دوسری علامات بھی ظاہر ہوتی ہیں۔ ابتدائی علامات میں جلیج، بھٹکی حساسیت (بعض اوقات زیادہ حساسیت)، تھکاوٹ، گردن میں درد، زیادہ جھومکنا اور حیران میں تبدیلی بھی شامل ہیں۔ ہر متاثرہ فرد مائیکرین کے دوران مختلف کیفیات سے گزرتا ہے۔ عام طور پر مائیکرین کے حملے سے قبل ایک تھکنی، اشارتی و تھکاوٹ ہوتا ہے جس میں مریض غیر معمولی تھکاوٹ کا شکار ہوتا ہے یعنی محسوس کرتا ہے کہ اس کے بعد کبھی باقی کی شکایت ہو سکتی ہے۔ اس دوران تیز روشنی کے قطعی طور پر ناقابل برداشت ہونے یا آنکھوں میں دھندلاہٹ محسوس ہونے کی علامات کا سامنا ہو سکتا ہے۔ یہ علامات چند منٹ سے چند گھنٹے تک برقرار رہ سکتی ہیں۔ ان علامتی علامات کے بعد مائیکرین کا مخصوص قسم کا سر درد شروع ہو جاتا ہے جس میں سر میں ایک یا دونوں جانب درد اور اس کا بڑھتے چلے جانا شامل ہے۔

مائیکرین میں کیا کرنا چاہیے؟

اگر مائیکرین کے حملے تازہ کے ساتھ شدید سر کے درد کے ساتھ بار بار ہوں اور وہ درد دور کرنے والی عام ادویات مثلاً جیروٹامول، پروفین وغیرہ سے قابو نہ ہوں تو آپ اپنے

پیشہ اور نویشن سے رجوع کریں۔ بعض حالات میں ڈاکٹر یہ جاننے کے لیے کہ سر درد کی اور بیماری کی علامت تو نہیں آپ کے کچھ ٹیسٹ کرانے کا مشورہ بھی دے سکتے ہیں۔

مائیکرین سے کس طرح نمٹنا چاہئے؟

آپ خود اپنے سب سے بہتر معالج ثابت ہو سکتے ہیں کیونکہ آپ کے پاس اپنے مرض کو سمجھنے کے لیے وقت بھی ہے اور فائدے کی امید بھی۔ اپنے پاس ایک ڈاکٹر رکھیں جس میں درد شروع ہونے کے اوقات کا، دورانیہ اور ہر اہم بات جیروٹامول کے ساتھ شملک ہو، درج کریں۔

اپنے معمولات اور درد کے ساتھ نوجوی چیزیں نوٹ کریں (مثلاً کچھ لوگ معمولات سے زیادہ سونے کی وجہ سے مائیکرین میں مبتلا ہو جاتے ہیں، ان تعلیمات کو کچھ عرصہ نوٹ کرتے رہنے سے آپ کو وہی کیفیت اور حیران سے آگاہی ہو جائے گی جس سے اس کے اسباب جاننے میں مدد ملے گی۔ مثال کے طور پر ہو سکتا ہے کہ آپ کے کام کی رفتار تھکا دے اور اس کا باعث بنتی ہو لہذا اس بنا پر روزمرہ کاموں کو منظم کریں تاکہ اس درد کی بنیادی وجہ کو چھلک کرنے سے مائیکرین پر قابو پا سکیں۔

کچھ خواتین میں مائع منسل گولیاں مائیکرین کا باعث بنتی ہیں لہذا ایسی خواتین کو اپنے معالج سے مشورہ کرنا ہوگا۔ کچھ افراد میں تیز دھوپ یا سورج کی تیز روشنی سے درد کا آغاز ہو جاتا ہے لہذا اس کے لیے احتیاطی تدابیر سے مائیکرین کے حملے سے بچا جاسکتا ہے۔ مائیکرین کا ریکارڈ جہاں مریض کے لیے کارآمد ہے وہیں مریض کے معالج کو بھی علاج میں مدد دیتا ہے۔ مائیکرین بڑھانے والی اشیاء و عوامل سے مکمل پرہیز کریں نیز سادہ غذا، پانی و پانی والی اشیاء کا زیادہ استعمال، چھل قدمی، ورزش اور مکمل نیند مائیکرین کو کنٹرول کرنے میں مددگار ہے۔ مائیکرین کے حملے کے آغاز پر ہی اگر علاج شروع کر دیا جائے تو وہ زیادہ مؤثر ہوتا ہے۔ اگر آپ اکثر اوقات مائیکرین کا شکار رہتے ہیں تو اپنے معالجی/نورولوگسٹ سے مناسب علاج کے سلسلے میں مشورہ ضرور کریں۔

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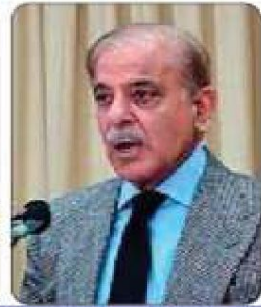
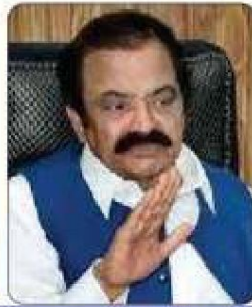


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9 مئی واقعات: موبائل فون، انٹرنیٹ سروسز معطلی کی وجہ سے ٹیلی کمیونی کیشن کمپنیوں کو اربوں کا نقصان

ملک کی تمام بڑی کمپنیوں نے وفاقی وزیر انڈسٹریز، مینسٹر لوجسٹکس اور ٹرانسپورٹ کو خط لکھ کر اپنا احتجاج رجسٹر کروایا اور مطالبہ کیا ہے کہ ہمارے نقصان کا ازالہ کرتے ہوئے معاوضے کی ادائیگی کیلئے کس کو سرمایہ میں مداخلت کیا جائے

ٹیلی کام سیکٹر پہلے ہی شدید بحران کا شکار ہے ہزاروں ملازمین پر روزگار ہو چکے، لیٹر آف کریڈٹ پر حکومت کی جانب سے کوئی مثبت جواب آنے سے پروڈکشن ہونٹ بند، سرمایہ کار پھسار گانے سے گریزاں

نی فی اے حکومت کو اختیار نہیں کہ مکمل سروسز معطل کرے سروسز معطلی سے ہمیں 110 ملین سے زائد کا نقصان ہوا جبکہ دیگر 3 بڑی کمپنیوں کا نقصان بھی اربوں میں ہے۔ نمائندہ نجی کمپنی کی خصوصی گفتگو

