



# Daily SOON TIMES

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## National Assembly calls budget session on June 5



Soon Times Correspondent ISLAMABAD National Assembly has called a budget session on June 5. According to sources, National Assembly's session will be presided over by Speaker Ayaz Sadiq on June 5 at 5pm at Parliament House. It is pertinent to note that the federal budget for fiscal year 2024-2025 will be presented in National Assembly on June 8. Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb will present the federal budget 2024-2025. According to sources, the debate on budget will be commenced from June 10. Meanwhile, approval of budget will be done on last week of June after Eid ul Adha. It is pertinent to note that Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government announced its first budget of Rs1.7 trillion for the upcoming fiscal year on May 24, called its session today for discussion on the budget.

## Pakistan's second satellite mission 'PAKSAT MM1' set for launch



Soon Times Correspondent ISLAMABAD Pakistan's second communication satellite 'PAKSAT MM1' is all set for launch. Pakistan's latest communication satellite MM1 is slated to launch on May 30, Thursday. SUPARCO's vision is a developed digital Pakistan. SUPARCO's vision to provide internet in remote areas is becoming a reality. PAKSAT MM1 will help to improve the TV broadcasts, cellular phone service, and broadband service. It will initiate its services from August of this year.

## Sardar Tanveer Ilyas granted bail in diplomatic passport misuse case



Soon Times Correspondent ISLAMABAD The Islamabad sessions court has ordered the release of former prime minister of Azad Kashmir Sardar Tanveer Ilyas by granting him bail. Tanveer Ilyas's counsel stated that maximum conviction under the section was of three years. He demanded that accused Tanveer Ilyas must be granted bail. He also informed the court that his client Ilyas's confiscated passport had also been returned. During the hearing, Federal Investigation Agency's (FIA) officials presented the record in court. However, the FIA prosecutor raised reservations on the bail of Sardar Tanveer Ilyas. Consequently, Judicial Magistrate Abbas Shah approved the bail of Ilyas in illegal diplomatic passport case against Rs100,000 surety bonds. Sardar Tanveer Ilyas was accused of possessing his diplomatic passport after stepping down from the position of premier.

# Seven soldiers martyred, 23 terrorists killed in three KP operations

Captain Hussain Jehangir and Havildar Shafiqullah embraced shahadat on May 26



RAWALPINDI Security forces have eliminated 23 terrorists in three operations in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), in a statement, said seven soldiers were martyred during the operations conducted on May 26 and 27. On May 26, an intelligence-based operation was conducted in general area Hassankhel, Peshawar, where six terrorists were successfully neutralised by the security forces and multiple hideouts were busted. "Captain Hussain Jehangir and Havildar Shafiqullah also embraced Shahadat on May 26, while fighting gallantly," said the ISPR statement. On May 27, security forces conducted another operation in Tank district, where troops effectively engaged the terrorists' location, as a result of which 10 terrorists were killed. The third engagement occurred in general area Bagh, Khyber District, where security forces killed seven terrorists. However, during the intense exchange of fire, five brave soldiers Naik Muhammad Ashraf Butt, Lance Naik Syed Danish Akar, Sepoy Taimoor Malik, Sepoy Nadir Saqheer and Sepoy Muahmmad Yasin, having fought gallantly, embraced martyrdom. A large quantity of weapons, ammunition and explosives was recovered from the deceased terrorists who remained actively involved in numerous terrorist activities against the security forces as well as the innocent civilians. "Sanitisation operations are being carried out to eliminate any other terrorist found in the area. Security forces are determined to wipe out the menace of terrorism from the country and such sacrifices of our brave soldiers further strengthen our resolve," said ISPR.

## Seven desks established under SIFC to attract foreign investment: Atta Tarar

Soon Times Correspondent ISLAMABAD Minister for Information and Broadcasting Attaullah Tarar has said seven desks have been established under Special Investment Facilitation Council to attract investment from Saudi Arabia, UAE, Qatar, China, European Union, the US and Far East.



Addressing a news conference in Islamabad today, he said the investors of friendly countries are expressing their satisfaction over the one window facility being provided by the SIFC. He said the UAE has announced to make ten billion dollars investment in Pakistan while there is also progress of bringing five billion dollar investment from Saudi Arabia. He was confident that these investments will materialize.

