

# CURRENT AFFAIRS

## CURRENT EVENTS IN 2022

2022 (MMXXII) is the current year, and is a common year starting on Saturday of the Gregorian calendar, the 2022nd year of the Common Era (CE) and Anno Domini (AD) designations, the 22nd year of the 3rd millennium and the 21st century, and the 3rd year of the 2020s decade.

The United Nations declared 2022 as:

- International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture,
- International Year of Basic Sciences for Sustainable Development
- International Year of Sustainable Mountain Development
- International Year of Glass.

## JANUARY 2022

### 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2022

- The Prime Minister of Haiti, Ariel Henry, survived an assassination attempt on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2022. The event occurred at a ceremony in celebration of the country's independence.
- Israel reported the first case in the world of "florona", on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2022. In this condition, a patient has both the covid-19 as well as influenza. It was reported in a pregnant woman who was unvaccinated.
- In early January 2022, Finland rejected the demands of Russia of not joining NATO. The Finnish President, Sauli Niinistö, rejected Russian pressure on this issue and clarified that it is Finland's right to join the alliance if it sees fit.
- Austria legalized doctor assisted suicide in early January 2022. This decision was taken for adults (above 18 years of age) who suffer from terminal illnesses or a permanent and severe life-hampering condition.

### 2nd January, 2022

- Russian intervention in the Syrian civil war continued, when on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of January 2022, Russian jets bombarded the rebel city of Idlib. This resulted in the city losing its water supply.
- Neue Zürcher Zeitung, a newspaper from Switzerland, has reported that the Israeli intelligence agency Mossad was responsible for the bombing of German and Swiss firms in 1981, which were aiding Pakistan in the development of its nuclear program.

### 4th January, 2022

- The biggest carnival in the world, "The Carnival in Rio de Janeiro", was announced in early January to be cancelled for 2022, due to covid-19. The carnival was to be held from the 25<sup>th</sup> of February to 1<sup>st</sup> of March. Approximately 2 million people are part of the carnival per day when it happens.

### 5th January, 2022

- A nationwide state of emergency was declared in Kazakhstan on the 5<sup>th</sup> of January

2022. This came about due to protests in the country due to an increase in the gasoline prices. The situation escalated to a point where the presidential palace was set ablaze, and the government had to resign.

- The Grammy Awards were announced on the 5<sup>th</sup> of January to be postponed due to an increase in the omicron covid-19 variant.

### 6th January, 2022

- The Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO), led by Russian forces, entered into Kazakhstan on a peace mission to help restore order to the country. The assistance was requested by the Kazakh President, Kassym-Jomart Tokayev.
- Novak Djokovic was detained by the Australian Border Force when he arrived in the country for participating in the 2022 Australian Open. Djokovic failed to provide a valid medical exemption for him not being vaccinated against the covid-19 virus. Djokovic came into the tournament as the defending champion.

### 8th January, 2022

- It was reported in early January that at least 200 people were killed by a bandit group in Nigeria from the 4<sup>th</sup> till the 6<sup>th</sup> of January, 2022.
- At least 20 people were reported dead, and thousands of vehicles were trapped due to a snow storm in Murree, Pakistan in early January, 2022.

### 10th January, 2022

- On the 10<sup>th</sup> of January, 2022, Ukrainian authorities arrested a man who was alleged to be a Russian spy. It was reported that he was recruiting others to launch attacks on the Ukrainian city of Odessa.
- The CEO of Pfizer, Albert Bourla announced that Pfizer would develop a vaccine for the Omicron variant of the covid-19 by March, 2022.
- In the first case of successful case of pig-to-human xenotransplantation, a pig's heart was transplanted in the heart of a man by doctors

at the University of Maryland, Baltimore, on the 10<sup>th</sup> of January, 2021.

### 11th January, 2022

- Roberta Metsola, member of the European Parliament from Malta, became the acting President of the said parliament after the passing of David Sassoli in Italy, on the 11<sup>th</sup> of January, 2022.

### 12th January, 2022

- Nigeria lifted its Twitter ban on the 12<sup>th</sup> of January 2022. The ban was imposed in June 2021, when Twitter deleted a tweet by Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari.

### 13th January, 2022

- WHO issued guidelines in mid of January, 2022, that Baricitinib, a drug used to treat patients of rheumatoid arthritis, be used to treat critical patients of covid-19, in addition to corticosteroids.

### 16th January, 2022

- The Serbian tennis star, Novak Djoković was deported from Australia on the 16<sup>th</sup> of January, 2022, due to the controversy over him not being vaccinated when arriving in the country to defend his Australian Open title. He was disqualified and replaced with the Italian, Salvatore Caruso.

### 19th January, 2022

- Anthony Blinken, the US Secretary of State, arrived in Ukraine on the 19<sup>th</sup> of January as a show of support of the US for Ukraine. This came amid the rising tensions between Russia and Ukraine.

### 20th January, 2022

- Zara Rutherford became the youngest female pilot (at age 19) to fly solo around the world on the 20<sup>th</sup> of January, when she returned to Belgium to conclude her five month journey.

### 21st January, 2022

- An airstrike on a prison in Yemen on the 21<sup>st</sup> of January, 2022, led to the deaths of about 100 people. The strike was carried out by the Royal Saudi Air Force.

### 22nd January, 2022

- The Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office (FCDO) of the UK government claimed in January 2022 that

## FEBRUARY 2022

### Feb 9, 2022

The World Health Organisation warned against complacency in following COVID-19 protocol saying that Omicron will not be the last variant of COVID-19.

### Feb 17, 2022

Michiaki Takahashi developed the world's first chickenpox vaccine named "Oka" in early 1974. The lifesaving vaccine has been administered to millions of children around the world.

Russia was planning to install a pro-Russian leader in Ukraine.

### 23rd January, 2022

- The Armenian President, Armen Sarkissian, resigned from office on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of January on grounds that the constitution of the country didn't allot sufficient decision making power to him in order to influence events. He was elected in 2018.

### 24th January, 2022

- US and UAE forces stationed at an air base near Abu Dhabi intercepted two ballistic missiles fired at the base on the 24th of January, 2022. The attack was launched by Yemeni Houthis.

### 25th January, 2022

- A major blackout occurred in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Uzbekistan on the 25<sup>th</sup> of January, 2022. This occurred when a power line was disconnected in Kazakhstan. The power grids of the three countries are interconnected.

### 27th January, 2022

- During a telephonic conversation on the 27<sup>th</sup> of January, 2022, the US President Joe Biden said to his Ukrainian counterpart, Volodymyr Zelensky, that Russia could invade Ukraine in February of 2022.
- Xiomara Castro was sworn in as the President of Honduras on the 27<sup>th</sup> of January, 2022. She became the country's first female president, and the 56<sup>th</sup> overall.

### Jan 28, 2022

- Xiomara Castro was sworn in as the first female President of Honduras. The inauguration of the 62-years old leftist former first lady will put an end to the 12 years of right-wing National Party rule in the Central American country which has also been grappling with poverty, drug trafficking, migration, and corruption.

### 30th January, 2022

- Rafael Nadal won the men's singles event at the 2022 Australian Open. He defeated Daniil Medvedev in the final. This was his 21<sup>st</sup> Grand Slam win, which is the most title wins by any player in history.

### Feb 22, 2022

Australia had shut its borders for international tourists at the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic in March 2020 to contain the spread of the virus.

### Feb 22, 2022

The Queen would bring in her platinum jubilee in private, same as all previous years, as the anniversary of her accession marks the date her father George VI died. No public engagements were planned for the day.