اسلام آباد (خصوصی رپورٹ) 9 اگست 2023 کو عمران خان کی گرفتاری کے رد میں ہونے والے واقعات کے بعد حکومت کی طرف سے ملک بھر میں موہاں انٹرنیٹ اور دیگر انٹرنیٹ سروسز کو بند کر دیا گیا جس پر GSM، موبائل ٹیلیفون کی کمپنیاں اور پاکستان میں کام کرنے والی تمام بڑی موبائل فون کمپنیاں نے حکومت وقت اور پاکستان ٹیلی کام اتھارٹی کو مزید شدید احتجاج ریکارڈ کرا دیا ہے۔ خطہ میں کہا گیا ہے کہ وفاقی حکومت اور پاکستان ٹیلی کام اتھارٹی نے آئین پاکستان کی پاسداری نہ کی ہے لہذا کمپنیاں کا جو نقصان ہوا اس کا ازالہ کیا جائے اور بنیادی حقائق کو متنبہ کیا جائے۔ خطہ کو مین وین تھر جی کھاتہ حلقہ کیا جا رہا ہے تاکہ پڑنے والے صارفین کو صحیح معلومات تک رسائی دی جائے اور ہم میں بطور ادارہ روکش کر رہے ہیں کہ کھاتہ کو ہی پیش کیا جائے اور ملک کے اندر سرمایہ کاری کے فروغ کیلئے کام کرنے والی کمپنیاں کی حوصلہ افزائی کی جائے اور حکومت سے بھی اس بات کی گزارش کی جائے کہ ملک میں سرمایہ کاری کے ماحول کو بحال رکھا جائے تاکہ غیر ملکی کمپنیاں آئی آئی اور ملکی کام تکثیر میں سرمایہ کاری سے روکے نہیں کریں جبکہ پچھلے پاکستان میں اس شعبے میں گزشتہ سال سے بدترین بحران ہے۔ ہزاروں لوگ روزگار سے باہر ہو چکے ہیں اور ہر کام کر رہے ہیں ان کی تحواہیں بھی کم کی جا رہی ہیں۔ پوری دنیا میں یہ شعبہ ترقی کی جانب گامزن ہے جبکہ پاکستان میں جانشینا کی اور کرپشن کے باعث روز بڑا دل ہے۔ رابطہ کرنے پر موبائل فون میسجنگ چمک لگتا ہے۔ زائد کمپنیوں کے مختلف نمائندوں نے بتایا کہ ملک میں گزشتہ ایک سال سے موبائل فون ہائے اور فروخت کرنے کے حوالے سے شدید مشکلات ہیں جس کی بنیادی وجہ لیو آف کرڈٹ بتائی جاتی ہے جس کی وجہ سے پاکستان میں ڈیڑھ ہزار موبائل فون لانا مشکل ہو گیا ہے اور سرمایہ کاروں نے ٹیکسٹ یا لگنے پر اربوں روپے خرچ کر دیے تاہم حکومت کی غلط منصوبہ بندی اور چند اداروں کی کرپشن کی وجہ سے سرمایہ کار اور کمپنیاں شدید پریشان ہیں دوسری طرف تو کسی کے واقعات کے بعد موبائل فون کمپنیاں کی انٹرنیٹ سروسز اور دیگر سروسز بند ہونے پر جہاں صارفین کو مشکلات کا سامنا کرنا پڑا اور مصیبت کا پیرہ بھی جام ہوا وہاں ان موبائل فون کمپنیوں کی بھی مالی حالت کو شدید دچکا لگا ہے۔ رابطہ کرنے پر ایک بڑی موبائل فون کمپنی کے نمائندے نے بتایا کہ کم لے خط کے ذریعے حکومت پاکستان کو بتایا ہے کہ سروسز معطلی سے 110 ملین سے زائد کا نقصان صرف فوری کٹنی کا ہوا ہے جبکہ دیگر بڑی کمپنیاں کا نقصان بھی اربوں روپے میں ہے۔ ذرائع نے بتایا کہ موبائل فون کمپنیوں نے انتہائی تکلیف و دھور و حال کے باعث حکومت وقت کو قانون اور آئین کی پاسداری کا خط لکھا ہے اور یہ بتانے کی کوشش کی ہے کہ یہ کمپنیاں آئے روز انٹرنیٹ بندش اور دیگر ایسے مسائل سے ڈوب جائیں گی اور سرمایہ کار اس ملک میں سرمایہ لگانے سے گریز کریں گے۔ ذرائع نے مزید بتایا کہ موبائل فون کمپنیوں میں پچھلے روزگار کے حوالے سے شدید مسائل ہیں تقریباً تمام کمپنیاں ڈاؤن سائزنگ کر رہی ہیں اور انکی بھی معیضی منافع میں اور کاروبار باری مشکلات ہیں۔ ذرائع نے کہا کہ پاکستان میں اس وقت کام کرنے والی تمام کمپنیاں کا تعلق جبریل سرمایہ کار کمپنیاں سے ہے جب انکو بتایا جا رہا ہے کہ پاکستان میں سروسز بند ہو رہی ہے اور حکومت نے بغیر مشاورت کے ہماری انٹرنیٹ سروسز بند کر دی ہے جس پر تمام سرمایہ کار شدید پرانی کا اظہار کرتے ہوئے کہتے ہیں کہ ان نامساعد حالات میں کاروبار کیسے جاری رکھا جائے گا کیونکہ کمپنیاں کے اخراجات دیئے جا رہے ہیں مگر وہ نہ منی کی واقعہ ہوتی ہے۔ ذرائع نے بتایا کہ کرپشن کی سروس ایک دن بعد سے تو تقریباً سارا سال کا سائٹس حشر ہوتا ہے۔ کیونکہ کمپنیاں بہت کم داجن پر کام کر رہی ہیں جس کی بنیادی وجہ ڈاکٹر کنڈل میں بند ہوتا ہے۔ کچھ کے نمائندوں نے لٹیر سے بات چیت کرتے ہوئے بتایا کہ گزشتہ ایک سال کے لیو آف کرڈٹ کی وجہ سے حکومت نے نافذ کی ہیں اس کے باعث پاکستان ٹیلی کام اتھارٹی کی طرف سے دی گئی ٹیلی فون سروسز کی شرائط پر عمل کرنا دھنک ہو گیا ہے اسکی وجہ بھی یہی ہے کہ اگر پاکستان میں باہر سے ٹیلی فون ڈاک، آلات اور دیگر پارٹس نہ آچکے تو پاکستانی عوام کو یہ دیکنا لوہی کی سروسز کو کھسٹ دینا ناممکن ہو جائے گا۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ اس وقت چاروں بڑی موبائل فون کمپنیوں کی لیٹر آف کرڈٹ کی درخواستیں حکومت کا ٹیبلٹ چیک کے پاس ہیں تاہم ان کی خاطر جواب نہ ملتا ہے جس کے باعث پاکستان کے دور دراز علاقوں میں سروسز خراب کرنے میں شدید مشکلات ہیں اور انکی بھی صورتحال ری تو شاید انٹرنیٹ اور دیگر سروسز بھی محدود ہوتی جائیگی۔ معاشی حالات اور دیگر ٹیکنالوجی کے طوفان نے سب سے بڑا ہنگامہ کے انڈسٹریسٹ دیئے اور کمپنیاں کو شدید مشکلات میں ڈال دیا ہے اور معطلی پر عمل کا کام ڈاکٹر ڈے جس پر سرمایہ کار ملک میں مزید سرمایہ کاری کرنے سے منع کر رہے ہیں۔ نمائندوں نے مزید بتایا کہ ملک بھر میں کام کرنے والی تمام موبائل فون کمپنیوں کے سلیکٹ ہولڈرز اور حکومت کو لکھ کر اذیت کرنے سے جانشین اور اس کا مکمل انکار کیا ہے تاہم عوام کو ٹیلی فون کی کمپن آئی آئی بھی ضروری سمجھیں مایا ہو سکیں۔

GSMA

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33 Hysan Avenue
Causeway Bay
Hong Kong
00852 2522 2222

May 11, 2021

Syed Amin Ull Haque
Minister
Ministry of IT & Telecom, Pakistan

Subject: GSMA Letter on Service Restriction Order in Pakistan
His Excellency,

I write to you today to express the GSMA's concerns over the restriction of connectivity - Internet services in Pakistan.

The GSMA, which represents the interests of mobile operators worldwide, is concerned about the impact that the current restrictions are having on citizens and businesses in Pakistan. In today's digital societies individuals and businesses rely on connectivity for their livelihoods and access to essential services and information. Prolonged restrictions can also have far reaching effects on citizens' health, education social and economic welfare. In addition to the harm imposed on businesses, restrictions can have a knock on credit and investment plans, ultimately damaging the country's reputation for managing the economy and foreign investment.

The GSMA discourages the use of service restriction orders. Any SDO should be supported by convincing evidence of the situation and its impact, together with analysis and dynamic decision-making processes for setting for swift restriction of service. The power to restrict services should be exercised sparingly and only in exceptional and pre-defined circumstances, and only if absolutely necessary and proportionate to achieve a specified and legitimate aim that is consistent with relevant laws, internationally recognised human rights conventions and the EU constitution.

The GSMA urges the Government to lift the suspension of services and restore access as soon as possible and stands ready to engage constructively whenever support required to improve the process and ensure business continuity.

Yours sincerely,

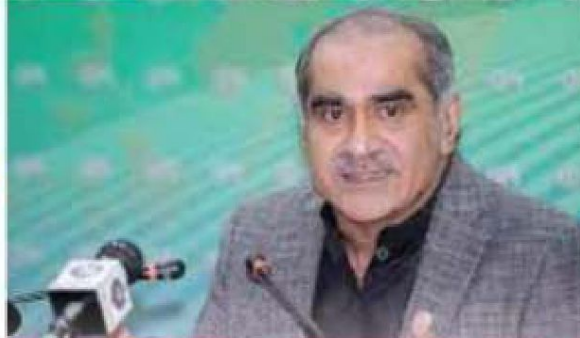
Julien Gorman
Head of Asia Pacific
GSMN

GSMA کی جانب سے نکلے گئے لیٹر کا عکس



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A NEW DREAM





S.JAMIL & CO

ریلوے ملازمین کی ملی بھگت، ناقص اور غیر معیاری اشیاء کی فروخت عروج پر، مسافروں کے ساتھ ناروا سلوک

شکایت کرنے پر عملہ اور انسپکٹر مارافروں کے مسائل حل کرنے کی بجائے مسافروں سے بدتمیزی سے پیش آتا ہے، فلفرو ڈاؤز کے نام پر تلکے سے بھر پانی دھڑلے سے فروخت

ایس جیمیل اینڈ کمپنی کو ناقص اور غیر معیاری اشیاء فروخت کرنے پر 30 ہزار روپے جرمانہ اور سامان ضبط کیا گیا مگر دیوبند کے ملازمین کیساتھ ساز باز کر کے پھر سے مسافروں کو لالچ دینے لگی