The Information Minister said Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif will also visit China in a few days' time to give impetus to China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) project. Attaullah Tarar said the country's economy is taking off. He said the Current Account Deficit and inflation have declined while IT exports are witnessing surge. He pointed out that the world financial institutions are also acknowledging our economic revival. The Information Minister regretted the posture of a particular political party saying its narrative is based on enmity against the country. He said the narrative of this party will not succeed and Pakistan will continue its journey towards development.

## US envoy Blome discusses 'economic future' with Aurangzeb



Soon Times Correspondent ISLAMABAD United States Ambassador Donald Blome said on Monday Washington "is a strong partner for Pakistan's economic future." According to a US Mission in Islamabad press release, Ambassador Blome met Pakistan Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb here "to discuss key aspects of the US-Pakistan trade, investment, and economic relationship. The Ambassador highlighted ongoing US support for Pakistan's economic reform agenda." The press release added that "Ambassador Blome noted that the United States is committed to working with Pakistan in technical and development initiatives, emphasizing that the United States remains Pakistan's largest export market, a major source of high-quality investment and a strong partner for its economic future."

# 'After Quaid-e-Azam, Nawaz Sharif made Muslim League popular'



Soon Times Correspondent LAHORE Adviser to Prime Minister on Political and Public Affairs Rana Sanaullah said that after Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah, Nawaz Sharif made the Muslim League the most 'popular' political party. Addressing a presser, Rana Sanaullah who is also the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz's (PML-N) intra-party Chief Election

Commissioner said that the polls are being held in a "transparent" manner. He said that the aspiring PML-N members could submit nomination papers from 10 am to 12 pm on May 28 and can withdraw the same by 2 pm on the same day. "The final list of candidates of the candidates will be released by 3 pm," he added. To a question, he said that former

Prime Minister Shahid Khaqan Abbasi can also collect and submit nomination papers, adding that his eligibility will be decided by the scrutiny committee. Rana Sanaullah said that the PML-N's president slot was vacated after Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's resignation. He said that according to the party's constitution, the election process has started.

## Sargodha: Punjab Minister for Minority Affairs Visits Mujahid Colony

He shared that Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif had directed that all possible measures be taken to save human lives.

Soon Times Correspondent SARGODHA Provincial Minister for Minority Affairs, Ramesh Singh Arora, visited Mujahid Colony on Monday to inspect the site of the tragic incident that occurred two days earlier and to gain insight into the situation. Speaking to the media on the occasion, he described the Mujahid Colony incident as heart-wrenching and an attack on the Constitution of Pakistan. He shared that Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif had directed that all possible measures be taken to save human lives. Responding to a question, he revealed that the cases had been registered under terrorism charges against 250 to 300 unidentified individuals involved in the incident. He said, "based on solid evidence, police have arrested 44 suspects, out of which 33 have been remanded to judicial custody." Arora



emphasized that Pakistan is a beautiful mosaic of people from various religions, and those who attempt to disrupt this harmony will be brought to law. He noted that the current government has celebrated Easter, Baisakhi, and Holi together with the minorities. He added that some elements do not want peace in the region, but timely actions by the police and administrative officials have prevented significant damage to the city

and the country. He commended the police officers for their bravery in rescuing the affected families without regard to the cost of their own lives. He clarified that no fatalities occurred in the incident, with only one injured person currently receiving treatment. "The Chief Minister, after taking the oath, had declared that minorities are a crown jewel of the nation, and measures are being taken to prevent such incidents in the future," the minister

added Commissioner Muhammad Ajmal Bhatti, RPO Shariq Kamal Siddiqui, Deputy Commissioner Captain (R) Aurangzeb Haider Khan, MPAs Ijaz Alam Augustine, Sonia Ashar, and Shaqeela Ather, along with Christian leaders and religious figures, accompanied him during the visit. Earlier, the minister participated a meeting held at Commissioner office on the said incident.

## “Azadi Fellows” from IRCRA

The Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI) hosted a delegation of the International Research Council for Religious Affairs (IRCRA) as part of their Azadi Fellowship program, which aims to engage University and madrasa graduates to deepen their understanding of regional and global affairs. The event provided a platform for a wide range of exchanges on critical issues with the young delegates drawn from different parts of Pakistan. Director General ISSI Ambassador Sohail Mahmood, in his address on the subject of “Regional Stability in a Global Context,” emphasized the importance of the current historical juncture, noting that this was another defining moment in world