**Feb 22, 2022**

The Russian President also ordered the sending of Russian Armed Forces to the two breakaway regions of Ukraine after recognising their independence.

**Feb 27, 2022**

Japan has also joined its Western allies in ejecting selected Russian banks from SWIFT, a Belgium-based co-operative that serves as an intermediary and executor of financial transactions between banks worldwide.

**MARCH 2022****Mar 1, 2022**

NATO ally Turkey has closed off the Bosphorus and Dardanelles straits in the Black Sea to warships from any country to potentially limit the transit of Russian warships from the Mediterranean to the Black Sea.

**Mar 2, 2022**

UNGA resolution on Ukraine: The resolution was passed with 141 countries voting in favour including the United States, United Kingdom, France and Germany, 5 against including Russia and 35 abstentions.

**Mar 4, 2022**

CAATSA Act: The 'Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act (CAATSA)' is a piece of US legislation that imposes sanctions on the American Adversaries- North Korea, the States of Iran, and Russia.

**Mar 9, 2022**

McDonald's, PepsiCo, Coca-Cola have joined the list of global giants that announced the suspension of business in Russia over the Ukraine invasion.

**Mar 11, 2022**

Yoon Suk Yeol received 48.6 percent of the votes, while his Democratic rival Lee Jae-myung received 47.8 percent of the votes.

**Mar 11, 2022**

Islamic State in an audio message named Abu al-Hassan al-Hashimi al-Qurayshi as its new leader, confirming the death of previous head Abu Ibrahim al-Qurashi, who was killed by the US in north-western Syria in February 2022.

**Mar 17, 2022**

Miss World 2021 Winner announced: Karolina Bielawska from Poland has won the crown of Miss World 2021 at the 70th edition of the beauty pageant at San Juan, Puerto Rico. India's Manasa Varanasi made it to the Top 13, almost 3 months after India's Harnaaz Sandhu brought home Miss Universe 2021 crown after 21 years.

**Mar 22, 2022**

Boeing 737-800 crash in China: The China Eastern flight MU5735 was carrying 132 people, including 123 passengers and nine crew members. It had taken off from at 1.11pm from Kunming and was

scheduled to land at 3.05pm in Guangzhou. No survivors found.

**Mar 28, 2022**

Oscars 2022 Winners List: Oscars 2022 for Best Picture has gone to 'CODA' while the Best Actress Oscars 2022 in leading role went to Jessica Chastain for 'The Eyes of Tammy Faye'. Will Smith took home the Oscars 'Best Actor in Leading Role' for 'King Richard'. Check the full list of 94th Academy Awards winners.

**Mar 30, 2022**

BIMSTEC Summit 2022: BIMSTEC countries will adopt a BIMSTEC Charter to develop institution architecture for the group. Know BIMSTEC Member Countries, BIMSTEC Purpose and Key Agenda.

**Mar 31, 2022**

Bruce Willis, 'Die Hard', 'Sixth Sense' star, announced retirement from his acting career after being diagnosed with aphasia. Bruce Willis gained widespread recognition as an action hero after his portrayal of John McClane in the Die Hard franchise (1988-2013) and in other subsequent roles.

**APRIL 2022****Apr 4, 2022**

Imran Khan No-Trust Vote: Imran Khan was de-notified as Pakistan prime minister by the cabinet division after the dissolution of the National Assembly.

**Apr 8, 2022**

Pakistan SC declared the deputy speaker's move of rejecting the no-confidence vote against Imran Khan's government as unconstitutional and called for a no-trust vote at 10 am on April 9th.

**Apr 8, 2022**

Russia suspended from UNHRC: The resolution which was titled 'Suspension of the Rights of membership of the Russian Federation in the Human Rights Council' was adopted with 93 votes in favor, 24 against the suspension, and 58 absences.

**Apr 8, 2022**

Lashkar-e-Taiba chief Hafiz Saeed Sentenced to Jail: Lashkar-e-Taiba chief Hafiz Saeed has been sentenced to 31 years in Jail by Pakistan's Anti-Terror Court as per media reports. As per the court's order, all properties belonging to the Pakistan-based Terrorist have been confiscated as well.

**Apr 10, 2022**

UK PM Boris Johnson traveled to Kyiv in Ukraine amid the ongoing conflict with Russia to meet Ukrainian President Zelenskyy in person, in a show of solidarity with the Ukrainian people.

**Apr 11, 2022**

Shehbaz Sharif replaces Imran Khan, who became the first Pakistani Prime Minister to be ousted from

power after losing the no-trust vote in the National Assembly.

#### **Apr 12, 2022**

Sri Lanka has announced default on all its external debt worth \$51 billion, calling the move a "last resort" after running out of foreign exchange to import essential goods.

#### **Apr 20, 2022**

China Solomon island deal: China-Solomon Islands security pact has been signed to enhance social stability and long-term tranquility in the Islands. However, the pact has raised concerns among the western countries fearing that the agreement could give Beijing a military foothold in the South Pacific.

#### **Apr 21, 2022**

Russia's Defence Ministry called Sarmat as the most powerful missile with the longest range of destruction of targets in the world, which will significantly increase the combat power of Russia's strategic nuclear forces.

#### **Apr 25, 2022**

France Elections 2022: Emmanuel Macron defeated his far-right rival Marine Le Pen by a comfortable margin and became the first President in France in 20

## **MAY 2022**

#### **May 9, 2022**

Victory Day 2022 Russia: Victory Day 2022 in Russia is a significant one as the country continues its war with Ukraine. Learn the significance of this day and why it may be a turning point amid the Russia-Ukraine war 2022.

#### **May 9, 2022**

Monkeypox outbreak 2022: Monkeypox virus was first identified in a captive monkey and since 1970 the sporadic outbreaks of Monkeypox virus have been reported across 10 African countries. The first-ever recorded occurrence of the Monkeypox virus in England was in 2018.

#### **May 10, 2022**

South Korea President: The new South Korean President Yoon Suk-Yeol said in his inaugural speech that he will consider sending significant economic aid to North Korea, but only if the country first gives up its nuclear Programme.

#### **May 12, 2022**

2nd Global COVID Summit: Global COVID Summit 2022 intends to galvanize the new actions to address the continued challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic and build stronger global health security.

#### **May 13, 2022**

Sri Lanka news: Ranil Wickremesinghe, who has already served as the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka five

years to win the re-election. The latest win of Emmanuel Macron in French Elections 2022 has also prompted a wave of relief in Europe that the far-right has been kept out of power.

#### **Apr 26, 2022**

Twitter Elon Musk: Twitter has confirmed the sale of the company to Tesla Chief Elon Musk for USD 44 billion. The deal has come after Musk revealed last week that he had lined up USD 46.5 billion in financing to acquire Twitter.

#### **Apr 28, 2022**

Russia withdraws from UN Tourism Body ahead of a vote to suspend Russia's membership over its invasion of Ukraine. UNWTO while commenting on Russia's suspension also said that it is the first time it has met to consider the suspension of one of its members.

#### **Apr 29, 2022**

QUAD Leaders' Summit 2022 will take place in Tokyo on May 24 where the leaders of four nations- India, Japan, US, and Australia will exchange views on various regional and global issues.

times, accepted the post after securing the support of Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna (SLPP).

#### **May 20, 2022**

Turkey blocked an early move to fast-track the Sweden and Finland's requests demanding that they extradite "terrorists" and that the alliance respect its concerns.