لاہور (تحقیق راج پورٹ) پاکستان ریلوے کے کثرت فی کپنیاں جو تریس چار ہی ہیں وہاں پر مسافروں کیساتھ کتنی کاروبار پہنچی کا مناسب اور جانبدار ہے جس میں کتنی ایس جی ایل اینڈ کتنی جو پرائیویٹ ٹرینیں چلیے پلے کر چلا رہی ہے وہ کارگو اور گجڑہ راستے کے ریلوے کو دینے والی آمدن ہری کر لیتی ہے جبکہ ٹرین کے اندر ریلوے پاکستان کی طرف سے منظور شدہ ریت اور منظور شدہ اشیاء مسافروں کو فروخت نہ کرتی ہے۔ کتنی نے آگے بھی ٹھیکیدار کے ہیں جو کہ ٹرین میں غیر معیاری اشیاء فروخت کر رہے ہیں۔ پینے کے صاف پانی کو ریلوے سے اشیائیں سے جو خرگور مسافروں کو کھیتی کا کہہ کر فروخت کر رہا جاتا ہے جس کی گزشتہ روز ایک ویڈیو بھی منظر میں آیا وہ انٹل ہوتی ہے جس میں فریڈا بھیر کرسن جو لاہور سے کارہی جاتی ہے اس میں غیر منظور شدہ پانی مسافروں کو پلا یا جارہا ہے اور ٹھیکیداری کی طرف سے انٹیک کار کے اندر ڈپ فریزر کے اندر سرخ غیر معیاری اور صحت شایا فروخت کی جاتی ہیں۔ چوتھے ٹرین کے اندر مسافروں کے پاس کوئی دوسری آکسیجن نہیں ہوتی جس کی وجہ سے کتنی تھیں اور غیر منظور شدہ اشیاء یا تھیں فروخت کی جارہی ہے۔ اگر کوئی مسافر شکایت یا اعتراض کرے تو اس کیساتھ بددیوباری کی جاتی ہے۔ افسوس کی بات یہ ہے کہ اس کاروبار میں ریلوے سے ملازمین یا ریلوے سے پولیس کے لوگ بھی شامل ہیں جو کہ مسافری شکایت کرنے پر بھی انگی دندہ کرتے ہیں۔ ہم نے جب رابطہ ی ای او سر رہا ب ملک سے کیا تو انہوں نے ایک دن حوالی لکھا میں ٹرین پر ریلوے کے غیر معیاری اشیاء خود فروش برآمد کر کے قبضہ میں لے لیں تاہم صرف تیس ہزار روپے کتنی کو ہر ماہ کر کے چھوڑ دیا جس کے بعد کاروبار بحال جاری ہے۔ عام پانی کی بوتل 110 روپے میں فروخت کی جارہی ہے جنہیں سرعام میں سے بھر کر فروخت کیا جاتا ہے۔ ٹرین کے اندر ریلوے سے اسٹیشن کے اندر ریلوے سے ملازمین موجود ہوتے ہیں گھر کی جڑ نہ ہے کہ اس کتنی تکلف کاروائی میں مل لائے۔ جبکہ کتنی کے معاملات دیکھنے کیلئے ڈوہڑ میں پرنسز ٹمٹ دوسری سی ای ایم کی ذمہ داری بنتی ہے کہ روڈوائز کی جانودیاں پرانے ٹرینوں کا محاسبہ کریں اور قصور وار افراد کو فوری طور پر سزا دیں تاہم افسران ریلوے سے پاکستان اپنے کمرشل تک دہیں اور اگر کوئی سخت کرتا ہے تو اسے اسفر کا چارہ کر دیا جاتا ہے۔ مسافروں نے ہمیں بتایا کہ ریلوے سے پاکستان ایک غریب کی سواری ہے لیکن اس کیساتھ جو سلوک دار کا جارہا ہے یہ اسرارہی کا ادب ہے۔ مسافروں نے حکومت وقت اور قانون نافذ کرنے والے اداروں سے گزارش کی کہ ریلوے سے پاکستان کی موجودہ ذیلیوں حالی اور مسافروں کیساتھ جو تھیں یا زیادتی پر فوری کارروائی میں مل لائی جائے اور غوث افسران کو کیڑہ کر داری تک پہنچایا جائے۔



موبائل جرنلزم کا کمال

مستقبل اب ہمارے ہاتھ میں

ایاز مورس

ٹیکنالوجی نے ہمارے سونے، دیکھنے اور سمجھنے کے انداز بدل دیے ہیں۔ میں نے اپنی زندگی میں موبائل جرنلزم کا آغاز 2016 سے کر دیا تھا۔ اس کے پھر اور موثر استعمال نے مجھے اور میرے کام کو ایک منفرد پیمانہ دی ہے۔ شروع میں ٹیکنالوجی عام نہ ہونے کی وجہ سے کچھ جگہ 2019 کے بعد موبائل جرنلزم میں کئی نئے ٹیچرز اور آلات کا عام دست یاب ہونا کسی نعمت سے کم نہیں ہے۔

موبائل جرنلزم کیا ہے؟ اس کا بڑھتا ہوا استعمال کیسے فرما اور معاشرے کے لیے مفید ثابت ہو سکتا ہے؟ موبائل جرنلزم کی باقاعدہ تربیت کیوں حاصل کرنی چاہیے؟ موبائل جرنلزم کا مستقبل کیا ہے؟ موبائل جرنلزم کیسے برآمدی صحافت میں جدت لاسکتا ہے؟ اس مضمون میں ان سوالوں کا احاطہ کیا گیا ہے۔

اس سے پہلے ہم آگے بڑھیں میں آپ کو بتاتا چلوں کہ میں نے موبائل جرنلزم کا تجربہ استعمال کرتے ہوئے اپنے پونیوب گھنٹیں 500 سے زائد ویڈیوز ریکارڈ کی ہیں جن میں کئی یادگار اور خوب اور پیش ہیں۔ موبائل جرنلزم کی بدولت مجھے اپنے گاہکوں میں اپنے دادا کے حیات ہوتے ہوئے ان کے 3 اہل و عیال ریکارڈ کیے تھے جو میرے لیے ایک تاریخی اور قابل فخر سرمایہ ہیں۔ یہ سب کچھ موبائل جرنلزم کی وجہ سے ہی ممکن ہو پایا تھا۔ میں نے موبائل جرنلزم کے باقاعدہ سیشن، آن لائن ٹریننگ اور عملی مشقوں سے بہت کچھ سیکھا ہے اور اپنی آواز کو موبائل جرنلزم کے ذریعے عام لوگوں تک پہنچانا سیکھا ہے۔ میں اب یہ ٹریننگ مختلف اداروں، اداروں، کالجوں اور انسانی نیٹورس کو کر رہا ہوں۔ موبائل جرنلزم صحافت کی دنیا میں ایک انقلاب ہے جس کا موثر اور مثبت استعمال ہی میں اس کے فوائد سے ہم کنار کرنا سکتا ہے۔ وہ یہ ایک ایسا مذہب ہے جو معلومات کا سیلاب لے کر آتا ہے اور ہمیں اپنے ساتھ بھرا لے جاتا ہے۔ اس کا ایک اور اہم فائدہ یہ ہے کہ یہ عام انسان کی فکری دنیا ہے اور تھوڑی سی مہارت اور تربیت کے ساتھ آپ اس کا عمود استعمال کر سکتے ہیں۔

موبائل جرنلزم کا تعارف

موبائل جرنلزم ملٹی میڈیا کے ذریعے سے انداز میں اپنی کہانی سناتے کی ایک منفرد شکل ہے جو عام مضمون کو اساتذہ فوٹو جیسے چھوٹے نپٹ ورک سے شلک آلات کا استعمال کرتے ہوئے خبروں کو ریکارڈ کرنے، ایڈیٹنگ کرنے اور شیئر کرنے کے قابل بناتا ہے۔

موبائل فون کا استعمال کرنے والے صحافی اپنے پرنٹنگل آلات پر اتنی کا استعمال کرتے ہوئے ویڈیو، آڈیو، فوٹو گرافی اور ٹیکسٹ میں رپورٹ تیار کر سکتے ہیں۔ موبائل جرنلزم کے لیے موبو کی اصطلاح 2005 سے استعمال ہو رہی ہے۔ برآمدی طریقوں کے مقابلے میں موبائل جرنلزم کے پیکچر ہم ذہن میں قابل حصول ہونا، ہر جگہ آسانی دستیاب ہونا، خود مختار ہونا، یہ آسانی میسر ہونا اور ابتدائی افراد کے لیے رسائی کی آسانی ہونا شامل ہیں۔

پاکستان میں موبائل جرنلزم

ہمارا معاشرہ برقی چیز کو کچھ زیادہ دی ہے۔ قبول کرنے کا مادی اس لیے موبائل جرنلزم کے معاملے میں بھی صورت حال ایسی ہے۔ اس ضمن میں بہت کم پیشہ ور صحافی ہیں جو موبائل جرنلزم کا استعمال کر رہے ہیں اور دوسروں کے کھانے کے قافل ہیں۔ شاہجہادوں میں آہستہ آہستہ طریقہ کار سلسلہ شروع ہو رہا ہے۔ کئی ایک نیٹورس میں میڈیا اسٹڈیز اور ماس کمیونیکیشن میں اس کے گورنر شامل ہیں۔ لیکن ابھی تک اس حوالے سے بہت کام کرنے کی ضرورت ہے۔ بہت سارے لوگوں کو موبائل جرنلزم کا استعمال کر رہے ہیں لیکن وہ بنیادی صحافتی اقدار اور مہارتوں سے روشناس نہیں ہیں۔

موبائل جرنلزم (موبو) کی کیوں؟

موبو پاکستان کے لیے باڈی لائوٹھان کا کہنا ہے کہ آج کے دور میں موبائل جرنلزم کے ذریعے خبریں جمع کرنے اور کہانی سناتے کے لیے ایک اچھا ہتھیار ہے۔ آج دنیا میں ہر

کوئی، جس کے پاس اسمارٹ فون ہے وہ خود قاریتیں میں خبروں کو ریکارڈ، ایڈٹ اور نشر کر سکتا ہے۔ موبائل جرنلزم (MOJO) عام شہریوں کو خبروں کو پھیلنے میں، ایڈیٹر، پراڈیو اور پبلشرز کا کردار ادا کرنے کی سہولت دیتا ہے۔