politics. He reflected on the ongoing debate among intellectuals regarding the perceived ‘decline of the West’ and the ‘rise of the rest’, particularly the shift of the global center of gravity from the West to the East. He also touched upon the concept of the ‘Thucydides Trap,’ the intensifying competition between the U.S. and China, as well as the impact of longstanding unresolved disputes such as Palestine and Kashmir on regional and global stability. He also highlighted transnational terrorism; the critical food, fuel and financial crises (3Fs); and the existential threat posed by climate change. Additionally, he highlighted the effect of emerging technologies and the risks posed by

their militarization. The DG ISSI underscored the intrinsic link between internal strength and external influence and stressed that a stable polity, a robust economy, and nimble diplomacy, were indispensable to respond effectively to the current and future challenges and to realize the opportunities. Earlier, Dr. Talat Shabbir, Director of the China-Pakistan Study Centre, provided an introduction of ISSI and its research work. He elaborated the Institute’s rich history, organizational structure, and core mission. He highlighted ISSI’s commitment to policy inputs, fostering dialogues, advocating for critical issues, extending outreach, and conducting in-depth analysis

on various strategic matters. During the question-and-answer session, the “Azadi Fellows” and other attendees posed insightful questions, leading to a lively and informative discussion. Topics ranged from specific regional conflicts to broader global strategic trends, providing an opportunity for deeper understanding and exchange of ideas. At the end of the discussion, the President of IRCRA, Mr. Israr Madni, thanked ISSI for the opportunity for “Azadi Fellows” for an insightful discourse. The event concluded with closing remarks from Ambassador Khalid Mahmood, Chairman BoG, ISSI.

## Miracles are present everywhere, and that’s what a doctorate

**Itrat Zahra**

unique microorganism known as “Paramecium” from which she has successfully extracted chemical compounds that have the same chemical properties as synthetic plastics. These microbial-based plastics are known as polyhydroxyalkanoates or Green Plastics and they can be a good alternative to synthetic plastics that are causing environmental

pollution. This is a first-time report introducing Paramecium in the field of Biopolymer technology. The discovery has been published in International Journal of Environmental Science and Technology. Now, there is a need to culture these tiny but miraculous species at a large-scale to solve the environmental issues arising from high plastic buildup.

Witnessed in a small drop of stagnant wastewater under the lens of a microscope. Her research is under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Farah Rauf Shakoori. She has also worked at John’s Hopkins university USA in Betenbaugh’s laboratory. Dr. Itrat is working from last 7 years on a

## Peace in South Asia and the Middle East



**Dr. Muhammad Akram Zaheer**

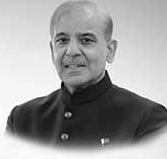
The rapidity with which the newly appointed Pakistani Prime Minister, Shehbaz Sharif, embarked on his inaugural official visit to Saudi Arabia underscored the significance of the relationship between the two nations. However, what truly captured global attention was the outcome of this visit, marked by a joint declaration that not only reaffirmed Saudi Arabia’s commitment to invest \$5 billion in Pakistan but also urged for the resolution of longstanding disputes between Pakistan and India, notably the contentious issue of Jammu and Kashmir. This diplomatic move by Saudi Arabia aligns with a broader trend of Gulf nations actively engaging in efforts to facilitate peace between India and Pakistan. The United Arab Emirates, in particular, had previously brokered a crucial ceasefire between the two South Asian neighbors in 2021, effectively diffusing escalating tensions and averting potentially catastrophic cross-border conflicts that had flared up since 2019. The motivations driving Saudi Arabia and the UAE to step into the role of mediators in the India-Pakistan conflict are multifaceted and rooted in both regional geopolitics and historical dynamics. Understanding the complexities behind their intervention necessitates a nuanced appreciation of the evolving landscape in both the Middle East and South Asia. Firstly, the Gulf states have strategic interests in fostering stability in South Asia, given its proximity to the energy-rich region they inhabit. Instability or conflict in the Indian subcontinent could have ripple effects on global energy markets, which the Gulf economies heavily rely on. Additionally, Saudi Arabia and the UAE seek to position themselves as key players in regional diplomacy, enhancing their geopolitical stature and influence on the world stage. Furthermore, both countries have historical ties with Pakistan, shaped by shared religious affiliations and longstanding economic partnerships. However, they also maintain significant

relations with India, the world’s largest democracy and a crucial trading partner. By advocating for peace between Islamabad and New Delhi, Saudi Arabia and the UAE aim to navigate a delicate balancing act, maintaining cordial relations with both countries while promoting regional stability. Moreover, the Gulf States’ involvement in mediating the India-Pakistan conflict reflects a broader trend of increased diplomatic activism in the region. As traditional power dynamics undergo shifts and new geopolitical fault lines emerge, Saudi Arabia and the UAE are seeking to assert themselves as key arbiters of peace and stability, not only within the Middle East but also in neighboring regions.