#### **May 21, 2022**

Hong Kong Chief Executive: In 2021, China overhauled Hong Kong's electoral system and specified that only patriots, that is, those loyal to the Communist Party of China can run.

#### **May 30, 2022**

Nepal Plane Crash Tara Air: On the morning of May 29, a Nepal plane flying from the tourist city of Pokhara to Jomsom at 9.55 am, had lost contact, after it reached the Lete area of Mustang. 22 people were on board the crashed Nepal plane including 4 Indians.

#### **May 30, 2022**

The rapid decline in China's population is expected to have a massive impact on China's economy. China's working-age population, which peaked in 2014, is projected to shrink to less than one-third of that peak by 2100.

## **JUNE 2022**

- Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, the provincial assembly passed a "Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

**1st June**

Child Protection and Welfare (Amendment) Act, 2022 which tightens penalties for crimes such as child sexual abuse, pornography, organ trade and trafficking.

- The bill said that those who are convicted in child abuse or child trafficking will either be sentenced to life imprisonment or they could also face 14-20 years behind the bars.
- U.S. President Joe Biden has agreed to provide Ukraine with advanced longer range missiles as part of a \$700 million weapons package on Wednesday.
- They can strike with precision at targets up to 80 kilometers away.
- Biden said Russia's invasion of Ukraine will end through diplomacy, but the United States must provide significant weapons and ammunition to give Ukraine the highest leverage at the negotiating table.
- "We will provide the Ukrainians with more advanced rocket systems and munitions that will enable them to more precisely strike key targets on the battlefield in Ukraine," Biden wrote in a op-ed in The New York Times.
- Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan renewed their pledge to upgrade the excellent bilateral ties to new heights by infusing new vigour to two-way cooperation in diverse fields. At the joint news conference, Shehbaz said he held very productive talks with President Erdogan and voiced hope that under the dynamic leadership of Turkish president, the bilateral ties would scale new heights.
- Dr. Mahwish Sharif, who is from a remote village in central Balochistan's Kachi district, turned all the odds in her favor as she earned a medical degree and was named the first doctor with hearing impairment in Balochistan at Fatima Jinnah Chest Hospital. The hospital is the province's only health facility for the treatment of respiratory and viral diseases in Quetta, despite years of bigotry.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> June

- He Peshawar High Court (PHC) granted Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chief Imran Khan pre-arrest bail for 15 days in the 14 cases registered against him by Sharif Government. The decision came straight after the party's chairman ended his 'Azadi March' on May 25. Imran Khan's counsel Babar Awan filed the petition in the court

which was heard by PHC Chief Justice Qaiser Rashid Khan.

- Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) has *announced* a nationwide *protest against rising inflation* and load shedding. According to details, Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader Farrukh Habib and former state minister on Twitter said that on the instructions of party chairman Imran Khan, there will be a nationwide protest tomorrow (Friday) against rising inflation, load shedding and incompetence of imported government.

## 3<sup>rd</sup> June

- MPCL- Mari Petroleum Company Limited has unearthed massive gas reserves in North Waristan which entail the potential to produce 15% of the total gas of the country alongside saving foreign remittances worth \$1.5 billion per annum. According to MPCL, 25 million cubic feet of gas production has been started from the ST-1 well drilled in Bannu, KPK. Crude oil generation from Bannu West has also been launched and more wells will ascertain as uninterrupted gas supply of 2000MCFPD, once in operation.
- Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan had said in December, "Türkiye is the best representation and expression of the Turkish people's culture, civilization, and values."

## 4<sup>th</sup> June

The Pakistan government has increased the defence budget for the outgoing fiscal year by nearly 6 per cent to over PKR 1.45 trillion to meet the critical needs of the country's armed forces amid national economy under strain. This decision to increase the budget was taken by Pakistan's Economic Coordination Committee (ECC) to meet the enhanced salary requirements and other key needs.

## 5<sup>th</sup> June

The news of a Pakistani woman gang-raped on, board the Bahauddin Zakariya Express by three staffers jolted the entire country. The unfortunate news has not only damaged the country's reputation globally but also has countless women concerned for their safety. Following the incident, the Government of Pakistan announced a new app called '*Safar Saheli*'. The instructions on how to download and use the application will be printed on every ticket, along with an emergency number.

## 6<sup>th</sup> June

- Seven terrorists were killed in two separate intelligence based operations (IBOs) in Khyber-

Pakhtunkhwa province's Bannu and North Waziristan districts. According to the ISPR, those killed remained actively involved in terrorist activities against the security forces.

- On Monday, it was announced that British Prime Minister Boris Johnson will face a punishing vote of no confidence by his fellow Conservative Party Lawmakers following anger over lockdown-breaking parties at Downing Street and overall discontent with his leadership.
- And eventually he won the confidence vote on June 7th.

#### June 7<sup>th</sup>

- German Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock arrived in Islamabad on Tuesday for the start of her two-day visit to Pakistan. The Green party lawmaker held talks with her counterpart Bilawal Bhutto Zardari which centered around bilateral cooperation and regional challenges, including the situation in Afghanistan.
- Pakistan's government ended Saturday as a work day for its employees under a raft of energy-saving measures aimed at easing fuel shortages that have triggered rolling blackouts. Purchases of new vehicles for use by officials and appliances such as air conditioners will be stopped, the volume of fuel allocated to government offices will be cut by 40% and overseas trips will be halted, according to Information Minister Marriyum Aurangzeb. The nation is aiming to lower energy consumption at government offices by 10%, she said.

#### June 10<sup>th</sup>

- An anti-terrorism court (ATC) granted pre-arrest bail to fourteen Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leaders till June 17 in a case related to the party's recent long march. The relief comes a day after the ATC in Lahore had issued non-bailable arrest warrants for the former ruling party's leaders at the request of Shahdara police station under charges of damaging public property, torturing police officials, and creating chaos during the party's long march to Islamabad on May 25.
- The federal government announced a 15% increase in the salary of the government employees, as well as a 5% increase in the pensions for retired government employees. "The prime minister has rejected the Finance Ministry's proposal of a 10% increase and has approved an increase in government employees' salaries of 15% with the consent of

the cabinet," Federal Information Minister Marriyum Aurangzeb announced after the meeting.

- PTI Chairman and former Prime Minister Imran Khan rejected the budget for the new fiscal year, terming it "anti-people" and "anti-business". The budget is based on "unrealistic assumptions" on inflation and economic growth, he said. In the budget, the government has set the targets for inflation and economic growth at 11.5 per cent and 5pc, respectively. "[This] indicates that inflation will be between 25-30pc, which on the one hand will destroy the common man, and on the other hand, retard economic growth due to high interest rates."

#### June 12<sup>th</sup>

According to the details, Pakistan Customs, while conducting operations on the Pakistan-Afghanistan border, thwarted an attempt to smuggle fertilizer and sugar across the Torkham border. The Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) spokesman said that 140 bags of fertilizer and 120 bags of sugar were being smuggled into Afghanistan. The driver has been arrested while the vehicle along with sacks of sugar and fertilizer has been confiscated. It is worth remembering that in order to stabilize the price of sugar, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif banned the export of sugar to meet the needs of the country and also ordered strict measures against smuggling.

#### June 13<sup>th</sup>

Group (JUI) announced political and religious alliance with Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI). According to sources, Head of JUI Sherani Group, Maulana Mohammad Khan Sherani along with a 25-member delegation met PTI Chairman Imran Khan and announced to form an alliance with the PTI. Imran Khan welcomed the Head of JUI Sherani Group Maulana Khan Sherani along with a 25-member and said that PTI strives to achieve higher political and social goals beyond traditional politics.