موبائل جرنلزم کی اہمیت

میڈیا ریز اور موبو جیسے پورے نو رین جس کا کہنا ہے موبائل فون کو دو میں آئے ہوئے 30 سال ہو چکے ہیں۔ ابتدائی طور پر یہ صرف مواصلاتی آلات تھے، تاہم، ٹیکنالوجی میں ہونے والی تیز رفت نے انہیں بات چیت، رپورٹنگ اور سیکھنے کے حیرت انگیز مالی ٹولز میں تبدیل کر دیا ہے۔ آج، 70% پاکستانی (تقریباً 146 ملین افراد) موبائل فون استعمال کرنے والے ہیں۔ ان میں سے تقریباً ایک تہائی ایک انداز سے کے مطابق 49 ملین لوگ انٹرنیٹ سے جڑے ہوئے ہیں جو زیادہ تر اپنے اسمارٹ فون پر انٹرنیٹ استعمال کرتے ہیں۔ اسمارٹ فون کا بنیادی استعمال انٹرنیٹ طور پر تیار کرنا موبائل استعمال کرنا ہے۔ اسے مواد بنانے اور اسے مختلف شکل میں یا پبلٹ فاسر پر شیئر کرنے میں بھی بہت زیادہ ایلیمنٹی چاری ہے۔ اسمارٹ فون لوگوں کے لیے ذاتی نقطہ نظر کے لیے منفرد کہانیاں شیئر کرنے کا بھی ذریعہ ہیں۔ جدید ترین ٹیکنالوجی اور موبائل کا استعمال کرتے ہوئے MOJO ریگٹو اسمارٹ فون کی طاقت کو استعمال کرتی ہیں جو ذاتی اور مقامی کہانیاں سناتی ہیں۔

موبائل جرنلزم عام صحافت سے کیسے مختلف ہے؟

میڈیا اور موبو جرنلزم جرنلزم کا کہنا ہے کہ برآمدی صحافتی رپورٹنگ کرتے وقت بہت سی مشکلات اور مراحل سے گزرنا پڑتا ہے۔ مواد کے مختلف ٹکڑے بنانے کے لیے صحت سے معلومات جمع کرنا، اس کے بعد ایڈیٹنگ اور پھر اسے اشاعت یا نشریات کے لیے "پرائیوٹ" کے حوالے کرنا پڑتا ہے۔ یہ عمل بہت پرمیٹل اور وقت طلب ہوتا ہے، اور موقع اور وقت پر دست یاب نہیں ہوتے۔ ان میں اکثر ایڈیٹنگ کی کئی مراحل بھی شامل ہوتے ہیں، نیز مواد کی چاری اور اشتراک کے لیے بڑے اور پیچھے مٹھے کو بھی شامل کیا جاتا ہے۔ دوسری طرف موبائل جرنلزم (MOJO) کہانی سناتے والے کو ان تمام رکاوٹوں سے آزاد کرتا ہے۔ یہ مواد کو ریکارڈ کرنے، تیار کرنے اور شائع کرنے کی طاقت افراد کے ہاتھ میں دیتا ہے اور سب سے اہم بات یہ ہے کہ وہ مقام اور مابین سے آزاد ہو جاتے ہیں۔ اس لیے کہ موبائل کو بڑی لاکھ سے بچایا جاسکتا ہے۔ آج، برآمدی صحافت کے معیارات اور اخلاقیات کو برقرار رکھنے ہونے کہانی سناتے کی طاقت ہماری بیویوں میں منت منتھی ہے

موبائل جرنلزم کا مستقبل

موبائل جرنلزم نے کہانی سناتے کے انداز کو بدل رہا ہے۔ کچھ روایتی صحافی اس تبدیلی کی مزاحمت کر رہے ہیں، لیکن بہت سارے لوگ اسے قبول کر رہے ہیں۔ موبائل جرنلزم ایک حقیقت بن چکا ہے، اور یہ برقرار رہنے کے لیے ہے۔ حقیقت یہ ہے کہ موبائل جرنلزم ختم نہیں ہو رہا ہے، اس کا مطلب یہ نہیں ہے کہ یہ روایتی صحافت کی جگہ لے لے گا۔ دونوں مختلف ہیں، اور ہر ایک کے اپنے فوائد ہیں۔ بہت سے میڈیا آڈٹ ایس نے موبائل جرنلزم کو اپنے فریم ورک میں شامل کیا ہے، بہت سی نیوز کارپوریشنز اسے مکمل میڈیا کو بیچنے کے لیے موبائل جرنلزم کا استعمال کرتی ہیں، جب کہ زیادہ روایتی طریقوں میں اپنے بڑے نیوز کمروں کے ساتھ کام کرتی ہیں۔ یاد رکھیں وہ وقت دور نہیں ہے جب ہم اسمارٹ فون کے ساتھ کسی ملک کے صدر کا شروع ہوتے ہوئے دیکھ رہے ہوں گے۔

یہ تمام جوش رفت اور تبدیلیاں اپنی آسان نہیں ہیں۔ آج انٹرنیٹ میڈیا کے دور میں صحافت کو سب سے بڑا خطرہ اور چیلنج ٹیک نیوز سے ہے۔ جعلی خبروں کی دنیا میں، موبائل جرنلزم پر رپورٹنگ کی سہولت کے لیے خطرہ بن سکتا ہے۔ لوگوں کو ہمیشہ اس سے بچنا طاقت کا احساس نہیں ہوتا ہے کہ وہ اپنے ہاتھ میں ایک فون رکھتے ہیں، اور اس کے ٹیکنیکل نتائج کو سمجھتے ہیں۔ صحافت، اخلاقیات، دیانت، درستگی اور صحافت کی بنیاد پر استوار ہے۔ مناسب تربیت اور دیکھ بھال کے بغیر، بنیادی صحافتی معیارات پر پورا نہ اترنے سے یہ بنیادیں ٹل سکتی ہیں۔ آج جس تیزی سے خبریں پھیلی ہیں، اس کے ساتھ سب سے زیادہ ٹیک نامہ رپورٹنگ جلدی محسوس کر سکتا ہے، اور تنقیدی غلطیوں والی کہانی شائع کر سکتا ہے۔ لوگ بڑی تیزی کے ساتھ غلط معلومات پھیلاتے کے لیے اس سے قابل رسائی نظام کا فائدہ اٹھا رہے ہیں۔

اس کا مطلب یہ نہیں ہے کہ لوگوں کو موبائل جرنلزم کا استعمال کرنے سے گریز کرنا چاہیے، لیکن یہ کہ انہیں احتیاط لینا چاہیے۔ صحافت، کہانیاں سناتے کا عمل ہے، جو ابھی تک ایک ٹیک عمل ہے۔ کچھ نقطہ نظر کے ساتھ، اور تھوڑی سی معلومات، چاری، اور نیٹورس کے ساتھ، آپ ایک موبائل صحافی بننے کے راستے پر کام کر سکتے ہیں اور معاشرے میں اپنا مثبت اثر قائم کر سکتے ہیں۔ انٹرنیٹ جرنلزم ٹیڈ ورکر کی ویب سائٹ پر موبائل جرنلزم پر اپنے ایک آرٹیکل میں NADYA HEZ موبائل جرنلزم پر اپنی تحقیق ہیں کہ "ذرا تھوڑے کریں کہ اگر میں آپ کو کہوں کہ آپ کی جیب میں ایک مکمل ٹی وی اسٹوڈیو

بنیادی صحافتی مہارتوں اور ٹیکنالوجی کا گہرور استعمال سیکھ کر آپ اپنا اور صحافت کا مستقبل روشن کر سکتے ہیں

ہے؟ یا یہ کہ آپ اس فون یا لپ ٹاپ کے ساتھ ایک پراڈیو کاسٹ تیار کر سکتے ہیں جس پر آپ یہ آرٹیکل پڑھ رہے ہیں؟ تو آپ کا کیا خیال ہوگا؟

آپ کا موبائل مواد کی چاری کے لیے ایک حیرت انگیز ٹول ہے اور دنیا بھر کے صحافی اپنے اسمارٹ فونز، پیڈیٹس، ٹیکنیکل کیمروں اور لپ ٹاپس سے براہ راست خبریں نشر، شوٹنگ، ایڈیٹنگ اور پوسٹ کر رہے ہیں۔ موبائل جرنلزم (موبو) میڈیا کی کہانی سناتے کے لیے ایک نیا ورک ہے جس میں رپورٹرز کو مکمل طور پر موبائل پر خود مختار ہونے کے لیے تربیت دی جاتی ہے اور تیار کیا جاتا ہے۔ صحافی، میڈیا کہانیاں اور براڈ کاسٹ کارپوریشن اس بات سے واقف ہیں کہ اس طرح کام کرنے کے لیے کونسا ہے۔

موبائل جرنلزم کا استعمال اور احتیاط

میں سمجھتا ہوں کہ جہاں موبائل جرنلزم کا استعمال پیشہ ورانہ ذمہ دار لوگ کر رہے ہیں وہیں اسے کی شریعت اور کئی اعتراض رکھنے والے لوگ بھی کر رہے ہیں۔ موبائل جرنلزم کا کام کر رہے ہیں۔ موبائل جرنلزم کا استعمال، اس کی تربیت نہ صرف پروفیشنل لوگوں کو دینی چاہیے بلکہ اس سلسلے میں والدین، اساتذہ اور اسکول کا کچھ کے کچھ کو آسانی اور ٹریننگ دینے کی اشد اور فوری ضرورت ہے۔ بچوں میں موبائل فون اور سوشل میڈیا کا بے حد استعمال بڑی حد تک خطرناک ہے۔ اس لیے ان کو Wellbeing Digital اور Digital Intelligence کے بارے میں سیکھانے وقت کی ضرورت ہے۔ پاکستان میں اس وقت بے شمار لوگ موبائل جرنلزم کا استعمال کر رہے ہیں لیکن بہت کم ہیں جو ذمہ داری اور صحافتی اصلاح و بہتری کے لیے کام کر رہے ہیں۔ موبائل جرنلزم ہم سب کو اس قابل بناتا ہے کہ کم اپنے معاشرے کی بہتری کے لیے اپنے ہتھ کا کام کریں۔