The ties between the Middle East and South Asia have a rich and complex history, spanning centuries of commercial, religious, and cultural interactions. These connections have endured through various historical epochs, but recent times have seen significant developments, particularly since the establishment of modern Middle Eastern states after the collapse of the Ottoman Empire and the partition of India and Pakistan. Saudi Arabia emerged as a crucial supporter of Pakistan shortly after its inception in 1947. Despite being resource-constrained, Pakistan, with its substantial Sunni-majority Muslim population, found a reliable ally in Saudi Arabia. Over the years, Saudi Arabia, along with the UAE, has provided Pakistan with essential financial assistance in the form of loans, grants, and concessional oil. Pakistan reciprocates by sending a significant portion of its workforce, numbering 12.4 million overseas workers, predominantly to these Gulf states. These workers, constituting over 77% of nearly 830,000 who ventured abroad for employment in 2022, contribute substantially to Pakistan’s economy through remittances. The relationship between Pakistan and Saudi Arabia extends beyond economics to encompass strategic and security dimensions. Pakistan played a pivotal role in training “holy warriors” alongside Saudi Arabia and the US to combat the Soviet Union’s presence in Afghanistan following its occupation in 1979. Furthermore, during the Iran-Iraq war in the 1980s, Pakistan stationed tens of thousands of troops in Saudi

Arabia. Military collaboration, including training and arms exports, has been a consistent feature of Pakistan’s engagement with Saudi Arabia and the UAE. Additionally, Pakistan, along with Saudi Arabia and the UAE, supported the rise of the Taliban in Afghanistan during the early 1990s, perceiving it as a buffer against India. This stance contrasted with India and Iran’s backing of the multi-ethnic Northern Alliance, reflecting broader regional power dynamics. Despite its close ties with Saudi Arabia and the UAE, Pakistan also seeks to maintain relations with Iran, mindful of its significant Shia minority. Iran was the first country to recognize Pakistan’s independence, and both nations enjoyed closer security cooperation during the reign of the shah, particularly through their involvement in the Baghdad Pact. However, the 1979 Iranian revolution altered the geopolitical landscape, fracturing alliances and forcing Pakistan to navigate a divided Middle East marked by the rivalry between Iran and Saudi Arabia. Pakistan found itself embroiled in a sectarian proxy war, exacerbated by the rise of Sunni militant groups nurtured by Saudi and American support for the Afghan jihad. Consequently, sectarian tensions have become entrenched within Pakistan, posing challenges to its internal stability.

In recent years, Pakistan has made concerted efforts to strengthen its ties with Iran, albeit hindered by American sanctions on Iran and concerns regarding cross-border militancy. The prospect of being drawn into Saudi-Iranian proxy conflicts has further complicated Pakistan’s diplomatic stance, notably demonstrated by its 2015 parliamentary decision against joining the Saudi-led coalition aimed at combating the Iranian-backed Houthi rebels in Yemen and reinstating Yemen’s internationally recognized government. This neutrality in Yemen’s conflict was a difficult choice for Pakistan, given its historically strong relationship with Saudi Arabia, which has provided crucial diplomatic and financial support, particularly during times of international isolation following Pakistan’s nuclearization in response to India’s tests in 1998. Former Prime Minister Inran Khan’s efforts to foster alliances with Muslim



# وطن کے ہم رکھ والے ہیں ہم 28 مئی والے ہیں

نہ جھکے تھے نہ جھکیں گے

ایٹمی قوت بنایا تھا  
معاشی قوت بنائیں گے





### South Africa's Steenhuisen wages mission to stop 'doomsday coalition'



**JOHANNESBURG**  
On paper, South Africa's election this week should present a golden opportunity for the opposition Democratic Alliance (DA) and its leader John Steenhuisen. The African National Congress (ANC) — the party of Nelson Mandela in power for the last 30 years — has little to boast about. The economy has barely grown in the last decade. The jobless rate is among the world's highest. Infrastructure is crumbling. The DA, the country's second biggest party, can point to an objectively better track record in Western Cape, its stronghold and the sole province not controlled by the ANC.