#### June 15<sup>th</sup>

In Swat, eight suspected arsonists have been booked on charges of allegedly being involved in setting fire to the forests in various parts of district Swat, police officials confirmed. On the other hand, fresh incident of wildfire was successfully brought under control in Marghazar, Teghak and Shoqdara areas of the district.

#### June 16<sup>th</sup>

The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) issued the assets statement of parliamentarians for the year 2021. According to the data provided by the ECP, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif owned assets worth Rs245 million in 2021. The ECP data shows that the PM is also indebted to Rs140 million. The PM has also taken a loan of Rs60 million from his son Salman Shehbaz Sharif, it added. Meanwhile, PPP chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari owned Rs1.6 billion assets in 2021, with a bank balance of over Rs120 million. While the PPP co-chairman Asif Ali Zardari owns assets worth Rs710 million, while he does not have any overseas assets.

#### June 17<sup>th</sup>

- PTI chairman and former prime minister Imran Khan has announced the protests from 21:00 to denounce the current administration led by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, who Khan claims has been unable to curb rising inflation.
- Pakistan had embarked on a massive diplomatic campaign to remove itself from the FATF's grey list. The Pakistan delegation is led by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hina Rabbani Khar, who is also the chair of Pakistan's National FATF Coordination Committee. Pakistan requires the votes of Turkey, China, and Malaysia to be removed from the list, and all three countries have pledged their full support to Pakistani authorities.

#### June 19<sup>th</sup>

- President Dr Arif Alvi has once again refused to sign the election amendment bill that he had returned as he believes the legislation is "regressive" and urged Parliament to consider the use of technology in the elections. A statement issued by the president's secretariat on Sunday said that Dr Alvi "has not signed the bill despite the fact, that the constitution that he upholds, will make it into law"
- Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf's (PTI) workers and supporters on Sunday took to the streets in various cities across the country to protest against rising inflation on the call of party chairman and former Prime Minister Imran Khan.

#### June 20<sup>th</sup>

The US has agreed to help cash-strapped Pakistan negotiate a deal with the IMF for the revival of the country's economic bailout. programme with the global lender. Pakistan and the IMF have not yet been able to reach close to a staff-level agreement

for the revival of the Extended Fund Facility (EFF), leaving Pakistani authorities in a tight spot to bridge the gap and get the updated federal budget for the fiscal year 2022-23 passed by the National Assembly. The US has agreed to help Pakistan negotiate a deal with the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

#### June 21<sup>st</sup>

The Counter-Terrorism Department (CTD) has issued an assassination threat against PTI Chairman Imran Khan. According to the danger notice issued by the CTD's Khyber Pakhtunkhwa wing, "terrorists are planning to assassinate Imran Khan and have sought assistance from an assassin in Afghanistan."

#### June 22<sup>nd</sup>

A powerful earthquake of magnitude 6.1 shook parts of Pakistan, killing 280 people in Afghanistan. According to the [Pakistan](#) Meteorological Department (PMD), the epicenter of the quake was 44km southwest of Khost in Afghanistan at a depth of 50.8km. The quake struck at 1:54 am (local time). The tremors were felt in Peshawar, Islamabad, Lahore and other parts of Punjab and Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa provinces.

#### June 24<sup>th</sup>

Pakistan received a \$2.3 billion Chinese consortium loan that would help stabilize its dwindling foreign exchange reserves, Finance Minister Miftah Ismail confirmed, after saying the South Asian nation was no longer on the path to debt default. The development comes as foreign exchange reserves held by the Pakistani central bank deplete to as little as \$8.2 billion — barely enough for 45 days of imports — with the Pakistani rupee at record lows against the US dollar.

#### June 25<sup>th</sup>

The amendments made in the National Accountability Ordinance, 1999 by the government were challenged by PTI Chairman Imran Khan in the Supreme Court. The former prime minister filed a petition in the top court under Article 184 (3) of the Constitution. In his petition, the PTI chairman said that the amendment has taken away the authority of appointing a NAB chairman and has given the responsibility to the current government which will "maneuver by the bulk of the holders of public office to assume control over and influence the impartiality of the NAB chairman."

#### June 26<sup>th</sup>

Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) won the PK-7 by-election as its candidate Fazl Mula secured 18,884 votes inflicting defeat on Awami National Party (ANP) candidate Hussain Ahmad.

### June 27<sup>th</sup>

Ministry for Industries and Production, the Cabinet Secretariat and Customs suggested revoking the ban on the import of cell phones as it generates taxes worth millions of rupees. As per the statistics, the country imported 940,000 mobile phone sets during five months of the current year. During the previous year, over 10.2 million mobile phone sets were imported to the country.

### 30<sup>th</sup> June

In a major setback to the PML-N's government in Punjab, the Lahore High Court (LHC) accepted the appeals of the PTI filed against the election of Hamza Shahbaz as chief minister, and ordered a recount of votes with the exclusion of the 25 defecting party members who voted for him. A larger bench of the LHC— headed by Justice Sadaqat Ali Khan — and comprising Justice Shahid Jamil, Justice Shehram Sarwar, Justice Sajid Mehmood Sethi and Justice Tariq Saleem Sheikh issued the 4-1 verdict.

## JULY 2022

### July 2<sup>nd</sup>

Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) organized a “historic” power show at Islamabad’s Parade Ground. The NOC was provided in response to the party’s application on June 27 for permission to stage a public protest at Parade Ground. The gathering, according to the NOC, shall not disturb or violate the fundamental rights of citizens of Islamabad and surrounding areas. The gathering must not block the Islamabad Expressway and must end by 12 a.m.

### July 5<sup>th</sup>

Senior journalist and *Express News* anchorperson Imran Riaz Khan, the most vocal critic of the ruling coalition, was arrested from Islamabad Toll Plaza late disregarding the fact that a court has already granted him a pre-arrest bail.

### July 7<sup>th</sup>

Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Mahmood Khan has decided in principle to provide transport facility to girls’ students of public sector schools in far-flung areas under the Parents Teachers Council (PTC) Funds.

### July 9<sup>th</sup>

Elon Musk ended his \$44bn (£36bn) bid to buy Twitter, alleging multiple breaches of the agreement. The announcement is the latest twist in a long-running saga after the world’s richest person decided to buy Twitter in April. Mr Musk said he had backed out because Twitter failed to provide enough information on the number of spam and fake accounts.

### July 9<sup>th</sup>

The Lahore High Court (LHC) has granted bail to senior journalist Imran Riaz Khan and ordered his release.

### 12<sup>th</sup> July

NASA shared the images taken from the world’s most powerful space technology, James Webb. NASA’s James Webb Space Telescope has delivered the deepest and sharpest infrared image of the distant universe so far. Webb’s First Deep Field is galaxy cluster SMACS 0723, and it is teeming with thousands of galaxies – including the faintest objects ever observed in the infrared.

### 14<sup>th</sup> July

The deal between Pakistan and IMF has finally been locked. The long-awaited agreement could pave the way for the release of \$1.17 billion to Pakistan as the country grapples with high inflation and political instability.

### 14<sup>th</sup> July

The Supreme Court (SC) has rejected the foreign conspiracy theory of PTI and said courts give verdicts on evidence not speculations. It was the executive duty to take a decision on cipher but the PTI government didn’t conduct or order any inquiry. The court was not shown the complete cipher but a few contents were placed only for arguments and not the complete cipher in front of court.