میڈیم ہلا بے اقدار نہیں

میڈیا ریز اور موبو جرنلزم صحافی کو سنا کہ کہنا ہے کہ موبائل جرنلزم میں جہاں بہت بہت دی ہے وہاں اس نے فی سٹل پر ایک بھاری ذمہ داری بھی عائد کی ہے۔ موبائل جرنلزم کی جدت کی بدولت صحافتی اقدار میں بڑے صرف میڈیم ہلا ہے۔ صحافتی اقدار اور بیکس ہمیشہ وہی رہی ہیں۔ وقت اور ٹیکنالوجی کے باعث میڈیم بدلے رہیں گے لیکن اخلاقیات میں بدیلیں گی۔ میں اپنی ٹریننگ میں شراکت سے یہ خیال شیئر کر رہا ہوں کہ ہم آج جس دور میں زندہ ہیں میں اپنی کہانی انہی ذمہ داری سے اس طرح سنائی جائے کہ اسے دلی ٹیکس بھی اس سے منتی حاصل کر سکیں۔

لوگوں کی کوتاہی ہے کہ انھوں نے کسانوں سے تاج تیز لیا۔ اب وہ کسان بھائی کو درپیش مسائل اور مشکلات سے ناواقف ہیں۔

اسی لیے تھاکہ کی قدر نہیں کرتے، بہت ہی خوراک ہے پر وہائی کے سبب تفریبات میں شائع ہو جاتی ہے۔ وطن عزیز کی آبادی متوسطہ زرخیز رہی ہے مگر خوراک کی پیداوار اس حساب سے نہیں بڑھی جس سے وہ شیعہ خوردویش کی مرگانی جنم لے چکی۔ ایک وجہ یہ بھی ہے کہ زرعی رقبہ پانی کی کمی یا کسانوں کے شہر جانے سے سکڑ رہا ہے۔ بہت ہی زرعی زمینوں پر کارخانے یا انسانی بستیاں قبضہ ہو چکی ہیں، ظاہر ہے، بڑھتی آبادی کو سرچھپانے کا ٹھکانا بھی درکار ہے۔ اس ضمن میں حکومت وقتی شیعہ کو چاہیے کہ وہ مکانات کی جائز ضرورت پوری کرنے کے لیے قنات عملی بنائے۔ مثلاً یہ کہے آباد زمینوں پر پائپ لائنیں یا چھوٹے گھر بنائے جائیں تاکہ اہل وطن کو سستی رہائش میسر آ سکے۔ کھیت اور باغات تک کے کھیتوں سے نہائی جائیں۔

پاکستانی کوششیں دیکھ کر تو کسانوں کی اطلاع و بہبود کے منصوبے کا اعلان تو کرتی ہیں مگر وہ عوامی جائز نہیں جتنے چاہتے ہیں۔ یہ ہے کہ ان کو سرکاری منصوبے سیاست دانوں کی عدم توجہ اور بیوروکریسی کی شغلیت اور پی پی پی کے سبب مضبوط ہو جاتے ہیں۔ اسی لیے کسان حکومت کے خلاف احتجاج کرتے چلتے ہیں۔ یہ بہر حال ضروری ہے کہ پاکستانی کسان جیسے زرعی طریقے اختیار کریں تاکہ اشیائے خوردویش کی پیداوار بڑھ سکے۔ یوں غذا کی کمی کتنی سے وہ ملے گی۔ جبکہ حکومت کا فرض ہے کہ وہ کسانوں کو سستا تاج کھاد اور یہ اور بھی فراہم کرے تاکہ زرعی اخراجات میں کمی آئے اور کسان بھی خوشحال ہو سکے۔ ان کوششوں کے بعد ہی اہل پاکستان کو سستی وافر تاجیں مل سکیں گی۔ دوسری صورت میں جو ملک کا رائج ہو گا۔ اور کھران طبقے کو خاص طور پر جو کہ عوام سے ڈرتا چاہیے کہ وہ ان کے کل اقتدار کی اینٹ سے اینٹ بجا دینے کی قدرت رکھتے ہیں۔ پاکستانی کھران طبقے نے شیعہ زراعت سے غیروں جیسا بے اعتنائی کا سلوک روا رکھا ہے۔ نتیجہ یہ نکلا کہ اب پاکستان میں گندم سمیت برائے ہری، بھری، چھل، وال، سالے وغیرہ کی قلت جنم لے چکی۔ لوگ بیورو ہیں کہ تھاروں میں لگ کر سستا آٹا نہیں کیونکہ عام دکانوں میں چھوٹا مٹا ہے۔ جو کہ ہر جگہ ڈیرے والے چھپی ہے اور بیورو کی تعداد میں مسلسل اضافہ جاری ہے۔ یہی نہیں، اب بیرون ملک سے تھاریں منگوانے پر اربوں ڈالر خرچ ہوتے ہیں۔ یوں حکومت کی کوتاہی سے ریاست پاک اور مالی بوجھ بڑھ گیا جو قومی معیشت پر مٹی اثرات مرتب کرتا ہے۔

خام مال کی قیمت

ایک زمانہ تھا کہ پاکستان میں تقریباً ہر شے کا خام مال مل جاتا تھا۔ بہت زیادہ وسیع و پست ویشوں کو چھوڑ کر خام استعمال کی چیزیں بھی مقامی طور پر تیار ہو جاتی تھیں۔ گوجرانوالہ، بھکرات، وزیر آباد اور ملتان علاقے خام مال اور تھانے کی چیزیں بنانے کے

گڑھ تھے۔ مگر جب چین اور دیگر ممالک سے سستی تیار شدہ اشیاء پاکستان آنا شروع ہوئیں تو انھوں نے مقامی صنعت کو خاصا نقصان پہنچایا۔ سستی غیر مقامی اشیاء کی بھرمار ایک بڑی آہنی پہلو ہے کہ پاکستان میں مقامی سطح پر خام مال اور ویشوں کی تیار کی ہوئی۔ اس باعث کارخانے والے اور دیگر بیوروں میں خام مال اور مطلوبہ ویشیں منگوا کر اپنی اشیاء تیار کرنے لگے۔ یوں ان کا کاروبار و تجارت فطری طور پر خام مال و ویشوں پر استوار ہو گیا۔ یہ پکی مثبت وقتی دونوں پہلو رکھتا ہے۔ مثبت پہلو یہ ہے کہ وافر خام مال آنے سے اشیاء بھی دستے کیانے پر بننے لگیں اور سستی بھی ہو گئیں۔ اب کم آمدن والے بھی انھیں خریدنے کے قائل ہو گئے۔ یوں ان کی زندگیوں میں بھی آرام و آسائش کا عنصر درآنا اور معیار زندگی بلند ہوا۔

یہ عوام دوست ملن مگر چند عرصے ہی رہا۔ رفتہ رفتہ پاکستانی حکومت خام مال اور درآمدات و برآمدات پر ٹیکس لگانے لگی۔ پہلے مختلف قسم کے ٹیکس لگے اور پھر یہ حکومت ٹیکسوں کی شرح میں اضافہ کرتی رہی (یہ طریق کار اب کھران طبقے کے لیے بنیادی کمائی بن چکا) اس کوام ٹیکس نظام نے خام مال اور بیوروں کو شیش کر دیا۔ پھر جب روپیے کے مقابلے میں ڈالر کی قدر بڑھنے لگی تو بیرون ملک سے آنے والا سامان کم قیمت ہو گئے۔ یوں ٹیکسوں کی بھرمار اور ڈالر کی قدر بڑھنے کے باعث بیرون ملک سے آنے والا خام مال، ویشیں اور کئی اشیاء منگنی ہوئی چلی گئیں۔ پچھلے چند برس سے روپیے کے مقابلے میں ڈالر کی قدر میں تھیران کی اضافہ ہو چکا۔ اس لیے بھی پاکستان میں ڈالر کے ذخائر کم ہو گئے۔ نتیجہ یہ نکلا کہ اب یہ قیمت ملتی ہوئی کہ بیرون ممالک سے مطلوبہ سامان منگوانے کے لیے ملک میں با آسانی ڈالر دستیاب نہیں۔ اسی لیے بہت کم خام مال، ویشیں اور دیگر اشیاء پاکستان آ رہی ہیں۔