### New Caledonia state of emergency to be lifted, says Paris

**PARIS/SYDNEY**  
Seven more mobile force units will soon arrive as reinforcements in New Caledonia, the Elysée said in a statement on Monday, also indicating a state of emergency would end as planned in the French Pacific territory on Tuesday morning local time. The state of emergency would end on Monday evening at 8:00 pm in Paris (Tuesday 5:00 am in Noumea). Seven people have been killed, hundreds arrested and large numbers of buildings and cars destroyed in a fortnight of upheaval triggered by a contested electoral reform and fuelled by sharp economic disparities between the indigenous Kanak population and people of European background. Police shot dead a man on Friday evening, a day after French President Emmanuel Macron visited to try to calm tensions.



## Israeli airstrikes kill at least 35 in Rafah, Gaza authorities say

Strikes occurred in Tel Al-Sultan, where thousands have sought shelter after fleeing city's eastern areas

**CAIRO**  
Israeli air strikes killed on Monday at least 35 Palestinians and wounded dozens in an area in the southern Gaza Strip city of Rafah designated for the displaced. The Israeli military claimed its air force struck a Hamas resistance group's compound in Rafah and that the strike was carried out with "precise ammunition and on the basis of precise intelligence." Without specifying the casualties, the Israeli military further claimed that the air strike targeted and eliminated two officials of the resistance group Hamas. "The IDF is aware of reports indicating that as a result of the strike and fire that was ignited several civilians in the area were harmed. The incident is under review." The spokesman for the health ministry in Gaza, Ashraf Al-Qbra, said 35 people were killed and dozens others, most of them women and children, were wounded in the attack. The strike took place in the Tel Al-Sultan neighbourhood in western Rafah, where thousands of people were taking shelter after many fled the eastern areas of the city where Israeli forces began a ground offensive over two weeks ago. The International Committee of the Red Cross said its field hospital in Rafah was receiving an influx of casualties, and that other hospitals also were taking in a large number of patients. Senior Hamas official Sami Abu Zuhri described the attack in Rafah as a "massacre," holding the United States responsible for aiding Israel with weapons and money. "The air strikes burnt the tents, the tents are melting and the people's bodies are also melting," said one of the residents who arrived at the Kuwaiti hospital in Rafah.

### EU-Israel relations take a nosedive as Spain, Ireland set to formally recognize a Palestinian state

**BRUSSELS**  
Relations between the European Union and Israel took a nosedive on the eve of the diplomatic recognition of a Palestinian state by EU members Ireland and Spain, with Madrid suggesting sanctions should be considered against Israel for its continued attacks in the southern Gaza city of Rafah. Israeli Foreign Minister Katz told Spain that its consulate in Jerusalem will not be allowed to help Palestinians. At the same time, the EU's foreign policy chief Josep Borrell, a Spaniard, threw his full weight to support the International Criminal Court, whose prosecutor is seeking an arrest warrant against Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and others, including the leaders of Hamas. "The prosecutor of the court has been strongly intimidated and accused of antisemitism," Borrell said. "The word antisemitic, it's too heavy. It's too important." Angry words abounded Monday, with Katz accusing Spain of "rewarding terror" by recognizing a Palestinian state, and saying that "the days of the Inquisition are over." He referred to the infamous Spanish institution started in the 15th century to maintain Roman Catholic orthodoxy that forced Jews and Muslims to flee, convert to Catholicism or, in some instances, face death. "No one will force us to convert our religion or threaten our existence — those who harm us, we will harm in return," said Katz.



### South Africa's election could bring the biggest political shift since it became a democracy in 1994



**CAPE TOWN**  
South Africans will vote on Wednesday to decide whether their country will take its most significant political step since the moment 30 years ago when it brought down apartheid and achieved democracy. This national election will not be as momentous as the one South Africa held in 1994 — few have been. Then, Nelson Mandela led the African National Congress party to victory as Black South Africans who were the majority were allowed to vote for the first time. It officially ended a half-century of racial segregation under apartheid — a violently enforced system that attracted the world's outrage — and hundreds of years of white minority rule. But while the ANC still governs in 2024, it is amid rising discontent caused largely by high levels of unemployment and poverty. That could result in a majority of South Africans choosing another party this week over the one that led them to freedom. "Thirty years of South African democracy does not mean we should endure an eternity under the ANC," John Steenhuisen, the leader of the main opposition Democratic Alliance party, said in the run-up to the election. Any change is not expected to be sweeping, though. The possible repercussions are complex because while several polls have the ANC's support at less than 50%, suggesting it is in danger of losing its majority for the first time, no opposition party has risen to a position to overtake it. The ANC is still widely expected to be the largest party, well ahead of an increasing number of opposition movements that are splitting the disaffected vote. But without an outright majority, the ANC would likely have to strike agreements or coalitions with others to remain in government and reelect President Cyril Ramaphosa.