### July 15<sup>th</sup>

Faisal Niazi joined PTI days ahead of by-polls. Speaker Punjab Assembly Pervaiz Elahi accepted the resignation of Pakistan Muslim League Nawaz (PML-N) MPA Faisal Niazi and he afterwards joined Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI).

### July 17<sup>th</sup>

Few hours before the by-elections, Punjab government suffered another blow as another PML-N legislator met with PTI leaders and announced to

resign from Punjab Assembly. This is second MPA to tender resignation in as many days while another PML-N lawmaker has been disqualified on fake degree – taking the toll to three lawmakers in two days' time.

### July 17<sup>th</sup>

PTI wrested control of Punjab back from the PML-N on Sunday with a landslide victory in the by-election on 20 constituencies. The party won 15 constituencies, dealing a major blow to the PML-N, who only clinched four. PTI candidates clinch victory in 15 constituencies, while PML-N manages to win only four. The by-polls on the 20 Punjab Assembly seats were crucial as they were to decide the fate of Chief Minister Hamza Shahbaz. With 15 seats in hand, PTI is likely to defeat Hamza when a recount of votes for the chief minister election takes place on July 22.

### July 19<sup>th</sup>

Interior Minister Rana Sanaullah said that the Directorate General of Immigration and Passports (DGIP) has developed an application through which all passport payments can be made online while saving citizens from long queues at banks. In a tweet, the minister said that online passport payments will put a full stop to long queues and cumbersome trips to the banks.

### July 21<sup>st</sup>

Aftab Sultan was appointed as the NAB chairman after the formal approval of the federal cabinet meeting held today. Constitutionally, the term of chairman of NAB is four years while Iqbal completed his term in October 2021, but the PTI promulgated the NAB amendment ordinance through which he was given an extension till the appointment of a new chairman of NAB.

### July 22<sup>nd</sup>

- Pakistan Muslim League-Quaid president Chaudhry Shujaat Hussain has refused to support Pervaiz Elahi in the election for the Punjab Chief Minister ship. According to sources, Chaudhry Shujaat Hussain confirmed writing the letter. In a major development before the voting, PML-Q leader Moonis Elahi said that his uncle, Chaudhry Shujaat, has refused to back Imran Khan's candidate. He said that he had gone to visit Shujaat but he refused to issue a video recording in this regard. "I have lost and Imran Khan has lost as well but Zardari has won

- Shehbaz was declared a victor after Punjab Assembly Deputy Speaker Dost Mohammad Mazari ruled that PML-Q members' votes were not counted in light of party head's letter. According to Mazari, Hamza received 179 votes whereas Elahi garnered 176 votes, but only after 10 votes of Elahi's own party were not counted, which turned the tables in Hamza's favour.

### July 23<sup>rd</sup>

Supreme Court of Pakistan Saturday said that Chief Minister Punjab Hamza Shahbaz will work as a trustee till Monday (July 25). The orders came during a hearing on PML-Q leader Pervaiz Elahi's petition against Punjab Assembly Deputy Speaker Dost Mazari's ruling in the provincial CM's election held on Friday. The Supreme Court issued the directives after it resumed the hearing of a petition filed by Elahi, challenging the ruling of Deputy Speaker Punjab Assembly Dost Mazari. The court, in its verbal order, has said that the chief minister's powers will be limited. "All the appointments will be merit-based and those made without merit will be nullified," it was added. The Supreme Court said that the chief minister will not do anything for political gain and that the court will keep a check on him.

### 24<sup>th</sup> July

Flash floods caused massive destruction in upper Kohistan. At least 50 houses swept away.

### 25<sup>th</sup> July

The Supreme Court of Pakistan heard a petition moved by Punjab Assembly Speaker Chaudhry Parvez Elahi, a candidate for the CM's office, against the ruling of Deputy Speaker Punjab Assembly Dost Muhammad Mazari over the fate of PML-Q votes. Chief Justice Ejaz ul Ahsan said that if you prove from the constitution that the party leader can overrule the decision of parliamentary party, then we are with you.

### July 26<sup>th</sup>

- The ruling coalition parties announced boycott of the Supreme Court proceedings on Chaudhry Pervaiz Elahi's appeal against the re-election of Punjab Chief Minister Hamza Shehbaz, hours after an apex court bench declined to form a full court on the matter. The ruling coalition, including Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N), Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP), Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam-Fazl (JUI-F) and other allied parties, wanted the full court hearing of the petition

filed by the PML-Quaid leader. However, a three-member bench, led by Chief Justice Umar Ata Bandial, rejected the petition of the coalition parties.

- The Supreme Court declared Deputy Speaker Dost Muhammad Mazari's ruling on Punjab chief minister's election null and void and ruled that Pervaiz Elahi will be the new Punjab chief minister. A three-member bench comprising Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Umar Ata Bandial and Justices Ijazul Ahsan and Munib Akhtar announced the verdict after completion of the hearing on Punjab CM case.

### July 27<sup>th</sup>

- The swearing-in ceremony of Chaudhry Pervaiz Elahi took place in the President's House in Islamabad, where President Dr. Arif Alvi administered the oath of office to the newly elected Punjab chief minister.
- Leaders of the ruling coalition from the Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) and Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) met with senior officials of the Election Commission Pakistan (ECP), including the chief election commissioner (CEC), in an effort to convince the electoral body to announce its verdict reserved in the prohibited funding case involving the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI). And EPC is expected to announce the verdict in the first week of August.

### July 28<sup>th</sup>

The treasury benches in the Punjab Assembly passed the no-confidence motion against Deputy Speaker Dost Muhammad Mazari, hours after electing Sibtain Khan of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) as the new speaker. Sibtain Khan was polled 185 votes of the lawmakers from the PTI, the PML-Quaid and other allies. His rival PML-N's Saiful Malook Khokhar obtained 175 votes – three short of the opposition's total strength of 178 in the provincial legislature.

### July 30<sup>th</sup>

Punjab Chief Minister Pervaiz Elahi made it mandatory for the groom and bride to sign the oath of Khatam-e-Nabuwat at the time of marriage. He instructed the issuance of new forms containing the affidavit of Khatam-e-Nabuwat to the marriage registrar.

## AUGUST 2022

**Pakistani police open an anti-terrorism investigation against Imran Khan**

On Monday, 22 August 2022; According to the police document, an investigation was launched after Khan threatened to "take action" against the head of police and a female magistrate during a speech in Islamabad. Imran Khan, Pakistan's former Prime Minister, is being investigated for alleged violations of anti-terror laws. They have prohibited him from holding live television sessions. This could exacerbate tensions between Khan and the coalition government. Khan has not publicly commented on the investigation.

### **Thai Prime Minister Suspended by Court, Awaiting Review of Term Limit**

After deciding to hear a petition asking for a review of his legally required eight-year term limit, Thailand's constitutional court suspended Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-Ocha from his official duties on Wednesday, August 24, 2022.

The petition was filed by the largest opposition group, which argued that Prayuth's time as the leader of a military junta following the coup he orchestrated in 2014 while serving as army chief should be counted toward the eight-year term required by the constitution. The court after considering the petition and related documents stated that the facts from the petition are a reason for questioning as demanded. Prayuth was given 15 days by the court to respond. Prawit Wongsuwan, the deputy prime minister, is anticipated to act as interim president.

### **Officials Declare Jihadist Group to Have Seized Hotel in Somali Capital, At Least 20 People Killed**

On the 20th of August 2022, At least 20 people are thought to have died and 40 others were injured in a militant attack on a hotel in Mogadishu, the capital of Somalia, according to reports. Shooters inside the hotel are still being fought by security personnel. This attack was the largest since Hassan Sheikh Mohamud took office as president of Somalia in May following several months of political unrest. After a rise in military operations against Al-Shabaab, it occurs.