اس معاملے نے وطن عزیز میں کی گئیں مسائل پیدا کر ڈالے۔ مثال کے طور پر خام مال نہ ہونے سے کئی کارخانے بند ہو گئے اور کپڑوں میں کام محدود کر دیا گیا۔ ان کی بندش سے بھی پاکستانی بیوروں کو روکنا ہو گئے۔ ویشیں نہ ہونے سے بھی ٹیکسوں میں بند ہو گئیں۔ روٹی (کیس) کی کمی نے ٹیکسوں کے کارخانوں میں تالے لگوا دیے۔ خام مال نہ ہونے سے اوپر ساز کیوں نے کئی دوائیں بنانا بند کر دیا اور مارکیٹ میں ان کی شدہ قلت ہے۔ فرض خام مال اور ویشیں نہ ہونے سے پاکستانی معیشت کا پیرسٹ درآمدی سے چلنے لگا۔ معیشت کے زوال کی وجہ سے نہ صرف بیوروں کی تعداد بڑھ چکی بلکہ غربت بھی بڑھ گئی۔ سڑکوں اور بازاروں میں بیوروں کی جانچا نظر آنے لگے۔ ماہرین مہرمانیت کا کہنا ہے کہ انسانی معاشرے میں غربت اور بیوروں کی بڑھ جانا تو یہ انسانوں میں انتشار و بے چینی کو جنم دیتے ہیں۔

آج پاکستانی معاشرے میں کچھ ایسی ہی صورت حال ہے۔ پاکستانی کھران طبقے کو یاد رکھنا چاہیے کہ اس نے جامع صنعت عملی و پالیسیاں بنا کر غربت و بیوروں کی تھانے نہیں کیا تو وہ بھی آسائش بھری زندگی نہیں گذار سکے گا۔ عوامی احتجاج اس

کے سامان قحش کو نمایاں کر دے گا جیسا کہ فرانس، رومانیہ، مصر، لیبیا، یمن وغیرہ میں دیکھا جا چکا۔ حکومت پاکستان کا فرض ہے کہ ٹیکس پالیسیاں چھٹیل دے جن کی مدد سے وطن عزیز میں مختلف اشیائے درآمدی خام مال اور ویشیں تیار ہو سکیں۔ اس طرح تھاروں میں ممالک پر پھر پھر روکنا ہو گا اور مقامی صنعت و تجارت ترقی کرے گی۔ عوام کو روزگار ملے گا اور عام آدمی اپنی غربت فتح کر سکے گا۔ فرض ہے بہت ضروری ہے کہ زیادہ سے زیادہ اشیاء کا خام مال پاکستان میں تیار کیا جائے۔ اس طرح ہم ڈالر کے محتاج بھی نہیں رہیں گے۔ قومی اوقات بیرون ممالک سے خام مال اور ویشیں منگوانے پر ہر سال ہمارے اربوں ڈالر خرچ ہوتے ہیں۔

حکومتی اخراجات

کھران طبقے نے اپنی قلم پالیسیوں سے پاکستان کو قرضوں کے بوجھ سے دبا دیا۔ حکومت نے ٹیکس نظام بھرتے کی خاطر قرضوں کو شیش نہیں کیا بلکہ مقامی و غیر مقامی اداروں سے قرض لے کر اخراجات پورے کرنے لگی۔ یہی نہیں، انٹیلیجنٹ نے اتحاد اور کھانے والے ادارے قائم کر کے حکومتی ڈھانچا بہت پیچھا لیا۔ نتیجہ یہ کہ آج صرف حکومت چلانے اور ویشیں دینے پر سالانہ ایک ہزار ارب روپیے سے زائد رقم خرچ ہو رہی ہے۔ اکثر ویشیں بھی بھاری بھرم ہیں، لاکھوں روپیے کا ہنوس چھوٹے والی موجودہ پاکستانی حکومت سرکاری اخراجات پورے کرنے کے لیے روزانہ ٹیکسوں سے 35 تا 40 ارب روپیے قرض لے رہی ہے۔ رقم کا بہت تھوڑا حصہ عوام کی قنات و بہبود کے (ترقیاتی) منصوبوں پر لگتا ہے۔ بیشتر رقم سودا، پھینکے قرضوں کو اٹھانے، بیوروکریسی کو کھانا دینے، پھینکے اور فکری خرچوں پر لگ جاتی ہے۔ اسی لیے پاکستان بھر میں بستیوں کی حالت خراب ہے۔ سڑکیں ٹوٹی پھوٹی ہیں، اسکول اور اسپتال میں انتظام ناچس، سرکاری کھانوں میں عوام کی شوائی نہیں اور پولیس اپنی تنگ بین۔

یہ وقت کی بھارتیہ کھران طبقہ اپنے اخراجات محدود کرے گا وہ عجیب و غریب نہیں آج کل ٹیکس ڈی ایم حکومت میں اتحاد و بیوروں کی مراعات و سہولیات سے مستفید ہو رہے ہیں۔ جب اس میں پھرتی ہوئی تو انھوں نے سرکاری کڑیاں ضرور دبا کر دیں مگر سرکاری مراعات اب بھی بحال ہیں۔ حالانکہ بیشتر وزیر و مشیر دارکان آج بھی امیر ہیں۔ اسی طرح سرکاری اخراجات سے حاصل شدہ ٹیکسوں کی رقم کے ذریعے سہولیات سے فائدہ اٹھاتے ہیں۔ پاکستان کو اگر معاشی طور پر مضبوط و تھانے بنانا ہے تو کھران طبقے کو کفایت شعاری اپنانا ہوگی۔ اب وہ دن ہے جب حکومت کا ہر خرچہ ویش و آرام کی زندگی گذارنا تھا۔

اب اس طبقے کو بھی قربانیاں دینی چاہیں تاکہ وطن عزیز معاشی مسائل کی دلدل سے نکل سکے۔ خدا کا واسطہ ہے مسائل ملک و قوم کی بچا خطرے میں ڈال سکتے ہیں۔ ماہرین معاشیات کے مطابق پاکستان کو گندے تین سال میں قرض کی رقم 7 تا 7 ارب ڈالر فراہم کرنا ہے۔ جبکہ پاکستان کے ذخائر زرمبادلہ میں

پندرہ ارب ڈالر ہی موجود ہیں۔ پاکستانی حکومت بھاریوں ڈالر کا بندوبست کیسے کرے گی؟... اور وہ بھی اس حالت میں کہ اب بڑھتے چلے گئے قرضوں کے کوکھتی اخراجات پورے کیے جا رہے ہیں۔ یہی صورت حال رہی تو پاکستان کو مالیہ ہو جائے گا۔ اللہ تعالیٰ اس شر سے ملک کو محفوظ رکھیں۔ اگر یہاں تو اس کے ذمے اور کھران طبقہ اور تھاروں کی تھانے ہو جائے تو کھانے نہیں دیتے بلکہ حکومت سے ٹیکسوں میں چھوٹ کے طلبگار ہوتے ہیں۔

آبادی میں اضافہ

پاکستان کی آبادی میں ہر سال 48 لاکھ اضافہ ہو رہا ہے۔ ظاہر ہے، اس سب کو برائش، خوراک، پانی، تعلیم، علاج، روزگار و سونڈ وغیرہ کی سہولتیں درکار ہیں۔ مگر تیز چڑھتی ریاست ہونے کے باعث بھی یہ سہولتیں نہیں مل سکتیں اور وہ غربت، بیماری، جہالت اور بیوروں کی تعداد بڑھ رہے ہیں۔ چنانچہ آبادی میں بے تعلیم اضافہ نہ صرف غربت کا تعداد بڑھا رہا ہے بلکہ یہ وہ اہم قلم ہے جس کی وجہ سے پاکستان مختلف معاشی و معاشرتی مسائل میں گرفتار ہو چکا۔ یہی وجہ ہے کہ آبادی میں زیادہ اضافہ سے وسائل پدا کرنا پڑتا ہے۔

مثلاً 1947ء میں جب آبادی کم تھی تو ہر پاکستانی 5600 روپیہ کی ایک میٹر پانی دستیاب تھا۔ اب آبادی بڑھنے سے ہر پاکستانی کے لیے صرف 700 روپیہ میٹر پانی رو گیا اور یہ شرح مسلسل کم ہو رہی ہے۔ اسی طرح آج کل، بھری، وال اور سالے کی پیداوار میں زیادہ اضافہ نہیں ہوا اور کھانے والے بہت زیادہ ہو گئے۔ اس وجہ سے تھاروں کی قلت پیدا کر کے کھانے بھنگا کر دیا۔

حکومت پاکستان آبادی کنٹرول کرنے کی خاطر مختلف اقدامات کر رہی ہے مگر وہ زیادہ کارگر ثابت نہیں ہوئے۔ لہذا حکومت کو چاہیے کہ وہ قومی و شہریت عملی ایسا کرے کہ پاکستان میں آبادی بڑھنے کی شرح کم ہو سکے۔ کئی مسائل پدا کرنا ہو گا اور سرکاری وقتی شیعہ اس قابل ہو گا کہ پاکستانی قوم کا معیار زندگی بلند کر سکے۔ اگر حالات ٹھیک رہیں تو آگے چل کر بیرون میں پاکستانیوں کو روٹی، ماسن اور صاف پانی کی عیب داری بڑا مسئلہ بن جائے گا، انھیں تعلیم و مناسب علاج دینے تو دور کی بات ہے۔

بھارت کا سپلائی کنٹرول کرک

فرانک و انٹرنل کنٹری امریکا میں کھلی سے چلنے والی گڑیاں بناتی ہے۔ اس نے تین سال میں بھارت میں بھی ایک کارخانہ قائم کیا تھا۔ اب وہاں بھارت میں درآمد کی ضرورت نظر نہ کر سکتی ہے چلنے والے ٹرک بھی بننے لگے ہیں۔ یہ ٹرک 45 ٹن سامان لا کر ایک چارنچے تین سو کوئی ٹرک سفر کر سکتا ہے۔ یہ ٹرک بھارتی ٹراپیٹور نظام میں انقلاب لا رہا ہے کیونکہ اب چھوٹے ڈیزل سے چلنے والے ٹرکوں کی ضرورت نہیں رہے گی۔ بھارت میں فی الحال "پچاس لاکھ" ٹرک سامان لانے، لے جانے میں استعمال ہوتے ہیں۔