## Sports & Showbiz

### T20 World Cup: Jaw-dropping prices of tickets for Pakistan, India match



**LAHORE (WebDesk)**  
Ticket prices for the T20 world cup match between arch-rivals India and Pakistan have gone through the roof. Marquee T20 tournament will commence across the Atlantic in US and West Indies on June 1. Both subcontinent teams from group A will come across each other on June 9. Cricket lovers have been eagerly waiting for the Indo-Pak fixture. Meanwhile, IPL's ex commissioner Lalit Modi has accused ICC of taking the ticket prices to \$20,000 hence plundering the cricket buffs under the garb of promoting cricket in the USA. On his X handle, he claimed that the price of a single Diamond Club ticket was \$20,000 (Rs5.6 million) and that of a normal stand \$2,750 (Rs7.6m approximately). He said the purpose of organising T-20 World Cup in the USA was to promote cricket and establish contact with cricket enthusiasts but profiting from them in the name of tickets was uncalled for. According to some media reports, tickets for few high-octane matches are being sold at high rates whereas ICC hasn't issued any statement in this regard.

### Spain name Torres, Perez in Euro 2024 squad, Asensio left out



**MADRID**  
Forward Marco Asensio was the surprise omission when three-time champions Spain named their 29-man preliminary squad for the European Championship on Monday as Ferran Torres and Ayoze Perez made the cut. Barcelona teenagers Lamine Yamal and Pau Cubarsi were also included who received his first call-up. Real Madrid center back Nacho returned to the squad as defenders Sergio Ramos, Pau Torres and Pedro Porro missed out but the omission of Paris St Germain's Asensio was the biggest shock. "I admire Asensio. Let's focus on those who are here and give them the value they deserve," coach Luis de la Fuente told a news conference on Monday. "I am left with their (Torres and Perez) enthusiasm. In addition to their talent, they have shown enthusiasm. They are very versatile players. Ferran is going to make a leap forward with this call-up. I hope they show all the potential they have." "Maybe one of those players that now I'm thinking that wouldn't make the cut for the tournament changes my mind and make his case to deserve a place in the final 26-man squad" De La Fuente said. The deadline for naming the final squad is June 7. "Unfortunately, there could be injuries," De La Fuente said. "We want to give guarantees and minimise the risks." Last year's UEFA Nations League champions Spain play home friendlies against Andorra and Northern Ireland before travelling to Germany where they begin their Group B campaign against Croatia on June 15 in Berlin. De La Fuente said he was confident Spain had the ability to go deep in the tournament. "In every one's mind are the teams that are going to go all the way in this European Championship," he said. "This story has a certain end. Only two teams are going to make it. We are going to try to fight to go all the way." Spain preliminary squad: Goalkeepers: Unai Simon (Athletic Bilbao), Alex Remiro (Real Sociedad), David Raya (Arsenal). Defenders: Dani Carvajal (Real Madrid), Jesus Navas (Sevilla).

### Australia captain provides injury update ahead of T20 World Cup



**(Web Desk)**  
Australia captain Mitchell Marsh has declared himself fit and ready to go for the start of his side's ICC Men's T20 World Cup campaign. The all-rounder injured his hamstring during the early stages of the Indian Premier League and has not played at any level since failing to trouble the scorers at the start of April for the Delhi Capitals against eventual champions Kolkata Knight Riders. But with the start of the T20 World Cup less than a week away, Marsh looked in good touch when joining a group of his teammates at training in Trinidad on Sunday and will be fit to take on Oman in their tournament opener in Barbados on June 5.

### Sana Nawaz talks about difficulties in life and ways to cope with them



**LAHORE**  
Pakistan showbiz industry well-known actor Sana Nawaz recently speaks her heart out on how to live calmly and peacefully so that one is able to enjoy the beauty of nature which is often hidden in the materialistic lives. targeted and is vilified socially. "Often undue criticism is aimed at the person but it does not mean, the actor continued, that life should not be cherished but it requires efforts to defeat these forces which are targeting the one's life."