"The security forces continued to neutralize terrorists who have been confined inside a room in the hotel building," said Mohamed Abdikadir, the security commander on the scene. Additionally, he claimed that numerous civilians, including children trapped inside the structure, had been rescued.

### **As China endures its worst heatwave in six decades, factories are being forced to shut down.**

China is currently experiencing what appears to be the country's worst heat wave in 60 years, with temperatures exceeding 40 degrees Celsius (104 degrees Fahrenheit). The demand for air conditioning in homes and offices has increased as a result of the extreme heat, which puts a lot of strain on the power grid.

In order to alleviate a power shortage brought on by a scorching heat wave that swept across the nation, all factories in the Chinese province of Sichuan were required to close for six days. A Daiwa Capital analyst wrote in a client note that closing factories for the week might reduce the supply of polysilicon and lithium and raise prices. One of the major solar panel and semiconductor manufacturing hubs is in Sichuan. The current situation in China would have an impact on some of the largest electronic companies in the world, such as Apple suppliers Foxconn and Intel.

### **The UK To Be The First To Approve Omicron Covid Shot With Moderna Nod**

Monday, 15 August 2022 - Britain has approved a variant-adapted Coronavirus vaccine that targets both the original and Omicron versions of the virus, making it the first country to do so in late 2020. The MHRA made its decision on Moderna based on the results of the clinical trial. According to the data, the booster elicited "a string immune response" against Omicron and the original virus.

### **Fire fighters in Cuba bring the worst fire to a close, after five days**

Tuesday, July 9, 2022 – Fire fighters have put out what authorities have dubbed the worst fire in Cuban history, which in five days caused a massive blackout and destroyed 40% of the island's main fuel storage facility.

Matanzas is the biggest port in Uba. Fuel and crude oil imports are delivered to it. Ten enormous tanks at Matanzas are used primarily to store Cuban heavy crude, fuel, and diesel, which is used to produce electricity on the island. Lightning hit one of the fuel storage tanks. The fire later engulfed the four-tank system after spreading to a second tank. Despite the efforts of more than 100 Mexican and Venezuelan reinforcements as well as local fire fighters, the fire was accompanied by large explosions.

### **After the Israeli airstrike in Gaza, more than 11 people reported dead.**

On August 6, 2022, on a Saturday, As tensions between Israel and Palestinian militant groups continue to rise, the Israeli military launched a deadly attack against a target in Gaza that it claimed to be an Islamic Jihad stronghold.

The Islamic Jihad organization confirmed that Tayseer Al-Jabari, a commander in the Quds Brigade, Islamic Jihad's armed wing, was one of its senior leaders and was killed in the airstrike. A 5-year-old girl and a 23-year-old woman were among the at least 11 fatalities, according to the Palestinian health ministry. Injuries to another 75 people were also mentioned. Israel argued that the majority of the fatalities were militants.

### **Ukraine Reports Serious Nuclear Plant Damage Caused By Russian Rocket**

5 August 2022, on Friday, the Ukrainian nuclear agency claimed that Russian rockets damaged a portion of a massive nuclear power plant under Russian control. Although no radiation leak is believed to have occurred. At the Zaporizhzhia plant, a high-voltage power line and a nitrogen-oxygen unit were reported damaged by Enerhoatom.

### **As a result of Pelosi's trip to Taiwan, China sanctions Pelosi and suspends cooperation with the United States**

Friday, August 5, 2022 – The Chinese Foreign Ministry announced the new countermeasures against Washington, including the suspension of the climate talks following Speaker Pelosi's visit to Taiwan. Future communications between Chinese and US defence leaders—for which dates have not yet been set—will be cancelled as a result of these measures. Additionally, it will mean that China won't participate in the yearly naval consultations between China and the US.

China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs said that "US House Speaker Nancy Pelosi insisted on visiting Taiwan in disregard of China's serious concerns and firm opposition, seriously interfering in China's internal affairs, undermining China's sovereignty, territorial integrity, trampling on the One-China principle, and seriously threatening the peace and stability across the Taiwan Strait."

### **North Korea rejects South Korea's aid offer and disparages President Yoon**

Yoon first put forth the idea to trade economic cooperation for the termination of North Korea's nuclear programme in May during his inauguration speech. South Korea's offer of financial assistance to North Korea on August 19, 2022, was turned down. They offered denuclearization in return for this. According to state media KCNA on Friday, North Korea claimed the proposal implies President Yoon Suk Yeol is "really simple."

Yoon's offer was rejected by Kim Yo Jong, the younger sister of Kim Jong Un. She said, "to think that the plan to barter 'economic cooperation' for our honor, nukes, is the great dream, hope, and plan of Yoon, and we come to realize that he is really simple." She also said North Korea would not be sitting face to face with South Korea.

### **Friendship Day**

Friendship Day is observed on the first Sunday in August. In the US, it became customary to set aside a day to celebrate friends in 1935. As Friendship Day became more well-known, it is now observed in many nations.

### **Hiroshima Day**

The sixth of August is designated as Hiroshima Day each year. Today marks the detonation of the atomic bomb over the Japanese city of Hiroshima.

### **Nagasaki Day**

On August 9, 1945, the United States dropped a second bomb on Japan at Nagasaki. This bomb is

also referred to as "Fat Man." Three days after Hiroshima was attacked with an atomic bomb, it was dropped.

#### **International Youth Day**

On August 12, people all over the world observe International Youth Day to raise awareness of how to protect and develop young people in society.

#### **Pakistan's Independence Day**

Every year on August 14, Youm-e-Azadi, or Pakistan Independence Day, is observed. Following the end of British rule in 1947, Pakistan was given its independence and recognised as a sovereign state on this day.

#### **Independence Day of India**

India celebrates Independence Day on August 15 of each year. India gained independence from British rule as of this day. It serves as a reminder of a fresh start, the start of a new era free from more than 200 years of British colonialism.

#### **Independence Day of India**

Every year on August 17, Indonesia celebrates its independence. The declaration of independence from Dutch colonial rule in 1945 is commemorated on this day.

#### **World Humanitarian Day**

Every year on August 19th, people all over the world observe World Humanitarian Day to honor aid workers who put their lives in danger while providing humanitarian assistance. This day also recognizes the contributions made by women to global crises.

#### **Yorkshire Day**

Yorkshire Day is celebrated every year on 1st August. It is the UK's largest country. This holiday is held in honor of the nation's history in general and of its most notable citizens in particular.

#### **Ukraine: The Black Sea agreement saw the export of more than a million tonnes of grain and food.**

On August 1, operations through the Black Sea started. According to Amir Abdulla, the UN Coordinator for the Black Sea Grain Initiative, exports of grain and other foodstuffs from Ukraine have surpassed one million metric tonnes as a result of a historic agreement amid the ongoing conflict. The Joint Coordination Centre's (JCC) collective efforts and diligent work allowed for this "remarkable achievement".

#### **More than 340,000 people in Chad impacted by unprecedented flooding**

According to a report released on Friday by the UN humanitarian coordination office, OCHA, torrential rains have caused unprecedented flooding in Chad that has affected more than 340,000 people living in 55,000 households, exceeding the number of affected people from the previous year of more than 250,000. While record rains over the past month have threatened food security and livelihoods, swollen rivers have destroyed nearly 2,700 hectares of crops and farming land in addition to hundreds of homes.