سید عالم محمود

”انسانیت کو برقرار رکھنے والا ہر کام عظیم و بڑا ہے۔“
(امریکا، ہرمین، مارٹن لوتھر کنگ)

دنیا بھر میں کل لیبر رے یا عظیم مزدوروں منایا جا رہا ہے۔ اس دن ان انسانوں کو جدید تحریک چوٹی کیا جاتا ہے جو کیمت کھانوں میں دن رات محنت کر کے ہمارے لیے صحت کشی غذا میں لگاتے ہیں۔ جو کارخانوں و دیکھریوں میں پینڈ بہا کر ہمارے لیے نئی چیزیں تیار کرتے ہیں۔ اور جو سارا دن مختلف خدمات (سرموز) فراہم کر کے ہماری زندگیوں آسان و خوشگوار بناتے ہیں۔ ان محنت کشوں و مزدوروں کو گورکھ دینے میں کیا جاتا ہے؟ خاص طور پر ترقی پذیر ممالک میں عموماً دو وقت

کے باعث بھی بدعالی کا شکار ہیں۔ شام اور سواں میں خانہ جنگی جاری ہے۔ جبکہ اردو چٹانیں پچھلے ساتھ برس سے خوراک تین تھوڑی ڈور ہے۔

اسی لیے وہاں پچھلے ایک برس میں ایشیائے غور دوش کی قیمتیں دو گنی ہو چکی ہیں۔ درج بالا ممالک میں پاکستان برطانوی آبادی سب سے بڑا ملک ہے۔ وہ ایک ایسی طاقت بھی ہے مگر دالے افسوس معاشی قوت نہ بن سکا۔ اسی لیے وہ یو ایف ہونے کے خطرے سے دوچار رہتا ہے۔ معیشت مضبوط نہ ہونے سے ہی ہمارے معاصرین خصوصاً بھارتیوں کو موقع ملتا ہے کہ گاہے گاہے ہمیں مذاق کا نشانہ بنائیں اور ہماری تنہائی کو چین کر دیں۔ اہم بات یہ کہ پاکستان کو معاشی طاقت بنانا کوئی راکٹ سائنس نہیں بلکہ پاکستانی عسکران طبقہ چاہے تو وہ آج

پاکستان میں مہنگائی کیسے کم ہو؟

سے سواں پالیسیوں پر عمل درآمد کر کے ملن مزید معاشی طور پر مضبوط بنا سکتا ہے۔ معیشت طاقتور ہونے سے ظاہر ہے، عوام پاکستان کو سب سے زیادہ فائدہ ہوگا جس میں معاشی مہنگائی نے پریشان و بدحال کر رکھا ہے۔ تیز عسکران طبقے کی قدر و عزت بھی بڑھے گی جو قومی تاریخ میں بہت ترقی و ترقی و ترقی و ترقی ہو چکی۔ ہمارے پاس مہنگائی نے پانچ بنیادی وجوہ کی بنا پر جنم لیا۔

(1) ایندھن کی قیمت بڑھنا (2) ایشیائے غور دوش کی قیمتیں میں اضافہ (3) خام مال کی قلت (4) عسکران طبقے کے اخراجات میں اضافہ (5) اور آبادی میں تیزی سے بڑھوتری۔ حکومت پاکستان اگر یہ عوامل دور کرنے میں کامیاب ہو جائے تو نہ صرف پاکستان میں مہنگائی کم ہوگی بلکہ معیشت ترقی کرنے لگے گی۔ اس طرح ملک میں عوام شہر کا ساکس میں کے اور انکار پر پڑائی کا دور ختم ہو جائے گا۔

ایندھن کی قیمت

پاکستان میں پٹرول، ڈیزل، گیس اور مٹی کے تیل کی قیمت بہت بڑھ چکی کیونکہ پٹرول ایندھن درآمد ہوتا ہے۔ مقامی قدرتی گیس کی قیمت بھی اشد اضافہ کیا جا چکا۔ چونکہ ریفرنڈم سے لے کر کارخانوں اور دفاتر تک، قومی معیشت کا ہر شعبہ ایندھن پر انحصار کرتا ہے، اسی لیے اس کے مہنگا ہونے پر ہر شے کی لاگت بڑھ جاتی ہے۔ اور لاگت بڑھنے تو شے کی قیمت میں اضافہ کرنا پڑتا ہے۔ یہ عیاں ہے کہ پاکستان میں مطلوبہ ایندھن پیدا کر لیا جائے تو مہنگائی کم کرنے اور قومی معیشت کو ترقی دینے میں زبردست مدد ملے گی۔ پاکستانی عسکران طبقہ چاہتا تو کہ سال پہلے مقامی گیس کے ڈریپے ایندھن میں خود قبضہ ہو جاتا تاکہ بے دوائی کمیشن کے لالچ اور دراندازی نہ ہونے کے باعث ایسا نہ ہو سکے۔

اب خدا خدا کر کے مقامی گیس کے ملنے والے بجلی گھر لگ

خریدنے والوں کو مراعات بھی دی رہی ہے۔ اس باعث بھارت میں آج دو کروڑ کاریں بجلی سے چل رہی ہیں۔ تیز بھارتی کار ساز ادارے الیکٹرک ٹرینیں اور ٹرک بھی بناتے گئے ہیں۔ مقصد یہی ہے کہ درآمدی مہنگے گاڑی ایندھن پر انحصار کم سے کم ہو سکے۔ عیس سالانہ ڈاریوں ڈاکٹر کارمہالہ بن جائے گا۔ ادھر پاکستانی عسکران طبقے کی کارگزار ملاحظہ فرمائیے۔ کئی سال کی کوششوں کے بعد لاہور ہاؤس ڈاکٹر کارمہالہ بن جائے گی۔ اس منصوبہ کو پیسہ دے کر اپنی اور کوئٹہ لے جاتا تھا۔ مگر حکومت نے 2019ء میں یہ منصوبہ بند کر دیا۔ گویا سستی مقامی بجلی پر بیٹے درآمدی ڈیزل کو ترجیح دی گئی۔

اس قسم کے ”ملک دو دم دوست“ بیٹھے ہمارا عسکران طبقہ پچھلے تین سال کے دوران کی پارک چکا۔ اس عمل سے کمیشن کمانے کی بددیہی آتی ہے۔ کمیشن ان وفاقیہ دے یا ہوگا جس بجلی کی ریل ٹیم ہونے سے فائدہ پہنچا۔ مابین کہ کہتا ہے کہ پاکستان قمر کے مقامی کوٹنے کو بروئے کار لے آئے تو اگلے ڈیڑھ سو برس تک اس سے پچاس ہزار میگا واٹ بجلی سالانہ بنا سکتا ہے۔ اسی طرح پانی سورج اور ہوا کے مفت ذرائع توانائی سے ہزار ہا میگا واٹ بجلی بنی سکتی ہے۔ مگر عسکران طبقے کو اپنی کرسیاں بچانے اور ذرائع طاقت برباد کرنے سے فرصت ملے تو وہ بجلی بنانے کے منصوبوں کی طرف توجہ دے۔

جب حکومت کے حکام سرکاری دوسرے ہی سے توجہ نہ مانا ہو جائیں تو ملک دو دم نے خاک ترقی کرنی ہے۔ لیکن اب بھی وقت ہے کہ حکومت مقامی کوٹنے اور قابل تجدید ذرائع توانائی سے ملنے والے بجلی گھر بنائیے جو ان میں بنی بجلی تھیں مہنگے گاڑی ایندھن سے بنی بجلی سے سستی ہوگی۔ یوں پہلے تو ہمیں بیٹے درآمدی ایندھن سے نجات ملے گی۔ پھر پاکستان کے کاسٹوں، کارخانوں، دفاتر اور گھروں کو سستی بجلی ملے گی۔ یوں کاسٹوں کے اخراجات کم ہوں گے۔ کارخانوں میں بھی پیداواری لاگت کم ہوگی۔ اس طرح نئے کیمت، کارخانے اور دفتر دونوں آئیں گے جس سے ہر درکار مہنگی و فزیت کم کرنے میں مدد ملے گی۔ فرض سستی بجلی فائدہ کا ایسا سلسلہ شروع کر دے گی جس سے بھی اہل پاکستان مستفید ہوں گے۔ اور یہ سستی بجلی بنانے کا عمل عسکران طبقہ ہی انجام دے سکتا ہے، اگر وہ اپنے آرام و آسائش سے اٹھ کر ملک دو دم کو سونپے گئے۔

ایشیائے غور دوش کی قیمتیں

اللہ پاک نے پاکستان کو دریاؤں، درختوں، زمینوں اور دافر اقراوی قوت سے نوازا ہے۔ مگر مطلقہ عوام کی بنا پر ملن مزین میں اب مطلوبہ مقدار میں ذخائر نہیں ہوتی۔ ان کی قلت ذخائر کو مسلسل مہنگا کر دی رہے اور غریب کے لیے انھیں حاصل کرنا دشوار ہوتا جا رہا ہے۔ یہ فراموشی دینے میں عسکران طبقے کے ساتھ ساتھ کاسٹوں اور عوام کا بھی ہاتھ ہے۔ عسکران طبقے کی کوتاہی ہے کہ وہ کاسٹوں کو سستا بیچا دے اور کاسٹوں کو بڑے بارادہ میں مہیا کر کے ملن نام ہو چکا۔ کاسٹوں کی قلت ہی ہے کہ وہ کاشت کاری کے جدید طریقے نہیں اپناتے جن کی مدد سے کم پانی و کھاد دے کر بھی پیداوار بڑھان سکتے ہیں۔ عام