#### **Shelling upon cities close to nuclear plant in Ukraine**

Ukrainian officials said on Sunday that Russian rocket and artillery strikes targeted areas across the Dnieper River from Europe's largest nuclear power plant as concerns persisted that fighting nearby could damage the plant and result in a radiation leak.

#### **Pak flood death toll surpasses 1,000**

According to the latest official data released on Sunday, 29<sup>th</sup> August, 119 more people have lost their lives as a result of flood-related incidents across Pakistan in the past 24 hours, bringing the total number of fatalities from the devastating floods to 1,000. The primary organisation in charge of responding to disasters, the NDMA, reported that 1,033 people have died and 1,527 have been injured throughout Pakistan so far. In addition to 347 fatalities in Sindh, there were 238 in Balochistan, 226 in Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa, 168 in Punjab, 38 in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir, 15 in Gilgit-Baltistan, and one death in Islamabad.

#### **Floods to cost Pakistan's economy \$4 billion**

A research report estimates that the unusually heavy monsoon rains and catastrophic flash floods will cost Pakistan's cash-strapped economy over USD 4 billion in the current fiscal year because the catastrophe has severely harmed agricultural activities in Sindh and Balochistan.

#### **Sri Lanka's economic crisis persists**

The poorest, most vulnerable girls and boys are bearing the brunt of Sri Lanka's worst economic crisis, UNICEF has warned, as staple foods have become unaffordable and severe malnutrition is among the highest in the region.

#### **Cases of monkeypox decreased by 21%, reversing a month-long rise**

According to a World Health Organization report released on Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> August, the number of monkeypox cases reported globally decreased by 21% in the previous week, reversing a month-long trend of rising infections and possibly signalling the outbreak in Europe may be beginning to subside.

#### **In a sedition case, Gill's attorney tells the Islamabad court that Gill is willing to retract his controversial remarks.**

Shahbaz Gill, the embattled PTI leader, is prepared to clarify any misunderstandings and apologise for his controversial comments about the army, his attorney said on Monday in an Islamabad sessions court. After making contentious comments allegedly about the army during an ARY News broadcast, Gill was detained on August 9 and has since been the subject of allegations of torture and sexual assault.

#### **IHC revokes Pemra's directive prohibiting the live telecast of Imran's speeches**

The Pakistan Electronic Media Regulatory Authority (Pemra) had issued orders prohibiting the live telecast of speeches by PTI Chairman Imran Khan, but the Islamabad High Court (IHC) on Monday, 29<sup>th</sup> August suspended those orders. After reviewing an

application submitted by the former prime minister today, IHC Chief Justice Athar Minallah noted that the watchdog had "exceeded its authority" and ordered Pemra to appoint an officer who could defend the ban in court.

#### **The government approves spending Rs2.5 billion for relief in flood-affected areas of KP**

The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government has approved funds totaling Rs2.5 billion for relief and rehabilitation efforts in the province's flood-affected areas. The provincial cabinet has given its approval to a summary in this regard. In addition, a letter from the establishment and administration department to the relief and rehabilitation department was sent to ensure that the decision was carried out and to provide a report to that effect.

#### **Catastrophe strikes Swat village second time in 12 years**

The recent devastating floods caused havoc throughout the Swat district, but for the people of Drab Shahgram village, it was the second disaster to strike them in as little as 12 years after the floods of July 2010 also destroyed their homes, crops, and orchards. The residents of Drab Shahgram village were suddenly struck by the memory of the tragic 2020 flood on August 25, when unprecedented rains and floods struck Swat.

#### **Quetta is cut off as a crucial rail bridge gives way**

While roads that were washed away by flooding have yet to be repaired, Balochistan's railway connection has also been suspended indefinitely after a significant bridge collapsed due to heavy rains and flooding near Mach area in Bolan district, according to Pakistan Railways (PR) officials on Thursday.

#### **In the interbank market, the PKR declines by Rs1.26**

On Monday, the PKR was still under pressure and fell 1.26 rupees against the dollar in the interbank market. According to information provided by the State Bank of Pakistan, the rupee closed at Rs221.92 per dollar, down 0.57 percent.

#### **The contentious dissolution**

The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) Authority was deemed "redundant" and "obstructive" by the Sharif government, which made the decision in principle to abolish it during the third week of the current month. In order to revive the largest and most prestigious bilateral economic development project in the nation, it has decided to go back to the previous arrangement that routed CPEC projects through the planning ministry to line ministries for execution.

#### **By December, the railway to have 46 Chinese passenger coaches.**

Of the 230 coaches ordered from China, 46 will be delivered to Pakistan Railways (PR) in December. The coaches will be able to travel at the train's 160 km/h maximum speed. According to Dawn on Sunday, PR teams are in China to inspect the

coaches and contemporary high-capacity waggons (goods / freight waggons) prototypes and to receive training on the manufacture of such rolling stock.

## **September 2022**

### **1 September 2022**

- The International Monetary Fund provisionally approves a US\$2.9 billion bailout for Sri Lanka.

### **2 September 2022**

- Eighteen people are killed and 23 others are injured by a suicide bombing at a Sunni mosque in Herat, Afghanistan. The mosque's pro-Taliban imam, who is suspected to be the target of the attack, is among the dead.

### **3 September 2022**

- An estimated 70,000 people march in the Czech Republic's capital city Prague demanding that the government do more to control soaring energy prices in the country and voicing opposition to the country's involvement in the Russo-Ukrainian War. The demonstration was organized by political groups including the Communist Party.

### **4 September 2022**

- By a margin of 62% to 38%, Chileans vote to reject the new proposed constitution drafted by the Constitutional Convention.

### **5 September 2022**

- Five Pakistani soldiers and four Pakistani Taliban militants are killed during a gunfight in North Waziristan.
- Russia's Gazprom announces that gas flows through the Nord Stream 1 natural gas pipeline to Europe will not resume until sanctions against Russia are lifted.
- Liz Truss is elected Leader of the Conservative Party and will succeed Boris Johnson as Prime Minister of the United Kingdom on 6 September.

### **6 September 2022**

- Ten people are killed in South Korea by Typhoon Hinnamnor. Seven of the victims died in a flooded underground car park. In addition, 2,900 people are evacuated and 66,000 homes are damaged.
- India approves a nasal COVID-19 vaccine to combat COVID-19, becoming the second country to do so after China.

### **7 September 2022**

- Amid a renewed counter-offensive in the region, Ukrainian forces reportedly break through Russian defenses and advance more than 30 kilometers into Russian held territory in the Kharkiv Oblast, capturing many towns and cities including Balakliia.
- The government of Albania suspends diplomatic relations with Iran after a major

cyberattack allegedly occurs. Iranian diplomats and embassy staff are told to leave Albania within 24 hours.

#### 8 September 2022

- Former White House Chief Strategist and Senior Counselor to the President of the United States Steve Bannon pleads not guilty to state charges in New York for allegedly defrauding donors to build a wall on the U.S. southern border.
- Buckingham Palace announces that Queen Elizabeth II has died at the age of 96 at Balmoral Castle in Scotland. She is succeeded as monarch by her son Charles III.

#### 9 September 2022

- North Korea passes a new law formally declaring itself a "nuclear state". The law includes the right of North Korea to use "preemptive" nuclear strikes as Kim Jong-un promises to "never give up" the country's nuclear weapons.

#### 10 September 2022

- Russia launches missile strikes with Kalibr cruise missiles on critical infrastructure objects, including Kharkiv TEC-5, causing a total blackout and water shutdown in Northeastern Ukraine and the Kharkiv and Donetsk Oblasts. Ukrainian officials confirm at least 40 electrical substations have been destroyed in the wave of missile strikes.

#### 11 September 2022

- The James Webb Space Telescope reveals its first photos of the Orion Nebula, which is located in the Orion constellation.

#### 13 September 2022

- A roadside bombing in Swat District, Pakistan, kills eight people, including a local tribal leader known for his opposition to the Pakistani Taliban.
- Taliban authorities say that they have killed 40 National Resistance Front fighters in the Panjshir Province of Afghanistan, including four commanders.
- Kazakh President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev agrees to change the name of Kazakhstan's capital from "Nur-Sultan" back to "Astana". He had previously changed the capital's name in 2019 to honor his predecessor Nursultan Nazarbayev.

#### 14 September 2022

- The British supermarket chain Iceland launches an appeal to the EUIPO against the country of Iceland in a 20-year-long legal process over the use and trademark of the name "Iceland".

#### 15 September 2022

- Ethereum, the second largest cryptocurrency, changes its consensus

mechanism from proof of work to proof of stake, ceasing all mining and reducing its energy consumption by over 99.9%

#### 16 September 2022

- The Phantom of the Opera, currently the longest-running show in Broadway history, announces that it will end production in February 2023, stating that a decline in attendance caused by the COVID-19 pandemic has made it unable to recoup the weekly costs of running the show.
- American computer hardware company EVGA terminates its partnership with fellow hardware manufacturer Nvidia and withdraws completely from the graphics card market, alleging that the latter forced them to sell their cards at a loss and would refuse to disclose important information, such as sales numbers.

#### 17 September 2022

- Poland opens the Vistula Spit canal connecting the Vistula Lagoon and Gdańsk Bay after three years of construction.

#### 18 September 2022

- The death toll from the fighting between Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, which began four days ago, increases to 94. Fifty-nine of the people were killed in Kyrgyzstan, and the 35 others were killed in Tajikistan. Another 139 people are injured.
- Ukraine withdraws its 250 troops from the United Nations peacekeeping force MONUSCO in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. A Ukrainian Air Force aviation unit also withdraws its eight helicopters from the mission, which made up a third of the UN's fleet.
- Thousands of people march in Istanbul, Turkey, to demand legislation against LGBT organizations and their activities.

#### 19 September 2022

- The state funeral of Elizabeth II is held in London, United Kingdom.
- Equatorial Guinea abolishes the death penalty after its president Teodoro Obiang Nguema Mbasogo signs a new penal code into law.
- Irish judge Síofra O'Leary is elected the new president of European Court of Human Rights, becoming the first woman to hold that position.

#### 20 September 2022

- Nine people have died of diarrhea, malaria and gastroenteritis during the last 24 hours in Sindh Province, Pakistan, thereby bringing the nationwide death toll from flooding to more than 1,600 people.
- Protests continue for the fourth consecutive day across Iran in response to the death of Mahsa Amini while in the

custody of the morality police. Two people are killed during protests in Kermanshah.

#### 21 September 2022

- Two Ukrainian staffers of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe are sentenced to 13 years of prison by a court in the separatist Luhansk People's Republic for "alleged high treason and espionage for the United States".

#### 22 September 2022

- Large numbers of fighting-age men leave Russia after the announcement of the mobilization. Long traffic jams occur at international border crossings and the price of tickets for international flights sharply increases.
- At least 71 people are killed when a boat carrying migrants from Lebanon capsizes off Syria's coast.
- China's former justice minister Fu Zhenghua is sentenced to death with reprieve, which means his sentence will be life in prison without the possibility of parole, after pleading guilty to accepting bribes.

#### 23 September 2022

- Bhutan reopens its borders for international tourists following a two-year closure due to the pandemic.
- Sanctions are imposed on seven Iranian government officials and one group by the United States Department of the Treasury, which blames the Guidance Patrol for the death of Mahsa Amini.
- Referendums begin in the Russian-occupied Ukrainian oblasts of Kherson and Zaporizhzhia and the separatist republics of Donetsk and Luhansk on whether to join Russia, in what Ukraine and other countries consider to be "sham" referendums.

#### 24 September 2022

- Elon Musk says that Starlink will be enabled inside Iranian cities after the United States State and Treasury Departments announce measures to increase internet freedom and access to information in the country.
- Thousands of people protest in Luanda, Angola, accusing incumbent president João Lourenço of electoral fraud in the latest election.

#### 25 September 2022

- Uzbekistan suspends the use of Russia's card payment system Mir. The move was supposedly warranted by the need "to carry out the necessary technical procedures" and was not related to sanctions.
- Exit polls show that the centre-right coalition led by Brothers of Italy leader

Giorgia Meloni has won the election with a majority of seats in the Italian Parliament.

- The Swiss go to the polls to decide four ballot questions. The voters agree to raise the retirement age for women to 65 and to increase the value added tax rates from 7.7% to 8.1%. However, voters rejected the proposal to exempt domestic bonds from taxation and to ban intensive animal farming.

#### 26 September 2022

- Inter-American Development Bank chief Mauricio Claver-Carone is fired by the bank's board of governors after an external investigation, started because of a whistleblower complaint, found that Claver-Carone had an undisclosed intimate relationship with his subordinate and committed several ethics violations in connection with her.
- Six Pakistani military personnel are killed in a helicopter crash in Balochistan, Pakistan.
- The death toll from the cholera outbreak in Syria increases to 29, with a total of 338 cases reported, the majority of whom are in Aleppo Governorate.
- A man kills 17 people and injures 24 others in a mass shooting at a school in Izhevsk, Russia, before killing himself.
- A referendum is approved in Cuba, granting, among other things, broader rights for the LGBT community, including marriage.

#### 27 September 2022

- Kazakhstan says that around 98,000 Russian civilians have entered the country by land and air since Russian president Vladimir Putin ordered a military mobilization.
- Three separate spills are detected in the Baltic Sea following explosions in the Nord Stream 1 and Nord Stream 2 pipelines in what appear to be acts of sabotage.
- Leaders from Poland, Norway and Denmark hold a ceremony to open the Baltic Pipe natural gas pipeline that will transport natural gas from the Norwegian shelf via Denmark to Poland.

#### 28 September 2022

- Thirteen people are killed and 58 others are injured as Iran launches missiles and drones upon the Democratic Party of Iranian Kurdistan's offices in Koye, Kurdistan Region, Iraq. Iran accused the group of being involved in the ongoing protests in the country.
- One person is killed and two others are injured when a gunman opens fire against Chinese-Pakistani nationals at a dental clinic in Karachi, Sindh, Pakistan. All of the

victims were in their 70s and had worked for the clinic for more than 40 years.

- The Bank of England buys 65 billion pounds of bonds in a bid to stabilise the UK economy.

**29 September 2022**

- Swedish authorities report a fourth gas leak from the Nord Stream pipelines.
- The Supreme Court of India strikes down a portion of the Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act that forbade unmarried women from having an abortion, thus legalising the procedure for all women until the 24th week of pregnancy. The ruling also notes that forcing a woman to carry the child could constitute marital

rape, which is not, however, recognised as an offence in India.

**30 September 2022**

- Mexican president Andrés Manuel López Obrador confirms that the Mexican Secretariat of National Defense was hacked and that leaked data included information about the president's health issues and other national security issues.
- Russian president Vladimir Putin signs accession treaties to annex the occupied Ukrainian territories to Russia. However, the accession treaties must be ratified by both houses of the Russian parliament before becoming effective under Russian law.