رہے ہیں مگر انھیں تعمیر کرنے کی رفتار خاصی سست ہے۔ عسکران طبقے میں موجود باغیچہ کی درآمدی ایندھن استعمال کر کے اپنا کمیشن کھرا کرنا چاہتا ہے۔ بنیادی بات یہ ہے کہ دنیا میں گاڑی ایندھن (تیل، گیس، کوئلے) کے ذخائر تیزی سے کم ہو رہے ہیں۔ جبکہ طلب میں اضافہ جاری ہے۔ یہ طلب ایندھن کی قیمت بڑھنے کا سبب ہے۔ تیل تیل و گیس پیدا کرنے والے ممالک پیداوار میں کمی لا رہے ہیں۔ مقصد یہ ہے کہ ایندھن کی قیمت بڑھا کر اپنا منافع بڑھا دیا جائے۔

اس صورت حال میں حکومت پاکستان کو مزدورین صحت ملی بنانی چاہیے تاکہ بیٹے درآمدی ایندھن کے نفی اثرات سے پاکستانی عوام اور قومی معیشت محفوظ رہیں۔ یہ بڑے کراب گاڑی ایندھن کی قیمت میں اضافہ ہی ہوگا، وہ شاید ہی کم ہو سکے۔ صحت ملی ہوئی چاہیے کہ پٹرول، ڈیزل، گیس کے بجائے بجلی کو اپنا بنیادی ایندھن بنایا جائے۔ اللہ تعالیٰ نے پاکستان کو کٹنے کا بڑا ذخیرہ ملاحظہ فرمایا ہے۔ مدید براں قابل تجدید ذرائع توانائی مثلاً پانی، سورج اور ہوا کی قوتوں سے بھی نوازا۔ بس یہ ہمارا عسکران طبقہ جو ان قوتوں سے فائدہ نہیں اٹھا سکا۔ حالانکہ انھیں استعمال کر کے پاکستان مظلوم بجلی پر آسانی تیار کر سکتا ہے۔

بجلی چٹھریاں چالنے اور دفاتر میں کام بحال رکھنے میں کام آئے گی۔ اس سے مگر درجن ہوں گے۔ ریلیں اور ٹرینیں چلیں گی۔ مقامی طور پر زیادہ بجلی بنانے میں بھارتی عسکران طبقے کی کارکردگی ہماری حکومت سے کہیں زیادہ بہتر ہے۔ بھارت میں ہر سال ”چار لاکھ نو ہزار میگا واٹ“ بجلی بن سکتی ہے۔ اس صدی کی دہائی کا اندازہ یوں لگائیے کہ پاکستان میں بجلی کی سالانہ طلب بڑھ رہی ہے۔ 35 ہزار میگا واٹ کے درمیان ہے۔ اس بجلی کا 41 فیصد ”حصہ یعنی ایک لاکھ اسی ہزار میگا واٹ قابل تجدید ذرائع توانائی مثلاً پانی، سورج اور ہوا سے بننا ہے۔ بھارت میں بڑی تیزی سے قابل تجدید ذرائع توانائی کے بجلی گھر بن رہے ہیں۔

مقصد یہی کہ بیٹے درآمدی گاڑی ایندھن سے نجات پائی جائے۔ بھارتی حکومت نے یہ سختی ملی اپنائی ہے کہ بجلی کے ذریعے زیادہ سے زیادہ ریلیں، ٹرک اور ٹرینیں چلائی جائیں۔ دعایہ ہے کہ روزمرہ ایشیائی فرنیچر، ٹرینیں، الیکٹرک گاڑیوں سے ہو۔ یاد رہے، بھارت دنیا میں چھٹا بڑا ریلوے نیٹ ورک رکھتا ہے۔ اس کی پڑیاں 68 ہزار کلومیٹر تک پھیلی ہوئی ہیں۔ چنانچہ یہ ریلیں بھارت کے کوئلے کوٹنے تک جاتی ہیں۔ مودی حکومت نے پچھلے پانچ برس کے دوران جدت یہی کی کہ پٹرولیں بجلی پر چلا دیں۔ یوں نہ صرف بیٹے درآمدی ڈیزل سے چھٹکارا ملے گا بلکہ ریلیوں کے کرائے بھی کم ہو گئے۔ ٹرانسپورٹیشن کے اخراجات کم ہونے سے ایشیائے ضروری کی قیمتیں بھی کم ہوں گی۔

یوں بھارت کے عوام کو فائدہ ہوا کہ انھیں ایشیائی سستی ملتی ہیں۔ اس طرح مودی حکومت کی بھرپور سعی ہے کہ بھارت میں اگلے چند برس کی دوران بجلی سے چلنے والی کاروں، بسوں اور ٹرکوں کی کثرت ہو جائے۔ اس ضمن میں وہ الیکٹرک گاڑی

A photograph of a silver laptop and a white cup of black coffee on a dark wooden desk. The laptop is open, showing the keyboard and trackpad. The cup is filled with coffee. The background is a dark wooden surface.

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15 اپریل تا 15 مئی 2023ء

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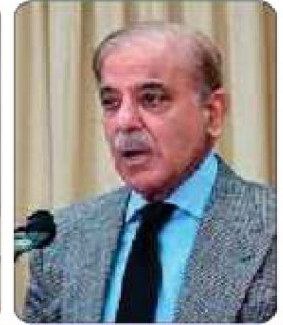
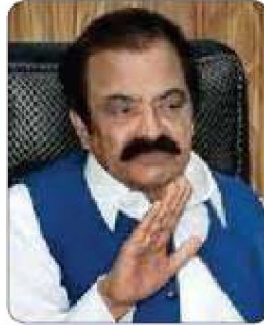
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ہفت روزہ میسر 1 دہشتہ ہوجینل



9 مئی واقعات: موبائل فون، انٹرنیٹ سروسز معطلی کی وجہ سے ٹیلی کمیونی کیشن کمپنیوں کو اربوں کا نقصان

ملک کی تمام بڑی کمپنیوں نے وفاقی وزیر انفارمیشن ٹیکنالوجی کو خط لکھ کر اپنا احتجاج ریکارڈ کرایا اور مطالبہ کیا ہے کہ ہمارے نقصان کا ازالہ کرتے ہوئے معاوضے کی ادائیگی کیلئے کہیں کو سرکاری میں منتقل کیا جائے ٹیلی کام سیکٹر پہلے ہی شدید بحران کا شکار ہے ہزاروں ملازمین بے روزگار ہو چکے، ایئر آف کریڈٹ پر حکومت کی جانب سے کوئی مثبت جواب آنے سے پروڈکشن یونٹ بند، سرمایہ کار پیسہ لگانے سے گریزاں پٹی اے، حکومت کو اختیار نہیں کہ سیکل سروسز معطل کرے سروسز معطلی سے ہمیں 110 ملین سے زائد کا نقصان ہوا جبکہ دیگر 3 بڑی کمپنیوں کا نقصان بھی اربوں میں ہے، فنانسنگ نیچے کمپنی کی خصوصی گفتگو



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A NEW DREAM



ریلوے ملازمین کی ملی بھگت، ناقص اور غیر معیاری اشیاء کی فروخت عروج پر، مسافروں کے ساتھ ناروا سلوک

شکایت کرنے پر عمل اور ٹھیکیدار مسافروں کے مسائل حل کرنے کی بجائے مسافروں سے بدتمیزی سے پیش آتا ہے، فلٹر ڈوائر کے نام پر نکلے سے بھر پانی دھڑلے سے فروخت ایس جیمیل اینڈ کمپنی کو ناقص اور غیر معیاری اشیاء فروخت کرنے پر 30 ہزار روپے جرمانہ اور سامان ضبط کیا گیا مگر ریلوے ملازمین کیساتھ ساز باز کر کے پھر سے مسافروں کو لوٹنے لگی





Redmi A1 Plus

8MP dual camera
Fingerprint sensor

8MP | AI dual camera
5MP | front camera

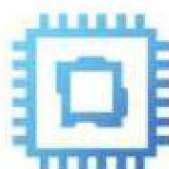
Huge 5000mAh (typ) battery

10W in-box charger

Powerful and efficient processor

Supports expandable storage

Rear fingerprint sensor



Redmi Pad

All in one, pad for fun

90Hz buttery smooth display
High-performance MediaTek Helio G99
Long-lasting 8000mAh (typ) battery
Flagship-level unibody design



90Hz

Buttery smooth
10.61" display



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**High-performance
MediaTek Helio G99**
6nm advanced process

8000 mAh (typ)
Long-lasting battery



8MP
Main camera

8MP
Centered ultra-wide
front camera

18W
Fast charging

22.5W
In-box charger

**Flagship-level
unibody design**
Sleek and stylish



vivo



V25 5G | V25e

Gorgeous Portrait



*Color Changing Glass is only available on the Supreme Gift edition and Aquamarine Blue edition